



HEAD-QUARTERS, MONTREAL,

Adjutant-General's Office, 28th July, 1814.

GENERAL ORDER.

A RELAXATION of Discipline and of Vigilance being frequently suffered to prevail among Troops, while on a March, The Commander of the Forces finds it necessary to caution Officers against allowing a mistaken indulgence to operate to the prejudice of the service. Few situations require more unremitting attention in the Officers, than the conducting Troops on route with regularity and order. His Excellency directs that the following Instructions be in future strictly observed.

The Baggage or Stores in charge of a Detachment or Corps, are to be prepared before the hour appointed for the march or embarkation, and no party on the pretence of escorting Baggage, is to remain behind.

When movements are made by Water, attention is to be paid in the distribution of the Baggage and the Crews in the Batteaux, so as to insure the Boats moving in compact order, and to avoid all unnecessary delay.

As far as practicable, the men are to embark in the same sections and order in which they are accustomed to parade; an Officer, or Sergeant (in case there are not Officers sufficient) is to be placed in charge of each Boat. The Boats of each Company are to keep together, and the Companies to preserve their relative position in Battalion:—A Boat with an Officer is to be appointed to lead, and form an advanced Guard, a second Boat is, in like manner, to constitute the rear Guard, and will prevent any from making the shore or remaining behind.

Officers are always to accompany their respective companies or divisions, and whenever they arrive at a place of halt, they are not to quit them until their party is mustered, and every necessary interior arrangement made for the accommodation of the men, the security of their arms and stores, and for the regularity of their messing; nor are they at any time to absent themselves beyond reach of being able to superintend the conduct of their men. The soldiers are not to be permitted to straggle, on any pretence. If fuel or provisions are to be sent for, an officer or non-commissioned officer is to accompany the fatigue party; and when soldiers are quartered in the houses or barns of the inhabitants, they are to conduct themselves in an orderly, peaceable manner, and are not to presume to take any wood for fuel, or provisions, or in any way to injure or destroy the property of the inhabitants; any soldier so misbehaving, is to be punished for the same, and to make due compensation to the proprietor.

The boats, baggage, or stores, are always to be arranged in the most secure manner possible for the night, and a Captain or Subaltern's guard, according to the strength of the detachment, is to be mounted at sunset, (the smallest escorts are to furnish at least one sentry) and the utmost vigilance, and every precaution, to be observed that is required for an out-piquet in face of the enemy. The Officers in command are required to use every exertion to ensure regularity and vigilance, and are held particularly responsible that their instructions are strictly adhered to.

An allowance of Spirits will be issued to Troops on a march, or in batteaux, whenever it can be procured; but as this issue is to be considered as an indulgence, and forming no part of the soldier's ration, it is to be withheld in all instances of irregular conduct, from the individuals misbehaving; and when that misconduct is not confined to a very few, this indulgence is to be withheld from the whole detachment or corps, until regularity and order is generally convinced.

The following REGULATIONS, established by the Quarter-Master-General's Department are to be strictly observed.

WHENEVER Detachments of Troops or whole Regiments are ordered to march, the Commanding Officer will, with the least possible delay, send to the Quarter-Master-General's Office, a Return of the Strength of his Corps or Detachment, specifying the proportion of Baggage or Regimental Stores purposed to be carried on the March, and will receive the requisite Route and Authority for transport carriage being provided.

He will further appoint an Officer, or Non-Commissioned Officer, (if the Detachment is under Fifty Men) to precede the March, in order to make the necessary arrangement for Quartering the Troops for the Night, and to provide Carriages for the next March, as well as to caution the Ferry-men at the different Ferries upon the line of march, of the arrival, and of the number of Troops, and quantity of Baggage they will have to cross.

To effect which, he will apply to the Captains of Sedentary Militia, stationed in the Villages, or to their Subalterns and Sergeants, when the former are distant from the halting-places, or absent.

The Militia Officers must be made acquainted with the number of Officers and Troops to be provided with Quarters. Care must be taken to prevent scattering the Troops upon too great an extent of ground; and where Barns can be had without prejudice to the Inhabitants, half or entire Companies must be placed in them, and the Company Officers lodged in the contiguous Farm Houses.

The Captain of Militia will, upon the application of the acting Quarter Master, (or Officer preceding the Troops) order for the next day, the number of Carriages allotted, and fix the Hour and Place of Rendezvous.

The extent of the March to be performed must also be made known to the Carters.