

of the inner ear, while cold fresh water may be equally injurious. Every year hundreds of people are sent to the infirmary for treatment whose trouble has arisen from getting water into their ears while bathing, or from catching cold in the ears at such times. He recommends, as a precaution, the plugging of the ears with cotton before entering the water, particularly in surf bathing.

**NEW COLLAPSING BOAT.**

This boat, which is the invention of Mr. W. H. Crispin, of Stratford, England, is made entirely of very thin steel, a material which is at once light, tough, and durable. The engraving, which we copy from the London *Graphic*, shows a specimen boat, 11 feet in length by 3 feet 9 inches beam. The ends are of smooth metal, and the body of corrugated

head and face, and interspersed with white hairs. The throat is black, and a long triangular black mark arises from the throat and passes obliquely over the shoulders. There are four toes on the fore feet, and five on the hind feet, provided with long, curved claws, which are very inconvenient in locomotion, but form efficient weapons. As will be seen from the representation of the animal in the foreground of our engraving, when walking the claws of the fore feet are folded back, the weight resting on the knuckles.

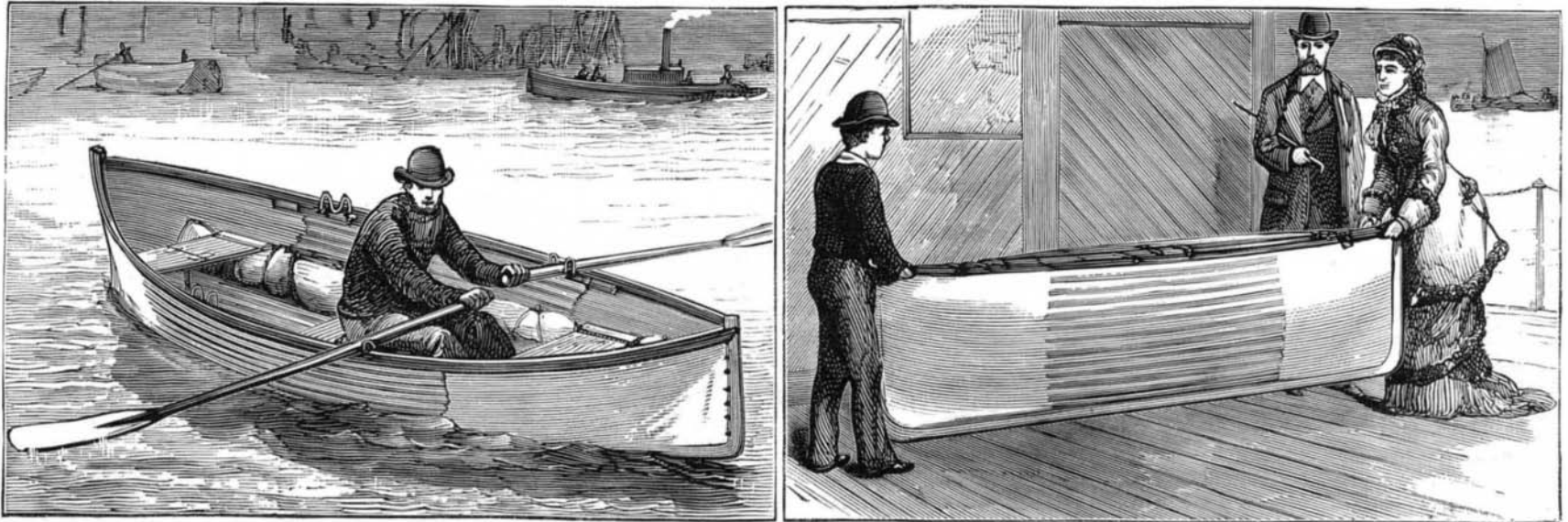
**A New Phase of Warfare.**

The use of magazine rifles in the Russo-Turkish war has practically demonstrated the impossibility of capturing by assault and direct fire any position affording shelter for riflemen. The same experience has shown also that it is quite

terminated by an ordinary range finder, all that is required is a simple instrument to indicate the correct elevation to be given to the rifle barrel. Here is a chance for some inventor to make a new and very useful addition to military arms.

**A Natural Theater.**

The Temple is a side cañon some four and a half miles from Cañon City, and was discovered but a year or two ago. Once through the great rifts of rock, for all the world like the stairway of some grand place of amusement, the body of the Temple is reached, and, to the tourist's astonishment, before him is a stage, with overhanging arch, with "flats" and "flies," with dressing rooms on either side, and a scene already set as if for some grand tableau. If so intensely realistic from the parquet, as the broad circling floor might



**CRISPIN'S COLLAPSING BOAT.**

steel, and the craft is rendered unsinkable by placing air bags beneath the thwarts. When closed for stowage the diameter is only 16 inches, and it is made to expand while being lowered from the davits. The contrivance is intended for passenger vessels, and troop and emigrant ships, where space must be economized, and yet sufficient boat accommodation, in case of accident, is absolutely necessary. The inventor intends, it is said, substituting phosphor-bronze for steel, combining equal tenacity with less weight.

**THE ANT BEAR.**

The great ant eater, ant bear, or tamanoir, as the subject of our illustration is indiscriminately termed, is a curious animal, both in its appearance and in its habits. It is known among zoölogists as *Myrmecophaga jubata*, and is a native of Guiana, Brazil, and Paraguay. It is entirely destitute of teeth, but nature has offset this deficiency by a most liberal supply of tongue—a member which it uses most skillfully in the capture of its peculiar food, the termites and other ants. In total length it measures between six and seven feet, the tail being about two feet six inches long. The head is remarkably elongated and narrow, and is well adapted to the animal's mode of life. The body is covered with long, coarse hair, which on the tail forms a heavy plume, with which, while sleeping, the ant bear covers himself, looking, it is said, very much like a rough bundle of hay carelessly thrown upon the ground rather than like a living being. The prevailing color is brown, washed with gray on the

possible with modern arms to make untenable many positions hitherto considered perfectly sheltered and secure. Many Russian soldiers have been struck beyond the usual rifle range, and even when lying behind considerable elevations separating them from the enemy. At Schipka Pass General Dragomiroff was wounded in the knee by a bullet from a Turkish rifle on the opposite side of a mountain. A number of the Russian rank and file were hit in like manner at the same place, the balls rising high in air, passing the summit of the mountain, and doing execution as they fell. In view of these casualties a correspondent of the London *Times* suggests that it would not be difficult to devise a system of vertical or dropping fire to reach an enemy hidden behind a wood or a ridge. It is easy to conceive how demoralizing to a body of troops waiting in reserve—without the excitement of action—would be a shower of bullets from unseen enemies, dropping over the very ridge they had relied on for protection. The Gatling gun is mentioned as capable of utilization in this way. The distance being de-

aply be termed, or from the parquet or dress circles, as the higher ledges would suggest, the clamber up to the stage itself renders it all the more so. The stage is at the least thirty feet deep, and some sixty or seventy broad, the arch above is fully one hundred feet from the floor of the cañon, the stage itself being about forty feet above the floor. The arch is almost as smooth and perfectly proportioned as if fashioned by the hand of man. Upon the rear wall of the stage quite an aperture has been hewn out by some action, and the shape it is left in is peculiarly suggestive of tab-leau preparations. There is absolutely not a solitary sign of vegetation about the Temple; all is bleak, bare, and towering, and a more weird spot to visit cannot possibly be imagined.—*Rocky Mountain Tourist.*

**The Earthquakes of Fifteen Centuries.**

Minister Bingham has sent from Japan a very interesting paper by a native savant on the earthquakes that have occurred in that country during the past fifteen hundred years.

The number of destructive earthquakes recorded is 149. The ninth century was most prolific in these, reaching 28; in the fifteenth century there were 15; the same in the seventeenth; 13 in the 18th; and 16 in the present century. The recorded average is one great earthquake every ten years, but the nineteenth century gives one every five years. Unusually high temperature and strange atmospheric changes have been noticed as precursors of great convulsions, especially in the earthquake which desolated the city of Yeddo in 1855.



**THE ANT BEAR.**