

better and more scientific method for the removal and disposal of night soil from cantonments than the deep pit (not burial) system, will you kindly grant me space to remark that more than four years ago, when I was Senior Medical Officer and Sanitary Officer at Quetta, a very complete scheme was drawn up by Colonel, now Brigadier-General, Sir J. R. Macdonald, K.C.I.E., C.B., and myself. The scheme provided for the water-carriage removal of sewage from cantonments to a site some three miles away. As this district was suitable for the purposes of cultivation, it was part of the scheme to erect there a biological installation. The crops treated by the effluent would have been a fruitful source of revenue to the cantonment funds. I grant you the initial cost would have been large, and probably on that account no further action has been taken.

Yacht Club, Bombay,
March 9th, 1907.

I am, &c.,

J. BATTERSBY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, R.A.M.C.

INDIAN INVALIDING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS."

SIR,—With reference to my article on "Indian Invaliding" in the February number, it is satisfactory to note that some of the suggestions detailed therein are now in force, and with the happiest results. For example: The time of assembly of Boards has been altered, the Rest Camp horror no longer exists, and neither at Colaba nor Deolalie has there been anything approaching to strain during the present trooping season. Indeed, in the latter, we have been able to reduce the number of beds from about 340 to 160—much to the disgust of the Senior Medical Officer, I fear; but, to his credit be it said, with his loyal co-operation—and in neither have tents been required, except for purposes of isolation. What a contrast to former years. All this must, of necessity, mean considerable saving, but will that saving be apportioned to remedy some of the other defects, in whole or in part? "I hae ma doots"; for that somewhat nebulous individuality which we term "Government" is nearly akin, in many ways, to the daughter of the horse-leech: it will always *take* with an impartial and cheerful rapacity, but when it is a question of *give*—well! "that's another story." However, we have made a beginning and there is encouragement in that fact.

I might just add, if you will permit me, that, with regard to the same article, your compositor possesses a goodly proportion of the leaven of Bret Harte's "Heathen Chinees," particularly with respect to punctuation. I plead guilty to my full share of original sin, but I emphatically demur when, *inter alia*, I am presented to "kind readers" as a sort of semi-colon drunkard.

20, Queen's Road, Bombay,
March 6th, 1907.

Yours faithfully,

R. H. FORMAN,
Colonel, R.A.M.C.