

men who directed her armies in the war of 1870 have been among her chief advisers in the present struggle. Her aggressive organism has been developed by each minor war it has engaged in or taken an indirect part in, reaching at last its present consummation of virulence.

Let us carry further the analogy with the processes of Nature. In every bio-chemical reaction there must be the agent, the antibody and the complement: the cell to be destroyed, the substance capable of destroying it, and the completing energy without which the reaction cannot take place. In common speech, there must be the lock, the key that will fit it, and the hand to turn the key.

In the case of national defence the enemy is the agent, munitions the antibody, and the trained army the complement. Neither of the latter two is of practical value without the others. The country cannot be defended without munitions; munitions are useless without trained men to handle them, and men cannot be trained, history shows, without fighting. A man cannot learn to swim without entering the water; in order to learn the tricks of the fighter he must have a sparring partner.

Once roused to meet an opponent, a country's vital system, as we have seen, develops rapidly and in many directions its resisting power. Different kinds of military resources are required to meet the demands of the several forms of defence, just as the body must supply different defences to destroy the germs of typhoid fever, syphilis, or tuberculosis.

The munitions plants, the supplies, the training camps, the Army Service Corps, and the transports are the counterparts of the red blood corpuscles, or erythrocytes, which both manufacture arms and material and carry them to the front.

The several kinds of leukocytes are represented by the various arms of the active service. The infantry, the main unit of the army, corresponds to the polynuclear white cells, whose function is to advance and attack the enemy, and take prisoners by enveloping his forces.