

Two Kinds of Courage Seen in Warfare

The Privates and the Officers—No Conventional Type of Courage—All Depends on Leaders of the Men.

Paris, Sept. 17.—In a war that more than any other has called for supreme physical courage it is strange that so little analysis has been attempted of the soldier's state of mind in battle.

We see our friends leave for the front—men disliking pain, appreciating comfort, fond of their people, interested in life, just as much as ourselves; and the next we hear of them is that they have been enduring agony uncomplainingly, losing their lives with a joke on their lips, to win a yard or two of ground.

How do they come by this splendid courage? Is it constant or occasional? Do all have it or some only, or is it a matter of degree?

The most convincing review of the different types of individuality that go to make up an army, with their varying coefficients of pluck, is in this month's *Mercure de France*, the periodical that is the most brilliant miscellany of essays in modern French journalism. It is the work of a contributor who is himself a soldier in the firing line, M. Georges Pierredon.

No Conventional Type.
He begins by protesting against the invention of an imaginary conventional type, to be taken as the impersonation of the characteristic French soldier.

Such a type has been very distinctly evolved in France by the fancy of the nation since the campaign began. A new name, even, has been invented for it in the French language. The imaginary individual who personifies the French soldier is called a *polu*—which literally means "hairy." He is conceived by the French as very courageous, kind-hearted, of a whimsical humor, with a certain attractive, childish simplicity of character, which is thrown into greater relief by the formidableness of his war-battered, bronzed and bearded figure.

As M. Pierredon points out, however, it is quite impossible to take

any one type to symbolize the French soldier. For the modern French army is the nation in arms, and all the complexity of characters that is found at home in peace recurs at the front in war time.

Likes and Dislikes.
"The first division that can be drawn among the soldiers of a nation in arms," he says, "must be made between those who rather like the war and those to whom it is frankly disagreeable.

"Into the first class I put the regular army officers who are fond of their profession; many young soldiers doing their military service, who prefer life in the field to the boredom of barracks; a certain number of volunteers for whom the war is an exciting kind of sport, and the patriots who have resolved and are ready to sacrifice everything for the safety of their country.

"In the other class you have the fathers of families, obsessed by the thought of the hardships that will beset wives and children if they happen to disappear, the inveterate funks who are paralyzed by the whistle of a bullet and faint whenever a shell explodes anywhere within six hundred yards of them; the sensual souls who cannot bear the loss of their comfort and miss having their chocolate brought to their bedside every morning; the older officers, hide-bound by military red-tape and by years in dead-alive little garrison towns; the peasant whose ideas have never extended beyond his own village and who can understand little of this rhapsodic adventure into which his life is cast; five or six dozen cosmopolitans who know nothing of the world but what one sees in watering-places, casinos, and hotels; the drunkards, in despair at the loss of their favorite amusement; the libertine, irritated by the strictness of the discipline to which he is subjected.

Some Fear, Others Do Not.
"Among the millions of men who

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have been under fire," goes on M. Pierredon, "some feel fear, others do not. The chief distinction that a leader makes among the men he commands is between the plucky ones, who can be given no matter what work to do, and the timid, who only advance when they are supported by their comrades, and who have to be watched all the time.

"It must be noted that physical fear and self-possession, which is its counterpart, are not enough of themselves to make cowards or heroes. A nervous man who trembles at the whistle of a bullet can pull himself together by reflections about honor, patriotism, duty. On the other hand a hulking lout who does not flinch under the shells is often a sluggard whom nothing will lead to act on his own, and who will bolt all the way to Peking if his sergeant shoves him and if some idiot in the squad suggests clearing out. Besides these there is the coward—morally the most disgusting type—who deliberately makes his plans and says to himself, 'I don't want to be court-martialed, but if I can manage to get left behind in a ditch when the charge is ordered I shall always find some way of getting back to my company afterwards.'

Perfect Courage.
"Perfect courage, which combines physical coolness with mental calm, is a phenomenon which sometimes occurs spontaneously, but which can also be cultivated; every officer or leader ought to possess it in full measure.

"Such are the frightful effects of modern weapons that it is not given to every man to develop in himself this manly virtue. No one who has seen battle will condemn a man who loses his self-mastery at the sight of the wounds caused by the explo-

sive shells; and it is understandable that the father of a family should hesitate when he has to charge a detachment of machine guns with the bayonet.

"The real leader knows all these differences. He knows that the men he commands are not all heroes. But the task is there; it has got to be accomplished; and he has to get the best out of them that he can. It is to achieve the desired result, which is that his unit should act as if it were composed of the best troops in the world.

"There need be no illusions about it. If the men are brave enough you can march alongside them, or even a little behind; if they are mixed, the example of their officers and the determination of the squad-leaders will carry the whole lot forward. If they are all of them tremblers, a loaded revolver will make them realize that there must be no hesitation or hanging back.

"In a word, it is spirit that tells and the determined chief imposes his own will.

"That, in fact, is the great distinction: On the one side the leaders and on the other side the crowd. Do not think that I despise the people and our soldiers. Nearly all our men are good lads. But they are only children, and without leaders they are nothing.

Value of Leaders.
"Look what happens directly their officers disappear. Unless some determined fellow at once makes himself their leader and master it is all over; they clear out; they leave the field. The lieutenant was killed; the sergeants had been wounded. We did not know what to do, so we came away.' How many times have I not heard that characteristic phrase! And what the consequences of their retreat might be for others mattered nothing to them. For them disaster was complete directly their leaders were out of the fight; nothing else counted.

"They are odd fellows. You pull them together. You brace them up. If necessary you hurl insults at them. They take it all quietly. You give them another leader; they set off calmly among the shells and bullets to their death. They are satisfied. They have some one to command them."

Crop Estimates

Ottawa, Sept. 15.—The Census and Statistics Office issued today a bulletin giving a preliminary estimate of the yield of fall wheat, oats, and clover and of alfalfa, based upon appearances at the end of July as estimated by correspondents, and a report on the condition of other field crops at the same date.

The preliminary estimate of the average yield per acre of fall wheat in Canada for 1915 is 23.10 bushels, as compared with 21.41 bushels last year and with 21.78 bushels, the average of the five years 1910 to 1914. The harvested area of fall wheat in the five provinces of Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia amounts in 1915 to 1,208,700 acres, as compared with 973,300 acres in 1914, and the total estimated yield to 33,857,800 bushels, as compared with 20,837,000 bushels in 1914, an increase in total yield of 63 per cent. In area harvested, in average yield per acre, and in total yield the fall wheat harvest of 1915 is therefore expected to be the largest on record in Ontario the total estimated yield is 27,089,000 bushels from 972,000 acres, an average of 27.86 bushels per acre, and in Alberta the other large fall wheat province, the total yield is 6,225,000 bushels from 215,700 acres, an average of 28.86 bushels per acre. The estimated yield of hay and clover in 1915 is 10,589,800 tons from 7,875,000 acres, as compared with 9,206,000 tons from 7,977,000 acres in 1914, the average yield per acre being 1.34 ton, as compared with 1.15 ton in 1914. Alfalfa shows a total yield of 158,755 tons from 92,655 acres, as compared with 129,780 tons from 90,385 acres in 1914, the average yield per acre is 1.71 ton as compared with 1.44 ton.

In looking backward a woman sees only the bright places in her past, and the man sees only the high spots in his.

Had Good Sport

Messrs O'Driscoll, Jardine and Baxter arrived by train Saturday from the Bay Bulls grounds with 67 birds. Messrs. John Bennett (Bell Isid) and Frank MacNamara who were on the Trepassey grounds since Monday last also returned with 38 brace of fine birds.

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1 dozen in a Box,
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500 Dozen
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150 Dozen
ELECTRIC PASTE,
the best Blacklead
on the market,
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In the mountains a detective captures an outlaw, who is his sweetheart's father, the outlaw saves the detective's life at the cost of his own, in love and gratitude he keeps the knowledge of her father's life from her; produced in 2 reels by Vitagraph Co.

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A Biograph Melo-Drama.

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Being the story of a young man who took the wrong road.

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A Comedy by George Ade, America's foremost humourist.

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Good Music, a Comfortable and Well Ventilated Theatre.

The Colors

In the dim Cathedral place
Hang the banners of our land;
River banners of the race
Made to conquer and command!
Where those age-old colors twine,
Faded, torn, and stained with red,
Scotland in her inmost shrine
Keeps the memory of her dead.

Scotland's banners! Who shall gaze
On their faded folds unstirred?
Who in these Imperial days
Hear untrilled their martial word?
Down the High Street cheer on cheer!
Hark the tramping troops go by—
Banners in the dimness here
Taught such soldiers how to die.

Scotsmen! In the silence kneel;
To these emblems lift thine eyes!
Here in God's own presence feel
Right's insistent victory lies!
By those tattered flags and torn,
By that sacred purple stain,
Scotland's banners shall be borne,
Conquering, by her sons again.

Don't Hide Under The Red Cross Flag

London.—Inspecting a St. John Ambulance Corps at Hull recently, Colonel Palmer congratulated the corps on being a thousand strong, "probably the largest corps in England." In the northern district the membership was 9,400, and the brigade membership was 30,000. Thirteen thousand were serving their King and Country.

He was surprised at the large number of strong, active young men trained in stretcher work and in rendering first aid, whose place was in the trenches. Their work in hospital could be done by nursing sisters. Large numbers of women had been selected for hospital work and were waiting to be called up, yet the authorities were sending strong, healthy young men to do the work. He considered it almost a scandal. He hoped the policy would be altered, and the powers that be would send more women for hospital work.

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