OUR HISTORY CONTEST.

A PRIZE OF ONE DOLLAR FOR SOME BRIGHT READER.

Four Questions in History To Be Answered -The Aim of the Contest-Same Rules as Govern the Bible Question Compe-

Almost everybody has studied more or less history. Much of it has vanished with their school days and questions which sometime ago could be easily answered are somewhat puzzling today. We have started this competition partly to revive an interest in a useful study, and partly to increase the interest of the young folks in Progress. We have secured the services the question department. The questions will be given every week and the publisher of Progress will give One Dollar for the first correct answer that reaches Progress office. The rules and conditions that govern the Bible Question Competition will also regulate this. Answers will be received until the Saturday tollowing pubcation, and the successful competitor will be announced the next Saturday. Answers should be addressed to "History Competition" care Progress, St. John, N. B.

The Century magazine is publishing, in advance of publication, extracts from the memoirs of Talleyrand, the famous French diplomatist. He was the best or worst abused man of his times. But his versatility astuteness, personal magnetism were so great that he maintained his influence over the affairs of France and expenditure out of loans, and that of the Europe in spite of the suspicion and dislike of the governments under whom he served. Like the clergyman who in the song, declared that he would "be Vicar of Bray" whatever | contribution made by some of them towards party might be in power, Talleyrand was indifferent to the government he served so long as under it, he held some conspicuous position, as diplomatist, army a little over 28 milltons. Our armies or minister. He served under the govern- cost us, therefore, considerably more than ment of the Directory when France was theirs; but while each of these powers a republic. He intrigued against it and sul; and when Napoleon made himself and behind this vast force a large garrison emperor, served him as his minister of and territorial army in reserve, we could empire which, it is suspected, he helped to the ingenuous Briton will retort that, though "I reckon that's true," Bill replied. bring about, he was minister under Louis our forces are small, they are of exceptional XVIII., and when the last reigning Bourbon, Charles X., was driven from France, he served under the "citizen king," the constitutional monarch, Louis Phillipi.

ceived Napoleon when he was emperor, but he seems to have admired him in his youth, when the first laurels of victory were high as ours. Our muster-roll, on the around his brow. Madame de Pemusat, contrary, is built up from the most heteroin her memoirs, tells a story regarding these two great men that reflects more credit on the wily diplomatist than on the imperial warrior. She says that before is made up of 137,000 regular troops, exsetting out for Egypt, Napoleon called on Talleyrand who was lying ill in bed. He sat by the bedside and talked in the freest manner of the ambitious dreams of his youth. He spoke of the difficulties in which he was placed for want of money, and said that he did Malta and St. Helena militia; 11,000 not know where to get any. Talleyrand who was interested by what he heard, and sympathised with the difficulties against which the young general had to contend, told him to open his desk where he would find a hundred thousand francs (\$20,000) which he could repay when he returned from Egypt. Napoleon expressed his gratitude in the liveliest manner; but, on Indian infantry which are recognized even becoming consul, he returned the money, he questioned Talleyrand as to his reasons for lending it. On Talleyrand's saying (to quote his own words) "I had some, I was feeling very ill; it was quite possible I might never see you again; but you were young, you had impressed me very strongly, and I felt impelled to render you a service without any after-thought whatever." "In that case," said Bonaparte, "and if it was really done without any design, you acted a dupe's

The interest in the history competition is even greater than that excited by the Bible question competition. Hundreds of answers have been received from bright by guns, and have the way of their attack boys and girls, many of whom are remarkably correct. Miss ETHEL H. JARVIS, No. 9, Elliott Row, St. John, sent the first correct answer to this office-though by no means the first answer-and consequently receives the prize. In addition to hers, correct answers came from the following boys and girls: Jennie Pope, 118 Orange | do we find that our attenuated levies are street; Harold A. Lyman, 294 Princess furnished with these necessary adjuncts? street; Mary McG. Hare, 199 King street (East); Helen A Johnston, 192 Sydney street; May Ward, 97 City Road; to the Powers that may oppose us; and of Gertie Pitfield, Victoria school, Moncton, these we could not place above 320 in the N. B.; Mary Kelly, Adelaide street, North End; Edna G. Powers, 59 Acadia street; Wilfred E. Wetmore, Clifton, by fourteen in order to make up ammuni-Kings Co., N. B.; Marguerite Nicolson, tion columns! That is to say, we orga- one of them laid down an' the other two Fredericton; Mimma Carmichael, St. An- nise, equip and educate a scientific body limped might'ly." drews; Louise G. Trites, Sussex, N. B.; Norman P. McLeod, Fredericton; Miss Millie Walsh, Petitcodiac, Westmorland Co., N. B.; A Student, 134 Carmarthen Germans on the 1st of October last added street; Frank Pidgeon, Indiantown, North End; Kathleen Phair, Fredericton, N. B.; Walter Taylor, 34 Cliff street; Lil- the field about as many guns as can the lie B. Taylor, Keohan P. O., Sussex, N. B. British Empire. Nor when we come to Bertie Curran, Buctouche; Birdie Patten, 186 Main st., north end; Bella J. Nelson, horses to mount 19,000 troopers both in 247 King st. east; Dorothea T. Nicholson, India and at home together .- Saturday Mecklenburg st.; Stephen B. Gerow, 46 | Review.

Garden st.; Gertrude McCulloch, Waasis BILL KINNY'S ARREST. station, Sunbury county.

Following are the questions and correct THIRST FOR GORE OVERCOME BY

(1) In what year were the Acadians expelled from Nova Scotia? Ans.-1755 A. D. (2) What American poet has immortalized that

expulsion, and what is the name of the poem? Ans .- Henry W. Longfellow in "Evangeline." (3) In what city within the Dominion of Canada, and year, did the first general legislative assembly

Ans .- In Halifax, 1758, Oct. 2.

(4) Give the names of the British settlers who first established a trading station in the harbor of St. John and state the year? Ans .- James Simonds, James White, Francis

1. In whose reign and in what year did the union between Great Britain and Ireland take place?

2. In whose reign and in what year did England and Scotland become united under

the name of Great Britain? 3. What was the cause of the death of King William who reigned conjointly with

Queen Mary? 4. Who was the last of the Saxon kings;

THE ENGLISH ARMY

Compared With That of Other Powers By

Sir Charles Dilke. The total expenditure on the army, out of taxes, in the year, in the case of the United Kingdom, was last year, according to Sir Charles Dilke, 161/2 millions, and in India the same, or 33 millions sterling (34 millions in the present year.) besides the self-governing colonies, for the armies of the British empire. The colonies altogether spend for themselves about £1,500,000 a sheriff in chief, walked up to the fence and marine defence. While the armies of the British empire cost about 351/2 millions sterling a year, the German empire costs about 33½ millions sterling, and the French would have in the field on the twenty-first day of mobilisation over two millions of quality; that one Englishman is equal to two Frenchmen, that one volunteer is as good as two pressed men, and so on—und jest nachully had to lay down." so weiter, &c., &c. Not so. The two million active German or French troops, of Talleyrand might have disliked and de- whom we have just spoken, are "pretty much the same all through"—that is to say, they are of uniform quality, even if it be granted that their standard be not as geneous sources, and its quality, when the training and education of the soldier are considered, if in some cases high, is in others deplorable. The total we arrive at cellent though deficient in some particulars; 50,000 to 55,000 first-class army reserve, useful but not periodically drilled, as is the reserve of every Continental army; 2000 second-class army reserve, hardly worth counting; 113,000 militia, who may be said to be without half their officers; 3000 Channel island militia; about 1000 yeomanry; 224,000 volunteers; 74,000 regulars in India (undoubtedly a splendid force); 68,000 good native troops in India; 56,000 bad native troops; and 21,000 of what Sir Charles Dilke terms "odds and ends." In other words, the figures we can produce include everything can possibly term a soldier, from a guardsman to a native policeman. They include some regiments of by ourselves as worthless, and whom we from time to time disband as such. They include the St. Helena militia and the Royal Irish constabulary, who, however efficient in their own sphere, would probably be so occupied in it that they can hardly te considered available to fight a foreigner. But, more than this, not only is our force thus variable and sometimes unsatisfactory as regards the quality of its component parts, but it is singularly badly proportioned as regards the arms of which is composed. If there is one thing which recent experiments have established more

than another, and upon which there is com-

plete unanimity of opinion amongst military

men, it is this-that modern armies should

in future campaigns be remarkably well fur-

nished with both cavalry and artillery.

Intantry will be unable to face modern

musketry unless they are well supported

prepared for them by artillery fire. A

break of hostilities, be equal to the duties

which Pickford's or Carter Paterson's dray-

men daily perform in our streets! The

to their artillery almost as many guns as

we have in the whole world, and Roumania

and Switzerland can each of them put into

analyse our cavalry returns are matters more reassuring. We have only 12,000

thick veil of horsemen will shroud the movements of a modern army from its opponent, and an army which has not a strong force of cavalry, both to gain information for it and to ward off its opponent's scouts, will be at the mercy of a betterinformed antagonist. It will neither be able to see nor remain unseen. Yet how Contemptibly so, it seems, as regards artillery. We have but a nominal 600 guns 'lowed that mebby they didn't extend the all told, against 2,000 to 4,000 belonging field! Not only have we an absurdly small number of batteries, but we propose on an outbreak of hostilities to reduce them of men in order that they may, on an out-

the sheriff of this county, don't you?"

HIS APPETITE FOR POSSUM.

Opie Read Tells How a Wily Sheriff Got the Handcuffs on a Tennessee Desperado Who Resisted Arrest-He Didn't Mind the Expense of Brass and Powder.

Billy Kinny, of Dry Fork, killed a prominent man of the community, and the authorities, after some little meditation, decided that he ought to be arrested. But Bill objected, and when three deputy sheriffs called on him he laid a Winchester rifle across one corner of his homestead, killed one of the deputies, and so painfully wounded the other two that they strolled of a gentleman well qualified to conduct HISTORY QUESTION COMPETITION back to the Shady Grove court house. Several days later, while Bill was sitting in front of his door, Mark Townsend, the



"EF YO' TAKE YO' ARMS OFFEN THAT FENCE."

year for army purposes, in addition to the lazily placed his arms on the top rail. Bill reached back and took up his rifle.

> "Good mornin', Bill." "Hi, Mark."

"Had a good bit of a frost last night."

"Yas, ruther. Which way you travelin',

"Oh, no way in particular. Lowed you must be lonesome an' I thought I'd drap helped to make Napoleon Bonaparte con- men, with between 3000 and 4000 guns, over an' talk with you a while. Don't make no difference how lively a feller is, foreign affairs. After the downfall of the all the resources at our command. But specially this time of the year."

> Some fellers come out here the other day. an' one of them got so lonesome that he

"So I learn," said the sheriff. "By the way," he added, "them fellers that you speak about wanted you to go to Shady Grove with them, didn't they?"

"Yas they lowed that a jedge down than wanted to make my acquaintance."

"You don't say so," exclaimed the sheriff. "W'y the jedge is a mighty big man, an' I'd think you'd like to meet him, Bill."

"I would, but you see I ain't in society

"Sarter retired, air you?"

"Yas, thought I was agettin' a leetle too old fur the bright foolishness an' yaller trimin's of this here life."

"Yes, that mout be," the sheriff replied. "A feller does withdraw might'ly as he gits come along with me. The boys air all exalong in age; but say, the jedge is a triend | pectin' you. of mine an' I want you to meet him."

"No, I'm obleeged to you. I never hankered after these here tellers that pride themselves on their book l'arnin'."

"I don't exactly crave them," the sheriff rejoined "wolloping" his tobacco about in his mouth, "but still I think we ought to meet them once in a while. But say, Bill, there's a man down at Shady Grove that I do want you to meet."

"Who is he?"

"Sam Powers."

"He's the jailor, ain't he?" "Yes, an' the best one you ever seen."



"So they say," Bill replied, fondling his rifle. "In fact them fellers that was here the other day wanted me to meet him." "So I hearn," said the sheriff, "but I

invertation in a soft an' gentle enough "Oh, I didn't have no fault to find with

the invertation. I gest didn't wanter go an' sorter pulled back a little, and then

"So I hearn," said the sheriff, "still I thought there mout be a easier an' smoother way of puttin' the invertation. Gentleness always pays. You can sometimes lead a man with a string of beads when you couldn't drive him with a hoop pole. You recollect old Wash Bowles that was once

"Mighty well."

"Ah, hah; well that old feller had more gentleness an' consideration for the feelin's of other folks than any man I ever seen. ain't with you."

One time he had ter hang a feller named Brice, an' Brice sorter kicked against it, bem' a feller that was hard to please, anyhow; so Wash, in that soft way of his'n, stepped up to put on the rope an' says: 'Brice, you will please excuse me, but I'll not detain you but a moment.' So I thought that if I'd come here to-day with strong consideration an' smooth gentleness you mout accept the jailor's invertation to come

an' spend a while with him.' No, I'm obleeged to you. I don't care about goin' today. I've got to go over the ridge an' whip a feller tomorrow, an' if I don't do it I am afeered he mout be disappointed Well, now, Mark" he added, "ef you ain't got no further bus'ness with me I reckon you'd better be shovin' along."

"But I have got some further business with you, Bill. I want you to go with me an' see the jailor."

"Wall I aint goin" "I 'lowed you would, Bill."

"Wall, I 'low I won't an' ef you take yo' arms offen that fence I'll drop you right whar you stand." "So I hearn'" said the sheriff, "say I

come over here to take you to jail." "You don't say so."

"Yas, an' want you to go with me." "How many men did you bring with

"None at all, but you air goin'." "Mebbe; atter all these here cartridges

is shot off. "No, I thought you would go with me without having to waste any of the cartridges. You know the price of brass an'

powder have riz mighty of late." "Oh, now here, Mark, I don't care nothin' fur expenses. I don't mind shootin' a few balls into a feller that wants to put me in jail an' afterwards hang me.'

"I am glad you ain't stingy, Bill. Some of the boys over at the store said that you was mighty economical but I am glad to see you ain't. It hurts a man might'ly, you know to have it norated around that he is close.

"I know that, Mark, an' I am allus tryin' hard to keep that charge from bein' flung agin my reputation.'

"I'm pleased to know you think so much of yo'self, but say, I told the boys over at Shady Grove that you would come back with me an' I wish you would."

"I'd like to accommodate you, Mark, but I don't feel like strollin' today.' "Sorry to hear that, for I told the boys that I'd have you in jail by twelve o'clock

"I wish you hadn't told them, Mark; an' you oughtenter done it fur you didn't know

how busy I mout be." "Yas, mebbe I done wrong," said the

sheriff, "but I didn't know after all that



"BRING ON YO' HAND-CUFFS."

you couldn't fling aside your business an'

"Yes, the boys up the river expected Gen. Jackson once, but he didn't come." "So I hearn," said the sheriff, "an' you air not comin' with me.'

"That's what I ain't."

"I'll bet you fifteen dollars, Bill, that

"I'll take the bet, but in the meantime if you take yo' arms offen that fence I'll drop you right in yo' tracks.

"That's the way I like to hear a man talk, Bill. Say, last night the jailor an' his two sons went 'possom huntin.' They called up the dogs-and they have got some of the finest hounds you ever sawan' here they came with brightness in their eyes an' deep music in their voices. You ought to have heard them go 'ounk, ounk, ounk.' Well, they went out, an' about midnight they came back with two of the biggest an' fatest possoms you ever saw. Well, they dressed them right thar an' then an' put them out on the top of the house so the frost could fall on them, an' this marnun they took them down an' began to take them along with some sweet potatoes. Then the jailor's son he says, says he, 'pop we aint got no regular wild cat licker to go with these here possoms,' so the old man, havin' a mighty eye for art, gave a jug to the young feller an' told him to go up in the mountains The young feller went but he couldn't find no licker an' at last he seen a ole fellow drivin' a wagin, an' when he asked the ole feller if he could get any licker, he swore that he didn't know nothin' about it; 'but,' says he, 'if you will take that jug up on the hillside an' put a dollar under it, I don't know what mout happen, but when you come back I don't believe the dollar will be there.' Wall, he went up on the mountain side an' put a dollar under a jug an' went away, but bless yo' life when he came back the dollar was gone but the jug was filled with the best licker that had passed its teens. An' so at dinner today they are goin' to have them possoms an' sweet potatoes an' that old licker that's got a bead on it like a dewdrop; an' say, the jailor says that you may

share the feast.' "Look here, Mark, you ain't tryin' to trifle with my feelin's, air you?"

"No; I'm tellin' the Lord's truth; an' say, that ain't all. The Perdue boys caught a big bear down in the bottoms, an' after dinner they air goin' to set the dogs on him in the jail yard right in full view of yo' cell. Think of that."

"Look here, Mark, I am about converted an' I'll go with you if you'll let me take my rifle along.' "No, can't do that, Bill; an' besides,

I'll have to handcuff you. Possom, sweet potatoes, licker with a bead on it like a dew-drop, an' a bear fight in full view of Diamonds, Fine Jewelry, American Watches, yo' cell. "Mark," said Bill, as he put down his rifle, "fetch on yo' handcuffs. Blamed if I

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