

HAT HARD TACK, TOO.

Officers in American Army Fare Little Better Than Privates.

Scenes Before Santiago Excite Surprise Among Foreign Military Attaches Who Watched American Methods of Campaigning.

The commanding officer of the American army before Santiago fared no better in the matter of food than soldiers in the ranks. This must excite surprise among the foreign military attaches who are observing American methods of conducting a campaign.

They are accustomed to see the rank-and-file officers of their armies give close attention to personal comfort, without regard to the hardship endured by subordinates.

Many battles fought in continental Europe have been lost through gluttonous indulgence in the pleasures of the table by military leaders, says the New York Sun. To conduct war in comfort is considered so truly the privilege of rank that its abuse excites no surprise and arouses no comment.

American officers when in the field are content with fare almost as simple as that of the early Mahometan conquerors who on a diet of dates subduced nation emulated by epicurean vigilance.

In the campaign of Napoleon III., which culminated in disaster at Sedan, the emperor's field outfit was of luxurious and extensive proportions. Apart from palace officials and his staff and escort, 73 cooks and assistants, bakers and valets followed in his train. Wagons, expressly constructed for the purpose, transported a complete and elaborate kitchen and table service, provisions and a wine cellar composed of the best vintages of Bordeaux, Burgundy and Champagne.

Whenever the emperor made a halt all the itinerant culinary machinery was employed in the concoction of elaborate repasts. When his bewitched troops were massed in the village of Du Chene and famishing for food, the emperor's cooks were plainly visible through the open windows of a dwelling at which he was stopping, preparing supper for himself and his military household.

A crowd of cooks, dressed in spotless white, were roasting meats and fowls and concocting savory sauces, the odor of which added fresh torment to the hunger of the soldiers, who watched with envy, but without protest, the horde of court officials and generals enjoying the feast.

CUTTING DOWN EXPENSES.

Retrenchment in Many Branches of the Army Being Made by the Government.

Retrenchment in nearly all branches of the army is following close upon the cessation of hostilities. Notably this is the case in the ordnance, quartermaster's and engineer bureaus, where the need for the supplies required and the men employed for the exigencies of war no longer exist. In the ordnance bureau the force at the various arsenals is to be reduced in all cases where this can be accomplished without detriment to the service. The Rock Island arsenal probably will be affected more than any others. There before the war about 240 men were employed. When the peace protocol was signed there were approximately 4,000 men engaged and orders have been issued which has reduced this number by two-thirds. Before and during the war large numbers of contracts were made with ordnance firms for supplying material. In many cases these were made conditional, so that they could be terminated within a few days after the cessation of hostilities, and the department has in every case availed itself of this privilege.

The quartermaster's department is dispensing as rapidly as possible with such of the transports that were chartered and for which there is no necessity. Considerable labor is involved in this work, as board of survey has to be appointed to determine the various incidental questions that arise pending the return of the vessels to their owners.

In the engineer's department the services of electricians, mechanics and laborers engaged in the work of harbor and river mine defenses and of boatmen employed to patrol the adjacent waters, to warn approaching craft of their danger also are being discharged as rapidly as is consistent with the good of the service.

His Letter from the Front.

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Metals.

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HIS KNOTS HOLD FAST.

Reunion of Rev. Mr. Meese's Unique Marriage Association in Indiana.

The third annual reunion of the Meese Matrimonial association was held at Auburn, Ind., the other day. The organization was instituted in 1896 and the idea was an original one with Rev. W. L. Meese, of Auburn. The association is unique in all its phases. The members are all men and women whom the venerable clergyman has united in matrimony, and are numbered by the hundreds.

The first reunion was held in August, 1896, and was a grand success. Owing to its peculiarities and the interest it has commanded from the public and press, the association has gained a national reputation and has been made a grand holiday for the people of the vicinity. The founder, Rev. W. L. Meese, is a grand old man of 70 years. He was born in Canal Fulton, O., December 14, 1823, and has been a pastor for 35 years. He has always made a specialty of marriage ceremonies, and since the birth of the association has devoted his entire time in that direction and the furtherance of the interests of the organization.

The meeting just held was opened by the address of welcome by Rev. T. M. Gulliford, of Auburn, and response by Congressman J. M. Robinson, of Fort Wayne. The address of the day was given by Rev. L. C. Frech, entitled "Love, Courtship and Marriage." Ex-Judge S. A. Powers, of Angola, Ind., spoke at great length, urging the members to be good husbands and wives, and discouraging home disturbances and the separation of families. It is a remarkable fact that not one of the hundreds of couples united by Rev. Mr. Meese have been divorced. A new feature was added this year, when the pictures of all the children of members were taken.

TWINS MARRY TWIN SISTERS.

Curious Coincidences Arising from the Union of Early Settlers in the State of Indiana.

Here is the story, briefly told, of curious incidents in the life of the principals of two remarkable Hoosier families—those of Isaac and Moses Martz, twins, who married twins. They are farmers and live in Arcadia, Ind. The couple, who were married November 27, 1834, celebrated their golden weddings in 1884, and it was only last May that the wife of Isaac died, after 63 years of devotion to husband and family.

Col. Astor has given an explanation of his unusual course in regard to his properties to a few of his intimate friends. He received a practical illustration while in Cuba of the great expense the government is under and was more than ever impressed with the belief that it was the duty of every man to bear all the burdens falling upon him in civil life to the fullest degree.

Col. Astor's personal property is assessed at \$250,000, and he paid last year about \$300,000 taxes on real estate. This tax represents holding of real estate valued at \$25,000,000, and the assessment is made upon a basis of 60 per cent. of the actual value. How much increase will be asked for is a matter of conjecture, but if the friends who have talked with him on the subject have formed a correct idea he will go above the 60 per cent. valuation fixed by common consent and custom to grade the assessors.

Perhaps the greatest of his projects is an educational one. Now Col. Astor has in view the building and endowment of a college or university which will rival Yale or Harvard.

Another charitable plan which Col.

Astor has under consideration is the establishment of cheap restaurants in this city similar to those started in London by the princess of Wales, and for which Sir Thomas Lipton, the challenger for the America's cup, gave \$500,000.

ASTOR'S NEW ROLE.

The Millionaire Soldier Turns to Philanthropy.

Says He Wants His Taxes Increased—**Will Found a College and Establish Cheap Restaurants in New York City.**

Col. John Jacob Astor has again set an example for millionaires, and incidentally for those who are wealthy but do not quite reach this fortunate class. He started society when he stepped out of the lap of luxury, left all the comforts and enjoyments which his many millions could give, and went to Santiago to battle for Old Glory. Now, if all the reports are true, Col. Astor's next move will be almost in the nature of a social revolution.

Col. Astor will request the New York city government to increase his taxes on personal and real property.

When Col. Astor returned from Cuba he requested his managers to furnish him a detailed statement of all his personal and real property. It was thought then a division of the estate, so often reported, was about to be had, but it seems Mr. Astor's purpose was different.

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NEW COALING STATIONS.

Bids Opened by Navy Department for Construction of Depot at New London, Conn.

Bids were opened at the navy department for the construction of a coaling station at New London, Conn. The lowest bidder was the firm of John A. Mead & Co., of New York, who offered to construct the station for \$30,000. Although only \$20,000 was appropriated for the station, one bid of \$32,000 was presented. The coaling station will be the largest of its kind in this country. Sheds will be built along the wharf having a total capacity of 10,000 tons. Every effort is being made by the navy department to have this station the most modern and best equipped in the world.

During the war it was evident that the warships were greatly hampered by want of coaling facilities on the Atlantic coast at which vessels could fill their bunkers. The navy department will build coaling stations at several Atlantic seacoast towns, so that in future the fleets will not be retarded in their movement by lack of proper facilities.

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CLAMS IN SOLID SANDSTONE.

Workers Make a Discovery in the Costa Rica Hills in California.

One hundred feet down in the sandstone formation of the Costa Rica hills near San Francisco, Cal., an ancient bed of clams has been found. The bed is extensive. The spot where the discovery was made is fully 600 feet above the present level of the bay and about five miles from the bay shore. The workers bored 600 feet into the hillside before striking the bed. A tramway cart had been almost filled with them before the men noticed they were cutting out from solid sandstone clams by the hundred.

MRS. FISH'S BARN DANCE.

A Novel Entertainment Is Given at Her Summer Home at Newport, R. I.

Of the many novel entertainments at Newport this summer, that which took place at Crossways, the villa of Mr. and Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, was the climax. It took the form of a "barn warming," or stable dance, which some 200 cottagers attended.

At the entrance hall Mrs. Fish, dressed as an Alsatian dairy maid, received her guests. The cotillon was led by Elisha Dyer, Jr., the favors being live chickens and ducklings, besides rakes, hoes, sickles and other agricultural implements. The women were attired as dairy maids and the men wore yokes. Several special dances were introduced led by Mrs. Herman Oelrichs and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr. In Mrs. Oelrichs' dance the women appeared as servants and the men dressed as French chefs.

AFTER REGULAR SOLDIERS.

Government to Recruit from the Ranks of the Volunteers as Fresh Men Mustered Out.

In order to keep the regular army up to the maximum of 61,000 men, the war department will have recruiting officers at all stations at which the volunteers are mustered out with a view of giving the men an opportunity to enlist in the regular service. The time which they have served in the volunteer service will be allowed them as a part of the continuous service in the regular branch. It is estimated that the regular army is some 4,000 or 5,000 below the maximum allowed by the bill which provided for the increase of the regular army when the war began.

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Mohammedans and Devils.

The whole Moslem race despise and hate the sound of bells, which they say cause the evil spirits to assemble together. In consequence they are never used on Mohammedan mosques.

Metals.

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ANNONCES JUDICIAIRES.

VENTE PAR LE SHERIF

ANNONCE JUDICIAIRE

Vente de propriétés de valeur dans le Premier et le Second Districts.

Albert L. Johnson vs Gustave H. Magee.

COUR CIVILE DE DISTRICT POUR LA PAROISSE D'ORLEANS—No 57,245—Ex vertu d'un arrêt de la cour assise à moi adressé par l'Honorable Cour Civile de District pour la Paroisse d'Orléans, dans l'affaire ci-dessus intitulée, je procéderai à la vente à l'encherre publique, à la Bourse des Encasements, No 840 rue Commune, entre les rues Carondelet et Baronne, dans le Premier District de cette ville, JEUDI, le 1er décembre 1898, à midi, de la propriété ci-après décrite, à savoir:

Un certain lot de terre avec toutes les bâtisses et améliorations qui s'y trouvent, situées dans le Second District de cette ville, formé par les rues St Claude et St Martin, dans l'arrondissement dit Bonnefond.

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