

Soldiers With Terrible Faces.

A writer on German cavalry in the Daily News says:—The officers are practicing the art of war every day all the year round. They have large manoeuvres in the spring, summer and autumn, and they are constantly being tested not only in drill and charging, but in the far more delicate work of reconnoitering and making raids. Take the following as an example. At 6 o'clock in the morning during summer manoeuvres a general sends out six reconnoitering parties, each composed of an officer, non-commissioned officer and six troopers to carry an order to other parties 20 miles off. An English officer sent from Windsor to West Drayton would probably think he had done nobly if he could go and return with his men in the least possible time. The German officer will also endeavor to be expeditious; but this will not be his main object, for on his return he will be obliged to bring back an answer in almost the exact words in which it was given him, and also to furnish as minute an account as he can of everything that he noticed on the road. Perhaps he will be asked to write his report before taking a moment's rest, and some of these drumhead reports, indited from memory, display powers of observation quite marvellous. It is, of course, the rule that an officer must carry and bring back verbal messages, without refreshing his memory with any written notes, which in time of war might fall into the enemy's hands; so he has to listen with all his ears, committing every word so far as he can to memory. As for the soldiers who go with him they are all questioned, too, in order to see whether their report of things they have seen tallies with those of the officer and sergeant. The reconnoitering is thus no mere child's play. It is a hard and salutary exercise for mind as well as body; and stamps the features of those engaged in it with a look of intense seriousness—that awful look which so disturbed the French in the late war, and made them think that every Uhlan was a spy in uniform. When poor M. Podelvin, Mayor of Nancy, surrendered his city at the outset of the war to six reconnoitering Uhlans, who rode as coolly through the hostile streets as though they had a whole army corps following close behind them, he described these intrepid men in his report to the Town Council as "soldiers with terrible faces." He would have been nearer the truth if he had said "keen, observant faces," for they were probably picked men whose mental apparatus kept the impress of all things seen like a photographer's glass, and of all words spoken like the phonograph, not then invented.

The Oft Told Story.

The Exeter (N. H.) case is the same sad story that is told with varying circumstances many times a year in the columns of every newspaper. A man in prosperous circumstances, respected by his neighbors, honored by the confidence of his fellow-citizens, is not satisfied with the returns of legitimate business. He enters the field of speculation, and into that sort of speculation where ninety-nine out of every hundred are victims. Doubtless he realized something by his first venture, as was the case with many during the mining craze which swept the country, and particularly eastern New England during 1879 and 1880. This emboldened him to make larger ventures—to play for higher stakes—when he began to lose. To make good his losses he makes still greater ventures, and to do so he uses the money of others, expecting, like hundreds of other deluded men, that fortune would smile upon him and thus enable him to replace that which had been entrusted to his care. In vain, the dice are loaded; great and irrevocable losses confront him. Still he goes on, until happiness, good name, and everything that honorable men hold dear, are lost in this game of chance. The Exeter victim is not a dishonest man. He would gladly pay every dollar he has squandered if he could. He would not wilfully defraud any man of a dollar. He was seized by this speculative mania, which is simply gambling, and gambling when the chances are more than ten to one against ordinary men. He heard that the bonanza kings had made vast fortunes in doubtful mining stock speculations, and he imagined that it was within his power to make something handsome. He did not stop to think of the great army of small investors, who, buying one, five or twenty shares, had lost their money. It never occurred to him to examine the history of 90 per cent. of the schemes of that character to find that they were simply devices to rob small purchasers of stock of all the money they had put into them. There is a strange fascination in this class of ventures. Tens of thousands of men having a few hundreds or thousands of dollars have lost their all in margins of various kinds, and yet the multitude, eager to engage in it is not diminished. Only two weeks ago the lambs in the stock markets were bleating piteously because they had been shorn. The shearers having got their fleeces at once prepared the market to secure another clip to which those who were sheared a few weeks ago will eagerly contribute if they can. And thus the process is repeated time and again, the victims never appearing to realize for a moment that a few bold and skillful men manipulate the market so as to accumulate millions which the victims contribute by hundreds.—Boston Journal.

The Telegraph in China.

To induce the people to make themselves familiar with the operation and utility of the telegraph, the Chinese authorities have shrewdly made the use of the new lines free for the space of one month.

No woman of the wealthier class earns a holiday more deservedly than Queen Victoria. Ministers rise and fall, and pass from active life into ease and comparative seclusion, but the Queen has been continuously in official harness since 1837, and forty-five years is a long stretch of unintermitted work. When her septuagenarian Prime Minister was occupying his first official post she was already a politician of some experience, and had discussed great questions with the leading minds of the day. A woman, she began active life when men are reckoned mere schoolboys. "I suppose," said a gentleman to a former Judge Advocate-General, "it is a mere form, your submitting to the Queen the proceedings of our courts martial?" "Do you, indeed? Well, I can tell you, then, that she understands the whole business as well as I do myself."

FAST TROTTERS.

The Greatest Speed to be Found in the Direction of Team Trotting

Mr. Robert Donner having returned from a visit to Kentucky, during which he examined almost all the great breeding farms, in a recent interview said: "There is certainly no such country in the world for horses as the bluegrass region in Kentucky. Within a radius of 25 miles from Lexington you find a section which has about it every requisite for raising the finest animals. The climate is perfect. I visited 12 stock farms and did not see a single horse blanketed. The grass is as green now as it is here by the 1st of May. This bluegrass region is on a limestone formation, and it is supposed that it is this fact which makes it such very valuable food for horses. It is certain that the animals coming from there are always noted for their size. The grass itself is the best food for horses which has yet been found. Several of the great stock raisers are breeding running horses. These they sell as yearlings at the spring sales, and any one who chooses may buy them. The success of Foxhall and Iroquois has turned the attention of the racing interest in England to American-bred horses. Foxhall was bred by Mr. Alexander, who owns both the sire, King Alfonso, and the dam, Jamaica; and he naturally thinks he can breed another horse as good. Iroquois came from the Chestnut Hill farm, near Philadelphia, and was bred by Aristides Welch. It is true Iroquois never saw Kentucky, but if, as I am told, Chestnut Hill farm is in a limestone region, this is only another argument in favor of a limestone country for horses, and shows that there is a scientific connection between the nature of the soil and the animal produced. The blood stock from which these animals come is, as a rule, English. There is a strain of blood in the American long-distance runners which crosses well with the English, and the progeny seems to be an improvement upon both. I have thought for a long time that it is in the direction of team trotting that we must look for our greatest speed. In England you may have two horses which are brothers in blood. They have the same sire and their dams are sisters. One of them wins the Derby, and is worth 10,000 guineas. The other can run within a few seconds of the first, but he does not win the Derby, and is only worth \$10,000. A few seconds in time, then, on a long race, make a difference of \$40,000 in the value of a horse. But if you take the Derby winner and put him into a five-mile race with his brother and make him carry only a few pounds extra weight, it is the \$50,000 horse that will be beaten. A few pounds weight, then, make all the difference between a winner of the Derby and a beaten horse. This is so fully recognized in England that several pounds extra weight in a four-mile race is equal to distance. Now in this country we trot our horses to either sulky or wagon. The lightest weight we can put on a horse is 200 pounds. That is, a driver weighs 150 and the lightest sulky made weighs 50. We can make a wagon which weighs 107 pounds. Add to this the weight of the driver and we get 257, or say 255. Each horse in the team has 129 pounds behind him instead of 200. Now, this difference of 71 pounds means a good deal in the way of speed, in my opinion, and I do not think that we will ever know what our trotters can do until we get teams on the track. It is, of course, exceedingly difficult to get a team to trot together—how difficult no one but a horseman can know. The horses must be trained to work together, each doing one half of the pulling and no more. They must be equal in speed, in weight and in action. They must, in short, be able to trot as one horse rather than two. It takes a great deal of training, added to natural fitness on the part of the animals, to permit of horses being worked to this point. They must be even tempered or they can not speed together. I believe it possible to find fast trotters who will work together, and when they are found, I believe that we will see for the first time what American trotting horses can do. It is a number of years ago since I first had reason to believe this and first made up my mind that for real speed we must look to the team. On the 10th of May, 1862, I drove Lady Palmer an Flatbush Maid to a road wagon two miles in 5:10. The second quarter of the first mile was driven in 63s. Then I believed that team driving was the driving of the future. I have never changed my opinion, although some very clever men who then disagreed with me now think as I do. I have no doubt that during the coming summer we will see faster time than we have been accustomed to look for from teams, and the race at Boston will undoubtedly stimulate this form of driving."

Is Germany Prepared?

Field Marshal Count Moltke sums up the result of his recent studies in the statement that "a war with Russia could not be undertaken by Germany till after the lapse of eighteen months or two years." This only means that it could not at the present moment be entered into with the same confidence and safety as the two last great wars with Austria and France. The Eastern fortresses, especially Posen and Thorn, the German authorities consider, ought to be considerably strengthened and better armed, and several of the Baltic ports—such as Dantzig, Pillau, and Königsberg—put in a better state of defence, before the commencement of a campaign in Russia. The question of the headquarters for the mustering of an invading army would also have to be settled, and Count Moltke is said to be inclined to choose Breslau as such a centre. If everything were at once ready to carry out the fortifications and other preparations involved in this scheme, it is calculated that at least eighteen months would be required before they were actually completed.

Fruit Prospects.

The prevailing opinion among fruit growers in Ontario seems to be that there will be a good crop of fruit this year. One who professes to have made a study of the signs says that the direction of the wind during the vernal equinox was favorable to such a result. If the wind had been in the east during that time (which was not the case), that would have been the prevailing direction of the wind during the fruit season, and it would have had the effect of blighting the fruit.

AGRICULTURAL.

WIRE FENCES.—An Illinois farmer who keeps twenty horses, some of them worth \$1,500 each, writes to the Chicago Times that he has pastured them all at times in fields fenced with barbed wire, has done it for years and had no harm result from it. Before turning them out he first leads them to the fence and lets them rub their noses against the bars, and the hint is sufficient. They know enough after that to keep away from the fences.

THE LARGEST COW.—Probably the largest cow in the world is owned by Martin S. Stakes, of Grayville, White County, Ill. She is 7 years old and weighs 3,000 pounds, 17 1/2 hands high, 10 1/2 feet long from the end of the nose to the buttock, 17 1/2 feet from the nose to the end of the tail, 8 feet 9 inches around the girth, 26 inches around the forearm and 31 inches across the hips. She has been exhibited in four states—Illinois, Indiana, Missouri and Tennessee. She is white and red, mostly the latter, well-formed, and a perfect beauty.

IS YOUR HORSE BALDY?—If he is, and you cannot find any means of stirring him, try the effect of patience. Here are two odd methods involving patience that a London paper suggests: "1. Tire your steed out by remaining perfectly quiet until he starts of himself. I once sat in my cart nearly two and a half hours in this way. 2. Now and then a horse is met with that refuses to draw at all; put him in a cart in a shed, and keep him there until he walks out. In one instance that came to my knowledge the obstinate one was thirty-six hours in the shaft before he gave in."

GOOD POULTRY.—There is more money by half to be had annually in good poultry raising (considering its cost) than can be realized from the pigs or sheep of the farm, and yet the latter are fed and housed and bred by many to the neglect of fowl stock. Good fowls of any improved breed may now be had at a reasonable price, and cheap houses can be built to shelter a hundred or two hundred birds. There is very little labor to be performed in the proper care of a few score of nice fowls during the breeding season. Farmers will do well to look into the merits of this thing.

MILK GRINDING.—Milking is an art, and the farm hand who knows how to milk properly is more valuable to the careful dairyman than any other help. Of course anybody can milk, and some can milk a dozen cows before breakfast. The careful manager, however, is not so anxious for fast help as he is to employ those who are careful. The operation should never be hurried, but the milk should be drawn steadily and, as it flows naturally. Some cows have very tender teats, and the rapid milkman forgets this fact in his endeavor to make speed. The cow that is naturally impatient and fretful does not like to submit to rough handling, and her disposition is soon roused by such treatment. With the constant irritation she will fail in quantity, and be less productive, just as any human being would fail to perform faithful service when laboring under mental affliction or trouble. As the udder becomes distended and filled with milk the desire on the part of the cow is to be relieved of its contents, and she willingly submits to it for the relief it occasions. The constant practice of being milked at stated intervals impresses itself strongly upon her, and she will seldom offer resistance without cause. When a cow, therefore, that has been a patient deliverer of milk becomes fractious, the fault can be always traced to the milkman.

Legislative Oaths Abroad.

The following summary of the forms of oath in use in foreign legislative assemblies, extracted from the reports received at the Foreign Office, may not be without interest at the present time:—

- Bavaria—I swear . . . So help me God and His Holy Gospel.
- Denmark—I promise and swear . . . So help me God and His Holy Word.
- Greece—I swear in the name of the Holy and Consubstantial and Indivisible Trinity. Hesse-Darmstadt—I swear . . . So help me God.
- Saxe-Coburg and Baden—I swear. So help me God.
- Holland—I swear. So help me God.
- Portugal—I swear on the Holy Gospels.
- Prussia—I swear by God, the Almighty and Omniscient . . . So help me God.
- Saxony—I swear by Almighty God.
- Servia—I swear by one God and with all that is according to law most sacred, and in this world dearest . . . So help me God in this and that other world.
- Spain—After swearing the deputy on the Gospel, the President says, "Then may God repay you; but if you fail, may He claim it from you."
- Sweden and Norway—I [President or Vice-President only] swear before God and His Holy Gospel . . . I will be faithful to this oath as sure as God shall save my body and soul.
- Switzerland—In the presence of Almighty God I swear . . . So help me God.
- United States—I do solemnly swear . . . So help me God.
- In Bavaria non-Christians omit the reference to the Gospel. In Holland and the United States affirmation is optional. In Prussia and in Switzerland affirmation is permitted to those who object on religious grounds the oath. In Austria a promise is in every case substituted for an oath. In Belgium and Italy the adjuration is used without any theistic reference, and in France and Roumania, the German Reichstag, and for deputies in Sweden and Norway neither oath nor affirmation is demanded.

A Strange Story.

According to the London Truth, several members of the present House of Commons have never taken an oath nor affirmed. When the House met in its first session there were a number of tables with Testaments on them. The Clerk read the oath, and as many as could put a finger on one of the Testaments, were considered to have taken the oath, after which they signed the roll. But some gentlemen having, through ignorance, signed the roll before performing the preliminary ceremony did not see their way to go through it afterward, and consequently they sit and vote without their having taken the oath or affirmed.

For weak lungs, spitting of blood, shortness of breath, consumption, night sweats and all lingering coughs, Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" is a sovereign remedy. Superior to cod liver oil. By druggists. The only way of paring the nails and shaving the head of humor, is for lovely women never to repeat one word she hears.

"Female Complaints."

Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.: Dear Sir—I was sick for six years, and could scarcely walk about the house. My breath was short and I suffered from pain in my breast and stomach all the time; also from palpitation and an internal fever, or burning sensation, and experienced frequent smothering or choking sensations. I also suffered from pain low down across my bowels and in my back, and was much reduced in flesh. I have used your "Golden Medical Discovery" and "Favorite Prescription," and feel that I am well. Very respectfully, DELILAH B. McMILLAN, Arlington, Va.

It is asserted over and over that anxiety shortens life, but when a chap sees another fellow feeding his girl sandwiches at a picnic he is going to sit down and bid his soul be calm? Not by a boot-jack!

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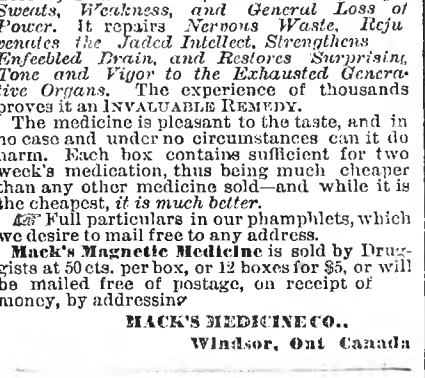
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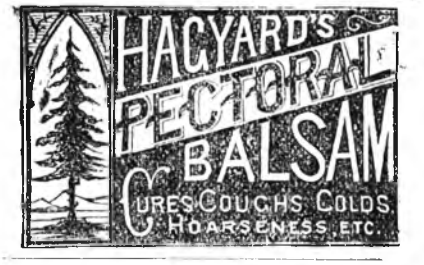
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