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MARSHALL BROTHERS.

The Glory of Manual Labor.

By RUTH CAMERON.



With the one exception of religious intolerance, I think the popular prejudice that most exasperates me is that narrow minded, unthinking prejudice against manual labor as compared with brain work.

As if one could separate the two in the first place! As if it did not require certain by no means despicable mental qualities, and what is more certain fine qualities of character, to do most kinds of manual labor.

Every time I do any considerable piece of manual labor I am impressed anew by the patience, the perseverance, the painstaking which is required to do those things well. A friend of mine who frequently complains of the price charged at the garage for cleaning his automobile, decided the other day to clean it himself, in the early part of Saturday afternoon and take his family out for a ride later on. He did not go to ride. There was just time enough left for a much needed bath before dinner, when he had finished with the machine. And the worst of it was that although he had finished with it and it had certainly finished him, he had by no means properly finished the job of cleaning it.

Here was a spot of mud which he had missed; there a bar left uncleaned; he had not removed the tarnish from several of the brass fittings, and had completely forgotten to wash the glass in his lights. He would certainly have complained of any garage which had turned his machine out in such shape. "I wouldn't have believed there were so many parts to the blame thing," he said.

Of course he wouldn't. None of us ever do realize the patience and well directed energy it takes to perform a thousand and one manual services which we receive as a matter of course from day to day, until we try to do some of them ourselves.

You think you are vastly superior to a carpenter, don't you, Mr. Professor? Yet I fancy he could teach your classes things worth knowing quite as well as you could build a house fit to live in.

You probably look down on the washerwoman, Miss Stenographer, but to my mind anyone who can take an unsavory heap of soiled clothes and transmute them into something sweet smelling, snowy and dainty, does a very fine thing. Indeed it seems to me that she is writing poetry in the language of work.

Genius some one has said is an infinite capacity for taking pains. Even the humblest day laborer may be a genius.

Ruth Cameron

GERMAN SAVAGERIES.

BELGIUM'S PROTEST.
(Issued by the Press Bureau.)
The Belgian Minister has made the following statement:—
"In spite of solemn assurances of good will and longstanding treaty ob-

ligations, Germany has made a sudden, savage and utterly unwarranted attack on Belgium.

"However sorely pressed she may be, Belgium will never fight unfairly and never stoop to infringe the laws

and customs of legitimate warfare. She is putting up a brave fight against overwhelming odds, she may be beaten, she may be crushed, but to quote our noble King's words, 'She will never be enslaved.'

"When German troops invaded our country the Belgian Government issued public statements which were placarded in every town, village and hamlet warning all civilians to abstain scrupulously from hostile acts against the enemy's troops. The Belgian Press daily published similar notices through the land. Nevertheless, the German authorities have issued lately statements containing grave imputations against the attitude of the Belgian civilian population, threatening us at the same time with dire reprisals. These imputations are contrary to the real facts of the case and, as to threats of further vengeance, no menace of odious reprisals on the part of the German troops will deter the Belgian Government from protesting before the civilized world against the fearful and atrocious crimes committed wilfully and deliberately by the invading hosts against helpless non-combatants, old men, women and children.

"Long is the list of outrages committed by the German troops and appalling details of atrocities, as touched for by the Committee of Inquiry recently formed by the Belgian Minister of Justice and presided over by him. This Committee comprises the highest judicial and university authorities of Belgium, such as Chief Justice Van Islegem, Judge Nys, Professors Cottier, Wodon, etc.

"The following instances and particular investigations based in each instance on the evidence of reliable eye-witnesses:—

"German cavalry occupying the village of Linsmeau were in great numbers. The inhabitants were some Belgian infantry and two German. A German officer was killed by our troops during the fight, and subsequently buried at the request of the Belgian officer in command. No one of the civilian population took part in the fighting at Linsmeau. Nevertheless the invaders divided these peasants in three groups; those in one group were bound and eleven of them placed in a ditch, where they were afterwards found dead, their skulls fractured by the butts of German rifles.

"During the night of August 10, German cavalry entered Velm in great numbers. The inhabitants were some Belgian infantry and two German. A German officer was killed by our troops during the fight, and subsequently buried at the request of the Belgian officer in command. No one of the civilian population took part in the fighting at Linsmeau. Nevertheless the invaders divided these peasants in three groups; those in one group were bound and eleven of them placed in a ditch, where they were afterwards found dead, their skulls fractured by the butts of German rifles.

"On August 9, at Orsmal, the Germans picked up Commandant Knapen, very seriously wounded, propped him up against a tree and shot him. Finally they hacked his corpse with their swords.

"In different places, notably at Hologuesur-Geer, Barchon, Pontisse, Haelen, and Zelck, German troops have fired on doctors, ambulance bearers, ambulances, and ambulance wagons carrying the Red Cross.

"At Boncelles a body of German troops marched into battle carrying a Belgian flag.

"On Thursday, August 6, before a fort at Lige, German soldiers continued to fire on a party of Belgian soldiers (who were unarmed and had been surrounded while digging a trench) after these had hoisted the white flag.

"On the same day at Vottem, near the fort of Lench, a group of German infantry hoisted the white flag. When Belgian soldiers approached to take them prisoner the Germans suddenly opened fire on them at close range.

"Harrowing reports of German savagery at Aerschot have reached the Belgian Government at Antwerp from official local sources.

"In one single street the first six male inhabitants who crossed their thresholds were seized and shot at once under the very eyes of their

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wives and children.

"They compelled the inhabitants to leave their houses and marched them to a place 200 yards from the town. There, without more ado, they shot M. Thielemans, the burgomaster, his fifteen year old son, the clerk of the local judicial board, and ten prominent citizens. They then set fire to the town and destroyed it.

"The following statement was made by Commandant Georges Gilson, of the 9th Infantry of the Line, now lying in hospital at Antwerp:—
"I was told to cover the retreat of our troops in front of Aerschot. During the action fought there on Wednesday, August 19th, between six and eight o'clock in the morning, suddenly I saw on the high road between the German and Belgian forces, which were fighting at close range, a group of four women with babies in their arms and two little girls clinging to their skirts. Our men stopped firing till the women got through our lines, but the German machine guns went on firing all the time, and one of the women was wounded in the arm. These women could not have got through the neighboring German lines and been on the high road unless with the consent of the enemy.

All the evidence and circumstances seem to point to the fact that those women had been deliberately pushed forward by the Germans to act as a shield for their advance guard, and in the hope that the Belgians would cease firing for fear of killing the women and children.

"This statement was made and duly certified in the Antwerp Hospital on August 22nd, by Commandant Gilson in the presence of the Chevalier Ernest N. Bunsyweck, Chief Secretary to the Belgian Minister of Justice, and M. de Cartier de Marchienne, Belgian Minister to China.

"Further German atrocities are continuously being brought to notice and made the subject of official and expert inquiry by the proper authorities.

"In publishing the above statements the only comment the Press Bureau can offer is that these atrocities appear to be committed in villages and throughout the country side with the deliberate intention of terrorizing the people, and so making it unnecessary to leave troops in occupation of small places or to protect lines of communication. In large places like Brussels, where the diplomatic representatives of neutral Powers are eye-witnesses, there appear to have been no excesses."

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