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LITERARY.

LIFE IN THE U. S. ARMY.

BY AN EX-SOLDIER.

Any young man having a desire to enter the U. S. Army will do well to give a call to any military post or recruiting office to be found in every city or town of note.

QUALIFICATIONS.—Any male person above the age of 16 and under the age of 35 years, effective, able-bodied, free from disease, of good character, who does not appear to be of intemperate habits, and who has a competent knowledge of the English language, due attention being given to the restrictions in this article concerning minors. This regulation so far as it relates to age, shall not apply to soldiers who may re-enlist, nor to those who have served faithfully and honestly a previous enlistment in the army.

No person under the age of 21 will be enlisted or re-enlisted without the written consent of his parents or guardians, provided he has parents or guardians entitled to his custody or control.

Should you apply to a recruiting ren-

dezvous you will be conducted to the examination room by a regular soldier who is detailed for that purpose, usually an old soldier.

He will give you full instructions and prepare you for examination by ordering you to strip naked. When there are a sufficient number ready, in comes the doctor who, with the recruiting officer will examine almost every square inch of your body, by testing your lungs, hearing, eyesight, etc., and making you go through a course of gymnastics by jumping over a bench or a chair, at the same time holding up one foot with the hand alternately; if you are limber enough to go through this ordeal it is likely you will have passed the examination, although you cannot tell until your name is called, then you are sworn in after sorting out different colored skeins of thread to test your eye sight.

Many a splendid man have I seen rejected on account of some peculiar ail-