which are posted sidewiſe, ought briſkly to attack the wood ſustained by dragoons. Theſe last ſhould post them­ſelves upon the left flank of the infantry in order to cover it ; and as ſoon as it ſhall be within 60 paces of the enemy, it ſhould march up to him with bayonets fixed ; and the dragoons ought to attack him in flank at the time the in­fantry does the same in head. The wood is all this while suppoſed to be practicable for the dragoons on horſeback ; but in case it ſhould not be ſo, they must diſmount, the in­fantry being ſufficiently ſupported by the 12 ſquadrons of cavalry, which are placed sidewiſe.

The general may with eaſe, eſpecially in an open country, attack the enemy’s whole army together; but this may be attended with great danger, and if the whole front of the first line is broken, there will not be much difficulty in breaking the second : whereas, by attacking the enemy’s army in one or two parts, if one of theſe attacks ſucceeds, the battle is won ; becauſe the troops who are victorious, take the enemy in flank, at the same time that he is attack­ed in head by the rest of the army. In case it ſhould not ſucceed, the troops who made the attack can retreat, pro­tected by the whole army, which hath not at all ſuffered.

The general ſhould, as much as poſſible, conceal the motions he intends making from the enemy ; conſequently the five battalions and 10 pieces of cannon which ſupport the right of the army next the river ought to march in the rear of the ſquadrons of the first line, the infantry with their arms secured, and not range themselves in the order of bat­tle intended, till the two armies are ready to march to charge each other. It is the same with regard to the ſquadrons of cavalry, which ſhould be posted behind thoſe of the first line, to execute the design already laid down.

Disp. II. If the two armies are not ſupported either on their right or their left, the same petition ſhould ſubsist that hath already been eftabliſhed for the cavalry, which is in the rear of that belonging to the first line, except that it ſhould be distributed on the right and the left. If there is not cavalry ſufficient, hussars must be ſubstituted in its place ; but if there ſhould be cavalry enough, it must be used on this occasion; becauſe cavalry being a greater body, its charge is heavier, and it alſo makes a greater impreſsion upon other cavalry oppoſed to it, provided they exe­cute their order with great quickness. This cavalry or hussars, which are posted sidewiſe, ſhould not quit their post,but wait the ſucceſs of the attack. If the enemy is repulſed, they must then fall upon his flanks, and by a briſk and vigorous charge endeavour to involve the second line in the confusion of the first ; they will be followed by part of the wing of cavalry that is victorious, in order to give a greater force to the attack of the second line, taking as much care as poſſible not to leave any body of cavalry upon the wing of infantry that is in a condition of protecting it. After theſe two lines of cavalry have been broken and purſued, half of the victorious line ſhould remain in order of battle ; and, by a motion to the right from the left, take the enemy’s infantry in flank, at the same time that it is attacked in head by the infantry of the army. The second line ſhould then move into the place of the first, in order to be near enough to assist it in case the enemy’s infantry ſhould stand its ground firmly ; but it is probable, that be­ing deprived of its cavalry, it will neither have the same firmneſs, nor the same ſpirit, as if it was ſupported, eſpeci­ally when it is attacked on every side.

The cavalry and the hussars who purſue the beaten wing ſhould not expoſe themſelves too much, or break their order in the purſuit, for fear the enemy’s hussars which are behind ſhould fall upon and beat them by attacking them on all sides ; which may very probably happen, if they do not take care to keep in order of battle ; which ſhould at least be attended to by the cavalry. After the hussars have pursued the enemy’s cavalry ſo long as to entirely diſorder them, they ſhould return and take their former posts, in order to march from thence to whatever place they may be ſerviceable. Although it may appear ſomething hard to make the hussars return, there is nothing ſo difficult but what may be accompliſhed, when order and discipline are firmly establiſhed, and when an officer has the art of making himself obeyed.

At the battle of Cannæ, the Carthaginian cavalry, ſuperior to that of the Romans, having broke through them, one part continued the purſuit, and the other fell upon the rear and the flanks of their infantry ; at the same time the Carthaginian infantry charged that of the Romans in all parts, which decided the victory. Thus Hannibal owed his victory partly to his ſuperiority in cavalry, and to his attack upon the flanks. The Numidians, who were upon the right wing of the Carthaginian army, and who fought neatly in the same manner as the hussars, performed on this occasion the same ſervice as the hussars would certainly do in the diſposition now before us ; ſo true it is, that infantry, destitute of its cavalry, hath no longer the same firmneſs, nor the same spirit ; and if it is alſo attacked in head by infantry, it cannot avoid being beat. The principal atten­tion of a general, says Μ. de Montecuculi, ought to be to ſecure the flanks ; experience having taught, that when the wings of cavalry are broke, the infantry is easily ſurounded, and hath no longer the means, nor even the courage, of de­fending itſelf. The reader may see the principles he lays down upon that ſubject. It is ſeen by the example of the battle of Cannæ, what uſe the cavalry ought to be put to, particularly in an open country where it can easily act. What advantage may not be expected from it, when an army of Romans, 80,000 strong in infantry, and 6000 horse, was overcome by the Carthaginians, weaker by the half in infantry, but which derived its principal strength from 10,000 cavalry, all veterans, and well diſciplined.

But if the wing of cavalry is beat, it ought to retreat with as much order as poſſible. The cavalry, or hussars, that are posted sidewiſe, ſhould always continue in the same place ; there is no reaſon to fear that the enemy will ad­vance briskly to the purſuit ; becauſe he will be taken in flank by the body that is posted sidewiſe ; a circumstance which ought not only to abate the eagerneſs of the con­querors, but alſo animate the conquered. By this man­ner of acting they gain time to paſs through the intervals of the second line, and to rally in the rear of it, which they can perform with the greater eaſe, as they are neither pursued nor molested, at least but very ſlightly.

In order to prevent the inconveniences that may arise it the hussars in charging the first line of the enemy in flank are charged by the second, it is necessary to detach instantly from the reserve a body of dragoons ſufficient to fill up the intervals of the hussars, which will form a full line with­out taking up more ground : this can be ſo much better ef­fected, as there would be no ground on the other side of the troops who are posted sidewiſe, and that, besides, theſe troops would be at too great a distance from the main body of the army.

Again, without causing them to fill up the intervals of the hussars, they may be placed in a second line behind them ; and when the hussars attack the flank of the ene­my’s wing, the dragoons will take their place, in order to keep back the enemy’s second line. This method hath the same effect, and is performed with leſs difficulty. It is almost evident, that the second line will not dare ad­vance to protect the first for fear of being charged in flank