

How the Warring Armies are Fed.

SOLDIERS OF JAPAN ARE BETTER FORAGERS THAN ARE THOSE OF RUSSIA.

The war in the East is affording a test of the transport and commissariat systems of Russia and Japan. By the Russian system an army corps of 45,000 men is supposed to be accompanied by 2400 waggons, says the New York "Sun."

When campaigning, the Russian soldier is supposed to carry two days' rations on his person. The regimental trains carry rations for each man for two days longer, and the divisional train for from two to four days. It is reckoned that fresh supplies should always be obtainable from the surrounding country or along the line of communications within the six or eight days allowed.

The system is a good one, but the transport and commissariat broke down miserably in every important war waged by Russia during the last century. The experience of the past indicates that the Cossacks are the only Russian soldiers who are mobile and well fed in a campaign.

They are mobile because they always have large numbers of spare horses—often two for each man; they are well fed because of their skill in foraging.

DEAL ON PRIVATE FUNDS.

Russian officers spend freely out of their private funds during a campaign, in order to remedy the defects of the official transport and commissariat. They have been obliged to do so even during manoeuvres.

The example was set by Skobelev, Russia's greatest General of modern times, during the Russo-Turkish war. He was a rich man, and every rouble he owned was at the disposal of his beloved soldiers when they needed it.

All the official arrangements for feeding the men and caring for the sick and wounded broke down utterly, and Skobelev was always putting his hand in his pocket through that campaign. On one occasion he spent 15,000 roubles to charter a steamer to take a number of wounded men to Odessa for treatment. He never recovered from the Government the large sums he expended.

When Skobelev was praised for his generosity toward his troops, he replied unhesitatingly:

"I owe everything to these men, and the least I can do is to spend a few thousand roubles to help them in their need."

That spirit animates most officers in the Russian army to-day. General Kuropatkin, General Grodskoff, and other famous Russian officers trained under Skobelev followed his example.

Now it is regarded as the regular thing in the Russian army for an officer to have to spend money on his men to remedy official shortcomings. It is to be feared that graft has a great deal to do with those shortcomings.

These defects are, however, largely offset by the patient endurance of the Russian soldier, born of his dog-like loyalty to the Czar. The American military tactics was impressed by that quality.

SPIRIT OF THE SOLDIERS.

"When his battles result in defeats, when his biscuits are full of maggots, when his clothes are shabby, when his boots drop to pieces, the Russian soldier," he said, "reasons it all out slowly and can only come to the conclusion, so pathetic in its simple faith: 'Ah, if the Czar only knew!'"

"Every one within his reach he freely discusses, criticises and blames; he half suspects that his Generals may be fools, and he is sure that his commissaries are rascals; but no thought of censure ever crosses his mind against the Czar."

It is hardly necessary to point out the value of this mental attitude as a military asset.

The Russian soldiers appear, as a general rule, to lack the ability to shift for themselves in matters of transport and commissariat. If their elaborate system of baggage trains breaks down,

as it may well do under the strain of a hard campaign—they are utterly at a loss, unless they are Cossacks, Kalmucks or Turcomans, accustomed from boyhood to picking up their meals wherever and whenever they can find them.

JAPANESE TRAVEL LIGHT.

The Japanese, on the contrary, showed during their war with China a remarkable ability to create their transport and commissariat apparently out of nothing as they went along. They did not trouble much about baggage trains; they had them, to be sure, well supplied and well organised, but the troops moved so quickly that they were out of touch with their waggons half the time.

They travelled in the lightest possible order and picked up any old native carts or mules or coolies they chanced to meet, making them serve the necessities of the moment, and then letting them go and getting others further on.

The only drawback of this system was that as the campaign advanced the armies became clogged by large numbers of coolies and other camp followers, who created a great deal of trouble and committed excesses, which were wrongfully charged to the regular troops.

Some of the Japanese commanders adopted a short way with these obnoxious persons, driving them out of the army on pain of death as soon as their services were over. After the war it was pretty generally agreed that no similar nuisance should be tolerated in another campaign.

During the advance to the relief of the besieged legations at Peking the Japanese commissary was, by common agreement of the foreign officers, better than that of any of the European troops, and the Japanese soldiers showed a genius for foraging and accommodating their appetites to the food available in the country.

Instead of using heavy waggons liable to be bogged or to tire out the horses, the Japanese had a great number of light hand carts—much like the push carts of the Italians in New York and other American cities. These carts were drawn by coolies or by the soldiers themselves, and they were so lightly laden that they interfered little, if at all, with the mobility of the force.

The horse and mule carts were of the smallest type, and lightly built. Spare animals were made to carry their own fodder, and that of the other animals as well.

These measures were rendered necessary by the smallness and weakness of the Japanese horses, which are about the scrappiest animals of their kind. The Russians, on the contrary, are well supplied with large, strong, well-bred horses.

In the Turcoman campaigns in Central Asia camels were employed, but they are hardly ever used to-day by Russian troops. Thousands of dogs are pressed into service, mainly for transporting soldiers and supplies in sledges across Lake Baikal.

RATIONS OF THE TROOPS.

In the present campaign the Mikado's fighting man is carrying a great deal more food with him than his Russian adversary. Against the latter's two days' rations he carries two cooked rations of rice, in addition to six emergency rations. These are contained in an aluminium mess pan, and as the rice has been boiled and dried in the sun, the entire weight is trifling.

It is commonly supposed that the Japanese soldier lives entirely on rice and dried fish, but such is not the fact. He can live, and fight well, on that sparse diet, if necessary, but he is given meat and other sustaining foods whenever practicable, as well as beer or sake.

Several years ago a military commission was appointed by the Mikado to ascertain why the physique of the Japanese troops was inferior to that of the British, German and other armies. The commission came to the conclusion that beef and beer helped to build up the stalwart frames of Occidental fighting men, and since then beef and beer have been included in the diet scale of the Japanese army.

BOILS PROMPTLY BANISHED.

ZAM-BUK PROVED SUPERIOR.

"About five months ago," says Mr. H. Christie, of 16 London street, Enmore, Sydney, I was troubled with Boils, and tried all manner of things to get rid of them. For three weeks I persevered with different treatments, but to no avail. Seeing Zam-Buk advertised as a cure for my complaint, I procured a pot, and applied it as directed, with the pleasing result that the Boils had entirely disappeared after three days of this treatment. It is, therefore, with pleasure I add my testimony to the great worth of Zam-Buk." Zam-Buk is a

speedy cure for Piles, Ringworm, Fecuna, Boils, Ranning Sores, Sore Legs, Barcoo, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, etc. As an Embrocation for Strained Muscles and Tendons, Zam-Buk, rubbed well into the parts affected, is unequalled. As a household Balm for Cuts, Burns, Bruises, Pimples, Sunburn, Freckles, Prickly Heat, Blackheads, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, and Rough Skin, Zam-Buk is invaluable. From all medicine vendors, PRICE 1/8 OR 3/8 LARGE POT (containing nearly four times the quantity) FOR GENERAL FAMILY USE, or direct from the Zam-Buk Co., Pitt-street, Sydney. A FREE SAMPLE POT will be sent on receipt of a Penny Stamp for postage. Address Zam-Buk Co. as above. NO HOME CAN AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT ZAM-BUK.

Coughs Bronchitis Lung Troubles

Angier's Emulsion combines the soothing, healing properties of our specially purified petroleum with the tonic properties of the hypophosphites of lime and soda, and is therefore both a healing lung remedy and a powerful tonic. It not only relieves the most troublesome coughs and heals inflammation of the lungs and air passages, but it promotes appetite, aids digestion and builds up strength. Moreover, it is the most palatable of all emulsions, and agrees perfectly with delicate stomachs, while it does not contain an atom of anything that could be injurious in the slightest degree. Angier's Emulsion positively has no equal for coughs, bronchitis and all lung affections. The testimonials below are from well-known New Zealand residents. They were not solicited by us, but were written out of pure gratitude for the benefit derived from the Emulsion, and are published with the full consent of the writers.

Angier's Emulsion
(PETROLEUM WITH HYPOPHOSPHITES.)

NEW ZEALAND TESTIMONIALS.

COUGH COMPLETELY CURED. GAINED 32 LBS. IN WEIGHT.

CHRONIC BRONCHITIS FIFTEEN YEARS.

"Beach-road, Papakura, Auckland, N.Z.
"Dear Sirs—I have been a great sufferer from chronic bronchitis for fifteen years. Two years ago I left the Waikato Hospital as incurable. I was very short of breath and so weak that I could not walk far without a rest. I had been spitting up blood for some time, and made sure that my time here was short. About that time I commenced taking Angier's Emulsion. By the time I finished the first bottle I felt a little better, and after the second bottle I was very much improved. My wife then bought six bottles, and by the time they were finished I was quite another man. When I left the hospital I weighed 124 lbs.; I now weigh 156 lbs., and I can take my food well and sleep well. The cough from which I suffered so much is all gone, and I have not spit blood since I used your Emulsion. I am able to drive out in cold weather and never feel any bad effects. I still keep taking the Emulsion morning and evening, and shall always keep a supply in the house. A friend, Mr. A. W. Graham, of Hamilton, was very ill. Three doctors were called in consultation over his case and they said he could not live many days. I persuaded him to give your Emulsion a trial, and its effect in his case has been quite as remarkable as in mine. I am well known here, having been 39 years in Auckland and Waikato.
(Signed) "ALEXANDER ALLAN."

FROM A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

"The Lodge, Hamilton, Waikato, N.Z.
"Dear Sirs—Your letter dated September 1st is before me. It is in your state having received from a friend of mine, Mr. Alexander Allan, a most enthusiastic report of the benefit he has derived from the use of Angier's Emulsion, and stating that I had taken the Emulsion with almost equal benefit. Mr. Allan's statements are quite true. He had great difficulty in persuading me to try the Emulsion. I considered it only waste of money trying new remedies. However, my friend was so persistent that I purchased a bottle, and the result of using it has been simply marvellous. I have not only benefited myself from using Angier's Emulsion, but all those to whom I have recommended it are satisfied with the results of using it. You have, therefore, my authority to publish this letter in support of what Mr. Allan has stated in favour of your Emulsion.
(Signed) "WILLIAM A. GRAHAM, J.P."

THE RESULT HAS BEEN MARVELLOUS

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