

# THE GAZETTE.

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY

BY HOMER MOUTON, - PROPRIETOR.

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### Military Reorganization.

New Orleans Picayune.

One of the most important problems which must soon engage the attention of the country is the reorganization of the army and militia force. The lessons of the war with Spain would be entirely lost did we not set about reorganizing our military system with energy.

It is generally agreed that we need for the future a standing army of at least 100,000 men, and, in addition to that, it would be well to organize a colonial army, to be supported out of the revenues of our new possessions. This idea of a colonial army seems to have already found favor with the War Department, as it is reported that Secretary Alger favors the enlistment of Cubans, and even Spaniards, who desire to remain in Cuba. A number of regiments for colonial service might be organized from such material, care being taken, however, to give all the important offices—say from captains up—to Americans, in order to insure loyalty and proper discipline.

The regular army should be thoroughly reorganized, from the top down. An efficient general staff should be created to take the place of the existing cumbersome bureau system. To this general staff should be entrusted all the details of mobilization, transportation, subsistence and strategy. Plans should be matured for the sudden mobilization of at least half a million men, and supplies should be kept in store at all times for the proper equipment and maintenance of such a force.

In reorganizing the army, care should be taken to retain intact the three-battalion organization recently established in infantry regiments. The British system might be followed of keeping one battalion actively engaged at home, another at some recruiting station, and the third on colonial service. In this way the men could alternate between duty at home and duty in the colonies. It would, of course, be highly unwise not to maintain at least a proportion of regular troops in the colonies, no matter how successful the proposed colonial army might prove.

Another matter of importance will be the reorganization of the militia. While the management of the militia is left mainly to the States, the lessons of the war show that for the future the General Government must take a larger interest in the militia, or at least that portion of it which is organized, uniformed and equipped. The National Guard must be organized after exactly the same plan as the regular army. The same methods of discipline must be enforced, and the National Government must provide more liberally for the arming and equipping of the force.

A suit was filed in New Orleans last week by Messrs. Fairchild & Hobson, commission merchants, against the Louisiana and Arkansas and the Western Union Telegraph Companies for damages caused by a mistake in a telegram. On November 22, 1897, Robert Worrell of St. Joseph telegraphed to Fairchild & Hobson, his commission merchants "Buy me ten May corn," being an order to purchase 10,000 bushels of May corn. When the telegram was delivered to Fairchild & Hobson it read "Buy me ten May," and as this message, according to trade regulations, meant to buy him 10,000 bales of cotton deliverable in May, they immediately bought 10,000 bales of May cotton. Worrell, of course, would not hear to their purchase, and Fairchild and Hobson had to sell the 10,000 bales of May cotton and they thereby incurred a loss of \$252,49; they are now suing the telegraph companies for that amount. The mistake was made in the Tallulah office. The amount involved is small, but the principle is most important, and there is no doubt that the telegraph companies will have to pay. The Louisiana and Arkansas line is the line that ends here, and of which J. M. Johnson of Tallulah is president.—Banner-Democrat.

### JUST FOR FUN.

An eastern firm manufactures porcelain finger rings. They are probably intended for Chinawares.

Caller—Is your father at home? Boy—No, sir. He's employed on a county contract. Caller—Well, I'm glad to hear he has work. What's he doing? Boy—Six months and costs.

"They say," said the prosy boarder, "that there is a newspaper in China that was started a thousand years ago." "They must have been the original yellow journalists," said the joker.

Mrs. Boarder—How do you find the chicken soup, Mr. Boarder? Mr. Boarder—I have no difficulty in finding the soup, madam, but I am inclined to think the chicken will prove an alibi.

Clergyman—You want to be separated from your husband? Don't you know that marriages are made in heaven? She—I know that, sir; but ours was not. I got my husband through an advertisement in the papers.

Neighbor No. 1—Does the noise of my children disturb you? Neighbor No. 2—Oh, I like it. "Do you, really?" "Yes, indeed. My wife's relatives are rather nervous people, and they never stay longer than a day or two now."

"Oh, you needn't talk," said the indignant wife. "What would you be today if it weren't for my money, I'd like to know?" "I really don't know, my dear," calmly replied the heartless wretch, "but I'm inclined to think I would be a bachelor."

Mrs. Dix—Don't you think your husband is rather headstrong for an invalid? Mrs. Hix—Yes, and the doctor's to blame for it, too. Mrs. Dix—Indeed! And why, pray? Mrs. Hix—He refuses to allow him to take any nourishment but goat's milk.

"I suppose, Henry," said the old gentleman to the new son-in-law, "that you are aware the check for \$50,000 I put among your wedding presents was merely for effect?" "Oh, yes, sir," responded the cheerful Henry, "and the effect was excellent. The bank cashed it this morning without a word."

### THE STAGE.

Dan Daly has made it unpleasant for some members of "The Belle of New York" company, and there is a row.

Eileen Cummins, at one time leading lady for Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett and actors of that class, is now a member of Richard Mansfield's company.

"As a Man Sows," an English "drink drama," is generally believed to have been written around the life of the late great French novelist, Guy de Maupassant.

Edward Harrigan has formed an alliance with Bob Fitzsimmons, and will revive "The Mulligan Guards Ball," introducing the lanky pugilist in the ballroom scene.

E. H. Sothern has found it necessary to supply himself with a new play, which will probably be produced before his road tour begins in November, if he can find one.

James Jay Brady has assumed the general management of the Tri-State Amusement Company, which controls the Dearborn Theater in Chicago, the Duquesne in Pittsburg and the Grand in St. Louis.

Mrs. Langtry contemplates returning to the stage, and will in all probability be seen in a new comedy this season. She is another connecting link—as she owns stables and places horses—between the sporting world and the stage.

It is asserted that one of the most sensational mechanical effects ever seen on the stage is shown at the ending of the third act of "The Evil Eye," where the weird "Wartburg" is hurled as from a catapult fifty feet through the air.

Jakobowski's new comic opera, "Campano; or, the Wandering Minstrel," is said to be sprightly in the score. The fun of the plot turns on the masquerade of a flirtatious Frenchman as a celebrated tenor, who finally confronts the impostor.

### POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Learning and wisdom don't always travel hand in hand.

A man of wealth is never cranky—he's merely eccentric.

About two-thirds of a man's so-called friends would fail to stand the test.

When a man jumps at conclusions he doesn't always light where he expected to.

The trouble with the charity that begins at home is that it seldom gets any farther.

The only material difference between a cold and the grip is in the doctor's bill.

Some hats make a woman's face look long, but not half as long as her husband's when he gets the bill.

There is a period in every boy's life prior to which he can't be put to sleep at night, and after which it's difficult to get him up in the morning.—Chicago News.

### IRONICAL IFS.

If a man is able to gain time he gains everything.

If you are happily married it is foolish to despair.

If a man is ignorant it is impossible to defeat him in an argument.

If a girl advises a young man not to lead her brother money she's in love.

If out of sight is really out of mind, then all blind people must be insane.

If some playwrights would vaccinate their plays before staging them they might take.

If a man is a coward he is scorned and abused; if a woman is a coward she is petted and encouraged.—Chicago Daily News

Silk velvets in all the new shades at Mrs. Bailey's.

**ACTIVE SOLICITORS WANTED EVERYWHERE** for "The Story of the Philippines" by Murat Halstead, commissioned by the government as Official Historian to the War Department. The book was written in army camps at San Francisco, on the Pacific with General Merritt, in the hospitals of Honolulu, in Hong Kong, in the American trenches at Manila, in the insurgent camps with Aguinaldo, on the deck of the Olympia with Dewey, and in the roar of battle at the fall of Manila. Bonanza for agents. Brimful of original pictures taken by government photographers on the spot. Large book. Low Prices. Big profits. Freight paid. Credit given. Drop all trashy unofficial war books. Outfit free. Address, F. T. Barber, Sec'y., Star Insurance Bldg., Chicago.

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For sale by Wm. Clegg.

READ THIS. Opelousas, January 27, 1898. This is to certify that I have used Hall's Great Discovery, of Waco, Texas, for kidney and bladder troubles, and can truthfully say that it gave good satisfaction. W. R. COCHRAN, City Clerk

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