

 Politics and Ignorance should never be allowed to creep into a Military Organization.

XVIII.—Besides the Adjutant General at Albany, there shall be as many Assistant Adjutant Generals charged with the duties of Inspecting Officers as there are Division Districts in the State. The latter shall never be assigned to the Districts in which they reside, but their annual tour of Inspection shall be designated by the Chief of their Department. The advantages of this system are obvious.

Ties of neighborhood, intimacy, interest, relationship, politics or family, would not sway an officer in a strange district. The result would be, that the law and regulations of the service would be rigidly enforced, and correct returns demonstrate the real strength of the Militia.

The Adjutant General, Heads of Departments, and all Staff Officers above the rank of Lieutenant, shall be chosen from Officers of the Line, of appropriate rank and possessing the requisite qualifications, unless supplied from a State Military School.

THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, AS NOW ESTABLISHED, SHALL BE ABOLISHED.

Staff Officers in the U. S. Army, with some few exceptions, provided for by law, are supplied from the Line of the Army. In England, Switzerland, France, Prussia, and in fact every other civilized Government, the Staff is considered of such vital importance to the Landwehr, National Guard and Militia that it is maintained permanently and filled with the best talent, energy and fidelity the nation can produce, or command.

XIX.—All Rosters, Returns, Accounts, &c., shall be verified in the strictest manner, under oath, under penalty for perjury.

XX.—No person shall be commissioned as an officer until he has passed a satisfactory examination before a Board of Officers superior or equal in rank to that to which he has been appointed, and no Officer shall be suffered to continue in command who does not read and write fluently, and understand the practical branches of Arithmetic. [*English and Swiss Militia Laws; Every European Military System.*]

This suggestion may seem superfluous, but I have often met officers who made a good figure

on parade, yet possessed of neither of the above requisites.

XXI.—Pay Department organized on United States basis—Bureau at Albany. Two Travelling Paymasters for the State.

XXII.—An Ordnance Department shall be organized, consisting of One Colonel, who shall be styled Chief of the Ordnance of the State of New York, and as many Captains as there are Division Districts in the State. The duties of these officers shall be similar to those prescribed by the Regulations of the U. S. Ordnance Department, subject to such alterations and amendments as will render it applicable to the State service. From time to time the Commander-in-Chief shall assemble an Ordnance Board, consisting of the Colonel and four Captains of Ordnance, and three of whom shall constitute a Quorum, to determine what Arms and Equipments shall be drawn, as the annual quota due to the State of New York by the General Government, and transact all business relating to their Department.

At present, the Draft of Arms referred to in this Section depends on the judgment and bias of one or two Officers, who, however able, cannot decide on the actual wants of the Militia as well as a Council of able men selected from the different Districts.

XXIII.—In order to distinguish Officers in actual command, who have faithfully served for more than four (4) years, the period necessary to exempt them from farther Military service, as shall appear from a Certificate from the Adjutant General's office, under seal, setting forth the dates of each Commission, held by them and Staff, Department or Corps, in which they served, such officers shall be authorized to wear, as a *Mark of Distinction*, on their left breast, a Medal suspended by a Mazarine blue ribbon of the following material and pattern, according to rank, elegantly chased and inscribed on the Obverse with a number denoting their length of service, having below the year when conferred, and on the Reverse, with their grade or grades, and the date from which their rank took effect.