

IMPROVE THEIR OPPORTUNITY

How Army and Navy Men Get Rich After Leaving the Service.

SOME TYPICAL CASES HERE AND THERE

Yankee Shrewdness Cuts a Swath in the Orient, in Europe and at Home—Value of the Re-straints of Service.

A period of service in the navy or regular army develops the latent quality in the make-up of many a young man. It is not intended here to say that any man is too good for the American army or navy. But it cannot be denied, relative to the West, that even the present war was Star, that long years of service in the ranks of the United States too well endowed by nature and education for civilian effort to daily through all of their best youthful days in a military outfit in time of peace. Long after this war is over the same thing may probably be set down with truth as regards a considerable class of enlisted men in our two fighting establishments. It is a lack of self-control and steadiness that causes men of capacity of the first order to drift into the voluntary military service, but, with reference to a great number of the men of this sort who awaken to find themselves in Uncle Sam's army and navy uniforms, the maxim that all men, like water, are bound to find their level, decidedly does not apply. Men of the type referred to "arrive" at themselves, to employ a Gallicism, when they find themselves serving in a garrison or on board a man-of-war, and before they have put in very much service they look around them and reflect in a "Why is this thus?" strain. The one thing they are sure of is that they are in a uniformed service. With self-restraint added to their natural capacity they are fit, when the time comes for them to break away from the service they have joined, to take a winning hold on the game of life ashore. This many of them do, not alone in this country, but in many parts of the world. As a matter of fact the most successful of them renew shore life in foreign countries, and the writer knows of many cases in which such men have been conspicuously successful. It is better all around, then, that such men "take to the beach." Uncle Sam does not require men too well educated, or too clever by nature, for his enlisted soldiers and sailors. The well-educated soldier or sailor rarely makes an unprofitable investment in the service or shipmate of only average intelligence, for education generates independence, and individual independence in a military outfit is only a good thing in theory. The fighting establishments have more trouble with their educated enlisted men, by far, than they do with the great bulk of the men with only ordinary endowments for whom the army or navy is the natural place. Many of the educated enlisted men in the navy, for example, who have been notably successful in civil life after their period of sea service, have been failures as men-of-war.

An Expert Engraver.

A young New Yorker, after serving a six-year apprenticeship at the art, became known as one of the finest bank note engravers in the United States, got tangled up with the Tenderloin and the fluids and other ailments thereof about ten years ago, and, in a cantina in a certain city, none of the engraving firms would employ him on account of his well known tendencies toward dissipation. He would work for two days and carouse for two weeks, and he got to be a pretty no-account youth. When he was "up against the wall" he used a phrase of the time, he concluded that there was nothing for it but to "hold up his hand" in a recruiting office. He chose the navy. He wanted to get a penman's billet, such as ship's writer or yeoman, but there were no vacancies, and, like a game young chap, he went in as a cadet. For a man who had been used to the comfortable living this young engraver had enjoyed all of his life, the coal passer's billet was a heart-breaking proposition, but he had a square jaw, and he shut his teeth down and said to himself, "I'll try your medicine, imbued with the time he was ready to go ashore after his three-year cruise on the South Atlantic station he had been rated as a first-class fireman, and he hadn't been in the brig more than half a dozen times for wild conduct. He was as steady as a rock during the last year, and he went over the side of his ship at Buenos Ayres, at the conclusion of his enlistment, about twenty times as good a man as he was the day he joined the navy. Buenos Ayres wanted engravers badly at the time, and this ex-coal passer got a job at \$20 per diem in gold the first day he was ashore. He stuck to his work and kept out of the swift whirl of young Englishmen and Americans who convert night into day down in the fastest city in South America, and at the end of two years he got a contract for engraving and printing all the bonds and paper money of Brazil. The contract made him a rich man. He has a big engraving plant of his own now, and a young man well on the hither side of 35, with all kinds of money, he boards American men-of-war when they get down his way and dines in the cabin with the fleet commander.

Gets a Big Salary.

A young San Francisco man named Whitlock shipped in the navy as a coal passer at the Mare Island yard in a California, in 1888. He had been a clerk in a real estate and insurance office, and he had never had a shovel in his hands before, probably, but he raked coal out of the bunkers valiantly for a year before his clerical ability was discovered and he was made the engineer's yeoman, with the rate of chief petty officer. Then his ship went out to the China station. By the time the ship arrived there young Whitlock was in difficulties with his chief engineer, who was an officer of the old-fashioned swaggering type, still known among the enlisted men as a "bucko" or "belaying pin first mate."

Whitlock perceived the plain fact that if he didn't get out of the navy he'd probably wind up in a naval prison, for he had a lot of trouble to keep his hands off the chief engineer, who actually did rub it in on him, and if he had done anything but that sort it was a case of at least five years in a naval prison, and the yeoman knew it. So he bought his discharge out of the service. It took all of his savings, several hundreds of dollars, to do it, but, as it afterward developed, the price was cheap enough. Whitlock had a salary of \$5 American gold piece when he quit the navy and got out immediately. He went to work as shipping clerk in a big English opium-exporting house at a salary of \$25 a month. Whitlock had it in him, and his employers saw it. Within three months he was made correspondence clerk at a salary of \$1,000 per annum. At the end of two years of service with the opium-exporting firm he slid into the billet of general manager of the concern at a salary of \$20,000 per annum, and this is the billet that Mr. Whitlock is holding down today. He is one of the big "foreign devils" of Shanghai and his name is in Shanghai's English directory in heavy type. His firm needs him so badly that he hasn't been able to get back to the United States since he left it as a coal passer on a United States man-of-war, but when Whitlock does come back here he'll travel on his own yacht. Mr. Whitlock entertains American naval officers on board his yacht and at his country

place on the outskirts of Shanghai when they need to be in the city in cruising.

In the Chinese Service.

The Chinese customs service has for many years regarded its ex-American man-of-war's men as among its most valuable employees. The chief inspector of the custom house at Canton is—or was two years ago—a Philadelphia man named Walter Cummings. Cummings owned up to himself that he wasn't a spectacular success as a man-of-war's man. Swabbing decks—he shipped as a handman—was not in his line, but fighting was a good deal to his taste, and it is said in the navy yet that when Cummings was cruising the China seas he licked almost every man forward on the China station.

He got a bad conduct discharge when his ship returned to San Francisco and he didn't have a dollar when he went ashore. But he had learned in China of the good opening there for clever American clerks in the customs service and so he shipped aboard a "wind-jammer" and made his way to Canton, where he immediately went to work as a customs clerk. He was chief inspector within three years, with enough skill on his uniform to outfit himself in a big way, and he was permitted to permit of his hanging on to his membership in all of the best foreign clubs in Canton.

A New England Yankee "from up Bath way" named Babcock, who had done a lot of merchant sailing up to the rate of second mate, shipped as an A. B. in the United States navy at the Portsmouth navy yard in 1885. Babcock was a rattling good sailor, a man without education, but with a whole lot of native shrewdness. He was liked well enough by his shipmates, who, however, voted him out of the ship when he was a petty officer. Babcock didn't spend a cent aside from his mess and tobacco money during his entire three-year cruise, and, as he was made a petty officer soon after his enlistment, he had a snug pile of savings when he was ordered to "clear the navy" at Yokohama, Japan.

Saw His Opportunity.

Babcock looked around him for a while in Yokohama, and then he corralled about a dozen skillful Japanese feather workers, employed them at very small pay, and set them to work making three-by-four-foot representations in colored feathers of George Washington, the father of his country. He had a portrait 10 years to have these really artistic portraits in feathers made, and he sold all of them that he could make by employing more men and making them work overtime to the United States man-of-war's men for from 50 to 75 cents apiece. When he had the George Washingtons in feathers grew slack Babcock set his japs to work making American flags of delicately worked feathers. He got from 25 to 50 yen each for these, all that he could turn out of them, for almost every American naval officer on the station wanted one of these. He sent or bring back to his people in this country. By this time the shrewd Babcock, who didn't drink saki or any other kind of confusing liquid, had a plant. He set a large force of skillful Japs to work making all sorts of Japanese curios, and he started an emporium in Yokohama. He widened this out into a wholesale establishment, and began shipping Japanese curios to England, America and the other big markets for Japanese products of art. Babcock hasn't made any effort to have the tattooed compasses and stars removed from his big horry hands, even if he is now one of the very wealthy Americans living in Japan. He makes frequent tours of his branch wholesale Japanese curio emporiums at Kobe, Nagasaki and Hakodate, and he enjoys life prodigiously in a quiet sort of way. He is one of the very best friends the American sailors have on the China station. Whenever one of them goes broke ashore in Yokohama, all he has to do is to make for Babcock's emporium, and, if Babcock is there, the always comes away with a pocket full of money under his mister shirt to see him through the rest of his liberty.

Made His Pile.

Living opulently in the Burgundy district of France is an ex-American man-of-war's man, who put in nearly twenty years on the Mediterranean station as a chief boat's mate, without ever once returning to his home in the United States. This was a usual thing, but the chief boat's mate made it go through because he mastered the knowledge of the channels of all of the Mediterranean ports, and therefore became an invaluable man to be kept on that station as long as he wanted to remain there. He was the only man on the station who mustn't give up your gun to anybody but your commanding officer."

"I am the commanding officer here," said the colonel's daughter, and the gallant lieutenant took off his hat. I do not think George went to the gunhouse unless starved. So one morning a company lined up before the colonel's tent, sang him a song and told him how hungry they were. Then they said they had a request to make which they feared he would not grant. The colonel told them to make the request fairly.

"Please, sir, have you a calendar?" asked a deep voice, respectfully, at once end of the line.

"A calendar?" said the colonel. "Why, certainly. Orderly—But what do you want with a calendar?" he asked, a bit mystified.

"Please, sir," said a squeak from the little man at the other end of the line, "we should like to eat the dates." And thereupon the soldiers ran.

Now this dearth of food got abroad and proved a blessing. It checked the hearts of the mothers in the bear-grass and blue-grass and now these boys have the fat of the land in plenty.

That afternoon there was a regimental drill in one of the pasture-lands of Ashland, through knee-deep blue grass, and with the singing of the old Pennsylvanian over-head. The mountaineers, who had no uniforms and were undrilled, kept the crowd back. One big fellow in a slouch hat, who was pushing it back firmly, saw a girl with a bicycle, and her escort, returning before him.

He put one big sunburnt hand on the man's chest, and with the other took off his hat. "Lady," he said, "you come out here where you can see."

They drill well, these volunteers—some of the companies exceedingly well—and the officers, charging up and down the field in a running walk or rack gallop, their southern-gaited horses, were a contrast to the sturdily trotting regulars, and—Shade of Custer and Substance of Chaffee at Chickamauga—I saw one of these officers, when his horse did strike a trot, "post" to it!

At dusk the crowd melted away, and the star and crescent rose over the monument of the great commoner and sank among the hills of the capital, where lived that gallant Crittenden, who, with 150 other Kentuckians, went to Cuba in 1851 to fight the fight we are fighting today. Crittenden and fifty Kentucky Kentuckians were captured and shot in platoons of six. It was when he was ordered to kneel, with his back to the firing soldiers, that he made his famous assertion:

"A Kentuckian kneels only to his God and faces his fate without flinching."

And he died standing and with his front to Spain. All these volunteers know this story, and when they get to Cuba they will have something more than the Maine to remember. They will remember Crittenden.

Charge of Desecration to Face.

DENVER, July 20.—George Lare, who enlisted in the Seventh United States cavalry some time ago in this city, and deserted recently from Fort Grant, Ariz., was brought to Fort Logan and there by court-martial desertion in time of war is generally punished by death. No decision has been given out.

tables, until he had saved enough money to go into the chess and steak business on a big scale. Then he branched out and opened a big place on one of the main thoroughfares of Marseilles, and he has been making money hand over fist ever since, to the deep disgust of the French proprietors of tables d'hote in Marseilles.

Successful Soldiers.

The sailors have not had all of the success in this line. Any number of American regular army soldiers have done well in civil life after getting out of the army, either in the right way at the conclusion of their enlistments or in the wrong way by "bottails," or dishonorable discharges. A few years ago a cavalryman named Black was "bottailed" from his troop out at the Presidio of San Francisco and he didn't have a dollar when he went ashore. But he had learned in China of the good opening there for clever American clerks in the customs service and so he shipped aboard a "wind-jammer" and made his way to Canton, where he immediately went to work as a customs clerk. He was chief inspector within three years, with enough skill on his uniform to outfit himself in a big way, and he was permitted to permit of his hanging on to his membership in all of the best foreign clubs in Canton.

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BLUE GRASS VOLUNTEERS.

They Will Remember Crittenden as Well as the Maine.

These Kentucky mountaineers created a good deal of interest, writes the Chickamauga correspondent of Harper's Weekly. Twenty-five per cent of them were rejected, I was told, because of their extraordinary height. One big fellow went to town, turned into a saloon and called for whiskey. "I haven't had a drink for ten years," he said. "I came down here to fight for the United States and to free Cuba, and they won't let me fight, so I'm going back home and sell the farm that they say down here that I'm too big to fight. I haven't had a drink for ten years, but I am going to get on a big drunk now." And he did. The rest of the rejected cavalrymen went home weeping and cursing by turns. It was a contrast to the camp of the regulars, this camp of volunteers. It was like a picnic ground. All the soldiers who were not on duty seemed to go where they pleased and do what they pleased. One sentinel walked his beat with his gun on his arm, and I myself saw a typical scene. A Kentucky soldier, who was a girl's daughter through one of the camps and a sentinel stopped and presented arms. "Why, is that George?" said the girl. "Dear me, I didn't know you! Can't you shake hands with me?" she added to the serious soldier, who stood at rigid attention. George grinned helplessly and with comical compromise between his dignity as a soldier and his personal relations with his superior said: "Yes, I can, if Jim there will let me."

Woman's Club Work Today.

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ORGANIZED WORK AND WOMEN

Mrs. Henrotin Discusses the Subject in Its Varied Phases.

PRACTICAL RESULTS OF THE CLUB IDEA

Fruits of the Denver Convention of the National Federation—Some of the Great Principles Set in Motion.

By "constitutional limitation" the official club career of Mrs. Ellen Henrotin of Chicago terminated with the recent meeting of the National Federation of Women's clubs at Denver. With her touch so long upon its pulse, no woman in the country is better able to gauge the development of club life in America than she.

Just returned from her duties, Mrs. Henrotin was found in her charming home on Superior street, approachable, gracious, ready to talk of club life as she knows it. "The development of the aims and methods of women," says Mrs. Henrotin, "since the congress of '92, has been simply incalculable. "Previous to this great convention nearly every hamlet in America, boasted of its 'Ladies' Literary society,' but through many of them were doing fine work along certain lines, they were all self-limited, their horizon not extending beyond their own circumscribed tastes and requirements. The main feature of the first convention was, therefore, organization. "I couldn't begin to tell you of the congeniality to which this first biennial convention gave rise. Among them are the National Council of Jewish Women, the National Council of Lutheran Women, the National Council of Catholic Women, the Trained Nurses' association, etc. The dawn of a new era in the 'department club' idea. The good seed sown rapidly germinated, and the next biennial convention in '94 at Philadelphia was notable as giving impetus to the movement for state federations. From that date, thirty-one states have federated—a splendid showing. Results of Federation. "The result of this action has been a great public awakening as to our system of education. It was at the third convention in Louisville, 1896, that one of the founders of the National Federation of Women's clubs. Since that time I have worked as before, for the development of clubs in the direction of these great ideas. So marked has been the growth that this last convention has brought the minds of the women ripe for the consideration of the co-ordination of social forces, or the raising of the standard of the average life, and the effort to bring into it, not any one thing, but all the things which go to make up well-being and harmony; in a word, to demonstrate the unity of life. "The subjects discussed embraced industrial conditions, household economics, etc. It has also been the aim to make the federation entirely democratic, throwing it open to all classes of workers. The clubs which exist for an account of economic conditions, as in these factory, shops, dry goods establishments, evening school clubs, clubs of co-operated living, etc.; all of which are welcome to the advantages of federation. These great principles once set in motion, go forward of themselves with ever increasing momentum. It is not in human power to stop them now," and Mrs. Henrotin paused with a sigh of deep satisfaction.

Women Are Strictly Practical.

"Thus you see," she resumed, "the club idea has developed practically on the line of the genius of women nature, and the only line upon which she is successful; I mean, that of applied knowledge. At the risk of offending women, I boldly assert that they do not care for knowledge, per se. Much is said nowadays of the opportunities of women for higher education. But they have always had opportunity. There has always been knowledge to be gained, and books from which to acquire it. But generally speaking women are not eager for knowledge in the abstract. Show them how they may apply it, what practical use it may be put to, and they are more than willing to go to work. "As related to club work, their order of development may be designated as follows: Constructive, educational, co-ordinate. The work of the convention at Denver leaves them with a broad and solid foundation for future growth. "Woman's Club Work Today. "You will find women's clubs now back of every good word and work. Everywhere they are working for better sanitation, for more just administration in the body politic, for more just laws. Why, out of twenty-four bills recently presented to the Maine legislature by a woman's club, twenty-two were passed. They have simply revolutionized prison conditions in Chicago. They have frequently been instrumental in putting manual training in

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