

army employed on similar tasks. When the work is for other branches of the public service or for private persons the conditions shall be settled by agreement with the military authorities. The wages of the prisoners shall go towards improving their position, and the balance shall be paid them at the time of their release, after deducting the cost of their maintenance: Hague Conference, 1899, Second Convention, art. 1. It has been sometimes the practice, now sanctioned by the Hague Conference, for officers to receive their regular pay or some proper pay from their captors, who in their turn balance accounts on this score with the enemy. Thus in 1870 the Germans paid French officers and the French paid captive officers and men also: Hague Conference, 1899, Second Convention, art. 17.—*Law Times*.

It is sometimes said by thoughtless people that there is a preponderance of lawyers in legislative and executive offices. It must be remembered, however, that the Government of a country not only makes, but interprets and enforces laws. It is clear, therefore, that the most competent class would be those who are familiar with laws, and their working out. A contemporary referring to this subject quotes an ancient Act, passed in the 6th year of Henry IV, by the "Parliamentum Indoctum," which parliament was elected under an ordinance requiring that no lawyer should be chosen knight, citizen or burgess. "By reason whereof" says Coke, "this parliament was fruitless, and never a good law was made thereat:" 4 Inst. 48.