

SHOT IN THEIR GOOD CLOTHES.

The Gorgeous Uniforms in Which French Soldiers Have Gone to Battle.

The soldiers of Napoleon I. went into battle in their dress uniforms. His gorgeous infantry charged the enemy in fantastic gaiters with forty buttons, and the guard wore into the fight hats which were decorated with plumes a yard long. Every private wore epaulettes. But in our great war, says the *Youth's Companion*, even the officers discarded epaulettes except for the most ceremonious occasions, and replaced them with simple shoulder-straps.

"Like a field of ripe wheat," says a French historian, "waved the long plumes of the guard when they went into battle, and the enemy, recognizing at a distance these intrepid plumes, cried in indescribable terror: 'It is the guard!' And the battle was half won already."

During the campaign of 1859, in Italy, the Third Regiment of the French grenadiers, supported by the zouaves, were drawn up facing 30,000 Austrians during four hours under a broiling sun.

They were hardly comfortable, these grenadiers, for they were compelled to wear their immense bear-skin shakos every moment of this time, to say nothing of their heavy braided coats and the knapsacks upon their backs. Under the murderous sun some of the grenadiers had taken off their shakos.

Gen. Wimpfen, who commanded the brigade, ordered the great hats to be replaced.

"The grenadiers," he said, "fight in their shakos. Cost what it may, we must hold our own. And now, boys, forward!"

The grenadiers saved the day at Magenta, and the next day the big bear-skin hats could be counted on the field of battle by hundreds.

"One would think there had been a battle of bears here," some one said, with a melancholy smile, in passing the scene.

Several days later, on the plain of Medole, the Emperor Napoleon III., riding across the field, found that Gen. Auger, who commanded a battery which was the key of the whole engagement, had lost his left arm, and that his shoulder had been broken by a shot from an Austrian cannon. The General, surrounded by surgeons, was dying beneath a tree on the plain. He was still conscious, although speechless.

The Emperor, greatly moved and wishing to convey some sign to the dying officer that he was raised before his death to the rank of General of Division for his bravery on the field, unfastened one of his own epaulettes from his shoulder and put it into the dying man's hand. The General smiled faintly, pressed the epaulet to his lips, and died.

The Emperor rejoined his staff with one shoulder bare of its epaulet, and the rumor quickly spread abroad that he had had the epaulet shot away.

Even in the war between the French and Germans, in 1870, the officers still wore epaulettes in the field. At the battle of Gravelotte a squadron of French dragoons charged a column of Prussian hussars who had taken them in the flank.

In the violence of the shock two of the opposing horsemen, both dismounted, found themselves cut off from the rest of the commands. One was a Major of the German hussars and the other an Adjutant of the French dragoons. They faced each other, sabers in hand. The Major dealt the Adjutant a terrific blow. The Frenchman parried it, but the German's weapon struck his epaulet and cut it off; the saber broke in two like a piece of glass.

The Adjutant sprang upon his disarmed enemy and placed the point of his saber to his throat.

"Surrender!" he cried. "You are unarmed."

"Kill me," said the hussar, coolly, dropping his broken sword and reaching as if for his revolver. "I am unarmed; I have a revolver."

"Bah!" said the Frenchman. "There isn't a shot in it."

It was true, and the Adjutant led his prisoner away. It is hard to tell which more to admire—the officer who, in order that his fate might be death rather than surrender, resorted to a heroic subterfuge, or the one who preferred to risk his own life rather than strike a disarmed enemy.

Beecher's Wisdom.

Every farm should own a good farmer.

A man never has good luck who has a bad wife.

The masses against the classes, the world over.

A man who does not love praise is not a full man.

A man must ask leave of his stomach to be a happy man.

It takes longer for a man to find out man than any other creature that is made.

A man without self-restraint is like a barrel without hoops, and tumbles to pieces.

Whoever makes home seem to the young dearer and more happy is a public benefactor.

The greatest event in a hen's life is made up of an egg and a cackle. But eagles never cackle.

That cannot be a healthy condition in which few prosper and the great mass are drudges.

A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks that he gets as much as he deserves.

Communities are blest in the proportion in which money is diffused through the whole range of population.

Gambling with cards or dice or stocks is all one thing—it is getting money without giving an equivalent for it.

Newspapers are the schoolmasters of the common people. That endless book, the newspaper, is our national glory.

One of the original tendencies of the human mind, fundamental and universal, is the love of other people's private affairs.

This is a good world to sin in, but so far as men are concerned it is a very hard world to repent in. It is a bitter world; it is a cruel world.

PIRATES IN CHINESE SEAS.

Where the Business of Robbery on the Water Is a Flourishing One.

Piracy on the high seas is now, fortunately, a crime long since dead among European nations. We must go back to the early period of Marryatt and Cooper, says *All the Year Round*, if we desire to know of the atrocities and iniquities committed by the hordes of lawless ruffians who used to infest the seas at the beginning of the present century and carry on their merciless business of butchery and plunder. Our brethren in the Celestial empire, however, are slow to remove evils, and piracy with them seems to die hard. Reports occasionally reach this country of some European vessel being attacked in Chinese waters by the natives, but, fortunately, owing to the extreme cowardice usually displayed by the attacking party, these attempted depredations do not often lead to any serious result.

The China Sea is, principally, the happy hunting ground of these dastardly pirates, and nature seems to have adapted it specially for that particular purpose. The China Sea is, in many places, exceedingly shallow; strong currents sweep along its course, while numerous islands, with wooded creeks, dotted here and there, afford capital shelter and points of observation for piratical junks to lie in ambush until some unsuspecting merchantman shall heave in sight. Vessels in traversing these seas have often to contend against dead head winds or calms that last for days and days. During these periods sailing ships have frequently, if in proximity to land, to cast anchor to prevent being carried ashore by the various swift and conflicting currents, and at such times present capital opportunities for the marauders of the seas to carry out their nefarious designs.

Although as the Chinese pirate is, as a rule, a most abject coward where Europeans are concerned, he is, at least, capable of striking terror into the hearts of his countrymen; and a couple of pirate junks, mounting but a two-pounder gun between them, have been known to blockade a port of 4,000 inhabitants and to plunder every ship that passed. In another case a pirate gang of 500, who had yielded to a rush of twenty or thirty blue jackets, had previously defied a native force of 1,500 troops and forty war junks. Directly, however, a small gunboat, manned by Europeans, appeared upon the scene, their career was at an end.

Chinese piracy is, at times, almost a business. A pirate merchant in the wholesale way will infest certain villages on the seaboard or islands. He will keep fifteen or twenty junks with a corresponding retinue of ruffians, and when he has secured his plunder he stores it in safety. A pirate in a small way of business, having once made a good haul, will divide the spoil, and then his followers immediately disperse for fear of an attack from another gang. The old saying of "dog eat dog" applies with striking force to the transactions of these plunderers of the China Sea.

A Natural Mistake.

"Yes," said the old gentleman, sadly, to the traveling man who sat next to him in the car. "It's a hard thing to have outlived your usefulness; I feel it very much."

"I suppose you were engaged in a pleasant and congenial occupation," ventured the traveling man.

"I was in the show business," was the reply. "O, how I long to hear the applause of the multitude and sniff the sawdust once more."

"O," said his companion, "from the last remark I should judge that you were connected with a circus."

"You are mistaken, sir," was the somewhat stiff rejoinder, "I was a ballet master."—*Merchant Traveler.*

A Healthy Stomach.

Is a blessing for which thousands of our dyspeptic countrymen and women sigh in vain, and to obtain which swallow much medicine unavailingly. For no ailment—probably—are there so many alleged remedies as for dyspepsia. The man of humbug is constantly glutted with the dollars and dimes of those who resort to one nostrum after another in the vain hope of obtaining relief, at least, from this vexatious and obstinate malady. Experience indicates Hostetter's Stomach Bitters as a means of eradicating dyspepsia, in which a firm reliance can be placed. No remedy has in three decades and over established such a reputation, none has received such unqualified professional sanction. It is an admirable invigorant, because it enriches the blood, and not only this, but it thoroughly regulates the bowels, kidneys and bladder. The nervous symptoms are usually relieved by the medicine.

PREVIOUS to the reign of Alexander the Great the Greeks wore beards, but during the wars of that monarch they commenced shaving, the practice having been suggested, it is said, by Alexander, for the purpose of depriving the enemy of an opportunity of catching the soldiers by the beard. The fashion thus begun continued until the reign of Justinian, when long beards again became customary.

THE first year of the Christian era began on the Jewish Sabbath, Saturday. The early Christians, until the era of the birth of Christ had been estimated, dated from the accession of Diocletian in 284.

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FULL beards were cultivated among Eastern nations in early times, and have always been regarded by them as a badge of dignity. The fact that the ancient Egyptian pictures frequently represent the human male figure, especially when of a king or dignitary, without the beard, would seem to indicate that it was a mark of rank in Egypt to be devoid of that appendage. In ancient India, Persia, and Assyria, however, the beard was allowed to grow long, and was always esteemed a symbol of dignity and wisdom.

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Has been a laborious and costly work, but the end justifies the effort. Obstruction in any important channel means disaster. Obstructions in the organs of the human body bring inevitable disease. They must be cleared away, or physical wreck will follow. Keep the liver in order, and the pure blood courses through the body, conveying health, strength, and life; let it become disordered, and the channels are clogged with impurities, which result in disease and death. No other medicine equals Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" for acting upon the liver and purifying the blood.

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Dr. Pierce's "Pilllets" (the original "little liver pills"), no pain or griping. Cure sick or bilious headache, sour stomach, and cleanse the system and bowels. 25 cts. a vial.

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