

IN SHEER CRUELTY

Boches Operated on Prisoners Without Anesthetics.

Ample Proof That There Was No Shortage of Medical Supplies is Evidence of Fierceness of Hun Surgeons.

A British prisoner taken near St. Quentin in March said that all amputations in Germany were being done without anesthetics, owing to alleged shortages of them. A correspondent writes:

"On the day that the prince of Wales entered Denain and attended the service of thanksgiving in the church there I lingered behind after all the ceremonies were over and talked with the inhabitants. They had been badly treated. They were full of the stories of their legitimate woes. One old man said to me:

"M'sieu should see the English doctor. He knows!"

"I saw him. He was a major in charge of a Canadian field ambulance. When I found him, in the huge building which he had transformed into a hospital, he was busy superintending the treatment of women and pitiful little children who had been gassed by the Boches in defiance of all the laws of humanity. There was one little fellow howling with terror. He did not wish to remain with the military. He had only known the German soldier!"

"Well, then take him away, poor little chap," said the major. "Bring him back three times a day to be dressed."

"Then the major and I talked of the successful Canadian attack and of the condition of the town when it had been taken. It was not a pretty story. It was, in fact, a terrible indictment against the Boche.

"They starved the civilians. The only meat they gave them in three years was three dead mules. And all the time their own officers were living on the best?"

"Then there was shortage?"

"Oh, yes, there was a shortage; but the German officers did not feel it."

"And their other supplies? Your line, for instance—medical supplies?"

"The major laughed. 'Come with me,' he said, 'and I'll show you a field medical cart that we captured just as they were driving it off. It is one of the most wonderful things I have ever seen.'

"We went into the transport yard and here we found something like a Scotch cart with a closed-in top, bearing the Red Cross on its sides. The major let down the back flap and we saw a series of drawers, like an enlarged card-index file cabinet. He pulled one out.

"Look at that," he said. "There you have most of the drugs we have been short of for months—and have them in profusion. Morphine, chloroform—anything you like. It is the most perfect thing of its kind I have ever seen. You could sell that cart's cargo in England for its weight in gold. It contains some of the most valuable and rarest synthetic drugs in the world. It is a treasure trove. Like a sovereign? Here, then—here's a case of a dozen phials of morphine—or chloroform—or antipyrin."

"That was in a field medical cart! If such a supply of rare drugs could be sent up practically to the front line, what must the German have had in his rear hospitals? What, then, can be his excuse for amputating the limbs of our wounded prisoners without anesthetics? Can it have been anything but wanton cruelty?"

"That field medical cart is the evidence!"—Boston Transcript.

Too Much Arithmetic.

Uncle Mose Lightfoot approached a clerk in the drug store and inquired: "Got any three-cent stamps?"

"No," the clerk replied, "we're all out of threes."

"Dat's too bad," said Uncle Mose, "cuss dis letter ought to go out to-night."

"We have plenty of twos."

"But dis letter goes out of town."

"And we have plenty of ones."

"But one won't take it."

"Couldn't you put on a two and a one?"

"Tch!"

"Or three ones?"

As the old ducky ambled toward the door he scratched his head and answered:

"Maybe I could; maybe I could; but I ain't got no time to be foolin' round trying to add up."—Youngtown Telegram.

Railroading.

Clyde Foster, a south side youngster, has been much impressed recently by warnings about the care of his health so that he would not "catch" the influenza and die and be taken to the cemetery. His father is a railroad man, and when Santa Claus came around Clyde received a fine choo-choo train. He was proudly exhibiting it to some neighbors, who asked how much it cost to ride on his train.

"Three dollars," he said.

"There can you go for \$3?" one asked.

"Crown Hill," Clyde promptly answered.—Indianapolis News.

What Johnny Needed.

"Johnny! Crying on Christmas day!" reproved the visitor.

"Well," blubbered Johnny, "we all asked our family this year to give us what we needed most."

"There's nothing to cry about, then, is there?"

"It's b-beastly!" roared Johnny. "Pa gave me a kicking."—London Answers.

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