

# UNIFORMS Blue Uniforms

GENERAL MILES is reported to be contemplating important changes in the uniforms now worn by the soldiers of the United States regular army. At a recent reception at the White House the General appeared in a gorgeous new tunic of his own design, liberally adorned with gold and lace, and wearing a sash of alternate yellow and gold stripes. The most remarkable point about the uniform, however, was not the splendor of the facings as the prominence of the oak leaf and acorn decorations;



THE PURITAN SOLDIER. 1775.

a curious fact, as these are supposed to be the distinctive military emblems of the British crown. General Miles, however, intimates that he is going to take the best features of every nation's dress regulations and incorporate them into his new system for the clothing of the American army.

In the stirring times of the Revolutionary period the dress of many of the patriot regiments was at once quaint and picturesque. Many of the troops, prominent among them the First Virginia regiment in 1775, were clothed at their own expense in leather hunting shirts, leggings and caps, trimmed with fur—a dress that Washington recommended to all those who were unable to obtain the regular uniform, saying that "the leather hunting shirt inspired terror in the heart of the British soldier, as the latter believed that its wearer must necessarily be a sharpshooter." On reflection, one can hardly blame the Britisher for his timidity in approaching the fearless backwoodsman. The Pennsylvania regiments, facetiously dubbed the "Quaker brigade," were remarkable for the excessive plainness of their uniforms, which were modestly made of buff-colored cloth, trimmed and faced with brown. What a contrast to the gay trappings of the troopers known as Moxley's dragoons, described as wearing "green short coats turned up with red, waistcoats of red cloth, buckskin breeches and a leather cap, trimmed with bearskin, a flowing mane of horsehair hanging from a curved brass crest at the top."

In 1802 the then commander-in-chief issued an order that the collars of all privates' coats should not be less than



MINUTE MAN. 1810.

three inches high nor more than 3 1/2; ten years later the height was increased "to reach as far as the tip of the ear at the side and back, and in front as high as the chin would permit in turning the head." These preposterous collars were afterward replaced by the equally uncomfortable stocks but a more rational measure brought into vogue the present low collar of soft cloth, supplemented in the case of officers by an ordinary civilian collar.

In this connection it is interesting to recall some of the curious uniforms which the brave defenders of our great republic have from time to time adopted, either through choice or necessity. Who would ever imagine that our soldiers once wore the tall silk hat of the modern society gentlemen? Yet in 1810 an order was issued directing that all the privates be supplied with the "chimney-pot hat" of to-day, and this extraordinary kind of military headgear continued until 1812, when it was replaced by a more ornate covering, described in the regulations as "a leather cap, bell-crowned, adorned in front with a yellow eagle made of brass-work, embossed with the regimental number; a white pompon in front and a black cockade at the side, made of leather." Certainly it was a more serviceable hat than its predecessor, and

more suggestive of the martial spirit that inspired its wearers to their brilliant deeds of valor in the struggle of that year. But the day of the pot hat was not yet done; in 1821 the cadets at the Military Academy at West Point were requested to adopt the pattern which had been condemned as an unsoldierlike hat-covering but nine years before, and great was the wrath of these embryo Washingtons and Jacksons at the indignity which, they declared, had been put upon them. But their dislike soon gave way to a feeling of respect for the uniform, and perhaps to this fact is due the enormous popularity of the tall hat among American citizens.

President Monroe decided, toward the end of 1821, that the uniforms of the various regiments should all be dark blue in color, and that this was to be in future the national color; the West Point cadets to have gray coats and trousers, while the regimental musicians were to be distinguished by their red coats.

Some of the uniforms of the old Continental army days were undoubtedly very picturesque and imposing; for instance, let us take the Governor of Connecticut's regiment of foot guards, organized in 1771. There were two companies, the first of which wore scarlet-colored coats, richly covered with gold lace and faced with black; buff cassimere waistcoats and buff cloth breeches, high bearskin hats or "bushes," and black leggings. The second company, however, outdid the first in magnificence by the adoption of white vests, breeches and stockings, ruffled shirts and silver buttons! In addition one must remember the long powdered eues and clean-shaven faces of the period, so as to form an adequate idea of the imposing appearance of those



1848. 1861.

tall, well-built sons of Mars. But think of a soldier wearing white stockings and breeches!

Washington's own uniform as commander-in-chief of the army was very simple and unpretentious as compared with General Miles' latest "turnout."

## WOMEN'S AID IN THE WAR.

Relief Association Furnishing Money for Various Purposes.

It only costs 25 cents to become a member of the Woman's National War Relief Association. For the amount named any woman may secure the privilege of signing this pledge:

"I, the undersigned, hereby declare my allegiance to the United States of America and my desire to contribute to the general welfare, health and comfort of the men engaged in the military and naval service of the republic in the present war."

The executive committee of the association includes a number of society leaders in New York, including Mrs. John Jacob Astor, Miss Helen Gould and Mrs. Daniel Lamont. Originally the plan was to outfit and man a hospital ship with nurses. On application to army and naval officials it was discovered that such a project was impracticable. Secretary Long, Surgeon General Sternberg of the army and Surgeon General Van Ruyphen of the navy all advised that the relief association collect funds only, which the authorities would disburse for supplies and nurses as need demanded. General Wesley Merritt lent his influence to further the organization and the association promptly devoted itself to the collection of money. From time to time the surgeon generals will send a list of the objects for which the asso-



MRS. ASTOR AND MISS GOULD.

ciation's contributions are expended, so that the women may keep in actual touch with every dollar that goes to the relief of the wounded as well as if themselves applying it. Many auxiliaries are already formed.

We have our opinion of a man who writes us an item and marks it "confidential."

After a man has dropped a few thousand dollars in stocks it is useless to tell him there is no money in them.

## BRILLIANT SPANISH OFFICER.

Captain Don Luis Cadarso, of the Reina Cristina, Killed at Manila.

Capt. Don Luis Cadarso, who commanded the cruiser Reina Cristina and was killed at Manila, was one of the most brilliant officers in the Spanish navy. The following description of his personality is given by the London Graphic:

In appearance he resembled rather an Englishman than a Spaniard. His hair was fair, and his eyes blue and piercing, which gave one the impression of restless energy. His activity was proverbial. He had been in com-



CAPT. DON LUIS CADARSO.

mand of the Reina Cristina for the past three years, and his ship was a model of order and of efficiency, his officers and crew practicing frequently. Still, he found time for reading a great deal and for writing much. His signature was well known in papers and reviews. He wrote chiefly on naval and colonial matters. A few years ago, when governor of the Caroline Islands, he wrote to the Madrid paper, El Imparcial, some letters which greatly displeased the Minister of Marine, and which caused his recall. Capt. Cadarso's worth was, however, so well appreciated that he was soon appointed to another post. During the Philippine rising, a little more than a year ago, Capt. Cadarso was constantly engaged in supporting from the sea the operations of the Spanish army on land. The work was hard, yet every evening he would sit and write two columns descriptive of the doings of the squadron during the day for the editor of the leading Manila paper, El Comercio, who was his friend. Capt. Cadarso, who was about 50 years old, leaves a large family.

## SHOT BY A NEPHEW.

Prince Fuad Wounded in an Affray Resulting from a Family Quarrel.

Prince Ahmed Fuad, who was shot by his nephew, Prince Safeddin, in Cairo recently, is the youngest son of the Khedive Ismail and uncle of the present Khedive. A sister of Prince



PRINCE AHMED FUAD.

Safeddin is the wife of Prince Fuad. Prince Fuad was at the Khedivial Club when Prince Safeddin came in with a revolver in his hand. Before he could be seized by the servants, he managed to fire three shots at Prince Fuad, who fell badly wounded. The affray was the outcome of a family quarrel.

## Evaporation of Bananas.

The American consul at Nicaragua reports that experiments are being made there to develop an industry of evaporating bananas, and that a trial shipment has been made to this country. If successfully established, this industry will be of the utmost importance to many Central American states. The men engaged in the experiment, according to consular reports, have no practical knowledge of the business of drying the fruit, but if it was taken up by men experienced in the manufacture of machinery and appliances adapted to the evaporation of fruits a modification to suit this case could easily be devised, and there would be an immense demand for such machines immediately. At present there are millions of bananas yearly thrown away or allowed to rot on the ground because they are too small or too ripe for shipment to the United States.

## Primitive House Lighting.

The first and most natural way of lighting the houses of the colonists was found in the fat pitch-pine, which, says the Chautauquan, was plentiful everywhere; but as soon as domestic animals increased candles were made, and the manufacture of the winter supply became the special autumnal duty of the thrifty housewife. Great kettles were hung over the kitchen fire and filled with hot water and melted tallow. At the cooler end of the kitchen two long poles were placed from chair back to chair back. Across these poles, like the rounds of a ladder, were placed shorter sticks, called candle rods. To each candle rod were tied about a dozen straight candle wicks. The wicks were dipped again and again, in regular order, in the melted tallow, the succession of dippings giving each

candle time to cool. Each grew slowly in size till all were finished. Deer suet was used as well as beef tallow and mutton tallow. Wax candles were made by pressing bits of half-melted wax around a wick.

## PURCHASING ARMY OFFICES.

The System that Prevailed in Great Britain Up to 1871.

Last among the survivals in conflict with the spirit of the age may be noted promotion by purchase in the army—which retarded indefinitely the advancement of efficient officers and conspired to drop all the honors of the service into the laps of wealthy individuals of no special talent, who could afford to pay for them, which only came to an end in 1871. Under the system merit and fitness went for nothing, and so difficult was it for a man without money to get on in the British army that a good officer without the wherewithal to purchase a company might remain a lieutenant for twenty years, to be soured in all probability by seeing brother officers of less standing raised above him by the power of money again and again, and even then only obtain his captaincy by some unlooked-for augmentation in the establishment. Strangely enough, in the navy brains and hard work were given scope to carve out advancement at the same time that in the sister service promotion had to be bought, and that at a price frequently double the official value of the post.

While traffic in commissions was largely affected by the district in which the particular regiment was likely to be quartered for some years ensuing, the price was almost invariably 60 per cent. or more above the nominal value of commissions as given in the Army List, which tariff in 1864 gave the price of commission as lieutenant colonel in the Life Guards or Horse Guards at £7,250, in the Foot Guards at £4,800, and in cavalry and infantry of the line £4,500; while a major in the two former corps had to fork out £5,350 for his commission, in comparison with £3,200 exacted for the same position in the line regiments. Captaincies cost £3,500 in the Life Guards and Horse Guards, £2,050 in the Foot Guards, and £1,800 in the cavalry and infantry of the line, and lieutenantancies might be purchased for £1,785 in the Life Guards, £1,000 in the Horse Guards, and the trifle of £700 in the less considered cavalry and infantry of the line.—Gentleman's Magazine.

## Stock Raising and Beets.

In all countries where the sugar beet is made a specialty much consideration is given the value of the beets as cattle food; that is, the residuum, after the sugar is extracted. By feeding stock in connection with the growing of the beets for sale to the factory, carrying home the pulp for stock food, the farmers' opportunities from the growing of beets are increased. Experiments in Pennsylvania show that the yields of beets range from ten to fifteen tons per acre, and the average amount of sugar to exceed 12 per cent. The farmer will have to contend with wet and dry seasons, and his profits will be more some years than during others, but it is believed that farmers have neglected the beet as an important food for cattle, independently of its use as a source for procuring sugar, not that the beet is as valuable as grain, but because farmers will find a larger increase in production from cattle by reason of the feeding of succulent food, and although there is some preparation required for all kinds of roots before feeding them to stock, such labor is unnecessary when the beet pulp from the factories is used, the combination of the pulp with grain giving better results than when beets or grain are fed separately.—Philadelphia Record.

## More Days to Come.

In Spain the people take no note of time, not even from its loss. Everything is to be done manana, to-morrow. A wealthy Englishman, who had long lived in Spain, had a lawsuit. He pleaded his cause in person, and knowing the customs of the country, won his case. The victory cost him three days of trouble and expense, so that when the judge congratulated him on his success, he replied: "Yes, that's all right; but it has cost me three days, and time is money. I am a busy man, and these three days are lost forever."

"Oh, you English!" answered the judge; "you are always saying that time is money. How are you to get your three days back? I will tell you. Take them out of next week; surely there are plenty more days to come!"

## Feeding Oatmeal to Chickens.

Theoretically, and judging by analysis, oats and oatmeal ought to be the best feed for hens or their chickens. But whole oats have too much chaff to be profitably fed to hens. Their crop is limited in size, and the chaff of the oat, besides being itself innutritious, is soft and interferes with crushing the grain. The same objections apply to feeding oatmeal, either dry or wet, to young chicks. Even if fed without the chaff, the oatmeal is liable to compact in the chick's gizzard. We believe that meal for chicks should always be cooked, and the harder the cakes made from it the better. Crush these cakes into small bits and fowl will eat them greedily.

## English Stamps.

Postage stamps may be reproduced once more in England in stamp albums and catalogues by a recent order of the British Board of Internal Revenue. They must be printed in black and not be like enough to the originals to cause deception.

Charity never begins at home while house cleaning is going on.



Negotiation are said to be going on between France and Spain whereby France is to secure territory on the coast of Morocco directly opposite Britain's formidable and famous rock of Gibraltar, thus competing with Great Britain for control of the entrance to the Mediterranean. Russia is credited with having agreed to the arrangement, and Spain's compensation is to be France's support in the war against the United States.

## SHERMAN IN RETIREMENT.

How the Famous Old Statesman is Spending His Declining Days.

Every evening after dinner an old man sits at the library window in his handsome white stone house, in K Street, Washington, and watches the people as they pass along the street or gazes abstractedly at the beautiful park across the way, says a correspondent. He holds a cigar in his hand, but he seems to smoke little. He sits there quietly till the man comes in to turn on the lights. Then he gets up and seats himself by the table covered with the papers of the day and his favorite books, or goes upstairs to join his family in the sitting-room. This is John Sherman, the statesman who has been a conspicuous figure in the affairs of the nation for more than two score years, and is now entering upon a period of well-earned rest.

An old neighbor or a distant relative can always find the way through the



EX-SECRETARY OF STATE SHERMAN.

cold formality of Sherman's manner to his kindly heart. Although he will probably make occasional visits to his old home in Ohio, Mr. Sherman will continue to live in Washington. He has established his home there, and has made large investments in real estate and other Washington properties.

## THE MOSQUITO'S SONG.

A Madrigal, Not a War Cry—How to Catch the Singer.

You can best observe the mosquito in action by letting one settle undisturbed on the back of your hand, and waiting while she fills herself with your blood; you can easily watch her doing so with a pocket lens. Like the old lady in "Pickwick," she is soon "swelling wistfully." She gorges herself with blood, indeed, which she straightway digests, assimilates, and converts into 300 eggs. But if, while she is sucking, you gently and unobtrusively tighten the skin of your hand by clenching your fist hard, you will find that she cannot any longer withdraw her mandibles; they are caught fast in your flesh by their own harpoon-like teeth, and there she must stop accordingly till you choose to release her. If you then kill her in the usual manner, by a smart slap of the hand, you will see that she is literally full of blood, having sucked a good drop of it.

The humming sound itself by which the mosquito announces her approach is produced in two distinct manners. The deeper notes which go to make up her droning song are due to the rapid vibration of the female insect's wings as she flies; and these vibrations are found by means of a siren (an instrument which measures the frequency of the waves in notes) to amount to about 3,000 in a minute. The mosquito's wings must therefore move with this extraordinary rapidity, which sufficiently accounts for the difficulty we have in catching one. But the higher and shriller notes of the complex melody are due to special

stridulating organs situated like little drums on the openings of the air tubes; for the adult mosquito breathes no longer by one or two air entrances on the tail or back, like the larva, but by a number of spiracles, as they are called, arranged in rows along the sides of the body and communicating with the network of internal air chambers.

The curious mosquito music thus generated by the little drums serves almost beyond a doubt as a means of attracting male mosquitoes, for it is known that the long hairs on the antennae of the males vibrate sympathetically in unison with the notes of a tuning-fork, within the range of the sounds emitted by the female. In other words, hair and drums just answer to one another. We may, therefore, reasonably conclude that the female sings in order to please and attract her wandering mate, and that the antennae of the male are organs of hearing which catch and respond to the buz-

zing music she pours forth for her lover's ears. A whole swarm of gnats can be brought down, indeed, by uttering the appropriate note of the race; you can call them somewhat as you can call male glowworms by showing a light which they mistake for the female.—Strand Magazine.

## Cats for Rabbits.

Cats have served heretofore as a substitute for rabbits. No particular complaint was made in Paris against the substitution until recently. For some reason there has arisen a great outcry against the slaughter of marketable cats, and French ingenuity has been taxed to supply the deficiency. This is found in a particular breed of African monkey, and these animals are being imported into France in large numbers to furnish the basis for rabbit de lievre—broiled backs of rabbits. The African monkeys lend themselves very readily to the disguise, as their backs are very fat and fleshy. Rabbits, under any culinary treatment, are food. They are mainly valuable as strengtheners of sauce and soup stocks. For this purpose they are superior almost to any other sort of game.—New York Sun.

## Bicycle in the Pulpit.

A queer story comes from Springfield, Mass. A minister of that city, it is said, received his bicycle as a present from the company on condition that it should be advertised by him from the pulpit. In order to fulfill his contract he preached a sermon on "Sunshine from Between the Wheels," and at the close he announced to his hearers the name of the wheel he rode and advised them to get only good ones.—Boston Herald.

## Tallest of Royal Women.

The tallest of the royal women in Europe are the Queen of Portugal and the Crown Princess of Denmark.

Time and court-plaster heal all wounds.