

SHARP WORDS FOR ENGLAND.

A GERMAN LAYS BARE ITS FAULTS AS HE SEES THEM.

Most ignorant and most drunken of Nations, says Max Schmidt—Society corrupt, and open to any who can pay the Admission Fee—Government Weak.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The most recent of England's many candid friends is a Mr. Max Schmidt, who, in an entertaining little book called "Happy-Go-Lucky Land," published by Fisher Unwin, tells the English people what he has seen "through German eyes" during forty years.

Mr. Schmidt is not long in getting to work, for on his third page he tells his English friends that, "Upon the whole, you are the most ignorant of the great nations, and at the same time, the most self-opinionated. You have more than the pride of a Spaniard, yet you have not an apology for courtesy. You have more than the frivolity of a Frenchman, yet your frivolity is without intelligence. Hardly one, since I have known you, have you entered upon any big undertaking without, at the outset, committing blunders which would have brought shame, if not ruin, upon any other people; yet you scarcely know how to blush, save at the behavior of your neighbors; and certainly you are not ruined."

"Providence permits you to prosper, and to prosper exceedingly; but only congenial hypocrisy can allow one to suppose that it is because of your merits. Nevertheless, you all do suppose so. You all, I am sure, have a real belief that the Omnipotent congratulates himself daily on having such fine fellows as yourself as His allies, and that never can He properly repay the debt He owes you. While, therefore, you court the national disaster continually, you take the trouble neither to keep dry your powder nor, in any becoming sense of the words, to trust in God."

After generalizing a little further Mr. Schmidt comes to particulars. He first of all demolishes the British Government, and then goes on to show how the Government has demolished the British Navy. Mr. Schmidt favors no party. Any British Government must, he says, be merely "a row of animated puppets."

The British Army is tackled next. "The other day," says Mr. Schmidt, "I fell upon a suggestion for the erection of a memorial to commemorate the services of the British Army in South Africa. The projector urged that it might fitly take the form of a single heroic figure typifying the British private soldier."

This suggestion Mr. Schmidt calls "nonsense." Unlike many critics, he has, however, an alternative to suggest, which he does in the following way: "If you have ever been to a German or French circus you will remember a personage who is very much to the fore in the performance. I believe that he is known generally as Auguste. He is strikingly dressed; he is distinguished by his own peculiar gait, which he is constantly dropping. He has the air of being always intensely busy, and he actually is often impertinently officious; yet he never does much beyond getting in the way of other people, arrogating to himself the applause intended for someone else or tripping himself up and measuring his length in the sawdust. A colossal figure of Auguste in brass will very well personify your military administration."

Mr. Schmidt advises the English to take lessons from the German Army, "or, if that is offensive to you, from Japan."

After discussing in the same candid spirit about the established Church and educational system of England, Mr. Schmidt comes to "your sports," and says: "The only occupation which you Britons take seriously as a sport. You enter the arena and become ornaments; loafers; you enter the Government and have irresponsible underlings to do your work; you enter the navy, and, believing yourselves to be hereditary lords of the sea, neglect modern progress and dream of Trafalgar. "At your schools and colleges sport holds a far higher place than learning. A youngster, in fact, is not obliged to learn, but must play games. As for the masters here, they are not only loafers, but they shall have taken good cricket more than that they shall be good cricketer on football players. I know one school, a preparatory school for Harrow, where no man can become a master unless he be a Blue. I know colleges at both universities, where, with but little concealment, first scholarships and then fellowships are given for proficiency, not in work, but in play."

"Cricket, and "your newspapers may more safely neglect international politics or European wars than omit to give daily, during the season, a full account of every episode of a first-class match," is not examined in the cold light of German reason. "The American baseball," it is believed, "is a far more satisfactory game in itself; but, unhappily, your American cousins, like yourselves, have been so overcome even more as spectators than as executors, and in America as well as in Great Britain, at baseball and rowing, as well as at cricket and football, professionalism has now found your sports with its malevolent trail."

"British Drunkenness" has a chapter to itself. Mr. Schmidt starts off by saying: "One of the most depressing, and, indeed, sickening characteristics of the British Empire, at home and over-sea, is the prevalence of habitual and swinish drunkenness. The vice is not confined to any class, nor is it invariably the outcome of misery and want. Especially in Scotland, and in some of the colonies, it is common among people who are ostentatiously, and perhaps, in their way, sincerely religious. It is not, as elsewhere, almost entirely restricted to men. In the streets of all your big cities drunken women is so common an object as to be scarcely remarkable."

After declaring England to be the most drunken of nations, Mr. Schmidt finds it strange that, "except in the matter of beer, the Briton does not consume so much alcoholic beverage per head as the German or the Frenchman. He is the greatest beer-drinker; but the average German drinks nearly twice as much wine, and more than 50 per cent. more spirits, and the average Frenchman, while he drinks fifty times more wine, also drinks just twice as much spirits."

This apparent paradox is explained on the assumption that while "the foreigner drinks generally, spreading his annual drink bill nearly equally over the whole of his year," the Englishman has gone to extremes. They can be divided into "an absolutely sober section" and "an absolutely drunken section." Taking the population of the United Kingdom at forty millions, Mr. Schmidt divides them into the following groups:

Table with 2 columns: Group and Number. Categories include Children, Total abstainers, Moderate drinkers, Drunkards, and Total.

"Of the five million drunks, I should be inclined to set down four millions as

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With the filing away in the Navy Department's archives of the President's memorandum, the Schley case will become a thing of the past so far as its official aspect is concerned. It is the intention of the President to take no further notice of the affair. This is generally satisfactory to the naval service. Among naval officers on duty there is a feeling of relief that the controversy has been ended, and many of them expressed the hope to-day that nothing more would be heard of it.

Strangely enough, the President's disposition of the Schley appeal caused little comment in naval circles. It has been believed generally by officers that the President would endorse the findings of the Court of Inquiry and would deny Schley's claim to having commanded the American squadron which destroyed Cervara's ships. That he did so was a cause of congratulation to the President. Even among the Schley partisans there was a disposition to concede that the President showed a spirit of fairness throughout the review of the case. The full of blame has come from any of those who believe that Admiral Schley was guilty of all that the Court of Inquiry found, although a few would have thought that the President had been a little more emphatic in his commendation of the work done by Admiral Sampson prior to the destruction of Cervara's ships. This view was not put forth in any spirit of criticism.

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Won't Overpay Truck Owners a Cent for Snow Carting.

Removal of snow from the Fifth district streets, thirty-fourth and Fifty-eighth streets was suspended for several hours yesterday because the truckmen struck for more pay in the shape of an additional ticket for each load. They said they had got it under Nagle. About sixty truck owners joined in the protest.

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About half of the truckmen, after being informed of Mr. Woodbury's orders, resumed work, but the others refused to go back to work. They said there was no profit in it.

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Ice Ties Up Ferryboats.

The ferry service from South Brooklyn was tied up yesterday by the solidly packed ice in the bay from Erie Basin to Owl's Head. The West Brooklyn broke from her moorings early yesterday morning and drifted out to the end of the long dock, where she became fast in the ice. The Brooklyn tried to rescue her and got fast herself.

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France Honors Dr. Tolman.

Dr. William H. Tolman of this city, who has been decorated with the cross of the Legion of Honor by President Loubet of France, upon the recommendation of M. Delassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs in the French Cabinet. Dr. Tolman, who is Secretary of the League for Social Service, has been very active as an economist and publicist in this country and abroad, and is the American correspondent of Musée Social of Paris.

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NOBILITY AT BLUE DUCK.

How Gentleman Ed and His Friends Welcomed Some English Youngsters.

Just while a small part of the total population of the country is convulsing itself over the coming of the English, a large English coronation and several other things connected with royalty, there comes to mind the visit of Lord Hare of England to Blue Duck. Whether his name was really Lord Hare or not is not over known, but as a great many scions of noble houses came down from Winnipeg to inspect Blue Duck land during the "boom," he was taken for what he purported to be and entertained.

First notice of his coming came through one of the postal clerks of the Breckinridge Division of the old Manitoba road, who, writing from Barnesville to Halvorson of Blue Duck said in his letter: "The English Lord and five of his friends, with half a dozen servants and a dozen trunks and telescopes, arrived in Blue Duck a week later, making a special drive over wagon roads, and the only one of the kind, gaining a good knowledge of the land. All the Englishmen were young men, not over 23; they had many quantities of money and clothes and quite indefinite ideas as to the United States. The English Lord and five of his friends, with half a dozen servants and a dozen trunks and telescopes, arrived in Blue Duck a week later, making a special drive over wagon roads, and the only one of the kind, gaining a good knowledge of the land. All the Englishmen were young men, not over 23; they had many quantities of money and clothes and quite indefinite ideas as to the United States. 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