

COLONIAL TROOPS.

517

In camp the neigh and whinny of desert-bred ponies fill the air; in the cavalry lines there is bustle and a great activity, for this morning a special demonstration of Colonial troops was staged for the benefit of our cameras. The French Colonial Empire is the second largest in the world -- second only to Great Britain. The tricolour protects Algeria, Madagascar, Senegal, Dahomey and many other countries. The Sultan of ~~Mar~~ Morocco, the Bey of Tunis, the Emperor of Annam seek and find their protection in France. ~~Thus the Indo-Chinese from Tonkin,~~ ^{their subjects} ~~the Senegalese and the Spahis~~ give their service to the ally of Great Britain. The great virtue of these native troops is their mobility; born and bred in desert and mountain they cover enormous distances without fatigue, with rifle, machine-gun or light artillery. Sons of the burning plains, to each one his rifle is closer than a brother. But the ~~troops~~ troops of the French colonial empire do not rely solely on horse and rifle; each division is fully trained and equipped with machine-guns; each is experienced in the modern mode of transport.

Most formidable of all the world's artillery are the famous French seventy-fives. In manoeuvrability, speed and precision they are unequalled. Designed by Lieut.-Colonel Deport and developed by Sainte-Clair-Deville they are as deadly to-day as when they first took the field of battle.

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COLONIAL TROOPS. (2)

But though artillery is called the queen of the battle --- though Navies and aeroplanes play their part, the deciding factor in any war must still be the infantry. When the heavy guns and bombers have paved the way it is the foot-soldier who must consolidate the position. Bombardment opens the gate to victory; until the poilu marches in the battle is not won ~~and so to day with his auxiliary arms of machine gun and trench mortar it is the humble poilu who dominates the scene of grace.~~ But it will never fall to the infantry of any nation to win the laurels or the acclaim of the crowd; much more spectacular than his patient winning of ground by inches is the dashing advance of the light artillery. While the foot-soldier holds on grimly to the position that is won, the guns swing into action for another advance.

France protects her colonies; her colonies in their turn offer their manhood for ~~her protection~~ the protection of a great empire --- Moroccan ~~and~~ Spahis --- Charge!

Watch for later issues of *Samuel's British News* --- further pictures of the defence of *Butcher's* ally --- France

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