That navy buildingtly bumping up place. One is conflives are stories against men whos lives are storles—against men whos lipling or any other more stories than lipling or any other writer can ever y.te. All of the men in this building hav stood in imminent peril and have exprienced hairbreadth escapes scores I times. They think no more of it tun an ordinary man does of more of it tun an ordinary man does of taking a stret car ride.

Some of their names are not so well known, because they were assigned to shore duty during the Spanish-American war-a duty which was onerous to all of them, but which had to be performed. They did not get their names in the newspapers, but they are Deweys, Sampsons

and Schleys, all of them. Take the case of George Wallace Melville, the rear admiral in charge of the bureau of steam engineering. One finds him at 20 ramming the Confederate cruiser Wachusett in the harbor of Bahia. Brazil, and at 40 an intrepid explorer of the frozen north in the Jeannette. The vessel was crushed in the ice and completely destroyed, and the crew was left to drift on a floe in midocean. The boat itself had drifted for two years into the unknown before it was wrecked. The journey across the drift ice, 500 miles from the Lena delta and 150 miles from the nearest known land, was full of peril. Dragging the rowboats after them, they reached Bennett island at the end of the forty-first day, but they were still 90 miles from the shore. There were many water leads in sight, and after a rest of ten days De Long, who commanded the ill fated Jeannette, embarked his crew in three boats, one of which was commanded by Melville. A living gale sprang up. and one of the boats was almost instantly wrecked. The remaining boats, with De Long in one and Melville in the other, parted in the night. Melville finally succeeded in reaching the Russian village of Geeomovialocke, where, thoroughly exhausted, his crew lay for three weeks recuperating.

At the end of the third week a courier came in, bringing a message from De Long. De Long had landed on the barren south shore of the Lena with nearly all of his crew sick. Melville knew that De Long, entirely out of provisions, could not now be alive. On the one side of him were the blue sea and home; on the other side was the desolate and frozen north. Melville did not hesitate. He held it to be his duty to find the body of De Long. And so, starting out with two natives, two dog teams and five days' food, he began a search which extended through 23

days and over 1.000 miles of travel in the deadly cold of the arctic winter at a time when there were but two hours of daylight in the 24. Their limbs swelled and their skins cracked, but still they went on. The two natives finally rebelled, and Melville's answer to them was:

"I will go on. We shall eat the dogs first, and after that I will, if necessary, eat you, Yakutsk, but I will go on." It was in the early spring that he found De Long lying dead on the river bank. And you may see him any day in the week, this man Melville, doing his work very modestly and very well in the bureau of steam engineering in the navy department.-Washington Letter in Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Wedding of Nellie Custis.

Nellie Custis occupied no small share of Washington's affectionate thought after his return to Mount Vernon. He had charged the young girl kindly not to fall in love with any "invader" of her heart until she had a competent knowledge of his character, especially whether he was a man of sense, "for be assured a sensible woman can never be happy with a fool;" what his walk of life, the extent of his fortune and, above all, the honesty of his affections. Washington's own wish seems to have been that Nellie Custis would marry his favorite young nephew, Lawrence Lewis, and among the last of the festivities which Washington presided over at Mount Vernon was the wedding of the couple in February, 1799. Nellie wanted him to appear in all the magnificence of the new uniform, with gold lace and white plumes, which the war department had just designed for him as general. The old chieftain was unwilling to have himself bedecked in the trappings of his latest military rank. But when he came into the presence of the bridal party Nellie had to throw her arms around his neck, for there he was in the good old blue and buff of the Continental army, with a black ribbon cockade and a cocked hat.-William Perrine in October Ladies' Home Journal.

A Shock to England, A rumor has come from London that Punch is to undergo some alterations in the style of its contents, its size and price—a report somewhat disquieting to those who believe in British stability and reverence for a steadfast course. These restless times must have changed public taste if Punch feels the need of novelties. One of the difficulties of maintaining a humorous paper, says Harper's Weekly, is the tendency of the men who make it to grow old. Du Maurier never grew old in Punch. Neither did Leech nor Keene, and Tenniel's work is not of a sort to be impaired by the seriousness which is liable to develop with maturity. There should always be a strong infusion of youth-real youth-in a humorous paper. Very likely it would be well for Punch, and all papers of its sort, to drown or pension off its editor every 10 or 15 years and get a new one, to whom some jokes will seem new and whom the follies of mankind will not impress like old familiar friends which it is brutal to

Saved the Green.

assail and unkind to laugh at.

A green Irish servant girl was recently employed in the home of Deputy Sheriff Curley of Philadelphia. A few days after she assumed charge below stairs Mrs. Curley told her to serve watermelon for dinner. Judge of Mr. Curley's dismay when the rind of the melon was brought in on a platter, but none of the rich, red

core. "What did you do with the other part?" asked Mr. Curley. "Why," was the reply; "shure it wuz full of black bugs, an I trun it out."

A Rich Princess.

Princess Louise seems likely to become one of the richest members of the royal family. Her marriage with the Marquis of Lorne has not necessitated the keeping up of any great state, and, being childless, her expenses are comparatively few. On her marriage she received a dowry of \$150,000, and she had magnificent wedding gifts of diamonds, rubles, pearls and other jewels. Like the rest of the queen's children, she has an income of \$80,000 a year.

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2.25 P. M.—Accom. for Emory Grove,

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