

FORT WASHIN

Guardian Mutual Life Insurance Company

OF NEW YORK,

BRANCH OFFICE, No. 620 WALNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Philadelphia, 187

RECEIVED from

dollars and

cents, it being the amount of

Premium due the

day of

187

insuring his life

until the

day of

187



Agent.

AT THE MAST

IT WAS IN THE YEAR 1898 THAT WAR WAS DECLARED BETWEEN CHILEWA AND BIG CONTINENT AND BOTH GOVERNMENTS WERE THROWN INTO HURRIED ACTIVITY - RECRUITING FROM THE WORKING-CLASSES, HURRYING FRESHLY-FORMED COMPANIES TO THE MILITARY CAMPS AND PREPARING SHIPS OF WAR FOR BATTLE.

CHILEWA WAS FIGHTING AGAINST A NATION MUCH STRONGER THAN ITSELF BUT ITS CITIZENS GAVE FREELY OF BOTH MONEY AND SHIPS AND ~~AT~~ HISTORY CAN TESTIFY TO THE GRAND RESULTS ATTAINED.

IT WAS OF THE CRUISER "NEW YORK" THAT I AM ABOUT TO WRITE.

THE NEW YORK'S CAPTAIN WAS HARRY NELSON - A GREAT, BROAD-SHOULDERED SAILOR, DEEP OF CHEST AND OF GREAT MUSCULAR ABILITY - ONE OF THE BEST COMMANDERS

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IN THE CHIPEWA NAVY,

AS TO THE CREW; THEY WERE ALL BRAVE, DARING MEN WHO, IF THEY WERE ORDERED TO, WOULD STAND BEFORE A CANNON'S MOUTH WITH NO OUTWARD SIGN OF FEAR.

IT WAS ON A BRIGHT, AUGUST DAY THAT THE "NEW YORK" FINISHED HER REPAIRS AND PROCEEDING DOWN THE RIVER, FROM HER DOCK, WITH THE TIDE SHE WAS SOON IN OPEN SEA, THE

ENGINES STARTED AT NEARLY FULL SPEED AND THE CRUISER WAS OFF. THE LAST MOUNTAIN - PEAKS OF THE CHIPEWA COAST DROPPED DOWN BEHIND THE VAST, ROLLING EXPANSE OF BILLOWS BEFORE NOON AND



CAPT. NELSON

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EXCEPT FOR A FEW KISSING-SMACKS WHOSE
JAILS CHIMMERED IN THE HAZY DISTANCE LIKE
BIRDS THE "NEW YORK" WAS ALONE.

"NOW" SAID CAPTAIN NELSON,
CAUTING HIS EYE DOWN UPON
THE BUSY SCENE THE DECK
PRESENTED WITH ITS SCORES
OF GREEN-BLOUDED SAILORS,
ITS TALL MAISTS AND SMOKING
FUNNELS "NOW, UNLESS IM MIS-
TAKEN, WE'RE IN FOR SOME
RUN!"

"THINK WE'LL MEET THE BIG
CONTINENT SQUADRON?" HIS FIRST
LIEUTENANT ASKED WHO HAD JUST
JOINED THE CAPTAIN ON THE
BRIDGE.

"I HOPE SO!" THE CAPTAIN REJOINED SMILING



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WITH EVIDENT PRIDE AT THE FINE SHIP
HE SAILED.

CHAP. 2.

AS THE DAYS WORE ON WITH NO APPEARANCE
OF THE BIG CONTINENT FLEET THERE WAS LESS TALK
AND THOUGHT ABOUT IT AND THE SHIP-BOARD LIFE
SETTLED DOWN TO ITS USUAL ROUTINE.

THEN ONE DAY, JUST AT SUNRISE, A HAZY COL-
UMN OF SMOKE DRIFTED UP AGAINST THE GAWN FROM
FAR DOWN BEHIND THE ROLLING STRETCH OF WATERS
AND WHILE THE WATCHFUL MEN IN THE FIGHTING-
TOPS WERE LAZILY WATCHING IT ANOTHER SMOKE
APPEARED THEN ANOTHER AND ANOTHER UNTIL TEN
STEADILY RISING WRATHS OF BROWN WERE IN
SIGHT.

THE LOOK OUT HAD ACREARY TOLD THE CAPTAIN AND
OFFICERS OF THE APPROACHING FLEET AND THEY
WERE ALL ON DECK, GAZING FORWARD WITH AN
EXCITEMENT THAT WAS QUICKLY SHARED BY THE

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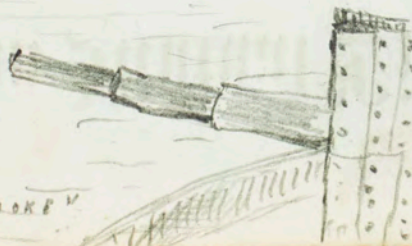
Agent.

CREW AS THE PILLARS OF DISTANT SMOKE ROSE UNTIL
BLACK HULLS WERE SEEN BENEATH.
"IT'S SURELY THE BIG CONTINENT SQUADRON" CAPTAIN
NELSON EXCLAIMED WHEN HIS LIEUTENANT RE-
PORTED THE FLEETS WITHIN TEN MILES OF EACH
OTHER AND THIS OPPOSITION PROVED CORRECT
WHEN, FIVE MINUTES LATER, A FLASH OF RED JAG
UP TO THE MAST-HEAD OF THE LEADING SHIP
AND THE NEXT MOMENT A PUFF OF SMOKE JERK
ED UP INTO THE AIR FROM ITS BOW AND A
FEW MINUTES LATER A SMALL

BURST OVER THE "NEW YORK"
WITH A DEAFENING ROAR.

THE CHIPWA FLEET IMMEDI-
ATELY ANSWERED WITH ITS
THIRTY-TWO-INCH GUNS AND

OFFICERS AND MEN WORK-
ED WITH A BRATHLESS EN-
ERGY. HUGE VOLUMES OF
SMOKE POURED FROM THE
FUNNELS OF THE SHIPS AND



"A PUFF OF SMOKE"

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THEY FAIRLY SHOOK WITH THE THROBBING OF THE
STRAINING ENGINES.

