of firing is made to ignite a slow-burning composition in the fuse; after a certain time, which can be varied according as a screw in the nose of the shell is set by the gunners, the flame in the composition reaches the charge in the shell and explodes it. Many shells and shrapnel have both a time and percussion fuse.

Glacis:

The smooth slope outside a line of trenches for fortification, which is cleared, as far as possible of all shelter for the enemy, so as to give a good field of fire from the trenches or fortifications.

Grenades:

Bombs or small projectiles thrown by hand, containing high explosives, which is fired either by a time or percussion fuse.

Howitzer:

See Artillery.

Hussars:

See Cavalry.

High Explosive:

Explosive of greater power than those used in guns for propelling projectiles. The best known are Lyddite and Melinite, both of which are made by treating carbolic acid with nitric acid; and trinitrotoluol, made by treating toluol, which is obtained from coal in the manufacture of coke or gas, with nitric acid.

High Explosive Shell:

A shell with thick steel walls containing a charge of high explosive, such as lyddite, melinite or trinitrotoluol. The explosive is very violent, shattering the shell into many pieces and destroying everything near. Of use against buildings and fortifications.

Lancers:

See Cavalry.

Limber:

See Artillery.

Line of Communications:

The series of railway lines and roads by which an army in the field receives its supplies of food, ammunition, etc., and its reinforcements, and sends away its sick and wounded. The large