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Translation.

Hochi Shimbun,
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THE STRENGTH OF THE AMERICAN NAVY.
(Views of a Certain Naval Expert.)

Unlike the Powers in Europe, vying with one another in naval improvement and expansion, the United States alone seemed until several years ago to be contented with her old-fashioned warships and arms. The members of her navy appeared to be interested too much in dancing and social functions to pay any attention to the art of handling guns and warships. The American Navy, however, has since been wide awake, and has been earnestly engaged in the construction of battleships as well as the improvement of arms. It has been expanded in all its various departments and powerful squadrons have been organized. At the same time the personnel of the American Navy has shown improvement in such a way as to almost beat the British in various specialties. At the time of the Spanish-American War, for instance, the squadrons of the two countries fought the battle of Santiago with almost equal strength. Yet the result was the annihilation of the Spanish squadron. While the latter had no doubt some weak points, the easy victory of the American squadron was certainly due to its remarkable strength and to the efficiently trained members who fought in a spirit of pure patriotism. The strength of the American Navy should never be under-estimated.