

DISCIPLINE POOR IN NATIONAL GUARD

So Said General Boyd in his Annual Report. Asks for an Increase in the Appropriation for the National Guard.

"The discipline of our national guard leaves much to be desired. In many of the organizations it is poor in others it is lax and in some few it is good. The responsibility of this rests largely upon the immediate commanding officer."

This comment is made by J. C. Boyd, the late adjutant general of South Carolina in his annual report to the general assembly in which he says that the national guard of South Carolina is very deficient in the matter of drill. He says that the almost total neglect of the instruction of enlisted men when first entering the service as recruits manifests itself in the "stouchy and badly-set up appearance" of companies when assembled for drills or ceremonies. He says that more time must be given at home stations, the time allotted for camps of instruction being too short to permit of any portion being given to instruction which should have been imparted before coming to camp. He says that sighting drills and aiming drills as expressly prescribed by the war department have all been entirely neglected.

As to public property he says that the importance of proper care and accountability for public property issued for the use in the military service alone has never been understood by the national guard and this "neglect has often been no subject to severe criticism by the inspecting officers, as well as by this office. During the past year much property has been lost or destroyed, through the wilful neglect or inexcusable carelessness on the part of those responsible for same. The losses this year are believed to be much larger than during the year 1909."

In the report it is recommended that the general assembly make an appropriation of \$20,000 for the maintenance of the militia in 1911. It is stated that the militia has complied with the requirements of the militia act of 1903, which is generally known as the "Dick act."

It is pointed out that the \$11,000 appropriation made by the general assembly for 1910 was inadequate to meet the needs of the organization and that "some of the companies are struggling hard to pay back rent and other indebtedness."

The report will include reports from the various departments of the national guard.

There is some criticism of Col. W. T. Brock, who resigned from the position of assistant adjutant general. The report on this point at the same time commends Captain Isadore Schayer of Laurens. The report reads:

"Although nearly two months were consumed by Col. William T. Brock in making inspections, at the estimated cost to the state of about \$250, no detail report of inspections has been made by him in the required manner. The only inspection report of any value to this office, is the excellent one filed in this office by Captain Schayer. It is, therefore, impossible to make any remarks, commendatory or otherwise upon the showing made at the annual spring inspections."

Captain Schayer calls attention to the fact that "there is not an ambulance in the state" although the law requires one ambulance for each regiment on the march and three to accompany it if operating separately.

Captain Schayer in concluding his report says: "The above may not be couched in the most acceptable and recognized terms, but I have no apologies to make for its purport."

As to the medical property Captain Schayer says that this is only in fair condition some of the instruments, (surgical) being rusty. The supply on the whole, he explains, is adequate. Detailed criticisms are made. This was with respect to the Third regiment inspected at Charleston, as to the personnel and the property inspected at Elloree. "One officer and five men answered the muster" writes Captain Schayer. "The men were not uniformly appareled—no instruction having been previously given them how to appear. Instruction in this corps as well as those of the Second and First, were found to be practically nil."

Captain Schayer reports as to conditions in other corps. He suggests as follows:

"It appears to the undersigned that the medical property should be located with the men and that, at least, once a month a regimental infirmary should be pitched, thus affording both officers and men frequent opportunity to familiarize themselves with the property and the drill for the proper care of the same. Good officers without instructions and good men without drill are practically useless"—Daily Mail

PUPPET SHOWS.

The Marionette Drama Almost as Old as the World Itself.

How few theater goers of the present day realize that centuries ago, when there were no actors or actresses to argue with managers as to the size of type their name should appear in or what place on the program they were to have, the great amount of amusement of the people of that day was derived from the marionette drama. The marionette theater was the only place where one could hear or see a play. The artists were the puppets; and their ability lay in the deftness of the thread puller, which was the Sanskrit name of the stage manager, and yet some of those puppets were as famous in their day as our well known stars of today.

A peep into the origin of this form of drama shows that it is almost as old as the world itself.

The word marionette is derived from morio, meaning fool, or from Marion, the man who divorced marionettes from the church plays and used them for small comedy plays in Paris, where today they are popular in several manikin theaters.

The word fantoccini is Italian for marionettes, being derived from fantimo, meaning child, and the word puppet comes from poupee, a baby or doll. Marionettes are of high antiquity, because figures with movable limbs have been found in the tombs of Egypt and in the ruins of Etruria. They were common among the Greeks and from them were imported to Rome. Marionette plays are now popular in China and India and for many centuries maintained an important place among the European countries.

Goethe and Lessing mention them, and as late as 1721 La Sage wrote plays for puppets to perform. Don Quixote wrote "the curious puppet show which represents the play of Melissandra and Don Geyferos," one of the best shows that have been acted in time out of mind in this kingdom."

Greece, Rome and Egypt had their marionettes centuries ago, and the historian Herodotus mentions them. Prethernos of Athens was given the very stage in Athens on which the dramas of Euripides were enacted for his puppets by the Archons of Athens. Today they are a favorite amusement in Java, the land of coffee, the Javanese marionette being moved by long, slender sticks from behind a fence, and the figures of wood and leather are taken as highly serious by the spectators, some of them portraying divinities in religious themes.—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Wise Choice.

An old philosopher who had two pupils one day gave each a sum of money and told them to purchase something with it which should fill the room where they studied. One pupil bought a large quantity of hay and straw, and the next morning he invited his master to see his room, which he had almost filled with the results of his purchase.

"Ah! Very good, very good!" exclaimed the philosopher. And now, turning to the other pupil, he said, "Well, friend, what have you bought?"

"A small lamp and some oil which will fill the room with a light in the dark evening hours. This will enable us to continue our studies by night as well as by day if we should so wish," replied the pupil.

"You have made the best purchase," said the philosopher.

He Was Helping.

A Baltimore man whose son is a student at Princeton has had frequent occasion to remonstrate with his boy touching his extravagance, but the father invariably "comes to the front" when request is made for further funds.

In his last letter to his son the father, after the usual recital, stated that he was forwarding a check for \$50, and he wound up with:

"My son, your studies are costing me a great deal."

To which the hopeful in his next letter replied:

"I know it, father, and I don't study very hard either."—Harper's Magazine.

Heredity and Natural Selection.

Heredity is the tendency of every organism to produce its like. But in the production of the new forms there is, generally speaking, a slight variation in some cases from the parent form, and it is in the direction of these variations that natural selection acts. The variation repeats itself and keeps on doing so until finally the change is so marked that what practically amounts to a new species results. Thus are accomplished by slow results, extending through ages perhaps, the ends that man by artificial selection accomplishes in a few years.—Exchange.



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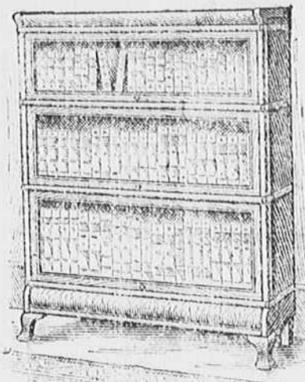
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Mr. J. P. Smith, well known in This County, Among Those Who Have Received Flattering Appointments Recently.

Three Wolford men have recently received appointments of signal honor: J. P. Smith, '84, has been commissioned by an English company, at a compensation of \$1,000 a month, to investigate their oil field holdings in Russia. Dr. Smith is a Ph. D. of Gottingen and professor of paleontology in Leland Stanford University, California. He is an authority in his special field of research, and when this English company needed an expert they had to come to him. Giles L. Wilson, '88, performed his duties as State bank examiner so efficiently that the U. S. government has called him into its service as a national bank examiner. The press of the State has borne testimony to the fact that, though the government has gained, the State has lost an exceedingly intelligent, satisfactory public servant. Dr. S. Marion Tucker, '96, (Ph. D. Columbia University) has been called from the chair of English in the Florida State College for Women to a similar position in Adelphi College, Brooklyn. Three books have been recently published, the products of Dr. Tucker's scholarship—Selections from the Poetry of Byron, Macaulay's Essay on Warren Hastings, and Hole's A Man Without a Country.—Southern Christian Advocate.

Dr. Smith is a brother to Dr. Charles Foster Smith, Ph. D., LL. D., who holds the chair of Greek in the University of Wisconsin. He is also an uncle of Mrs. H. B. Humbert, being a brother to her father, Mr. A. J. Smith of this county.

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