

## Policemen of the World.

BY C. S. PELHAM-CLINTON.

**P**OLICEMEN are a necessary evil, and the world is full of them. Every civilized, educated, and dignified nation is compelled to feed a large number in order to hunt rascals down and to help the women across the street; and in every country where law is a thing unknown, every man is his own policeman, and takes care of the above-named things for himself.

Now, for several years, the "bobby" has been my hobby, and in my travels I have

an embryo smile, as if he were running in competition with the next man's white shirt; and three of them carry "wristers" on their belts. With all their ungainliness and lack of beauty, however, they are a decidedly efficient set of men, and manage to keep the wayward citizens of South Africa in gentlemanly order.

The Guardias Civiles, or Civil Guard, of Spain are, without exception, one of the finest bodies of men in any part of Europe. They are, perhaps, only equalled by the Irish Constabulary, a body they



From a Photo. by]

NATIVE POLICEMEN, CAPE TOWN.

[B. G. Lennon & Co., Cape Town.

often noted the great difference in the policemen of the world. As the photographs which I have collected will show, there is a wide difference in dress, feature, and stature. Some of the "bobbies" are handsome men, carrying in their face and form the dignity of strength. Others wear upon their brow the care of long hours and small pay. And some are so ugly that you would have a fit if you met them late at night.

To show you at once that some bobbies are not Apollos, I begin with the native police of South Africa. There are four of them, standing against a stone wall. The man on the right is a fierce man, and his set lips are a warning that the way of the transgressor is indeed hard. The bobby on the left wears

very much resemble, though, happily, at the present time, the latter have not the same disagreeable duties to perform as do their Spanish confrères. It is not so very long since travelling in Spain was quite as dangerous as, if not more than, a trip through Kashmir, or other equally out-of-the-way part of the world. The absence of railways, and the difficulties of communication, which, to a certain extent, still obtain, made travelling as dangerous as it was in England in the old posting days, when "Stand and deliver" was frequently heard on Hounslow Heath and other parts near London. The Spanish highwayman, however, usually reversed the order of action, making you a target first of all, and then requesting the unpunctured

portions of your anatomy to deliver up your worldly goods. In 1845 the Civil Guard was established, and the duty of its members is to patrol the high roads and practically guard travellers. Since their enrolment, brigandage has almost entirely disappeared, and except in the most out-of-the-way portions anything like highway robbery is a thing of the past. Their power is almost absolute, and it speaks wonderfully well for them as a body that it is very seldom abused, and if abused it is the malefactor who suffers, and not the peaceable citizen!

thousand foot and five thousand mounted Guardias Civiles in the country. On proper representations one can always be obtained as an escort if required, and I believe that even in the beautiful cork woods near Gibraltar, which are a favourite picnic ground for the garrison and tourists, if a party is known to be visiting that picturesque spot, the Guardia is generally to be found handy, though I have never heard of there being any need of his services; the idea is evidently that prevention is better than cure. Besides these, there are the Municipal Police,



OFFICER OF THE CIVIL GUARD OF SPAIN.

*From a Photo. by the Photographic Company of Madrid.*



MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC GUARD OF SPAIN.

*From a Photograph.*

The Guardias Civiles are scattered all over the country in pairs or squads, and the patrolling is invariably done in couples, the order being to march, when on patrol, fifteen yards apart. There are always two guards on each train, and with their curiously shaped hats, dark blue tunics, and yellow belts, their cloaks hung over their shoulders, and their quaint, rather old-fashioned gaiters, they make a picturesque effect when, immediately the train stops at a station, the two get out and march up and down the platform. There are in all about twenty-five

who meander round in an amiable fashion and look after the cleanliness of the streets, and are supposed to direct the traffic, which they generally do by allowing the traffic to direct itself. Their uniform is very much the same as that of the Ordenne Publico, or Police of Public Order, who are paid by the city and not by the State, the chief difference being that they wear green gloves instead of white, and wear belts outside the tunic; their caps are much the same, but they have the municipal coat-of-arms on the front.



ITALIAN MUNICIPAL POLICEMAN.  
From a Photograph.

The Gibraltar police are dressed very much the same as those in England, excepting that they have a good deal more silver on their helmets. They have apparently a good deal less to do, as the soldiers are chiefly looked after by their own police and the patrols. One of their occupations seems to be to watch the squabbles between passengers landing from the steamers and the boatmen, and when a combat seems imminent, at the last moment to come to the front and establish order. If the police hastened their movements a little, visitors to Gibraltar in other than an official capacity would find their landing a good deal less irritating.

Beautiful as is the town of Naples, half the pleasure of the visit is marred by the ghastly cruelty to animals one sees on every side; it is a blot of shame on the town, and is, I believe, as much regretted by the better class of Italians as it is by the visitors. Even were the police turned into officers of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, I think they would hardly be able to summon up enough energy to do anything. The gendarmes on Sunday look very smart in their dark blue uniforms with silver braid. The Neapolitan police make little attempt to control the traffic, as little, in fact, as they do to prevent cruelty; but in Rome there is a marked difference in both of

these respects, as there is as little cruelty to animals to be seen as there is in London, and the traffic is certainly better regulated than in most towns of Europe.

The police of Italy is divided into five bodies, or sections, the first being the Carabinieri, who wear a dark blue tail-coat and trousers, with red band and thread silver buttons and ornaments, and a cocked hat with tricolor cockade and tuft, and gloves and sword. The second section is the Guardie di Publica Sicurezza, or Guards of Public Safety, who wear a dark blue tunic with light blue ornaments, grey trousers, a round cap with a peak, gloves, a small sword, and a revolver. Both of these belong to the military service, and are entitled to a pension. The men can rise from the ranks to be officers, but cannot advance beyond the rank of captain. The other police are the Municipal Police, the Forest Guards, and the Guardie Campestri, who look after the fields and farms, these last three being local bodies. The service is, of course, voluntary.

The Pope's Swiss Body-guard may perhaps come under the head of a police, though



A MEMBER OF THE POPE'S SWISS BODY-GUARD.  
From a Photograph.



From a Photo. by

JAPANESE POLICEMEN.

[O. A. Poole, Esq., Yokohama.

they are more of a military body; their uniform is one of the most picturesque in Europe, the only other equally fanciful costume being our beefeater's.

The Japanese police are very picturesque, especially in their summer costume. Dressed in white, with a sort of cape attached to their hats hanging down on their shoulders, they may often be seen walking along the street two by two. In speaking of the photograph here reproduced, Mr. A. R. G. Clark, the manager of Messrs. North and Rae's well-known firm in Yokohama, says: "I may mention that it is very difficult indeed to obtain such pictures, as the native 'Robert' must be snapped un-awares, and very few good negatives exist." The photograph is certainly an excellent one,

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and was taken by Mr. O. A. Poole, a distinguished Yokohama amateur.

The Roumanian police are a fine body of men, and are under the control of the Government. In comparison with the City of London or New York police, they are much more military looking, and their dress is smarter. In summer, they wear a canvas uniform, and at all times carry a sword and loaded revolver. Through the kindness

of Mr. N. Samarin, Director of the Prefecture of Police, I am able to present two photographs of Roumanians, showing the winter costume and full dress.

Try as I would in Vienna, I was not able to obtain any photographs



ROUMANIAN POLICEMAN IN WINTER DRESS.

From a Photograph.



ROUMANIAN POLICE-OFFICER IN FULL DRESS.

From a Photograph.



VIENNA POLICEMAN.  
From a Photograph.

of the police there, which was the more aggravating as, both in uniform and appearance, they are as smart a body of men as anyone could wish to see. However, shortly afterwards, by the kindness of Mr. M. Feldschar, the British Consul-General in Vienna, I obtained some excellent photographs of the Viennese police, and those of Bohemia as well. The uniform of the Viennese gendarme is one of the most picturesque of any in Europe — of the regular police, that is; tunic, blue-grey

policemen have a black cloth dress, with red facings, a black metal helmet with an eagle in nickel, and are armed with a sword. The inspector's dress is very much the same,

excepting that the ornaments are silver, and the stripes on the arm are silver braid.

The Prague police have a handsome uniform, with a curious hat, almost like an English pot-hat, with a square crown and a point, and with a bunch of feathers at the side. The mounted men have uncommonly good horses, and sit extremely well.

I was rather disappointed with the police of Berlin, who though a fine



AUSTRIAN GENDARME.  
From a Photograph.

it consists of dark green trousers with madder-red trimming, a blue-grey cloak with madder-red facings, a chasseur hat with a tuft of dark green feathers, and they are armed with a sword and Mannlicher rifle. They are a gendarmerie, or almost military body, organized for the maintenance of public order and security all over the country, with the exception of large towns, such as Vienna, Prague, etc., where a town police is in existence. As I said before, the Viennese police are a very smart-looking body of men; the mounted men in particular, with their gauntlet gloves, high boots, dark blue cloth jackets, and lighter trousers, and a leather belt across the chest, have a very spruce appearance. The ordinary



From a

PRAGUE POLICEMEN.

(Photog. by G.)

body of men as regards size, showed a great deal too much disposition to girth. They are, however, extremely serviceable in regulating the traffic, and I watched the way they



GERMAN POLICEMAN.  
From a Photograph.

kept the people back on the pavement, while the German Emperor was riding up Unter den Linden, with a good deal of curiosity, as they showed much firmness, and yet were very good-natured and polite through it all. Their uniform is dark

most gorgeous officials of all are the Custom House police, who have a much more gaudy uniform.

I suppose the French policeman is almost as well known to English people as the English one. The uniform of the gendarme is a dark blue tunic edged with red, rather lighter blue trousers, black braid epaulettes, a cocked hat with silver braid, and aiguillettes of white thread. He is armed with a revolver. The mounted gendarmes have the same uniform with a cross-belt of buff leather, a cloak lined with scarlet cloth, and are armed with a sword and carbine. The ordinary town policeman is dressed in darker colours, and has the regulation of the traffic in his hands.

I did not visit Serajevo, but Mr. Freeman, the British Consul there, kindly sent me photographs of the Bosnian police, with the following information:—

“There are in Bosnia and the Herzegovina gendarmes, or rural police, *finanzwache*, or Custom House guards, and town police. The inclosed photographs are all of the latter, but the uniforms of the others are very similar. The Christian members of all three



FRENCH GENDARME.  
From a Lithograph.



From a] FRENCH SERGENT DE VILLE. [Lithograph.

blue, and they wear a helmet of shiny leather, with a band of nickel and arms of the same metal. For some reason or other the powers that be at the Hague declined to let me have photographs of their police, but offered a picture of a fireman instead. What the connection between the two is I rather fail to see, but it was doubtless kindly meant. However, the terror to evil-doers in the Netherlands is dressed in a dark blue tunic and trousers, and wears a shiny helmet, and carries a short, heavy sword, which he is only allowed to use in desperate emergencies. The rural policeman much resembles his town brother, but the

forces wear the Austrian cap, the Mohammedans the fez. All the uniforms are dark green; the gendarmes and the town police have red facings, and the latter, when on duty, wear a metal plate with their numbers. The gendarmes carry a Kropatchek rifle and a sword-bayonet, the policemen only a sword. The Custom House guards have green facings, and carry a Wernde rifle and sword-bayonet."

As regards size, the Russian policemen are the biggest men of any in Europe, and compare in this respect with the police of New York, though what is known as the Broadway squad in the trans-Atlantic city can, I think, give inches in size to any body of men in Europe.

The Russian force is divided into three sections, the Urban, Suburban, and River police. The uniform of the Urban police is black, with yellow and red facings, and in cold weather they have a heavy great coat, and round their waists is a belt carrying a short sword and a revolver; the uniform of the Suburban section is black with purple facings, and the River police have black with white facings. There is also, in various parts, a mounted police, and I noticed these particularly



BOSNIAN POLICEMAN.  
From a Photograph.



From a

RUSSIAN POLICEMAN,

Photograph.

in Moscow, their uniform partaking much more of a military character. The Russian policemen are drawn from soldiers who have done their service in the regular army, but it is not a military corps, and the men are not entitled to pension on retirement. The rank and file cannot, as a rule, become officers, these last being chiefly chosen from the regular army, and I must make a passing tribute to the extraordinary politeness and courtesy shown to our party by the chief of the Kremlin district, at Moscow. Seeing we were strangers, on the occasion of one of the chief fêtes there, he not only gave us admission to the church, but allowed us to return in the procession to the Church of the Assumption, and afterwards emphasized his civility by taking the trouble to come up and ask if he could be of any further service to us. Good-natured and civil as are the majority of our English inspectors, I fancy very few of them would show such gratuitous civility and such great kindness to entire strangers. I say this without any intention of disparaging the most excellent police of London.

The Fiji Islands are kept in order by a body called the "Armed Native Constabulary." From a



NATIVE FIJIAN POLICE-OFFICER AND ORDINARY POLICEMAN.  
From a Photograph.

other times he wears the side-sword on'y. The second Singapore photograph shows the native Malay policeman.

In passing, I may say that the police forces in the various British Colonies are modelled on the lines established in the mother country. In many of the Colonial cities and towns, the police legislation is based upon metropolitan enactments, and the expense of the police establishments is borne by the Colonial revenue. British India is divided into police districts, but the system

resident of Sura, I have received photographs showing these men outside the Sura Barracks.

The man on the right presenting arms is the common soldier-policeman, with black tunic and black facings. The man on the left is an officer. His tunic of dark blue with scarlet facings contrasts strikingly with the scalloped kilt of white linen. Note the curious manner in which the native Fiji policeman wears his hair.

In the Straits Settlements, the police force numbers over 2,000, of whom about 100 are Europeans. The accompanying photographs show the well-known Sikh and Malay policemen. The first-named "bobby," with gun on shoulder, is a picturesque figure. The gun is used when the Sikh is on guard at the treasury or Government offices. At

differs slightly in the different presidencies. All the British Indian police are in uniform,



SIKH POLICEMAN.  
From a Photo. by Moses & Co., Singapore.



NATIVE MALAY POLICEMAN.  
From a Photo. by Moses & Co., Singapore.



and are trained in drill and in the use of fire-arms. The ordinary members of the force are natives, while the officers are nearly all Europeans, who have seen military service. By the Code of 1883, which has tended to make the force very efficient, the police have a legal sanction for acts that in England are sanctioned by practice. Policemen take evidence, and have the power to compel the attendance of witnesses and to question



MADRAS POLICEMAN.

From a Photo. by Major Hands, Madras.

them. In fact, as one great authority, Stephen, says, the police of India are far more important, and relatively more powerful, than the English police, owing to the smallness of the number of the European magistrates and other circumstances.

The costume of the Madras police is less attractive than that of the Sikh. A gaily-coloured turban, dark jacket, white trousers, and sandals



MONTENEGRIN POLICEMAN.

From a Photograph.



SWEDISH POLICEMAN.

From a Photo. by Dahlfors, Stockholm.

make up the uniform, and the "bobby" carries a sword. The Montenegrin policeman, with his trusty pistol in his belt, is much smarter in appearance, stalwart and impressive.

In Stockholm and Christiania the uniforms much resemble each other, being of dark blue, almost black, cloth, with brass buttons, and a brass plate on the shiny leather helmet, and they are armed with a short sword.



TASMANIAN POLICEMAN.

From a Photo. by S. Spurling, Launceston, Tasmania.

Here is a policeman from Launceston, Tasmania, who measures 6ft. 2in. in height. The number of the force in that town is about fifty, and they are often spoken of as "a model police force." At present, the local police of Tasmania are under the control of the local municipal councils, but it is very probable that, under a centralization Act, all the police of this far-off island will be

under Government control. As will be noticed, the Tasmanian "bobby" is remarkably like the London "peeler," and is quite as fine-looking.

In Denmark the city and county police are also a distinct body—men who have been in the army being preferred, though military service is not essential. They receive a pension on retiring, but are allowed to follow any civil occupation in addition if so inclined. The ordinary policeman can be promoted to an inspectorship, which is about equal to a sergeantship in this country, and to rise higher and get command of a district he

the custom nowadays to run them down on every occasion. Why, I never can see, for taking it all in all it is not too great praise to say they are the most efficient body of men in the world. There may be a few black sheep among them, and a few of them may not have read Lord Chesterfield's book on manners, but if their efficiency, readiness to oblige, and general civility were placed in one side of the balance, and the contrary attributes on the other side, I think everybody knows which side of the scale would reach the ground with a bump. Only travellers who have watched the traffic of foreign towns



DANISH POLICEMAN.

From a Photo. by Stolten & Simonsen, Copenhagen.



BELGIAN POLICEMAN IN UNDRESS UNIFORM.

From a Photograph.

must pass an examination, and, after a few years' service in the ranks, is promoted as vacancies occur.

Belgium enjoys with Switzerland the reputation of being one of the least-policed States of Europe. There is, roughly speaking, one "bobby" to every 350 persons. The duty of the *gendarmérie*, or members of the horse and foot police, is to maintain internal order and peace. In this work they are aided by the "Guard Civique."

It would be carrying coals to Newcastle to give a detailed description of the English police and their efficiency. It seems to be

extricate itself, more by good luck than good guidance, can appreciate the careful manner in which the gigantic mass of vehicles in London is managed by our friend the "bobby."

In London, the "Metropolitan" and the "City" policemen are distinguished when on duty by the difference in the small canvas armband worn on the left fore-arm. In the "City" this strap is of red and white stripes, while in all other parts of the Metropolis the stripes are of blue and white. The Metropolitan police area is over 688 square miles, and includes all places within a radius of fifteen

miles of Charing Cross — except the "City." In the "one square mile" on the other side of Temple Bar, 928 stalwart men, from the "Commissioner" down to the ordinary constable, guard the public from harm. The force costs about £128,000 a year. This sum is paid for entirely by the citizens, without Imperial aid, and the wages for each man is considerably in advance of police wages in the United Kingdom. The Metropolitan force, up to December, 1895, numbered 15,271, and the cost of supporting it is partly borne by the Government.

An equally efficient corps is the Irish Constabulary, which is, however, considerably more of a military force. Their good temper under difficulties and danger can be appreciated by those who, like myself, happened to be quartered in Ireland when the Emergency trouble commenced, and the dark green uniforms and the stalwart forms they encased will be always remembered by those who have seen them in such trying circumstances as a first-class body of well-drilled guardians of the peace.

I have already mentioned the New York police-



LONDON METROPOLITAN "BOBBY."  
From a Photo. by F. C. O. Stuart, Southampton.



NEW YORK POLICEMAN ON BROADWAY.  
From a Photo. by H. N. Tiemann, New York City.

man in terms of deserved praise. They—in fact all of the American policemen—are as fine a body of men as any in the world. In many of the Eastern cities, such as New York, Boston, Philadelphia, there is a strong sprinkling of Milesian blood in the multitude of officers and patrolmen, and it is said that many of them go on the Milesian principle of "hit him first and hold him afterwards." The "hitting" is done by means of a club or "billy"—a short stick of hardwood loaded with lead, about as long as the fore-arm. This stick has a particularly persuasive and somnolescent effect, and the day-billy, a smaller, but quite as powerful club, reduces the most violent criminal to a state of child-like and abject humility. The depressing thwack of the "billy," and the charges against it, have often been heard; but I, for one, can bear witness that, in

all my American travels, I have never known the "billy" to be put to an inhuman use. The American policeman, by the way, is popularly known as a "cop," and in certain portions of New York he wears the euphonious name of "de collar."