



“The Question of the War Correspondent.”—Francis McCullough in *The Contemporary Review*.

The world owes its thanks to the bravery and intrepidity of the war correspondent for the news from the scene of action. If there were no war correspondents the result of such conflicts would be a matter of conjecture for an unreasonable length of time, and Mr. McCullough, beyond doubt a correspondent himself, tells of the hardships and experiences which these brave men meet with.

Undoubtedly it takes a war correspondent to criticise a war correspondent. Mr. McCullough says that the respect of the correspondent by the soldiers is lessened because of one modern invention—the camera. This new recorder is put to altogether too general use, and instead of pictures of soldiers guarding their homes and country, the newspapers are full of “snaps” of drunks, arrests and wounded. The cinematograph operator or “movie” man is always on hand to take reels of a retreating, a dirty and ragged army, the colors gone and shame and disgrace in their faces, while pictures of some really proper incident of the war are taken in a quiet and secluded field near London or Paris.

The fact that a battle is lost is no reason to cast personal disgrace and discredit on the soldiers, and it only adds to their sorrow to see their woeful plight thrown onto screens in “movie” shows sandwiched in between a saloon and a dance hall.

War reporting is as old as war itself, and how many students who have read Xenophon’s *Anabasis* and Caesar’s *Commentaries* do not realize what a noble undertaking it is.”