

the quiet force of personality and faultless bearing, the Monarch's brother took the premier place.

On the reorganization of the British Army in 1904 the Duke of Connaught was appointed Inspector-General of the Forces, and President of the Selection Board, an office involving visits to all parts of the British Empire. His tour of inspection in 1905-06 covered South Africa, Egypt, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, and Hong Kong. He was always impatient of ceremony and ostentation. He once 'pulled up' a soldier in the main street of Aldershot for having a dirty belt.

'Hi! you, Johnson! What do you mean by walking about town like this?'

'I'm sorry, your Royal 'Ighness,' stammered 'Tommy,' 'but the fact is, your Royal 'Ighness, that I've just come off guard, your Royal 'Ighness, and——'

The Duke arrested the excuses with a smile. 'A little less Royal 'Ighness and a little more pipeclay,' he commented as he passed on.

#### Home Life and Family.

On the last day of 1907 the Duke was appointed Field-Marshal Commander-in-Chief and High Commissioner in the Mediterranean. This commission included the oversight of the forces stationed at Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, and in Egypt and the Soudan. After two winters' work he resigned the post, the reasons given in a confidential letter to the War Office 'not appearing to his Majesty's Government to be sufficient to justify the abolition of an important post created after careful consideration in 1907.' It is said that the Duke retired because in his opinion there was not sufficient work for him to do.

The home life of the Duke of Connaught at Bagshot Park is a singularly happy one. In 1879 he married Princess Louise of Prussia, the third daughter of the late Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia. Their eldest son, Prince Arthur of Connaught, follows his father's profession, and became A.D.C. to the King in 1905. The elder daughter, Princess Margaret, is Crown Princess of Sweden. The younger, Princess Patricia, was born in 1886.

On the death in 1899 of Prince Alfred, the only son of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the succession was offered to the Duke of Connaught as the next of kin. But the late Queen desired that he and his son should remain British Princes, and this was equally the wish of the Duke himself. He, therefore, renounced his own and Prince Arthur's rights in favor of the young Duke of Albany, his nephew.

Those who speak with the authority born of close intimacy declare the Duke of Connaught to be a courteous gentleman, a brave soldier, and a true friend. Possessing undoubted ability, he is a strenuous worker, and his popularity among the rank and file in the Army is exceptional. Mr. Edgar

Wallace, in his volume of verse, 'Writ in Barracks,' thus sketches the Duke from the private's point of view:

'Wot 'as the Gen'ral done?' sez I;

'Wot 'as the Gen'ral done?'

'O, 'e's a Prince of the Royal blood, an' they

Chucked 'im 'is rank for fun!'

But that was a lie, for I found out since

'E's ninepence a soldier an' thruppence a Prince!

'E stood fire in Egypt, an' 'e didn't wince,  
Not Arthur!'

#### THE BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

The honour of the C.M.G. conferred by the King on Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Veterinary Inspector General, is a very popular one in the service for two reasons — public and private. It has sought out an office of great responsibility and importance to the public, and the service rejoices that the sole recognition of the kind on this occasion should have fallen within its ranks. On the personal side, it is only a reflection of Dr. Rutherford's general popularity that he is president of the Ottawa C. S. Association, and therefore known intimately throughout the ranks at Ottawa. Dr. Rutherford has proved pre-eminently that the service offers a career to one who can make it.

The I.S.O. granted to Mr. Achille Freehette has been well earned by a long and eminent career of service. Born in 1847, he entered the public service as translator of the House of Commons in March, 1874, and was appointed chief translator in September, 1908. Last session he was given six months leave of absence owing to ill health, and his superannuation will follow. He is at present in Switzerland.

John Henry McIlree, who obtains a similar decoration, is an assistant commissioner of the Royal North-west Mounted Police. He was born on February 28, 1849, entered the service on November 14, 1870, and was appointed assistant commissioner on November 1, 1892.