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 Office—First door east of the Durham Pharmacy, Calder's Block.
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A LUCKY MAN.
 Patrick—Be jabbers, Oi waz boorn lucky. Jist afther lavin' th' house a washin' Oi wor knocked down by a block beyan't that Oi were knockt beyan't agin Oi were mistook for a policeman; a big fellow Oi got to worruk, a big fellow Oi got to worruk, a big fellow Oi got to worruk.

Patrick—Where does the luck come in?
 Patrick—Faith, it comes in the way of the luck.

NO LIQUOR FOR THE TROOPS

THE ORDER GIVEN TO THE FORCE IN THE SOUDAN.

It Proved Wise By Actual Test—The Decrease the Result of British Governments Now Being Tried—The Sailors May Also Be Deprived of Their Grog.

Liquor has until recently played so important a role in warfare to the horrors of which it has in no small measure contributed, that the fact of Sir Horatio Kitchener's recent victory at Atbara having been won by a force composed exclusively of total abstainers calls for serious consideration, and attention. It is probably the first occasion that so brilliant a feat of arms has been achieved by a body of white troops who for months previously had not been permitted to touch a drop of any kind of stimulant whatsoever. For if "Tommy Atkins" of the line, and his comrade "Sandy," of the Highland regiments, have refrained from alcohol in any form whatsoever, and have restricted themselves to tea, lime juice, and Nile water, it cannot be attributed to any conscientious scruples on their part or to the sudden development of high-fledged principles on the score of drink, but solely to the establishment of a new system by the British military authorities which is exciting a good deal of interest on the part of the War Departments of Continental Europe.

EXPERIMENTS IN ENGLISH ARMY.

It seems that for some time, by orders of Field-Marshal Lord Wolseley, the British Commander-in-Chief, careful and exhaustive experiments have been in progress with a view to ascertaining the relative effects of alcohol and of total abstinence upon the physical endurance and staying qualities of the troops. Advantage has been taken both of the annual manoeuvres, as well as of these petty wars of which England has a few on hand in one part or other of the world almost all the time, to examine carefully the question. One regiment would be deprived of every drop of stimulant, while another belonging to the same brigade would be allowed to purchase as usual, its malt liquors at the canteen, and a third would receive a sailor's ration of grog in the form of whiskey. In each instance the experiment went to show that, whereas at first the corps which had received an allowance of grog surpassed the others in dash and in impetuosity of attack, yet after the third or fourth day its members began to show notable signs of lassitude and a lack of spirit and endurance. The same manifestations, though in a minor and slower degree, were apparent in the regiments restricted to malt liquors, whereas the men who had been kept from every kind of stimulant increased in staying power, alertness and vigor every day.

DECIDED FOR ABSTINENCE.

The result of these experiments led the British War Department to decide, not on the ground of principle, but solely for the sake of maintaining the powers of endurance of the troops now engaged in the Soudan campaign, not to permit a single drop of stimulant in camp save for hospital use. Wine, spirits and malt liquors have been barred from the officers' mess table as well as from the regimental canteen, and from generals in command down to the drummer boys and the camp followers liquid refreshments have been restricted to tea and oatmeal water.

When one remembers how devoted the Englishman is to his beer and the Scotchman to his "mountain dew," modern history abounding in the upsets of Cabinets, ill-advised enough to attempt an increase of the tax on these stimulants, which are regarded not as luxuries, but as actual necessities of life, the boldness and likewise the difficulties of the innovation will be appreciated.

But the scheme has fulfilled all expectations. Thanks to total abstinence, the men have been able to make forced marches of the most extraordinary character across the burning desert and under a blazing sun, the heat of whose rays can only be appreciated by those who have lived under the equator.

TROOPS FREE FROM SICKNESS.

The Soudan is famed for its deadly climate, which either kills or prematurely ages the majority of white folks who penetrate beyond its frontiers. Indeed, it has often been nicknamed, and with good cause too, "The man eating Soudan" by reason of the number of white lives that it has consumed. Yet, in spite of this, there has never been a campaign where there has been so little sickness, where so few men have been compelled to fall out, even in the longest marches, and where the troops have been got into such magnificent physical and moral training that they would actually carry thirty miles of sand with empty water bottles, without slaking their thirst once from the close of which end of the march, at the close of which they would still find themselves sufficiently fresh and vigorous to win a hard fought victory such as that of Atbara.

Of course, all kinds of devices and trucks were resorted to in the earlier stages of the present campaign to de-stage this innovation of the war department, and one wily Greek liquor dealer, even managed no one knows exactly how, to get several wagon loads of spirits up beyond Wady Halfa for the purpose of retailing them to the officers and men of the expedition. But fortunately Sir Horatio Kitchener obtained an inkling of the affair, and caused every



SPANISH AND NATIVE SOLDIERS OF THE PHILIPPINE

SPAIN'S FIGHTERS IN THE EAST.

Native troops in the Philippines are enlisted under the banner of Spain to the number of many thousands. Their service is described, however, as not altogether whole hearted. But the discipline of an enrolled body of men is not lightly thrown off. The Spanish battalions, too, are a corrective against revolt on the part of the native soldiers, whose sympathies naturally lie with their brethren in rebellion.

Good treatment and good pay is the rule also for native soldiers in the Philippines. As to the high character of the fighting qualities of the native soldiers, there is no question. They are game to the last. When Great Britain captured Manila over a century ago, the native fighters resisted desperately the final assault, and in a sally which was made, it is stated many of them, in their dying agony, bit savagely at the steel bayonet by which they were transfixed.

bottle and barrel to be mercilessly destroyed, the liquor merely serving to poison the sand and slake the thirst of the ever parched desert.

NO LIQUOR BEFORE A FIGHT.

Orders have recently been issued to the commanders of all British men-of-war in commission that in lieu of the double rations of grog formerly served out to the crews when going into action, not a drop of alcoholic liquor, no matter whether spirit, wine or malt, is to be allowed when there is any fighting to be done. In order to satisfy the thirst engendered by the heat, exertion and smoke inseparable from a naval combat, supplies of oatmeal and water for drinking are arranged all over the ship.

This, of course, is a radical departure from the practice, which has existed until quite recently, and which still prevails in the navies and armies of every continental power of the Old World. But it is a step, which is rendered imperative by the extreme importance of sighting with the utmost degree of exactitude the guns and rifles, upon the precision of which the success of every action, no matter whether at sea or land, nowadays depends.

CALMNESS IS MOST NECESSARY.

It is no longer fierceness, fury and reckless dash that are required of the men, but calmness and collectiveness. In naval engagements there is little boarding to be done in these times of ironclad warfare. Vessels are no longer armed with tier upon tier of small guns, some of the men-of-war of the early Victorian era having over a hundred of them. Modern battleships and cruisers are equipped with gigantic pieces, relatively few in number, but carrying projectiles of colossal weight over a range of several miles. It is no longer necessary to pepper the hull of a man-of-war full of cannon ball holes in order to sink it. This can be achieved by one single well-directed shot from any of the great guns with which the warship of the present day is armed. Everything depends, therefore, upon the precision of the gunnery, and the belligerent whose every shot carries home is practically certain to win the day.

The English Admiralty has, in fact, recognized this by forbidding the use of liquor of any kind on the day when ships are going into action, and no one need feel surprised if the present war leads to the grog ration being abolished altogether in the British navy.

OPERATIONS ON LAND.

In the case of hostile operations on land the same consideration prevails, and must weigh in the balance of victory or defeat. It is not merely that the soldier's staying powers are augmented by total abstinence, but likewise his shooting is improved. In these days, especially with the new quick-firing rifles and guns, there is a tendency on the part of the troops to fire wildly and to squander their ammunition at the outset of the engagement. Indeed, the one object of the officers is to keep their men calm, cool and collected and free from excitement, so that they may reserve their fire for the proper moment, and then fire to hit.

Indeed, what aroused most admiration at the battle of Atbara was the calm and collected manner in which the Highland regiments advanced the bullet-swept plain in front of the Dervish zeriba, apparently just as free from undue excitement, and as coolly keeping their formation with as much exactitude as if they had merely been on the drill ground.

And lastly, it may be well to point out that the spectacle of bloodshed and the noise and din of battle are quite sufficient in themselves to arouse all the latent disposition to savagery that

lurks in every human breast. This being the case, is it wise or polite still further to loosen the restrictions of civilizations by the use to be enforced and become of surpassing value, it is in times of war both on land and at sea.

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 Proud Dame—I do not see how you could think of marrying into such a commonplace family as that.
 Romantic Daughter—Oh, I'm not going to marry into his family; he's going to marry into our family.

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