the cart to the destructor. About a foot wide is a good size for this shelf, and in any other country but South Africa it might be made of some other material. The waggon to be unloaded is backed right up to the incinerator; and the litter is set alight in the ordinary way, near the bottom.

THE MEDICAL UNIT OF THE AUXILIARY FORCES.

By Captain J. H. P. Graham.
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The normal distribution in peace of the regimental units constituting a military force, is a factor which must largely determine the organisation of a military medical service; elasticity is aimed at to meet war conditions, but variations in fundamental principles are at any time more apparent than real.

The regimental units constituting the regular Army are chiefly located in close proximity to one another within certain limited areas, so that large numbers are brought within convenient reach of a detachment of the Royal Army Medical Corps stationed in their midst, and their individual requirements can be dealt with collectively through the "station" system. But in all branches of the Auxiliary Forces the several regimental units are more usually widely scattered and out of touch with one another. In practice they lead entirely separate existences, and are governed by dissimilar local circumstances; what aggregation of units may be transiently affected during training in camp does not affect the isolated positions they more constantly occupy, nor abrogate even temporarily the need for providing individual units with medical assistance suited to their peculiar needs. The proposed re-organisation of the Auxiliary Forces will not bring the various regimental units into closer practical relationship with one another, at least not constantly, so that in so far as the requirements of the Auxiliary Forces are concerned, the conditions which determine the plan of organisation of their medical services will remain much as at present. The "station" system is obviously unsuited to the circumstances of the Auxiliary Forces. The medical personnel of the Auxiliary Forces requires a much wider distribution than that of the Regular Army, in order to bring it sufficiently within reach of those it has to serve under all circumstances. A medical corps can provide the Auxiliary Forces with the field medical units they may possibly require, but it does not offer a ready means for providing regimental units with the medical and sanitary supervision they constantly need, nor for carrying out the examination of recruits, instruction in first aid, hygiene, and other regimental duties. These duties can only be efficiently discharged where a system exists which provides each regimental unit permanently with a staff charged with their performance.
What may be called for sake of a short descriptive term a "regimental system" is the one best adapted to the circumstances of the Auxiliary Forces, at least the "regimental medical unit" or staff should form the basis of any more elaborate medical organisation all branches of these forces may possess. The medical unit the Auxiliary Forces most urgently require is one akin to that called a Sanitation Unit, described by Captain Harvey in the March number of the Journal of the Royal Army Medical Corps; a medical unit of that nature would provide regimental units of the Auxiliary Forces with a trained staff for adequately dealing with those sanitary and medical questions which constantly and immediately affect them. A period of training in camp is ordained for all branches of the Auxiliary Forces, so there occurs annually a necessity for the practical application at home of methods essential to the well-being of a force in the field. During the inter-camp periods the regimental medical staff would discharge those routine duties towards their units, which, in the Regular Army, are ordinarily undertaken by a detachment of the Royal Army Medical Corps. The auxiliary medical corps, owing to their present distribution, are little fitted to provide regimental units with the requisite medical personnel, particularly during the inter-camp periods, and probably the most they can do for the Auxiliary Forces is to provide them with such form of field medical unit as meets their needs when large training camps are formed. But possibly the members of the regimental medical units could be affiliated to the medical corps, though whatever their connection with the corps may be there is no question where their permanent place is, and to secure it it is expedient to adopt the practice which renders their position least equivocal.

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Travel, &c.

SIERRA LEONE.

By MAJOR A. PEARSE.

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The steady rise in importance which has taken place in recent years of the whole of Africa, is to be observed on its West Coast nearly as much as in most other parts of the Dark Continent. With the increase of our knowledge of Africa has come an improvement in the conditions of life and living, not only of the peoples whose native country it is, but also of those Europeans who, year by year, in increasing numbers, visit its shores either on pleasure or business bent.