

LOYAL TO THE EMPIRE

PEOPLE OF INDIA ACCEPTS OBLIGATIONS OF THE WAR.

They Welcome the Conflict as an Opportunity to Prove Their Worthiness to be Citizens of Greater Britain—Women Are Devoted to the King-Emperor and Are Praying for the Success of the Troops.

That India is loyal to Great Britain in regard to the war, despite any fears to the contrary, is maintained in a letter from Franklin D. Goswell of Ewing Christian College, Allahabad, India, which says in part: "Widespread restlessness and discontent there may be among the 315,000,000 that make up India's population, but the violent preaching of educated Indians domiciled abroad scarcely represents the true nature of the opposition to British rule in India or the aims of the most influential Indian leaders. The goal of the national movement, as freely expressed for years from platform and press by the men who command the widest respect, is self-government within the Empire. India wants the same privileges that are enjoyed by the autonomous dominions of Great Britain; at the present time the great portion of her citizens appear to be looking no further."

Thus instead of there being any wild outbreak of rebellion in the hour of Britain's trial in the west there has been a noteworthy demonstration of loyalty throughout the peninsula. "Britain's war is our war" is the cry that has echoed from the huge mass meetings that have been held in every important town, and city in the course of the last week. Instead of the war's being a signal for chaos, it appears to be regarded as an opportunity for India to show that she is worthy of the place in the Empire that she has been demanding.

One of the most feared and most respected of the opponents of the Government, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, phrased the idea in a ringing sentence that was greeted with tremendous enthusiasm at a mass meeting in the Bombay town hall when he said: "We have often met in this hall to assert our rights as citizens of the Empire; we are now proud to meet to accept our duties and obligations."

It is not only from astute leaders who grasp the political significance of the position in which India now finds herself that present manifestations of loyalty are coming. The war is the absorbing topic of every gossiping folk whose hearts are incapable of any feeling more mixed than that of simple devotion to the King-Emperor and praying for the success of his forces. Him they know. He came to them to demand his Indian realm in the most gorgeous durbars of recent centuries. He is their personal sovereign.

A grizzled old bazaar merchant came into one of our college buildings the other day, and on seeing a picture of the King-Emperor in his hands devoutly, saying: "He is my King. We eat his bread. We pray God to give victory to his arms."

Almost immediately after the nerve wrecking period of suspension over England's decision was made by the declaration of war against Germany, the ruling chiefs offered their armies for use wherever the English should need them. Ten of the chiefs proposed a gift of a hospital ship, the Loyalty, which has now been accepted by the viceroys. Everywhere funds are being raised for the care of wounded and the relief of distress. Even Indian ladies, whose freedom has been seriously hindered by the system of seclusion to which they are subjected, have formed Loyalty leagues to place their services at the feet of the King-Emperor in such manner as may be found suitable, and have begun to raise money for relief measures.

Everywhere huge sums for general support of the war and for the maintenance of hospitals and medical work have been subscribed. Not only English churches have made prayer for British victory; in mosques, well special prayers have been offered. The viceroys' recent announcement that two divisions, including some regiments of Indian regulars, would be sent as an expeditionary force has been met with great enthusiasm. Their destination is, of course, unknown, but the general hope is that it is Europe. On the part of European and Anglo-Indian residents, of course, there has been much volunteering, and the local companies of militia in every city have been much strengthened.

In a country so divided by social and religious differences as India, it would be strange if there were unanimity in such whole-hearted expressions of loyalty as the foregoing. There is a section of educated India which gives a very tempered expression of its enthusiasm for the cause of the Empire. It is inclined to sympathize with Austria in its vigorous strokes to end the plotting of the Serbs against the dual monarchy, and to honor Germany for her complete loyalty to her ally when Russia took up the cause of Serbia. The idea of England fighting on the same side with Russia is highly displeasing.

Vague rumors of renewed fraternizing of Germans and Turks have filtered through the one strictly censored cable open to Europe, which have made the intentions of Turkey a vital issue to India. If Turkey throws her German staffed and German equipped army in with her Teutonic friends, thus forcing the British Empire, with more Mohammedan subjects than any other Government, to oppose her, there would at the least be uncertainty about the attitude the Moslem leaders of India would assume. At present, however, the Moslem press is affirming the loyalty of its community in carefully chosen terms.

GREAT LITTLE WARRIORS.

Jellicoe, French, Joffre, Wolsley and Roberts All Short Men.

It is more than remarkable that the greatest of modern military and naval commanders have, almost without exception, been short of stature. Rodney was short and Nelson was shorter. In fact, the greatest naval commander in the history of the world, the man whose towers literally, about all his fellows, and whom German air raiders would probably dearly like to topple over into the fountains of Trafalgar Square, was quite a shrimp of a man, and, being deprived of an arm as well as an eye, looked smaller as he grew older. Nelson was probably the greatest little man who ever lived.

Admiral John Jellicoe, whom every Briton believes, if he gets half a chance, will prove himself a modern Napoleon, and who another and even greater Trafalgar, is also a man of very moderate stature. And it is a truism that "stockiness" is the rule in the navy. Perhaps salt checks growth! But, whatever it does with the rest of the body, it does not seem to stunt the will. Witness that gallant little Japanese admiral, Togo. He had brains, courage and skill in a very high degree.

Napoleon, the greatest general of all time, the man to whom all military men look to-day as their exemplar and model in strategy and tactics, whose genius still dominates warfare, was notoriously short of stature. He was the butt of his schoolfellows on that account, and it was reckoned as a great disability in his military prospects.

His final conqueror, Wellington, often regarded as pretty tall, was by no means so. He is generally depicted on horseback, and his portraits are very deceptive because a big nose seems to require a big body to match it. But what about Wolsley, and Roberts, and French? In ordinary company all three were wont to drop out of sight. Wolsley was the smallest of the lot. The one and only "Zobal" would barely have got into Kitchener's new army if the measuring tape had been applied to him. Well for his country was it that he was measured by capacity and not by inches.

Both the leaders of the armies of the west, French and Joffre, are little men. Joffre looks like a healthy, good natured, prosperous, stout grocer.

John French is a little taller than Roberts, but not much; yet it was as a cavalry leader of infinite daring and unswerving success that he sprang to the front in the South African war. Where so many bigger men failed French succeeded, and to-day he has the confidence of the whole British race, as a little man who is capable of great things and intends to do them.

The Question of Height. Apropos of the height of soldiers a prominent military man said recently: "The British army has raised the height limit for volunteers to five feet five inches, and British officers object to this—and with reason. "For consider the Japanese. They are incomparable soldiers. Yet the five feet five limit would bar most of them out."

At one of the London recruiting stations, just after the establishment of the new limit, a short and chunky East Ender who had been rejected by the examining surgeons pointed with a scowl towards a taller East Ender who had been accepted and said: "Aw, look at him! An 'I knocked 'em out' end of lawst Saturday night!"

A Fine Mummy Case. The Egyptian Sculpture Gallery at the British Museum has received an interesting sarcophagus of the nineteenth Dynasty, of date about 1300 B. C. It is made of red granite, and described in the inscription as "a royal scribe, overseer of the cattle of the temple of the gods Ra and Amen in human form, is a figure of the sky-god Nun, who is represented with outstretched wings, emblematic of her care of the mummy, and below the figure is a prayer that she may protect the body of the deceased."

A Typographical Error. The festival of St. Alban, the first British martyr, is celebrated, according to the English calendar, on June 17, whereas in the Roman calendar St. Alban's Day is June 22. In all English prayer books, also, prior to 1662, St. Alban is commemorated on June 22, and the present discrepancy seems to have arisen from the typesetter of the prayer book of 1662 mistaking the X of XXII for V, and rendering the date June XVII—an error which has been perpetuated ever since.

A Canine Collector. A familiar figure in the Strand, London, during the past few weeks has been the big St. Bernard dog which patrols Wellington street to Charity Cross collecting for the Patriotic Cross. He is unaccompanied, and religiously does his "sentry-go" between points, only stopping his perambulation when some pedestrian drops a coin into either of the boxes slung over his back.

Whole Party Gone. The heavy toll of war is illustrated by Rev. R. J. Campbell, pastor of the City Temple of London, who told his congregation the other Sunday of a dinner given last July in honor of a young man who had attained his majority. Of that gathering all have been killed so far, he said, except one, and that one is thought to be dead.

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STRIPPED OF ROBES.

Former Rector of Portsmouth, N.H., Flew to Montreal. Montreal, Dec. 14.—Unfrocked by his bishop and expelled from the pulpit, the Rev. Harold M. Folsom, formerly rector of St. John's Episcopal church, Portsmouth, N.H., has fled to Montreal. The former clergyman is alleged by Boston papers to have had many troubles during his career, his chief one arising, however, from his affection for a charming, young lady of his congregation. As a result of this, his wife is said to be on the point of applying for a divorce from her ministerial lord. He has his priestly robes taken from him, and the name of an eighteen-year-old girl has been trailed in the dust. The erstwhile clergyman is thirty-eight years of age, and the father of two children one of whom was named after Bishop Parker, the clergyman who performed his marriage three years ago to Miss Jane Leavitt. Mr. Folsom is boarding at the Y. M. C. A., and is working as a clerk in a store.

German Shipping Losses. So far all attempts to induce firms in the United States to buy some of the German steamers now lying at New York have failed, and with the prospect of a long war, during which, of course, their operations will be entirely suspended, the steamship lines concerned are faced with a serious problem. As a matter of fact, it is estimated that up to the end of last month the cost of laying up for that one part alone cannot be for members of the crews have been discharged, while the pay of others has been reduced considerably. The great obstacle in the way of transferring vessels to the American flag is the fear of international complications. The German companies are without doubt in a serious dilemma out of which the way is by no means clear.—Liverpool Courier.

Pawning Her Own Money. A poor old woman went into a Paris pawn shop the other day and offered a five-franc piece in pledge. "Why do you want to pawn your own money?" asked the clerk in astonishment. "We can only give you three francs for it." "That will do," said the woman. "It was the last and only thing my dear son could give me before he went to the war, and if I didn't really need the money I wouldn't part with it; but as soon as I can I'll come back and redeem it."

Whistling Prohibited. In certain cities of Russia street whistling by civilians is a penal offense, the privilege being reserved for the police, who exercise it however not in the order to make tunes with their mouths, but to send signal blasts to each other. The whistling habit, not being hereditary, soon disappears, and in these cities no difficulty is experienced in dealing nowadays with the few who offend.—Albany Journal.

Famed For Her White Whale. The bark Platina, one of the last of the old New Bedford whalers, was recently broken up for firewood. She was, according to Shipping Illustrations, the only vessel that ever captured a white whale. Other "sperm" whales of great age have been taken that were spotted with white, but the Platina's whale was pure white from head to tail.

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Woe! Woe! "Growth is a confirmed pessimist, isn't he?" "Yes, just now he is worrying about who will bury the last man on earth."—Judge.

AN ARMY CORPS.

How Divisions, Regiments, Companies, Etc., Are Made Up.

Curious though it may seem, it is not quite correct to refer, as many people do, to the Indian and Colonial troops as part of the "British army." Strictly speaking, the term "British army" only applies to the land forces of the United Kingdom, which consist of the regular army and the Territorial army, and that part of the former which serves in the British Dominions overseas, it being customary to refer to these troops as the "British army" in contradistinction to the "Native army" or "Indian army" in India, and to the "Local Forces" in South Africa and in the British Colonies.

The regular army, whether at home or abroad, is paid for by the Imperial Exchequer, except in India (although certain colonies pay contributions towards its upkeep). India, however, while paying for its own native army, also pays a contribution towards the cost of troops at home.

The permanently embedded portions of the regular army consist of thirty-one cavalry regiments, twenty-five horse artillery batteries, 147 field batteries, ninety-nine companies of garrison artillery, seventy-seven companies of engineers, nine battalions of Foot Guards, 148 battalions of infantry of the line, besides departmental services, some of which come under the head of the Army Service Corps, that highly-organized department of the army which attends to the transport of baggage, supplies, and transport of food and forage, and also assists the medical service. It should be mentioned that part of these sections of the regular army are stationed abroad during peace times, but on mobilization for war, the bulk becomes absorbed into an expeditionary force.

This is divided into various army corps, according to the number of men sent to the front, an army corps comprising infantry, cavalry, and artillery, in command of general officers. The British army, in times of peace, is divided into six army corps, half of which are composed of regular troops, and the remainder Territorials. The strength of an army corps is not definitely fixed, but consists of about 40,000 men.

A British infantry division is about half an army corps, and is the smallest tactical unit possessing all arms. It usually consists of twelve battalions, each of 1,000 men. In addition to this, there is at least two squadrons of cavalry, from thirty-six to seventy-two guns, beside field companies of engineers, medical supply, transport, and signal services. In all, its strength is normally about 20,000 men.

The war establishment of a cavalry regiment is twenty-five officers, 537 other ranks, and 552 horses, formed into three squadrons. A cavalry brigade is made up of three regiments, and a division of four brigades; so that a division consists of twelve regiments, supplemented by two horse artillery brigades, engineers, signal troops, field ambulances, and cavalry train, not to mention one aeroplane squadron. The total establishment of a cavalry division mobilized for war consists of 9,896 officers and men, 10,195 horses and twenty-four guns.

Tabloid Rations For Soldiers. Each British soldier on active service carries in his kit a small package containing what is known as an "emergency ration."

The "emergency ration" is wrapped in small packages. When the emergency arises the centre band of the package is torn off and two small tin cans are disclosed. One can contains a quarter of a pound of concentrated beef and the other the same quantity of cocoa paste. The combination of the two foods is sufficient to maintain the strength of the average man for 36 hours, if consumed in small quantities.

The beef and the cocoa paste may be eaten dry but greater flavor is gained without loss of nourishment if the beef is allowed to simmer in water over a fire, and the cocoa paste made into cocoa. The amount of beef in the tin will make two quarts of beef tea and the cocoa paste can be converted into the same quantity of cocoa.

Another Veteran Gone. A Crimean veteran of the East Yorks Regiment, named McCarthy, died recently at Aldridge, thus reducing by one the rapidly diminishing band of Crimean veterans. With his regiment he took part in every engagement before the dreaded Malakoff Tower, Sebastopol, and after months of hardship in the trenches, he with his comrades of the French and British armies at last took the batteries after a fearful bayonet assault. His honors were the British and Turkish medals with clasps, and the rare distinction of wearing his company's French Crimean medal.

Cost of Rat Destruction. The destruction of rats costs the Presidency of Bombay a pretty substantial figure every year. On the recommendation of the advisory board of the Indian Research Fund Association, the Government has sanctioned the employment of Maj. Kunhardt, I.M.S., for another year at the cost of Rs. 58,000 (about \$9,335) to carry on experiments in eradicating or mitigating the prevalence of plague by systems of rat destruction in the off season. The experiment will extend over four districts this year.

Crusade Against Mosquitoes. Malaria is on the increase in Madras, India, and the Medical Officer has invited the co-operation of all residents of the Fort in preventing, as far as possible, the breeding of mosquitoes.

Ceylon's Offer Accepted. Ceylon's offer to provide a contingent has been accepted by Lord Kitchener. The contingent will be used for service in Egypt. Ceylon will pay the cost of the transport.

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