

annihilated by an obstinate and clever enemy broke it in, at the same time reinforcing his right, which had hitherto held ground against our left, and turning that flank also his cavalry, on the extreme left of his position, charged once, but during the day did little or nothing; while ours was a conspicuous failure. Thus ended the battle of Mengersdorf, and very shortly afterwards the Emperor, princes, and foreign officers entered their carriages and drove to Hanover.

CAVALRY MANŒUVRES.

The efficient working of the Prussian cavalry squadron by divisions or *zugs* was the subject of the letter quoted from the correspondent of the *Post* in last week's *Broad Arrow*. Continuing the subject he says: "There is, of course, nothing new to us in England in such an idea; but when one sees it constantly in practice, perhaps one realises the more how handy and flexible a formation it is. In fact, the 'colonne d'escadron,' as it is called, i. e., the squadron in column of divisions, is the formation which may be said to be the basis of all movements. The squadron is wheeled to either flank, or, by taking sufficient interval on the move, deploys into line, or wheels about to the rear, or into open columns of squadrons with equal facility. In a change of front or direction for the whole brigade is required during an advance, the necessary order is given—half or quarter right or left, as the case may be—the brigadier's trumpeters give the signal which is at once taken up by the regimental and squadron trumpeters, and the divisions of the directing squadron, by wheeling to the hand named, at once take up the new direction, the divisions of the other squadrons conform to the movement, and the advance is continued without any interruption whatever. Though each division is told off by threes from the right, the column of threes is very rarely used for parade purposes, and ground is taken to the right or left by wheeling the divisions to the hand required. Each division has a leader, who, when the squadron is in columns of divisions, rides in front of the centre of it. The troop, as a tactical or administrative unit, I need hardly perhaps remark, does not exist. No bases are ever given, and no markers are ever used, inasmuch as each squadron or division necessarily takes up the alignment, or required new direction, from the directing squadron. The dressing is of course not quite so critical as is required in the Long Valley at Aldershot, but it is very fair indeed, and quite sufficient for all practical purposes, which is all, as they say, that they want. They maintain, moreover, that placing a base and markers takes up time, and that it is better to accustom the regiment to do without any such ideas. With regard to drilling by trumpet-sounds, not only each regiment, but also each squadron, has its own call, so that whenever any one squadron is required to act in any direction detached from the main body, its call is first sounded and the order is given, which it carries out at once without any interruption of the general movement. This arrangement has in some cases, its advantages. On the whole, the Prussian cavalry have not more trumpet-calls than in our own Service; but the point of difference is this, that they use them so constantly that every man and officer is perfectly familiar with them, whereas in many of our regiments some of the sounds are used so seldom that a brigade could scarcely be drilled by them. I do not mean to maintain that drilling on this system by trumpets is an unqualified advantage, as doubtless it has its draw-

backs. Indeed, I am certain that there are a good many officers and men in our Service quick in distinguishing at once any intricate number of trumpet calls; but I merely note the fact. With regard to skirmishing, I need hardly say that such practical soldiers as the Prussians have abolished altogether the use of mounted skirmishers, as I am thankful to say has been virtually done in our Service at home by all sensible commanders. *Eclaireurs* in the proportion of one to each squadron are told off, and invariably, even on regimental parades, cover the front of the regiment at about 300 to 400 yards' distance from it, and they conform of course to any movements made by their corps.

"With regard to the brigade drills which were practised during the 3rd and 4th inst., they consisted principally of long advances in echelon and line over undulating country and deep ground, in order to get the horses in good condition and wind for the divisional exercises which were to follow, and each brigade was in continual movement for a couple of hours or so. On Friday the rain poured in torrents during nearly the whole time that the men were out; no cloaks were worn by either officers or men, and the drill was continued without interruption. After a line of advance, sometimes some what intricate, the brigade would gallop and be formed up in line, or two regiments would meet at a junction, and arrive opportunely one in support of the other—the movements, many of which extended over a very great extent of ground, were nearly made at a sharp trot, and their charges, in many of which I rode alongside the squadrons in order to test their speed, are made at a capital pace: quite as fast, in fact, as any cavalry could go.

"While upon this topic I will remark that there is one on which I think the English cavalry men may well take a hint from the Prussians, and that is the admirable manner in which the men have their horses in hand under all circumstances. In all their charges of and long advances at the gallop, I have ever seen a single man of the whole division unable to control his horse, or even carried any distance out of the ranks of the squadron, when it is suddenly pulled up from the gallop to the halt. When two opposing bodies charge they advance at full speed against each other, with drawn swords extended to the full length of their arms, till within twenty yards or so, when the halt is sounded, and each body is at once pulled up and is perfectly in hand. This perfect control which the men appear to have over their horses is doubtless attributable in a great degree to the painstaking manner in which the horses are broken in, to the care which is taken in fitting their bits, and also to the fact that it does not appear to be a received axiom that *one sort of bit will do for any horse*.

"As soon as the men halt after the charge, they immediately break up into the *melee* and file each other, going through the motions of attack with the sword or lance. In the midst of all this, when five or six squadrons are thus engaged, and there is a certain amount of confusion that is inseparable from a charge, when the men have opened out their ranks, the *appel* or rally is sounded. Upon this the men instantly close in together without any regard to their former places in the squadron (except that the front rank men form the front rank and the rear rank men form the rear) and forming a compact body instantly charge

again in any direction in which the *squadron leader* at their head points his sword. The quickness and readiness with which this is done is really admirable, and the men are constantly practised at it. The advantage of being *au fait* a movement of this kind is great, and certainly would be very difficult to catch at these regiments at a disadvantage, as what dispersed after a charge. Again, when the pursuit of a retreating enemy is ordered, only three divisions of each squadron go forward with ranks opened to the attack. The fourth division remains behind, with ranks closed up, and then follows the squadron at a distance of 300 or 400 yards in rear serving as a nucleus upon which, when the rally is sounded, the men of each squadron at once form up without any regard (for the time) to their proper places in the squadron. This is an excellent plan, as a brigade is rallied thus from the pursuit in an incredibly short time. In our Service such exercises as I have here dwelt upon are generally considered to belong more to regimental drills. Here it is so likewise, but the lessons learnt on regimental parades are also practised in large bodies as a necessary part of brigade and divisional drill.

(To be Continued.)

SIR GARNET WOLSELEY.

Agreeably to a resolution adopted on the 30th April last, the freedom of the City of London, with a valuable sword, were presented to Sir Garnet Wolseley, K. C. B., G. C. M. G., on the 22nd ult., by the Corporation of London, in their Council Chamber at the Guildhall.

Sir Garnet entered the Chamber, accompanied by the Lord Mayor, Mr. Deputy Stapleton, and Alderman Sir Thomas Dikin, the two latter gentlemen as proposers and seconders of the resolution under which the gift was made. Sir Andrew Lusk took the chair, and was supported by a number of the aldermen. Sir Garnet was presented with the freedom of the City in the Cloth worker's Company, and a sword, designed for the Corporation by Messrs. White and Campbell. The handle of the sword was formed of figures representing Wisdom and Truth, whilst recumbent figures of Fame and Victory formed the guard. The scabbard was enriched with the arms and monograms of Sir Garnet Wolseley and those of the City and several groups of figures. The blade bore the following inscription:—
"Presented by the Corporation of London to Major General Sir Garnet Wolseley, K. C. B., G. C. M. G., in recognition of his gallant services in the British Army, and especially in reference to the distinguished ability and gallantry displayed by him in his command of the expedition to the Gold Coast, by which he obtained results conducive to peace, commerce, and civilization on the continent of Africa."

A Constantinople correspondent states that the Porte has ordered the erection of six fortified castles in Bosnia, and has also made Erzeroum, in Armenia, a fortress of the first order.

A horse raised in the town of Concord, Me., but sold to a person living fifty miles distant recently got loose and brought up in his old quarters though he had not been there for ten years.

A Despatch from Shanghai reports that the troubles between China and Japan in regard to Formosa have been settled.