

BULLET-PROOF SOLDIERS.

Conditions Which Would Necessitate New Engine of War.

The Invention of Herr Dowe Would Tend to Bring Out the Athletic Force of Men in Battle of Put Into Practical Use.

If we are right in our reasoning, and if, again, there is not some latent but fatal defect in Herr Dowe's system, the result on warfare will be a very remarkable one. Since the object of war is to kill—"to place hors de combat"—is only a less crude way of putting the fact—new ways of killing infantry and cavalry will have to be devised. The chances of hitting men in the face at long distances with rifle fire, says the London Spectator, will not be good enough. But the only ways of killing effectively that will remain open will be artillery fire, close combat with bayonet and clubbed rifle—preferably the latter, as the cuirass will make the bayonet difficult to use with effect—and riding men down by cavalry charges. The first of these, artillery fire, has hitherto been regarded as of comparatively little importance in the matter of killing. It is often declared, indeed, that the chief effect produced by the guns is the moral effect. Though not many are killed, men do not like to be within range of artillery. Possibly, however, the effect of artillery fire could be increased. In any case, and since everything is relative, the fact of the falling off of efficiency in rifle fire must increase the importance of artillery fire.

It is obvious, however, that the chief effect of bullet-proof soldiers on the circumstances of a battle would be to increase enormously the amount of hand-to-hand fighting. But hand-to-hand fighting means an advantage to the strongest and most athletic force. Now it will be seen from the late enumeration of the changes which seem likely to follow bullet-proof soldiers that a great advantage will be given to England. Bullet-proof cuirasses will give an advantage to the nation which can only bring a small number of troops into the field. But that nation is England. It will increase the importance of artillery. But this should be in favor of England, for though we have not the conscription, and so cannot get men in large quantities, we can manufacture as many guns as we choose. Next, the revival of close combat ought to be in our favor, for Englishmen are certainly better at the rough-and-tumble of close fighting than their neighbors. The infantry are naturally more handy and more athletic, and the cavalry are, if not theoretically better riders, more capable horsemen. An Englishman is more likely to get his horse to do the impossible than a Frenchman or a German. If, then, Herr Dowe's invention enters the region of practical warfare, the change will be in England's favor. It will give us a chance to escape being pressed to the ground by hostile millions.

In the navy, no less than in the army, the cuirass should be of enormous importance. During a sea fight a great many things will want doing under a storm of rifle fire, but will hardly be done except in one of Herr Dowe's jackets. A few bullet-proof sailors would be a godsend to a captain when he was fighting his ship against heavy odds. In the field, too, the cuirass would be of great use to artillerymen. Since they do not have to march, but either ride or sit on the gun carriages, there is no reason why the gunners should not be very elaborately protected by means of Herr Dowe's patent material. But if they are they will be able to work their guns in the open and at close quarters in a way which is now often impossible owing to the fire of sharpshooters. In truth, there are a hundred points on which the bullet-proof clothing alters all the conditions of war. It will alter, too, some of the conditions of civil life. Insurance against invulnerable men will become even more impossible than it is now. Again, the result on small bodies of men traveling in savage countries will be very marvellous. When the average cannot wound his white foe, even men so brave as the Matabeles will find resistance hopeless.

Possibly, however, all we have written is destined to be quite beside the mark, not because of any flaw in Herr Dowe's system, but for a totally different reason. Suppose that the gunsmiths retort that on Herr Dowe's making a gun that will send a bullet through his cuirass? In that case, the present conditions will remain. We do not say that they will, but undoubtedly they will try. Meanwhile, we can say that, in the great dual between attack and defense, the latter, after lying hopelessly beaten for two centuries, has revived, and appears to have given her antagonist a heavy blow. Time will show whether we have to wait fifty years, or only six months for counter-stroke.

NOT THE RIGHT TICKET.

The Boy from Far Away (China Didn't Believe in Bonus Passes).

A Los Angeles lady was recently engaged in drilling a newly-arrived Chinese boy in answering the door.

"Now, Sing," she said, when the door bell rings, you go to the door, hold out this paper, man put card on. You bring card to me. You say?"

"Yes, ma shabeeb," replied Sing.

So a rehearsal was given through the Los Angeles lady rang her own door bell. Sing opened the door, received her card, inspected it closely, then followed her into the parlor and presented her with the card. While this was going on the door bell rang again. Sing went to the door. A gentleman was there, who handed his card to the servant. Sing looked at it closely and grinned.

"You no come in."

The visitor indignantly demanded why not.

"I shabeeb you," said Sing; "you no fool me. You no got right ticket. No come in."

SOME ODDITIES IN ETIQUETTE.

What is Considered Proper and Improper in Different Countries.

In Holland a lady is expected to retire precipitately if she should enter a store or restaurant where men are congregated. She waits until they have transacted their business and departed. Ladies seldom rise in Spain to receive a male visitor, and they rarely accompany him to the door. For a Spaniard to give a lady—even his wife—his arm while out walking is looked upon as a violation of propriety.

No Turk will ever enter a sitting room with dirty shoes. The upper classes wear tight-fitting shoes with gophers over them. The latter, which receive all the dirt and dust, are left outside the door. The Turk never washes in dirty water. Water is poured over his hands, so that when polluted it runs away.

In Syria the people never take off their hats or turbans when entering the house or visiting a friend, but they always leave their shoes at the door. There are no mats or scrapers outside, and the floors inside are covered with expensive rugs, kept very clean in Moslem houses and used to kneel upon while praying.

In Persia among the aristocracy a visitor sends notice an hour or two before calling, and gives a day's notice if the visit is one of great importance. He is met by servants before he reaches the house, and other considerations are shown him, according to relative rank. The left and not the right is considered the position of honor.

In Sweden, if you address the poorest person on the street, you must lift your hat. The same courtesy is insisted upon if you pass a lady on the stairway. To enter a reading room or a bank with one's hat on is regarded as impolite.

JOINTS AND CARTILAGE.

One of the Weaknesses of Nature in the Human Body.

Why do joints work so easily and never give us any pain? In a fresh joint its appearance in life can be readily studied. In the ball and socket joint, says the London Hospital, the round end of the bone, as well as the cup, are covered or lined with a smooth substance called "cartilage," or "prittle" kept moist and smooth with synovia. Cartilage contains no nerves, and has no feeling; if it had, we should have pain when we moved. The bones are kept in place at the joints by very strong bands or ligaments, in hinge joints a number of these bands are fastened above and below, but in ball and socket joints they also surround the joint, forming a cap, in which the joint moves freely. In disease this smooth cartilage gets worn away, and the ends of bone rub together like those of a skeleton; the pain is great, because the bones have nerves, though the cartilage has none. A bone without cartilage is like a decayed tooth with an exposed nerve. In a healthy tooth the nerve is well covered, and gives no pain, and in a healthy bone the nerves are there, but they are only felt when the cartilage is worn away.

The Good That Remains.

How many are there who are valuing themselves by what they have, and not by what they are! What they may have be talent, or money, or position; it matters not what, but it is not their very selves. True worth cannot be separated from a man's real self. Money, position, even intellect, may go; but the sterling, i. e., the moral, worth will remain. A sultan of Morocco is said to have discovered that one of his viziers was becoming too powerful. He therefore summoned him to tea, and complimented him on his great wealth. The vizier becoming vain, boasted of the number of his houses, wives and slaves, and the sultan rebuked him saying that he was too rich. To show the man exactly what he was worth, his majesty had him taken by the soldiers to the slave market, where he was put up for sale and received only one bid of eightpence. All his property was also taken from him. The price which we put upon ourselves and our fellow men put upon us are two very different things.

Death by Electricity.

The Digest gives an account of some experiments on the effect of alternating electric currents on animal organisms, described in a paper read before a recent medical congress at Rome, Italy, and which corroborate the views of D'Arsonval, referred to recently. The current used was an alternating one, and it was found that animals subjected to from fifteen hundred to two thousand volts were not easily killed, and that death resulted mostly from asphyxia caused by the sudden stoppage of respiration. Frequently breathing started again spontaneously, and the animal recovered completely. In no case was there any physiological change noted, though in a few there were mechanical lesions, in themselves cause for death. This further confirmation of D'Arsonval's formula, "A man shocked by electricity should be treated as if drowned," renders it still more important that the electrician should make himself acquainted with the proper means of resuscitation from the effects of electric shock.

A Momentous Proceeding.

In Mr. Montague's "Tales of a Nomad" he says that in the old days the Boer seldom used his pen, but when he did there was a regular commotion in the house. "Hush. Be quiet all of you. Drive out the ducks and the geese, and the pigs and the fowls. Father is going to write his name." And then the old gentlemen, with elbows squared on the table, would seize the pen with a flourish, and putting on a determined look, as if he were going to tackle an adversary, would bend down his head until it nearly touched his left arm, write his name with many a splutter, and then, throwing down the pen and pushing the chair, would look round with an air of mingled pride and resignation and say: "I have done it."

AMERICAN LUMBER ABROAD.

It is Sold in Every Country—Reports from United States Consuls.

One of the most valuable publications ever issued from the state department has appeared. It consists of reports from American consuls throughout the world regarding United States lumber in foreign markets. While intended primarily for the advantage of American lumber producers and shippers, the information is of unusual general interest, according to the Hartford Times. The remarkable fact is shown that the United States sends lumber to every country on the globe, and that, while in many lands the market is virtually controlled by the shippers of this country, there are still great possibilities of increased sales.

It is astonishing to learn that nearly all the building lumber imported by Africa comes from the United States; that Japan buys it, and that no other lumber enters South American ports. In Samoa four cents a foot is paid for rough Oregon pine and California redwood. Hawaii, by letting American lumber in free of duty and charging ten per cent. duty on Canadian lumber virtually prohibits the importation of the latter. Consul Mills, of Honolulu, reports that all the timber used there comes from the United States. Even the island of New Caledonia prefers pine from Washington, and pays about twenty dollars for fifty-three cubic feet. All the lumber used in Madeira comes from Maine, North Carolina and Nova Scotia; while Mexico and the West Indies rely wholly upon the United States. Australia buys a million dollars' worth every year, and would take as much more if it could be bought readily.

The great difficulty appears to be in procuring the transport of the American wood. Little is carried by American ships. The principal rivals of this country in the world's lumber trade are Canada and Norway, except in England, where Russia and Germany are competitors, and in Austria, which is supplied by countries on the Mediterranean. Austria, however, gets her staves from the United States, as do most of the other nations of Europe. More lumber from the United States than from Canada is used in Great Britain. Nearly all the species are made of white birch of Maine. Even Oregon timber reaches England. One patriotic consul protests against selling American lumber in foreign countries, because it may ruin the forests of the United States. It appears from most consular reports that comparatively few of the countries have wooden houses on account of the great expense of lumber, and that transportation facilities alone prevent the substitution of wood for stone and similar materials. This is generally the case in tropical countries, where the woods are too hard to be profitably used for ordinary construction. From a business point of view it is shown that the American export lumber trade is still in its infancy, though American timber is probably more widely known than any other product of this country.

OLD SOL KNOCKED OUT.

The Photographer Has No Longer Any Need for His Services.

Old Sol has long been unnecessary in the taking of photographs.

Up to the present time, however, he has probably exulted in thinking that his uncertain services must be had to print the photograph.

But again the old chap has been given the go-by, says the New York Advertiser, and he is not now a necessity at any stage of the game. He may sulk and hide his face or pop it out from behind the clouds momentarily as much as he pleases, but with photographers he no longer "puts any ice."

Electricity has scored a victory over the old chap, and it is practically a knock-out in this particular line.

Before pictures have been taken in the daytime by the aid of electric light and at night by flash light, but to get a proof printed one had to wait until the next afternoon anyhow and sometimes longer, all according to Old Sol's humor.

Now one can go to his photographer—providing that gentleman has the proper apparatus—at any time, even at midnight, and sit for his photograph. Not only that, if he is willing to wait half an hour he may receive a nice, soft print from the negative.

The apparatus consists of an ordinary camera, a forty-five hundred candle-power arc light for the taking, and a thousand candle-power arc light for the printing.

Instead of sitting in the open room the subject sits in a sort of canopy, the sides and top being white and at the back the ordinary background.

Instead of having the light shine directly on the subject it shines away and is reflected softly back from the white sides.

Watches were held for the test, and a six-second exposure was made. The plate was then developed and dried quickly, coming out good and clear. It was then taken to the printing room, and after ten minutes under the influence of the powerful arc light the paper and negative were taken from the box. The print was remarkably soft, clear and accurate.

All the time taken from the snap of the camera until the print was finished was thirty-two minutes, and ordinary materials only were used.

This relegates Old Sol to the rear—a back number as a photographer's assistant.

Europe's Unhealthy Cities.

The most unhealthy city in Europe, according to statistics recently issued, is Barcelona, Spain, one of the best places in that part of the continent. One who lives in Barcelona increases considerably his chances of death. Of every 1,000 persons, there die in Edinburgh annually 19; in London, 22; in Stockholm, 21; in Brussels, 22; in Berlin and Paris, 23, and in Barcelona, 31. The number of deaths there in every 1,000 people at the present time exceeds the number of births.

STATE AND COAST.

(Continued from First Page.)

Most of the wheat throughout Gilliam county has been threshed, and the yield is enormous, being from one-third to one-half greater than was anticipated. "It will take almost a year," says the Condon Globe, "for our farmers to haul their wheat to the railroad."

The grand jury at Astoria discharged Henry Pitts, the young negro, who married a white girl and was brought back from Tacoma with such a flourish of sensation. The Budget says the chief offender is Burton, the girl's father, who should be punished for being an idiot.

The Salem bridge seems to need repairing, and the conflict is on as to how much, if any, Polk county should bear of the expense. The Dallas Observer deprecates "eccentric economy," whatever that is, on Polk county's part.

About a year ago the Southern Pacific dispensed with the baggage men on the local trains, and the express messengers have been doing double duty. It is now reported they will do the same on the overland trains, in which case men between Portland and San Francisco will be laid off.

Several farmers in the vicinity of Silverton are now making preparations to cut the second crop of clover this season. Clover is a profitable crop. From the first cutting it yields a heavy crop of first class hay, and from the second growth from 100 to 200 pounds seed per acre can be procured, which sells readily at from 10 to 15 cents per pound.

The Corvallis papers says that the people of Albany "have tried to shield the fair name of the city as a respectable community by concealing a crime of murder behind the verdict of a coroner's jury," referring to the suicide of E. H. Burnham, which they insist was a cold blooded murder.

Several months ago Fred Hess, a blacksmith, was taken to the insane asylum from Albany. He gradually grew worse, and became so wild and unmanageable as to require his being placed in a straightjacket, in which he was kept five months. Last week he died. Strong drink had played an important part in his downfall.

Every body likes the new P M at Corvallis, but the newspapers can't help giving him a flak because he is not handsome. The Pendleton E O hatches the following: With Bob Johnson as postmaster of Corvallis the people of the town will run some risk in determining whether they are standing before the delivery widow or Bob Johnson's mouth. Bob has a big mouth and along with it a great big heart and a generous soul.

A few days ago a young man asked to inspect the interior of the jail at Oregon City. The sheriff granted him the privilege, and when he was ready to go asked him if his name was not Stowell. The young man replied in the affirmative, and the sheriff thereupon informed him that he had been looking for him two days, and that he was wanted in Jackson county. He then turned the key on the young man and left him to inspect the jail to his heart's content.

A correspondent of the Corvallis Times in Portland met Messrs Stone & Bonner, who inspected the O. P. with a view to purchase last week. To him they said they were surprised to find the road in as good condition and the prospects as favorable for a future successful business as it is. There are only three men in the syndicate and the correspondent learned that either of the three was alone able to purchase and extend the road beyond the mountains. They already own a line in Montana.

The Dallas Observer has a funny bear story. One day last week it was while drilling in a field near Ahrle, Ass Staats saw a small black bear—and with Ass to see was to have. So he immediately gave chase, and with the aid of Tom Gross and Jap Bagley, soon ran bruin down. Ass held his mouth, Tom his hind legs and Jap his fore legs, and Grandma Staats tied him. He was placed in a box for safe-keeping, but shortly afterward they found him choked to death by the rope which had been used in tying him. The bear weighed about 60 pounds.

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The reader of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly on the blood and mucous surface of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. CUREN & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

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