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### ZULU WAR TACTICS.

Method of Attack With the Crescent  
Formation.

Zulu military tactics are associated with the name of Tyaka, the ruthless Zulu conqueror, who welded into the stock of the Amazulu, the people of the heavens, all the young men of the various tribes he conquered, incorporating them into regiments and thus building up a powerful military nation. Yet it was to Dingiswayo, the wanderer, that the inception was due. This man, the son of the chief of the Umakwa, was driven into exile in consequence of an abortive plot to seize the reins of power.

During that exile he lived in Cape Colony and saw the military methods of the British. With instinctive genius he saw how the idea could be adapted to his own nation, and on his return and accession to the chieftainship he divided his people into regiments, distinguishing them by names and by a special color of shield for each regiment, though for a time they retained the umkonto, or throwing assegai, as their chief weapon. He heard the great use made by the British infantry of their favorite weapon, the bayonet, and so he replaced the umkonto by the ixwa, or broad bladed stabbing assegai.

The peculiarity of the Zulu tactics has earned it the name of the crescent formation for attack, and it is noteworthy that, broadly speaking, it was the method employed by the Boers in their invasion of Natal and adopted by Lord Roberts in his advance through Orange River Colony, and it was the fear of its success which kept the Boers continually on the run. The best thing with which to compare it is the head of the stag headed beetle. Horns are thrown out widely on either flank, while the main body forms the head itself. From the main body a small force is detached to engage the enemy while the horns creep around the flanks.

This force in the days of Tyaka was frequently dispatched with the command, "Go, sons of Zulu, go and return no more," and death at the hands of their fellows was the fate of those who returned. While this force was holding the enemy the horns carried out their task if possible, and as soon as the two horns had met in the rear of the enemy the head or chest was launched upon the position, and the upshot was that the whole force of the foe tasted the assegai, for in war no quarter was given or asked.—South African Sun.

### POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Keep away from people you dislike and don't talk about them.

Put a hog in a parlor and he would break out and wallow in a mudhole.

It becomes necessary occasionally for every man to take punishment. When your time comes don't annoy others with your screams.

Isn't it a fact that the most successful men you know are polite men? Then doesn't it follow that if you hope to succeed you must be polite?

When you hear a man abused behind his back we do not think, "How unpopular other people are!" but "How we all catch it when we are not around!"

Don't worry if you are not good looking. You look all right to your friends. The best looks on earth could not make you look good to your enemies, and those who are not interested in you don't know how you look.—Aitchison Globe.

### Saved by a Cool Head.

Sir Andrew Clarke while traveling in Italy ascended a high tower one evening and found at the top another tourist, an Englishman. They chatted pleasantly for a few minutes when suddenly the stranger seized Sir Andrew by the shoulders and said quietly, "I am going to throw you over." The man was a maniac. The physician had only a moment in which to gather his thoughts, but that moment saved him. "Pooh!" he replied unconcernedly. "Anybody can throw a man off the tower. If we were on the ground you could not throw me up. That would be too difficult." "Yes, I could," retorted the maniac. "I could easily throw you up here from the ground. Let us go down, and I will do it." The descent was accordingly made, during which Sir Andrew managed to secure help and release himself from his perilous situation.

### When Edison Apologized.

When Thomas A. Edison first came to Washington to display the graphophone, which had just recently been invented, Roscoe Conkling, who was always quite vain, was there too. Mr. Conkling wore a little curl on his forehead, and when Mr. Edison repeated something about a little girl with a little curl right in the middle of her forehead the New York senator thought that, of course, the remark was made for him, and Mr. Edison had to apologize.—Dr. Reyburn's Reminiscences of Charles Sumner in Washington Post.

### A Lofty Mind.

A lofty mind always thinks nobly. It easily creates vivid, agreeable and natural fancies and places them in their best light, clothes them with all appropriate adornments, studies others' tastes and clears away from its own thoughts all that is useless and disagreeable.—Rochefoucauld.

### Unworthy of Remembrance.

My Dear Friend—I beg you to lend me 6,000 francs. Then forget me forever. I am not worthy to be remembered.—From a Letter Found by Paris Figaro.

### Judiciously Revised.

Never hit a man when he is up.—Dallas Morning News.

## Perils of Fishing On Grand Banks

PASSENGERS on the transatlantic liners of today, vessels which carry as many persons as live in a good sized town and which the latest inventions of marine science have made as safe as a house on shore, have little idea what the psalmist meant when he talked of the perils of "those who go down to the sea in ships." But up along the fishing banks they know, and they aren't fond of the liners there, for the liners take more lives every year than the dreaded storms. The storms can't help wrecking little ships. The fishermen do not believe that the wind bloweth where it listeth; they think it blows where it is fated to blow. But they also think that no law of nature or man forces the liner to race at top speed across the fishing banks, cutting down everything that gets in its way. The fisherman thinks he is entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of fish, and he curses the speed madness which causes the steamship to make short cuts at his expense. The liners don't sink fishermen on purpose, of course. They don't even collide with them intentionally. It is like a man stepping unconsciously on a bug and walking on ignorant of the catastrophe for which he is responsible. The fragile little fishing boat goes down before the steel hulled ocean greyhound without even causing the monster to quiver.

For years the men of the Grand banks have complained of this, to their minds, unnecessary addition to the dangers of their calling. Now the French government has heard them and has issued a call for an international conference to discuss changing the present steamship route so as to avoid the fishing banks. Last year the death roll among the French trawlers in Newfoundland waters was 314. Of these it is true that 135 perished in the wreck of the Cousins Reunis of St. Malo, which was carrying men to St. Pierre to equip the fishing boats there; but of the remaining 179 fatal-



DECK OF A GLOUCESTER FISHING VESSEL. ties most were caused by ocean steamers running down fishermen as they lay at anchor or in the fog.

To change the steamship line and make it skirt instead of cross the banks would materially lengthen the distance the steamers would have to travel. The Compagnie Generale Transatlantique (the French line) has already agreed to accept such a change, but it will be difficult to make all the big lines follow the French company's example. Besides, there are thousands of "tramps" which come from nowhere, go nowhere.

While the discussion of this proposed change in the ocean highway goes on the big ships continue to sink the little ones. Only the other day the Red Star liner Vaderland cut the fishing schooner John A. Allen in two as she was cruising off George's banks looking for swordfish. This time, however, the liner did not flee, but stood by until every man on the sunken craft had been picked up.

"I shall go back and tell the fisher folk that I know a liner's captain and crew who are not cowards," said Captain Toothaker of the John A. Allen after he and his six men had been landed in New York.

"Something blacker than the mist loomed over us," said the captain. "We knew what that meant. We sprang to the dory, but the black thing came down upon us dead ahead. Its siren screamed, but the crash of my boat drowned the sound. The Vaderland cut us clean in two. On one side went three of my men. The other three and I caught hold of a dory and just missed the suction as the John A. Allen sank. I could hear three men in the water near by. We made for them and picked them up. All of us were safe. We looked for the big ship, but it was gone, like the other liners that sink fishermen and vanish in the fog. But no, it wasn't gone after all. The lookout on the Vaderland had sighted the schooner too late to avoid running it down, and the steamer was brought to a dead stop in five minutes."

Relinquishing all hope of a record voyage, the Vaderland circled back through the fog, blowing its siren until it heard the answering call of the wrecked fishermen. Cheered by the passengers, Captain Toothaker and his crew were hauled on board, and overwhelmed with kindness all the way to New York.

### A TROPICAL TERROR.

Most Dreaded of Living Things in Equatorial Africa.

Europeans who visit the great equatorial forests of Africa are subject to many risks, but none perhaps so dangerous as contact with the bashikouay, or great bull ant, which is said to be the most dreaded of living things to be found in that region. It is gluttonous in the extreme. That which it attacks it consumes on the spot—nothing is carried away for further convenience. Elephants, leopards, gazelles, lions, snakes, gorillas, monkeys, even the human aborigines of the districts it infests, fly from any neighborhood in which they know it to be located. According to well accredited reports, these awe inspiring bull ants travel, like locusts, in vast armies, marching in a line two inches or more broad and miles in length. One of these armies has been known to take twelve hours to pass a given point. These ants prefer the shade and, rather than be exposed to the rays of the blazing sun, will burrow tunnels under the surface of the ground and thus travel until they come to the shelter of trees. Any animal which, unaware of the proximity of the bull ant and reposing in the solitude of the veil, happens to be attacked has no chance of escape. It is devoured with irresistible fury, and within a few minutes a pile of bleached bones marks the spot where it reposed. A great deal of valuable information about this dreaded creature has been published by a French zoologist, M. de Chaillet, who has described a personal encounter with the bull ant. "I remember well the first time I met the bashikouays on a raid. I knew not what was in store for me. I was hunting by myself, when suddenly the forest became alive with the foe. A sudden dread seized me, and I stood still in the hunting path, resting on my gun. Suddenly, as if by magic, I was covered and bitten everywhere. I fled in haste and found refuge in a deep stream, yet even then the strong pinchers of the ants would not give way, and though the bodies were torn off the heads remained. The native tribes, when a man is condemned for witchcraft, generally fasten him to a tree before an inroad of these ants. After they have passed a shining skeleton alone is left to tell the tale."

### THE SCENT OF SICKNESS.

Most Diseases, It Is Claimed, Have Their Characteristic Odors.

The acuteness of the sense of smell is far greater in many of the lower animals—dogs, for example—than in man, and they employ it in guiding them to their food, in warning them of approaching danger and for other purposes. The sphere of the susceptibility to various odors is more uniform and extended in man, and the sense of smell is capable of great cultivation. Like the other special senses, it may be cultivated by attention and practice. Experts can discriminate qualities of wines, liquors, drugs, etc. Diseases have their characteristic odors.

Persons who have visited many different asylums for the insane recognize the same familiar odor of the insane. It is not insane asylums alone, but prisons, jails, workhouses, armies in camp, churches, schools and nearly every household that have characteristic odors. It is when the insane, the prisoners and the soldiers are aggregated in large groups or battalions that their characteristic odor is recognized. Most diseases have their characteristic odors, and by the exercise of the sense of smell they could be utilized in different diagnoses.

For example, favus has a mousy odor, rheumatism has a copious sour smelling, acid sweat. A person afflicted with pyaemia has a sweet, nauseating breath. The rank, unbearable odor of pus from the middle ear tells the tale of the decay of osseous tissue. In scurvy the odor is putrid, in chronic peritonitis musky, in scrofula like stale beer, in intermittent fever like fresh baked brown bread, in fever ammoniacal, in hysteria like violets or pineapple. Measles, diphtheria, typhoid fever, epilepsy, phthisis, etc., have characteristic odors.—Philadelphia Record.

### Fair Warning.

An old time English barrister was John Williams, a sarcastic wit and a bachelor with an intense prejudice against marriage. His clerk one day asked him for a holiday to get married, and some months afterward, on entering his chambers, Williams found his dead body suspended from the door. He engaged another clerk and asked him if he was married. "No," the clerk replied, but thinking that Williams would regard marriage as a guarantee of steadiness he added, "but I am going to be." "Very well," replied Williams, "but understand this—when you hang yourself don't do it here!"

### Fixing Her Face.

She started, recoiled and then bent anxiously nearer her mirror. "A wrinkle, as I'm alive!" she exclaimed. She was of a buoyant temper, however. "I suppose I'll have to put a good face on it," she said, reaching forth with for the necessary materials.—Puck.

### An Economical Place.

Short—I say, old man, will you lend me \$5 for an hour? Long—No. Go and sit in the park for an hour; then you won't need it.—Chicago News.

### Broken English.

Teacher—What are the parts of speech? Tommy Tucker—It's—its when a man stutters.—Chicago Tribune.

Do what you consider right, whatever people may think of it, despite censure and praise.—Pythagoras.

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