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The Mail and Advocate

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A HOPEFUL SIGN

THE interest now being manifested in our greatest industry by the Debating and Literary Clubs of the city is a hopeful sign and an unmistakable indication that we are realizing the importance of the discussion of practical issues. Hitherto (and even yet in some instances) our literary organizations and kindred associations have been wasting valuable time and effort in the discussion of matters which have neither a practical aspect nor academic value; and in many instances some of the subjects discussed are simply plagiarized items which are set down as original work.

Quite recently we were curious enough to wade through a "paper" read at a meeting of the Club, and later we dug up a volume from the lower shelf of our library, and lo! we found the "paper" *verbatim et literatim* in cold type!

The plea for scientific development of our fisheries is admirable. We have been doing our "bit" in this direction for months; and we shall continue our work until we wake up the dormant Administration in whose hands the industry of the Colony is unfortunately mis-placed.

We publish regularly articles by experts in the fish business, and our readers evidently appreciate our column "Harvest of the Sea." We have enlisted the services of some of the best authorities on fishery problems so as to supply our toilers of the sea with interesting and useful information regarding pisciculture, the marketing of our products, and the education of our fishermen.

We shall continue the advocacy of their cause until every young fisherman in this country is provided with the means of securing an education such as will fit him for his natural vocation. There is no blinking the fact that we are being outdistanced in the race for betterment of our conditions; and we should realize our weakness in the matter of vocational training for fishermen, if we wish even to hold our own. We have unlimited possibilities; but our supineness precludes us from making an advance.

We shall not have any satisfactory results from the Department of Fisheries until we secure the services of a thoroughly competent and representative Fishery Bureau which should be absolute-

ly removed from the political sphere and placed under the direction of a Scientific Investigator. We have spent a great deal of money in tentative schemes; but we have had no practical results. In our "Harvest of the Sea" column next issue will be found two very interesting items, one dealing with the Herring Fishery and the other with Smoked Fish. Both these items have been supplied by experts; and our fishermen should read them carefully.

NO SEPARATE PEACE

THERE have been several reports of certain of the belligerent nations being desirous of making a separate peace, notably in the case of Germany with Belgium and Italy with Austria. The former received its quietus some days ago when King Albert declared that Belgium would not under any conditions agree to overtures made by the Huns.

In the case of Italy the following will prove that all reports of a conclusion of peace with Austria are groundless. Only two months ago Italy became formally a signatory to the entente pact to make no separate peace with any of their enemies. The text of that agreement is as follows:—

"The Italian Government having desired to adhere to the Declaration of London of September 5, 1914, made by the French, British, and Russian Governments, the Declaration to which, on the date of October 19, 1915, the Japanese Government also adhered, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, do make the following declaration:—

"1. The French, British, Italian, Japanese, and Russian Governments solemnly pledge themselves not to conclude a separate peace in the course of the present war.

"2. The five Governments agree that when the occasion shall arrive to discuss the terms of peace, none of the Allied Powers shall be entitled to advance any conditions of peace without a previous agreement with each of the Allies.

"As a guarantee of which the undersigned have signed the present declaration and have affixed their seals:

"IMPERALI (for Italy).
"INOUE (for Japan).
"BENCKENDORF (for Russia).
"PAUL CAMBON (for France).
"E. GREY (for England)."

Thus it will be seen that the agreement between the Entente Powers is an iron-clad affair. There can be no misunderstanding about it.

FALL OF ERZERUM

THE removal of Grand Duke Nicholas from the Russian Western front some months ago was regarded as disastrous for the Russian cause; but recent events have demonstrated that his being placed in supreme of the Army of the Caucasus was a very significant event. He has just achieved the most signal event in the War by the capture of Erzerum.

The battle which preceded the fall of this great Turkish stronghold is declared to have been the fiercest ever fought in modern warfare. The Allied Powers are necessarily jubilant over the event; and there is weeping and gnashing of teeth in the camp of the Teutons. This event is threaded with significant fibres that seem to mark the weaving of the mantle of victory for the Allies.

The importance of the victory of the Grand Duke will have far reaching effects not only upon the present war outlook; for it means that Armenia will be freed forever from the brutal Turkish hordes who for decades have made it a shambles.

Erzerum is the key to Armenia, politically and militarily; and the Armenians will in future be removed from the murderous attacks of the Moslem janissaries.

The conquest of the fortress is declared to be of greater importance than would be that of any

FIGHTERS FOR THE FLAG

THE CHESHIRE REGIMENT

"THE Army and Navy," says the man in the street, speaking of His Majesty's Forces, yet at the back of his mind he knows that by order or seniority the positions should be reversed, the Navy being the older service. How much it is few people realize. It claims to have been founded by Alfred the Great, so it has well on a thousand years' service to its credit and may well go back even further, while the British Army, as we know it to-day, has had an existence of less than three hundred and fifty years.

In feudal times there was no regular army, each baron had his own particular following and brought his men to fight for the king or against the king as his sympathies dictated. With the rise of Henry VII. the feudal days ended and the era of modern thought dawned, but though castles were dismantled and residences began to be built, the reigns of many kings were required to see the complete change in social life.

In 1633 Charles the First founded the Royal Scots, which has thus the distinction of being the oldest regiment in the British Army; other regiments followed and in 1638 Charles introduced his standing army. Cromwell did not encourage militarism, and public opinion compelled Charles the Second to declare the army illegal, but, nevertheless, the forming of regiments went on and in 1685 James the Second formed so large a number of regiments that the army then consisted of seven thousand foot and seventeen hundred cavalry, in addition to the militia which was one hundred and thirty thousand strong.

In 1689 more regiments were raised, among them one named after the county of Cheshire, Chester being appointed as its headquarters, with its record office at Shrewsbury. They were not days when the British Army stayed at home, the latter part of the seventeenth and the whole of the eighteenth centuries saw our men constantly engaged, and that the Cheshires held their own their long list of honours proves.

Louisburg, Martinique, Havana, Meane, Hyderabad, Scinde and South Africa—in those names

other fortress in the whole war theatre; for Erzerum was the solitary bulwark of the Turkish Empire in Asia. Open spaces now present themselves to the Grand Duke Nicholas for operations on a vast scale.

Erzerum is known to the natives as Garin. The name Erzerum is Turkish and received this name when it was plundered by the Seljuk Turks in 1201. In 1214 it was captured by the sultans of Iconium, in 1387 by Timur-Leng (Tamerlane), and again in 1400 by the Osmanli Turks. It fell, into the hands of local dynasties in 1430 and remained so until 1534 when it again passed to the Osmanlis. It was occupied by Russia in 1828 and again in 1878.

The city is built on an attitude of over six thousand feet on a hill which is surrounded by mountains some ten thousand feet in height. So, we can easily imagine what a herculean task the Russian forces undertook when they directed their attention to its capture. Winter lasts there about eight months, with four months of summer. The city has a population of about 40,000, of whom 27,000 are Turks, the rest Armenians, Greeks, and a few Europeans. It contains 75 mosques, several churches, and several bazaars. Its chief industries are blacksmiths' and copper-smiths' work.

you will read a record of glorious service stretching from the days when Marlborough led our forces, to those of Roberts and Kitchener. On ceremonial parades also, you will see an oakleaf on the colours as an added honour, and why and wherefore that is worn may well be told in full.

In 1743 the green lands of Flanders were drenched in blood as they are to-day, for then—as now—British and French, Austrians and Hanoverians, were at the death-grip, though the arrangement of the forces was decidedly different from that we know. Britain and Austria were allies, fighting against the French, and in the summer of that year a great effort was made to centre the struggle in Alsace-Lorraine.

The British Army marched from Flanders led by the king, George the Second, in person and his son, the Duke of Cumberland, and by the time they approached Alsace things were very bad with them. They were reduced to thirty-seven thousand men, they had no rations, were badly equipped and had no fodder for the horses. History says:—

"The enemy, under De Noailles were posted behind the Main, the passages of which he held strongly. Before it reaches Frankfurt the river turns almost at right angles and the British were impudent enough to march along it, doubling back to Aschaffenburg, where they found the enemy holding the right bank in such force that they could cut us off from all reinforcements. A further retreat brought us to Dettingen, a small village also strongly held by the enemy.

"But an attack had to be made and in order to reach the village we were compelled to pass through a ravine where De Noailles had prepared an ambush. Had his plans succeeded the British must have been annihilated. But having placed his men in such a position that their cannon would sweep the pass, the general rode to the main army, and the second in command, growing impatient, ordered his men to meet the British in the open.

"It was a rash experiment and failed. . . . The Battle of Broken Staves," was Dettingen's nickname, for both the French commanders were playing to secure a field-marshal's baton and both lost their chance."

"During that fierce struggle, King George found himself hotly pressed by one of those bodies of charging cavalry which had more valour than order. It seemed as though his capture would change the British victory into something very like a defeat, and the balance hung trembling.

But the Cheshire men saw his peril, they fought their way through the fire-swept zone, they formed a ring around their king, and an oak tree, under whose slight shelter he had reined his horse, and there they made so stubborn a stand that they drove back the charging cavalry and saved the day.

When the danger was over, George the Second performed one of the few gracious acts of his singularly ungracious life. He plucked a leaf from the oak, and hanging it to the officer commanding the Cheshires, desired that his men should wear it in memory of their heroism.

By the end of that century the regiment was so depleted by its losses that it recruited lads of twelve to sixteen to fill its ranks, and one of these children, an orphan named John Shipp, distinguished himself by twice winning a commission by conspicuous bravery in the field before he was thirty.

It was while he was serving with them, that the Cheshires went to the West Indies and won fresh fame there, then in the forties of the last century we find them in India with Charles Napier, crossing the desert to destroy the fortress of Emaun Ghur, one of the most distinguished feats in mil-

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tary history.

A mighty volume could be written of their deeds in the past, but at its end the words "To be continued" would have to appear, since fresh laurels are being won by them in our own great times.

—Next—
ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS.

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

MARCH 2

JOHN WESLEY died, 1791. Leo. XIII born, 1810.

Polling day—Kavanagh-Hogsett election; Kavanagh elected, 1862. Schooner Phoco, Capt. Honeywell, sank in Narrows, one man, John Ryan lost, 1870.

Mrs. Furlong, mother of Jas. P. and L. O'B., died, 1897.

The Power family (blacksmith) held a concert in Fishermen's Hall, 1867.

Mother Magdalene, of the Presentation order, died; 66 years in religion; 95 years old; arrived in 1833 amongst first nuns, 1839.

Roderick McLean attempted to assassinate Queen Victoria, 1882.

ADMIRAL DEATH

By HENRY NEWBOLT

BOYS are ye callin' a toast tonight?

Hear what the sea wind saith,
Fill for a bumper strong and bright

And here's to Admiral Death,
He's sailed in a hundred builds of boat

He's the senior flag of all afloat,
And his name is Admiral Death.

Which of you looks for a service free?

Rear what the sea wind saith,
The rules of the service are but three

When ye sail with Admiral

Rev. William Graham received call by congregation of St. Andrew's Church here, 1887.

Thomas Birket, stipendiary magistrate at Harbor Briton, died, 1876.

Dandelion picked this day on Portugal Cove Road, 1800.

Ada, Capt. Barnes, last sailing vessel from Harbor Grace to seal fishery, owned by P. J. Fitzgerald, sailed 1898.

Where are the lads that sailed before?

Hear what the sea wind saith,
Their bones are white by many a shore

They sleep with Admiral Death,
Oh, but they loved him, young and old,

For he left the laggard and took the bold,
And they fight and fought and the story's told,

And they sleep with Admiral Death.

Death.

Steady your hand in time of squalls.

Stand to the last by him that falls,
And answer clear to the voice that calls

Ay, ay, Admiral Death.

How will ye know him among the rest?

Hear what the sea wind saith,
By the glint of the stars that cover his breast

Ye may find Admiral Death,
Be the forehead grim with many a scar,

By the voice that rolls like thunder jar,

By the tenderest eyes of all that are,

Ye may know Admiral Death.

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