

newspapers with advertisements drawn up by the liveliest publicity artists of the day. We will enlist the sympathies and support of the press; for this is not an Oriental despotism, but a free country."

What he conceives to be the better way is amusingly illustrated by an incident which he relates in reference to a recruiting campaign in Devonshire. Things were going badly for the recruiting officers, when one of them was thus answered by a yokel, who was urged to take the shilling, as follows: "We do-ant think nought, Zur, o' them advert'izments and noospaper talk about going soldgering. When a Guv'ment needs soldgers really sore, Guv'ment'll say so clear enough, like it does when it wants taxes—'Come 'long, Frank Halls, you're wanted.' And when the Guv'ment taps Frank Halls on showlder, and sez this: I'll go right enough; but I'll not stir foot till Guv'ment does, nor will any man of sense this zide Exeter."

Mr. Oliver deals trenchantly with those who scoffed and derided Lord Roberts, who did his best to save the situation before the crush came—perhaps the war might have been averted if his views had prevailed—and lays the blame largely where it belongs when he calls attention to Mr. Asquith's refusal to listen to warnings about Germany for fear any definite action might be discourteous to the Germans and injurious to his party. He also dwells upon the insane folly of Lord Haldane in reducing the British army when the Kaiser was enormously increasing his. It was decreased, Lord Roberts says, by thirty thousand men. Such silly twaddle as the following was certainly not worthy of one holding the position of Minister of War: "He did not think that compulsory training would be adopted in this country until after England had been invaded once or twice." Also, "that Great Britain had the best reason for feeling secure for they were always a nation of splendid fighters; they were never ready, but they fought better the less ready they were." And again, "The first step for developing anything for the national basis of the army was to cut off the regular force." Speaking of Lord Haldane's profitless mission, as a self-appointed dip-