

N A V Y D E P A R T M E N T ,

Washington, D.C., January 27, 1890.

Mrs. William B. Cushing,

Fredonia, New York.

Madam,

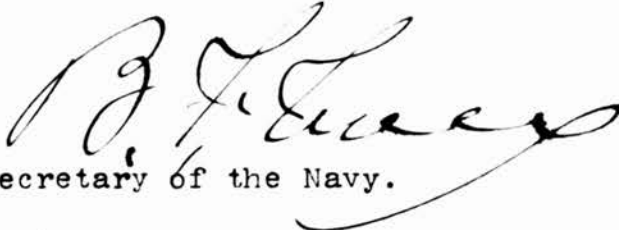
I take pleasure in announcing to you that the new torpedo boat launched on the 23d instant, has been named "The Cushing", in memory of your distinguished husband, the late Commander William B. Cushing.

The high qualities displayed by Cushing during the War of the Rebellion were fitly recognized by Congress in the vote of thanks, which he received by name, at the age of 22, upon the recommendation of the President,- the highest honor which our Government can bestow upon its naval officers. Although at that time little more than a boy in years, he showed in a series of arduous and successful enterprises, planned wholly by himself, and executed under his own eye and hand, an unsurpassed bravery, a marvellous coolness in moments of danger, an unerring judgment, and a readiness and fertility of resource, which have made his career one of the most brilliant and last-

ing traditions in our naval annals. It is due to him, and to the rising generation of officers to which he furnished a bright example, that we should cherish his memory, and keep alive in the Service the recollection of that rare union of prudence with audacity, of consummate professional judgment with intrepid courage.

For these reasons, the Department has deemed it a privilege to give his name to this vessel, the first of its kind in the Navy, and the modern representative of the type made famous by the crowning exploit of Cushing's career,- the destruction of the *Albermarle*.

I am, Madam, with great respect, very truly yours,


Secretary of the Navy.