treating the wounded by the aid of field hospitals well in the rear, to which no wounded would be brought till the fighting had ceased. The idea of carrying off the wounded from a modern battlefield while the fight is still raging is utterly absurd, and should be dismissed at once, while the system which would needlessly sacrifice the lives of the majority of our army surgeons, at the very time when they would be most needed, is entirely indefensible, and opposed to all experience and common sense. The lot of the wounded in the next European war will be terrible enough in any case; it will not be improved by a massacre of the doctors.-Pall Mall Gazette.

A return has been issued showing the military expenditure of the Government of India in India and England for each year from 1875 to 1892-93, together with a memorandum of the principal causes of the increased expenditure in 1892-93, as compared with 1875-76. The increase from 1875-76 to 1892-93 is 7,717,-214 rx., of which the following 1s an explanation :-- Increase of troops-British, 10,753 at 891 rx.=958,092 rx.; Native, 19,220 at 345 rx.=659,246 rx.-1,617,338 rx.; loss by exchange on pay of British soldiers, and on sterling expenditure, 3,139,787 rx.; increase in home pensions, mainly due to the growth of the colonels' allowances, derived from a much larger number of officers than that now existing -the ordinary pensions have also been increased 929,822 rx.; Native army reserves, 42,740 rx. ; increased pay of Native cavalry, 86,850 rx.; extra expenses in Upper Burmah, 502,500 rx.; minor field operations, 254,657 rx.; pensions to natives, due partly to various reorganisations, and partly to wars, 206.571 rx.; War Office arrears included in 1892-93, 212,458 rx. ; deferred pay, 208,000 rx.total, 7,200,723 rx. This leaves a balance of 516,491 rx. to be accounted for. There are many items which go to make up this increase, in which the following are the chief:—Accelerated rates of promotion for Medical and Staff Corps officers; increased pay to British warrant and noncommissioned officers and men, and the establishment of paid lance rank; increase of the volunteer forces and of their allowances; creation of the Indian nursing service; various concessions to the native troops, as kit money, &c.; higher prices for Australian horses owing to a fall in exchange; more expensive ordnance, rifles, and ammunition, and a larger allowance of the latter for musketry practice ; increased pay of Roman Catholic priests; rise in prices, adding to the cost of feeding men and horses, and to the charges for compensation for dearness of food and forage.

A contemporary asserts that one of the grievances of the private soldier in the British Army is that he is not allowed to have speech with his captain except when accompanied by a non-commissioned officer. It is stated that, by a recent Imperial order, a private who considers himself ill-treated by a comrade or

superior, may lodge his complaint directly with his captain. We are not told whether the German private in such a case can merely insist on a non-commissioned officer taking him to his captain, or whether he can go unaccompanied to his captain. Be that as it may, a German is not an Englishman, and what might answer with the former would not answer with the latter, and "vice versa." As a matter of fact, it might lead to very disastrous consequences were a British private empowered to go straight to his captain without being accompanied by a non-commissioned officer. The man might be drunk, infuriated by passion, or meditate an insult or act of violence. Should he behave in an unseemly or violent manner there would be no witness, and a court-martial might be placed in the unpleasant predicament of having to weigh the word of the private against that of the captain. Where, however, a relaxation of the existing wholesale rule might be allowed with advantage, is when the private wished to speak to his captain about some private matter not connected with the service. We have known that relaxation permitted without any abuse of the indulgence taking place. Of one thing we feel certain, namely, that there is 1n our service no widespread feeling of grievance in connection with this matter. - Broad Arrow,

The condition of the navy still occupies some space in the daily newspapers. To a contemporary, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Thomas Symonds and Admiral Sir George Elliot have recently written long letters. The former quotes, from the last Parliamentary return, the comparative numerical force of England, France, and Russia :--

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"Our officers and men," says Sir Thomas, "are 22,400 short, while France and Russia can man all their available ships, merchant cruisers, lighthouses and defend with mines and const batteries their coasts. It is impossible that in a minority of 22 armourclads we can face triumphantly 22 more battleships and defend a commerce equal to that of the whole world-our life's blood. The armoured cruisers are - England 26, France and Russia 25. But our cruisers are very bad; seven of them -viz., Aurora, Australia, Galatea, Narcissus, Orlando, Undaunted, and Immortalite -have no fore and aft bulkheads, aud are thus quite unfit for battle ; besides, nine are old dummies, wrong in all ways-viz., Warrior, Black Prince, Minotaur, Agincourt, Northumberland, Shannon, Northampton, Nelson, and Achilles."-United Service Magazine.

In the course of a paper recently read before the Colonial Institute, Bishop Selwyn referred to the assistance and help he has always received at the hands of the Naval Service. Adverting to the need for a strong man to preserve peace among the islanders of the South-West Pacific groups, one who "should know and be known, whose word was absolutely trusted whether in threat or in reward," he expressed his preference for "some good naval officer," whom he would put in "an old roomy comfortable tub, with a gun or two, a few blue jackets to man her, and a force of sixty or seventy native police, recruited, say, in Fiji, well drilled and well officered. With such a force he could go anywhere among the islands; he would soon be known, feared, and trusted. He would have time to investigate carefully, and to wait and persist until he could really reach the wrong-doers. He would exercise a salutory and wholesome influence on the white traders and the crews of the trading vessels, while at the same time he protected them." We do not understand if the Bishop proposed that such a vessel should be supplied by the Navy at public expense or by the Missions at their own cost, but it is surely time that the question of the allocation of expenditure on such vessels, and those employed in the African rivers, should be settled. The principle that all ships built and maintained out of the Navy Estimates should be capable of use for war purposes is surely the right one to guide us this matter.

Lieutenants Degouy and Delguey-Malavas of the French Navy, who were seized in Germany, and imprisoned at Glatz for espionage, have returned to Paris, having been released by the clemency of the Emperor, as a mark of his sympathy with France in the tragic death of President Carnot. They gave to a representative of the "France Militaire" a pleasant account of their sojourn in the fortress. They had been treated with greater consideration than could have been expected; the Governor was full of kindness; they were permitted to receive French papers and visits, without much formality, and even to receive and despatch sealed letters, having first pledged themselves to reveal nothing and to attempt nothing. In a word, they were treated as prisoners of war, and the Prussian officers showed them much kindness As they drove to the station at Glatz flowers were thrown to them, and as the train steamed away many called out, begging them to retain pleasant recollections of the Fatherland. They declare that this warm feeling was for France rather than for themselves.

A report of the Russian Naval Library at Cronstadt shows that on January 1, 1894, it included 46,304 works, ln 78,138 volumes, whereof 28,370, in 50,576 volumes, were Russian, and 17,934, in 27,-607 volumes, foreign. Of newspapers and serials the library receives 102 Russian, 18 French, 18 German, 16 English, 1 Polish, and 1 Italian. The receipts and expenditure in 1893 exceeded 10,00 roubles.