

The Thrilling Story  
of the "Centurion."

In the roll of famous British warships not one covered itself with greater glory than the "Centurion," which, two centuries ago, carried Anson and his gallant men round the world on the most perilous voyage ever undertaken by British sailors. When the "Centurion," a frigate of 60 guns, set sail from England on Sept. 8, 1740, with five hundred sailors in her wake, her commander's instructions were to "carry the flag and report along the Spanish coast in the South Seas, ravage the coast of Peru, make a dash at Callao, capture the great gold galleon Acapulco, and return to England by way of China." Such a daring programme would not have been entrusted to mere hands. The most resolute sea-captain in his Majesty's Navy, even Anson, in his heart must have qualified at the very start on such a perilous adventure with the crews assigned to him. He was composed of out-pensioners of Chelsea Hospital and newly-recruited sailors who had never seen a shot fired nor even such a collar.

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tion of cripples as that which the astonished crews of Anson's squadron saw cramped upon them from the Hospital. Many were over seventy years of age, many were blind, nearly all were bent with sickness or twisted with rheumatism; and long before Madaga was sighted scurvy was running riot in every ship. It would take columns to relate the thrilling adventures and hardships this collection of cripples encountered, and the almost superhuman feats they accomplished, but after many naval battles in which they covered themselves with glory, and running the gauntlet of the French Fleet through a fog, which shrouded the English Channel on their return home, they cast anchor at Spithead in June, 1744. Of the six vessels which left Spithead, nearly four years earlier, only the "Centurion" arrived back. Three out of every four men who set sail had perished; but Anson returned laden with rich treasures—in the strong room alone were over a million and a quarter of gold pieces, with 85,000 ounces of virgin silver—and, much more than this, Anson had given to the world an imperishable example of the fortitude and courage with which British sailors face and execute tasks that seem superhuman.

## MY COLUMN

By the CUB-EDITOR.

BRIDGE.

Some months ago I think I wrote a short article in which I described my first attempt at Bridge. Since then, my knowledge of the game has increased although I admit, more through necessity than desire. I have now reached the stage when I feel qualified to publish my impressions of this popular game. When I say popular, however, I do not mean to say that I like it. But the general public, or at least, a certain section of it, appears to like it, and that settles it. Bridge can be either boring or amusing. It all depends on the people you are playing with. If they are Bridge fiends and you are only interested in it merely for the sake of passing away an idle hour, then your doom is sealed. Most people, however, atrocious one's mistakes may be, are usually well bred enough to keep silent and conserve their opinions of you until you are out of ear shot. Occasionally, however, one finds one's self with a partner who is addicted to plain speaking. In this case you will always find the "female of the species is more deadly than the male." Believe me, if you have not played Bridge, don't start, for the very worst few minutes that one could ever undergo occur when one is the victim of a Bridge "post mortem." If you are unused to it you will probably attempt to protest, but if the attacking partner is at all keen on the game, she will shrivel you up in the space of five seconds. (And now you've taken more space than I feel like giving you. Chuck it, me lad.—Editor).

## RINGS OF THE TIMES.

34.

## A MODEST JOURNAL.

There's a modest little paper in the city of St. John's. Every day it cuts a caper. Never minds its "pros" and "cons."

All the time you'll find it glories in its usual modest way. In the very startling stories which it publishes each day.

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But this funny part about it is that it's very much its made. Had been weeks ago—don't doubt it. In the Telegram displayed.

## SOME PRESS COMMENT.

The Irish are an English-plucking people.—Washington Post.

Duelling is said to be again popular in Germany. Duelling in Germany is bound to be popular in this country, too.—Seattle Argus.

Some of those European countries are evidently tired of waiting for the next war and are starting it now.—New York Evening Mail.

We ought to be ready for peace. We've been almost three years preparing for it.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Germany said she could not lose.—Seattle Argus.

The Turks are complaining about the inhumanity of the Greeks, and they ought to know inhumanity when they meet it.—Columbia (S.C.) Record.

It isn't possible for mother to cut down her skirts for her little daughter any more.—New York American.

A San Francisco restaurant patron choked to death when a piece of steak became lodged in his throat. Restaurant portions must be getting back to pre-war size.—Life (New York).

Copper has been found in the Shetlands. An Aberdonian who dropped twopence there last holidays has written to ask for particulars.

"Laugh and grow fat" is an old axiom. We advise the use of a good tonic, named "Brid's Tasteless". Price \$1.00; postage 20c. extra.—ap26.12

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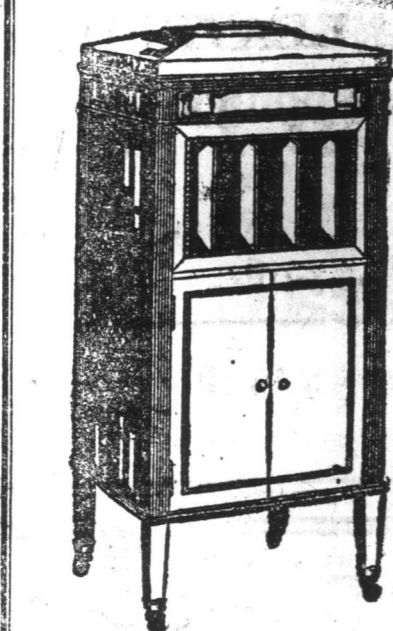
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By Bud R.



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