

fields themselves. More die from sickness during a prolonged campaign than are killed in battle. In the Spanish-American war:—

329 were killed.  
125 died of wounds.  
5,277 died of disease.

The losses on the Union side in the Civil war were:—

44,238 killed in action.  
49,731 died of wounds.  
186,216 died of disease.

France lost from disease alone nearly 50 per cent. of the troops she sent to Madagascar. The *bete noire* of English soldiers abroad has always been enteric fever. Even in times of peace, particularly in India, scores of lives are lost annually. The career of many a young officer has been cut short at the commencement of his foreign service by enteric fever. In war its ravages are much more severe as the conditions are naturally more favorable to its spread. Thousands of fresh troops are hurriedly embarked on crowded transport ships and after many days or even weeks at sea, poured into a distant country, overtaxing all its resources of shelter, food and water. All sorts of camping grounds have to be taken up, perhaps under a trying climate and with an indifferent water supply and that frequently polluted. Or it may be an army or detachment finds itself closely hemmed in and besieged for weeks as at Ladysmith or at Kimberley, with bad drainage, polluted water, foul atmosphere and poor food—an epidemic of typhoid is the result. An effort was made to inoculate with typhoid vaccine as many of the troops starting for South Africa as possible. A final report upon the protection this treatment has offered will be exceedingly interesting. We are sorry to observe that one of the Medical Officers sent out to specially investigate this particular subject has himself succumbed to the disease.

The duty of examining in detail all troops as they land is a formidable one and necessitates a lot of work notwithstanding the fact that they have all been medically examined before their departure from England. It is nevertheless a wise precaution and must prove a great safeguard. Transports arriving with any contagious disease on board, which may have developed *en voyage* are quarantined and individuals afflicted or found unfit from any cause are detained at the base hospitals to remain there if chance of early recovery is expected or to be trans-shipped to England if permanently disabled.

The accommodation required at the base hospitals will vary according to the number of troops in the field and may mean anywhere from 1,000 to 3,000 or 4,000 beds. The regular hospital establishments of the town will not likely be large enough to afford accommodation for so great a number of patients and it will doubtless be necessary to bring into requisition other public buildings, such as the town hall, the churches or public schools. Generally speaking when patients