

If we marvel at the wondrous ingenuity, skill, patience and energy of the workers, the wonderful mechanical inventions and adaptations, can we escape the sad commentary which all this implies on modern civilization and Christianity? Germany's crime against both can never be forgotten, if ever forgiven.

THE ARMY.

Before the war, Great Britain had an army of less than 300,000 men. In less than two years it created a voluntary army of 3,500,000 men, to which, by conscription, over 1,000,000 have since been added. And the Dominions have, in addition, contributed 1,000,000 men, making a total of 5,500,000.

The great training camps of Aldershot, through which one million men had passed since the war began, and which contained 90,000 men the day I visited it, Shorncliffe, Bramshott, to men. Those only in which Canadians are more particularly interested, and many others, had to be enlarged, equipped and organized. Along the northern coast of France, at or near the sand dunes to the south of Boulogne, there were then camped 200,000 British soldiers ready or getting ready for the trenches, on this very spot where, one hundred years ago, Bonaparte had his armies ready to invade England. The ancient deadly enmity of the two greatest nations of the world has been turned into the closest and sincerest friendship; and that will after all most certainly be the greatest compensation for the awful sacrifices which this war will have caused both.

Remember that this vast army had to be mobilized, equipped and trained; new services, such as Army Service, Medical, Ordnance and Motor Corps, Bicycle Corps, Telegraph and Telephone lines, Hospitals with at least 50,000 beds, Hospital Ships, Hospital Trains, Hospital Stations, Ambulances, etc., had also to be established, erected, equipped or transported. Besides, depots had to be planned, erected and furnished with provisions, supplies, arms and munitions of all kinds, and their transportation and distribution arranged. I saw several huge sheds with avenues of bacon, streets of flour bags, biscuits boxes, jars, cans, etc. I also inspected on the British front buildings containing shower baths to which the men, upon returning from the trenches, repair immediately to exchange all their clothing for fresh ones. Such parts of the discarded clothing as are no longer fit to wear are burnt and the rest are steamed, at a very high pressure, in order to relieve them of the vermin which are inevitably carried from the trenches. One of these establishments I inspected in detail and in order to give an idea of what this service alone, which though very important, is very small by comparison, means, I was told that 30,000 pieces of clothing are there daily washed and sterilized. To all this must be added the assistance given, the comforts provided by public and private philanthropy, and generosity, such as the Red Cross, the St John Ambulance, Voluntary Aid, Y. M. C. A. and many other kindred societies. You can, in many places along the front, see buildings which have been put up for or turned into clubs, concert halls and places of amusement for the soldiers. Cemeteries have been provided in different parts of France; and it was my sad duty to visit one of these cemeteries, a very large one near Boulogne, beautifully laid out with evergreens and natural and artificial flowers, where lay the bodies of many heroes, some of them, Modern Crusaders, having come thousands and thousands of miles to give their lives for the vindication of liberty and