| quired by the distance would soincrease the curvature of the trajectory of the shot as to insure its passing over the turret wall, it being only high enough, when perfectly level, to intercept projectiles intersecting the line of fire at an angle of less than four degrees. In attacking fortsit must be manifest that this joint would be exposed othe irect fire of any gun four degrees above it. <br> Even in a calm sea, a gun on a level with it or even below it, would command thisjoint, if it were suflinctuly distant to require a few degrees of elevation to maintain the trajectory above the line of fire to the requisite distance. It is therefore ridiculous; to claim that this joint is impregnable against fortifications. To make involves the necessity of a smooth sea, and of the Dictator selecting and maintaining her own position in the fight. As she is known to be a complete failure in point of speed, making only seven knots per hour, of none of which have a speed of less than nine knots, while several go at thirteen or fourteen. It is therefore evident that this six-inch belt promerit serious consideration. My apology for devoting so much space to it is that it is claimed to be so-important. If it must continue to form a cates of the system to insist that the rules of the prize ring be adopte in naval engagements, and that it be expressly understood that hits on the pilot house below the belt shall be unlaw ful, and will entitle the moni tor to claim the stakes Your contributor naintains that it is impossible for any heavy projectile to disturb the inertia of the pictator's pilot house, weine rit eighty thous- <br>  ture of the spindle. In support of my assertion to the contrary, made in my report to the Secretary of the Nav, and ridicule in in your contribator's the Passsaic riocheting the upper pa house and $\square$ <br>  poo avoid the inevitable oroj.if the can bend over and described by or itiae慈 $\qquad$ $\square$ house, all had this in adide <br> Rex $\square$ $\square$ $\square$ <br>  $\square$ $\square$ <br> tle Com land, $\square$ $\square$ $\square$ $\qquad$ $\square$ $\square$ Ebe $\square$ <br>  $\square$ $\qquad$ <br> of fo $\square$ $\square$ $\square$ PRi <br>  ${ }_{a}{ }^{\text {Bid }}$ $\qquad$ $\square$ t $\square$ $\square$ <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br> the $\square$ <br>  $\qquad$ $\square$ $\square$ $\square$ $\square$ |
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