

Army and Navy On Equal Footing

Dear Sir.—Please allow me space in your highly-esteemed paper to make a few remarks concerning the distinction that is made between the Army and Naval Volunteers. For instance every one of the daily and weekly papers are praising up the land forces to the highest degree, even those who are now here in St. John's and those who are over in Scotland, and, while we know it is quite right to praise up our young men who are ready to serve their king and country on land, it is equally right to give our naval boys a square deal, as everything, almost, depends upon the Navy. The land forces couldn't possibly get across the water if there were no navy, neither would we in this country enjoy the comforts which we now have, therefore, it is to the brave lads in the navy that we should first lift our hats. In fact, Mr. Editor, nearly every lad in the navy can take his place in the army, but a great many in the army cannot possibly take their place in the

navy, for many who were thrown down and couldn't pass for the navy, hadn't any difficulty in passing for the army. Therefore, a man must be in the pink of condition to pass for the navy. Credit to whom credit is due should be our motto. Forty-five of our naval lads have already given their lives, protecting the coast, and we may at any time hear of many others sharing the same fate, but as yet the land forces are having a fairly good time in Scotland, and here in St. John's, with fairly good pay, and a good home provided. But the brave naval boys have got to exist upon 36 cents per day, and some of them perhaps keep a family upon that amount, all, thanks to the Morris Government, who fixed the rate for the army, without any regard for the lads in the navy. Therefore, we hope that Mr. Coaker and his Union members will use their influence to make the Government see the error of their ways, and put army and navy here in this country upon an equal footing. I notice that the Ministers are more interested in the army than the navy, as the land forces were invited to attend a special service last week, but

the sailor boys are not even asked to attend even a special service, and when they have got to leave the country to go forward, very little attention is given them in any way, but when a few Volunteers from the army are sent forward, everything is in an uproar. I presume it is because a few of the aristocracy is with the army. Therefore, Mr. Editor, as a Revereist, I feel as though something should be written to justify our cause, trusting that in the near future, the Volunteers with the army and navy shall be able to give a good account of themselves, and prove themselves a credit to their country and the Empire, over which the sun never sets. Go save the King. A SAILOR BOY. St. John's, Feb. 23, 1915.

20 Million Pounds German Shipping

Locked Up in New York—
These Serve as Hostages
Against German Aggression

London, Feb. 15.—The Evening Standard prints an article by "a diplomatic correspondent" who argues that in case of any trouble between the United States and Germany arising out of the German submarine blockade the United States can easily defeat Germany at her own game, because America is offering the security of her ports to dozens of German liners, including the crack vessels of the Hamburg-American and North German Lloyd Lines.

"In New York Harbor alone," the writer goes on to say, "there are interned German ships representing a total of over 20,000,000 pounds sterling. The United States need only threaten to give these liners a week or a fortnight's notice to clear out. If the threat was carried into effect these vessels would fall easy prey to our warships and the British mercantile marine would receive some valuable additions far exceeding in value any losses which the novel form of German submarine warfare might inflict upon us. Under such circumstances Germany would be helpless. She could not afford to have such a threat carried into effect consequently her submarines would be unable to carry on indiscriminate warfare against everything which floats, and would be bound to respect a neutral flag."

"FAIR PLAY" DEFENDS COAKER

Thinks He Is Right in His
Insistence That Kean Be
Kept On Shore

(Editor Mail and Advocate.)
Dear Sir.—We see by the "News" that some "nobody" is writing in defence of Captain Kean and is trying to come down upon Mr. Coaker because he is starting this agitation at this particular time when the Empire is at war.

While the fishermen of Newfoundland don't want to do anything that is not right and just, yet whether the Empire is at war or not, we, as toilers of the country, who go down to the sea in ships, cannot stand idle and allow two lads, like John Munn and Eric Bowring to run the whole country and even defy the wishes of the people. Why didn't they leave very well alone and things would have gone along in good shape?

Everybody was delighted when they heard that Kean wasn't going to the sealishery in command of a steamer, and Bowring Bros. would have had the respect of the whole country, but when the people learned that this firm were not honourable enough to keep their word, then all confidence in this firm was lost.

It has been said that Kean had suffered enough since the disaster, and that he had asked his trial in "the Court" and was "exonerated" which should satisfy the public, but this is indeed a very poor excuse and nobody with a small portion of commonsense is going to swallow that. The poor souls that acted upon that Commission didn't have much pluck to act when they knew nothing about sealing condition anymore than what Captain Kean told them.

Where dollars and cents are concerned it matters not about whether it is right or not. The poorer classes in this country are not taken into consideration and as things are at the present, another disaster may occur again this spring and yet no steps are taken to prevent such a thing, even though it should occur. Why it is only for the Government to appoint two or three men who don't know what a seal or a codfish is, to act, and whether right or wrong, to acquit whoever may be brought before them, providing it is somebody like Captain Kean. Of course, the Government has the power, which is Might against Right, and that has been practised in this country quite often.

FAIR PLAY.
Brigus, Feb. 22, 1915.

How our Soldiers Are Looked After

London, Feb. 13. (Correspondence.)
—A description of the soldier's monthly "official bath" is sent from the front by a member of a London Scottish Regiment.

"Yesterday we had a novel experience," he says. "As none of us had seen soap or warm water for over five weeks, we were ordered to take an official bath. We were taken to a town in the rear of our lines and escorted to a large building, where facilities had been arranged for the purpose.

Ten Minutes of Shower.
In the first room we were numbered off into squads of ten men or so. In the second room we emptied our pockets and laid aside our boots, bonnets, puttees and sporans. In a third room we threw the rest of our clothes into a heap, and then

made a double quick to the showers. There were two men to each shower, and we were allowed ten minutes under the hot water with a generous supply of laundry soap.

A Rub and a Shave.
"At the end of our ten minutes, we hurried on to a drying room, where each man got a huge towel as thick and rough as a carpet. Then we rushed off to a dressing room where an attendant gave us anything we wanted in the way of brand new underwear, shirts and socks, while on hooks at one side were our clothes, which had been thoroughly fumigated.

"After we had got back our bonnets, boots and other property, we were ushered into a room where a squad of barbers awaited us. When they were through, we marched, spick an span again into a tea room for tea and cigarettes. Could anything be better arranged?"

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COAKER ENGINE CAN'T BE BEATEN SAYS FISHERMAN.

Mr. W. F. Coaker, M.H.A.
Dear Sir.—Just a few lines concerning the Coaker Engine that I purchased from the U. T. Co. this spring. I have used this engine all the summer without any trouble or difficulty; it really works like a clock.

We had our traps twelve miles from the schooner and that engine used to go there twice a day for a month, making its forty-eight miles a day back and forth, and used to tow another trap boat with her, which made a difference of about seven miles in forty-eight, so she actually ran fifty-five miles per day while at Belle Isle.

At Muford's Harbor she averaged about thirty-five miles a day from the 14th of August to the 10th of September. I would not change this engine for any other six horse power engine on the market, either for speed or simplicity of operation. I passed motors this summer up to nine horse power. I haven't seen one to go with her this summer.

I advise all who want a good strong and reliable engine not to refuse the Coaker Engine, for she is certainly the best on the market.
ELIAS KEAN.

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Everything White Reduced.
Many Special Bargain Lines.

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