

UNCLE SAM'S ARMY.

FROM A MILITARY STANDPOINT
IT NUMBERS 6,500,000.

Strongest of all Nations--Germany
Comes Next with About Five and
a Half Millions--Other European
Armies.

Your Uncle Sam is a big man from a military point of view. He may not have many soldiers under arms now, and only a bare 100,000 militiamen in training, but all the same he is reckoned one of the powers of the earth. Military experts gauge the war strength of a nation by the number of men available for its army. Independent of the final limit, which must, of course, be the actual number of men in the country, this number is arrived at by examining the laws of the country itself. That is to say, some countries require military service only between certain ages, others require it only for two or three years of a man's life, and after that his bearing arms is optional with himself; others, like our own, expect every man to serve. Based upon this method of calculation, the United States leads all other nations, because every man here is required and can be compelled to bear arms in case of necessity up to the age when he is incapacitated by feebleness. Thus the army of the United States—unarmed, untrained, uninformed, it is true, but nevertheless the legal and loyal defenders of the country—numbers 6,500,000 men.

This vast number is a long way ahead of the next strongest nation, Germany. Of course, if the United States were less fortunately situated, geographically speaking—if she had neighbors that could invade her at a day's or a week's notice—her military strength as expressed in these figures would be more apparent than real. But, considering the facts as they are, it is fair to reckon these six and a half millions of men as the army of the United States, for before they would be needed in vast numbers—say three-quarters of a million men—there would be ample time to drill and equip them. It is clear that no nation but England or her allies could attack us on the north, nor any but Mexico or her allies on the south. The possibility of a coast invasion is not worth considering.

No man could say the number of men who would respond to the President's call in the case of an invasion. A million would probably be below the number that would offer themselves in less than forty-eight hours. The 75,000 men whom Lincoln asked for thirty-three years ago, were furnished within twenty-four hours, and in addition 50,000 more were offered. That was from only a portion of the United States numbering in population about 15,000,000. It was for a cause upon which at that day men were divided, even in the North. Should there be a great national emergency now and the President were to call for a million men, could not 65,000,000 of people united on one thing, that of defending their country, furnish them within two days? Of course it could not furnish them armed, equipped or trained, but the men themselves would be ready. The second call for troops during the war was for 300,000 men. That number was furnished by the Governors of the States within ten days. Arguing by analogy, it is clear that at least 2,000,000 men could be obtained for national defense inside of two weeks, were the occasion sufficiently pressing.

Germany has long been pointed out as the modern example of militarism. No other nation is so carefully studious to make all laws to get the greatest number of men into the field and in military training as is the land of the Kaiser. Notwithstanding this they have fallen almost a million behind the United States. Germany's possible limit, based upon the most liberal construction not only of her laws but the possibilities of her population, is set down at a little more than 5,500,000 of men. This includes not only the regular army now under arms, but those who are in the landwehr and the reserves who may be called upon for three and five years respectively. Germany's position in Europe as the head and dominant force in the Triple Alliance has compelled this tremendous sacrifice to the possibility of war, and every man who gives his allegiance to the Kaiser is more than twenty-one years of age, has served, or is now serving, in the army or in the landwehr or reserves.

France is the great military contrast to Germany, just as she is bound at some future time, perhaps not far distant, to face her on the world's greatest battlefield. Her soldiers are estimated at 3,750,000. They include the active and the retired men, as well as the vast body who have passed through both periods of service. They are trained to perfection, ready in a moment, overflowing with patriotism and imbued with one passion—revenge on the Germans.

France's new ally, Russia, long supposed to be the most powerful of continental countries, can put 3,200,000 soldiers in the field. This estimate is of course based upon the laws that govern and the population of what is known as Russia in Europe. Not even the Czar or his most trusted counselor can give anything like an accurate estimate of the hordes of barbarians on the Siberia and Trans-Ural country who would follow his standard in case of war. On the other hand, Russia's army on a peace footing is the largest of any. It numbers 707,000.

England's military strength is largely problematical. On the face of her laws and the population of

Great Britain and Ireland she is credited with the ability to put into the field 650,000 men. Of course this takes no consideration of her populous and wealthy colonies. They are not considered, because as a factor in war their value is not known. Many able writers on the art of war and diplomats of skill and acuteness have believed that colonies are a source of weakness. It seems almost sure that in case of a great war England would be compelled to do more for India than India could or would do for England. But from a military standpoint the English Army is of less importance as a factor than the English Navy. It is to her sailors and not to her soldiers that England looks for glory and power. But if the great struggle should come north of the Himalaya Mountains, where ships would have no strategic influence and men only would count, it would be a question of who would win, for the hordes of the north of Asia are certainly loyal to Russia, while the hordes of the south of Asia are but problematically loyal to England.

Austria and Italy, those weak sisters in the Triple Alliance which Germany brought in with her that she might have the Baltic at her back and the Mediterranean at her front in case of war, together have three million of men. Added to the five million of Germany the united armies would exceed those of Russia and France by nearly a million and a half. What the outcome of the great struggle when these men shall meet, all students of contemporaneous events agree they will be to no man can tell. The United States has but little interest in a European, or, in fact, any other war. She lies far from the possibilities of entanglement, but if that day should come when the old flag would have to be sustained against foreign foe, the world would be shown once more that it is not militarism that makes a nation powerful, but the number, courage and loyalty of her sons, and of their Uncle Sam has 6,500,000. —[New York Advertiser.

WONDERFUL ESCAPES.

Experience of a Much-Wrecked
Railway Mail Clerk.

Lewis L. Troy, of Chicago, is Superintendent of the Sixth Division of the Railway Mail Service, which territory takes in everything from Chicago, Ill., to Ogden, Utah, on the Union Pacific line and its branches. Mr. Troy is one of the oldest men in the service, so far as service goes. He is also a veteran, having enlisted in 1861 in the Ninth Illinois Infantry at the beginning of the war, for three months, and then re-enlisting for the war. He returned home in July, 1865, and was appointed in the Railway Mail Service, as what was then known as a route agent, in 1868, and has raised himself up, degree by degree, until 1890, when he was appointed Superintendent. While route agent he was in four wrecks. He says:

"In the fall of 1869 I was running on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy road, when one evening I experienced a head-end collision between the engines of two passenger trains near Aurora, Ill. The two engines came together with a crash, wrecking both of them completely, the tender of the engine which was pulling my car telescoping the mail coach and mashing it to pieces. I saved myself by swinging to the bar running through the centre of the car, the tender of the locomotive going under me. This was the narrowest escape I ever had.

"The most wonderful escape I ever witnessed was on a branch of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad between Viola and New Windsor, Ill., in the winter of 1868. The roads were frozen hard, and a man was driving a wagon loaded with lumber along the road. Our train was a fast mail train, and we were going at the rate of forty miles an hour. It was a very cold day, and the man had his head and ears well wrapped up, so he could not hear the whistle of the engine. He was walking behind the wagon, holding the lines. In crossing the track the horses had got safely over. The engine struck the wagon fairly in the middle. The man was thrown with great force into the air and landed against the pilot of the engine. The wagon was torn to splinters, and the horses, thrown loose, went galloping at full speed down the road. When the train was stopped, the man was brought into my car and laid out, we thinking that he was dead. I took some water and started to wash the blood from his face. As soon as the cold water struck his face, he opened his eyes and asked: 'Where is my team?' At the next station he was taken off and examined by a physician, who found that he was not hurt at all, and in less than half an hour he walked away and got his horses, neither of which was hurt to any extent."

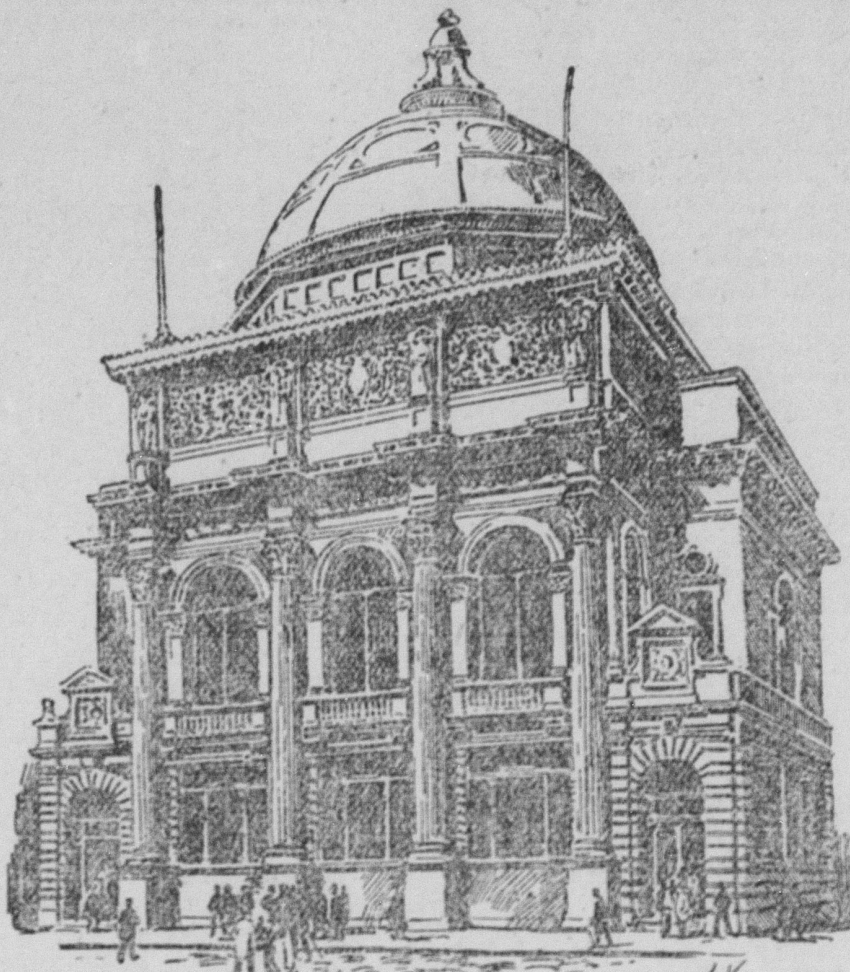
No Life in Mummy Wheat.

An experiment on Lord Winchelsea's "Cable" farm has just decided the oft-mooted question whether or not the mummy wheat found in the Egyptian tombs really possesses the germs of life. A few months ago Lord Sheffield, on his return from Egypt, gave Lord Winchelsea a handful of wheat which he had himself taken from a sarcophagus containing a mummy. One hundred of these grains were carefully planted under a glass frame. The result was awaited with interest, but those who knew of the experiment, but who some weeks the seed were discovered to have rotted away. —[London Daily News.

Transfer companies in England are ready to pay for the baggage they smash.

New York's New Clearing House.

The foundation stone of the new home of the New York Clearing House was recently laid with befitting ceremonies. Bishop Potter delivered the prayer, and the address was delivered by Mr. Geo. G. Williams, the president of the Clearing House Association. One hundred and fifty leading bankers were present.



THE NEW CLEARING HOUSE.

The new building is being erected on Cedar street, between Broadway and Nassau, and when completed will be one of the most beautiful edifices identified with Wall street, and in its immediate neighborhood. It will be entirely of white marble, in the Italian Renaissance style, from the design of Architect Robert W. Gibson. Four Corinthian columns, will support a massive architrave, and twenty feet above this will be a second elaborately chiseled cornice to support a dome roof surmounted by a figure.

The windows fill the whole space between the columns, and are arched under the architrave with a heavy transom, marking the division into two stories, the first of which will be twenty and the second twenty-five feet in height. Above the architrave the front of the third story of twenty

feet will be treated as a frieze, and divided into panels by four figures supporting the cornice, each panel to bear carvings of the national, state and city emblems, freely perforated so as to light the rooms. The dome will tower twenty feet above this, making the total height of the building seventy feet. The entrances will be outside of the four columns forming the lower facade, of massive stone, seventeen feet high and nine feet wide. The

eastern entrance will be used by the Clearing House, and the western by a bank—the only tenant of the new building. The board room and administration offices of the Clearing House will be on the second floor. The clearing room or exchange will take up nearly the whole of the third floor, which will be sixty feet square. What is left will be divided into three stories at the rear, one floor to contain dining-rooms for officers and clerks, the next the kitchen and janitor's dining-room, and the last the janitor's private rooms.

Besides the engineer's department the basement will contain three large money vaults of the Clearing House. A committee of members of the Clearing House, consisting of Frederick D. Tappan, J. Edward Simmons and William A. Nash, will have the erection of the new building in their special care.

ITS SHELL ITS FORT.

How a Tortoise Whips a Number
of Rats.

A tortoise which was a most unique attraction years ago at Parkersburg, W. Va., has returned after nearly three years' absence. It is about six inches in length and almost a perfect ellipse in shape. A day or two ago the tortoise was picked up and was identified by a series of dates—the latest one 1891—carved into his shell. The tortoise has proved one of the local attractions for the sports.

The tortoise was presented to a local merchant four or five years ago by some one who picked him up in the forest. His new owner set him down in the yard in the rear of the store, and he was forgotten until one day a few days after his arrival, when one of the clerks heard a terrific squealing in the yard, and looking through the window, saw a strange sight. A big rat had attacked the tortoise and was biting and scratching at him, but with all his attempts the rat failed to make even an indentation in the armor of his enemy. The unique sight soon attracted the clerks and customers, until standing room was at a premium.

The big rat climbed all over the tortoise and tried all points of vantage, but his sharp teeth merely slipped from the smooth shell. While all this was going on the tortoise lay with feet closely gripped to the ground, while his head had been drawn in out of sight. Presently, in climbing over his antagonist, the rat stood with his hind feet in front of the place where the tortoise's head ought to have been, and it was there yet, for in a second the head and neck shot out and the horny mandibles closed with a snap on the rat's hind legs. When the rat felt the grip it twisted about with a squeak of pain and rage and tried his best to get at his enemy's head, but the shrewd tortoise had withdrawn not only its head but the rat's hind leg between the upper and under shells out of its enemy's reach. Fight and struggle as it would, the rat failed to move the tortoise an atom. It then turned and tried to break loose, but that was equally as ineffectual for a minute, when it broke away, but with one leg as cleanly amputated as if cut with a knife. The rat bled to death.

After this battle almost every day a similar one occurred. Sometimes the rats double-teamed on the scaly gladiator, but the result was always the same—a leg amputation, a tail abbreviated, a disk of hide and flesh cleanly cleft, or an almost severed neck always ended the battle. The clerks and young fellows enjoyed the unique departure in sport, and whenever a battle was on they filled the windows and doors and excitedly

made their bets on points. The tortoise never paid any attention to the spectators, and the rats after getting fairly excited paid all of their attention to their enemy. This sort of thing continued for months, until at last it appeared as if the rats had caught on and quit for good, as they entirely disappeared from that locality. Some time after the rats ceased to appear, the tortoise, probably ennuied from lack of sport and exercise, disappeared, until he was found a day or two ago. —[Philadelphia Press.

How Walking Sticks Are Made.

"The cultivation of material for walking sticks is carried on in quite an extensive scale in some parts of Europe," said T. L. Van Cleave, of New York, at the Lindell last night, "and special attention is often paid to making the roots grow into shapely forms for the handles. While in London last year I went into a manufacturing establishment, the floor space of which covers nearly an acre. This concern has storehouses filled with native and foreign sticks from which stock is drawn as it is wanted for the shops. The sticks, as they grow, are often very crooked, and have to be straightened. A heap of sand is piled on the top of a hot stove, into which the sticks are plunged until they are pliable. The workman takes the crooked stick while it is yet hot, and inserts it in a notch cut in a stout board, placed at an angle inclined from him, where he bends and strains it. When it has become perfectly straight it is thrown down to cool, after which it becomes rigid and permanent in its lines. The same power which makes a crooked stick straight is applied to make a straight one crooked. All the various kinds of sticks that are required to be curled or twisted are by the application of heat made to assume any shape or form." —[St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Record-Breaking Trip.

An engine drawing the Empire State express, on the New York Central, is said to have run 3,848 miles at a speed of fifty and one-half miles an hour during July, on a coal consumption of thirty-one pounds a train mile. This is very small, indeed. On July 24th, the same engine ran from Syracuse to Albany, 148 miles, in 144 minutes, and stopped three minutes at Utica, making the average rate of speed while running, 62.98 miles an hour. Between Utica and Albany it ran ninety-five miles in ninety minutes, or at the rate of 63.33 miles an hour. —[Atlanta Constitution.

Salt cataracts are found in Norway, Southern Chile and British Columbia.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Too little advertising is like sowing too little seed. A farmer in sowing grain puts a number of seeds into each hill, and is satisfied if one healthy stalk comes from each planting.

It is said that in the near future it will be possible, by the aid of the telautograph, to draw weather maps in all of the large cities on the globe at one and the same time. Of course, this involves setting apart a certain hour and minute when all of the lines are in the service of the government. As such an arrangement is actually in existence in this country, the extension of it would seem to be no very difficult matter in order to make it international.

Comparisons are sometimes odious. But there is more truth than poetry in the following facts, which are taken from good authority. We have spent nearly \$470,000,000 in building churches in this land, and \$500,000,000 in building jails. It costs \$50,000,000 a year to run the churches and \$400,000,000 to run the jails. The interest money on our jails amounts to two and one-half times as much per year as the whole church raises for home and foreign missions. We pay out eight times as much for running our fellow men down and jailing them as we do in trying to make them better so that they will not need jail.

A somewhat famous Frenchman who has devoted himself to the promotion of free trade between this country and his own, estimated nearly twenty years ago that the population of the United States would reach 100,000,000 at twenty-four minutes after 5 p. m. on July 24, 1903. He has recently, however, revised his estimate, and he now gives himself a wider range. He believes that the 100,000,000 will be reached between the years 1915 and 1920. All calculations on this subject for the last fifty years have been absurdly out, and the Frenchman's estimate may have to be revised again should emigration remain at its present low ebb for five years longer.

One of the most striking things to the educated Metropolitan visitor is the lack of monuments in and about New York. Probably no great war in the world has been less commemorated by monuments than the war of the Revolution. There are battle grounds in and about New York where thousands of heroes have died that are remembered only by the students of history. There is not a monument on Fort George or Fort Washington or Fort Tryon, and the old earthworks are still there, mute evidences of the mighty labor that wrested the country from the grasp of England, but there is absolutely nothing to commemorate the struggle. It is all well enough to say that great deeds will always live in the memory of man, but granite is far more immutable and more pleasing.

Odesa, which is frequently described as the Liverpool of Russia, and which in point of trade and prosperity ranks as the most important city of the Empire, has just been celebrating the centennial anniversary of its foundation. Built on territory ceded to Russia by Turkey in 1792, the foundations of the present city were laid in 1794, and when, at the beginning of the century, the French emigre, the Duc de Richelieu, arrived upon the scene to assume his duties as Governor-General, a post to which he had been appointed by Emperor Alexander, there were only 400 houses and about 6,000 inhabitants in the place. To-day the population is over 500,000, of whom no less than 150,000 are Hebrews, and there is no city in the Empire more beautifully endowed with magnificent public buildings or where the inhabitants are possessed of greater wealth, mostly amassed by commerce.

The interest among scientists in aerial navigation appears to be increasing rather than the contrary, especially in France. Capt. Renard, Chief of the Military Aerostatic Department, at Chalais-Meudon, has nearly completed a large dirigible balloon, called the General Meunier, which is designed to keep up a speed of about 25 miles an hour for 10 hours. The balloon proper is 230 feet long and has a capacity of 120,000 cubic feet. It is driven by a very light gasoline engine operating a propeller wheel, nearly 30 feet in diameter, at 200 revolutions a minute. If this balloon is a success it will be a quite important matter, for the car is 130 feet long and can carry a comparatively large number of men. Some interesting experiments have also been made in France with an ordinary balloon fitted with a small screw placed horizontally, to produce motion in a vertical direction, so as to avoid the usual wasteful process of discharging gas and sand alternately. The screw is seven and one-half feet in diameter, and by means of light hand machinery it could be revolved at the rate of 100 revolutions a minute. By this apparatus the balloon, of 28,000 cubic feet capacity, would be raised about 325 feet in a minute.

General Armstrong, acting commissioner of Indian affairs, says that the annual reports received from the various Indian agencies show that on the whole the Indians were reasonably prosperous during the last fiscal year. The death rate has not been large, nor does there appear to be any decrease in the number of Indians in the charge of the government. The year was one of peace, there having been very few disturbances or troubles usually occurring among the Indians. It is evident, from the reports received, that the

tribal relations of the Indians are becoming less binding, and the individual Indians are becoming more independent of tribe and more self-reliant. The allotting agents of the government have been kept busy the past year, many of the Indians evincing desires to own their own land. The Indian authorities believe that in allotting tracts of land to individual Indians the longest step has been made toward civilization, and that the Indians are more easily governed by the agents and the bureau when each has a personal and individual interest in his home. The reports show that Indian education is progressing quite satisfactorily, and that the Indians show greater willingness than heretofore to avail themselves of the school advantages offered by the government.

The Chicago Herald says that the father of the Weather Bureau Service was Increase A. Lapham, a modest and retired, but ripe scholar, who lived in Milwaukee. He was the first to note by telegraph the progress of the wind currents and storms, and to predict their appearance in specified neighborhoods. On the strength of a weather dispatch from Omaha, in 1869, or thereabouts, he announced the first storm on Lake Michigan that ever was heralded twelve hours in advance of its arrival. The first work of the Weather Bureau was under his charge in Chicago. It was on the small beginnings of Dr. Lapham that the entire system of the Signal Service was based. Dr. Lapham was a native of Palmyra, N. Y., and began life as a stonemason for canal locks, but went in 1836 to Milwaukee, where he became a register of claims and a real estate dealer. He was eminent in many branches of science—botany, conchology, geology and archaeology—and he contributed nearly fifty papers to scientific publications. As the result of the observation of many years, he was the author of a work on the "Antiquities of Wisconsin," published by the Smithsonian Institution. He and Congressman H. E. Paine, of Wisconsin, framed the law of 1870, under which the Weather Bureau was established, but Cleveland Abbe, who had already begun sending out weather reports from the Cincinnati Observatory, is also entitled to a large share of the credit for originating the system. Dr. Lapham died in 1875.

DEATH IN HYPNOTISM.

A Young Lady Dies During a Hypnotic Trance.

Great interest has been excited in Europe by the death of a young lady of a prominent family in Vienna which occurred under hypnotic influence while she was in the hands of Herr Neukomm, the well-known hypnotist of that capital.

She had been suffering much for several months from nervous headaches and nothing would cure her but Neukomm putting her into a trance. The last affair was before a numerous audience. The first accounts of the affair were incorrect but a later version given by Dr. Von Bragassy, who was present throughout, is almost incredible.

Dr. Bragassy says: "It was with the concurrence of the parents and the medium herself that Hypnotist Neukomm fixed as the object of his experiment the condition of his brother, residing in Werchez, concerning which the opinions of physicians vary.

"In about twelve minutes the medium exclaimed, 'I am fast asleep.' The young lady gave signs of great excitement, which, according to her parents, had not been observable in previous experiments. Neukomm requested the medium to go see his brother in Werchez, and say what was the nature of his illness and what cure should be adopted.

"What followed was really incredible. The medium began a scientific description of the lungs, giving a minute account of the diseased condition, with technical particulars, which even an ordinary doctor would not give, and which might be expected only from an experienced specialist with full command and correct use of technical expressions. She gave the closest detail, extending a full diagnosis of the inflammation of the lungs, and declared that the prognosis were very unfavorable, as against that kind of disease medical skill was powerless.

"In conclusion she described the end of the patient in the usual Latin terminology. Immediately afterwards she fell back senseless, uttering a piercing shriek.

"I at once had recourse to every conceivable means for bringing her to consciousness, but all in vain. Within eight minutes her pulse began to fail and death shortly followed."

According to the post-mortem examination the immediate cause of death was concussion of the brain.

An Electric Gun Needed.

It is reported that an attempt was made the other night to hold up a trolley car not far from New York City. It was on one of the short lines running out of Jersey City in a neighborhood described as "dark and desolate." There was a sharp light for a few minutes, and the robbers were driven off. It is suggested that the incident presents an opportunity to investigators to devise some means of making the tremendous current of electricity which the trolley car has always available, a means of defense in such circumstances. A stream of water thrown, say by compressed carbonic acid, and connected with the trolley apparatus, would knock out any assailant of the car in short order. —[New Orleans Picayune.