

infantry are three thousand short, but a this shortage is averaged among the units one, it only amounts to about thirty men battalion. What is perhaps of still greater importance, the artillery is also in excess its authorised numbers. It is true some of the battalions assigned Army Corps are still in South Africa; but only that is not a fault for which the Government ought to be blamed. It ought rather to be commended for its splendid energy in training and carrying on its scheme of Army reform while the army was still in Africa. It is better that regiments now at the front should be sent back to join a particular brigade, forming part of a certain division belonging to a definite Army Corps, than that they should be brought back merely as homeless units, sent to a barracks, but without the attachment to a definite organisation, which is so valuable, both to the men and to the army at large. Another leading point in the attack is that the increase of expenditure is unjustifiable. Recently Mr. Brodrick was able to show that the country is getting splendid value for its money. It may be true that the expenditure has increased by ten million. But for only half that sum we have got fifty-four thousand more men in the regular army and ten thousand more in the reserves. For the other five million we are getting that increased efficiency and that greater preparedness for war which the Opposition yelled for enthusiastically, until there was a chance of coining party capital by screaming out counter note. It is part of the improved scheme that we will presently have a hundred thousand men in the reserve. We will have every branch of the service rendered vastly more efficient. The artillery will be increased to an extent that would have sent the sordid opponents of the Radical school into fits had even an increase been seriously proposed a few years ago. In short, the Government is now making advantage of the lessons of the late war to make sufficient preparations for the future. Radicals, who of late screamed at the Government for being unprepared, now denounce it with equal vehemence for making preparation. Such is the way of politics, when untempered by patriotism. The strong, faithful Minister does his duty, and passing by the attack that is piled, is content to be reproached as long as the well-being of the country is assured.

Sophocles.

"THE PACHYDERMATOUS SUB."

From public school prepared by fagging
Behold our militarions,
The victim still of bully-rugging
And many a joke nefarious
Relieves the barrack hum-drum.
He still has whacks
And sundry smacks,
As some folk call it fun fun.

By wit unblest
'Tis past in jest,
And very out of place is
Such things to find
The public mind.
In this our years of grace is
Quite roused to indignation.
Sirs! keep your blows
For future foes,
And some sure fit occasion,

In early youth
With cause in truth,
Our parents may have smacked us,
In manhood's prime
There comes a time
Such doings don't attract us.
To train our sons for battle fields
We want no tyrant Nero.
And he forsooth who plays the brute,
Will seldom play the hero.

R.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

At the Police Court this morning, a young fellow named Patrick Considine was charged by Constable Milton with unlawful intent. He was found at the top of Mrs. Kearney's pawn office in Wickham-street, and a suit of clothes was found in the vicinity a short time afterwards. He made three attempts in the lock-up to commit suicide by tearing strips off his shirt, and for this offence he was charged by Head Constable Moore. Mr. Hickson, R.M., bound the accused over to keep the peace for twelve months, or in default to go to gaol for one month.

DEATH OF THE BARD OF THOMOND'S WIDOW.

Mrs. Hogan, widow of the Bard of Thomond, died yesterday at an advanced age. She succeeded her husband on his death, which took place some years ago as caretaker of the Island Bank, being appointed to the office by the Corporation. The funeral will leave St. Michael's R.C. Church at 3 p.m. to-morrow for Mount St. Laurence Cemetery.

Miss Rose, Ballinonty House, Thurles, writes "I consider the 'Shannon' Bicycle you built for me last year a perfect machine in every way, being so light and so easy to drive. I must say it has given me the utmost satisfaction.—January 20th, 1903.—To Messrs. COLE, NELSON & Co., Limerick.

and party faction in their ring, when we see all classes talist and the working man- of a soap Factory, a Boot F- ment Factory. We wish to "Violated Treaty" every su hope that they shall never or party cliques in their curs-d dissensions anywhere Ireland. So says the "Kil

FRENCH RED

General Andre, the Fren will, in accordance with t service, reach the age lim March 29, and will be oblig pendent writes) to put himse March 29 the "Journal Off following Gilbertian notice Minister of War, and in ac of March the 13th, 1875. Division, Minister of Wa reserve list." The notice c certainly a new one, and i humorous example for Mr.

A SOUSA ST

Mr. Sousa, the great ba oratory, and never if he car in public. After one of his his audience kept clamou refused to be satisfied with Sousa stepped to the fron raising his hand said imp gentl. men, can you all hea usual "Yes." "Then I v replied the conductor, an the stage.

WM. B. FITT'S

Mr. Wm. B. Fitt c auction of land on to-day upon the programme, Carrigrohilly for the exec R. H. Shine. The area sists of 53 acres with a A good attendance, an anxious to be the pure proved. Offers opene quickly indeed ran up i £1,500, when £10 finishe everybody out, and Mr. £1,510 and fees, was dec A. Blood-Sm, th had car

VAUGHAN
Glentworth street, Fashic suits to meas