

It was an unexpected movement. No officer was near; but Andre Estienne, the "little drummer," was there. He went to his sergeant and told him that he should cross the bridge with his drum, and beat it on the other side.

"But you would be killed before you step your foot on the bridge," said the sergeant. "No man can live there. But see here: can you swim?"

"That I can," said the drummer. "Then swim across with your drum."

"The drum isn't water-tight!" exclaimed Andre. "It would get water soaked, and I could not beat it when I got across."

The sergeant was equal to the emergency. He was a capital swimmer. Plunging into the water, he bade Andre mount upon his shoulders, holding his drum clear of the water. In this way the two men crossed the river, Andre beating his drum lustily all the way over.

Once on the other side, he pounded it in a way to well-nigh wake the dead. The Austrians, who were massed near, were nearly all raw recruits. Hearing what they took to be the drums of an advancing force of French, and remembering a terrible French onslaught of the day before, they fled.

This left the bridge clear, and the French began to pour across. Andre was joined by other drummers. The Austrian flight became a rout. The French swept on, with Andre Estienne, still drumming, at their head. The army was soon in advance, and very soon the whole Austrian force was retreating, utterly beaten.

Subsequently, Estienne's heroic act was celebrated by being represented in stone on the front of the Pantheon at Paris. Frederic Mistral, the great Provençal poet of Southern France, in a poem, has either invented or recorded a thrilling incident.

Estienne is said to have gone to Paris and to have seen himself figured among the great men of the nation on the front of the Pantheon.

"I, so high as that!" he exclaimed, gasping, and then fell to the ground, struck dead.

Whether or not this scene ever took place, it is certain that the funeral of the little drummer of Arcola was attended by a great concourse of French officers and soldiers.

It has recently been decided that a monument shall be erected to his memory in the French town of Cadenet, of which he was a native.

A SUGGESTION FOR BOYS.

If some of our girls are inclined to overtax their strength in their Christmas preparations, there is a large number of boys who make no preparation at all for that beautiful day. Mary sits up late a good many nights embroidering a pretty

case for John's spectacles, but though John is pleased with the gift and thanks his sister heartily, it never occurs to him to make any return in kind. For that reason the day made blessed by loving thought for the happiness of others, means comparatively little to him.

If you boys are as ready as your sisters to sacrifice your hours of recreation for the sake of other people, there is no reason why you should not have some pretty Christmas remembrance ready for each of those you love, when the day of giving comes around. Some of you are skilled in the use of

tools, some are dexterous with the pencil, some are proficient in handling the camera. And each of these gifts, as well as many others not mentioned, can be turned to practical account as Christmas time draws near.

For the sake of this giving you must be ready to give up something. You cannot spend all your Saturdays skating, you cannot dash away to the long, snow-covered hill the minute school is over, and stay there till the stars come out, if you wish to make your leisure count for the pleasure of someone beside yourself. But the gifts for which you make some

sacrifice, and into which you put loving thought and earnest effort, will be worth more to your friends

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