

THE SOLDIERS' LOT.

THE SOLDIER AND THE CIVILIAN.

February 25 quotes a letter from a **socialist to his wife**, written after the battle in the night from 18-19 January on the Bessarabian frontier. ". . . The earth was like a volcano. The shrapnel bursting in mid-air, the grenades, the exploding gas bombs ; add to this the whistling of the rifles, the rattle of the machine guns, the unceasing explosions of the hand grenades and mines, and most terrible of all, *the moaning of the wounded, and the heaped up corpses* : this was a picture, which would have sufficed to cause instant end to be put to this terrible world-drama had, one of those who holds the reins of power amongst our enemies, been condemned to live through it if only for a quarter of an hour."