

HOW PAT KEPT THE PIG.

In the recently published "Life of General Craufurd" (p. 227), there is a capital instance of Irish readiness and humour. General Craufurd, who was of Scottish extraction, was a strict disciplinarian, and dealt sternly with all plunderers, often making little allowance for the sufferings of the men when only half fed. When in Spain he commanded the celebrated Light Division under Wellington. One day in Spain an Irish soldier of one of his regiments was serenely trudging along a road leading a pig by a rope. As ill-luck would have it, he was overtaken by General Craufurd. The general, who was furious at seeing such a barefaced disregard of his orders, shouted: "Where did you steal that pig from, you plundering rascal?" "What pig, General?" asked the culprit, facing round with an air of the most innocent astonishment. "Why that pig you've got behind you, you villain." "Well, I vow and protest General," rejoined Pat, nothing abashed, and turning round to the pig as if he had never seen it before, "it's the hoith of divilment to think what a wicked world we live in, and how ready some folks are to take away an honest boy's character. General, some black-guard, to get me into trouble, has tied that baste to my cartouch-box." Whereupon General Craufurd, unable any longer to keep a straight face, galloped on; and thus Pat, by his ready wit, instead of loosing his booty and getting 100 lashes, kept his pig."

RECRUITING IN CANADA FOR THE IMPERIAL ARMY.

The following letter, dated from Orillia, and signed "British Canadian," appeared in the London *Times* of February 16th: "Much has lately been written on both sides of the Atlantic with regard to a closer union of the mother country and her colonies, and the Imperial Federationists have come to the conclusion that a union for purposes of defence is the best step to take first. Though there may be colonists who would like to continue to have the British Navy protect their interests without having to bear a share of the heavy burden of paying for its equipment and maintenance, there would, I think, be few who would object to the establishment of recruiting stations in Canada. These might be placed at the Royal Military College in Kingston, and at the military schools. Even if the number of men obtained did not warrant the expenditure from an economic aspect, the absence of Canadians on service could not fail to draw the attention of their friends to the movements of the British Army, and the Imperial sentiment thus fostered would more than justify the slight cost. Proof of this may be found in the interest with which the careers of the few Canadian officers in the Regular Army have been watched by the press and public of this country. And it should not be forgotten that Canada is becoming more thickly inhabited every year, that England has not so large a population to recruit from as some of the great Powers with whom she may have to cope, and that she may in the not distant future be glad to have the services of a few thousand of her North American daughter's sturdy sons. Hoping that this suggestion may commend itself to those in authority."

Miscellaneous.

Cardinal Moran, addressing a school of boys in Sydney, New South Wales, lately, specially referred to the necessity for military drill. It was excellent for the boys to be trained how to do their duty should necessity arise. They were being instructed in the use of arms so that they might be able, whenever called on, to defend their country and their liberty. If he had his wish, much though he was opposed to standing armies, every young Australian would be put through a course of discipline and trained in the use of the musket, not with a view to creating a warlike spirit, but to ensure the defence and safe-keeping of the unequalled freedom and the true independence they happily enjoyed, and the value of which many of those present were too young to fully appreciate.

It is stated that four agents of foreign factories—three Germans and one Swiss—have been expelled from Whydah in Dahomey by General Dodds for having supplied to Behanzin, in nine months, six Krupp guns, four mitrailleuses, 2,330 rifles, 1,000 shells, and 600,000 cartridges. What makes this announcement the more startling is the supplementary statement that payment for these munitions for war was mostly made in slaves who were exported to the Cameroons by the Wörmann Company's steamers. The "foreign factory" that can descend to this line of business must have sunk low indeed—so low as to be well-nigh beneath contempt. But Germany and Switzerland will no doubt look closely into this matter, and if the foul charges brought against their countrymen be proved to be true, we should imagine that the offenders have an even livelier time in store for them than they have been enjoying under the kindly supervision of General Dodds.

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It has been decided that the historical records of the 27th Inniskillings (the Inniskilling Regiment of Foot) now the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, from its formation in the year 1689 to the present shall be published, and a guarantee fund has been opened to defray the necessary expenses. A committee of three will carry out the work. The writing-up of the history will be done by Mr. H. M. Chichester, late of the 85th Regiment. The committee will be glad to receive proposals or suggestions for the records; also any notes, sketches or portraits, anecdotes of individuals, &c., which may be addressed to Major-General Hales, Belvedere, Crystal-park-road, Sydenham, England.

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"Things made to look like guns are sold for as low a figure as twenty-five dollars, but I want no such 'gas-pipes' at my shoulder. As the cheap watch keeps time in a fashion, so does the cheap gun perform. It will kill birds fairly well for a time if held straight, but it will not stand continuous use, and it may contain a flaw or flaws in the barrels, which the owner of it may not detect until too late. When the cheap watch wears out and breaks, no great harm can result; but when a shamdam gun concludes to spread itself, it—well, that is another story! If I had a fair young son, full of promise, and with a few ounces of gray matter scattered through his intellect—if I took pride in the boy and dreamed of high position in church or state for him—just about the last place on the Lord's earth where I'd want to see him stand would be before, behind, or alongside of one of those infernal machines known as a cheap gun. He might load and fire it many times with no other results than a crack, a smoke, and perhaps a dead bird or animal; and he might also only fire a few times, but once too often, and go single-sculling across the river Styx, in consequence of his supposed-to-be-sane parent's criminal folly in giving him a weapon to use which was liable to blow a head, or an arm, or a few sections of hands off him at a most unexpected and unfavorable time."—*Ed. W. Sandys, in Outing for March.*

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The following story comes from New Zealand about Captain Theobald, who was promoted to rear-admiral's rank not long ago. This officer was a midshipman on board H. M. S. *Niger*, commanded by Captain Cracroft, and was at the attack of the native pah at Waireka. When the sailors were scaling the pah Midshipman Theobald, not being able to get over the palisading, called out in his excitement, "Chuck me over; oh do chuck me over, and let me get at them!"

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The effect of Lord Roberts' farewell message to the soldiers who have served with him and have now retired has been far-reaching, says an Indian contemporary, and many instances have been brought to our notice. An old pensioned havildar in the N.-W. P. went to an officer the other day and said that he had heard that the Lord Sahib had sent a message to his old soldiers; so, hearing that his own old regiment was marching to Agra, he had brought his son to enlist in it, and keep the memory of the family green in the regiment.

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