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EDITORIAL

MILITARISM.

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NOW that the roll of the war-drum threatens to be heard in Europe, it is seasonable to look back and recall the effect produced in several quarters by the recent “rattle of the sabre,” at home, when 20,000 Federal troops were mobilized near our Mexican frontier.

Of the many cartoons, that the “rattle of the sabre” inspired, we shall pick out three, located in widely separate sections of the country.

The *Eagle* of contiguous Brooklyn represented a cloud-burst from which issued, after the style of Murillo’s chaste and peace-suggesting Madonna, the coarse gigantic figure of a United States trooper, gun in hand, slouch sombrero on head, defiance breathing; while at his feet, the opposites of Rafael’s cherubs at the feet of the Sistine Madonna, were pigmy figures ridiculing Mexico’s impotence.

The *Globe-Democrat* of St. Louis, located in the center of the Nation, came out with a cartoon on which only two figures appeared—one, a colossal representation of Uncle Sam in the usual suit of stars and stripes but wholly lacking the keenness and good humor of the regulation Uncle Sam. The figure, from crown to flat-feet, is the type of brutality, “daring,” like a bruiser with its two fighting gloves, one labeled “Navy,” the other “Army,” for arguments. Hardly up to the bare calves of the huge figure was a little one, labeled “Mexico,” an insulting symbol of a “sister nation.”

The third cartoon appeared in the Minneapolis *Journal*. Behind a board-fence stockade the presence of a long row of United States soldiers is indicated by the long row of points of bayonets that peep over the stockade. One of the soldiers, a specimen of the rest, is seen at the left hand edge of the stockade. He certainly is a specimen of all that civilized, to say nothing of Christian, society should hold in detestation. This side of the stockade are a number of scared specimens of humanity symbolizing Mexico.

The cartoons read like foot-notes to Gustave Herve's great speech against "Military." Well does Herve bring out how Military arouses the worst instincts in the population, idealizes the coarse, inculcates the brutal, draws upon and revives the beast in man. The three cartoons, fair specimens of scores of others should be published with Herve's speech as "exhibits."

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