

about 180,000 men, should begin its march into Eastern Prussia. A second army with a force of 200,000 men should reach the German frontier towards Berlin about August 28. By September 1 a million Russian troops should be in Eastern Germany. At the same time other Russian armies will strike against Austria, though it may be conjectured that the principal Russian attack will be delivered against German territory. All the evidence that has as yet been obtained points to the conclusion that Germany has left none but reserve troops in the east. These have been able to make some head against the raids of the Russian cavalry, but it is most improbable that they will be able to bring the attack of the Russian army corps to a standstill."

Japs at Tsing-Tau

Bombarding a Fortification

SO far the only definite thing undertaken by Japan owing to her alliance with Great Britain, is the bombardment of Tsing-Tau, on the Bay of Kiao-Chau. At present there is little danger of Germany attempting any hostile actions on our Pacific Coast. We are looked after there by French cruisers and the Rainbow well able to operate against the Leipzig and the Nuremberg. A Monday despatch, unconfirmed, states as a probability that the Leipzig had been captured by the Rainbow and the French cruiser Montcalm. Australia, with her fleet of four cruisers, three destroyers and two submarines, is in a position to guard her own coasts. The reduction of the German base on the Bay of Kiao-Chau is the immediate business of Japan, who in so doing wishes the United States to understand that she has no aggrandizing intentions in that part of the Pacific.

Fears were expressed, a few days ago, that in sending her ultimatum to Germany, Japan was going too far; that she might operate to the disadvantage of the United States, which has not yet recovered from the troubles over Oriental immigration. Japan pledges her word that the naval base taken forcibly by Germany from China is 1898 as reprisals for the murder of two German missionaries in China, will be restored to China. Japan at present, is interested in the integrity of China, which, until the war is over, seems to be pretty well assured.

The district occupied by the naval base Tsing-Tau covers 200 square miles, 350 miles southeast of Peking, almost opposite the southern extremity of Korea and facing the Yellow Sea. The bay is about two miles wide at the mouth. It extends over an area of about 150 square miles of deep water environed by hills 400 to 600 feet high. Tsing-Tau commands a region rich in coal and is therefore highly important to Germany, which has no other coaling station in the Pacific. It is strongly fortified, and is garrisoned by 5,000 German marines with a small force of Chinese soldiers. It is thought that all the German warships now in Chinese waters and a large number of German mercantile marines are sheltering under the Tsing-Tau heights, where the guns of the Mikado are now pounding away at the fortifications.

No Prize Money

An Ancient Custom Out of Vogue

A FEW days after the declaration of war by Great Britain the cruiser Essex, which was in Quebec Harbour, it will be remembered, after the Essex disaster, sent a wireless to the Admiralty stating that a "rich prize" had been secured when the Essex overhauled the German liner Cap Ortegale. For whom was the rich prize intended? When the Kronprinzessin Cecilie, with her \$10,000,000 bullion was forced to put into Bar Harbour, Maine—who got the ten millions? Assuredly not the officers and crew of the British cruisers that effected the capture. No, the gold became government booty and has been shipped to Ottawa as the most convenient place to make use of it as contraband of war.

But the officers of the Essex thought, as their fathers and grandfathers and generations before them had thought, that the treasure on board the Cap Ortegale would, as such booties always did, go to the officers and the crew of the cruiser that made the capture. But it didn't. Almost at the very moment that the Essex was coraling the Cap Ortegale, the British House of Commons hurriedly passed an Act abolishing the distribution of prize money in this fashion bequeathed by the customs of piracy and elevated into a legitimate practice in marine warfare.

By this Act, introduced by the First Lord of the Admiralty, a custom as old as the British navy was swept out of vogue. Many and lavish are the fortunes that reverted to British officers and crews in times of war. In 1761, when the British frigates Actaeon and Favourite captured a Spanish vessel, the two captains got \$330,000 between them, the lieutenants \$15,000, the warrant officers \$20,400, petty officers

\$9,000, and the seamen and marines \$2,400. In 1799, when four British frigates seized two Spanish galleons, it took sixty-four artillery waggons to haul the booty to the citadel over Plymouth Hoe. The four captains got \$50,000 each and the officers and men \$45,000 in all.

But such booties as these are mere bagatelles compared to the prizes that must fall into the hands of the British navy before this war is over. When a single German liner carried \$10,500,000 in bullion, the amount of treasure afloat in the holds of belligerent liners must run into hundreds of millions. Now that prize money has been abolished these prizes of war will go into the Government offices. The morale of the navy will undoubtedly be improved, even though an officer and a bluejacket might take more desperate chances for the sake of a belt packed with gulden and thalers than for the cold call of duty. However, there is no shadow of doubt that the abolition of this genial practice of



Col. Williams (left), Commandant of the Camp at Valcartier, talking with Lieut.-Col. Mercer, of the Q. O. R., who is now in charge of a Brigade of Infantry.

spoils based upon the motto "To the victors belong the spoils" will have no effect on the seamanship and fighting courage and nerve of the men at sea. The Act of abolition does not preclude the granting of bounties. And the men of the navy are morally sure of being granted substantial bounties by the Government, whatever the value of the hundreds of German bottoms now chased off the seas is estimated by the authorities.

Naval Episodes

Mediterranean Fleets Compared

UP till Saturday last week a polar silence had fallen over the two greatest fleets in the world up in the North Sea. Then came the startling news from the silence of Heligoland, that a small squadron of British cruisers and destroyers under Admiral Beatty had crept up behind a squadron of German cruisers and destroyers which had come out to reconnoitre. Two German warships were sunk within gun range of the Heligoland forts, which were ineffective owing to fog. Of a total crew of 1200 Germans, only 330 escaped. The British lost only 67.

Before that there had been considerable newspaper activity among the war vessels in the Mediterranean. Nowhere as yet has there been any serious naval engagement. The sinking of the great \$4,000,000 auxiliary cruiser, Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, of the North German-Lloyd line, by the British cruiser Hignflyer, off the West African coast last week, is the most sensational engagement yet reported. But French and Austrian ships have been in hostile action, and there have been reports of a few sunken Austrian ships. The affair of the two German cruisers in the Mediterranean, the Goeben and the Breslau, now owned by Turkey, has not yet been settled to the satisfaction of Great Britain and France. The settlement of this and all other naval disputes in that part of the world must be left mainly to the

French and the Austrian fleets—unless by that time Italy, with her powerful second-rate navy, has gone over to the Entente.

Austria-Hungary has fifteen battleships, of which three are Dreadnoughts, armed with 12-inch guns; two armoured cruisers, with nine four-inch guns; nine light cruisers, fifteen destroyers, six submarines and fifty-eight torpedo boats armed with three-pounders. Six of the battleships are under 10,000 tons each, and nine of them are armed with nine four-inch guns each. But this fleet, capable as it is, has never seen real action. Austria is not a sea power. Her only access to the seaboard is along the Adriatic.

France now has all her greatest ships in the Mediterranean, with only a cruiser squadron in the English Channel. To oppose Austria she has thirteen battleships, ten of which are of the Dreadnought era. The smallest of these is 11,088 tons. All carry 12-inch guns. These heavyweights are backed up by twenty armoured and protected cruisers. In light cruisers France is less efficient. She has eight of these, some of them being in the Channel. In torpedo craft she is among the four in the first rank. Most of her eight destroyers are in the Mediterranean. She has 140 torpedo boats and 50 submarines, most of which are in the Mediterranean. The third greatest fleet in the world is not a mere modern invention like the German navy. It has naval traditions based upon great sea fights almost as hoary as those of the British navy. History teems with the stories of French marines vying with the ships of Spain, which used to give the ships of England so much of their fighting. France and Italy and Spain, the Latin maritime nations, were leaders in naval warfare. Italy is now among the second class navies, as France is well up among the first. If Italy should be drawn into the war, her four fast battleships and her nine pre-Dreadnoughts of 12,000 tons each, her armoured and light cruisers and destroyers will be an almost superfluous addition to the naval force opposing the Austrian navy.

At the same time, in the grand total of the world's war craft now massed along that trade route of Great Britain from the Atlantic to the Suez Canal, we must not omit the compact remnant of the great British navy still kept in those waters. Under Sir Berkeley Milne there are now the four ships—Inflexible, Indomitable—the ship on which the present King crossed to Canada during the Tercentenary—the Invincible and the Indefatigable; with armoured cruisers, light cruisers, destroyers and submarines. All these British ships are based upon Malta.

Germany has only the great 22,600-ton battleship, the Goeben, accompanied by the scout cruiser Breslau, both of which are now under Turkish protection and were probably intended as far as possible to harrass the British trade routes in the Mediterranean. Russia is practically "non est" in those waters. Her Black Sea fleet is now bottled up in the Black Sea, since Turkey, declaring her neutrality, has closed the Dardanelles, at the same time taking under her wing the two German vessels.

Now that Turkey may be drawn into the German alliance, the Turkish fleet may yet be engaged against the combined fleets of the allies now under command of Vice-Admiral de Lapayrere. The entrance of Turkey into Armageddon will probably draw Italy and her fleet into it on the side of the allies.

Army Aristocrats

British Nobility at the Front

A NOTABLE feature of the war is the number of nobility who, from all the monarchical nations engaged, have gone to the front. The Prince of Wales has joined the Grenadier Guards, as he is the youngest officer in that regiment. In a war that vindicates British Honour among the nations the heir-apparent to the throne of England is an inspiring example to the troops of England whether at home or abroad. The Crown Prince of Germany is at the head of the army division operating in Alsace-Lorraine, as his Imperial father is at the headquarters of the General Staff as commander-in-chief of the army. All the other five sons of the German Emperor are with the army. The Prince of Wales is not a military prince, and his father, the King, is not a militarist. The Kaiser and the Crown Prince and his brother and all the list of royal and grand ducal officers in the German army are naturally at the front in a war like this because the German army is a conscription force whose ultimate authority is the Emperor. The King of England, though nominally commander-in-chief of the army and the navy, does not take the field. His right to rule is not based upon the sword, but upon the free-will of a democratic people whose army is a voluntary army. When the Prince of Wales goes to war of his own free will, it means more to the British troops than the placing of an army division under the Crown Prince means to Germany.

The British nobility is represented in this war as it never was before in the ranks of England. The very first name on the casualty list to get through from the front is that of the Earl of Leven and Melville, a lieutenant in the Royal Scots Greys. He was dangerously wounded in the battle that first