

Corralito of five miles per hour, its velocity at flood is therefore 350 miles per hour—that is if velocity means the rate at which water flows in a river.

At this rate the Uruguay may well be called a great torrent as it flows at the rate of 30,800 feet per minute, whereas water rushing over the Niagara Falls attain a rate of only 3,000 feet per minute. Certainly South America is a land of wonders. One more extract and we have done with the descriptive part of what is quite as wonderful a book as the natural phenomena it describes: "The first great affluent of the Parana above its confluence with the Paraguay is the Y-Guazu, a great river of the first order which falls into the former in latitude 25 degrees

0 minutes South. Nearly 400 miles further North the Rio Pardo, another great river is an affluent, and beyond little is accurately known. We must take leave of this noble stream by a reference to the falls of Guaira, about 700 miles above Corrientes, which are of a character calculated to inspire even the Spanish American visitant with wonder and with awe. The width of the Parana above the falls is about 4,500 yards. This great width is suddenly contracted into a narrow channel of from seventy to eighty yards, bounded by vertical walls of granite, against which the current breaks with indescribable fury. There is no vertical fall (as at Niagara), but a descent of about fifty feet, down which the river rushes on a plane inclined from fifty degrees to the horizon. The concussion of the water against these walls and against rocks which project in the middle of channel form volumes of vapor which can be seen for many leagues, and on which according to the position of the sun and of the spectator, numerous rainbows become visible. A continuous rain from the condensation of the up borne spray falls in the neighborhood. The thunder of the cataract is heard at a distance of thirty miles. At three miles distant it is difficult to hear the human voice. Nearer to the fall it is impossible to distinguish any sound except that caused by terrific concussion of the waves. The earth trembles, and the vicinity is desolated by the terror of the scene. Settlements in the neighborhood having been abandoned in consequence of the deafness that was occasioned in the whole population by the constant thunder of the river."

We copy today an article from the *Volunteer News* (English) of 10th June, entitled "Our Recruiting Makeshifts Fallacies"—in which the whole question of Army Organization is ably handled, as well in its political, economical, as its social aspects. Our contemporary tells his countrymen a few salutary truths, that all the Pharisaical cant or political economical humbug the world has yet seen cannot alter, and it will be well for the future not only of Great Britain but of her great dependencies that her people will awake from slumbering in the fools par-

adise to which they have been lured by Peace Societies and their cognate humbugs.

In only one essential particular does the picture drawn suit us, it is that we do not pay the soldier the full value of his service; but as our military force is not absolutely abstracted from the labour market, this error, for it is nothing else, will be eliminated from what is otherwise a complete organization, in conception at least. The whole article however is one which should be studied with the attention its importance deserves.

His Majesty the CZAR and His Majesty the KAISER have each a "manifest destiny," founded on a traditional policy, to work out—in the furtherance thereof they are not particular as to the means, provided the end is accomplished. An "International Congress" has been called at Brussels by some of those goody-goodies whose absurd and mischievous interference with political developments they could not possibly understand, has been productive of such mischief already; and for Great Britain at least, promises to be so disastrous in the future. Their plan on the present occasion is the sentimental cry of humanity; but it has leaked out that the CZAR and KAISER are the real projectors of the movement, and are using their tools in order to neutralize any advantage England might derive from her wealth and mechanical power in the coming contest, for which both parties are prepared; and the English Premier declares to be nearer than is anticipated.

The ostensible object is to prevent the use of explosive projectiles in small arms; but in reality it is to tie the hands of the greatest manufacturing power in the world, while those amiable monarchs and their slaves parcel it out as they think fit.

It appears by recent discussion in the Imperial Parliament that the little game is understood, and no concession of the kind will be made.

The *Borsenzeitung* says it is feared in military circles at Berlin that the forthcoming International Congress at Brussels, England will not be disposed to make any important concession as to the use of explosive projectiles in time of war. It has been ascertained that, in 1863, when a similar meeting was held at St. Petersburg, the English Government instructed its representative to be very careful in avoiding any measure which would be calculated to hinder the improvement of weapons used in warfare, adding that England cannot forego the advantages it has hitherto derived from her superior mechanical skill and inventive spirit in this respect. At the same time reference was made to a statistical report prepared in the French War Department, from which it appeared that the losses of armies in battle since the introduction of arms of precision and long range guns have been relatively much less than when the old-fashioned artillery and muskets were in use. In the battle of Friedland, for instance, the losses of the French were fourteen per cent., and of the Russians thirty per cent. of their respective troops; at Wagram, the French

lost thirteen per cent., and the Austrians fourteen per cent.; at Moskow, the French thirty three per cent., and the Russians forty-four per cent.; and at Waterloo, the French thirty-six per cent., and the Allies thirty per cent. Forty years later, when the new arms had been introduced, the loss of the French and Austrians was seven per cent. each only; while at Solferino, the losses of the French and Sardinians were ten per cent., and of the Austrians eight per cent."

The following valuable article on the subject of the advantages of military drill is taken from the *United States Army and Navy Journal* of the 4th July. It deserves careful consideration, and as a rule a measure of drill should be adopted in all public school as a part of the gymnastic exercises necessary for the proper training of children.

"The subject of military drill in colleges is up at present for discussion, the newly awakened attention being caused mainly by the recent revolt at Bowdoin. In view of this fact the report of a select committee, which consisted of the Hon. Alexander H. Rice, John Cummings, and Edward Atkinson, has just made a report, earnestly recommending the continuance of the system of infantry drill, but saying that the artillery and cavalry practice, however desirable in an institution thoroughly military, and necessary to the professional soldier, are not compatible with the appointments of the institution, nor consistent with its purposes and objects. The report says:

"In the opinion of your committee, the value of military instruction and discipline is by no means to be estimated alone by their possible relations to a state of war, when the citizen is transferred into the soldier. Such instruction has great and peculiar value as an educational and disciplinary agency, and as a sanitary exercise of the highest type. It cultivates habits of neatness, order, precision, quickness of thought, and action, and absolute obedience with those must first learn who are afterwards fit to command. It inspires a manly and chivalric spirit, gives ease of carriage and movement, develops muscular energy and endurance, and stimulates the intellectual powers by kindling all the vital forces into healthy activity. If, therefore, education be interpreted as a process of developing the intellectual faculties, as well as a mode of receiving and classifying knowledge, it is believed that military tactics compare most favorably as a branch of study with certain branches of mathematics, and with many other studies which especially engender habits of concentration and persistent application. Military practice is certainly superior to either in the particular that it blends recreation with acquisition. If we mistake not, the course of study in the national military academies are as difficult of accomplishment as are those in the average of American colleges, and yet they completed in as many months as the college courses, notwithstanding students in the former are subjected to frequent and protracted military exercises daily. And testimony is abundant to prove that the time employed in the military drill is more than accounted for in the increased mental activity and energy which it produces. In a letter to the chairman of this committee, Rear Admiral Worden, Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy, says