sheltered either by an hollow, a morass, a river, a town, or a village, the hussars and dragoons must be polled upon the wings, but sidewise, ſo as to he able to take the enemy in flank when he ſhall come down to charge the first line, or at least to keep back his second ; theſe hussars and dragoons ſhould be ſustained by the infantry of the light troops be­longing to the army. If the right can be formed next a village, and the left next an hollow, ſome infantry and artil­lery must be posted there ; if there is only the right or the left that can be ſheltered, that which cannot must be properly ſustained ; and the same disposition must be observed that hath been just now mentioned, with regard to an army whole flanks cannot be covered.

If, on leaving the camp, the army presents a flank to the enemy, who may have it in his power to attack it on the march, it must then march but in two or three columns at most. Each column should be diſpoſed after inch a man­ner, that by a motion to the right or to the left, according to the wing that is liable to be attacked, each battalion and ſquadron many find itself formed in order of battle before the enemy.

The advanced guard ſhould be compoſed of light horſe, ſustained by dragoons : the rear-guard of cavalry ſustained by infantry : there ſhould be alſo ſome light horſe upon the flanks of the cavalry, and ſome pieces of cannon with the infantry. The artillery ſhould be distributed by brigades in the column of infantry nearest to the enemy; ſo that, performing the same movement as the troops, it may find fi­fth placed in the front of the first line, ready to fire on the first order. The number of three columns is given to the army, in order that the first and second lines and the reserve ſhall be formed at the same time, which cannot be done if the army marches only in two columns : for troops must then be taken from theſe two lines in order to form the reſerve, which would require a considerable time, and consequently retard the diſpositions ; whereas this reserve, form­ing the third column, is ſeparated from the main body, and in a condition to act with readineſs, according to the orders it ſhall have received. As the baggage, in this manner of marching, must necessarily be an embarrassment, it must be ſent into the rear under a good eſcort, with orders to join the next day at the new camp.

Sect. IV. T*he March of an Army in a mountainous and woody Country.*

If the situation of the places in a mountainous country furniſhes a general with a greater variety of expedients to conceal his diſpositions, it alſo renders more precautions, and a greater degree of knowledge, necessary to avoid being ſurpriſed. If theſe kind of countries, on the one hand, present greater advantages for the concealment of marches, they alſo, on the other, offer many difficulties in the tranſporting of the provisions and the artillery, and require a greater degree of vigilance for the ſafety of the magazines and the preſervation of the communications with the frontier towns.

It is to be feared, that in mountainous countries, in roads that cannot be enlarged, the troops pressed too close to­gether will not be able to move but with great difficulty ; and as they will embarraſs each other, the front, the rear­guard, and the flanks, must be equally secured ; the columns must be unbroken and cloſe, that there be no distance left between them ; and halting ſhould be particularly avoided, as that is a circumſtance by which an army is most fatigued.

It is again dangerous, as the commentator upon Onoſander obterves, when troops find themſelves straitened of room in a narrow road, for the general, in order to enable them to move with greater eaſe, to lengthen the columns too much: from whence would arise two inconveniences ; the first of which is, that the columns would be weakened, and that in case of a ſurpriſe it would not be difficult for the enemy to separate them entirely, and it would alſo be impoſſible for them to rally ; in the second place, theſe columns thus lengthened, in going round a mountain and deſcending into a valley, would take up a prodigious ex­tent ; from whence it hath often happened, that the wind­ings of the road hiding the middle of the column, thoſe who march in the front rank can see only thoſe who are in the last, and retard their march, becauſe that, being deceived by distance, they will be ſcarcely able to distinguiſh whether they advance or whether they are halted.

In order to avoid theſe inconveniences, it is not barely ſufficient for a general to have a thorough knowledge of the country : he ought immediately to inform himſelf of ever particular, however minute, relating to it ; he ſhould take the same precautions which have been pointed out as necessary for a march in an open country, and tend out a detachment, ſuch as hath been suppoſed in the foregoing ſection. This detachment will examine the narrow passes,ſurvey and sound the fords, run round the windings of the mountains ; and if there are many roads, it will find out which is the most practicable, and that through which the army, the artillery, and baggage, can paſs with the greatest eaſe ; what streams croſs it, and whether there are bridges over them ; it will examine whether they are ſufficiently strong, and repair them, or build new ones. It often hap­pens in a mountainous country, that the road which would be very ſhort and commodious proves to be divided, either by the ſeparation of two rocks or by hollows. As theſe breaches, however deep they may be, cannot be all of a certain breadth, therefore, in order to avoid marching oyer the unnecessary ground that going round them would take up, bridges ſhould be thrown over, if poſſible, from one rock to another.

But as in a march, whether in an open or in a moun­tainous country, occasions for throwing bridges very often present themſelves, it is very necessary to say a word or two relative to the manner of their construction.

Six or eight thick pieces of timber are laid acroſs a ri­vulet, or any other bad place necessary to be passed, at six feet distance from each other ; theſe must be crofted again by other pieces of timber not ſo thick, at the distance of three feet from each other ; which must be fixed to one ano­ther by large pegs, and faggots well fastened together must be laid over them. When the bridge ſhall be thus covered, ſome earth must be thrown over it, which ought to be well trampled, in order to fill up the vacancies of the faggots ; and then, for the greater firmneſs, new earth ſhould be thrown over it, which ought to be well beaten down. The bridge thus made, the troops, the artillery, and the baggage, will paſs over it with great eaſe.

It must be obſerved, that the bridges ſhould be of the same breadth with the roads ; they ſhould be broader rather than narrower, becauſe, exclusive of the danger the artillery and baggage would run if they were narrower, the ranka being obliged to be straitened and the column to be length­ened, the march would of courte be retarded, and it would be difficult to avoid confusion. The labourers that accom­pany the detachment ought to be furniſhed with every sort of tool necessary for the removing of earth, the selling of trees, and working and fitting them for uſe.

On the report of the commanding officer of this detach­ment to the general, he will order as many detachments as