Miscellaneous.

ed his horse again, plunged into the terrible fire, and delivered his letter to the brigade-adjutant. When he was returning, most strange to say, his horse again stumbled over a dead body, and this time fell, and threw his rider from the saddle. The dead man was his other brother! The man became reckless, rode back to the staff, who were caught up in the action themselves, and this soldier fought hand to hand in the *melee*, as did the rest of the escort, without himself receiving a scratch. But it was sad news he had to send home. The Emperor has been made personally informed of these strange facts, and the case has deeply moved him. His Majesty has ordered the promotion of the surviving lancer, and has sent to intimate to his poor parents that he will do all in his power to alleviate their unhappy and bereaved position.

READ ALOUD.

Reading aloud is one of those exercises that combine mental and muscular effort, and hence has a double advantage. To read aloud well, a person should not only understand the subject, but should feel his own voice, and feel within him that every syllable was distinctly enunciated, while there is an instinct presiding which modulates the voice to the number and distance of the hearers. Every public speaker ought to be able to tell whether he is distinctly heard by the farthest listener in the room; if he is not able to do so, it is from a want of proper judgment and observation.

Common consumption begins uniformly, with imperfect, insufficient breathing; it is the characteristic of the disease that the breath becomes shorter and shorter through weary months, down to the close of life, and whatever counteracts short breathing, whatever promotes deeper inspiration, is curative to that extent, inevitably and under all circumstances. Let any one make the experiment by reading this page aloud, and in less than three minutes the instinct of a long breath will show itself. Reading aloud helps to develop the lungs just as singing does, when properly performed.

This loud reading when properly done, has great agency in inducing vocal power, on the same principle that muscles are strengthened by exercise, those of the voice-making organs being no exception to the general rule. Heuce in many cases absolute silence diminishes the vocal power, just as the protracted non-use of the Hindoo devotee paralyzes it forever. The general plan in appropriate cases, is to read aloud in a conversational tone, thrice a day, for a minute at a time, incréasing a minute every other day, until half-an-hour is thus spent at a time, which is to be continued until the desired object is accomplished. Managed thus there is safety and efficiency as a uniform result.

As a means, then, of health, averting consumption, of being social and entertaining in any company, as a means of showing the quality of the mind, let reading aloud be an accomplishment far more indispensable than that of smattering French or lisping Italian, or dancing cotillions, gallopades, polkas and quadrilles.—Hall's Journal of Health.

SABBATH.—a practical rule for those who do not think the Fourth Commandment binding on them :— "So far as you turn other days into Sundays, so far and no farther have you a right to turn Sundays into other days."—*Keble*.

A DEAD fish will swim with the stream, whatever be its direction; but a living one will not only resist the stream, but, if it chooses, it can swim against it.— *Cecil's Remains*.