

THE AUSTRIAN CAVALRY IN 1874.

In a review of the recently-published work of Dr. Jurnitschek, the *Revue Militaire* gives an interesting, and we have reason to suppose, a reliable account of the late army reforms in Austria, to which we are indebted for the annexed details of cavalry matters there.

The cavalry of the Austro-Hungarian Army now consists of forty-one regiments, *à s.*, fourteen of Dragoons, eleven of Uhlans (Lancers), and sixteen of Hussars. The distinction of title and dress thus retained, are merely concessions of time honored regimental traditions, and to the local Associations of particular portions of the Empire Kingdom, with which the regiments are linked individually. The size of the men and horses is the same in all, and all are equally eligible for *bona-fide* light cavalry duties.

Every cavalry regiment is divided into six field squadrons and a depot. Each squadron has one captain, two sub lieutenants, one probation officer, one quartermaster, four sergeants, eight corporals, one trumpeter, and 30 troopers, all mounted, besides one pay sergeant, two clerks, one farrier, one saddler, and thirteen troopers, dismounted. The strength of each squadron on a peace footing is thus, five officers, 166 non commissioned officers and troopers, and 149 horses. In time of war an extra horse is added to each, to mount the squadron pay sergeant, and two reserve squadrons of equal strength, are formed out of the reserve officers and men belonging to the regiment, who are mounted on horses liable to military service under the Horse Conscription law, which has been in force since the 16th of April last year. These numbers are exclusive of regimental field officer, and of the regimental commissioned and non commissioned staff. In addition to the above, each regiment in peace time has a depot of two officers, five non commissioned officers, twelve troopers, and four horses, which, in the event of war, is expanded into a depot squadron of any desired strength. Every Austrian cavalry regiment may therefore be taken to represent, in round numbers, a force of 1000 officers and men, exclusive of its reserves.

Should there be any recruits or recruit-horses present with the regiment when ordered to take the field, they are made over to the depot, and their places filled up from the reserve squadrons which are then formed.

In the event of a mobilization, each of the forty-one regiments is therefore competent to take the field with six full squadrons, of trained men and horses, having besides, in rear, two reserve squadrons, which can be employed in garrison and *clappen* duties, and in filling up vacancies in front, and also a depot squadron, which receives all the reserve officers and men, whose services are not needed in the field reserve squadrons. The reserve squadrons may be regimented by twos or fours, for garrison, etc., duties.

Cavalry as well as infantry regiments in the Austrian Service are required to find each a certain number of field gendarmes for staff duties. These men are always taken from the reserve. They are taken for the year, in the proportion of two or three non commissioned officers and men to each regiment, and at the autumnal manoeuvres are formed into detachments to receive special instruction in the particular duties assigned to them.

The number of men to be employed in the

field is fixed, by the Austrian regulations, as below:—

To each division of cavalry or infantry, 3 non commissioned officers and men.

To each *corps d'armée* 1 subaltern, 1 non-commissioned officer and 7 men.

With the army headquarters, 1 captain, 2 subalterns, 4 quartermasters, 10 non commissioned officers, and 33 men.

The colossal stature formerly characteristic of certain corps has given place to one uniform rule.—“a strong, active frame, and a figure suited to work on horseback.” The limits of height for the men in all cavalry regiments are 61 and 68 Vienna inches. As the Vienna inch is one tenth longer than the English, this will be 4ft. 10in. to 5ft. 5in. English measure.

Two fifths of the horses must be about 15 hands 2in., or 15 hands 3in., and the remaining three fifths between 14 hands 3in. and 15 hands 1in. The hands are here reckoned in the Austrian inches. Remounts to the number of 22 per cent. of the effective strength are purchased every year. All remounts, excepting a small reserve for casualties, must be taken on by 1st October. The training of men and horses is supposed to be complete in spring, when each squadron should have its full strength of perfectly broken horses. In the event of war, each regiment will by up its annual contingent of remounts without waiting for the mobilization of the troops.

In this way, and with the aid of the horse conscription, it is assumed that each one of the forty one regiments should be in a position to send into the field at any moment, six squadrons, each confining at least 120 perfectly trained horses. This would provide a first line of 29,250 trained cavalry, besides an ample horse reserve.

Great attention is paid to the training of the men to act dismounted; and in order to render the cavalry more efficient in the performance of their duties, a mounted pioneer sub division has been formed in the sixth squadron of each regiment, and five men in each of the other five squadrons are also trained to act as mounted pioneers. All these men undergo a special course of instruction in field engineering, and are supplied with saws, axes, augers, gun spikes, blasting charges of dynamite, &c. distributed amongst them, so as to increase the load carried by their horses as little as possible.

Every regiment of Austrian cavalry, as well as infantry, is linked for recruiting purposes with some particular province, or with one or more particular districts, within which its reserve men and men holding standing furloughs are bound to reside unless they receive permission to do otherwise.

—*Broad Arrow.*

INSPECTION.—The volunteers who have been camping here for the past twelve days were inspected on Thursday by Lieut. Colonel Jarvis and Brigade Major Smith. Their appearance was satisfactory, and their behaviour warranted the words of encomium which they received from their officers. The inspection lasted about three hours. Yesterday the camp broke up and the men were dismissed. The Bowmanville and western companies left by the mixed at 1 o'clock; the eastern companies went down on a special, and the Peterborough battalion went via Harwood. All expressed themselves satisfied with their treatment while in camp.—*Cobourg Sentinel.*

DR. BROUSE, M. P. AND THE VETERANS OF 1812.

To the Editor of the TELEGRAPH.

Sir.—During the last Session of the House of Commons, I brought under the notice of the Government the Royal Warrant issued from “Chelsea Hospital,” granting pensions to soldiers who had fought for the defence of the British Flag, previous to 1815, and asked the action of the Premier to ascertain if such notice would not include the “Canadian Veterans” who had fought side by side with the regular soldiers? The Government promptly replied that they would. I now understand the Hon. the Minister of Militia has submitted one or more applications to ascertain if the Warrant will apply to our surviving “incorporated Militia of 1812,” and if they will be entitled to claim the division under the Chelsea Warrant. In a few weeks a definite reply may be expected.

I submit the above statement for the information of those interested, as it is quite impossible for me to send replies to all the letters received and making inquiries respecting the anticipated pensions.

It is really extraordinary the number of veterans of 1812 who are still living in the Province of Ontario. A company of over fifty can be mustered along the River St. Lawrence in this “Territorial Division,” and what is still more pleasing arises from the fact that they are active and appear to take a deep interest in the future of our Dominion.

Yours &c.,

W. H. BROUSE.

Prescott, June 1874.

Gunner Cameron, of the artillery here, was struck by lightning last Thursday night and instantly killed. From what we can learn, it would appear that the unfortunate man, accompanied by a corporal, also named Cameron, left the barracks when the storm came on with the kind intention of bringing the family of a fellow soldier from a neighbouring tent into the barracks, deeming the latter a safer place. They had just reached the tent, and deceased was standing with his hand on the pole, his companion in the doorway, when the bolt struck the pole, the fluid running through Gunner Cameron's system and killing him almost instantly. The corporal was very severely shocked, but will recover. None others were hurt. Deceased was about 23 years old, a member of the Good Templars lodge, and was a general favorite with his comrades. He was buried on Saturday with military honors. It is said that the force of the shock was so great as to rip both heels off his boots.—*The Nor. Wester.*

Berlin July 17.—French Ambassador here has sent a congratulation to Prince Bismark on his escape from assassination.

The Admiralty Court has awarded the owners of the steamer *Spray*, 77,000 dollars; E. T. Barry, 70,000 dollars and Auburn, 2,500 dollars salvage for towing into port the abandoned French steamship *Amerique*.

Private dispatches say the French Government have dismissed from service Capt. Lemore, late commander of S.S. “Europe” and Capt. Rousan, late of the S.S. “Amerique,” for abandoning their ships as reported some weeks ago.