a post, he is to take possession in the following manner. The infantry remain under arms in the middle of the place, the cavalry to patrole without, while the commanding offi­cer, escorted by a dozen horsemen, goes to examine the environs to make his arrangements ; having ſent several ſmall detachments before, to cover him in time of recon­noitring.

Having remarked the places proper for his guard, de­fence, and retreat, as well as the dangerous ones by which the enemy can make approaches ſecretly to ſurpriſe him, he ſhould chooſe the most convenient in the front of his post to fix his grand guard D (fig. 1.), which must face the enemy. He must mark the heights for this guard to place their vedettes EEEE, and regulate the number according to the exigencies of the situation. In a covered country you must not be sparing of them, and must reinforce every guard. At 50 paces before the front of the grand guard, a ſubaltern or non-commissioned officer with eight horsemen ſhould be always ready to ſet out at K, to go and reconnoi­tre, when the vedettes have obſerved any party.

The grand guard being fixed, you ſhould form another in the middle of the village, called the *ordinary guard,* com­poſed of cavalry and infantry, placing ſentries at the entries and vedettes all round; the last at ſuch distance as to see one another. A picquet ſhould likewiſe be fixed before the quarters of the commanding officer, which ſhould be near the ordinary guard and the whole corps. In the day, half the cavalry of the picquet must keep their horſes bridled and ready to mount ; but if the enemy is near, they must remain on horſeback, the other half to unbridle till the hour of re­lief.

According to the arrangement we have given for composing the corps of a partiſan, the grand guard may consist of a captain, a first and second lieutenant, a quarter-matter, two ſerjeants, four corporals, a trumpeter, farrier, and 52 private horſemen. The ordinary guard to have cavalry equal to the grand guard, with a captain, a first and second lieutenant of infantry, two ſerjeants, and *60 men,* including four corporals, two lance-corporals, and a drummer : the picquet to consist of the same number of cavalry and infantry as the ordinary guard.

If there is any dangerous place capable of covering the approaches of the enemy in the environs of the post, and out of the circuit of the patroles, there ſhould be a guard placed there, more or leſs strong according to the import­ance of the place, and care ſhould be taken to preſerve the communication. The guards and picquets being placed, the detachment that was ſent out on the roads must be called in, and then go to work to lodge the party in the gardens that open upon the country, and the commanding officer’s quarters ; beating down hedges, filling up ditches, and le­velling a piece of ground large enough to draw up the whole corps. The horſes to be put under cover in barns conti­guous to the gardens ; but in case there are no barns, they may ſubstitute sheds open on one side, that the horſes may go out altogether in case of an alarm.

The officers ſhould occupy the houses in the neighbour­hood of the ſheds, and one of each company remain day and night with the company, to prevent any of the men from entering the village without leave, upon any pretence. The commanding officer must acquaint the officers of his having choſen the place M for the rendezvous in case of a retreat ; which ought to be at ſome distance from the village, and on the side he judges most convenient for retiring to the army. At ſunſet the grand guard are to return to the post and join the picquet, the one half of each to mount alter­nately till day-break, and then the grand guard to return to the place they possessed the day before. The ſentries and vedettes ſhould be doubled, and all the passages shut up with waggons placed in two rows, except one for ſallying out at, in case of a retreat, made wide enough for the paſſage of the patroles or the whole cavalry.

The corporals of the ordinary guard ſhould lead the re­lief of the vedettes every hour, ſetting off together ; but when they come to the passage of the post A, they must ſeparate into two parties, the one to the right to relieve the vedettes BBB, the other to the left for the vedettes CCC ; then each of them with the parties they have re­lieved ſhould go on at their head a quarter of a league, by the two routes pointed out in the plan, to examine the en­virons, ſupposing an hour to each. Besides this reconnoi­tring, the captain of the grand guard ſhould send two pa­troles in the night. To fill up the intervals, they ſhould ſet one about half an hour after the corporals, and make the same round. At returning to the post, the corporals to make their report to the officer of the ordinary guard ; the conductors of the patroles to the captain of the grand guard.

A little before ſunriſe or ſunſet, a grand patrole detach­ed from the corps ſhould be sent under the conduit of an officer to ſearch the whole environs of the post minutely, eſpecially the dangerous places, becauſe at theſe times the enemy are most likely to attempt a surpriſe. It the patroles diſcover them, they will be in a state to repulſe them, or at least to haraſs them till the commanding officer, upon the first notice, draws up the whole corps. The officers ſhould take great care to instruct the ſentries in their duty, ex­plaining it to them every time of their mounting, and forbid them to ſmoke, as the least fire can be easily perceived in the dark, and ſerve to direct the approaches of the enemy. No ſentry to move more than 50 paces to the right, and as many to the left of his post : and let the weather be ever ſo bad, he must not get under cover. No one to be allowed to go out of the post without leave of the commanding officer; and to prevent deſertion or maurauding, the ſentries and vedettes must be charged to let no soldier paſs.

The vedettes must stop all passengers, and take them to the next ſentry, who must call a corporal to conduct them to the commanding officer. If there are a great number passing at once, the vedette at the challenge must hasten to stop them at 100 paces, till the officer has ſent to reconnoi­tre them ; but if he finds them to be a party of the enemy, he must fire upon them and retire. At the first alarm, the grand guard and picquet ought to mount, and each of them to detach a ſubaltern officer immediately at the head of the best mounted horſemen, to go quickly to encounter the enemy. The rest of the grand guard and cavalry of the picquet to follow immediately, led by their captains to sustain the first detachments, to repulſe or keep back the enemy as long as it is poſſible, and give time to the commanding of­ficer to form the whole corps.

If the commanding officer obſerves that the enemy are of no very extraordinary force, he must without hesitating put himself at the head of his cavalry, and instantly charge them, pouring upon them with his whole force, which is the best way to ſucceed ; and in the mean time, the infantry ſhould form to ſustain the cavalry. One essential circumstance ſhould not be forgot here, which is, that at the going of the detachments of the grand guard and picquet, all the infantry of the picquet ſhould march immediately to the place appointed for the rendezvous in case of a retreat, and a strong detachment of cavalry should follow to occupy the place. If it is at the entrance of a wood or ſome covered place which the enemy may occupy, and thereby cut off your retreat, you must prevent it by fixing the infantry of the picquet in the post, to remain day and night, with a