

A GRAND POEM.

[The following striking poem was recited by Miss Lizzie Dalton, a Spiritual trance speaker, at the close of a lecture in Boston. She proposed to give it impromptu, so far as she was concerned, and speak in for the direct influence of the spirit of Edgar A. Poe.]

From the throne of life eternal,
From the home of love supernatural,
Where the angel-feet make music over the
starry floor,
Mortals, I have come to meet you,
Come with words of peace to greet you,
And to tell you of the glory that is mine for ever-
more.

Once before I found a mortal
Waiting at the heavenly portal—
Waiting but to catch some echo from that over-
opening door;
Then I seized this quickened being,
And through all his inward sealing,
Caused my burning inspiration in a fiery flood to
pour.

Now I come more meekly human,
And the weak lips of a woman
Touched with fire from off the altar, not with
burnings as of ore;
But in holy love descending,
With her chastened being blending,
I would fill your souls with music from the
bright celestial shore.

As one heart yearns for another,
As a child turns to its mother,
From the golden gates of glory turn I to the
earth once more,
Where I drained the cup of sadness
Where my soul was stung to madness,
And life's bitter, burning blows swept my bur-
dened being o'er.

Here the harpies and the ravens,
Human vampires, could ravens,
Praying upon my soul and substance till I writ-
hed in anguish sore;
Life and I then seemed misnamed,
For I felt accursed and fated,
Like a restless, wrathful spirit, wandering on
the Stygian shore.

Tortured by a nameless yearning,
Like a fire-frost, freezing, burning,
Did the purple, pulsing life-tide through its fo-
vered channel pour,
Till the golden bow—life's token—
Into shivering shards was broken,
And my chained and chafing spirit leapt from
out its prison door.

But while living, striving, dying,
Never did my soul cease crying,
"Ye who guide the fates and furies, give, oh!
give me I implore—
From the myriad hosts of nations,
From the countless constellations—
One pure spirit that can love me; and that I, too
can adore."

Through this fervid aspiration
Found my fainting soul salvation;
For from out its blackened fire-crypts did my
quickened spirit soar,
And my beautiful ideal,
Not too faintly to be real,
Burst more brightly on my vision than the fancy-
formed Lenore.

Mid the surging seas she found me,
With the billows breaking round me,
And my saddened, sinking spirit in her arms of
love up-bore;
Like a lone one, weak and weary,
Wandering in the midnight dreary,
On her sinless, saintly bosom, brought me to the
heavenly shore.

Like the breath of blossoms blending,
Like the prayers of saints ascending,
Like the rainbow's seven-hued glory, blending
our souls forevermore;
Earthly love and lust enslaved me,
But divinest love hath saved me,
But I know now, first and only, how to love and
to adore.

O, my mortal friends and brothers:
We are each and all another's,
And the soul that gives most freely from its
treasure hath the more,
Would you loose your life, and find it,
And in giving love you find it,
Like an amulet of safety, to your heart forever-
more.

Victor Hugo says peace cannot be estab-
lished until another war has been fought
between France and Germany. He points
to the existence of the deep and the undying
hatred between the two countries, and de-
clares there will be a duel between the prin-
ciples of Monarchy and Republic.

ARMY ORGANIZATION.

(By General George B. McClellan.)

(Continued from page 406.)

Before proceeding to the subject of the
measures adopted to secure proper instruc-
tion for the officers and non commissioned
officers, it will be profitable to examine for
a moment the general principles on which
the German system of reserves is founded,
and the chief objects they seek to accom-
plish; for from these principles inferences
may be drawn useful to ourselves, should
we ever be so unfortunate as to become in-
volved in another serious war. The govern-
ing and most important principle at the
bottom of army organization is that, with
modern weapons, and as armies are organiz-
ed and wars conducted at the present time,
other things being equal, the superiority
must rest with that army which possesses
the best organization and the most thorough
discipline and instruction; in other words,
that such an army as the German must in-
evitably be successful against such troops
as composed the French armies of the Loire.
Of course it may happen that in peculiar
cases, as when sheltered by permanent de-
fences or field fortifications, brave men,
who are well armed but imperfectly organ-
ized and instructed, may successfully resist
the attacks of good troops; but such cases
are exceptional, and can not in the long
run influence the result of a war if the op-
ponents are numerous and determined, and
the field of operations extensive.

From this it follows that, so far as circum-
stances permit, the regiments, batteries,
etc., of the standing army should be suffi-
cient, when filled to the war strength, for
all the purposes of field operations, and
that means should exist of supplying the
daily losses in campaign by a steady stream
of instructed men. We may anticipate a
little by saying that the same principle
clearly applies, and if possible with still
greater force, to the officers and non com-
missioned officers. It is also true that in
time of peace ample provision should be
made of such kinds of war material as are
comparatively imperishable in their nature,
which require some considerable time for
their preparation, and which at least likely
to become useless in consequence of im-
provements.

When the circumstances are such that it
is either impossible or unjudicious to do all
these things, then the only alternative is to
do the next best thing, but always to keep
in view the principles themselves. For in-
stance, when war breaks out the regiments
of the peace establishment should at once
be filled to the maximum, and the number
of new regiments organized should be strictly
commensurate with a liberal estimate of
the probable ultimate requirements of the
war. The greatest care should be exercised
in the appointment of new officers; that
is to say, when it is impossible to obtain the
 requisite number of officers of military edu-
cation and experience, it should at least be
required that they possess those personal
qualities of general education and intelli-
gence, activity, energy, and moral worth,
that will enable them soon to acquire a rea-
sonable degree of fitness for their new
sphere of action. The most prompt mea-
sures should be taken to weed out all unfit
appointments, and to supply their places by
better men. An existing organization
should never be permitted to be broken up,
or to decline seriously in numbers below
the normal war strength; but recruiting
should steadily continue from the begin-
ning of the war until the conclusion of

peace: the recruits should at once be col-
lected in depôts for instruction, and steadily
sent out to the regiments as rapidly as they
met with losses, and even in anticipation
of them. One old regiment is worth more
than double its numbers of new troops,
and a given number of recruits become
good and useful soldiers very much sooner
when incorporated with old regiments than
when organized as new ones; under the
care of experienced officers and non com-
missioned officers, and with the example of
the old soldiers of the regiment, their
health and comfort are much better attend-
ed to, so that the losses by sickness are
much diminished, as well as those in battle.
From these causes, and the better care
taken of arms, equipment supplies, food,
and clothing, a large expenditure is saved
by keeping up the old regiments, including
those formed at the beginning of the war,
to the full standard, instead of forming new
ones as the war progresses. Experience
has fully proved that there is a vast differ-
ence in expense between old and new re-
giments in favor of the former. It will thus
be seen that economy, efficiency in the field,
and rapidity in making recruits available
are in favour of keeping up the requisite
number of old regiments as against forming
new ones, which last measure should never
be resorted to unless when the existing re-
giments, kept filled to the maximum, are
clearly insufficient. Again, in a country
like our own, it is a war should assume such
proportions as to render a resort to draft or
conscription necessary, the first step would
seem to be to determine approximately—
as can always be done if the system of keep-
ing up the old regiments is followed—the
number of recruits required for current
wants, always making the estimate liberal
enough for covering unforeseen contingen-
cies; next to determine as closely as possi-
ble the number of young men becoming fit
for military service each year; then to de-
termine the limits of age, occupation, etc.,
within which the draft shall apply, so as to
injure as little as may be the most impor-
tant interests of the country, and to relieve
married men with dependent families as far
as possible confining the draft, if practicable,
to the unmarried and to the youngest cap-
able of bearing arms. Further than this,
substitutes should not be allowed, but all
competent men drawn should be compelled
to serve in person. We do not for one
moment suppose that it is practicable to
introduce among ourselves the German mi-
litary organization, and we would be among
the first to deplore the advent of circum-
stances rendering such an organization pos-
sible or desirable; but it is not too much
to demand that the principles underlying
such an organization shall be applied where-
ever and whenever possible. Were it with-
in the scope of this article, and did our
space permit, it would be very interesting
to apply the test of these exceedingly plain
and simple principles to the conduct of our
War Department during the late war, and
to estimate the increased expenditure of
time, blood, and treasure that resulted from
their violation, and, on the other hand, to
estimate the advantages that accrued to
our antagonists from their better obser-
vance of the same principles. We must
content ourselves with expressing the hope
that our country will never again witness
the painful spectacle of superb regiments
of veterans allowed to dwindle down to
literal skeletons—too small to accomplish
any other useful result than to show how
bravely men could die—while the needed
recruits were formed in new regiments,