

# A BATTLE-SHIP CLEARED FOR ACTION.



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The first-class battle-ship "Implacable," of the Mediterranean Squadron (Captain R. C. Prothero, C.B.), of 15,000 tons, and 15,000 I.H.P. She mounts four 50-ton 12-in. guns, twelve 6-in. quick-firers, and sixteen 12-pounders, and can steam 18 knots.

Our illustration shows the first-class battle-ship "Implacable" cleared for action, lying moored in Malta Harbour. All gear has been removed from the line of fire; the light pole masts are struck; the boats are "laced" to prevent splinters flying; the numerous metal ventilators are replaced by canvas ones. Observe the complete clearance of the decks in the vicinity of the two pairs of barbette guns. The men at work on the hull are painting it the new "invisible" colour. Three ensigns are displayed. These preparations for battle (except the painting) can be made in a few minutes.