

In The Fighting Top



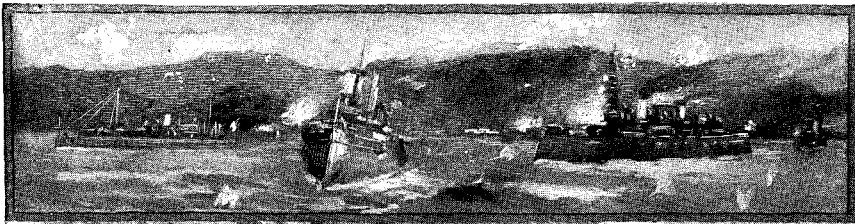
I.
Up, up in an eyrie of steel we stand,
Where swirls the unchecked breeze;
A tense, devoted, dauntless band,
We peer across the seas.

II.
We peer, and wait. Not ours the ship's
Great thunders to unstop,
But ours the venomous, stinging lips—
We men of the fighting top.

III.
We note from our vantage fin and wing;
We note the distant foe;
We note—watch close!—the big guns swing
Athwart the deck below.

IV.
We grip—and peer—crash! crash!—hurrray!
The smoke wreaths fill our eyes,
But quick we see, long miles away,
A mighty fountain rise.

V.
God grant we're given a chance—just one!
God grant the foe comes nigher!
Now! Now! From rapid, searching gun
We rim our nest with fire.



VI.
We pour our deadly stream of hail
Upon each shape that nears;
And high amid the battle's gale
We answer cheers with cheers.

VII.
By bullet and shell our ears are lashed.
No bulwark ours of might.
Fair target we, yet unabashed
Aloft, alone we fight.

VIII.
We know full well an axe of steel
Our swaying trunk may lop.
What then? What then? Come woe or weal,
We're men of the fighting top.

Edwin L. Sabin.



MAJOR FREDERICK BRACKETT,
SECRETARY.



FERDINAND W. PECK, COM-
MISSIONER GENERAL.



BENJAMIN D. WOODWARD,
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER.

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION TO THE PARIS EXPOSITION OF 1900.

SIGHTS OF THE PARIS FAIR.

BY CAPTAIN A. H. MATTOX,

Press Representative of the United States Commission.

SOME OF THE MYRIAD THINGS THAT THE UNITED STATES AND FIFTY FIVE OTHER NATIONS
WILL SEND TO MAKE THE FRENCH EXPOSITION A SUMMARY OF HUMAN
ACHIEVEMENT AT THE END OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.



PARIS calls the roll of the nations on the 15th of April of this year; and fifty six will answer "Here!" in varying tones, ranging from the deep bassoon of mighty England to the modest pipe of little Switzerland. The voice of America will not be unheard in the tumult; indeed, it will be a little louder than anything else on the grounds, if the present plans are lived up to. For, when offered one hundred and fifty thousand square feet of Paris soil for the United States' share in the Exposition, Commissioner Peck suggested three hundred thousand instead, and has contrived to secure it—a larger amount than has been granted to any other nation. And of the forty million visitors who are expected, several million will report first at the building under the American eagle.

The Paris Exposition will be not unlike a great public examination. "What have you learned? What can you make? How have you improved?" the world will ask of each nation in turn. That the answers may be properly set forth, a wonderful city is being built of stone and plaster and staff on both sides of the Seine,