

exercise, and in physique. In Germany youth is trained to arms and to exercise; in England often without arms and sometimes without exercise; sometimes to watch exercise only, and to bet and "root" at football without playing even at football. Athletics have never taken, can never take the place of soldiering. Greece produced athletes, and Rome soldiers, and no one doubts which were the better men in physique or morale. But athletes, at least, are better than the loafers and the "rooters" who scream around them and make of an honest game an occasion for more gambling, for mere gambling.

All travellers in Europe hear testimony to the improvement in physique and character where military training has been organized, even as all readers of the ancient gospels and epistles must have noticed that while the great apostle turned for his simile both to soldier and to athlete it is to the soldier that he turned for his glowing metaphor, when his passion rises to the height of his high theme.

THE OTHER SIDE.

Now what is said on the other side? Two things, I think. The pacifists denounce anything military as inhuman, unchristian, and already anachronistic; as feeding hatred and lust of bloodshed, as degrading and brutalizing and degrading.

A few biological pacifists, like President Jordan, seek to bolster up the weak spots in his indictment, and to clinch the argument by attributing European decadence and bad physique as the result of past wars. War has taken away all the best wheat, so to speak, from the European field. Only the poor wheat and the tares are left to perpetuate themselves. War is responsible for the degenerate and rickety dwellers in the modern slum. "How that red rain has made the harvest fail,"—so runs the new Byron.

Meanwhile, if militarism is responsible for reduced physique, it is strange that human physique has improved since the Middle Ages, whose mediaeval armor is now too small; it is stranger that woman's physique has improved in our own day with exercise and athletics; and it is strangest that the falling off in physique should be most conspicuous in the least military of all countries, and the most industrial, Great Britain; and that the opposite phenomenon, improved physique, should be conspicuous in Germany which has had to fight so continually that it has become the most military of empires.

As for the first objection: that war is so inherently