

CRUISER FOR BIG LAKES.

Introduced in Congress for a
vessel to replace the *Hobart*.
Congressman Boutell wants an appropriation of a quarter of a million of dollars to build a steel warship to replace the United States ship Michigan on the upper great lakes. He has introduced a bill to this effect, which has been referred to the naval committee, of which Congressman Foss, also of Chicago, is a member. In the event of the Michigan being superseded by a cruiser of modern type it is proposed to utilize the old vessel as a training ship for the naval militia.

"We ought to have a modern gunboat on the great lakes," said Mr. Boutell, "as an object lesson to our citizens. Our navy should be largely recruited from our lake ports, and nothing will tend to accomplish this more than the encouragement of our naval reserves. A modern gunboat on which the naval reserves could take an annual cruise would stimulate interest in this important branch of our service. Construction and maintenance of a modern gunboat on the upper lakes would not contravene the agreement between our country and Great Britain. This agreement was entered into in April, 1817, and by its terms the naval force to be maintained by each country was restricted to one vessel not exceeding 100 tons, armed with one 18-pound cannon on Lake Ontario, on the upper-lakes two vessels of like burden and armament as that for Lake Ontario, and one vessel of similar tonnage and armament on Lake Champlain. Six months' notice given by either party would be sufficient to annul this treaty."

MADE UP ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

Husband and Wife Never Spoke to One Another in Twenty Years.

Last Christmas was a happy day for a New York farmer and his wife. On that day Mr. and Mrs. John Stewart, of Matawan, resumed their old relations toward one another and both are now once more happy. Twenty-one years have Mr. and Mrs. Stewart been married, but for the last 20 years neither has spoken a word directly to the other. When either wished to say anything he or she would speak to a black cat. In this way they have lived. Neighbors often tried to bring about a reconciliation, but never succeeded, as neither would give in to the other.

The quarrel grew out of Mrs. Stewart's desire to go to church. Before her marriage she was in the habit of attending every Sunday, and after she became Mrs. Stewart she still desired to continue the practice. He did not believe in church-going, and preferred to have his wife with him on the only day in the week on which he did not labor. The result was that Mr. and Mrs. Stewart gave up speaking directly to one another. Mrs. Stewart every Sunday went to church and sat in the seat she occupied when a mere child and always alone. When friends asked her why her husband did not accompany her she was ready with an excuse for him. The Stewarts are going to celebrate the settlement of their long quarrel by giving a party, to which will be invited all their friends. Neighbors are now wondering which of the stubborn couple was the first to give in.

CERTIFICATES FOR SEALSKINS.

Persons Going Abroad Can Prevent Seizure of Garments.

Persons leaving this country who wish to take seal-skin garments with them, to protect these garments from seizure on their return, obtain a certificate of ownership from the collector of the port before their departure. Such certificates have already been obtained by Mrs. J. Pierpoint Morgan, Jr., who sailed with her husband on the steamship *Tentonic*, and by Mrs. George Hayland, of Paris, who is traveling in this country and intends to go to Canada. The law barring out sealskins taken in prohibited waters was discussed at a conference of the heads of departments called by Collector Bidwell at the custom house. The subject of the conference was the means to minimize the annoyance to incoming passengers who may have seal-skin garments in their possession. The suggestion was made that temporary public stores for the convenience of passengers be established on the docks.

KILLED ON HIS WEDDING DAY.

Georgia Girl Robbed of Her Prospective Husband at the Altar.

A special to the Philadelphia Times from Dixon, Ga., says: "The bride was waiting, but the groom came not. The smiling guests wondered 'And whence? Everything was ready at the home of James Martin for the wedding of his daughter Ada and Clarke Westbrook, both prominent young people. An early hour had been set for the ceremony, and after it the bride and groom were to leave on an extended tour. The guests were in a state of suspense and anxiety, when a messenger dashed up to the house and announced that the bridegroom was dead. He had been killed in a runaway while on the way to the house."

A strange coincidence is being mentioned. Two years ago Clarke Westbrook and Miss Gussie DeCannon were engaged to be married. On the wedding day the bride-elect died. Now it is the groom-elect.

Largest Farm in the World.
Louisiana claims the largest farm in the world, situated in the southwestern part of the state. It contains 1,500,000 acres, 300 miles of navigable waters, 1,000 miles of railway facilities, and 650,000 acres of fencing. A company of northern capitalists own and operate the tract, using steam plows on the cultivated lands. But the farm is chiefly devoted to raising cattle on pasture stations or ranches, existing every six miles.

Potatoes in Greenland.
No greenland potatoe never gets larger than marble.

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