

of Regiments (Battalions) or Companies, comprise the officers and non-commissioned officers, and sometimes field musicians of Corps, necessary in whole or part for their organization, kept up by different European Governments, as the most effectual means of forming without delay, or facilitating the formation of, their National Guard, Militia, Landwehr, and reorganizing their Regular Forces, especially in the time of war and defeat. The AUSTRIAN ARMY, which, for more than a century, has suffered greater disasters than any other in Europe, has shown how a well managed System of Depots, (and Nuclei,) for men and horses, gave her the power of reorganizing armies, so often destroyed, yet always renewed.

What Empire has undergone greater trials and yet triumphed in the end! gradually wearing out, it is true, because all structures, national or individual, subjected to exhausting labors and terrible convulsions, must in time wear out. How has she maintained herself thus, and accomplished her ends? By the maintenance of a powerful and devoted army. And that army? By discipline.

What has that to do with Cadres? says the unmilitary reader. Much—all. To constitute an army, discipline must be thoroughly imparted; and by no means can it be instilled so speedily and effectively as by active, intelligent, instructed Cadres, or Nuclei.\*

The office of Major and Brigadier General shall be abolished, except in time of War, Insurrection, or Invasion, (*English and Swiss Militia Laws, and in effect the Laws relating to the National, Civic, Urban Guard, &c., of every European Government,*) or if officers with the rank of General shall be found absolutely necessary, the number in this State shall be reduced to 4 Major Generals and 8 Brigadier Generals; no Staff Officer to hold a commission higher than that of Colonel.

Art. 66, Section v., Chapter vii., Militia Law of the Canton of Geneva, Switzerland. The Council of State can organize the Militia into

\* When a nation possesses neither CADRES nor the PRINCIPLES OF MILITARY ORGANIZATION, it is extremely difficult for it to organize an army. The first quality of a soldier is fortitude in the support of fatigue and privations (discipline); *bravery is only secondary*. Poverty, privation and distress, are the schools which produce REAL soldiers. (*Warlike Maxims of Napoleon, Burnod, Russian General, Annotator.*)

The nearer we approach nature, the nearer we approach perfection, is an axiom in the formation and development of man's physical powers. Such being the case, an army should be perfect in all its details and their operations, and in that respect assimilate to the human structure, to which it has been aptly compared, whose different members, according to many military writers, are represented by the various Arms. Thus, DISCIPLINE may be considered that galvanic influence of vitality and intelligence, originating in the *brain* (the Commander-in-Chief) and *vitals* (the Chiefs and Heads of Departments) which is transmitted throughout the whole, by the *nerves* and *blood vessels* (the CADRES)

Brigades, appoint Chiefs, (*not with the rank of General, however,*) of such Brigades, and confer upon them a *Rank superior to that of Commandant*, or Chief of Battalion (Major).

It is to be hoped that the sad experience of former miscarriages will effectually preclude any further embodiment of the Militia under their own Generals, for active service in war, and that even within her own borders the Militia will never be called out by Brigades. Once in a while Companies might be advantageously incorporated in the National Army, but as a general thing Drafts will be resorted to should Recruits fail, or the Volunteer System of the Mexican Campaign be looked upon with distrust, or discarded, as it should be. Should Volunteer Regiments be again considered reliable, Generals, as well as all other officers, will be appointed through favoritism, or receive their commissions as the rewards of political service, or else the latter will be elected by their different Commands. (*See ¶837 and 840 United States Army Regulations of 1847.*) Such being the case, where is the necessity of any State Rank above that of Colonel?

Colonels, or rather good Colonels, are valuable. Each is the head of a Military Family. (*See Article XIII., Interior Economy of Regiments, U. S. Army Regulations, 1847.*) Generals can only be made in the camp by experience, by study, and by practice in the most difficult of arts—that of wisely exercising command over men. Rare and brilliant examples to the contrary, no doubt, exist, to astonish the world with their talents; but rarely a commander, like Minerva, springs from the Divinity armed and matured a perfect hero. Therefore, in case of necessity, it would be much wiser to promote Colonels, who have given proofs of ability, or if the rank of General is such a necessity, let them be breveted for faithful performance of duty.

VII.—In each Regimental District, the Nucleus, Cadre, or Skeleton Staff corps thereof shall be drilled as a company of

nourishing, regulating and constituting the motive power, by whose healthful action, dependent on the vigor and sound condition of their sources, success is always attained; while, by their diseased influence, on the other hand, in an army represented by INDISCIPLINE, as in the case of a maniac, the operations are wise or unwise, good or evil, as accident and passion, not reason, dictate.

Sever an important nerve or blood vessel, and its dependent organ is paralyzed or disabled; in the same manner, let the Cadre of any particular arm be destroyed, or its formation or restoration neglected, what can the men, left to themselves, accomplish, or how imperfectly is their duty performed! And yet, to carry out the comparison, like as nature, by anastomosis, carries on the circulation and process of life, by an exquisite transferal to other vessels of the duties of those destroyed, so can the able leader, by wise selections from corresponding Corps, reorganize and thus supply the absence or destruction of the appropriate Staff Corps.