of 1863 in New-York and elsewhere being a notable demonstration thereof. England at no time experienced any lack of fighting material during the Napoleonic wars at the beginning of the century, because every Briton knew that the chief aim of Napoleon was to crush England. If at the time of the Crimea the recruiting fell off to such an extent that England was obliged to employ foreign mercenaries, it was because the majority of Britons did not know for what they were fighting, or for whose sake the war had been undertaken. In fact, the question remains an unanswered problem to this day.

It is probable that had the Boers contented themselves with merely defending their own territory the English Government would have found itself in much the same difficulty for the want of men as at the time of the Crimean War, since no one quite comprehended the absolute necessity of embarking upon a struggle against the South African Republics. But from the moment that the latter began the campaign by invading British territory, and capturing and looting British towns and villages in Natal, more men in England flocked to enlist than the authorities knew what to do with, and, far from being troubled for want of recruits, Lords Lansdowne and Wolseley are literally overwhelmed with offers of service. Men who volunteer of their own accord to fight constitute far better fighting material than those who are forced to bear arms against their will.

WHAT THE PRESENT WAR SHOWS.

Indeed, the present war in South Africa, like that between the United States and Spain, has served to prove conclusively that in free English speaking countries there is no need whatsoever for either universal obligatory service or for compulsory service in a modified form known as conscription. Both are repugnant to Anglo-Saxon ideas. For the present an Englishman or an American is his own master. He is free to come and go as he lists, or as the requirements of his calling may demand, without and restriction. But once let either conscription or compulsory military service for all be adopted, either in Great Britain or in the United States, there would be nothing to distinguish their inhabitants from the unfortunate natives of Continental Europe, who cannot leave their country, nay, may not even quit their towns and villages, without notifying the local military authorities and securing their consent. An able bodied youth of nineteen, twenty or twenty-one in France, Germany and Austria will experience the utmost difficulty in obtaining official sanction to absent himself from his country, and if he quits the latter without permission he places himself at once beyond the pale of the law.

It would be interesting to know how many German born citizens there are at present in the United States who cannot return, even as visitors, to the land of their birth to take, perhaps, a last farewell of their aged parents, and who are in every sense of the word exiles from their former home, for no other offence than that they have left the Vaterland without permission and have not complied with its military requirements.

FACTS THAT ARE DISREGARDED.

Those in England and elsewhere who are using the present war in South Africa as an argument in favor of the necessity of developing by conscription or obligatory universal service the British people into "an armed and drilled nation among all the other armed and drilled nations of the world"—I quote the words of the Editor of "The Nineteenth Century"—have manifestly closed their eyes to the fact that this conflict in South Africa has shown the absence of any necessity for the adoption of such measures, since a force of 60,000 Dutch civilians, totally undrilled, and even ununiformed, but possessed of skill in shooting and of a knowledge of the value of trenches and similar cover, has been able to hold in check for months and to repeatedly defeat attacking forces of splendidly trained and equipped regular professional troops of acknowledged courage and stubbornness, amounting in round numbers to more than 150,000 men. The war, in fact, has shown that a small body of men, armed with modern weapons and intrenched in favorable positions, can successfully defend themselves against an attacking force not merely treble, but even ten times its size. That is to say, compulsory military service, converting Great Britain into one of the "drilled nations," as advocated by the Editor of "The Nineteenth Century" and his friends, may be all very well if John Bull intends to start out upon a course of conquest and military aggression, but if England remains content merely to defend her present holdings all that she need do is to adhere to her present system, merely encouraging the proficiency of rifle and artillery shooting on the part of her existing militia and volunteers.

It is this immunity from the slavery of obligatory military service enjoyed by Great Britain and the United States that renders these two countries the ideal of liberalism on the Continent of Europe. Under the circumstances it seems strange—nay, almost paradoxical—to find Lord Salisbury's Tory Government with its finger on the pulse of the nation, resolutely declining to inaugurate anything in the nature of conscription and to find the latter advocated by such liberal leaders and statesmen as Lord Rosebery and Sir Charles Dilke.

EX-ATTACHE.

IN THE RUTGERS-ST. POULTRY MARKET.
The schochot (killer) at the right.

A NEW FIREPROOFING PROCESS.

IT ADDS LITTLE TO THE COST OR WEIGHT OF FABRICS—A GERMAN INVENTION.

In order to prevent the rapid spread of flames in theatres and places of residence some attempt has been made to substitute draperies of asbestos for those usually employed as curtains and decorations. The weight and cost of that material, however, to say nothing of other objections, have interfered with its use for this purpose. And a wish has long been entertained for a method of rendering ordinary materials fireproof that shall be simple and inexpensive, thus making possible the retention of the silk, woollen and cotton fabrics now in favor. Such a process is now reported from Germany.

The exact nature of the chemicals utilized in this operation is not made known, but the American Consul at Freiburg sends to Washington a report on the subject. Samples of the preparation having been procured, the Consul tried a few experiments. Cloth that had been treated with the fluid in question and dried was thrust into a candle flame. The result was that the goods were charred, but they did not take fire. Kerosene was then poured on a piece of material that had been dipped in the preparation. When a match was applied the oil would burn, but not the cloth. A bit of wood wrapped in cloth that had been treated with the preparation was protected from fire when placed on the coals of a furnace.

When bunting or lace curtains have been impregnated with the fluid and dried an addition of less than 1 per cent to the weight can be detected. The increased cost amounts to about three cents a square yard when work is done on a small scale, and less when operations are conducted on a wholesale plan. The strength and color of a fabric are said to be absolutely untouched by the process.

BUYING SABBATH POULTRY

THE EAST SIDE JEWISH MARKET, WITH ITS MOSAIC KILLING.

The poultry merchants of the East Side do their largest business on Fridays, because there are few households so poor that they do not have something in the poultry line on Saturdays. The sweatshop worker or the poor push-cart pedler is satisfied with the plainest kind of food six days in the week, but on Saturday, when he returns from the synagogue arrayed in his holiday finery, he expects a sumptuous meal, of which fowl usually forms an important part.

Saturday's marketing is always done on the day before, and much of the cooking is also done on that day, hence the lively business in the East Side poultry stalls and at the street stands, where poultry is a specialty on Fridays. But the small dealers must also do their shopping, and they make business lively on Thursdays at the supply markets in Rutgers and Gouverneur sts.

At these markets chickens, ducks, turkeys and geese are sold to dealers in quantities ranging from one pair to a number of crates, and although the birds go to a class of people who are much below the average in point of worldly goods the stock is never too good and the prices realized are highly satisfactory.

These markets differ from all other similar sources of table supplies in New-York in that there is never any "drawn fowl" for sale there, and even the killed poultry is executed while the customer waits.

At these markets they have a "schochot," a man who has a license to kill fowl according to the Mosaic rites, and he performs the operation of cutting the throats of the birds which the customer prefers to take home dead, at the rate of three cents a head. For one cent additional the poultry is dressed, and the dealer or the housewife stands by while the professional killer prepares the chickens for the cook.

A PALATIAL SANATORIUM.

A FRENCH COOK AND AN OCEAN YACHT AMONG ITS ATTRACTIONS.

A unique institution for the treatment of sufferers from tuberculosis is now being built on the northern shore of Sicily, near Palermo. It is to be known as the Villa Igiea. Its founder, Commendatore Florio, is largely animated by considerations of benevolence in this enterprise for, although only persons of ample means can take advantage of its benefits, he has provided that after the expense of repairs has been met all surplus receipts shall go to the establishment of sanatoriums for the poor.

Villa Igiea will stand at the head of a small bay, looking to the southward. Its site is a magnificent one, forty yards from the rocky edge of the sea, with terraces between. In the rear Monte Pellegrino shelters the house from northern breezes. The edifice itself will be exceedingly beautiful and is to be surrounded by temples, grottos and marble benches. At night the grounds will be illuminated by thousands of lamps. The medical director, Professor Cervello, has made a special study of the fresh air and ample diet systems of dealing with phthisis in Germany. But he will offer those to whom he ministers a much milder climate than that of the Black Forest, and he announces that a French chef will form an important member of his staff. A yacht of 300 tons will also be at the service of those who want it. Accommodations for about one hundred persons will be afforded at this luxurious resort. It is expected that the opening ceremonies a few months hence will be attended by the King and Queen of Italy.

THE MALARIA PARASITE.

From The London Daily News.

It is no long step from the researches of Major Bruce concerning the tsetse fly to those of Surgeon-Major Ross on the malarial mosquito, and an account of the latter's recent discovery was given by himself at the Livingston Exhibition here this evening. Surgeon-Major Ross, before a large audience, dealt with his subject in a popular style, and a series of microscopic slides, reproduced as dissolving views, served to make his meaning clear, as he explained that the fever known as malarial was due to the presence in the corpuscles of the blood of its victims of a particular parasite, of which there must be 250,000,000 in order to produce an attack of fever in a fully grown man, and that these parasites were injected into healthy persons by the bite of a mosquito raised from the eggs of one that had previously drawn blood from an infected person. Only one description of mosquito or gnat—for Dr. Ross declares there is no difference between these pests—is capable of causing this mischief, the Anopheles, and of that order only the female. The fact that this insect can exist only on flat and marshy ground and that its eggs must be laid in water explains the view that was commonly held not long since that the fever was caused by the exhalations arising from swamps.

WHERE FOOTBALL IS ILLEGAL.

From The London Chronicle.

The curious may dig from the statute book some strange relics of the Middle Ages. Sir Thomas Thornton, the Town Clerk of Dundee, speaking the other day at the football club bazaar, reminded his audience that football is to this day forbidden by Scottish law, and that there is still unrepealed an act of Parliament dating from the reign of James I (of Scotland) enacting that "no man shall play football hereafter, under a penalty of 50s." This announcement contains a grain of comfort for Southern players, for on present form England can scarcely hope to vanquish Scotland at Rugby football this year unless a body of Scottish policemen march on to the field and arrest their own representatives as law breakers.

THE GOUVERNEUR-ST. POULTRY MARKET.