

the consideration of cavalry arms, declares in favor of the revolver which he shows pretty conclusively to be superior to the sword in hand to hand encounters. Light Cavalry he believes should be armed with carbines, pistols and swords, but heavy cavalry should not have carbines. Of this latter arm he favors the Spencer for mounted men, after which he ranks the Sharp and Snider. Of the pistol he says:—"The revolver is apparently the most deadly arm that has ever yet been invented, and experience has shown that in practice this is most certainly the case. The sword, lance, carbine, long rifle or cannon do not have the same murderous effect, the reasons for this are numerous. In the first place it is only used at short range, when men are mingled together in close fighting, and most of the shots tell. Then it is not a weapon that is aimed by two sights requiring care and steadiness in the adjustment.—Again, in close fighting, the revolver's bullet cannot be warded off like a sword or lance thrust. If it strikes the wound is severe. It does not require the speed or weight of the horse to give it impetus as does the lance, or the perfect training of the charger which is necessary for an effective use of the sabre when mounted. Again it reaches further than sword or lance, and men armed with these weapons might easily be shot down before having an opportunity of getting near enough to use them."

In support of these views a number of instances are cited all going to prove the superiority of the revolver. He is fully aware of how distasteful this idea is to the greater number of Cavalry men, but as he says:—"I was a warm supporter of the sabre, and used to think nothing could withstand it. But the Confederate war for independence, and the information it has given us, has shaken my views considerably, as well as the constant and numerous conversations I have had with scores of Cavalry officers, who have fought through the war, and who base their opinions upon their own observation and experience."

Our author's ideas of dress for Cavalrymen are certainly those of every sensible man: to be plain, neat and serviceable should be the object, although a little finery is as necessary to a soldier as a lady. A quotation from Sir Charles J. Napier gives an amusing description of a Hussar's old clothes bag which we say:—"Contains jackets, breeches of all dimensions, drawers, snuff boxes, stockings, pink boots, yellow boots, *eau de Cologne*, Windsor soap, brandy, satin waistcoats, kid gloves, dancing spurs, tooth brushes," and a lot of other equally useful articles. A British regiment of the present day wears a uniform similar to that of a certain class of gentlemen in Hungary. It would be just as sensible for the Emperor of Russia to put a regiment of his Artillery in the dress of the Scotch Highlanders. The dress recommended by Col. Denison is

certainly a vast improvement, and were it adopted in the British Army would win for its author the thanks of many a trooper who walks about a thing of astonishment to himself and everybody else.

In his remarks upon "The horse and his equipment" Col. Denison falls foul of an American Colonel Brackett, who in a history of the United States Cavalry impertinently remarks:—"The English as a general thing are wretched riders, and it is no wonder that they are almost universally whipped whenever they go into battle." Our Author wonders where Col. Brackett received his *historical* education; we doubt, from a perusal of the quotation, that he ever received *any* education. Col. Denison here draws a comparison between the English Gentleman and the Yankee, the former with his hunters and racers and the latter with his trotters and sulkies, cleverly put, and highly amusing without being untruthful.

In drill the non-pivot system of Colonel Jenyns of the 13th Hussars is recommended and as that system is added in the appendix of this work we are enabled to judge of its merits which seem to be eminently adapted to the principles advocated by Colonel Denison.

Before the breaking out of the Southern war the officers who won the greatest distinction as Cavalrymen in the Confederate army seem to have had but very slight knowledge of cavalry drill, and were consequently thrown very much upon their own ingenuity and resources; in this case they naturally adopted a system of tactics which, although singular and novel was nevertheless well adapted to the exigencies of the service in which they were employed. The following is a description of General Morgan's force. "If the reader will only image a regiment drawn up in single rank, the flank companies skirmishing, sometimes on horseback, and then thrown out as skirmishers on foot and so deployed as to cover the whole front of the regiment, the rest of the men dismounted (one out of each set of four, and the Corporals remaining to hold the horses) and deployed, as circumstances required and the command indicated, to the front of either flank, or the rear of the line of horses the files two yards apart, and then imagine this line moved forward at a double quick, or oftener a half run, he will have an idea of Morgan's style of fighting."

There are many other extracts from this valuable work which we would like to give, but want of space compels us to limit them for the present. The work is illustrated with several excellent plates, plans and diagrams, and fully bears out the character we had formed of it previously. There is all through it the evidences of much thought and reading, and the author has copiously availed himself of all sources of information upon his chosen subject. The ideas he advances are in our opinion those which must ere very long prevail, as they are calculated to greatly

increase the efficiency of the Cavalry. Army organisation, drill and equipment are undergoing a revolution and we are glad to see from the hands of a Canadian officer, a work which evidences so much professional knowledge joined to that spirit which has always been considered a trait of the Cavalry officer. To the members of the Force we cordially recommend this work as its perusal is certain to give enlarged ideas of service, and an intimate knowledge of an arm of which the Volunteers of Canada know little or nothing. The letters, contained in the appendices, from distinguished Cavalry officers in the Confederate service are a valuable addition to the work which is the best of the kind ever issued on this continent.

A short time ago a correspondent in Quebec sent us an account of a dispute between Captain Elmhirst of the 53rd Regt. and Mr. W. Lemesurier of that city, but, as we did not wish to interfere in what appeared to be a personal quarrel, we did not publish the communication. Since then however the whole affair has been made public through the local papers and an unfortunate scandal that should have been concealed made a theme for public criticism.

The following is Mr. Lemesurier's account of the affair as published by him in the *Chronicle*:—

On the night of the 21st October, 1868, I was one of the guests at a ball given by a gentleman in Quebec; Captain Elmhirst was also present. I had no acquaintance with him, and certainly he had no cause of quarrel with me. During a dance I perceived that he constantly jostled me; but I had no suspicion that he did so intentionally. After a while I heard him say, when near me, "Now for a charge," when he rushed violently against me, throwing me and the lady with whom I was dancing against the grate. It appeared so improbable that this conduct was intended, that I still thought it was an accident, when later in the evening I was told that he had boasted that he had intentionally jostled me, saying to my informant, "I will teach that young Canadian manners."

When the party was about breaking up, I went up to him in the dressing-room and asked him what he meant by his behaviour towards me, and said that I had heard that he had boasted of having intentionally insulted me. He replied, "It is not the case, I did not do so," I replied, "I am quite satisfied with your denial, and do not wish to say anything more about it." I then turned to leave the room, when he called after me, saying, "I retract what I said, I did mean it." I then addressed him angrily and said that I would have satisfaction for his behaviour. He then said in a jeering tone, "Oh! I shall be delighted to see you to-morrow; it will give me extreme pleasure. (This he repeated several times.) Oh dear! What a damned funny fellow you are; you quite frighten me." I then left the room at the request of the gentleman of the house, in order to avoid any further altercation there.

In the morning, reflecting on the insult which had been offered to me, I determined to meet Captain Elmhirst, demand an apology, and chastise him if he refused it.