a sort of honorary mess president even yet.' I thanked His Royal Highness, and told him I still tried to do my duty to my country. And so I do, you dog! Am I not always recommending her defenders to drink the best brands only? Nothing injures the constitution more than drinking bad wine. Now, Master Bertie, I have succeeded in getting young Devereux entered, bear in mind I shan't like it if he's bea.. Tell him he must pass I don't want His Royal Highness to blow me up for having interfered in behalf of a confounded fool. You had better write to him at once, and tell him to look up his books again. Thank goodness, in my time they didn't think it necessary we should know so much before we began. They caught think it necessary we should know so much occur, us young, and left it to the regiment to break us in.

"Your affectionate uncle,

"Robert Braddock."

Gilbert Slade was excessively pleased at the result of the Major's interference. He felt that he really had been of prompt service to Miss Devereux in this business. And then he thought that it would be rather a credit to himself to have introduced into the regime at a recruit who could ride like Charlie for Cilbert had too much of the regime instincts of his ride like Charlie, for Gilbert had too much of the racing instincts of his family not to recognise that Charlie only wanted practice to become a really good gentleman rider, and even in a cavalry regiment men good between the flags are rare. There was one thing—it was of course imperative upon him now to write to Miss Devereux, and somehow he thought it would be rather pleasant to open a correspondence with Lettie. That missive duly 'arrived in Onslow Gardens, and threw the recipient and Mrs. Connop into a state of the wildest delight, tempered with no little anxiety on the subject of this examination. She had heard Charlie speak of men being plucked for their "little go," which she knew meant failure to pass an examination of some sort, and her confidence in her brother's riding was considerably greater than that she reposed in his reading. As for Mrs. Connop, she felt quite confident of her favorite nephew's ability to do anything in that way. Had he not gone through a course of University training? and was it likely that an examination for the array could have any terrors for a year who had that an examination for the army could have any terrors for a man who had undergone such a preparation? But she, too, had her misgivings; it is often the case, we attain what we ardently desire, and are immediately afflicted with doubts as to whether, after all, we were not, perhaps, better without it. Charlie, she knew, although she knew it very partially, had developed a faculty for getting into money troubles at the University, and have appointed told ber that agual facility and treater tenuntation existed for her experience told her that equal facility and greater temptation existed for indulging this infirmity in the army. And it did occur to Mrs. Connop, even in this hour of triumph, that his outfit might not be the only demand that would be made upon her purse strings.

Lettie hastened to reply to Gilbert Slade's letter, and thank him for the trouble he had taken in her brother's behalf. "Indeed, Mr. Slade," she said, "it has been very good of you to take all this trouble in Charlie's behalf. And I have no doubt that it was mainly the cunning hints he received from you, which enabled him to make himself acceptable to Major Braddock, to whom also we feel very much indebted about the whole business. The idea of his being in the same regiment with yourself is delightful, because I am sure that you will put him in the way of things; and though I have no fear of his soon making his way, yet the life will be strange to him at first, as he has had no experience of the ways of military men. As for passing, he writes very confidently, and vows 'that he shall pull through, though it may be with a fall or two;' and, as I know he is very much in earnest about obtaining his commission, I believe him. Once more, Mr. Slade, I must say that I don't know how to tell you how grateful we feel. You must come down and see Polestar win at Lincoln; and then, perhaps,

we may induce you to come on to North Leach, and have a few days' hunting in the Wolds. With kind regards from Auntic,
"Yours most sincerely,
"LETTIE DEVEREUX."

Gilbert conceived this letter required acknowledgment, and wrote a courteous reply, in which he expressed his hope of assisting at Polestar's expected triumph in the autumn; and further requesting that he might be informed as speedily as possible of the result of the fray between Charlie and his torturers; but Miss Devereur made no further sign, and it was not till the end of September that he received a letter from Charlie himself :-

"Dear Slade," - began, "I have gone through my ordeal, and, although not formally apprised of it, feel sure that I have passed. They put me on in about the easiest chapter of all Casar's Commentaries, one put me on in about the easiest chapter of all Casar's Commentaries, one about which, if you know anything of Latin at all, you couldn't go wrong in. The whole examination, as it stands at present, is a farce, and one which no ordinary schoolboy could possibly be plucked over, with one exception; old Budgall, who examines in history, has collected a bundle of very dry facts, thickly studded with dates, which he has published. He examines you chiefly out of his own book, and dates are his hobby. Of this examines you chiefly out of his own book, and dates are his hobby. Of this I luckily got a hint, so just struggled hard at his chronological table for six weeks; deuced lucky I did so, for the bigger half of my questions were of that nature. I answered them like the well-crammed gosling I was, and have very little doubt that I shall have totally forgotten all about them ere six months are over my head. Never mind: they have served my turn, and I shall hope to be with you at York this winter, and have a good time with the York and Ainsty. Good bye, and no end of thanks for all you have ever done for me.

"Ever yours,
"Charlie Devereux."

Army examinations, it must be borne in mind, were quite in their infancy when Mr. Dovereux passed so triumphantly through the ordeal. They have become competitive since, and assumed a very different complexion; education, indeed, seems highly necessary for anything, except as a qualification for the electorate.

(To be continued.)

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