

REFORM IN ARMY.

All that Pertains to War to be Taught.

The London Daily Mail prints the details of a scheme of army reform, which, it asserts, has been decided upon. It describes the scheme as one of the most radical upheavals the army has ever experienced.

"The scheme," said the Daily Mail, "will make the British private a trained soldier. Instead of a system giving the recruit merely a housemaid's work, and allowing no more than six weeks of military training, he will in future get ten months of scientific drilling, all fatigue and orderly duties being performed by a special corps of time-expired men. The first four months will be devoted to company training, including scouting, entrenching, bridging and taking cover. The second four months will be used in battalion manoeuvres, attacking and defending positions, and field firing. Two months will be given to grand manoeuvres on a war scale. The remaining two months of the first year will be occupied by furloughs.

The greatest attention will be devoted to marksmanship, and the allowance of ammunition will be greatly increased. Artillery training will also be improved. The war office is now acquiring control of large tracts of land in various parts of the country for training grounds.

POLITICAL CHIT-CHAT.

Apropos of the political excitement the following from the London, Eng., Globe may be excused:

Straightforward writing is so rare an accomplishment that we hasten to extend the hand of welcome to it wherever it is found. The most recent shining specimen of literary directness which we have lighted upon is a letter addressed by an Australian partisan to the politician whom he assisted to eminence, but who, on reaching his high estate, forgot the poor man on whose shoulders he had risen. The Australian wrote as follows:

"Dear Sir: You're a dam fraud, and you know it. I don't care a rap for the billet or the munny either, but you could hev got it for me if you wasn't as mean as muk. Two pound a week ain't eny moar to me than 40 shillin's is to you, but I objekt to bein' maid an infurnil fool of. Soon after you was elected by my hard workin', a feller here wanted to beat me that You wouldn't be in the House more'n a week before you maid a ass of yourself. I bet him a cow on that as I thort you was wor.h it then. After i got your Note sa in' you deklined to ack in the matter i driv the Cow over to the Feller's place an' tole him he had won her.

"That's or I got by howlin' meself Hoarse for you on pole day, an' months befor. You not only hurt a man's Pride but you injur him in Bizness. I believe you think you'll get in agen. I don't. An' what I don't think is of moar Konsequence then you im jin. I beleave you take a pleshir in cuttin' your best friends, but wate till the clouds rol by an' they'll cut you—just behind the Ear, wh re the butcher cut the pig. Yure' no man. An' i don't think yure much of a demercreat either. Go to hel. I lower meself ritin to a skunk, even tho I med him a member of Parliament."

This, it seems to us, is what Matthew Arnold called a serviceable prose style.

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According to a recent chronicler, when Joseph Chamberlain entered the Imperial House of Commons, he was anxious to try his oratorical powers. A certain leading politician, who was piloting a bill through the House, was approached by one of Mr. Chamberlain's friends, who said:

"Chamberlain would like to speak on the bill. Can you give him a chance?"

"Well, you know, I think it wou'd not do. He's a new member and nobody knows what the dickens he might say."

Time went on Chamberlain gained ground—became a power in parliament. The leading politician, on the contrary, had made a series of blunders which had imperiled his position. An election was imminent. Forgetting his previous record, he thought that if he could get Mr. Chamberlain to speak for him he would strengthen his position. He therefore, applied to the right honorable gentleman,

The latter calmly surveyed him through his eyeglass and said:

"Well, you know, I think it would not do. I am a new member, and nobody knows what the dickens I might say!"



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