

THE EQUIPMENT OF WAR CORRESPONDENTS.

"The equipment of a war correspondent," says Robert Machray, in his article on "The Soldiers of the Press," which appears in the April number of the "Windsor Magazine," "depends a good deal on the nature of the country where the fight is going on, whether the climate is hot or cold, and so forth. In the Russo-Turkish war each correspondent had a wagon," writes Mr Forbes, "a pair of draught horses, saddle horses, a couple of servants, and couriers at discretion. The late G. W. Stevens, in one of his books, tells us that in the Greco-Turkish war he had 'one dragoon, one cuivass, two saddle-horses, two pack horses, saddle and bridle Turkish style, two pack saddles, brushes and curry-comb, halters, hobbles, nose-bags, rope, two kitbags, a chair, a table, a fez, a waterproof sheet, towels, knives, forks, spoons, a few yards of waterproof canvas, a bed, a pillow, a quilt, a cart-ridge belt, water bottle, bucket, quinine, hypermanganate of potassium, fryingpan, teapot, japanned dishes and plates, cups and mugs, two lanterns, a cheap watch, a thousand cigarettes, champagne, whisky and other liquids, hams and tongues, tea, sugar, cocoa, tinned beef, salmon and herrings, sardines, salt, biscuits, Worcester sauce, cheese, Eno's Fruit Salt, corned beef,' and a great many other things besides—a sort of miniature edition, in fact, of the Army and



E. REYNOLDS.

One of the cyclists chosen to represent New Zealand at the International Cycling Championships to be held in Paris in August.

by the war correspondents and their salaries can be but mere trifles when compared with the cost of their telegrams."

EMPRESSES IN CONTRAST.

The present Czarina of Russia goes to extremes in the simplicity of her court apparel, and in this respect forms a great contrast to the famous Elizabeth Petrovna, daughter of Peter the Great.

The latter, while Empress, had earned the title of "Elizabeth the Good," because she never approved of any executions in her empire. On the other hand, she was much criticised for her extravagance and eccentricity in dress. After her death the fact became known that she had 15,000 costly gowns in her wardrobe, none of which had ever adorned her royal person.

Now, when the dress of court is a more serious matter with the royal and noble women, Russia has a Czarina who observes the strictest simplicity in her gowns, and requires the same from her guests and attendants. This has caused endless dissatisfaction. The ultra fashionable lady must bear the chagrin of appearing at court functions in a very plain toilet, for otherwise the scrutinizing eyes would pick her out as a mark for disapproval.

This extraordinary plainness baffles her admirers all the more, because it is a well known fact that the Czar is extremely fond of chic, and has often expressed his admiration for elaborate costly ladies' toilets.



STRUCK A PATCH.

Navy Stores. It is a truly appalling catalogue, but Mr Stevens at the time was in Turkey, where the commissariat was of the most primitive character. The bicycle of the correspondent was first used in this war by Frederick Villiers and Wilfred Pol-

lock. Mr Charles Williams, who has been a correspondent in eight campaigns, told me that he generally had with him three horses or three camels (the latter in the Soudan) for riding or for carrying baggage, as the case might be, and always two or three

servants. But, indeed, every newspaper man in the field has to be similarly equipped. He is not stinted as to means by his people at home, and is practically given a free hand to procure whatever he thinks desirable for the accomplishment of the ends in view. It used to be alleged that a certain great journal gave carta blanche to its representatives to order special trains or steamers ad libitum, if by doing so the transmission of important news would be facilitated. The statement may not be exactly true, as special trains and steamers are very expensive luxuries; but it is quite conceivable that emergencies might arise in which a war correspondent would be justified in spending large sums of money in procuring intelligence. Steamers were hired by newspapers in the Cuban war, and were made free use of by American journalists. But, as a rule, the heaviest expenditure is connected with the telegraphing of the despatches themselves, though, of course, this depends on the distance. The telegraph bill of our great daily newspapers reaches large figures even in times of peace, but during a war their outgoings under this head must be simply enormous. The expenses incurred



ALL ON HER OWN HOOK.



ABSORBED IN THE SPORT.