Thanks to the Bureau des Affaires étrangères des capacités militaires, French Architectes Gany were aware of—and well placed to respond to—the challenge of the forthcoming British Leviathan and the like. The Paris-class Ganymede Grand was proof that French engineering skills were the equal of any in the world—a boast which, sadly, the British were forced to acknowledge in 1910 when the HML Leviathan came off not a winner (though not a loser either!) against the Paris-class Jean Bart.

The Paris, raised at the same time as the Jean Bart, contains a number of differences. Most obvious is the stern turret that bears paired 274mm gun batteries, which the Jean Bart lacks. Less obvious is the 5 knots of top speed lost due to the reduction in boiler space necessitated by the installation of the turret citadel. Another easily missed difference is the increased number of 75mm quick-firing guns, suited to defence against smaller aerial vessels and for use against ground targets such as unruly natives.

Paris-class Battleship

Dimensions: 405 ft. x 110 ft. x 81 ft. (excluding funnels & masts)
Complement: 510 (600 as flagship)
Weight: 18,400 tons
Engines: Inverted triple expansion, producing 16,100 shaft hp (max. speed 20 knots)
Fuel: (coal) 905 tons; max 1,825 tons
Armament: 6-274mm, 12-138mm, 8-75mm, 2 launch bays