

THE NATIONAL GUARD

Its Conditions, Needs and Prospects Stated by President Wingate of the Association.

FUSS AND FEATHER METHODS OVER Discipline and Efficiency So Increased in the Past Fifteen Years That It Rivals the Army.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION BY CONGRESS. A Certain Old Law That Makes Every Able-Bodied Man a Member of the Guard.

According to the last annual reports made by the Adjutant General of the different States to the Secretary of War, there were 106,000 officers and men in the National Guard of the various States. That number, however, represents the aggregate strength on the rolls, so that probably 75,000 would be the effective strength.

The improvement that has been made in discipline is wonderful. Although this lies at the foundation of all military organizations, and is practically the great distinction between an army and an armed mob, yet before the late Civil War, it was almost unknown in the militia. In fact the organizations were run very much on the idea of a social meeting, where one man is considered as good as another.

It is interesting to note that this principle was applied to the formation of the Government. In 1808 the annual appropriation for the militia was fixed by Thomas Jefferson at \$300,000.

At these conventions the Adjutant General appoints five officers or ex-officers of the National Guard as delegates. During the interim between the meetings the association is controlled by the Executive Committee.

One of the important requirements in the National Guard is that every citizen of which is now recognized in every State is that a soldier is not a soldier unless he knows how to shoot, any more than a book-keeper is a book-keeper unless he can write.

Although in 1885, as stated, the National Guard Association succeeded in increasing the appropriation, it did not succeed in repealing the obsolete militia law.

HOOKING BLUE FISH. A Day of the Grandest Sport Sea or Lake or Land Affords.

MURRAY TELLS ALL THE SECRETS The Inspiring Sail Out Into Old Ocean in the Early Morning.

EXCITEMENT OF THE FIRST CATCH (CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.) NEW YORK, August 2.—Did you ever go blue-fishing? If you never did then you have yet to enjoy some of the finest sport.

Recently there has been a bill presented to Congress in the interest of the National Guard which is of great public importance. It is in the hands of the Adjutant General of the National Guard, who, since he has occupied his present position, has taken a very warm interest in the improvement of the National Guard of the country.

General Kelton, the Adjutant General of the army, during his long service in the army has had unusually close association with the militia of the different States.

It also authorizes any Governor, brigade or division commander (with the approval of his Governor) to apply to the Secretary of War to have a regular officer detailed on the staff of the militia.

The National Guard Association also endorsed the McCutcheon bill at its last meeting, which is pending in Congress, and provides that it may be drawn in any number of all kinds, and permits the States to purchase from the United States arsenals anything which the latter make at the regular prices.

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HOW TO BE A SENATOR The Path Pointed Out by Leading Members of the Upper House.

LUCK IS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR. Sherman and Farwell Advise Taking a Part in Local Politics.

STUDY OF THE PROBLEM OF STATE (PREPARED FOR THE DISPATCH.) To several of the most distinguished members of the United States Senate, representing widely divergent sections of our country, I recently propounded the question, "If a young man has an ambition to become a United States Senator, what course shall he pursue to realize it?"

Senator John P. Jones, of Nevada, believes in luck as one of the factors. Here is his letter: "I am a great believer in luck. To it I largely attribute my success in life."

Senator Orrville H. Platt, of Connecticut, replies as follows: "In reply to your question I would say first of all that a young man had better not have such an ambition, as he will only be disappointed if he achieves it."

Senator James H. Berry, of Arkansas, answers the question as follows: "If a young man desires to be a United States Senator he should first of all be a man of good character."

Senator Eugene Hale, of Maine, has this to say: "Senatorships come to men in a hundred different ways. The section of country in which they come to men is very different."

Senator George F. Edmunds, of Vermont, emphasizes fidelity and honor as factors in securing election to the Senate by manipulation. The members of the Senate are the leading men in their States—widely scattered, physically, many of them naturally leaders in any sphere of life.

Senator Charles B. Farwell, of Illinois, agrees with Sherman. He says that a young man should lead an honest, upright life among the people by whom he is surrounded.

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BASEBALL AND HORSE RACING. Fishing Must be Charming but Its Innocence is Questionable.

MINISTERS AND THEIR CROQUET (WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.) Taking a holiday for rest and recreation is usually esteemed of vast value in the way of health.

How odd and ridiculous it seems to raise a great hullabaloo over the immorality of the Louisiana lottery, when in every city of the Union, from New York to San Francisco, church-fair schemes, oil stocks and games are made subject to the laws of chance.

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