

ely got together and brought to the rear of the centre to constitute a new reserve.

V. *Of any body half-right, or at a lesser angle.*—Should the change of front be half right, or any lesser angle, it will be better to execute it by changing front the required angle on the right half battalion of the line, or on a central one, as laid down in Sections 16, and 17, Part IV., of the "Field Exercise."

VI. *Of a single battalion*—When a single battalion in line of half battalion columns changes front, it should always do so as in No. V.

VII. *Of the cavalry and artillery of a division.*—When a complete change of front is made, the artillery and cavalry on the flank towards which it is made will immediately wheel to that flank and advance, taking up the best position they can to cover the formation of the infantry line in their rear. Cavalry and artillery will be despatched from the reserve to cover the inner flank of the new formation. The cavalry and horse artillery on the outer flank of the new formation will cross by the shortest line to the outer flank of the new one. Or cavalry and artillery may be sent from the reserve. Any artillery and cavalry which may have been in front of the old line, will unless otherwise ordered, proceed at once to join the new reserve, taking care that in doing so, they always move so as not to impede the progress of the infantry engaged in taking the new position.

MEMORANDUM ON THE CONDUCT OF THE ATTACK OF A DIVISION IN THE NEW FORMATION.

The attack will usually commence with a general advance. When the skirmishers at any point are unable to continue their advance they will be reinforced by their support. When the configuration of the ground permits, the supports may fire volleys over the heads of the skirmishers. If both the skirmishers and supports together are unable to make any way, they will take up the best position they can from which to keep up a continuous fire on the enemy, and the line—either in whole or in part—will be brought into action. If there appears any likelihood of forcing the enemy by a front attack, then the half-battalion columns will deploy (if possible) as a reserve, either in rear of the centre, or what will usually be better, behind the outer flank of the advancing line. If there appears little chance of the enemy's position being carried by a front attack, then it will be advisable, instead of passing the line over the skirmishers, to try and gain his flank by pushing the half battalion columns in succession round the outer flank of the skirmish line. These half-battalion columns may, if necessary, adopt the formation laid down for a single battalion attacking alone.* If more than two battalions are in this way used to prolong the line and envelop the enemy's flank, one should follow in the second line as a reserve. When a flank attack of this kind which always must weaken the centre of the line—is being attempted, care must be taken to bring up one or more battalions from the reserve to the rear of the weakened part, to meet the contingency of a counter attack there. It will generally be found that a

*Either (1) each half battalion with one company skirmishing, the second in support, the remaining two in line or column, according to circumstances. Or (2) one half battalion with two companies skirmishing; and two in support, followed by the other half-battalion double company column or line according to circumstances. The supports 300 yards in front of the main body, the skirmishers 100 yards in front of the supports. The supports will open fire, that is with two paces between each,

combination of the two preceding forms of attack will be the most effective. In this case it is advisable not to push home the front attack until the flank one is ready to be developed. Guns should be so placed as to be able from a distance to bring a concentrated fire on the point where the attack is being made. They may fire, if necessary, over the heads of the infantry. Considerable use may often be made of a few troops or squadrons of cavalry, if they can be brought forward under cover of woods or irregularities of ground. A sudden rush by a small body of horse on a line of skirmishers will force them at once to run into rallying squares, and when in that formation they present themselves as targets to their opponents. The cavalry must, however, be careful to fall back the moment their charge—by forcing the enemy into square—has produced its intended effect. In conducting an attack much will depend upon the readiness shown by the majors in command of half-battalions to adapt their movements to the exigencies of the moment. They must clearly understand that it is their duty to profit by any opening which may occur, without waiting for orders. Officers commanding divisions and brigades must also clearly understand that the "formations for attack" and "changes of front" laid down are not intended to be adhered to unless the features of the ground and the numbers and dispositions of the enemy suit. In every case they must exercise their own judgment in adopting the formation best suited to the actual circumstances.

(To be continued.)

SOLDIERING IN RUSSIA.

As yet Russia is far behind other nations in general education—that indispensable element in the social development of a people. But all that can be done to supply the want is being done. National schools are being established in every parish and during the next decade we may even see compulsory education in force. At present, though the army is the school of the country, and through its system is excellent its influence is comparatively limited. Dacile and willing to learn as Russian soldiers are, they have little or no opportunity of doing so before enlistment; consequently the long frosts and heavy snows of winter, which prevent any outdoor military exercises besides occasional route marching, have to be turned to advantage in the formation of classes, conducted by the company officers, who pursue their uninviting task for four or five hours every day from November to March, with an intensity of zeal which deserves the success obtained.

But the training of the non-commissioned officers is one of the most remarkable features in the Russian regimental organisation. Every regiment of infantry or cavalry brigade of field artillery, or battery of horse artillery, has a non-commissioned officers' school, divided into classes. Lance-corporals of two years' service and good promise, who can read and write well, are eligible for admission. The course of study last two years. During the first year general subjects are taught, whereas in the second year more attention is paid to military matter. The pupils live apart; and promotion is not a necessary prize even for the first graduate, unless accompanied by skill in arms and tact in command. The standard of excellence is incredible, and is so great that most of the non-commissioned officers thus trained are admirably suited to fulfil the duties of the

natural schoolmaster—the death of whom is at present one of the greatest obstacles to educational progress. A commission is attainable by any non-commissioned officer who passes the necessary examination; many of them do pass, and decline the officers' rank which entitles them to an annuity of about £15 during service and to wear additional lace.

Miserably paid, and almost worse fed on what is not calculated to make man thrive—on black sour bread, and a sprinkling of meat mixed up with rice and herbs with a perfectly non-intoxicating and terrible sour beverage to drink—the Russian soldier so flourishes that he can endure almost any fatigue or hardship. His spirits and good humour never flag. In every company, squadron, or battery a certain number of the men dance, sing, and play on all sorts of wild-sounding instruments. When marching at ease, these men always come out to the front of their comrades and, without delaying the march, performing their curious antics, and enliven the route with their shrill music. If discipline is measured by the amount of crime Russia yield the palm to no country. Drunkenness exists, but to no great extent. The men are honest and submissive as individuals, to a degree. Two or three prisoners in the morning—and there are rarely more—do not form an excessive allowance for three battalions. And if discipline is measured by the respect shown to officers, here again Russia is nothing behind, for saluting and military attitude in address are never disregarded. Now and again, indeed, it is said that the orthodox cry of Russian soldiery when ordered to perform a special duty "We gladly obey you" ("Ridi staratsyah"), comes out sulkily, or is replaced by a low growl. Yet no positive assertion can be made on this score. Russian soldiers received a suit of uniform per annum, the newest suit being reserved for gala occasions. At the end of the fourth year the suit, or rather what is left of it, becomes the property of the soldier. Companies, squadrons, and batteries make up their own clothing during winter, even to the spinning of the braid.

We can here but briefly touch on the more striking characteristics of the various arms; but first it will be well to glance at the four departments common to all branches of the service—the Ecclesiastical, the Transport, the Commissariat and the Medical. To every regiment and battery is attached a clergyman; and, although attendance at divine service is perfectly voluntary, there are few absentees. The Russian soldier shares the religious character of his countrymen. Few fall in barracks, in camp, or on the march, his image is surrounded by devout worshippers, whose prayers are led by a non-commissioned officer. But it is in solving that most difficult problem of Army Transport that General Milutin has excelled. In Russia it is now managed regimentally. Every squadron of cavalry and every company of infantry has one provision wagon with six days rations. Every regiment of cavalry has one ammunition wagon with thirty rounds for each carbine and twenty for each pistol. Every company of infantry has one ammunition wagon containing forty rounds per man. The wagons are hauled by three horses driven abreast—or by two in times of peace, when also but one company of infantry is maintained. Besides these, each regiment has an orderly room wagon, with lithographing press by which the orders are printed daily; four ambulances, one hospital cart, and one medicine cart; and the first regiment of each division