

TRUST IN GOD AND DO THE RIGHT.

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Courage, brother! do not stumble,
Though thy path be dark as night,
There's a star to guide the humble—
"Trust in God and do the right."
Though the road be long and dreary—
And the end be out of sight;
Foot it bravely, strong or weary,
"Trust in God and do the right."

Perish "polley" and "cunning,"
Perish all that fear the light,
Whether losing, whether winning,
"Trust in God and do the right."
Shun all forms of guilty passion,
Friends can look like angels bright;
Heed no custom, school or fashion,
"Trust in God and do the right."

Some will hate thee, some will love thee,
Some will flatter, some will slight;
Cease from man, and look above thee,
"Trust in God and do the right."
Simple rule and safest guidance—
Inward peace and shining light—
Star upon our path abiding—
"Trust in God and do the right."

—Good Words

REPORT OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
OF THE BRITISH ARMY ON THE
AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.*Concluded from page 167*

The Militia is the force which perhaps showed to less advantage than any other portion of the troops concentrated, and yet no body of men worked harder, and there are none for whom more allowance ought to be made. Ten battalions of Militia were brought together, chiefly if not all Metropolitan corps. The men were out only for their usual period of drill, and a large portion of that time was devoted to brigade and divisional manœuvres. Could it therefore be expected that battalions thus suddenly brought together, would show to even moderate advantage next to well drilled and highly efficient troops of the regular branches of the Service? It is in regard to the Militia that I think considerable modifications and changes are desirable, and yet to effect them it is most difficult, for it is impossible and undesirable to sever the men from their civil occupations; and yet, unless you keep them out for more than a month at a time, how can they be properly drilled? There is no doubt that a prolonged drill for the recruits of Militia will produce a great improvement in these respects; but even this prolonged training is hardly sufficient to keep up the force as it ought to be maintained, with only a month's embolment in subsequent years. The officers of the Militia worked as hard as men could do under the circumstances in which they were placed, but they were much too few in numbers, in some battalions hardly more than one officer a company, and the greater portion of these more or less unaccustomed to military duties. The non-commissioned officers too are wanting in experience with the exception of the permanent sergeants, who however are many of them beyond the period of life for hard work. Considering all these drawbacks which require immediate attention and correction if possible, I think the Militia did wonderfully well: the men marched far better than I should have expected, though at first they were short of boots, having each but one pair, which however, was set right by an additional pair being served out to those requiring them during the period of manœuvres. The physique of the men left much to be desired. Most of them are very young, mere boys, requiring much care and attention to bring them to maturity as regards strength and genuine stamina, and consequently hardly equal to severe exertions. Doubtless in this respect the county

corps would have a great advantage, and metropolitan regiments labour under considerable disadvantage. The more the Militia force, as a body, can be brought into closer contact with the Line, without, however, taking from them their most valuable county connection, the better for the Militia service generally, and the measures lately contemplated all have a tendency in this direction. It seems to be essential that the Militia should be equipped in every respect as the regular army, including great coats, knapsacks, leggings, &c., the great point being that every man belonging to a military body should have respect for himself by the smartness of his appearance, which forms the very root and foundation of small discipline.

The Volunteers in this respect have a considerable advantage over the Militia. The volunteers are in general very well equipped, and have a consequent pride in their individual bearing. Being all men of some means, they can of course afford to pay more attention to these points, and the good result is very apparent. Such Volunteer regiments as came out were really very efficient, but unfortunately corps were generally represented by only very small portions, and these had consequently to be thrown together into provisional battalions. No doubt this arrangement was unavoidable but it presents a great difficulty in bringing out the force in as favorable a condition as could be wished. If whole regiments of volunteers could come out on these occasions, the efficiency of this portion of our auxiliary forces would be greatly enhanced; but I fear the constitution of the force is such that grave difficulties will at all times present themselves to such an arrangement. The men being fully occupied in their various avocations, cannot give up the time required for a continuous absence from home for even a limited period, such as a fortnight or even a week of manœuvres, and no alternative remains therefore but to accept their attendance in limited numbers, or to dispense with it altogether. Every arrangement was made that could be devised for making the attendance as little inconvenient as possible, but still the muster was not a large one, considering the large body of Volunteers enrolled as portions of the force. Nothing could be more satisfactory than the conduct of the Volunteer force we had with us, and though much had doubtless to be learnt by all ranks, still the ready aptitude of all to acquire information and profit by instruction was very perceptible, and consequently very satisfactory. As before observed the great drawback in the Volunteer Service is the difficulty of attendance, and its uncertainty, which in all military arrangements is a serious disadvantage, and which, it seems to me, must at all times exist in a force thus constituted.

The transport and supply of the army has recently been concentrated in the Control Department, and as the arrangements connected with this concentration are still in a transition state, every allowance must be made for the difficulties that inevitably surround a new order of things. Nothing could exceed the zeal and activity of all the officers of the Control Department; who under the direction of Deputy Controller Mr. Robinson conducted their onerous duties with indefatigable zeal and devotion. But I think that these officers had more duties thrown upon them than any body of men could physically have the strength to carry out, and if therefore some division of labour were to be made, I cannot but think that the whole practice would work with greater facility.

The transport of the army is supplied by the Control Department. This is right in principle, and should be maintained, but once supplied, I think the applications should be handed over to the military authorities, and the quartermaster-general's officers should, under the general officers of divisions take the responsibility of making the transport available for the numerous duties to which it has to be apportioned. A further enormous relief to the transport of the army would be afforded by largely extending the regimental transport of regiments. An attempt was made to form a regimental transport in two regiments of cavalry, the 9th and 12th Lancers, which met with the most complete success, and to a very limited extent the carriage of ammunition was handed over to infantry corps with a like advantage. If this system were extended and made general for all regiments of cavalry and battalions of infantry, I am satisfied that a right course would be adopted. It must of course be clearly understood that the men and horses thus employed regimentally should be considered as extra to the ordinary establishment of corps, and that no diminution of fighting strength should result from such an arrangement. Besides this, the regimental transport should be limited to regimental requirements, the supplies being, as a matter of course carried by the Transport Corps. Thus, whilst the Control Department kept in its own hands all the transport necessary for feeding and supplying the stores of the army, the regimental transport would carry its tents, ammunition, and such other regimental baggage as would be allowed by regulations, and whilst the regiments would have their own interests at stake in looking after their own transport, no interference would result to the general necessities of the troops in the field being thoroughly attended to by the officers of the Control Department. No thing could be more satisfactory than the working of the Transport Corps. Officers and men worked from morning to night with a zeal and activity which were truly commendable, and the only regret was that a larger body of these valuable men could not be made available. There was an auxiliary corps of artillery drivers, taken from the artillery depot, which proved of great value as an addition to the ordinary Transport Corps, and though composed of young men and only partly formed drivers, the officers looked so well after them, and non-commissioned officers and men worked so willingly that their duties were well performed, whilst the men themselves gained valuable experience in practical driving which would be greatly to their advantage in joining their respective batteries of artillery. A very large amount of auxiliary transport had to be obtained by hired transport. However willing and zealous the civilian drivers proved themselves to be, the carts, harness, and cattle, with which they had to deal were so inferior to those necessary to a military body that in this respect the results were anything but satisfactory. I believe in future years military service carts supplied from our arsenals, with horses either bought at the time, or hired, with harness equally supplied from our stores, would be a great improvement upon the transport to which we were obliged to have recourse at the recent concentration. If the regimental transport were to be established as suggested above, this would take the place, to a great extent, of the auxiliary hired transport which had to be obtained, and by a judicious expansion of the Transport Corps the whole transport might thus be placed in the hands of trained soldiers. On actual service the