

THE FUGITIVE CAVALIER.

(BY WALTER THORNBURY.)

Three days since bloody Worcester fight,
 Still here in ooze and mud;
 Where oaks through the willows creep,
 I sit and watch the flood;
 And while the birch shadows play
 Curse Time for lagging on his way.
 In staid and swart-gashed bull I sank,
 Where varlish I beech-leaves all,
 Staring through cliffs and boughs to view
 Once more my father's hall!
 Above you Pollard stump I see
 Its blue smoke rising on the lee,
 'Tis three days since that cursed shot
 Toro deep into this arm,
 And good old Margery, my grey,
 Bore me here safe from his aim,
 A curse upon that heron's bonum,
 Sounding from where the marshes flog him,
 Half starved I woe through willow boughs
 That shut her as the owl,
 Where yellow angled he by the reeds,
 And I rushes snap on the weed,
 Hark I with loud screams to the Mallard fly
 Across the cold mires, ward sky,
 Out on the droves that I reach and gorge
 In my old Tudor hall!
 The sour-faced roses of peace and thin,
 Who eat and die of the wind,
 I burn to hear our name, as they sing
 And sweep down the bank on the gang,
 See how the minnows play and play
 In gravel shadows where
 The sunken salmon's golden flash
 The silly fish to scare!
 A curse upon the eating pack—
 Would Rupert were upon their track!
 Here like a skulking Poacher I
 Must sit forsooth and wait
 Till fortune once more casts the dice—
 Out on my survey fate!
 O Fortune turn again thy wheel
 And let me charge upon their steel!
 No; still the lazy ripples lisp
 Against the Oak tree's foot—
 Where in that little bay the leaves
 Heap round the milky pool,
 Come let me mow down the grass down
 As I were fighting for the crown!

That was the force and merry gulp
 Of a quick leech along the bank,
 Yet listen! now I hear the brush and copse
 For footsteps of some scout—
 All in a row, the feet!
 These poor fish fear not man I!
 All day I watch beneath the bank
 Where leaves rain, and grasses bow;
 Now rebel waters' golden crown!
 King Summer's golden crown!
 Often I almost dream I hear
 Sounds from the old hall once so dear;—
 Fancy I hear my horse's neigh
 From the far hinter coast;
 And sometimes think I catch the sound
 Of my poor lads at sport.
 Esow! 'tis out the sighs of wind
 That entrance to the willows find.

Hark! was that the clash of steel?
 Was that the tramp of horse?
 Yes, by St. George, it comes again—
 'Tis Rupert, in full force!
 And now I see his scarlet cloak
 Blow flaring past that river oak,
 Hurrah! I see a swift tinged boat
 Come driving down the stream!
 I see the plike heads flash and shine—
 I see the steel caps gleam!
 As elgh strong by eke bound to the oars
 And force the boat to Severn's shores.
 A shout and I am with the lads,
 And mounted once again,
 With ten score troopers in the van
 And a score in my train:
 'Tis "hey boy!" Ho boy!" Jack y'ur hand!
 "We've come to save your home and land!"
 Thank God I'm once more with the true—
 One more among the brave—
 Safe from that f. my fox's hole,
 And free in a narrow grave!
 And now the sun shines on my face
 Once more I'm on more in the tree,
 Ho! comrades, on to Devil Hall!
 To chase the rascal out!
 To burn the ferns from their holes
 With beer and curlew goblets,
 Forward my gallant gentlemen,
 To hurl those roundheads from their den!
 P. S.—That night the knaves all shot or burnt;
 We sat us down to feast,
 The oldest east was bled to death,
 We killed the fattest beast;
 To-morrow Rupert, and his horse,
 Will march through Gloucestershire in force.

According to the Vienna papers the Emperor of Germany, in congratulating the Emperor of Austria, recently said, "I hope for the renewal of our old companionship in arms to secure peace for many years, which is equally desired on all sides."

RAPID FIELD INTRENCHMENTS.

During the present summer will be issued to the troops of the Regular Army 10,000 earth trowels of the form recommended by the Chief of Ordnance, and 10,000 of the Rice Trowel Bayonets. As it is the intention of the Government to thoroughly test the system of rapid field entrenchments for infantry, we have taken the liberty, with the author's permission, of making such extracts from the recent work of Brevet Lieut Col. Bier, U. S. A., as will suffice to explain the system to be adopted, and the rapidity of work possible of attainment.

Taking into consideration the long range, extreme accuracy, and great rapidity of fire of the rifled guns and small arms now in use, it is of the greatest importance to shelter the troops as much as possible from unnecessary exposure. As the difficulty of keeping troops beyond the range of projectiles increases every day, the necessity of concealing them becomes more and more evident. To conceal troops, either natural cover (such as ridges of earth, woods, enclosures, deep roads, etc.) must be utilized, or else artificial shelter must be constructed. When the ground is undulating or woody, the troops may be easily shielded from the enemy's sight and fire; but it is quite different when the ground is flat and bare. The necessity of giving tools for digging to infantry exists principally in armies operating in level and unwooded countries. By the introduction of the breech-loading rifle, a soldier in action can obtain cover, waste before he would have been in sufficiently protected; as, with this arm, he can load while lying at full length on the ground, without changing the horizontal position of his piece, or betraying himself by any movement. In this position, besides being covered, he has the advantage of being able to see an advancing enemy, while the latter can see nothing but smoke, and of firing with at least five times the rapidity of the muzzle-loading rifle, and with much greater accuracy, having a rest for his piece on the parapet of his pit. While furnished with this prodigiously destructive power, the soldier in the shelter trench will be protected against the fire of infantry, and to a great extent, against that of artillery. Decisive and continuous movements, in face of either artillery or infantry will become more and more impossible, and we shall have to prepare for short and rapid concentrations from extended order, or sudden rushes from cover, natural or artificial. What remains to be done is, to seek an efficient and ready means of defence for our soldiers against these terrible arms of precision, which can pour forth such an amazing stream of fire, consuming all it touches. We may, by the establishment of a system of field entrenchment do much to afford cover and concealment to our men.

In order effectually to protect infantry, there is but one plan, that is, to throw up the earth with tools carried by the troops. A soldier who is forming an excavation for his own protection is more vigorous and more careful in executing his task than one who is doing the same work for others. He has too, more confidence in the intrenchments constructed by himself, and he generally defends them with greater obstinacy.

A very slight earthen parapet is sufficient to protect men, in a great measure, from the effects of shrapnel and rifle bullets, besides screening them from view which, in itself, is of great advantage. From the latest experiments it has been ascertained

that the penetration of rifle balls into newly excavated earth is about ten inches at two hundred yards, and only twenty inches at a range of ten yards.

Shelter trenches may be considered a rapid application of field fortification for temporary purposes. They may be defined as having rather the character of offensive than of defensive fortification, resembling in their functions more the besiegers' parallels, or "places of arms", than intrenchments for the defence of a position; but they must always be considered as supplementary to natural cover, and not as a substitute for it. The primary object of shelter trenches is to obtain cover for troops in a given position, without interfering with their advance when required. Yet shelter trenches may be combined with more purely defensive works, as when occupying the intervals between detached works, or portions of them may be converted into intrenchments; therefore they cannot be dislocated from field fortification; in fact, they come under the general heading of temporary field fortifications. It must be distinctly impressed upon the men that the object of these shelter trenches is merely to afford cover from the fire of the enemy until the moment arrives for advancing against them. The men should be exercised in throwing up these shelter trenches and shelter pits when practicable.

SHELTER TRENCH AND PIT EXERCISE.

On approaching the line of the proposed shelter trench, the battalion, if in column, must be deployed. If the battalion be advancing in line, it will be halted ten paces in rear, and if retiring in line, it will march ten paces to the rear of the proposed trench, wheel about by fours and halt. The battalion being halted near the position of the proposed line of shelter trenches, and the command being in line, arms will be grounded, or stacked. The commanding officer will then command:

- 1. Prepare to form shelter trenches.—2. MARCH.

At the command march, the battalion will step about five paces to the front, in a continuous line; but it need not be straight, this being determined by the features of the ground, so as to take advantage of any natural cover. Officers and non-commissioned officers should be instructed to select quickly the most suitable positions for shelter trenches. 1. Draw.—2. BARONET. At the command bayonets, the men will draw their bayonets, by grasping the Shank with the right hand, nails toward the body, point of the bayonet downwards. 1. Old numbers.—2. Commence.—3. Work. At this command the old numbers step two paces to the front, drop on the right knee, as when in the position of firing when kneeling; they then throw the earth to the front (using both hands, if necessary), as rapidly as possible, taking care not to throw it too far as the parapet should be close to the trench. The earth thrown up should be formed into a parapet from sixteen to twenty inches high; any turf, logs, or rails being used as a kind of revetment to its interior or rear slope. When the pit has been deep enough for a man to kneel in, the captains of companies will relieve the odd numbers, giving the order: 1. Even numbers.—2. Commence.—3. Work. The even numbers will advance two paces, dropping on the right knee, and commence work; the odd numbers falling back two paces without any word of command, and remaining in place rest, or, if under fire, lying down.