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Vol. XVIII

| oERMANYB mLITARY bYB TEM |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
| Berlin is the center of the military system of Germany, and consequently it has the general flavor |  |
| of a camp. You see military everywhore. You enter a cafo |  |
|  |  |
| for your breakfast, an officer sits opposite you. You go into a beer |  |
|  |  |
| hall at night, the place is blue, yellow and scarlet with uniforms |  |
| They meet you on the street, they |  |
|  |  |
| awakened in the moruing by the |  |
| everiasting drums of a regiment marching somentere, to do something; you see them guarding almast everything, and, in short, |  |
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|  |  |
| wherever you go it is military. The military power of Germany |  |
| may be understood from the for. |  |
|  |  |
| lowing figures: In twenty-four |  |
| bours, the Kaiser can put 500,000 men into the field, perfectly |  |
|  |  |
| in wealy lays, ,000,00, |  |
| ty-five dass, $1,350,000$, and after that the entire male population of the Empire between the ages of |  |
|  |  |
|  | the Empire between the ages of |
| hes to do serrice in the regulur |  |
|  |  |
| has to do service in the regulur army for three yeare, unless his grade at the public schools shortens his term. A certain pro- |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| feiency at the sebools shortens it so that if a boy is sufficientiy advanced at graduation, he may es. cape with one yexrs once a year.cept going into cemp once |  |
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|  |  |
|  |  |
| Howerer, he is regularly enrolled, all the same, and in case of war may be called into service, where |  |
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| be takes his place in whatever rank he went out in. Every male |  |
|  |  |
| German, rich and poor, isa soldier, |  |
| and with a perfect knowledge of the latest approved methods of butchering other men. It is a ma- |  |
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| The rich and well-to-do submit for |  |
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| their property, and the stability it gaarantees, while the poor see |  |
|  |  |
| their children go into the army with some degree of satisfaction, |  |
|  |  |
| for there is no class-favoritism in |  |
|  |  |
| the matter. The rich man's boy and the poor man's boy stand |  |
| shoulder to shoulder in the ranks, and the only preference there is determined by proficiency |  |
|  |  |
| determined by proficiency and merit. The rich man cannot bay a substitute for hisson. As every |  |
|  |  |
| body has to serve there are no substitutes to be bad. The army is |  |
|  |  |
| the only approach to Democracy |  |
|  |  |
| there is in Germany. The only advantage the rich have over the poor in this particular is, the |  |
|  |  |
| poor in this particular is, the wealthy may give their sons better |  |
| educational advantages and thus start them on a bigher plane. As things are arranged in this fright- |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| fully imperfect world, this militarism is probably necessary. All |  |
|  |  |
| Europe is a camp, and all European nations want all the others. |  |
| Geermany hass England, the bully of |  |
|  |  |
| another, and France, her hereditary antagonist, on the other, to say nothing of Austria, who owes |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Prussia a debt of hatred which she would pay were she strong enough. |  |
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| Then European politics are so |  |
| graptical position is such that she |  |
|  |  |
| preparation for what may happen. |  |
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|  |  |
|  |  |
| footing, Germany could do likewise. But as it is she has got to |  |
|  |  |
| an batter them down, and cast nose guns and rebuild fortificaons to resist them, and so on, |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Astoria, Oregon, Thursday Morning, January 18, 1883

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