

WASHINGTON LETTER

MAJOR GILLETTE A MUCH-TALKED-OF ARMY OFFICER.

EXPOSES CONTRACT FRAUDS

Capital and Municipal Police Have Hard Task—The System of Inducement—For Record of Army—The Deserters.



WASHINGTON—Some times an army officer by one good piece of work makes a reputation that marks him as a man of ability and courage for the rest of his life. When an officer twice performs distinguished service he is almost a hero. These opportunities sometimes come in even so humdrum a line of army work as that of an engineer officer.

Maj. Cassius E. Gillette has been fortunate enough to thus twice distinguish himself and to-day he is one of the most talked-of officers in the army. It was he who eight years ago discovered the frauds in government contracts at Savannah, Ga., which led to the conviction and imprisonment of his predecessor in charge of that work, Capt. Oberlin M. Carter. He has just completed an investigation of public works in Philadelphia and has shown that the political gang in that city have secured nearly \$7,000,000 in graft from two or three city contracts.

Maj. Gillette knows no influence of any sort in the discharge of his duties. At Savannah he was ostracized by the society people because he dared to charge Capt. Carter with fraud. Capt. Carter had been a social lion in that city. But Maj. Gillette did not hesitate to encounter criticism and ostracism, and finally landed his predecessor in prison. In his Philadelphia investigation he was charged with working for political effect and with so timing his report as to make it influence the city and state elections. This charge had no effect on the courageous army officer, and he stands to-day with the best record of any of his associates in the corps for efficient work in the protection of the government and in ferreting out frauds in big contracts. He is a comparatively young man, being but 46 years of age, and the prominence he has attained by his unearthing of the biggest frauds ever known in the army and municipal affairs promises to put him at the head of his profession.

Vandals at the Capitol.



GEORGE WASHINGTON, the father of his country, has met with a serious accident. As he sits in half nude condition on the marble pedestal in the capitol plaza and gazes on the big building in front of him he has a decided squint in his left eye. He has sat out there through rain and shine for many years, but the elements or the mischievous hand of a vandal have worked an injury to his left eye. A piece of the marble has either been worn away by the action of the rain and frost or been chipped off by some relic hunter or mischievous boy. The damage has changed the whole expression of the statue and given the noble countenance as carved by Grenough, a decidedly comical appearance. Some of the irreverent tourists who have gazed on the statue for the first time suggest that it might now be used as an effigy of the notorious Gen. B. F. Butler of Massachusetts whose cock-eye is the best remembered feature of his face.

The capitol and the municipal police in Washington have a hard task in watching public buildings and statues in order to prevent their mutilation by relic hunters or evil disposed persons. Some people have a mania for defacing the walls of public buildings and monuments. Heavy fines are provided for those who so mutilate monuments and walls in the capital city. The Washington monument has been guarded closely ever since it was opened to the public, but with all the vigilance of the officers pieces have been chipped from the stones inside and marks have been scratched on the outside of that great monument. The white house has not been exempt from this vandalism and every season it is found that conscienceless visitors have snipped the curtains in the east room and broken little ornaments they could touch undetected and otherwise mutilated the decorations.

Value of a New Post.

THE importance of the position of military secretary of the army is better realized now that Maj. Gen. Ainsworth's first report covering the whole year of the operation of the office has been published. Under the act reorganizing the army the adjutant general's office and the record and pension office of the war department were consolidated and placed in charge of an officer to be known as the military secretary of the army. Brig. Gen. Ainsworth had been at the head of the record and pension office and he was made military secretary, which carries with it the rank of a major general.

the career. He entered the army as a medical officer and when only holding the rank of captain he devised a system of indexes for the record of the army by which at a moment's notice the record of every soldier could be obtained. The work developed into one of the greatest of its kind in the world, and to-day there are on file \$3,947,933 index record cards giving the individual service records of all the soldiers that ever served the United States, and also the record of nearly 1,900,000 Confederate soldiers. He was entrusted with the publication of the records of the rebellion, amounting to several hundred volumes. The data which he has collected and stored in his office is the most valuable ever compiled by a government, and of the greatest use in determining pension cases and claims against the government.

Gen. Ainsworth's peculiar talent for this sort of work earned him the respect and admiration of very strong friends in congress, and he was advanced in rank by congressional action rather than by the act of the executive branch of the government.



The Military Secretary.

IN HIS capacity as military secretary Gen. Ainsworth really exercises the functions of an adjutant general. He has much to do with the personnel of the army and keeps a record of the standing of each soldier and knows the charges against them. In his new work he has taken a special interest in the matter of desertions in the army and he has made a study of that subject, so that his opinion on it is regarded as of unusual weight and importance. His report this year shows that the percentage of desertions from the army is higher now than it has been for a number of years. Gen. Ainsworth speaks out his mind, and has no hesitancy in naming what he believes to be the causes of men leaving the army. He says:

"The abolition of the canteen, the monotony of garrison life, the increasing amount of work and study demanded of a soldier and the ease with which remunerative employment can be obtained in civil life in these prosperous times are all advanced as causes of desertion in the army. Many remedies have been proposed, but none seems to be worthy of very serious consideration. Those who know how the canteen came to be abolished are not hopeful of its restoration; there is no likelihood of any such increase in the soldiers' pay as will offset the greater inducement offered in civil pursuits, the comforts and even luxuries that are furnished to enlisted men in our service are even now criticised by some as being not only extravagant but injurious in their effect on men whose real business it is to march and fight, encumbered with few comforts and no luxuries, and the discipline and instruction to which the soldier is now subjected are not likely to be relaxed in the future."

The Consul's Letters.

IT WILL not be the fault of the average United States consul abroad if the American people are not kept informed of the progress in sciences of all kinds, as well as in commercial development. There is scarcely a publication of consular reports that does not contain a letter from a consul somewhere abroad describing some new discovery of medical science and giving to the world the benefit of this discovery. There have been valuable reports on the treatment of consumption and the way to handle plagues and other contagious diseases. One of the latest contributions is from Consul General Guenther of Frankfurt Germany, who makes a report on what he considers successful results from a new treatment of appendicitis. The consul says this remedy has been tried by eminent physicians in Germany, who claim that appendicitis can be cured by it without an operation being necessary even in the worst cases. The name of the remedy is "collinangol." It is a form of pure silver soluble in water. The consul says: "The antiseptic property of silver has long been known. Its use, however, has been very limited. Based upon this knowledge successful experiments have been made by some noted physicians through the use of soluble, non-irritating and non-poisonous silver in suppurative diseases. Dr. Moosbrugger, of Leutkirch, has now used collinangol in appendicitis as well internally as externally. According to his statement the treatment has yielded extraordinarily good results. Excepting two very severe cases out of 72 which came under his observation and treatment, all were cured without any surgical operations."

It is claimed that this treatment is much superior to any other and that the knife does not have to be resorted to. Consul Guenther thinks that the statements of this German physician deserves careful attention.

Stumped.

"Do you think there is as much moral courage in the world as there was?" "About how much was there?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Would Please Father.

Jasper—What do you suppose your father will say when I speak to him? Beryl (sure of him now)—He won't say anything. He'll be speechless with joy.—Chicago Tribune.

Not Quite Clear.

Borem—I say, old man, do you consider life worth living? Buzman—That depends. Do you mean my life or yours?—Chicago Daily News.



A PREACHER'S WIFE.

No, she isn't prim and proper, And she doesn't care a copper, What they say. She's so innocent of wrong, And so full of love and song, That she's happy all day long On her way.

She's as fond of pretty dresses And of kisses and caresses, As a child is of a toy, But she hasn't a lot of sense, And she doesn't take offense, And she sizes up pretense Unbeguiled.

She doesn't babble French or German, But she understands a sermon, And she knows When her praise is balm and crown, When the preacher needs a frown, And just how to call him down In hard prose.

She's no sealer of fanatic, She doesn't have to be ecstatic To be good. She's a woman through and through, Sweet and sensible, and true, Whose religion is to do What she should.

She's not fond of public speaking, And she's not a bit self-seeking, Here to be Not the leader in the strife, But a happy, helpful wife, Quite content to live her life "I'll" and live.

I'm not sure that she's ideal, But what's better far she's real, And intact, She's no fragment of a dream, No imaginative theme, Nor a poet's lie, She's a fact.

—Robert Whitaker, in Pacific Baptist.

THE BIBLE AND THE NATION

Extracts from an Address by George May Powell Before the American Bible Society.

The Bible is the great God-given central sun of moral quality in the individual and therefore of the nation. Without high moral quality, wealth, and education even, are sources not only of weakness, but of peril. The villain who is both rich and highly educated is far more dangerous to his fellow men than the poor, ignorant and man of evil instincts and as bad in practice, as his poverty and limited knowledge make possible. Therefore the Bible being the chief source of moral teaching, with which to build up that element in individual character, is thus absolutely essential through the aggregate of individual life, to national life.

We look with pride and perhaps too much hope, on "Old Glory" as the flag emblematic of a national life never to be quenched, but the speaker has trodden over the ruins of grander cities than any in our "West Land"—cities of power and splendor in Asia and Africa before Jesus of Nazareth walked the earth in human form—but those nations would not rule in righteousness, and "the owl hoots through the ruins of Palmyra, and the wind sifts the sands of the desert over the bones of the prophets."

One of the fathers of our country told us "External vigilance is the price of liberty." Bible-founded conscience is the only kind that will ever exercise this vigilance or teach us that politics (not partisanship) is a talent in our stewardship. Teach us that the party whip is to be cut, when driving wrong, and that part of that vigilance is to vote as we pray. The dictionary defines politics as "That part of ethics that pertains to the public good." We venture to define ethics as "The science of what is right." The Bible is the great searchlight on these and on correlated truths that are absolutely essential to national life of this so-called "Great Republic" which is "the last, best hope of the human race." If we walk in that light we shall overcome all opposition, whether from without or within or both.

"As the winds come when forests are tender, come as the waves come when navies are stranded."

BRIEF BUT POINTED.

A man can be sweet without being fresh—Ram's Horn.

In choosing for the present do not forget the afterward for the man who will not try to gain it.

The frontier is reached when a strong will is the pioneer.

God and all His holy angels are of the side of the man who attempts that which is good.

The only inheritance open to the faithful man is in the unmaped kingdom of the Might Have Been.

Any woodchuck can undermine a tower, but only a man can build it. A fool may undermine a faith, but only a Christ can restore it.

Blessed is the man who stands up for what he believes to be right; but blessed also is he who is gifted with the sweet spirit of Christian charity.

The Infinitesimal Soul.

An old miser who yearned to criticize a minister whose salary was behind his hand, and who had publicly requested that the deficit be made up soon, rudely demanded of the preacher: "Parson, are you preaching for souls or for money?" The parson replied, with possibly an undue acerbity: "I am preaching for souls, but I cannot live on them. If I did it would take ten thousand little ones like yours to make me a breakfast." It is difficult to estimate spirits in terms of linear measurement, but it is certain that the souls of some men, judging by their actions, must be very small indeed.

The Lion Bridge.

At Sangong, China, is the Lion bridge, the longest bridge in the world. It extends 5 1/2 miles over an arm of the Yellow sea and it is supported by 300 huge stone arches. The roadway is seven feet above the water and is inclosed in an iron network.

GRUBBY PERSONALS.

A large portion of the library of the late Bishop McLaren has been donated by his family to the Western Theological seminary library.

Rev. T. G. Harper, of Wibsey, the newly elected president of the Wesleyan Reform union, was originally a Bedfordshire tinker, reared at Elstow, where John Bunyan was born.

Ian MacLaren, who is just leaving the Liverpool church where he has been minister for a quarter of a century, has been making a collection of his sermons as a sort of farewell volume.

Dr. Julius Goebel, who was dismissed as head of the German department of Stanford university without a hearing, has been appointed by President Eliot as the head of a similar department at Harvard.

Rev. H. Olin Cady, now of Evanston, Ill., who has been connected with Methodist missions in west China for the last 15 years, has been retired with a pension by the board of managers of the Missionary society.

Mr. E. Vickery, a leading member of the Methodist church in New South Wales, has bought the Lyceum theater and hotel in Pitt street, Sydney, and some adjoining property, for about \$170,000, and intends to hand the whole over to the Sydney Central Methodist mission.

O. C. Barber, of Akron, O., known as "the match king," will build in the city named one of the most beautiful churches in the country. It is to be an exact duplicate of the Madeleine in Paris and will cost \$500,000. As in the original, there will be no windows light being obtained through a system of skylights.

Rev. Charles Stelzie, who is labor representative for the Presbyterian church, is planning to have the Protestant churches of each large city select a fraternal delegate to the labor unions, and in turn a member of the unions it to be given the freedom of the ministers' meetings. In this way Mr. Stelzie hopes to bridge the chasm between labor organizations and the church.

TALES OF THE TOTS.

"Do you know where little boys who smoke cigarettes go?" "Yes, in behind our stable used to be the safest place, but ma's on to it now!"

"Do you know," said a Sunday school teacher, addressing a new pupil in the infant class, "that you have a soul?" "Course I do," replied the little fellow, placing his hand over his heart, "I can feel it tick."

Little Ethel was learning to sew, and one day, after vainly trying to thread a needle, she asked: "Mamma, don't they call the hole in a needle an eye?"

"Yes, dear," replied the mother. "Well," continued the little miss, "I'll bet this old needle is cross-eyed."

Little Juana had noticed that nearly every Wednesday, the day her mother was supposed to be at home, her maternal relative went out. One Wednesday her mother made no move toward leaving, and Juana remarked: "Mamma, this is your deception day; don't you think it's time to put on your hat and go out?"

Here is a bit of exact reasoning on the part of a little schoolgirl. The teacher wished to impress the idea of the wrong of idleness. He led up to it by asking who were the persons who got all they could and did nothing in return. For some time there was silence, but at last the little girl, who had obviously reasoned out the answer inductively from her own home experiences, exclaimed, with a good deal of confidence: "Please, sir, it's the baby!"

INDUSTRIAL ITEMS.

The Cramps have orders enough on hand now to keep the 5,000 men employed in their shipyards busy for the next 15 months.

The number of persons employed in mining in Great Britain and Ireland last year was \$77,957, of whom 5,487 were females.

The United States last year launched 227 merchant ships of more than 100 tons each, with a total tonnage of 238,118 tons. Besides these there were launched 19 war vessels, aggregating 170,885 tons.

Louisiana brimstone is now added to Texas petroleum, Alabama iron, Carolina cotton goods and southern cotton, rice and sugar, as a commercial article in which Dixie is a price maker and important source of supply.

The cotton trade in Austria is not carried on exclusively for home consumption. The exports of cotton and cotton goods, with a value of \$19,512,000, showed an increase in 1904 of \$436,000 on the preceding year. In Austria there are 3,250,000 spindles, and the yearly consumption of raw cotton is about 600,000 bales, whereas its neighbor, Germany, has about three times that number of spindles, and consumes about three times that quantity of raw material.

SO WE HAVE HEARD.

Tight shoes cause baldness. The Japs carry money in their ears. The best glass eyes cost \$50 apiece. A strong kangaroo can leap 60 feet. The average life of a ship is 26 years. A "chow," or Chinese edible dog, costs \$75.

The Persians have a different name for every day of the month. Ten per cent of the buildings struck by lightning last year were churches. Men work best at three in the afternoon and worst at nine in the morning.

At Holy Shrine. Roman Catholics socked to Westminster abbey recently to visit the shrine of Edward the Confessor, who was canonized on October 13, 1163. All day long pilgrims were kneeling at the rail which surrounds the tomb, and offering up prayers.

\$1 SAVED IS \$2 EARNED

Have you ever tried paying cash for your goods? Don't you know that you pay for the other fellows bad debts under the old credit system; which is both ruinous to you and your tradesman. We buy for cash and sell for cash and propose to give our customers the benefit.

A visit to the West Sayre Cash Store, corner Keystone Avenue and Lincoln Street, will convince you that our motto: LARGE SALES AND SMALL PROFITS "OUR AIM: TO PLEASE," is the only way that we do business. A glance at a few of the prices below; shows what can be done with a little ready money.

Table listing various goods and their prices, including sugar, butter, eggs, flour, and soap.

These Prices Will Continue Until Dec. 16

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Don't Fail to Visit the 5 and 10 Cent Counter

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We carry a full and up to date line of Hardware, Tinware, Groceries, Dry Goods, Notions, Shoes, Rubbers, etc.; at prices that will astonish you and keep you guessing how we do it.

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Child, Waltman & Young, Prop's.

REMEMBER! JUST 12 DAYS TO CHRISTMAS

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So Easy to Find Just What You Want at Gregg's Racket Store

And all on one floor too! No stairs to climb! Yes, we're a little crowded, but take your time, stay as long as you please. You are always welcome.

Have you seen our Toys, Dolls, Games? Here is Fairyland indeed! Here the fairy who will turn that lad of yours according to your choice into a CARPENTER, DRUMMER BOY, ARTIST, FARMER, FIREMAN, ENGINEER, ROUGH RIDER, BAND LEADER, BANKER, MECHANIC, MUSICIAN, ETC., ETC.

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