guard, and to harass the enemy, till the diviſion B is drawn up 100 paces in the rear, and divided into wings, leaving an interval for the diviſion C to paſs through in its turn ; and continue to manœuvre it in this manner, till you draw the enemy’s cavalry tinder the fire of your infantry.

When the force of the enemy consists of cavalry alone, your infantry (marked in the plan by dotted right angles) ſhould retire jointly with the cavalry, at least if the country does not expoſe you to be ſurrounded by ſome covered place ; becauſe in that case your infantry ſhould go and oc­cupy that place, and form an ambuſcade.

The rest of the infantry ſhould place themſelves in the second line of each division. It the enemy approaches the first line too near, they ſhould fall lightly back upon the two wings of the second, opening the centre quickly for the infantry to fire upon the enemy in platoons, at the same time that your cavalry detach several ſmall parties to ad­vance briſkly to prevent the enemy’s forming, who were thrown into confusion by the fire of the infantry. The division which retires will force its march, and go to a greater or leſs distance according to the purſuit of the enemy. The sustaining diviſion must fall back afterwards till it has passed between the wings of the second diviſion, who must then make the manœuvre of the first, continuing it alternately till the enemy desists from the purſuit.

To facilitate the retreat of the infantry, and gain ſome way on the enemy, many have been of opinion that they ought to transport them in waggons. But when the enemy is at our heels, the time is very ill employed in collecting carriages and harnassing them: thoſe moments are too pre­cious ; and ſhould be employed in causing the infantry to move off quickly, by which they will not be expoſed to a train of waggons taken in haste, which may soon break, or be put out of order, and may stop the whole line ; which not only retards the infantry, but likewiſe the cavalry, when they find the route they were to have taken blocked up with broken carriages.

When there happens to be a wood in your rear, you need not enter it if the enemy follows you cloſe, and is prevented by your strength : it is better to coast along it by the route marked G, for fear of his coming round you ; but if you cannot avoid crossing it, the diviſion C ſhould paſs quickly, and at getting out face to the two flanks of the wood. The diviſion B is to remain at the entrance of it, till they judge that the diviſion C is ſufficiently advanced, and then fall back, leaving the infantry for a rear-guard during the whole passage through the wood : at which time the whole ſhould resume their first disposition.

In all de les, and passages of bridges, the same manœuvre ſhould be uſed as for woods : but the first diviſion having passed, they ſhould form facing the enemy ; and the infan­try likewiſe draw up on the other side, upon the edge of the river.

When the country through which you are to retire hap­pens to be mountainous, the diviſion which falls back ſhould guard the heights by ſmall detached parties, or, if poſſible, guard them themselves.

A body of cavalry retreating without infantry, ought to form in three lines at 200 paces behind one another ; the two last extending their front, that they may appear more nu­merous, and draw up on the two ſides out of the road. The first line being attacked, the second is to ſustain it, the third to wait the retreat of the first, and to ſustain the second, and continue to do ſo alternately.

if the enemy seem to quit the purſuit, the whole corns must resume the order of an ordinary march ; with this pre­caution, that the rear-guard be reinforced, and the advanced guard weakened.

As to the retreat of a ſmall detachment of cavalry, ſuch as go to reconnoitre the enemy, to diſcover their march, to carry off ſome officer, or for ſome other commission, as they are not numerous enough to ſkirmiſh and retreat by rule, they have but two ways to choose ; either to fly, or break through the enemy. They ought to determine for the last, when their retreat is cut off on all sides, ſo that they have no other way to eſcape but by cutting their way through the enemy sword in hand : but flight is always leſs hazar­dous when it is practicable.

If the officer is certain of the fidelity of his men, and their attachment to him ; and sees that they cannot get out of sight of the enemy, but are ready to fall into their hands; he ought to try one means still, which has been known fre­quently to succeed. He ſhould diſperse his party by two and two, by the favour of the first covered place, where they may be at liberty to take ſo many different routes. It is evident that two men may wind from right to left, and eſcape more easily than a party of 12 or 20, who cannot move ſo freely.

Mr Jeney made use of ſuch an expedient successfully in Italy, when the Spaniards having advice of his detachment having slipped to the rear of their army, they cut off his re­treat on all tides. The whole party being diſperſed, he took two huſſars with him, and was followed ſo close, that every instant he thought he must be taken ; however, he ſaved himſelf by crossing a marshy pond. The enemy ran to turn him, but he got ſo far before them, that they could not take him. He got ſafe to his post, and in three days the whole detachment met without the loss of a man ; which will prove, that in ſuch a situation we need not deſpair, and that in extreme necessity the passage of a river or morals ought not to be declined.

Part IV. Of SIEGES.

Sect. I. *Of Attack.*

**I.** *Maxims or Principles to be observed in the Attack of Places.*

**I.** THE approaches ought to be made, without being ſeen from the town, either directly, obliquely, or in flank.

2. No more works ſhould be made than are necessary for approaching the place without being ſeen ; that is, the besiegers ought to carry on their approaches the shortest way poſſible, consistent with being covered againſt the enemy’s fire.

3. All the parts of the trenches ſhould mutually ſupport each other, and those which are farthest advanced ought not to be distant from thoſe which are to defend them above 120 or 130 fathoms, that is, above musket ſhot.

4. The parallels or places of arms the most distant from the town, ought to have a greater extent than thoſe which are nearest, that the besiegers may be able to take the ene­my in flank, ſhould they reſolve to attack the nearest paral­lels.

5. The trench ſhould be opened or begun as near as poſſible to the place, without exposing the troops too much, in order to accelerate and diminish the operations of the siege.