

## IN THE ARMY.

### Moral Training of the German and English Soldier.

It may be well to compare the moral aspect of the situation as it affects the position of the soldiers of the English and German armies respectively. The young German, as soon as he gets his uniform and is duly domiciled in his barracks room, finds himself the subject of a perfect moral, military and industrial training. He has no option in the matter. The State, while using him freely for its own requirements, has a large idea of its duties and ultimate interests. He is consigned to the charge of an older and steady soldier, who is responsible for his general behavior, and in whose company and under whose guidance alone he is at the outset of his career allowed to move abroad. He is worked hard, and has no time for idle thoughts. His average duties are about nine hours a day. The time is subdivided in such a manner that there is a constant change of occupation under the personal and immediate supervision of his captain and lieutenants. When he is not at drill or lecture, he is handed over to the military tradesmen and artificers, taught to mend his clothes, to make himself useful in every requirement of military life, to cook, to trench and to work as some trade, which acquires, while rendering him a more serviceable item in his regiment, may benefit his future career, which is a point the German authorities never lose sight of. As his self-control and experience are recognized, he is freed from the tutelage of his guardian, and in his turn has juniors put under his protecting wing. For thirty-four months this training goes on, until he is sent back to his home, a finished soldier, thoroughly well up in all the duties of his station, with morals, at any rate, not deteriorated by his military career, strengthened and braced in body and mind, and imbued with habits of discipline and, above all, industry.

The English soldier, on the other hand, is treated with no such paternal care. When his recruit drills are over, he becomes a comparatively idle man. For many hours each day, on which he is off guard, he has nothing to do but to "loaf." He duly has his turn of guardmounting, and supplements his leisure with a fair amount of malingering. With the fear of the guardroom before his eyes, he either keeps out of mischief or gets into it, just in proportion as fear or inclination may predominate. This goes on from year to year, whether his station be at home or abroad, until, when his time of discharge arrives, he is turned out upon the world again, with enough money in his pocket to suggest unlimited drink, with no prospect of the picket or the provost cell behind him. The country has had the best years of his life. During that period the authorities have insisted on his doing a certain amount of military duty. Moreover, they have placed at his disposal many chances of self-improvement. But they have not trained him to be a good citizen. In fact, they have thought of themselves only, and beyond making the man very moderately efficient in the routine of his duty, have left him to himself to contract habits of idleness and profligacy if so inclined.

The German reserveman, returning to his home, finds, in most instances, little difficulty in settling down into civil life again. In the first place, to have finished his army service is in itself a strong recommendation. He has rendered service to the Fatherland, and this, in the eyes of the average German, constitutes a claim to consideration. The man has only been away about two and three-quarter years, and then not far away. The English reserveman, on the other hand, has been from six to eight years away, probably a good portion of the time abroad. His training has not fitted him for any position in civil life. His place, supposing him to have had any, has long since been filled up in the social world. Boys have grown into men since he left his native town or village. The years wasted in the ranks have put him at the tail end of the procession. He is twenty-six or twenty-eight years of age, and he has, generally speaking, no trade. His habits have become fairly set, and they are those of an aimless idler. He comes into a social system where the very fact of his having been a soldier is against him. He has to compete, wherever he turns, with men who have been thoroughly trained to the work he seeks. We cannot think it good, either for the army or the nation, that young men should be, as our soldiers are, encouraged in idleness for years, and then be sent back to civil life to compete for an existence against all the forces which grade organizations can bring against them.

—Army and Navy Gazette.

### The Scotch Lassie's Right.

The custom observed every fourth year of permitting the fair sex to assume the rights and prerogatives appertaining to their brothers during the remaining three is a very ancient one. When it originated is not definitely known, but a law enacted by the Parliament of Scotland in the year 1298 is doubtless the first statutory recognition of the custom. The law was as follows: "It is statued and ordainit that during the reigne of her Maist Blesit Magestie, ilk fourth year, known as leap year, ilk maiden lady of bairn high and low estate shall have liberty to bespeak ye man she likes; albeit, gif he refuses to tak hir to be his wife, he shall be mulcted in ye summe of ane undir or less, as his estate moit be, except and awis gif he can mak it appear, that he is betrothit to anither woman, that he shall then be free." Who can say, in the face of such testimony, that the rights of women have ever been disregarded?—Society Journal.

### Scriptural Congratulations.

The scriptures, as every one knows, contain many apt and happy expressions for all occasions, says an exchange. Its passages have been culled time and time again for expressions of felicitation and sympathy, but a young couple living at the North end were last Wednesday the recipients of one of the best and most apt quotations from the Bible recently heard. The occasion was the advent of a son, and note read:

"Congratulations, II. Kings, iv., 26.

"Yours, —"

The particular verse in the II. Kings referred to, reads:

"Run, now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, it is well with thee; I sit well with thy father? Is it well with the child? and she answered, 'It is well.'"

## LED ASTRAY.

### A Tale of a Sixth Avenue Shop.

(Philip H. Welch in Harper's Bazar.)

Customer (to saleslady with Psyche knot)—A parcel I bought here two days ago did not come.

Saleslady (regarding her stonily)—Cash!

Customer (again)—I did not receive a small parcel which —

Saleslady—Mr. Higgins! A dollar twenty-five. No. Ribbon counter in the next room.

Customer (once more)—A small parcel which —

Saleslady—Mr. Higgins!

Mr. Higgins (imposing floor-walker)—Did you wish to speak to me, Miss Flanigan?

Customer (about look up).

Miss Flanigan—This lady says she has lost a parcel.

Mr. Higgins—Ah! (Takes out a note-book.)

Customer (turning to Mr. Higgins)—I bought some things here a few days ago, and one small parcel failed to come.

Mr. Higgins (beginning to write)—What was in the parcel?

Customer—Some Japanese butter plates.

Mr. Higgins—How many?

Customer (flushing slightly)—Only six. I got them with other purchases, and —

Mr. Higgins (loftily)—Yes, what price, please?

Customer—Eighteen cents.

Miss Flanigan (with ill-concealed scorn)—I don't sell butter plates.

Customer—I bought them at the Japanese counter, and gave them to you to be sent with other purchases.

Mr. Higgins (patronizingly)—It will be all right, madam. Miss Flanigan cannot, of course, recall all of her sales.

Miss Flanigan tosses her Psyche knot with a superior air, and viciously shoots a small metal cone through a neighboring pneumatic tube.

Mr. Higgins (to customer)—This way, please. Marches off with a stage tread which is a cross between that of the ghost in "Hamlet" and Irving in "The Bells," down one aisle, up another, to a remote corner where a man is seated at a desk writing.

Mr. Higgins (waving the lady with a magnificent gesture to man at desk)—This gentleman will attend to you, madam. Starts on his return trip.

Customer—I purchased some things here a few days ago, and one small parcel did not come.

Man at desk (who has continued writing, looks up thoughtfully)—Now, madam, what can I do for you?

Customer repeats.

Man strokes his chin, takes up long note-book, and asks: Your name, please?

Customer gives it.

Man—And address, please?

Customer gives it.

Man—What day did you buy the goods?

Customer—On Friday last.

Man—What were they?

Customer—Six Japanese butter plates.

Man—Price, please?

Customer—Eighteen cents (adding apologetically). It is a trifle, of course, but I was passing the store and thought I might as well look them up.

Man (magnificently)—Certainly, madam, the house accounts for every spool of thread. (Calling Mr. Tibbits.)

Mr. Tibbits—Yes, sir.

Man (handing him note-book)—Go with this lady to the Japanese counter, and find the saleslady who sold these goods.

Customer—But I took them from that counter and gave them to the young woman in the umbrella department.

Man (with an air of explanatory patience)—We have to trace from the beginning, madam.

Customer goes off with Mr. Tibbits.

Mr. Tibbits (at Japanese counter, to customer)—Do you perchance recall which saleslady waited upon you?

Other customers look up.

Customer (very tired)—That young woman there.

Mr. Tibbits—Miss Burke.

Miss Burke (glaring)—Yes.

Mr. Tibbits—Did you sell six butter plates at three cents to Mrs. A. B. C. Blank, at West Forty-fourth street, on Friday last, the 13th?

Miss Burke (looking over check-book)—I sold six butter plates, goods delivered.

Customer (wearily)—I told you so.

Mr. Tibbits—Very good, madam; we have made a start, you see. Your number, please, Miss Burke.

Miss Burke gave it.

Mr. Tibbits—At what counter did you leave the parcel?

Customer—The umbrella counter.

Mr. Tibbits—Ah, we will go there, please. They go.

Mr. Tibbits—Do you see the saleslady who waited upon you?

Customer—That young person there.

Mr. Tibbits—Ah! Miss Flanigan, please refer to your check-book, and see if you received a parcel containing six butter plates at three cents each, to be sent with other goods to Mrs. A. B. C. Blank, — West Forty-fourth street.

Miss Flanigan (carelessly jabbing a pencil into her Psyche knot)—Oh, I think I took it.

Customer (quietly)—I am certain she did. I remember distinctly noticing her diamond pin and emerald finger-rings.

Sensation among salesladies; surrounding shoppers look up, wondering at customer's temerity.

Mr. Tibbits—Oh, certainly, madam, Miss Flanigan recalls taking the parcel. Your number, please, Miss Flanigan.

Thanks. That is all, madam, I believe. It will not be necessary to detain you. I have the matter fully in hand now.

Customer thinks it possible, and wearily leaves the store.

N. B.—The butter plates never came.

### What She Probably Did.

"What did Miss Frost say in answer to your proposal?"

"Well, she spoke in such a hoarse whisper that I found it impossible to understand her."

"Oh, then she probably said 'neigh.'"

"Here's a go! Johnson, the murderer has just been found innocent, and the Governor has telegraphed a pardon. We've got the whole account of the hanging set up, with illustrations, and the form is on the press!"—Life.

## LABOR STRIKES.

### Millions Lost to Employer and Employee in Three Years.

We compile this table from the great mass of statistics touching strikes and boycotts in the State of New York during the past three years, which are furnished in the report of the commissioner of the bureau of statistics of labor:

Number of strikes, 1898.....	1,011
Number of strikes, 1897.....	1,204
Number of strikes, 1896.....	2,601
Successful strikes, 1898.....	489
Unsuccessful strikes, 1898.....	408
Compromised strikes, 1898.....	93
Number of persons engaged, 1898.....	24,054
Number of persons engaged, 1897.....	51,731
Number of persons engaged, 1896.....	127,392
Number refused work after 1898.....	3,270
Number refused work after 1897.....	8,176
Gain in wages by strikes, 1898.....	\$339,551
Gain in wages by strikes, 1897.....	\$944,582
Gain in wages by strikes, 1896.....	\$1,420,385
Wages lost, 1898.....	\$1,093,653
Wages lost, 1897.....	\$2,019,223
Wages lost, 1896.....	\$2,552,554
Cost to labor organizations, 1898.....	\$135,397
Cost to labor organizations, 1897.....	\$227,069
Cost to labor organizations, 1896.....	\$320,080
Loss to employers, 1898.....	\$464,290
Loss to employers, 1897.....	\$1,102,676
Loss to employers, 1896.....	\$1,611,925
Number boycotts, 1898.....	53
Unsuccessful.....	79
Pending.....	134
Successful.....	350
Number of persons engaged, 1898.....	101
Unsuccessful.....	101
Pending.....	13

This table shows in actual figures the enormous wastefulness of strikes, and it is therefore well worth the careful study of all wage earners. The facts which it presents have already impressed themselves on the honest and intelligent leaders of the workingmen, with the result of a decrease of more than one half in the number of strikes since 1897, and of more than four-fifths the number of individuals engaged in them. There has also been a falling off in the frequency of boycotts, that method of revenge and intimidation having failed to produce the results expected from it, both because of judicial interpretations of the conspiracy law and the ill success in driving off custom where it was adopted. The greatest number of boycotts last year was in the trades of the bakers and brewers, the trades which can most easily secure the sympathy of the people most likely to sympathize with such undertakings. Yet even the bakers and brewers made little by their boycotts. The great majority of them were unsuccessful or won still pending at the time of the preparation of the report.

The effect of the strikes on the wages of the striking trades was not more encouraging. Out of strikes affecting 716 establishments, an increase of wages was obtained in only 253; in 422 no change was brought about, and in 41 there was an actual decrease after the strikes. As to hours of labor, 64 out of 539 reported a decrease, in 49 there was an increase, and in 426 there was no change.

These statistics suggest that in the evolution of the organization of the trades some more philosophical and less wasteful method than attempts at compulsion by strikes must be devised by the workingmen. Strikes have had their day. Though they were undoubtedly necessary at the beginning to awaken employers to the rights and the strength of labor, they seem now to have served their purpose and to have prepared the way for more reasonable methods of settling the disputes between employers and employed. Already the plan of arbitration is tried to a considerable extent, and with much success. The trades and their leaders have learned a lesson by which they are profiting now and are sure to profit more in the future.—New York Sun.

### Moody's Coolness.

Evangelist D. L. Moody went down into the slums of Chicago to preach to an audience of people never seen inside of the churches. After the services he was the center of a scene. Half a dozen young men, half drunk and noisy, waited at the foot of the stairs. They insulted the young women who came out and they tripped up the young men. They were evidently preparing to have some rough sport with Mr. Moody, for when he appeared at the door they crowded around him and jostled him off the lower step. He was carrying his overcoat on his arm. Picking out the biggest and toughest of the crowd he said: "Won't you please help me on with this coat?" The bad young man was unnerved. He reddened, and stopped back. Mr. Moody held out his arms appealingly, and the young man weakened. Muttering something that sounded like an oath he hoisted the coat on to the broad shoulders. "I knew you'd do it. Thank you," laughed Mr. Moody; and he walked briskly down the street, leaving a disorganized gang of hoodlums in the shadow of the building.—Exchange.

### A New Device.

English mothers with two daughters of nearly the same age to dress do not now array them in the same colors, much less in the same stuff, but in tints and materials which complement and harmonize with one another, and thus clothed they and the young women forth to conquer. The only bad feature of this plan is that in order to show one another off the girls must stay together, and thus stand less chance of achieving their object than they did in the good old days when they fled from one another in order to avoid looking ridiculous, and thus solitary brought down the shy young man or the elderly millionaire.

### One for the 600.

"I wish to goodness I had lived in the fifteenth century."

"What in the world inspires such a foolish desire?"

"Because I am tired of hearing of the bullet wounds acquired in the charge of Balisava."

The doctors who attended the late King of Portugal during the last few weeks of his illness presented bills for their services amounting to nearly \$100,000. One of them demanded \$14,000 for ten visits, another demanded \$17,000 for fifteen, while a third thought that \$30,000 was not too much to ask for his attendance at eighteen consultations. Eventually the new King succeeded in effecting a settlement of their claims by means of a lump sum of \$60,000.

## NAVY OF FORTY-TWO VESSELS.

### Secretary Tracy's Report to President Harrison—He Recommends a Force of 100 Ships in the Proportion of Three Cruisers to One Battle-Ship.

In his annual report to the President Secretary of the Navy Tracy says the effective force of the United States Navy, when all the ships now authorized are completed, excluding those which by the process of decay and the operation of law will by that date have been condemned, will comprise eleven armored vessels, of which only three are designed for fighting at sea, and thirty-one unarmored vessels, making a total of forty-two. He makes a comparison with the number of armored and unarmored vessels of the navies of eleven foreign Powers to show that even when the present building programme is completed the United States cannot take rank as a navy Power, and adds: "If the country is to have a navy at all it should have one that is sufficient for the complete and ample protection of its coast in time of war. If we are to stop short of this we might better stop where we are, and abandon all claim to influence and control upon the sea. It is idle to spend our money in building small, slow-going steamers, that are unnecessary in peace and useless in war. It is little better than a repetition of the mistaken policy that prevailed in our early history of building gun-boats that were laid up or sold as soon as war broke out. The country needs a navy that will exempt it from war, but the only navy that will accomplish this is a navy that can wage war."

"The cost of building a navy casts no perceptible burden upon a country of our vast resources. It is the premium paid by the United States for the insurance of its acquired wealth and its growing industries. Compared with the rate is low. It is a cheap price to pay for safety. We collect in duties in six months at a single port a greater sum than we could spend in building a new navy in six years. For the past two years the Government has paid its creditors for the privilege of discounting its debt before it was due twice the sum we have spent in reconstruction. And the fact must be remembered that of the amount which we spend for the construction of a ship, only a small fraction, perhaps one-tenth, goes for absolutely raw material, while the remaining nine-tenths represent, in one form or another, the earnings of American labor at the work of naval reconstruction."

In looking back at the work of naval reconstruction, begun seven years ago, the Secretary has reason to be congratulated on the success of the undertaking. The assaults made with more audacity than judgment, upon the four experimental cruisers of 1892 have been met successfully by the performance of the vessels, and all doubts of their efficiency, if such doubts ever really existed, are laid at rest forever; while the four cruisers of 1896, assuming that the *Petrel* will eventually come up to the mark, in their advance over their predecessors, prove that both designers and constructors have kept themselves abreast of the extraordinary development in ship-building since the earlier cruisers were laid down.

Reference to fast cruisers all modern experience goes to show that they are essential adjuncts of an armored fleet, and the proportion of three cruisers to one battle-ship is believed to be sound and reasonable. This would make the future navy consist of 20 battle-ships, 20 coast-defense ships and 60 cruisers, or 100 vessels in all, which is believed to be a moderate estimate of the proper strength of the fleet. Of the sixty cruisers required thirty-one are now built or authorized. For an increase in the number of cruisers, considered simply as auxiliaries to the fighting force of battle-ships, we may wisely wait until the latter are in process of construction.

"The necessities of our vulnerable position demand the immediate creation of two fleets of battle-ships, of which eight should be assigned to the Pacific and twelve to the Atlantic and Gulf. They must be the best of their class in four leading characteristics: armament, armor, structural strength and speed. In addition to the battle ships the situation of the country requires at least twenty vessels for coast and harbor defence. At the present time eight vessels of this type are under construction, five of which are reconstructed monitors."

"The one problem now before the Government, in the matter of a naval policy, is to get these forty vessels built at the earliest possible moment."

"It is therefore recommended that the construction of eight armored vessels be authorized at the coming session, and that three of the type of battle ships rather than coast-defense ships; the former being more generally serviceable, and there being only three of them now in process of construction as against eight of the latter."

"To insure the thorough efficiency of the corps of enlisted men in the navy, three things are necessary: First, that it should be composed of American citizens or of those who have declared their intention to become citizens; secondly, that they should have adequate training for their work, and thirdly, that the system of enlistment and discharge should be so regulated as to secure the retention of good men in the service."

The Secretary recommends that the time of enlistment for naval apprentices be extended until they are 24 years of age, and approves the suggestion that the Marine Corps and the Revenue Marine be united, that a naval reserve be provided for, and that League Island Navy Yard be put in good condition.

### New Troubles.

It's too bad that the Bloffets are moving out of the neighborhood, isn't it?"

"Too bad? Why, Bloffet was a terrible nuisance with his cornet."

"Yes, but now that he is leaving the rents will go up."

### A Possibility.

Briggs—Are you going to hang up your stockings for Christmas?

Griggs—I don't know. I may have to hang up a whole suit.

### Uncertain.

"I do hope it won't rain to-morrow."

"Well, I don't know; it's very dubious. All signs point to a clear day and the signal-service predicts 'fair weather.'"

## ABUSE OF THE WHIP.

### The Effects of Good and Bad Treatment on Horses.

The whip is the parent of stubbornness. This is especially true of high-spirited animals, remarks an exchange; while kindness and gentleness will win obedience and at the same time attach the horse to his driver. It is the easiest thing in the world to win the affections of an animal, and this is especially true of a horse. An apple, a potato or a lump of sugar given from the hand now and then will cause a horse to prick up his ears at the sound of his owner's footsteps, not with fear and trembling, but with a whinnying note of pleasure. And the confidence of the noble beast thus gained will lead him to obey the slightest intelligent tone of the voice or indication of the bit. There is no such thing as balkiness in the horse treated from the first with uniform kindness. He rapidly shows a desire to obey, whereas a few blows of the whip smartly applied, if he be a horse worth having, will at once arouse in him a spirit of retaliation and stubbornness that may cause the owner hours of trouble, and perhaps endanger life and limb. There is no doubt that horses are made gentle by kindness; thousands of examples go to prove it, while the reverse of this is equally well established. The horse has faith in the master he loves, and his voice, when heard in gentle tones, will soothe his fears when he has been frightened, or cause him to struggle onward with a load which he would utterly refuse to carry if whipped. No one knows the true value of his horse until he has won his regard by kind treatment. The whip can never accomplish this, but will have the opposite effect. A kind hand and gentle voice act like magic. These facts especially apply to the breaking of colts, something which the Arab of the desert understands better than we, and might give the best of us a lesson. An Arab would as soon strike his wife or daughter as his horse, and an Arab steed is the model of gentleness and docility as well as endurance.

### "Timely Wise" for Sharp Eyes.

"Nor love, nor honor, wealth, nor power,  
Can give the heart a cheerful hour;  
When health is lost, 'tis timely wise,  
With ill health all taste of pleasure flies."  
So speaketh Gray, and who denies?  
No surer fact beneath the skies.  
Alas! for him who early dies  
Because he is not timely wise.  
Alas! for him who will endure  
The life he might so quickly cure;  
Night-sweats, and cough, and hard-cast breath,  
Consumption's herald, signs of death.

To be cured, take Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Thousands have been cured by it who, otherwise, would now be filling untimely graves. For all liver, blood, and lung diseases, it is specific. The "Discovery" is guaranteed to cure in all cases of diseases for which it is recommended, or money paid for it will be refunded.

### A Train Holder.

Water—Hear the news from down below.

Chapman—No. What?

"A lady down here near Santa Cruz, unaided and alone, held up an entire train."

"Heavens! What great nerve! Who was she?"

"A San Francisco belle. She wanted to cross the dusty road and held it up to keep it clear."

### Favorite.

Fame is a word ambition loves,  
And art has not its portrait painted,  
Virtue the least of advance moves,  
O blivious to the "huckles" sainted;  
Rarer than even these, by far,  
Is health, defying poet's diction,  
T'be with it 'tis little not, nor mar—  
End this that female pleasure bar

by taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription—a remedy so satisfactory for all those weaknesses and diseases peculiar to women, that they need no longer suffer from them if they will but use this world-famed remedy.

### A Unanimous Joke.

"The subject for debate this evening, ladies and gentlemen," said the president of the society, "is the old maid."

"Ready for the question!" humorously shouted everybody in the hall at once.

### Time-tried, Truly Tested.

Tried for years, severely tested, and still growing in popular favor and use, is the record enjoyed by Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets—the little sugar-coated laxative granules, sold by druggists, anti-bilious and cathartic.

### On the Hill.

Miss Alice (waiting for the "bob" to start)—Do you know, I always think of the poor sailors at sea on Christmas eve. It must be so awfully dreary. They haven't any of our pleasures—like this, for instance.

Witticus—Oh, indeed, you are mistaken. I know a sailor who spends all his time coasting.

Miss Alice (incredulous)—On the water?

Witticus—Certainly. You've heard of the bobstay, have you not?

Miss Alice—Why, how stupid of me!—of course. But, do you know, I never supposed they used the bobstay for that.

### Knew How it Would Be.

Butcher—Anything I can do for you to-day, ma'am?

Mrs. Newlywed—Well, I am not very much