is, becauſe we often see simple people, animated with the hope of gain, imagine they can eaſily lead a party, when they have only a great deal of good-will ; but if you find in thoſe who offer all the necessary qualities, you must im­mediately ſecure them to you as much as poſſible, by ma­king them dread the destruction of their houses, and pil­laging their goods, if they lead the party into a ſnare ; you may likewiſe aſk their wives and children as pledges of their fidelity, and, the moment of ſetting out, place them be­tween the corporals of the first rank, tied with a small chain ; which precaution is the more essential, as traitors have often been known, on pretence of conducting a party to ſeize a post, to have led them where they have had their throats cut in the middle of the night, and have disappeared at the very moment of its execution. If you make your guides hope for a recompenſe proportioned to their ſervices on one side, on the other you must make them fear the cruellest puniſhment if they betray you.

The night being the most proper time to march to the attack of a post, you ſhould ſet out ſoon enough to be ready to make the attack an hour or two before day. Care must be taken that it is not moon-light when you propoſe making the attack ; the ſoldiers ought to march two and two, with the least noise poſſible, eſpecially when passing between the enemy’s ſentries : you must likewiſe recommend to them, neither to ſpeak, ſpit, nor ſmoke. The detachments must get as oppoſite as poſſible to the ſalient angles of the intrenchment, as it is probable that they will be the least de­fended by the enemy’s muſketry. If a patrole of the ene­my comes while you are on your march, or ambuſhed in the environs, you need not be alarmed, nor make the least motion which may make the enterpriſe fail, but remain concealed in the profoundest silence, that the patroles may paſs without perceiving any thing, and afterwards purſue your design.

If the post which you want to carry is a redoubt with a dry ditch and parapet of earth, your two first ranks must have ſpades and pickaxes, with their arms slung, and, on the signal being given, jump into the ditch together ; be­cauſe it ought to be a general maxim in attacking a post, to strike all at once. When the first rank have jumped down, the second must stop a moment, that they may not fall upon the ſhoulders or bayonets of the first. The two first ranks having got into the ditch, they ſhould immedi­ately run to sap the angles of the scarp and the parapet of the redoubt, to facilitate the mounting of the rest of the party ; the leaders of each division ſhould obſerve at the same time, that the ſoldiers who remain armed with their firelocks, and who have likewiſe leaped into the ditch, do not interrupt thoſe who are demolishing the ſcarp of the re­doubt, but protect them by presenting their bayonets to the right and left, and be ready to repulſe any of the enemy that happen to be placed in the ditch.

If the parapet is fraiſed, they ſhould break as many of the fraiſes with hatchets as is necessary to let the men paſs. When the breach is made, the workers ſhould drop their working tools ; and taking their arms from the slings, mount up with fixed bayonets, and ruſh upon the enemy huzzaing.

When you march to attack a redoubt or ſuch post, where the enemy have a connection with more considerable posts, the commanding officer ſhould charge on that side, ſo as to cut off the communication. People who see themſelves briskly attacked without hope of succour or retreat, will very soon beg for quarter.

When the scarps and parapets are of stone, they can only be carried by ſcaling ; but you may ſucceed by being brisk in surrounding and ſustaining the attack. An officer who is to attack a post of this kind, ſhould take care that his ladders are rather too long than too ſhort, and to give them in charge only to the stoutest of the detachment. The ſol­diers ſhould carry theſe ladders with the left arm passed through the second step, taking care to hold them upright at their sides, and very short below, that they may not diſlocate their ſhoulders in leaping into the ditch.

The first ranks of each division provided with ladders, ſhould ſet out with the rest at the signal, marching resolutely with their firelocks slung at their backs to jump into the ditch. When they are arrived, they ſhould apply their ladders against the parapet, obſerving to place them to­wards the ſalient angles rather than the middle of the cur­tain, becauſe the enemy have leſs force there. They must take care to place their ladders within a foot of each other, and not to give them too much nor too little slope, that they may not be overturned or broken with the weight of ſoldiers mounting upon them.

The ladders being applied, they who have carried them, and they who come after, ſhould mount up and ruſh upon the enemy sword in hand. If he who goes first happens to be overturned, the next ſhould take care not to be drawn down by his comrade ; but on the contrary, help him to paſs between two ladders, and immediately mount himſelf, ſo as not to give the enemy time to load his piece.

As the ſoldiers who mount the first may be easily tum­bled over, and their fall may cauſe the attack to fail, it would perhaps be right to protect their breasts with the fore-parts of light cuirasses ; becauſe if they can penetrate, the rest may easily follow.

The success of an attack by ſcaling is infallible, if they mount the four sides at once, and take care to ſhower a number of grenades among the enemy, eſpecially when ſupported by ſome grenadiers and picquets, who ſhare the atten­tion and fire of the enemy.

During the siege of Cassel, under the Count de la Lippe, in the campaign of 1762, a young engineer undertook to carry one of the outworks with a much ſmaller detachment than one which had been repulſed ; and ſucceeded with eaſe, from the uſe of grenades ; which is a proof that gre­nades ought not to be neglected, either in the attack or defence of posts.

If the ditch of a post is filled with water, and but mid­dle-deep, that ſhould not hinder you from jumping into the ditch to attack, in the manner that has been mentioned ; but if there is a greater quantity, and you cannot paſs, the ſoldiers of each platoon ſhould carry faſcines, or faggots of small branches well bound, and made as large as poſſible, to fill up the ditch, and make a kind of ford, ſo as to get at the parapet, cither to demoliſh or ſcale it.

Many ways of filling up the ditch, recommended, by dif­ferent authors, might be mentioned ; but the faſcines are preferable to them all, as the ſoldiers can easily carry them before them, and march quicker, and make uſe of them as a defence against muſketry, and, reaching them from hand to hand, ſoon make a ford.

If the approaches of the post are defended by chevaux de frise, the first and second rank of each platoon must break them down with hatchets ; or with iron graplings tied to ropes, they may pull them to them, and ſeparate them. If it is a breast-work of felled trees, you mull have faſcines thrown against the points, or upon the branches, upon which the ſoldiers can easily paſs. If there are two or three rows, you may burn them with dry rascines lighted at one end, and thrown in the middle row. In case of try­ing this last ſcheme, the soldiers must retire to a little distance after throwing the faſcines, that the enemy may not see to fire at them by the light of the fire, but place them-