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Subscribers are requested to observe the date following the name on the labels of their papers. By referring to this they can tell at a glance how they stand on the books in this office.

The army worm has cost this country more than the Revolutionary War.

The great canned goods center of industry of the world is Baltimore, Md.

The population of Italy is very dense, there being 270 people to every square mile of territory.

The British postoffice has recently introduced a new system of notation for its date stamps. The letters from A to M are used to represent the hours and also of twelve intervals of five minutes each; thus A A means 1.05, A B 1.10, and so on.

The war between China and Japan, though not of vital interest to Americans, will yet be watched with keen interest by all our military leaders, remarks the New York Times.

It appears that England is the greatest railway-traveling country on earth. In 1880, the extent of lines in England being then about 18,033 miles; the number of passengers was nearly 604,000,000.

Edward Bellamy shudders whenever he hears the name of "Looking Backward." If you wish to make a friend of Francis Bret Harte don't mention "The Heathen Chinese."

Our pestiferous friend, the bicycle, continues to grow in favor, and it is being put to very practical uses, notes the Chicago Record.

CHEER UP, PEOPLE! Cane-grinding is getting mighty close to us, and candy-pulling time is not more than six blocks away.

CELESTIAL SOLDIERS.

ACQUATTERMENTS OF THE OLD CHINESE ARMY.

Bows and Arrows Still in Use—Gongs and Trumpets as Offensive Weapons—Drill Turning Somersaults—Battery Equipped with Fire Crackers and Cannon.

The signal defeats the Chinese navy has encountered in its engagements with the Japanese ships show that the Chinese have learned little more of the art of using steam vessels.



A VETERAN GUN.

sels of war than they knew in 1860. In that year, during the war with the British, a small gunboat grounded in a river, was abandoned by the crew and captured by the Celestials.

The efforts of the Celestials to utilize Western methods of army discipline and Western arms in the land service seem to have been greeted with somewhat more success than this attempt to press a steamer into the employment of the Flowery Kingdom.

Altogether, therefore, the empire is said to be able to put 1,250,000 men in the field, a force that seems so large that any one might be excused for entertaining a profound respect for the military strength of the empire.



MILITARY TRAINING EXTRAORDINARY.

field. It has never yet happened in the history of the world that a nation of meat-eaters was conquered by an army of grain feeders, and until the Chinese alter their diet Europe has nothing to fear from them.

like somersaults, was of the most satisfactory description." As late as 1884 a Governor of a province on the Yank-tse-Kiang tested his troops in shouting, and affirmed that their performance was "past all criticism."

While the last named military accomplishment may be greeted with a smile by those unfamiliar with Celestial tactics its usefulness, particularly to troops whose highest merit on the field of battle is an ability to beat the gong, to shout, to turn somersaults and dance the tight rope, cannot be questioned.

The Chinese army has been lately remodeled, that is, an attempt has been made to remodel it, though how far this has been successful is an open question.



ON THE WAR-PATH.

war with the French in Tonquin, the reorganized regiments were little more efficient than the mob of shouting, gong-beating, and somersault-turning Celestials, who were the sport of both French and British soldiers and sailors in previous wars.

The leading branch of the military service is found in the "Banner-men." These are the descendants of the original invaders, who, by law, have the right to guard the Emperor's person and the twenty-four gates of the "Forbidden City," Peking.

The death of Edmund Yates, the clever journalist who built up the fortunes of the London World, brings about a revival of anecdote concerning him and his associates.

WHEN a man commits suicide by drowning can it be said that he liquidates the debt of nature?

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

A New War Ditty—A Prize Poem—Burning Words—A Correction—A Special Favor, Etc., Etc.

Anent this jolly little scrap Between the Chinaman and Jap An opinion we would utter, If you please, Though the wash-man is stronger And on population longer.



A GROUP OF OLD-TIME SOLDIERS.

ever invented the Chinese cannon are the most worthless, and of all gunners the Celestial artillerymen are the worst. Their native-made guns are the poorest apology for artillery that ever came from a foundry.

The Chinese gun is a small vessel or jar of pottery filled with sulphur and other combustibles, and is used by lighting the inflammables within and then throwing it among the enemy.

TOO GOOD A JUDGE. Wagstaff—"Where's that famous dog of yours that was such a good judge of traps?"

A NATURAL QUESTION. "What kind of a dog is that, papa?" asked Willy, as he observed the big animal chasing his own tail.

TELLING THE GOOD NEWS. Mrs. Youngma—"And so, my darling got the prize at the baby show? I knew he would. It couldn't have been otherwise."

DUE CARE. Inexact Mistress—"You needn't bring all that water down again, Mary. When you've scrubbed the bedroom floors, just throw it out of the window, but look where it goes."

SAD THOUGHTS. Tramp—"Take back yer loaf of bread, madam; I return it unbroken."

THE "SAMPLE" FIELD. The Clerk (in the drygoods store)—"How many samples of cloth shall I give that woman?"

IN A BUSINESS WAY. They had wandered into the conservatory. The music came to them in faint, rhythmic throbs.

WHEN a man commits suicide by drowning can it be said that he liquidates the debt of nature?

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

TO CLEAN FURS.

The Russians clean their furs after this fashion: Rye flour is placed in a pot and heated upon the stove, with constant stirring as long as the hand can bear the heat.

TO CARVE A LEG OF MUTTON. There are no serious difficulties in learning how to carve, and, with a little study and a patient, any one may quickly learn to perform the task with sufficient skill to at least avoid remark, and every head of a household ought to make it a study.

RECONCILED. "Charley," said young Mrs. Torkins, "what does the phrase 'talking through your hat' mean?"

A DOMESTIC CATASTROPHE. "Did you ever have any psychological experiences?" asked the professor.

THE INDIAN'S PAY DAY. "I happened to be at a mission in Idaho a few years ago," said D. E. Fernald, of Lincoln, at the Laeclde last evening.

SOUTHERN PICKLES AND SAUCES. Oil Cucumber Pickles—This very delicious compound is prepared as follows: Pare and slice four dozen cucumbers as if for serving on table.

HOUSE BEQUEATHED IN THIRDS. One of the most peculiar wills ever drawn up in Suffolk County has recently been filed. The property involved is on Longwood avenue, at Longwood.

Hamilton Dieston, the millionaire Philadelphian saw manufacturer, is developing a 2,000,000-acre fruit and vegetable farm in Florida.