"I Am

Coast Defence Of The Pacific

By CAPTAIN FRED ERICK C. HAMILTON.

trade is carried upon its bosom, and Atlantic than on the Pacific. it may be the some of others. Some | North Borneo, Fiji, etc. of the nations which front upon it may clash. It may be necessary to which is about to be the scene of great events.



she has a frontage on the Pacific. Thus she is concerned in the future of smaller vessels.

ever thought of was the Atlantic flag, own the same sovereign, form the second and third cases? years a remarkable change has taken have the same friends. That hardly ours. A fleet starting from British of a torpedo service for actual coast- must associate much together, must be a very small force on the Pacific of three spots on the map, there is some reach Hong Kong, which we may take whole Pacific ocean of a British fleet same general method of thinking of while other powers have very power thing else to be considered on the Pa- as a typical British port in the Paci- strong enough to wage a containing war-problems. ful forces. Thus Canada, looking to cific. It is the might of the British fic. Japan would have that two campaign against a possible enemy. This is where the consideration re-

survey their fighting alone.

200,000 excellent soldiers into the field if necessary. She has a large num-there will be a fleet of three "Dreadshould use as transports if she wished noughts" and about ten light cruisers to send armies overseas. She has a powerful fleet which in 1911 appar- (4) Russia is in the background at football player would say; could wage rangements into the condition I have ently will consist of two Drendmought present. Her fleet has been destroyed, a containing or delaying campaign, as described? and eleven pre-Dreadmought battle she has only one sea port on the Pa- the strategist would phrase it. The The torpedo flotilla is comparatively would have them officered by English. ships, and thirteen armoured cruisers, cific, and that is hampered in winter Japanese fleet would be very unlikely an easy matter, though there are men, Canadians, Australians Afrikan-Her forces are all in hand and con- by ice, and in addition is blanketed to send a mob of helpless transports some complications. We can buy or ders and New Zealanders indifferently, centrated, and she has no interests by the Japanese Islands, which so lie alert and able government.

thing. It may be that vast migra- Canada, of Australia and of New Zea- der such terms of free ingress. Where Canadians, and the Australians and dozen or so torpedo crafts for other been the seens of one great war, and great many islands, such as British with the British Empire. It would be

are white men, and some of them are fic, the province of British Columbia, a war might open under any one of yellow men. Some of these nations has only some 200,000 inhabitants for the following sets of circumstances: mountain and seacoast together. There | (1) The British Empire might have decide by force of arms who is to be is next to no white sea-faring or fish- assembled in the Pacific in advance, a master of the Pacific. It is an ocean ne population, the Japanese having fleet more powerful than the Japan away which belongs to China, and obtained control of the fishing in- nese, though a training ship of slight fighting power has just been placed on the

> Australia has perhaps 4,500,000 people. The distribution of this population is very unfavorable if the ountry were attacked. It is grouped in lumps about the 3,000 miles of inhabited coastline, there is no central mass of population to furnish a reserve, and the railway system is so defective as to make inter-state communication dependent in some instances on command of the sea. When Lord Kitchener's scheme has been carried through, the Commonwealth will have a militia army of from 50,-000 to 100,000 men. Her people are adopting universal training. It is setting up a "Flect Unit" of one battle-cruiser, timee small protected crinsers and some torpedo boat destrovers and submarines.

New Zealand has about a million people in two large islands. Under the on the way to the Pacific a re-enforc- | Russians in Port Arthur. In attack- Moreover, it will be of little use for army of from 20,000 to 25,000 men, equality.

ers which border the Pacific. As this cific, six powerful battleships, a force outside of the range of the guns at fixed defences which are necessary. It again as convenience served. superior to that of Russia and proba- Esquimalt. (1) Japan is a very powerful coun-day she has only three or four armor-be ours. Suppose that in the Pacific Vancouver and Prince Rupert; it is as-carried on one list, the United Kingbly superior to that of Japan. To-Zealand have built their battle cruis-

outside of the Pacific. She has a very as to cut it off from access to the ing about. Thus even an inferior Bri- ploy the officers, and in general man- whether the commander of a giver



WIRELESS ROOM ON COAST WHICH TELLS THE APPROACH OF VESSELS AND FROM WHERE THE FIRING IS DIRECTED.

continental constline on the Pacific, her from our list of maritime neigh out remarkably good reason into the that a man has little business on a the officers, whatever their origin, find myself advocating a motto of the states of California, Oregon and borse.

That is the situation on the Parific parate Vancouver Island from the years old. What should we do with Naval Service department. Thus we pines and some smaller islands. They I propose nut to discuss every possible mainland, abounding as they do in in- our officers as they advanced in years? should have our leaders standardized. have an army of 85,000, organized on danger, but only two possible dan- lets, fiords, passages and other geo- The answer is to be found in the con- and in addition the Canadian who enthe old-fashioned principle without gers. One is a war between Japan graphical eccentricities which render sideration of the mid-ocean fleet. | service would have a chance Cripple Creek district, Colorado, provreserves and so without the power of and the British Empire. The other is them a happy hunting ground for the It is evident with regard to this mid- to reach high rank; whereas, if we in- ed how strong western generosity is rapid expansion; 13,000 of these our standing in a war between Japan ambuscades of the torpedo craft. Thus ocean fleet: are in the Philippines, 30,000 are be land the United States. tween the Mississippi and the Pacific At present Japanese and the British shore service would keep the enemy all three British Pacific communities. man can expect to rise to a very high ing and newspaper man, who had coast, and the rest are east of the Empire are not only on good terms, away from our coasts; unless and un- if it prevented the Japanese from command. Pacific They have a militia of 118, but are allies. The alliance, however, til he had a reason for coming so invading Australia, it would equally That is my proposal as regards on the Pacific It is 1000, of whom 65,000 are west of the will terminate in 1915, and may not phaceful as to make him willing to prevent them from invading Canada. coast defence on the Pacific. It is ler's eye got frost-bitten on Thursday, Mississippi. They have next to no be resewed. Should that nexus, Japan take these torpedo risks. It is hard (2) That if the British communities of the and when he tried to thaw it out with ports should those desire to send their troops in large numbers across the ocean. The American mayy in 121 will comprise six Dreadhoughts, twenty-two pre-Dreashought battleships and fifteen armoured cruisers. The bulk of this navy is kept on the At. Everyone knows that we, in Canada, (1.) A British fleet in the Pacific, a fleet would be for the empire as a ed cruisers alone being maintained, by and New Zealand, exclude Japanese strong as that of Japan, but strong strong and as expensive, as necessary. the Pacific coast. If the American from our shores. We hardly can be enough to keep things going and to if the latter, the thrice weak forces fleet tried to move around from its lieve that the Japanese like this. Sup- ward off serious invasion until rein- could be crushed in detail and the in-Atlantic to its Pacific coast, the one puse now that some European war forcements could come from Great vasion could proceed. ration would take nearly three months went so badly for Great Britain as to Britain.

It thus seems clear that the midcould be made. The opening of the thermoon to issue an ultimatum to and submarines, for the purpose of ish affair, in which all the British I'm the count should reduce this per the Paville ocean portlone of the Brit- keeping raiding cruisers at a dis- communities concerned should co-oper-

pose to discuss whether they are like- fleet had been beaten. tion one conceivable point of friction, 100; to be about two beauties. It will be lish Puppers, to Canada, Australia and tance. men that the American armed New Zestand, that this exclusion, the I tuen for a moment to the other. At the delence conference of 1909, the l

necessary for Canada to consider the The Canadian littoral on the Paci-guarding of her Pacific coast-line Such

discrimination, must cease. Suppose contingency I have suggested. It is on admiralty proposed something of the ada might experience a special danger, three battle-cruisers. Japan might capture the Philippines the American coast. When she was attacking Port Arthur she appropriated the Elliott Islands some few miles transformed them into a flying base; cific as many powerful armoured ships dustry. Our military forces consist (2) The empire might have in the Pa- that is, her main fleet remained at as our sailors tell us are necessary. merely of a very few corps of militia. cific a fleet of some strength but infer- anchor in the harbor these islands It is more our interest than Great We have no may all forces of our own, for to that of Japan; and might have afforded, while scouts watched the Britain's. I agree that the force

KINGSTON, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

AN UP-TO-DATE BATTERY. COAST DEFENCE AS IT SHOULD BE.

flect of adequate strength.

There is one governing fact which merated, represent the British Empire bringing her forces up to an equality. Yet for us to allow Japan the use of is very strange for Britishers to take in the Pacific. It is fairly plain that In the first case there would be no our coasts would be to inflict a deadinto account. We have grown up with to Auktralia and New Zealand, it is a war, for Japan would not risk it, and ly wrong on the United States, a right for each dominion to own its the idea bred into our very bonas matter of life and death to have the we do not intend to adopt an agree wrong which they would be justified in that the British fleet, the royal navy command of the sea in friendly hands; sive attitude towards her. In the bitterly resenting. A torpedo service of its ships, to pay the omcers and crews which is maintained by the United and that to British Columbia, i.e., to fourth case, there probably would be on our coast might conceivably be Kingdom, is supreme upon the ocean. Canada, it also is a matter of high no war, for we would not fight, unless enough to turn the scale in favor of That was when the only ocean we importance. All three fly the same goaded to desperation. What about leaving us alone.

strong enough to make things inter- tering a harbor. to sea while a British fleet was mov- build the ships, train the men, em- just as in England they do not care open Pacific. While Russia is powerful tish fleet able to keep the sea would age it as out own force. There is fleet is an Irishman, a Scotsman or on hand, we may for the present omit ward invasion off our coasts as long this complication—that terpedo work an Englishman. During the period of as it remained undefeated. Thus we should have our coast defence achieved for us on the blue water, perhaps by a fleet working from Hong Kong, on the other side of the ocean. We might never see the ships, and yet they would,

be protecting us. Suppose that while the British fleet was keeping the Japanese from sending an army across, Japanese cruisers were to come across and molest our coasts. As things are now they could do a great deal of mischief. They could cause our shipping trade on the coast of British Columbia to cease. They could cut Vancouver Island off from the mainland, and separate Victoria, the capital of the province, from the bulk of the territory which ! it administers. They could levy contributions from Victoria and Vancouver. They could, in short, humiliate and annoy us extremely. Suppose, however, that we had on our coast a number of torpedo boat destroyers. and some submarines. The matter at once would assume a new phase, for no hostile cruiser would venture with is young men's work; it is so arduous | their stay on a Canadian ship. all and by a perfectly logical process I

Kitchener plan, she will have a militia ing fleet powerful enough to restore ing the American coast, Japan might the several ships provided by the four be tempted to seize some of the nu. British communities concerned Her people also are adopting universal (3) The empire might have on the merous islands or harbors on our cruise together if their training is not training. She is setting up a naval spot no force at all worth mentioning, British Columbia coast. It would be identical. They should be standardforce of one battle cruiser and some but might dispatch to the Pacific a our duty to observe our obligations ized. The ships should be built or as neutrals and forbid any such act the sams plans. The guns should that ocean and of the events upon These three coast-lines and the iso- (4) The empire might be weaker ion. But how could we prevent it if be of the same sart. The signalling lated cities, islands, etc., I have eau- than Japan and have no prospect of we had no naval or military force? should be of the same style. The

ocean. But within the past few part of the same empire, and must be third case to be the Pacific means, (1) the maintaining for all. In particular, their officers place and to-day the royal navy has expresses it. In addition to these waters would take two months to al service; (2) the presence in the trained side by side, must have the the fact that there may be warfare on Empire as a whole. That is another months in which to roam the ocean. That mid-ocean fleet does not need to the Pacific, must contemplate that way of saving the British fleet. If it Suppose she were to utilize it in disbe able to rely on an overpowering solutely so. Canada fairly so. The a fleet could reach our shores in afteen days and at present could land very few shore points need some forti- solved, for officers could pass from might be necessary to mount a few, a I suggest this scheme: That Suppose, however, the second case to very few, guns to defend Victoria, the officers of the imperial navy be ed cruisers. When Australia and New there was a British fleet, not as pow- tonishing how few are the shore guns dom, Canada, Australia, New Zeacrful as the Japanese navy, but still really necessary to keep ships from en- land and South Africa each contribu-

esting for it. In such an event the I shall assume that Canada wishes the ships which she owns; then let British fleet would play a waiting to provide her own coast defence on these ships be supplied by officers game; could lie on the ball, as the the Pacific. How are we to fit our ar- from the combined list irrespective of

that Japanese were to say: "If you the cards that the United States and sort. Their suggestion was that there admit German immigrants, you must Japan may fight. They are very un-should be four "fleet units" in the Paadmit Japanese immigrants. If you easy neighbors and in any event a war cific, Canada, Australia and New Zeapermit Russians to take up land you is possible. Should it take place our land providing one each, and the Unmust permit Japanese to take up position would be one of great deli- ited Kingdom the fourt'. Thus there land." Would not that be serious? cacy. I put aside the suggestion that would be four big battle cruisers, each Suppose we yielded. Great Britain has the Anglo-Japanese Alliance would a ship of about 18,000 tons, armed The Pacific is the world's largest strength is scattered instead of being sent out as many as 400,000 emi- oblige Great Britain to side with Ja- with eight 12-inch or 13.5-inch guns; ocean. Might's nations line its far concentrated, and that the United grants in one year. Japan has a pan in such an event; the alliance and these could keep together as a extending shores. Already a great States have larger population, a less fertile coun- does not apply to such a contingency, battle squadron able to fire thirtytry, and is far less wealthy. Suppose Still, the situation would be desper- two 12-inch or 13.5-inch guns on a this trade will increase and will be | (d) The British empire has three she sent out 500,000 a year, and that ately awkward, for Great Britain is broadside; while in addition there enormous. The trade is not every coastlines on the Pacific, those of 100,000 of those came to Canada, un on friendly terms with Japan, But we would be a dozen fast cruisers and two tions of human beings will take place land. In addition it has several would our white population of British New Zealanders, being white men, duties. Canada would not agree to puthas seen, Already in late years it has munities, such as Hong Kong, and a Suppose that Japan were to quarrel the scene of othe scene of othe great many islands much as Born the scene of othe great many islands much as Born the scene of othe great many islands much as Born the scene of othe great many islands much as Born the scene of othe great many islands much as Born the scene of othe great many islands and a scene of othe great many islands as the scene of other great many islands as the scene of the scene of other great many islands as the scene of the s Despite this decision, I hold that

and Hawaii and attempt an attack on Canada should do something effective on the Pacific. By 1915, when the Anglo-Japanese alliance terminates, the three British dominions and the United Kingdom, in Hong Kong and Singapore, should have in the Pawe raise must be ours, must be managed by us in an administrative sense, and if possible must be manned by us. But there is one thing that is clear. All the British armoured ships on the Pacific must constitute one ficet, must always keep together, must sail together, drill together, fight together. Canadian and New Zeaander and Australian and Engishman must form part of one comogeneous, indissoluble Pacific fleet. Many people have been misled by the wording of the admiralty proposals at the defence conference into thinking that each fleet unit would go off and fight in its own corner-one armoured cruiser with its light cruisers by itself on our coast, another such unit on another coast, and so on. Any such plan would be pure idiocy. An enemy with inferior force could crush each such "unit" in detail. The units must provide one mid-ocean fleet.

should be the same. The tactics control over its ships, to conduct the thousand and one details of administration itself; but the training I have argued that coast defence for them as a war-force must be identical

warfare from the standpoint of a is supreme on the Pacific all three are patching a fleet of transports loaded will be better for us to have it far the sale; Australia and New Zealand ab with troops to British Columbia; such from them. There is a third condition operated in maintaining one big Pa-Let us survey the important pow- In 1904 Great Britain had in the Pa- its soldiers at any point on our coast fication. Esquimalt already has the coastal to mid-ocean work and back

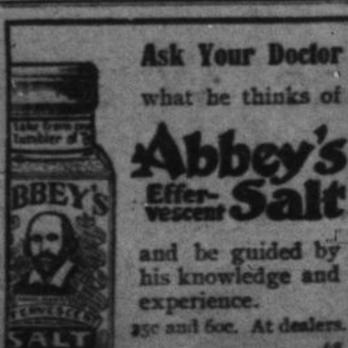
ting the number of officers required for have a certain number of ships and



ANOTHER VIEW OF "UP-T O-DATE COAST DEFENCE."

gual the suppre will be in the position to imagine any such reason short of a each to be safe, would have to mainof two separate powers, which may or determination to invade in force, and tain a force of the same strength. may not quarrel. It is not my pur- that would mean that our mid-ocean The fleet would be large enough to do the work or it would not be large enby to quarrel or not, but I may men. Thus our real coast defence seems to ough. If the former, one fleet would do the work and for each to keep up such and our fallow-Reliabers in Australia not necessarily in peace time, as whole, to maintain a force thrice as I

sist on keeping our force separate when he took out one of his eyes and the provision of a torpedo force for (1) That the one fleet will protect promotion will be very slow and no gave it to Samuel W Vidler, a min-



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Pacific should pool their issues, pool their risks and to some extent pool their expenditures. It is that we should go in for a United Imperial navy which should combine standardization of training, especially for officers, with autonomy of administration and political control; that this United Imperial navy, to which all concerned would contribute ships and men, should find a central, mid-ocean, Pacific fleet, which could keep the sea safe for all; and that in addition each British coast-line should have its protective sheathing of torpedo floillas. I advocate coast defence by seping all enemies away from our coasts. I start from a rigid dis-

Loaned Him an Eye.

broken one of his own optics. Both men wear false left eyes, Vide warm water it exploded. Unable to obtain another false eye in the mining camp, be was saved further discomfiture when his friend proceeded to take the glass eye out of his own head and urned it over to the former.

Until another eye arrives Vaneck will | car an old one he happened to have laid away.

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