

begin to smile. Mention a major and he got positively jovial, his hilarity increasing with the rank of the officer you threatened him with. By the time you yourself got as high as you could, he was in danger of falling off his horse from laughing. He had the delicious knack of, quite naturally, thinking inversely whilst acting obliquely to ordinary people, which after all is only Irish.

CALPE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of

"Knots and Lashings".

Sir:—

If a Corporal can be placed in category C.3. by claiming to have had rheumatism fifteen years ago, what class can a common everyday sapper get into who had measles at the age of three?

MORE EVIL MEN THAN WOMEN?

Mr. Editor:—

There are times in these barracks when disputes of an interesting nature take place, and there is one that I should like to submit to you for consideration.

A certain number of men claim that in the world today, evil-minded and bad women in general are in the majority; whereas a number of other men (myself included) are inclined to think that men, in preference to women, hold this particular distinction.

It is understood that there are more women than men in the world, which of course one must make allowance for;—yet in spite of this, and with no desire to condemn man (for I have the honor to be one myself) I honestly believe from my own observations and studies that there is more sin amongst men than amongst the women.

Whether I am correct in this statement or not, it is of course simply a matter of opinion. It is somewhat of a difficult dispute to decide, and yet I believe that you, Mr. Editor, with the co-operation of your newspaper colleagues, can come to an amicable understanding upon a subject which I think concerns us all.

I am,

Yours respectfully,
Sapper S. B. Norton.

Dear Sapper Norton:—

We have taken time, since we received your communication, to consider whether the publication of such a letter is worth while. We have not made up our mind yet but are rather in the position of

the inexperienced whist player who says to himself, "When in doubt play trumps."

To that "certain number of men" who claim there are more evil-minded women in the world today than those we would wish for wives and have for mothers, we would say:—BRING FORWARD YOUR PROOF. Of course they cannot prove their statement. If they could, the world might just as well shut right down. We know there are a number of women who earn a livelihood (and an early demise) by evil living, and have not far to seek for the reason. It is simply a question of supply and demand.

You say it is a difficult dispute to decide. Popular sentiment would soon decide, if it were asked. It is not, as you say, a matter of opinion:—it is one of fact and one that is disproved at the outset. To come to an amicable understanding with such as would malign our best ideals is an impossible situation. Rather, we would advise you to shun a man who has such views as you would the plague, and to him would we say;—choose your female acquaintances with more circumspection.

Yours truly,
Editor.

INFRA DIG.

They were sitting in the mess when in came the Stuart and said "Good (K)night, gentlemen; Mr. Elliott is standing out on the Stairs and says he is Longmore often than short and that his Armstrong too."

"He doth, Duthie;" quoth McCulloch: "isn't he the Meik(le) young man. I saw him a little while ago drinking Holland(s) and shining his Armer on an Emery wheel!"

Captain Petti grew loquacious; (at the same time putting some black diamonds on the fire with the aid of a Trow(el).) "Look here, you Fellowes:—no more bum Steers for me:—the man from Hamilton says he saw a sea serpent and a Blackadder, after drinking some O'Keefer other kind of beer the other (K)night! Another one thought he was a Young Corbett and started fighting! Wright or wrong, he was placed in a Culvert to keep him cool! We should send them both to take the Keeley cure!"

This broke up the party and they dispersed—singing "the Campbells are coming".

Orderly Corporal, to new recruit:—"Have you had a paliasse?"

New recruit:—"No; is it contagious?"



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