

self somewhat in the following words:—"As long as any orders had to come from him, bayonet fencing should be kept up in the army, as it tends to develop the offensive spirit and the initiative of the individual, and for this reason every officer should exert himself in his particular sphere to see that a proper understanding should exist in the army of this all-important branch of military education."

Cavalry Signals.

Our readers belonging to the cavalry arm will read with interest the following additional signals to be used in the instruction and movements of cavalry, just promulgated to the Royal School of Cavalry at Quebec by Lt.-Col. J. F. Turnbull, Commandant:

- (a) "Advance" or "Forward."—Arm swung from rear to front, along the side of the horse, finishing with the sword hand pointing to the front.
- (b) "Trot"—Clenched hand moved up and down between thigh and shoulder.
- (c) "Walk."—Arm raised, elbow bent, wrist in line with the shoulder.
- (d) "Retire," "Troops Right about Wheel," "Right Reverse."—Arm circled above the head.
- (e) "Halt."—Arm raised perpendicularly.
- (f) "Shoulders."—Circular movement of extended arm in line with the shoulder in the required direction.
- (g) "Incline."—Arm extended horizontally in the required direction.
- (h) "Dismount."—Two or three slight movements of the open hand below the knee towards the ground.
- (i) "Gallop"—Circular movement of hand below the shoulder.
- (j) "Troops" or "Heads of Squadrons, Right or Left Wheel."—Arm waved from perpendicular to horizontal position in the required direction.
- (k) "Advance from line in Squadron Columns."—Cut "One" and "Two" and "Point."
- (l) "Form line into Squadron Columns."—Same as (k).
- (m) "Dismounted Practice."—Arm raised as for "Halt," and then pointed to the ground.

In signalling, the signaller should, as far as possible, face the same way as those to whom the signals are made. Signals of position, such as the "Halt" or "Incline," should be maintained.

Signals of movements, such as "Advance" or "Shoulders," should be repeated till it is clear that they are seen and understood.

To prevent signal (f) "Shoulders" being mistaken for signal (a) "Advance," it is most important that in the former the hand should be kept level with the shoulder. When the signal "Shoulders" is made to a regiment in column, the leading squadron or troop will change direction; when made to a line, it will mean an entire change of front.

WHISTLE SOUND SIGNALS.

To be used in patrol work. These sounds should be short and not too loud, as follows, viz:

1. One short sound ——— turn to the right.
2. Two sounds ——— turn to the left.
3. One long low sound ——— halt.
4. Four long low sounds ——— danger or retire.
5. Six sounds in the time of the trumpet sound "Advance" ——— advance.
6. Nine sounds in the time of "Front Form" ——— close on leading man.

Employment of Dogs for Military Purposes.

(United Services Gazette, March 16.)

At the Royal United Service Institution yesterday afternoon, Gen. George Erskine in the chair, Veterinary Surgeon E. E. Bennett delivered a very instructive lecture on the above subject. The services which we may be led to expect from the enrolment of dogs into an army are varied, and cannot altogether be definitely laid down; but there are at least five distinct objects for which they can be used, viz.: (1) As auxiliary sentinels to the outposts and sentries and to the advanced rear and flank guards in general. (2) As scouts, on the march, on reconnaissance, and patrol duties. (3) As despatch carriers, on the march, in camp, in action, etc. (4) As auxiliary ammunition carriers, on the march and in action. (5) As searchers for the wounded and killed after an engagement. After detailing very clearly and minutely on these points the lecturer remarked: We have already pointed out the principal ways dogs can be of service to an army in the field, and their training would naturally be undertaken in these different directions. There is

no royal road, I am afraid, to the completion of their education. Much patience and perseverance is required, and a natural aptitude on the part of the trainer to improve upon the gumption of the dogs, and to adapt himself to the varying peculiarities of each. As scouts they can be easily trained, every dog having a natural predilection for ranging. They should be encouraged to range in front of the trainer up to any convenient distance, in order that they may realize what is expected of them; soldiers should be posted here and there, and whenever they come within reasonable proximity to these men, the latter should, if the dogs do not take notice of them, either pretend to, or actually strike them, so that they may be put on their guard, and after a short time it will be found that the dogs will be fully alive to the occasion. Barking should on no account be permitted, but by growling, returning to the trainer, or other indication, give warning that danger is near at hand.

The Germans dress men in French and Russian uniforms, and the French have recourse to similar means, who lie in wait and frighten the dogs, so that very early in their education they learn to recognize the common enemy.

At night it is prudent, unless you can thoroughly trust your pupil, to have him led on a chain; he will then be under direct control, and there will be little or no danger of his barking, for he would otherwise put the enemy on the alert, and his faculties of perception are, even when prevented from ranging, sufficiently acute to enable him to detect a stranger at a very considerable distance. To act as sentinels, dogs take kindly enough to; each sentry (double) should be supplied with one and they should be exercised by day, and specially by night, to give early notice of anything unusual astir.

The role of courier will be the most difficult to inculcate. He will probably take kindly enough to the preliminary training, which is carried out by taking the dog a short way from his master and letting him return at top speed, and gradually increasing the distance until he will come back with certainty at least a mile or more. This should be practised by day and by night also, and it is imperative that the dog be taught to use his nose, for it is not at all wise to allow him to trust entirely to his bump of locality. I find that my dogs perform their journeys at night almost quicker than during the day; the disturbing influences are less, and they seem to think it a matter of life and death to return as rapidly as possible. They must be instructed not to allow any stranger to intercept or stop them. This there is little difficulty in as a rule. One well trained collie in a German regiment, on the approach of anyone he does not know, will hide himself in the nearest ditch or other convenient place, and will wait until he passes; he then continues his journey, only to repeat the process should he be again intercepted, and will persevere in this manner till safely arriving at his destination. For carrying despatches a leather pocket must be attached to the collar of handy size, and easy to be opened and closed.

As ammunition carrier to supply the firing line, the method of training is very similar. Harness with properly adjusted panniers (as shown) will have to be worn. Those which I employ are constructed to carry eighty rounds (8lb.), which in the new ammunition will amount to double that number for the same weight. The dogs will further be taught to stand fire. To search for the wounded and killed, men simulating these condition must be posted here and there on the ground the dogs range over, behind trees, hedges, houses, etc., and, having found their man, they must return to the search party, and give indication of his whereabouts. The training should first be undertaken at from six to nine months old, daily lessons of such a length as not to weary or disgust the dogs, remembering always that progress to be real must be gradual, and that kindness must be the guiding rule of those in charge.

As to the care of the dogs in regiments, volunteers should be called for and none but reliable good-tempered men be allowed to look after them. If it is proposed to employ two dogs per company as in foreign armies, then one man per company should take charge of and feed them. Doubtless the officers would assist in this matter of housing and keeping them, for it would be to the mutual benefit of themselves, their regiment, and the army at large, and as most officers have a dog of some sort, it would be preferable to keep one that is useful rather than one that is not so. In Germany each dog has a separate kennel or barrel, but I think, if housed by the officers, non-commissioned officers and men it would be better, as the dogs would more closely associate themselves to the regiment, and would be more constantly in contact with the human controlling influence; the kennel method, further, has the decided disadvantage of being provocative of barking.

As to their food, the leavings from the men's dinners, surplus vegetables and bread, with additions from the officers' and sergeants' messes, would be more than sufficient to feed all the dogs necessary. In this way no extra expense would be incurred which might seriously militate against the introduction of such a system into any army. The young dogs should be fed twice, the older once, daily. In cold weather, when doing sentry duty at night, short-haired dogs should be provided with a coat