

Editorial Efforts

COURTESY

THE tendency of today has been to place high values upon things which in themselves have very small value indeed. Money and Position are the two gods to which people bow the knee and on which they bestow their highest worship. How much goods has he laid up in store ; does he live in such and such a residence upon a street named thus and so ; is he clothed in purple and fine linen and does he fare sumptuously every day ; does he belong to a certain class in the world of men. If he possess these outward and visible signs, well and good, he is set up and worshipped by his peers, and, lord help us, by his underlings as well. To such a sorry pass have we come that we do not make the least effort to discover the real worth of a human, underneath the trappings, the tinsel, the paint and the rouge. If the true man be found who dares to adorn himself with such foolishness and foppery—well and good—wipe away the hideous externals and worship. But the world's true knights are more concerned with character than with vestments, with real values than with perishable vanities. But you will tell us, that today our *men* are all khaki clad ; that this sombre yet impressive uniform make them all look alike—like so many peas in a pod. Does it ? We venture to say that a watchful eye will soon detect the true knight under his rusty coloured armour. His courtesy is his distinction, which he wears more openly than he proudly displays his honours upon his jacket front. No one knows, among the khaki crowd, who is rich or who is poor, who is famous or who is unknown, who has position out in that other world of men or who has to toil at the menial task. The common task of war has brought men together as brothers-in-arms. Who a man is may be glimpsed by his courtesy. And what is courtesy ? Politeness of manners combined with kindness. The curses at reveille, the hurry at the cook-house call, the hurly-burly of the soldiers life ought not to make boors out of men. Soldiers are the best of fellows ; they need not forget their manners under the kindnesses showered on them by a grateful people. During the lectures and concerts at the Granville there is a great lack of courtesy. The entertainments and instructional lectures are arranged for the benefit of wounded men. The boys are not compelled to attend, but if they choose to come, they should come on time, make as little disturbing noise as possible and stay to the end. This shows courtesy. Anything less is not worthy of Canadian Soldiers.

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