

# TOM SWIFT AND HIS AERIAL WARSHIP, OR, THE NAVAL TERROR OF THE SEAS (DODO PRESS) pdf

1: Tom Swift | Public Domain Super Heroes | FANDOM powered by Wikia

*Tom Swift wants to create an Aerial Warship but the big problem he faces is the recoil of the cannons throwing off the vehicles flight. Even Tom's own father doesn't believe he can succeed this time. Ouch.*

Tom went softly to the door and opened it quickly, to disclose, standing in the corridor, one of the messengers employed about the shops. Swift," said the boy, "a man has applied for work at the main office, and you know you left orders there that if any machinists came along, we were toâ€œ" "Oh, so I did," Tom exclaimed. How many are there? You might complete it now. It concerns yourself, personally. But this plot, like the other one, directed against the inventions themselves, is so shrouded in mystery that I cannot get to the bottom of it. But, though our agents have worked hard, they have not been able to get any clues that would put them on the right trail. That was part of my errand in coming here, though, of course, I am anxious to inspect the new aerial warship you have constructed. So watch out for two thingsâ€œ"your inventions, and, more than all, your life! These foreign spies are desperate. If they cannot secure the use of these inventions to their own country, they are determined not to let this country have the benefit of them. The fire in the red shed was as close as I want anything to come. And now, perhaps, you would like to see the Mars," he said to the lieutenant. Now I want your opinion on my new craft. But, you must remember that it is not yet completed, and only recently did I begin to solve the problem of mounting the guns. So be a little easy with your criticisms. There, swaying about at its moorings, was the immense aerial warship. Tom showed his official guest how a new system of elevation and depressing rudders had been adopted, how a new type of propeller was to be used and indicated several other improvements. The lower, or cabin, part of the aircraft could be entered by mounting a short ladder from the ground, and Tom took Ned and Lieutenant Marbury through the engine-room and other compartments of the Mars. You understand," he went on, to Tom, "that we are vitally interested in the guns, since we now have many aircraft that can be used purely for scouting purposes. What we want is something for offense, a veritable naval terror of the seas. I am going to use the Newton recoil check," he added. Tom then briefly described the principle on which his aerial warship would work, explaining how the lifting gas would raise it, with its load of crew, guns and explosives, high into the air; how it could then be sent ahead, backward, to either side, or around in a circle, by means of the propellers and the rudders, and how it could be raised or lowered, either by rudders or by forcing more gas into the lifting bags, or by letting some of the vapor out. And, while this was being done by the pilot or captain in charge, the crew could be manning the guns with which hostile airships would be attacked, and bombs dropped on the forts or battleships of the enemy. Leaving Ned and the lieutenant to entertain each other, Tom went to see the mechanics who had applied for places. He found them satisfactory and engaged them. One of them had worked for him before. The other was a stranger, but he had been employed in a large aeroplane factory, and brought good recommendations. There followed busy days at the Swift plant, and work was pushed on the aerial warship. The hardest task was the mounting of the guns, and equipping them with the recoil check, without which it would be impossible to fire them with the craft sailing through the air. But finally one of the big guns, and two of the smaller ones were in place, with the apparatus designed to reduce the recoil shock, and then Tom decided to have a test of the Mars. The craft was not completed for a flight as yet, but could be made so in a few days, with rush work. The roof of the great shed slid back, and the big envelope containing the buoyant gas rose slowly upward. There was a cry of surprise from the many workmen in the yard, as they saw, most of them for the first time, the wonderful new craft. It did not go up very high, being held in place with anchor ropes. The sun glistened on the bright brass and nickel parts, and glinted from the gleaming barrels of the quick-firing guns. Damon were aboard the captive Mars. Looking about, to see that all was in readiness, Tom gave orders to load the guns, blank charges being used, of course. The recoil apparatus was in place, and it now remained to see if it would do the work for which it was designed. Ned and Lieutenant Marbury stood near the indicators to notice how much of the recoil would be neutralized by the check apparatus. Mah mule,

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Boomerangâ€™" But Eradicate had spoken too late. Tom pressed the switch; there was a deafening crash, a spurt of flame, and then followed wild cries and confused shouts, while the echoes of the reports rolled about the hills surrounding Shopton.

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### 2: Tom Swift and His Aerial Warship - Wikipedia

*Tom Swift and His Aerial Warship, or, the Naval Terror of the Seas (FULL Audio Book) by Victor Appleton () Tom Swift is an inventor, and these are his.*

White paper quad; Duotone; Full color Tom receives a letter containing a crude map. Jacob Illingway believes it leads to an underground city exists in central Mexico. The ancient city contains untold riches for anyone who can find it and get past the guardians, a tribe of head hunters. Tom and his friends are off to Mexico to fight the head hunters and locate the City of Gold. Good quality samples of the metal are nearly impossible to locate. A Russian who lives nearby offers him a quantity of the high quality metal he needs. It came from a lost platinum mine in Russia that he and his brother discovered when they were lost in the mountains. White paper quad; Duotone; Full color Sam Preston, owner of a large circus, needs a new attraction for his side show. He knows of a place in the jungles of South America where a race of giants live. Tom is offered a reward to go procure one, and locate a hunter who has gone missing. A unethical competitor in a rival circus vies with Tom to find the giants. White paper quad; Duotone; Full color Tom is introduced to a moving picture promoter, James "Spotty" Period, who engages Tom to build a revolutionary electric powered motion picture camera and travel the world to film spectacular newsreel films to show in theaters. Tom invents the Wizrd camera and constructs a new airship, the Flyer. Tom and his friends are off to India to film wildlife and must overcome the nefarious plans of rival motion picture promoters. White paper quad; Duotone; Full color US Customs is pursuing smugglers bringing contraband across the Canadian border into Shopton using airships. Tom has invented a searchlight brighter than any other. The treasure is on an island off the coast of Panama. Tom wants to build a giant cannon to protect the Panama Canal and fire the longest cannon shots ever. Tom also has to develop a new propellant to drive the two-ton 30 inch shells. Damon runs up against unscrupulous financial manipulators and risks losing both his fortune and his life. Tom uses his new invention to track down the bad guys and save the day. Tom has to figure out a way to fire artillery from a floating platform and convince the US Navy to purchase it. White paper quad; Duotone; Full color Mr. Tom develops a blasting powder based on his Giant Cannon propellant, and in the company of Titus and Mr. Damon leave for South America. During construction a lost subterranean city is found. It becomes a stop on the rail line and ultimately, a tourist attraction. White paper quad; Duotone; Full color Tom reads a magazine article written by Prof. Bumper describing a fabulous underground city containing a large gold idol. Tom initially is skeptical but Professor Bumper and Mr. Damon show up and turn Tom around. A young, handsome, rival archeologist, Prof. Fenimore Beecher, is also interested in the idol. His plan is to give a part of it to Mary Nestor in hopes she will marry him. Tom and his cronies and the rival party are off to Honduras on a treasure hunt. Tom must overcome wild jungle animals and the rival party to find the gold idol and win Mary. Even Ned speculates that he could be a "slacker. Espionage, subterfuge, assault, kidnapping and grand theft are just a few of the obstacles Tom must overcome for Uncle Sam. Duotone; Full color Tom thinks that a silent airplane motor would be beneficial in advancing the war effort. During the development of the power plant, Tom runs afoul of the Universal Flying Machine Company, a competitor for government contracts. Bribery, intimidation, espionage, threats, theft and kidnapping are all used against Tom to try and sabotage his efforts. Naturally, Tom wins in the end and his new Air Scout is an unqualified success. Duotone; Full color Mr. Damon shows up with a new friend, Dixwell Hardley, who promises wealth from the bottom of the sea. Tom reluctantly agrees to join the search for the sunken steamship SS Pandora and a million dollars in gold coins. In his submarine, the Advance, Tom and his chums must overcome deadly sea creatures, foul weather, accidents and a doublecross from Hardley before reaching his goal. Duotone; Full color Upstate New York is in flames. The Shopton fireworks plant and a large lumberyard are destroyed. Eradicate is severely injured in a chemical explosion. Richard Bartholomew is a rail tycoon, beset by rivals that are trying to put his Western road under by devious and illegal means. When Tom takes the contract, he joins Bartholomew and wait for the next threat

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to emerge. High explosives, armed robbery and sabotage are just a few of the obstacles Tom must overcome. Duotone; Full color Tom wants to improve seaplane technology and builds a new, large luxurious flying boat from scratch and in record time. Just in time to mount a rescue mission to the Arctic in an attempt to save Mr. Nestor, who have been stranded on an iceberg after the schooner they were traveling on was wrecked. Damon contracts The Swift Construction Company to make oil drilling equipment for a group of shady Texas wildcatters. They have to be watched constantly by Ned Newton to keep them honest. To make matters worse, one of them is eying Mary Nestor. Tom comes up with a new style rotary well drilling rig that cuts through rock 3 times faster than the existing machinery can. They go to Texas to try the new device and encounter all sorts of obstacles before Tom can prove the worth of his new invention and strike oil. Full color Tom constructs a large, heavy brass-bound oak chest to keep his blueprints, formulae and models in until an underground vault can be built. Tom is attacked and his possessions, the chest and Koku are all missing. Tom must discover who stole his Chest of Secrets and save Koku from the grips of the culprits. Full color; Whitman Full color DJ has new art Tom is waylaid, drugged, shackled and beaten by a couple of disgruntled ex-employees now employed by the "Hooded Two. The revolutionary concept will travel from coast to coast in a 16 hours using a concept similar to the old Pony Express but with wings. Tom must overcome the "Hooded Two" and battle sabotage and terrible weather to make his Airline Express a success. Full color; Whitman Full color DJ has new art. The craft must be built and the voyage must be completed in 6 months time. Tom completes The Air Monarch, a luxurious but speedy triple traveler in record time in spite of the machinations of rival Red Arrow Aeroplane Company. Tom overcomes sabotage and all obstacles to win the prize. Tom has invented a device that seriously jeopardizes the existing theater and moving picture establishment. It is a large screen color TV with hi-fi sound. They will do anything, from sabotage and subterfuge to kidnapping and attempted murder to stop this device from being marketed. The Swift Construction Company is not doing well. Tom is offered a lucrative contract to build equipment by a shady character. Tom refuses and the man starts threatening mayhem and murder. Tom designs and builds his House on Wheels that can be used to get away from it all. Tom and Ned take a trip to Dismal Mountain, that is rumored to be a criminal hangout. Tom and Ned get carjacked twice and must use their wits to escape. Tom proposes to Mary. She accepts and they wed. Martin Jardine commissions Tom to build the Silver Cloud, the largest blimp in the world but it is discovered that Jardine did not have the authority to enter into the contract and his brother Lawrence, who does have authority, refuses to approve the deal. Tom decides to complete the blimp anyway, hoping to sell it after it is completed. The new blimp proves a success - capable of bucking even a hurricane - but no one wants to buy it. The climax comes when a madman sets a ring of fire around a resort on Mount Camon - the resort where Mary, Mr. Damon and the ailing Barton are staying. Tom must use his dirigible in a desperate race against time before his family and friends are killed in the blaze. Tom is working on his latest invention, the Sky Train. First his experimental Sky Train crashed, then the bank denied a crucial loan, then his Sky Train crashed again. Could it be sabotage? The Acton firm is sponsoring another, rival Sky Train in hopes of beating Tom to the market. A World Exposition in which airplanes feature highly is to be held in San Francisco shortly and both want to be the first to be there. Tom overcomes both sabotage and aerial hazards to win the prize. A local scrap yard owner comes to Tom with a desire to have a more powerful magnet made so he can process all the metal coming through his yard more efficiently. A rival dealer who specializes in marine salvage, also approaches Tom and a competition ensues to see who gets their bigger magnet first. Tom whips one up in no time flat. Ned Newton is working on pocket wireless sender to be used to communicate via a secret code if one of the chums is in trouble. The formula was taken by a nefarious foreigner, The Leopard. Ned is able to contact Tom with his pocket wireless and Tom comes to his rescue, captures The Leopard and retrieves the deadly formula.

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### 3: The Tom Swift Series by Victor Appleton

*By contrast, Tom Swift and His Aerial Warship is just an awful book, where the black helper shucks and jives and the romantic interest is a big By contrast, Tom Swift and His Aerial Warship is just an awful book, where the black helper shucks and jives and the romantic interest is a big fainter--because that's what women do.*

Like his father, Tom had a genius for mechanical engineering, and from an early age, he began building things like boats and motorcycles. Soon, he graduated to building more advanced technology, such as his air ship, The Red Cloud. Eventually, he began building vehicles and devices of his own design, far more advanced than anything existing at the time. Tom held numerous patents, and he was constantly forced to protect his newest inventions from unscrupulous souls who wished to steal them. Tom travelled the world and under it, often looking for treasures, and experienced many fantastic adventures along the way. His airship, the Red Cloud crashed in the Arctic and was later replaced by the smaller dirigible called "The Black Hawk," a larger one called "The Falcon," and a long range one called "The Flyer. Perhaps his most famous invention was the electric rifle which was a weapon that projected a powerful electrical charge, capable of destroying a small hut. He was a good athlete, a hunter, proficient with firearms and a decent cook as well. Tom was a brilliant inventor and a genius at mechanical engineering and aeronautics. Supporting Cast Barton Swift: He is the founder of the Swift Construction Company. He is wealthy from the patents he owns, but maintains a conservative and unpretentious lifestyle. He is also described as "aged", "nervous", "distracted" and "feeble. She has become a surrogate mother to Tom. She is so short, she has to stand on a soapbox to kiss Tom goodbye. Originally employed with Shopton National Bank, he later became the financial manager for the Swift Construction Company. She is attractive and has brown eyes. Her second cousin is Dick Blythe. An old adventurer who accompanied Tom on his voyages. He was fluent in several languages. He was also a bit of an eccentric and liked to bless everyone and everything in his vicinity! A giant from South America who returns to the United States with Tom and accompanies him on adventures. He is very big about 10 feet tall and very strong, with large hoop earrings. He has a twin brother named Tola, and was a brother of King Kosk. A "poor little rich kid" with a chip on his shoulder. He is squinty eyed and has red hair. He is a loud mouthed bully, who is willing to kill Tom in order to win.

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4: German addresses are blocked - [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com)

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You look rather blue! Ranged on the sides of the room were models of many queer craft, most of them flying machines of one sort or another, while through the open door that led into a large shed could be seen the outlines of a speedy monoplane. Time was when I could keep track of you and your inventions, but that was in your early days, when you started with a motorcycle and were glad enough to have a motorboat. The science is far from being understood, or even made safe, not to say perfected, as water and land travel have been. As the young bank employee had said, he had come away from the institution that afternoon to have a little holiday with his chum, but Tom, seated in the midst of his inventions, seemed little inclined to jollity. Through the open windows came the hum of distant machinery, for Tom Swift and his father were the heads of a company founded to manufacture and market their many inventions, and about their home were grouped several buildings. From a small plant the business had grown to be a great tree, under the direction of Tom and his father. It sometimes helps me just to tell my troubles to a disinterested person, and hear him ask questions. Come on out and see what you make of it. I call it my aerial warship, though. That sounds rather dangerous! You can get big results with small guns and projectiles now, for high-powered explosives come in small packages. Of course, an aerial warship will have to be big, for it will have to carry extra machinery to give it extra speed, and it will have to carry a certain armament, and a large crew will be needed. So, as I said, it will need to be large. But it must have had a double charge in it and been rusted at that. All I know is that after I pulled the trigger I thought the end of the world had come. I heard a clap of thunder, and then I went flying over backward into a blackberry patch. The recoil of the gun knocked you over. But, at the time I put it down to an explosion, and let it go at that. Part of it, of course, was exerted on the barrel of the gun—that was sideways—but the strength of the steel held it in. And part of the force went backward against your shoulder. That part was the recoil, and it is the recoil of the guns I figure on putting aboard my aerial warship that is giving me such trouble. The two chums crossed the yard, threading their way through the various buildings, until they stood in front of the structure to which Tom had called attention. But the gun business sure has me worried. I wonder who it is? It was built to house a dirigible balloon, or airship of some sort. I brought Koku with me to use his strength on some of them. Ned and I came out to wrestle with that recoil problem again. Better give it up. This time you have bitten off more than you can chew, to use a homely but expressive statement. Both of them seemed very much excited. Damon, what is it? Tom and Ned, looking from a window of the hangar, saw a billow of black smoke roll across the yard. But already the private fire bell was clanging out its warning. And, while the work of fighting the flames is under way, I will halt the progress of this story long enough to give my new readers a little idea of who Tom Swift is, so they may read this book more intelligently. Those of you who have perused the previous volumes may skip this part. Tom Swift, though rather young in years, was an inventor of note. His tastes and talents were developed along the line of machinery and locomotion. Motorcycles, automobiles, motorboats, submarine craft, and, latest of all, craft of the air, had occupied the attention of Tom Swift and his father for some years. Wakefield Damon, from a nearby village. Damon was always blessing something, from his hat to his shoes, a harmless sort of habit that seemed to afford him much comfort. I will just mention Mary Nestor, a young lady of Shopton, in whom Tom was more than ordinarily interested. I have spoken of Koku, the giant. He really was a giant of a man, of enormous strength, and was one of two whom Tom had brought with him from a strange land where Tom was held captive for a time. You may read about it in a book devoted to those adventures. Tom took Koku into his service, somewhat to the dismay of Eradicate, who was desperately jealous. But poor Eradicate was getting old, and could not do as much as he thought he could. Tom had begun his inventive work when, some years before this story opens, he had bargained for Mr. Damon was, naturally, perhaps, much disgusted, and sold the affair cheap. From then on Tom had passed a busy life, making many machines and having some thrilling

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times with them. By means of this invention Tom had been able to make a picture that had saved a fortune. But Tom did not stop there. With him to invent was as natural and necessary as breathing. He simply could not stop it. And so we find him now about to show to his chum, Ned Newton, his latest patent, an aerial warship, which, however, was not the success Tom had hoped for. The red shed was on fire. That mere statement might not mean anything special to the ordinary person, but to Tom, his father, and those who knew about his shops, it meant much. Father, not you, though. Is the alarm ringing, Koku? From the other shops and buildings nearby were pouring men and boys, for the Swift plant employed a number of hands now. Above the shouts and yells, above the crackle of flames, could be heard the clanging of the alarm bell, set ringing by Koku, who had pulled the signal in the airship shed. From there it had gone to every building in the plant, being relayed by the telephone operator, whose duty it was to look after that. Tom had caught sight of Eradicate and the giant, Koku, unreeling from a central standpipe a long line of hose. Do you want to kill us all! They dropped the hose which, half unreeled, lay like some twisted snake in the grass. Had it been pulled out all the way the water would have spouted from the nozzle, for it was of the automatic variety, with which Tom had equipped all his plant. For all he spoke slowly his brain was working fast. Already, even now, he was planning how best to give battle to the flames. It would be well-nigh fatal to use water on carbide. Those of you who have bicycle lanterns, in which that not very pleasant-smelling chemical is used, know that if a few drops of water are allowed to drip slowly on the gray crystals acetylene gas is generated, which makes a brilliant light. But, if the water drips too fast, the gas is generated too quickly, and an explosion results. In lamps, of course, and in lighting plants where carbide is used, there are automatic arrangements to prevent the water flowing too freely to the chemical. But Tom knew if the hose were turned on the fire in the red shed a great explosion would result, for some of the tins of carbide would be melted by the heat. Yet the fire needed to be coped with. Already the flames were coming through the roof, and the windows and door were spouting red fire and volumes of smoke. Every man dropped the line he had begun to unreel. He can kick shed all to pieces, and put out fire. Look at dat fire! The red shed, which was not a small structure, was blazing on all sides. About it stood the men from the various shops. But that explosive is in double vacuum containers, and it will be safe for some time yet. The pattern shop roof is catching! Swift, pointing to where a little spurt of flame showed on the roof of a distant building. Come on, you with the hose! But we must save the other buildings, too. Play water on all the other sheds and structures! No harm in using water there, though, is there? But do the best you can. Take Koku and Eradicate with you. But I have another plan I want to try. Tom, himself, seemed in no doubt as to his procedure. With one look at the blazing red shed, as if to form an opinion as to how much longer it could burn without getting entirely beyond control, Tom set off on a run toward another large structure. Ned, glancing toward his chum, observed: I wonder what his game is? The shed, where was housed a great dirigible balloon Tom had made, but which he seldom used of late, was sufficiently removed from the zone of fire to be out of danger. Meanwhile several members of the fire-fighting force that had been summoned from the various shops by the alarm, had made an effort to save from the red shed some of the more valuable of the contents. There were some machines in there, as well as explosives and chemicals, in addition to the store of carbide. But the fire was now too hot to enable much to be done in the way of salvage. One or two small things were carried out from a little addition to the main structure, and then the rescuers were driven back by the heat of the flames, as well as by the rolling clouds of black smoke.

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### 5: Tom Swift and His Aerial Warship - Chapter IX - The Recoil Check

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The Secret Service has several agents in the field. The success of those two alone, to say nothing of your submarine, has not only made foreign nations jealous, but they fear you--and us," the officer went on. More than once, of late, we have nipped a plot just in time. And now this fire proves that they are taking other measures--they are working directly against you. We are just beginning to appreciate it. But our own men have not been idle. Why do you ask that? He also brought out the fire-bomb, and explained his theory as to how it had operated to set the red shed ablaze. But, in all foreign countries there are two parties, the war party, as it might be called, and the peace element. It is a certain other great nation, which at present I will not name. You must be very careful about--" A sudden knock on the door interrupted the speaker. Tom went softly to the door and opened it quickly, to disclose, standing in the corridor, one of the messengers employed about the shops. How many are there? You might complete it now. It concerns yourself, personally. But this plot, like the other one, directed against the inventions themselves, is so shrouded in mystery that I cannot get to the bottom of it. But, though our agents have worked hard, they have not been able to get any clues that would put them on the right trail. That was part of my errand in coming here, though, of course, I am anxious to inspect the new aerial warship you have constructed. So watch out for two things--your inventions, and, more than all, your life! These foreign spies are desperate. If they cannot secure the use of these inventions to their own country, they are determined not to let this country have the benefit of them. The fire in the red shed was as close as I want anything to come. And now, perhaps, you would like to see the Mars," he said to the lieutenant. Now I want your opinion on my new craft. But, you must remember that it is not yet completed, and only recently did I begin to solve the problem of mounting the guns. So be a little easy with your criticisms. There, Swaying about at its moorings, was the immense aerial warship. Tom showed his official guest how a new system of elevation and depressing rudders had been adopted, how a new type of propeller was to be used and indicated several other improvements. The lower, or cabin, part of the aircraft could be entered by mounting a short ladder from the ground, and Tom took Ned and Lieutenant Marbury through the engine-room and other compartments of the Mars. You understand," he went on, to Tom, "that we are vitally interested in the guns, since we now have many aircraft that can be used purely for scouting purposes. What we want is something for offense, a veritable naval terror of the seas. I am going to use the Newton recoil check," he added. Tom then briefly described the principle on which his aerial warship would work, explaining how the lifting gas would raise it, with its load of crew, guns and explosives, high into the air; how it could then be sent ahead, backward, to either side, or around in a circle, by means of the propellers and the rudders, and how it could be raised or lowered, either by rudders or by forcing more gas into the lifting bags, or by letting some of the vapor out. And, while this was being done by the pilot or captain in charge, the crew could be manning the guns with which hostile airships would be attacked, and bombs dropped on the forts or battleships of the enemy. Leaving Ned and the lieutenant to entertain each other, Tom went to see the mechanics who had applied for places. He found them satisfactory and engaged them. One of them had worked for him before. The other was a stranger, but he had been employed in a large aeroplane factory, and brought good recommendations. There followed busy days at the Swift plant, and work was pushed on the aerial warship. The hardest task was the mounting of the guns, and equipping them with the recoil check, without which it would be impossible to fire them with the craft sailing through the air. But finally one of the big guns, and two of the smaller ones were in place, with the apparatus designed to reduce the recoil shock, and then Tom decided to have a test of the Mars. The craft was not completed for a flight as yet, but could be made so in a few days, with rush work. The roof of the great shed slid back, and the big envelope containing the buoyant gas rose slowly upward. There was a cry of surprise from the many workmen in the yard, as they saw, most of them for the first time, the wonderful new craft. It did not go up very high, being held in place with anchor

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ropes. The sun glistened on the bright brass and nickel parts, and glinted from the gleaming barrels of the quick-firing guns. Damon were aboard the captive Mars. Looking about, to see that all was in readiness, Tom gave orders to load the guns, blank charges being used, of course. The recoil apparatus was in place, and it now remained to see if it would do the work for which it was designed. Ned and Lieutenant Marbury stood near the indicators to notice how much of the recoil would be neutralized by the check apparatus. Mah mule, Boomerang--" But Eradicate had spoken too late. Tom pressed the switch; there was a deafening crash, a spurt of flame, and then followed wild cries and confused shouts, while the echoes of the reports rolled about the hills surrounding Shopton. Ned, Lieutenant Marbury and Tom had called out in the order named. And, of course, I do not need to tell you what remark Mr. Tom glanced toward where Ned and the government man stood, and saw that they had made notes of the pressure recorded on the recoil checks directly after the guns were fired. Damon, blessing innumerable objects under his breath, was looking over the side of the rail to discover the cause of the commotion and cries of warning from below. Eradicate climbed slowly down from the seat, and limped around until he stood in front of his pet. He done runned his laigs off now. He wanted to see what effect the first shots had had on his aerial warship, and to learn whether or not the newly devised recoil check had done what was expected of it. How did she check up, Ned? But now for a harder test. We must give the Newton shock absorber due credit. But, in such case doubtless, you can increase the strength of the springs and the hydrostatic valves. But, on the whole, I am pretty well satisfied. The Mars was hauled back into the shed, and the roof slid shut over the craft. Much yet remained to do on it, but now that Tom was sure the important item of armament was taken care of, he could devote his entire time to the finishing touches. As his plant was working on several other pieces of machinery, some of it for the United States Government, and some designed for his own use, Tom found himself obliged to hire several new hands. An advertisement in a New York newspaper brought a large number of replies, and for a day or two Tom was kept busy sifting out the least desirable, and arranging to see those whose answers showed they knew something of the business requirements. Each one fears that the United States will cease to be neutral, and will aid one or the other. So you must be careful, especially since you have taken on so many new men. And, now that you have mentioned it, there are some of those men of whom I am a bit suspicious. I must keep my eye on them, for it takes only a few discontented men to spoil a whole shop full. I will be on my guard. Will you do that? As Tom had said, he had been obliged to hire a number of new men. Some of these were machinists who had worked for him, or his father, on previous occasions, and, when tasks were few, had been dismissed, to go to other shops. These men, Tom felt sure, could be relied upon. But there were a number of others, from New York, and other large cities, of whom Tom was not so sure. They stood the test. I spoke to him about it, and he tried to prove that his way was an improvement on yours. I must look into this. Swift had not been told of the suspicions of the lieutenant. Thanks for telling me. This latest craft is sure going to be a beauty. He sat for several minutes in his private office, after the aged inventor had passed out, reviewing in his mind the talk just finished. I wonder if that could be true? Yes, I must look into this. He had several good foremen, and, with his father to take general supervision over more important details, the young inventor had more time to himself. As Tom was about to leave his office, to put into effect his new resolution to make a casual inspection of the other shops, he met Koku, the giant, coming in. But if some one stood near him, and directed him how to apply his enormous strength, Koku could do more than several machines. There was an automatic trip-hammer in one of the shops, used for pounding out drop forgings, and this hammer seemed to take especial delight in getting out of order. Very often it jammed, or "stuck," as Koku described it, and if the hammer could not be forced back on the channel or upright guide-plates, it meant that it must be taken apart, and valuable time lost. Once Koku had been near when the hammer got out of order, and while the workmen were preparing to dismantle it, the giant seized the big block of steel, and with a heave of his mighty shoulders forced it back on the guides. Me fix hammer," Koku answered. Man say I no can fix. I show him I can! I lift him by one finger! He say he no like to work on hammer. He want to work on airship.

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