

have gained experience and self-control both in obedience and command. For the next nine years he will be able to draw £9 a year, which will be a substantial help to him in his new start in life. His friend of former days, who has never left his home, will of course have got on at his trade and improved his position meanwhile; but it is probable that the soldier's comparatively short absence of three years will not prevent him from very soon regaining an equally good position, and he will then have the advantages mentioned above all to the good, and in favour of his ultimate success in whatever line of life he follows.

Another case, a little out of the ordinary order of things, is that of a soldier who has enlisted into his county regiment, and having reached the rank of sergeant, wishes to marry and settle down without sacrificing his army prospects. There is a grand opening for such an one in the permanent staff of the militia or volunteers, for after ten years' service in the army he will be eligible for the militia, and after seventeen years' for the volunteers; and having once joined either of these forces as a sergeant on the perma-

nent staff, he can make a comfortable home for himself and his wife, without fear of having to move about, or of leaving his own county, and will be able to follow his soldier's career until entitled to retire on a pension. This refers to all the upper ranks, including quartermasters, warrant officers, and ordinary sergeants. They will be able to remain on the permanent staff to complete their original army engagement, and will become entitled to their pensions, as described in a previous paper.

The number of these appointments is, with the militia about 3,600, with the yeomanry about 250, and volunteers 1,500.

Most of the principal phases of a soldier's ordinary career have now been referred to, with an attempt to show how much has been done of late years to improve his position and raise him above the level of soldiers of former times. But, it may be added, these pages have been written not so much to entice young men into the ranks by soft words and pleasing accounts of a life which must often entail hardships and rough living, as to show the general public what is the actual state of things now existing in the English army.

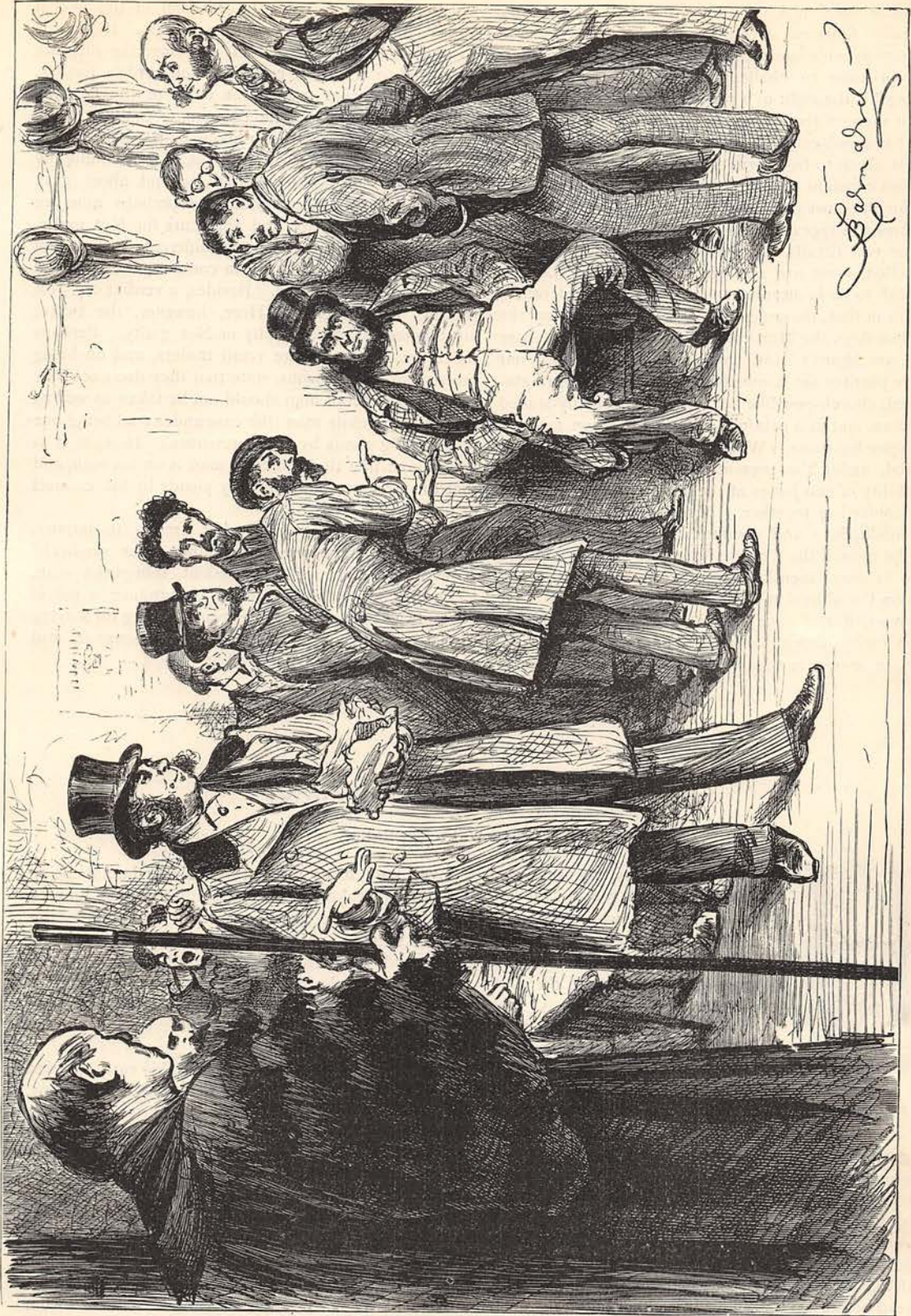
ON AN OLD BAILEY JURY.



HE must be, at the least, a promising disciple of Mark Tapley who, upon returning from business, can smile and be cheerful for the remainder of the evening when he finds awaiting him a post-letter with a printed heading over the address, "Petty Jury Summons." About once in every five years each London householder may expect such a notice; and he may be almost equally certain it will reach him at an inopportune period. Either the date fixed will interfere with "stock-taking in the City," or will cut short the annual holiday, or prevent the intended run across to Germany with the girls to school, or will follow close upon recovery from illness, when all business duties have fallen into arrear; but whatever the inconvenience, as a rule the duty must be faced.

To those who have not yet been called upon to serve, we may be able to afford some information which will be useful when the time does come. The sessions at the Old Bailey begin for the most part on Mondays; and at half-past ten on the first day the jurymen assemble in the New Court, to answer to their names and to be sworn in. There is not much, if any, difference now between the social status of the Grand Jury and the majority of the Petty Jury. When the Clerk of the Court calls out the name of a juror, he answers, if present, "Here," and if he has a sufficient reason for not serving, he adds, "Excuse." After some fourteen have been drafted into the jury-box, those who have thus far pleaded excuse are examined on oath as to the nature of their

A medical certificate of inability through bad health is, of course, the most effective plea, next the infirmity of deafness, and then some exceptionally pressing matter of business. If the reason assigned satisfies the judge, he says, "Excused," but in many cases he directs the summoning officer to repeat the summons for the following sessions. An exemption for "over age" (above sixty) is not valid unless the householder has taken the precaution to have his name erased from the "List of Persons liable to Serve on Juries;" nor does it avail, to get release from the Petty Jury, to plead service on the Grand or Special Jury; nor will a substitute be accepted; nor will residence in another town or city, or the fact of travelling abroad even, stave off the attendance permanently. The Judge, if he excuses a juror for one particular occasion, will, as previously remarked, instruct the officer to summon until the juror does come. In the event of no answer being given when the name is called, the usher calls the name again thrice, and bids "James Slyman, come forward and answer to your name, and save yourself the fine of one hundred shillings!" It is only fair to add, however, that in the case of those who put in an appearance, and who show a readiness to serve, the presiding Judge will endeavour to meet individual necessities. For instance, if a juror wishes for urgent reasons to be exempt for any particular day, or even for two specially-named days in the week, every effort to give effect to such requirement will be made by the Court. This can be done without serious inconvenience; for a larger number are summoned than will actually be required, so as to make full allowance for contingencies.



"NOW IS THE TIME FOR THE PRUDENT, THOUGHTFUL MAN . . . TO PRODUCE A PARCEL OF SANDWICHES."

"ON AN OLD BAILEY JURY" (page 400).

Twelve men in England form a Petty Jury, and generally fourteen are first impannelled. This is partly to provide against possible illness, or the right of a prisoner to challenge a juror. This "challenging" is the right of a prisoner to take exception to one or more of the jurors who are to try his case; but if he has an objection, he has to state it when the juryman is about to be sworn.

From constant practice, the working of the jury system for the most part is very perfect, but the writer ventures to suggest there is room for improvement in one or two details. Supposing now that all are impannelled, some are sent off to the Old Court, others are told to be in attendance the next day, and others remain in that, the same (New) Court. Here on the first two days the Mint cases against utterers of base coin are heard; and up to five or six o'clock our twelve patriots are doomed to sit in two old, straight-backed, church-pew-like boxes, on hard, badly-stuffed cushions, and in a painfully-cramped position, for want of proper leg-room. When the verdict has to be considered, under the present arrangement there is no possibility of two jurors at the respective ends of the box conferring together. Much, then, depends upon the intelligence and communicative power of what may be termed the "centre" men. If there is a doubt, these "centre" men have to listen in one direction and pass on the objection to the other section. In some instances, if the case is not very serious, it affords scope for the inevitable facetious man to be "funny." Thus, in answer to the query "What do you say?" the

whispered reply will be in imitation of the Welsh jury, "Not guilty, but mustn't do it again." If there is no reasonable probability of agreeing, the jury are instructed to retire, to consider their verdict further, and if this occurs toward the close of the day the prospect is appalling to the delicate, or to those whose "better halves" expect them home by the usual evening train. To a room without food, fire, or candle (by legal fiction nothing, fortunately, is said about gas), the twelve unfortunates retire, and perhaps nine are for a verdict of Guilty, and three are for Not guilty. In England the jury system is different from that of Scotland. In the latter, fifteen compose the jury, and a verdict of nine is taken. Besides, a verdict of "Not proven" can be given. Here, however, the twelve must agree, either for Guilty or Not guilty. Perhaps the three obstinates are retail traders, and on being pressed for their reasons, state that they don't see why the word of a retail man should not be taken as well as that of a wholesale man (the case under trial being one of obtaining goods by false pretences.) In vain it is pointed out that the wholesale man is on his oath, and that the prisoner (retailer) only pleads by his counsel or denial.

As the hours pass, an usher arrives to inquire, "Gentlemen, have you agreed upon your verdict?" Now is the time for the prudent, thoughtful man, if he belongs to the majority, to produce a parcel of sandwiches, and express a decided liking for staying up late. The matter is once more discussed, and finally an agreement is arrived at.

HOW TO MAKE MEN FOND OF HOME.

(A HAPPY HOME WELL ORDERED.)



OME life, its duties, amusements, atmosphere, and routine, all depend on those who form part and parcel of the family circle. Foremost among them is the master, who should be the first consideration. A wife's real happiness, and much of that of her household, depends on her and her husband being one.

Love is the ruling power of happiness—as it is the vital principle of religion—between husband and wife,

parents and children, brothers and sisters. Many women throw away their opportunities at starting. If they begin as they all should begin, and some do, with love on both sides, the wife has the most powerful weapon in her hand. It will be well for her if during courtship she has devoted her energies to studying the character and tastes of her future lord, instead of wasting precious time dwelling too much on her own sensations, and the wearying question—

"Loves me? loves me not?" Every human being has certain weaknesses and prejudices, which ignored bring them more annoyance than apparently important matters. Much of the happiness of home life depends on these being generally recognised and respected, and the wife who studies them has journeyed far on the right road. Little kindnesses breed much love, and our hearts go out even to strangers who show unselfish thought for us.

It is a great mistake for a man, in his early married life, to be overdone with domesticity. A few, perhaps, have lived with their relatives; but, as a rule, a husband's most recent experiences are of club and chamber life, and much society, which falls off often when he marries, unless his wife has a large circle of acquaintances. She, probably, is quite content with his company alone, while the man is apt to weary of the *toujours perdrix*. To enjoy home life, therefore, cultivate your friends, lest the woman dwindle down into a mere housekeeper and head nurse, with a spice of the dressmaker. Shut out from family life before marriage, many men have expe-