

**www.e-rara.ch**

## **An universal military dictionary in English and French**

**James, Charles**

**London, 1816**

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich**

Shelf Mark: Rar 36205

Persistent Link: <https://doi.org/10.3931/e-rara-79572>

V.

---

### **www.e-rara.ch**

Die Plattform e-rara.ch macht die in Schweizer Bibliotheken vorhandenen Drucke online verfügbar. Das Spektrum reicht von Büchern über Karten bis zu illustrierten Materialien – von den Anfängen des Buchdrucks bis ins 20. Jahrhundert.

e-rara.ch provides online access to rare books available in Swiss libraries. The holdings extend from books and maps to illustrated material – from the beginnings of printing to the 20th century.

e-rara.ch met en ligne des reproductions numériques d'imprimés conservés dans les bibliothèques de Suisse. L'éventail va des livres aux documents iconographiques en passant par les cartes – des débuts de l'imprimerie jusqu'au 20e siècle.

e-rara.ch mette a disposizione in rete le edizioni antiche conservate nelle biblioteche svizzere. La collezione comprende libri, carte geografiche e materiale illustrato che risalgono agli inizi della tipografia fino ad arrivare al XX secolo.

---

**Nutzungsbedingungen** Dieses Digitalisat kann kostenfrei heruntergeladen werden. Die Lizenzierungsart und die Nutzungsbedingungen sind individuell zu jedem Dokument in den Titelinformationen angegeben. Für weitere Informationen siehe auch [Link]

**Terms of Use** This digital copy can be downloaded free of charge. The type of licensing and the terms of use are indicated in the title information for each document individually. For further information please refer to the terms of use on [Link]

**Conditions d'utilisation** Ce document numérique peut être téléchargé gratuitement. Son statut juridique et ses conditions d'utilisation sont précisés dans sa notice détaillée. Pour de plus amples informations, voir [Link]

**Condizioni di utilizzo** Questo documento può essere scaricato gratuitamente. Il tipo di licenza e le condizioni di utilizzo sono indicate nella notizia bibliografica del singolo documento. Per ulteriori informazioni vedi anche [Link]

ular one. Among joiners, it signifies the pannels of a door.

**TYMPAN** of an arch is the triangular space or table in the corners or sides of the arch, usually hollowed and enriched, sometimes with branches of laurel, olive-tree, or oak, or with trophies, &c. Sometimes with flying figures, as Fame, Victory, &c. or sitting figures, as the Cardinal Virtues.

**TYMPANUM**, a drum, a musical instrument which the ancients used, and which consisted of a thin piece of leather or skin stretched upon a circle of wood or iron, and beat with the hand. Hence the origin of our drum.

**TYMPANUM**, in mechanics, a kind of wheel placed round an axis or cylindrical beam, on the top of which are two levers, or fixed staves, for the more easy turning the axis about, in order to raise a weight required. It is also used for any hollow wheel, wherein one or more persons or

animals, such as horses, dogs, &c. walk, to turn it. This wheel is found in cranes, calenders, &c.

**TYMPANUM**, the area or space included between the cornice which crowns it, and the entablature which supports and serves it as a foundation.

**TYRANT**, (*tyran*, Fr.) Any individual is so called, who, by force of arms, or by other illegitimate means, has encroached upon, or usurped, the sovereign authority in a country. Thus Dionysius was called the tyrant of Sicily, and Robespierre the tyrant of France.

**Petty TYRANTS**, (*tyranneaux*, Fr.) a low, grovelling set of beings, who, without one spark of real courage within themselves, execute the orders of usurped or strained authority, with brutal rigour. The creatures belonging to an oligarchy are generally of this cast; hence the Poet's line—

And fly from petty tyrants to the throne.

## V.

**VACANCY**, (*vacance*, Fr.) vacant state of an office or commission to which no one is appointed.

**Emplois-VACANS**, Fr. During the old French monarchy, seniority of rank or standing did not give the right of promotion. It belonged solely to the king to appoint and nominate all persons to vacant commissions or employments. The same power is vested in our King, forming a part of his prerogative: thus the Prince of Saxe-Cobourg has been appointed colonel of the vacant regiment of Dragoon Guards, the 5th, or Princess Charlotte of Wales's own.

**VACANT**, (*vacant*, e, Fr.) empty; not filled. Hence, *vacant* mind.

**VACANT companies**, (*compagnies vacantes*, Fr.) companies to the permanent command of which no person is appointed, for the time being.

**VACANT Pay**. See **PAY**.

**VACATIO militiæ**, military exemption. Among the Greeks no man was called into active service after he had reached his sixtieth year. The Romans established the *vacatio-militiæ*, or military exemption, at forty-five and fifty. We imitate the latter.

**VACCINATION**, the **VACCINE**. The term *inoculation* signifies the transplanting of distempers from one subject

to another; and is used, particularly, for the engraftment of the small pox; while **VACCINATION** denotes the operation for communicating the *variola bovilla*, or cow pox.

**VACHE enragée**, Fr. a term used in France to express great discontent. *Je te ferai manger de la vache enragée*, thou shalt go for a soldier; intimating thereby that soldiers are obliged to eat any thing, and any sort of meat, even that of a mad cow or bullock. This, thank God, is not the case with us: for no men live better than the soldiers of Old England.

**VADEMANQUE**, Fr. short of cash.

**VAGUE**, Fr. wave; surge. *Flot* is used in the same sense.

**VAGUE-mâitre**, Fr. a term adopted from the Germans, signifying master of the wagons of an army. There being no W in the French alphabet the V is used: we say simply, wagon-master.

**VAGUE-Mestre-Général**, Fr. This word has been adopted by the French from the German term *Wagen-Meister*, which signifies wagon-master.

**VAIGRES**, Fr. a marine term, the clamp and thick stuff used in the ceiling of a ship. It is sometimes written *vegres*.

**VAIGRES de fond**, Fr. the thick stuff laid next to the keel.

**VAIGRES d'empature**, Fr. the thick stuff laid between the floor-heads and the keel.

**VAIGRES de pont**, Fr. the clamps which support the ends of the beams.

**VAIGRES de fleures**, Fr. the thick stuff laid opposite to the floor head.

**VAINCU**, Fr. beaten; overcome; defeated.

**VAINQUEUR**, Fr. a conqueror; one who beats, overcomes, or defeats another.

**VAIRON**, Fr. a silver-eyed or wall-eyed horse; or a horse that has one eye different from the other. The same is said of a man.

**VAISSEAU**, Fr. a ship.

**VAISSEAU du premier rang**, Fr. a first rate.

**VAISSEAU du second rang**, Fr. a second rate.

**VAISSEAU de guerre**, Fr. a man of war.

**VAISSEAU marchand**, Fr. a merchant-man.

**VAISSELLE d'argent**, Fr. silver utensils; plate. We have already remarked under *Table d'Officiers*, that during the old government of France, it was strictly forbidden to use any other plate than silver goblets, spoons, and forks.

**VAIVODE**, Fr. an old Sclavonian word, which signifies prince or general. This title was formerly given to the sovereign princes of Wallachia, Moldavia, and Transilvania.

**VAJIB UL ARZEE**, *Ind.* a petition, memorial, or proposal to a superior.

**VAKEEL**, *Ind.* an agent, a subordinate envoy or ambassador.

**VAKIAS**, *Ind.* a weight nearly equal to a pound. It also signifies a measure.

**VAKILIT**, *Ind.* the first office in the empire.

**VALET**, Fr. a servant-man; a person in waiting about another; a valet. In ancient history, there is an account of valets under the article of esquires, who received 12d. per diem. Du Cange and other writers are of opinion that the appellation of *valet* was generally given to young gentlemen of rank and family, who were not yet knighted. At present, it means a menial; one who is about the person of another in a servile capacity; as *VALET de chambre*.

**VALET à louer**, Fr. figuratively, a man out of place; as a minister sometimes is; or a discarded general.

*Ame de VALET*, Fr. a mean, base, sneaking soul.

**VALET de miroir**, Fr. the desk of a table looking glass.

**VALET à débouter**, Fr. a jack to pull off boots.

**VALET**, with horsemen, is a stick armed at one end with a blunt point of iron, to prick and aid a leaping-horse.

**VALET**, Fr. an instrument which is used by carpenters to keep boards, that have been glued, close together.

**VALETS de l'armée**, Fr. officers' servants; they are likewise called by the French *tartares*.

**VALETS d'artillerie**, Fr. men attached to the guns on board ships of war, for the purpose of assisting the regular cannoners.

**VALET d'huis**, Fr. a log, block, or piece of metal hanging by a rope on one side of a door, for the purpose of closing it after a person has passed.

**VALETS à patin**, Fr. an instrument which is used by surgeons; a small pincer to take up the arteries when it is found necessary to make a ligature.

**VALETS de ville**, Fr. constables, &c. men who are attached to the police of a town.

**VALETER**, Fr. to wait; to cringe; to dance attendance.

**VALETUDINARIUM**, an infirmary, or hospital for sick folks. Among the Romans, the *valetudinarium*, or hospital, was only established in time of war, when their armies marched beyond the boundaries of the republic. In the remote periods of their history, the wounded soldiers were lodged with the inhabitants of the several towns belonging to the republic, by whom they were nursed and fed; and when they were on foreign service, the wounded were obliged to dress one another. There were in those times, neither physicians nor surgeons attached to the armies; and it often happened, that superannuated or old soldiers did their business.

**VALEUREUSEMENT**, Fr. courageously.

**VALIANT**, } personally brave,  
**VALOROUS**, } fearless of danger  
in war, &c.

**VALLÉE de misère**, Fr. in Paris, the poultry and game market.

**VALLEY**, (*val*, Fr.) a space of ground between hills.

**VAN-foss**, in fortification, a ditch dug without the counterscarp, and running all along the glacis, usually full of water.

**VALLUM**, *Agger*, *Vinea*, *Turres*. All

these different terms were used among the Greeks and ancient Romans, as well as among the Eastern nations, to signify the retrenchments which were made for offensive or defensive purposes. That which was called *Agger* consisted of an elevation made with piles of wood, branches of trees, &c. and afterwards covered with turf. It was sufficiently high to overlook the town. This artificial mount was surrounded by a fosse or ditch, and fenced with palisades. These retrenchments had different terms applied to them, according to the different manner in which they were constructed. The *vinæ* were engines of war made of timber and hurdles, beneath which the ancients, in assaults, came safely under the walls of a town, and so scaled them. Then came the *Turres*, which see.

**VALOIR**, *Fr.* to have value, or to be worth something.

*Faire VALOIR le talent*, *Fr.* to enhance any particular talent or quality of the mind.

*Se faire VALOIR*, *Fr.* to support one's own dignity as a man; not to permit one's self to be degraded or under-rated.

**VALOUR**, (*valeur*, *Fr.*) courage, bravery, intrepidity; a generous quality, which, far from assuming brutality and violence, with-holds the fury of the soldier, protects helpless women, innocent infants, and hoary age. Nothing which is incapable of resistance can ever be the object whereon true valour would exercise its powers. Courage is that grandeur of soul, which prompts us to sacrifice all personal advantages, and even the preservation of our beings, to a love of doing our duty. The exercise of this determined courage in the profession of arms is called *valour*. It is composed of bravery, reason, and force: by bravery we understand that lively ardour which fires us for the combat; reason points out to us the method of conducting it with justice and prudence; and force is necessary for the execution. It is bravery which animates the heart, reason springs from the soul, and force depends upon the body; without bravery we fear obstacles, danger and death; without reason, courage would have no legitimate view; and without force it would be useless: these three qualities should concur to form true military valour.

Dr. Johnson defines valour, bravery, and courage almost as synonymous terms. Mr. Addison distinguishes between that sort of courage which springs, by instinct,

from the soul, and from that which originates in a sense of duty, and is strengthened by reflexion. Count Turpin, on the other hand, establishes a wide difference between bravery and courage, which he makes two terms. In page 5 of the Preliminary Discourse to his Essay on the Art of War, he has the following passage:

“Is the officer—(speaking of the requisite qualifications in a general)—who loves his duty, and who would make himself master of it, under no obligation to ascertain what qualifications his station requires? That he ought to have such or such a quality, under such or such a circumstance? That here, only bravery is necessary, there, only courage? And that he is not always obliged to have both at the same time?”

These two qualities, which are often confounded in the same subject, merit a particular distinction: they are not so closely united, but that one may be found without the other. Courage seems fittest for a general, and for all those who command; bravery more necessary for a soldier, and for all those who receive orders; bravery is in the blood; courage in the soul; the first is a kind of instinct, the second a virtue; the one is an impulse almost mechanical, the other a noble and a sublime conception. A man is brave at a particular time, and according to circumstances; but he has courage at all times, and upon all occasions: bravery is impetuous, in as much as it is less the result of reflection; courage, on the contrary, in proportion as it grows out of reason, becomes more or less intrepid. Bravery is inspired by the force of example, by insensibility to danger, and by the mingled fury of conflict and action; courage is infused by the love of our duty, the desire of glory, and by the zeal we feel to serve our king and country: courage depends on reason, but bravery on the constitution. Achilles, such as Horace describes him from Homer, implacable, cruel, despising every law except that of the strongest, presents nothing to the idea, but the hardness of a gladiator. But the Roman general, whose death would have occasioned the ruin of the army, the great Scipio, when covered by the bucklers of three soldiers, to avoid a shower of arrows, which the enemy directed against him, approaches in safety the walls he besieged, and standing only a spectator of the action, exhibits the picture of true courage, whilst he contents himself with giving the

necessary orders; and in the same manner did the present Duke of Wellington remain undaunted in one of his squares, during the heat of the battle of Waterloo. Bravery, again, is involuntary, and does not depend wholly upon ourselves; whereas courage (as Seneca observes) may be acquired by education; provided nature has sown the first seeds of it. Cicero, sheltering himself from the hatred of Catiline, undoubtedly wanted bravery; but certainly he possessed an elevated firmness of mind (which is in reality courage) when he disclosed the conspiracy of that traitor to the senate, and pointed out all his accomplices; or when he pleaded for Deiotarus against Cæsar, his friend and his judge.

Coolness is the effect of courage, which knows its danger, but makes no other use of that knowledge, than to give direction with greater certainty; courage is always master of itself, provided against all accidents, and regulated by existing circumstances; never confounded by any danger, so as to lose sight of the motions of the enemy, or of the means by which he may be most effectually opposed.

The Chevalier Folard makes the following remarks upon this quality of the mind and heart. He says, in his notes on Polybius, there are various kinds of that species of courage, intrepidity, or strength of soul, which no circumstances can vanquish, and no events can shake. I do not know whether a quality, so diversified in its nature, can be found united in the same person to the full extent of its activity. We generally discover, that some men possess a larger proportion of it than others.

In order to form a correct opinion of its existence in the human character, we should find out some individual who has acted through all the vicissitudes of life, and has uniformly discovered the same firmness of mind and intrepidity of heart. But where shall we pick out a character of this sort? Life is too short for the full exercise of its various powers, and were it of a longer date, the circumscribed faculties of man render the research useless. I do not believe it is possible to point out an individual who, free from the natural weaknesses that are attached to our constitution, has, in adversity as well as prosperity, been equally determined throughout all the changes to which military operations are unavoidably subject.

- This intrepidity and strength of mind have been peculiarly visible on manifold occasions, in some extraordinary characters, who have been equally remarkable on others for weakness and pusillanimity. We have seen them bold, to the full extent of hardihood, during a succession of triumphs; we have then beheld them shamefully agitated under a temporary reverse of fortune, and we have again seen them recover their wonted energy on the first favourable opportunity. These opposite qualities succeed one another; and we see boldness and timidity occupy, by turns, the same man, so as to produce, according to circumstances, the utmost solicitude and caution in some instances, and the greatest courage, firmness, and decision in others, during the prosecution of a war.

These fluctuations of the human character may be traced, almost every day, in a certain description of generals. When they are reduced to defensive operations, their understanding becomes perplexed; they know not how to act, and not only omit to make use of favourable opportunities themselves, but unwittingly afford them to their enemies; whilst, on the other hand, in offensive war, their genius expands itself into a variety of expedients; they create occasions that did not seem to exist, turn them to account, and finally succeed. Thus we see united in the same men promptitude, vigour, and enterprize in one species of warfare; and timidity, doubt, and consternation in another.

I have known, says Folard, generals of marked intrepidity (who in trifling matters have discovered a solicitude that approached to a want of manliness) conceive projects of vast extent, that were full of intricate developements, and conquered by incertitude; and I have seen them conquer the greatest obstacles by their courage and good conduct.

Human nature is so strangely constituted, that whilst one man will rush into danger, as if attracted by blood and devastation, another will not have firmness enough to stand his ground, and face the coming evil. He, who in the hour of battle would give fresh courage to his troops, by being the foremost to advance, has been known to turn pale in the very trench where a soldier's boy or woman has sat, undisturbed, selling spirits and provisions, or has been discovered to tremble, when the signal for storming

was given. The very man that would courageously lead his troop into action, or would prove the most expert marksman in the world, were he directed to practise in the front of a whole line, has been known to shrink at a single combat, and would rather rush headlong into a guarded breach, than measure swords, or point a pistol, with an antagonist. Another again, whom no danger could affect in public contests or in private feuds, when visited by sickness, is full of apprehension, has recourse to physic, and in proportion as his malady increases, grows timid, scrupulous, and unhappy. It sometimes happens, on the other hand, though rarely, that the rankest coward will lie peaceably in bed amidst all the surrounding terrors of dissolution, and will even smile as his agony approaches.

I have seen, continues the same author, (and daily experience confirms his observation,) one of the bravest officers in the world, suddenly turn pale in a thunder-storm, and even so far give way to his fears, as to hide himself in a cellar. One man possesses what the French so forcibly style *une valeur journalière*, a sort of ephemeral courage, or what depends upon the influence of the moment; to-day he is as bold as Achilles; to-morrow, he sinks into the degraded character of Thersites.

These changes in character and constitution, which are so visible in individuals, may be traced in their influence over whole nations, with little or no deviation. The Persian cavalry still maintains its ancient reputation for valour, and is still dreaded by the Turks. Tacitus relates, that the Sarmatian horse was invincible; but when the men were dismounted, nothing could be more miserably defective in all the requisites of war. Their whole dependance was on their cavalry, and, as far as we are enabled to judge, the same partial quality exists to this day.

The French, until their unprecedented revolution, seem to have preserved the character and disposition of the ancient Gauls. They went with more alacrity into action, and met death, at first sight, with more valour, than they discovered firmness and resolution to wait patiently for its approach. Hurry and agitation appeared more congenial to their minds than calmness and composure.

In order to conquer, it was found necessary, by their ablest generals, to make them attack and insult their enemy.

They grew impatient in slow operations, and gradually became less capable of meeting their antagonists in proportion to the time they were restrained from coming to action. Their whole history, indeed, is a continued proof of the justness of this observation; and although their character seems to have undergone considerable changes since their Revolution, they have still retained so much of the original cast, as to shew more promptitude in offensive, than steadiness and perseverance in defensive operations: not that they are deficient in the latter, but that the former quality has been more brilliantly successful. To the first they owe their stupendous triumphs under Bonaparte; but they have again been rendered almost equally conspicuous by their conduct in the second under General Moreau, in his celebrated retreat out of the Black Forest. Having said so much of our rival, we shall not be thought unjust to other nations, or too much prejudiced in favour of our own, if we assert that the British character unites within itself every quality that constitutes the real soldier. Let British soldiers be well officered, and ably commanded, and they will march into action not only with the elastic promptitude of the Frenchman, but they will also carry with them the cool determined courage of the German. If there be a feature in their character that approaches nearer to one nation than another, it is in the quickness and vigour of their attacks. In the hard fought battle of Waterloo it even surpassed the French.

In a work, originally written by the Marquis of Santa Cruz de Marzenada, and translated under the title of *Réflexions Militaires et Politiques par De Vergy*, the following just observations are made relative to this important quality of the mind.

Valour (by which we understand a thorough indifference to all sort of personal danger, and even a contempt of death) is so necessary an ingredient in the character of a general, that were I to discuss the subject, I should pay a bad compliment, indeed, to the idea which every individual must have formed of it in his own mind. A real general, in my opinion, should therefore remain satisfied with saying in the words of Marius, *Nihil metuo nisi turpem famam*—(Salust. Bel. Jugur.) I fear nothing except the disgrace which must be incurred by a bad reputation; or in those of Alcibiades,

*Ne vivere quidem vellem, si timidus essem.*

—Plut. 1. 5. Alci. 1. I would not even live, were I conscious of being timorous, or afraid of death: and this saying is the more correct, because, according to Strada, *Belli dux nihil magis timere debet, quam timere videatur* (Tatianus Strada de Bello Belgico, 1. 7.) There is nothing which a general or chief of an army should so much fear as having it known, or even suspected, that he is afraid.

To these might be added the more modern saying:

*Je crains Dieu, cher Abner—et n'ai point d'autre crainte.* I fear God, dear Abner—and have no other fear.

VALUE, in a general acceptation of the term, signifies the rate at which any thing is estimated. It is particularly applicable to the half-pay, in contradistinction to full pay. The former, having an inherent value, but not being a saleable commodity, (as every officer is strictly forbidden to sell that allowance,) it cannot properly be said to have a price, which implies bargain and sale, but still it has a value within itself; whereas full pay has both value and price. Hence regulation price of a commission means the marketable rate at which a full pay commission may be bought or sold; and regulation value of a half-pay signifies the rate at which it is estimated, but cannot be sold.

VAMBASIUM or *Wambasium*, an ancient military vestment, calculated for the defence of the body, differing very little from the aketon, gambeson and jack.

VAMBRACES. See BRASSARTS.

VAMPLET, a piece of steel sometimes in the shape of a tunnel, used in tilting spears, just before the hand, to secure and defend it; it was made to be taken off and put on at pleasure.

VAN, the front of an army, the first line.

VAN-guard, that part of the army which marches in the front. See GUARD.

VANCOURIER. See AVANT-COURIER.

VANDALS, a barbarous and fierce people of a part of Sweden, which was afterwards, from the *Goths*, their successors, called *Gothland*, who, leaving their native soil, took pleasure in ranging to and fro, and spoiling countries. Thus the French, during the course of their Revolution, were called the modern *Goths* and *Vandals*.

VANES, in mathematical instruments, are sights made to move and slide upon them.

VANTEUX, *Fr.* ridiculously vain.

VANNE, *Fr.* a floodgate.

VANNES, *venteaux, ou cloisons de bois de chêne, Fr.* floodgates, generally made of oak.

VANNETTE, *Fr.* a sort of flat open basket, or sieve, in which oats are given to horses.

VANTAUX, *Fr.* window-shutters.

VANTAIL, *Fr.* leaf of a folding-door.

VANT-brass, armour for the arm.

VANTER, *Fr.* to praise excessively; to extol the merit of a person, or to enhance the price of a thing.

Se VANTER, *Fr.* to praise oneself; to speak boastingly of one's own actions.

VANTILLER, *Fr.* in carpentry, to lay strong planks or boards to stop the influx of water.

VAQUER, *Fr.* to be vacant.

Venir à VAQUER, *Fr.* to become vacant. *Ce régiment vient à vaquer;* that regiment is become vacant. The French also say *vaquer à ses affaires*, to attend to one's business.

Terres VAINES et VAQUES, *Fr.* waste ground.

VARAIGNE, *Fr.* the inlet of sea water into salt-marches.

VARANGUES, *Fr.* floor timbers in a ship.

VARANGUES *acculées, Fr.* the crotches or floor-timbers afore and abaft.

VARECH, *Fr.* a term used in Normandy, upon the coast of France, to signify all goods, &c. that are washed on shore, and are near enough for a man on horseback to touch them with a lance, thereby making them his property.

Droits de VARECH, *Fr.* the right to salvage; a term used in Normandy.—*Varech* likewise signifies any vessel under water.

VARENNE, *Fr.* a warren; a chase.

VARENNE, *ou varène, Fr.* waste land, kept so for the convenience of the King in hunting.

VARLESSE, in horses, an imperfection upon the inside of the ham, a little distant from the curb, but about the same height. There is a bone somewhat high and raised; that part of the ham which is below the said bone sometimes swells by the discharge from the great vein, and is termed *varisse*; this defect does not make the horse halt, but spoils his sale by growing excessively

large. Rest and ease, especially if the part be bathed with spirit of wine, will so bind and restrain it as not to be perceived for the time.

**VARLET, Fr.** In the days of chivalry this word was synonymous to page. With us it anciently meant a yeoman's servant. Varlet is also taken in a bad sense, and signifies a sorry wretch, a rogue, or rascal.

In Stat. 20 Rich. II. varlets meant yeomen, or the servants of yeomen. For the etymology of this word, see p. 149, in the second part of Mr. Horne Tooke's learned and interesting publication, entitled the *Diversions of Purley*.

**VARLET, ou valet, Fr.** in a dam or sluice, an assemblage of several pieces of carpenter's work which together form a sort of cross-beam or gallows that leans against one of the walls of the sluice, and is shut by a turning flood-gate.

**VARLOPE, Fr.** a carpenter's large plane.

**VARNISH.** Meunier, a distinguished officer of the royal corps of engineers in France, under the old government, in effecting the decomposition of sea-water, in order to render it fit for the purposes of masonry, had, as a part of his apparatus or recipient, the cylinder of an old cannon, in which he submitted the sea-water to the heat of a reverberating furnace. After his experiment he examined the cylinder, and found it covered with a layer or coating of varnish, which set all instruments at defiance, for neither steel nor iron could make any impression upon it. It is beyond all doubt, that by this varnish pieces of ordnance may be choaked, and rendered useless.

**VARRER, Fr.** to put to sea.

**VARSA, Ind.** the rainy season.

**VASA-conclamare.** Among the ancient Romans, the first signal to decamp, (which was given by the sound of a bugle-horn,) was so called. The first time the bugle sounded, the general's tent was struck, and immediately after, the soldiers struck theirs, and packed up. When it sounded the second time, the wagons were loaded; and at the third signal, the army marched off the ground; care being taken to leave lighted fires in the camp, for the purpose of deceiving the enemy.

**VASANT, Ind.** the mild season, or spring.

**VASE, (vase, Fr.)** in architecture, a sort of decoration made of stone, marble,

bronze, or gilt lead, which is placed, at equal distances, at the tops of houses, in gardens, &c.

**VAULT, (voûte, Fr.)** in architecture, is a piece of masonry-arch without side, and supported in the air by the artificial placing of the stone which forms it, its principal use being for a cover or shelter; or it is an arched roof, so contrived, as that the several voussoirs or vault stones, of which it consists, do, by their disposition, sustain each other. Vaults are to be preferred on many occasions to *soffits*, or flat ceilings, as they give a greater rise and elevation, and are, besides, more firm and durable.

*Salmasius* observes, that the ancients had only three kinds of vaults. The first was the *fornix* made cradle-wise; the second a *testudo*, that is, *tortoise-wise*, which the French call *cul de four*, or oven-wise; and the third, *concha*, or trumpet-wise.

But the moderns have subdivided these three sorts into many more, to which they have given different names, according to their figures and uses; some of them are circular, and others elliptical.

Again, the sweeps of some are larger, others lesser portions of a sphere. All such as are above hemispheres are called *high* or *surmounted vaults*; and all that are less than hemispheres, are called *low* or *surbated vaults*, or *testudines*.

*Key of a VAULT* is a stone or brick in the middle of the vault in the form of a truncated cone; which serves to bind or fasten all the rest.

*Reins of a VAULT* are the sides which sustain it; they are also called the filling up.

*Pendentive of a VAULT* is the part suspended between the arches or *ogives*.

*Inpost of a VAULT* is the stone on which the first *voussoir*, or stone of the vault, is laid.

*Master-VAULT (maitresse voûte, Fr.)* is that which covers the principal part of a building, in contradistinction to the upper or subordinate *vaults*, which only cover some little part, as a passage or gate, &c.

*Double VAULT (double voûte, Fr.)* is one that is built over another, to make the outer decoration range with the inner, or to make the beauty and decoration of the inside consistent with that of the outside; leaving a space between the convexity of the one, and the concavity of the other. Instances of which may

be seen in the dome of *St. Peter's* at *Rome*, *St. Paul's* in *London*, and in that of the *Invalids* at *Paris*. *P. Derand*, the French architect, has written largely upon this subject in his *Traité sur l'architecture des voûtes*, and *M. Frézier* in that of the *Coupe des pierres*.

According to the author of the *Builder's Dictionary*, besides *Gothic vaults with ogives*, &c. there are various sorts of vaults, such as *single, double, cross, diagonal, horizontal, ascending, descending, angular, oblique, pendent*, &c. *Belidor*, in his *Dictionnaire portatif de l'Ingénieur*, mentions several. See *VOÛTE*.

To *VAULT* a shoe, in farriery, is to forge it hollow for horses that have high and round soles; in order that the shoe, thus hollow, may not bear upon the sole that is then higher than the hoof.

But, after all, this sort of shoe spoils the feet, for the sole, being softer than the shoe, assumes the form of the shoe, and becomes, every day, rounder and rounder.

*VASSAL*, *Arrière Vassal*, Fr. Under the race of *Charlemagne*, in France, the *arrière vassal* was a man who owed allegiance at the same time for feudal tenure, both to the king and to some particular lord of the manor, so that when the king and the lord of the manor differed, he did not know which master he was bound to serve. This monstrous and incongruous system, so disgraceful to the very name of manhood, continued until the third race of French kings, when it was reduced to a mere rational homage, which was paid to the king or lord of the manor, with a low rent for the right of tenure.

*VASSAL-ligé*, Fr. See *VASSALAGE*.

*VASSALS*, they who, in the feudal system, were obliged to attend their lord in war, as a tenure by which they held their lands, &c.

*VASSALAGE*, subjection, or the condition of a vassal.

A *VAUDERAULE*, Fr. in utter confusion.

*VAUDOIS*, or *Barbets*, a species of light troops in the service of *Sardinia*. They consist of mountaineers or highlanders, who are lightly clothed and armed, and are enured to the chicanery of mountain-service.

*VEAU*, Fr. in carpentry, a piece of wood which is sawed from the inside of a bending, for the purpose of cutting or dressing it.

*VEDETTTE*, (*vedette*, Fr.) in war, a sentinel on horseback, with his horse's head towards the place whence any danger is to be feared, and his carbine advanced, with the butt end against his right thigh. *Vedettes* are generally posted at all the avenues, and on all the rising grounds, to guard the several passages when an army is encamped.

The *Vedettes* to the out-posts should always be double, for the following reasons: first, that whenever they make any discovery, one may be detached to the commanding officer of the out-posts; secondly, that they may keep each other watchful: and thirdly, that the vigilance of both may render it impossible for any thing to come near them without being seen. They should be at no greater distance from their detachments than 80 or 100 paces.

For particular instructions, relative to the posting of *vedettes*, see a *Treatise on the Duties of an Officer in the Field*, by *Baron Gross*; see likewise *Gen. Reg. and Orders*, page 34 to 37.

*VEHICLE*, (*véhicule, voiture*, Fr.) carriage, a machine which is made to convey one or more persons: of this description are our military cars.

*VEILLE*, Fr. literally, privation of rest, want of sleep; also a night-watch.

*Faire la VEILLE des armes*, Fr. an ancient ceremony in which the knight who was to be armed and accoutred the following morning, passed the preceding night on watch in a chapel, where the weapons were deposited.

*Etre à la VEILLE de venir aux mains*, Fr. to be upon the eve of coming to blows.

*VEINES des pierres*, Fr. veins, streaks, or lines in stones, which generally arise from some inequality in their consistency, so that they break or loosen in certain parts. Stones of this kind are sometimes rejected as unfit for nice work.

*VEKILCHARES*, a word used among the *Turks*, which signifies the same as *fourrier* in the French, and corresponds with our quartermaster.

*VELICE*, a cover; a case; as a saddle velice.

*VELITES*, Roman soldiers, who were commonly some of the *Tiros*, or young soldiers of mean condition, and lightly armed. They had their name *a volando*, from flying, or *a velocitate*, from swiftness. They seem not to have been divided into distinct bodies or companies, but to have hovered in loose order before the army.

*Kennett's R. A.* page 190. Their arms consisted of a sword and javelin, and they had a shield or buckler, which was sufficiently large to cover its man, being round, and measuring three feet and a half in diameter.

They generally wore a wolf's skin, or some other indifferent ornament upon their heads, to distinguish them during an action. Their javelins were a sort of dart, the wood of which measured three cubits in length, and was about the thickness of a finger. The point was about a hand's full breadth in length, and was so thin and brittle, that it snapped off the instant it reached or penetrated its object, so that the enemy could not return it. It was distinguished, in this particular, from other darts and javelins.

VELITES, *Fr.* a corps in the late imperial French service. See VOLTIGEURS.

VELOCITY, the quickness of motion with which bodies are moved from one place to another.

In the years 1788, 1789, 1790, experiments were made at Woolwich with the ballistic pendulum, to ascertain the initial velocity of military projectiles; the result of which will be found in a work entitled the Pocket Gunner, first published in 1801.

*Chemin VELOUTÉ, Fr.* a foot-path covered with turf.

VELUE, } stone as it comes  
*Pierre VELUE,* } out of the quarry;  
it is also called *Pierre brute.*

*La VENDEE, Fr.* See CHOUAN.

VENDEANS, *Fr.* See CHOUAN.

VENEERING } is a sort of mar-  
VANEERING } quetry, or inlaid work, whereby several thin slices, or leaves of fine woods of different kinds, are applied and fastened on a ground of some common wood.

There are two kinds of inlaying; the one, which is the more ordinary, goes no farther than the making compartments of different woods; the other requires a great deal more art, and represents flowers, birds, &c.

The first kind is what is properly called *veneering*, the other is *marquetry* or inlaid work.

VENEREAL disease, *pox, lues, syphilis* or *siphilis*. See POX.

In the navy, the surgeons are entitled to receive a certain sum of money, stopped out of the pay of their venereal patients, for extraordinary trouble and attendance. No specific regulation exists

in the army. The captains of companies have sometimes assumed a discretionary power with respect to their men, and the latter have submitted to the charge. One great evil has, however, grown out of both practices; namely, the men, to avoid the stoppage, have applied to country quacks, and very frequently taken nostrums of their own. Every officer of a company, for the welfare of his soldiers, should examine their linen at the weekly inspections, as the disorder is generally first made manifest by stains upon the shirt.

It is generally believed, that the venereal malady was first brought into Europe in 1492, by the followers of Christopher Columbus, after his discovery of America. These people gave it to their countrywomen in Spain; the Spaniards extended it to Naples, and the French caught it during the siege of the latter place in 1495; and from France it has spread over the rest of Europe; so that its original nursery, on this side the Atlantic, seems to have been a camp.

VENETIANS, a kind of long breeches, or trowsers, (similar to the present pantaloons,) worn by Queen Elizabeth's soldiers in Ireland. In Grosse's History of the English army there is the following item with regard to the price of these articles:—One pair of Venetians, of Kentish broad cloth, with button, loops, and lining of linen, thirteen shillings and four-pence.

VENGEANCE, (*vengeance, Fr.*) punishment; penal retribution; avengement. There is an old proverb in our language, regarding the first part of the interpretation of this term, which has been quoted by N. Bailey in the following manner:—

When Vice goes before, Vengeance follows after. The notion of impunity often animates ill-disposed persons to the commission of *flagrant crimes*, which would never have been perpetrated, had the verity of this proverb been impressed in the minds of those delinquents; for certain it is, however slowly Vengeance may seem to move, it will assuredly overtake the offender at last; and by how much it is the longer in coming, being once arrived, it will fall on them the heavier. According to that maxim, *though Justice has leaden feet*, it has iron hands. Horace says, *Raro antecedentem scelestum deseruit pede pana claudo.*

With respect to the last interpretation,

*vengeance*, a French author very justly observes, that the indulgence of this fatal passion has, at all times, proved a source of the greatest evils. Vengeance, among men, grows out of self-interest; is the offspring of ambition; and frequently the effect of the blackest ingratitude. It also often happens, that under the mistaken veil of justifiable chastisement, the most unmanly acts of *vengeance* are perpetrated; happy the man who is a stranger to this mean and unworthy propensity! It has been said, (and most absurdly so,) that vengeance is a godlike pleasure. The wretch who fosters in his breast this melancholy notion, is secretly nursing ten thousand vipers that must, sooner or later, sting him to the heart. Let it, however, be remembered, that if the suppression of the dictates of revenge be ornamental to the human mind, the never giving cause for vengeance is equally brilliant; and if the person, against whom sufficient has been done to excite a just resentment in his mind, can rise superior to his own wrongs, such a person may be truly called a high-minded man, and a hero in the best sense. The French call a low and mean revenge *la vengeance des femmes*.

VENGER, *Fr.* to revenge; to avenge.

VENT, (*lumière*, *Fr.*) in artillery, or, as it is vulgarly called, the touch-hole, is the opening through which the fire is conveyed to the powder that composes the charge.

As the placing the vents in mortars, howitzers, and guns, in the best manner, is so very delicate a point, and about which both authors and practitioners differ, we will advance what the result of experiments has demonstrated. The most common method is to place the vent about a quarter of an inch from the bottom of the chamber or bore; though we have seen many half an inch, and some an inch from the bottom. It has always been imagined, that if the vent was to come out in the middle of the charge, the powder would be inflamed in less time than in any other case, and consequently produce the greatest range; because, if a tube be filled with powder, and lighted in the center, the powder will be burnt in half the time it would otherwise be, were it lighted at one end. This gave a grounded supposition, that the greater the quantity of powder which burnt before the shot or shell was sensibly moved from its place, the greater force it would receive. To determine this,

the King of Prussia, in 1765, ordered that a light three-pounder should be cast, with three shifting vents, one at the center of the charge, one at the bottom, and the other at an equal distance from the bottom and center one; so that when one was used, the others were effectually stopped. The gun weighed 2 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. its length was 3 feet 3 inches, and the bottom of the bore quite flat. It was loaded each time with one-fourth of the shot's weight; and it was found, that when the lowest or bottom vent was used, the shot went farthest, and the ranges of the others diminished in proportion as they were distant from the bottom. The piece was elevated to 1 degree 30 minutes.

In 1766, the same monarch caused several experiments to be tried with three small mortars of equal size and dimensions, but of different forms in their chambers; each of which held seven ounces and a half of powder. From these experiments it appeared, that the concave chamber produced the greatest ranges, and that the bottom of the chamber is the best place for vents, having in that place the greatest effect.

VENT-field is the part of a gun or howitzer between the breech mouldings and the astragal.

VENT-astragal, that part of a gun or howitzer which determines the vent-field.

VENT, *Fr.* that vacancy which is occasioned by the difference between the calibre of a piece of ordnance, and the diameter of its ball. See WINDAGE.

VENT, *Fr.* wind. The French use this word in various senses.

VENT *d'un boulet de canon*, *Fr.* the wind of a cannon-ball.

*Coup de VENT*, *Fr.* heavy weather; a squall.

VENT *régulé*, *Fr.* a regular wind; such as the trade-wind; the monsoon.

*Avoir du VENT*, *Fr.* in farriery, to be purisy.

VENTS-*alizes*, *Fr.* trade winds.

VENTAIL, *Fr.* the fold of a door or of a shutter; it is also called *battant*.

VENTAILLE, *Fr.* the breathing part of a helmet, the sight of the beaver; also the folding parts of a flood-gate.

VENTAILS *ou* VENTEAX, *Fr.* the two posts which constitute the flood-gates in a sluice, when they open and close like folding doors.

VENTIDUCTS, in building, are spiracles or subterraneous places, whence fresh, cool winds are made to communi-

cate, by means of ducts, funnels, or vaults, with the chambers, or other apartments of a house, to cool them in sultry weather.

VENTOUSES, *Fr.* air-holes, ventilators.

VENTRE, *Fr.* belly; womb. When a piece of ordnance is off its carriage, and lies on the ground, it is said, among the French, to be upon its belly—*être sur le ventre*.

*Se coucher VENTRE à terre*, *Fr.* to lie down flat on your face. *Le capitaine ordonna à ses soldats de se coucher ventre à terre*, the captain ordered his men to lie down. This frequently occurs in action, when any part of the line or detached body is so posted as to be within reach of the enemy's cannon, and not sufficiently near to make use of its own musketry. A cool determined officer never lies down himself.

*Demander pardon VENTRE à terre*, *Fr.* to ask pardon in a most abject position.

VENTRIÈRE, *Fr.* a belly-band for a draught horse.

VENTRIÈRE, *Fr.* in hydraulics, a large piece of even timber which is fixed before a range of boards in order to make some mason-work more secure, either against the current of a river, or the pressure of earth.

VENTRIÈRES, *Fr.* also pieces of timber which are laid horizontally under the railing of wooden quays. They are likewise used in the roofs of ordinary buildings.

VENTS *ou* RUMBS DE VENT, *Fr.* Belidor has the following article on this term.

“For the convenience and ease of navigation, mariners have divided the horizon into thirty-two equal parts, which the French call *Rumbs de Vent*, or *Airs de Vent*, so marked upon the compass. Among these thirty-two winds, there are four principal ones which correspond with the four cardinal points of the globe, and which are known by the following names. *Nord* means *Septentrion* or the North, and is always distinguished by a *flower de lys* upon the compass; *Sud* is *Midi* or South; *Est*, *Levant*, or *Orient*, the East; *Ouest*, *Couchant* or *l'Occident*, the West: also *Ponant* in the Mediterranean. These four winds are called by the French *vents primitifs*, primitive winds, and are each distant from one another 90 degrees. By dividing each quarter of a circle into two equal parts, we shall have the *collateral winds*,

whose names grow out of the two primitive winds between which they are placed. For instance, the wind that is between the North and the West, is called *Nord-Ouest*, North-West; that which is between the South and the West, is called *Sud-Ouest*, South-West; that which is between the North and the East, North-East; that between the South and the East, South-East. These four collateral winds, and the four primitive ones, which are 45 degrees distant from one another, are called *rumbs entiers*.” For the subdivisions of the winds, see a French work entitled *Dictionnaire Universel de Mathématique et de Physique*.

VERACITY, (*véracité*, *Fr.*) an inviolable attachment to truth; one of the attributes of the Divinity, and the most sublime virtue in the human mind.

VERANDA, *Ind.* the covering of houses, being extended beyond the main pile of building, by means of a slanting roof, forming external rooms or passages. It is sometimes spelt *Varhanda*.

VERBAL orders, instructions given by word of mouth, which, when communicated through an official channel, are to be considered as equally binding with written ones.

VERBAL, *Fr.* verbal; given by word of mouth.

*Procès-VERBAL*, *Fr.* a verbal deposition, or a written report which is made officially of what has been seen, said, and done, between persons concerned. When applied to things, *procès-verbal* corresponds with our word *survey*.

VERBIAGE, *Fr.* mere words; superfluous talk; nonsense.

VERBIAGER, *Fr.* to talk much about nothing.

VERBOQUET, *Fr.* a small rope, or cord, which is tied to a cable, at the end of which hangs a piece of wood or large stone, that is to be raised to any given height in a building. The *verboquet* is used for the purpose of preventing the cable and its weight from touching any part of the building while it is drawing up.

VERD, *Fr.* green. This word is sometimes used in a figurative sense by the French, viz.

*Homme VERD* or *VERT*, *Fr.* a resolute man.

*Tête VERTE*, *Fr.* a giddy, thoughtless fellow.

*VERD pour les chevaux*, *Fr.* green forage or grass.

VERDICT, (*jugement, rapport*, *Fr.*)

the determination of the jury declared to the judge; decision, determination, opinion.

**VERDIGREASE**, (*verd-de-gris*, Fr.) a kind of rust of copper, which is of great use among painters. It is also taken medicinally.

**Green VERDITER**, a sandy colour, which does not bear a good body, and is seldom used but in landscapes, where variety is required. It should be washed before it is used.

**Blue VERDITER** is somewhat sandy, not of a very good colour, nor of a good body of itself, being apt to turn greenish; but being mixed with yellow, it makes a good green. It should be washed before it is used.

**VERGE**, Fr. a yard; a measure; a switch, &c. See **ROD**.

**VERGE Rhinlandique**, Fr. a measure which is equal to two French toises, or to 12 French feet. It is often used by Dutch engineers, in the measuring of works in a fortification.

**VERGE de fer**, Fr. See **ROD of iron**.

**VERGE d'or**, Fr. the same as *arbalète*, *arbalestrille*, or Jacob's staff; in astronomy, a beam of light.

**VERGES**, Fr. rods.

**Passer par les VERGES**, Fr. to run the gauntlet; a punishment which was formerly practised among the French. See **PUNITIONS corporelles**.

**VERGES**, Fr. twigs or branches, measuring from ten to twelve feet in length, which are used in making fascines.

**VERGUE**, Fr. a ship's yard.

**La VÉRITÉ**, Fr. truth. A French lexicographer has entered very diffusely into the explanation of this term: we shall satisfy ourselves by extracting the most remarkable passage in it; this relates to the general character of his countrymen. He says, "The French, considered collectively, are mostly of an open and ingenuous character; but it must be allowed, at the same time, that the generality of the nation are light and thoughtless, and extremely indifferent about what they may assert as truth, and indeed about their actions." See **TRUTH**.

**En VÉRITÉ**, Fr. in truth; without disguise, or *prévarication*.

**A la VÉRITÉ**, Fr. a term used among the French to acknowledge a thing forthwith, viz. *L'ennemi avoit, à la vérité, que deux mille hommes*; the enemy, to speak the truth, had only two thousand men.

**VERMICULÉ**, Fr. in ornamental architecture, a term used to express the representation of worms in the act of crawling, &c. as may be seen in rustic work. Hence our term *vermiculated*.

**VERMILION** is the most delicate of all light reds, being of itself a perfect scarlet colour: it is made artificially out of quicksilver and brimstone.

**VERNACULARNESS**, peculiarness to one's own country; whence *vernacular tongue*, or the language of one's mother country.

**VERNIS**, Fr. varnish.

**VEROLE**, Fr. great pox, which see.

**VERRE pour prendre hauteur**, Fr. a thick coloured glass, through which an observation is taken of the sun.

**VERRE pilé**, Fr. broken pieces of glass, which are sometimes used in artificial fire-works.

**VERRIN**, Fr. a machine which is used to raise large weights; such as cannon, &c.

**VERRIN**, Fr. a machine, consisting of two screws and two pieces of timber laid horizontally, which serves to raise or lower the flood-gates in sluices, water-mills, or to drain inundations; also to draw large piles out of the ground, &c. Likewise a kind of jack-screw used occasionally to launch a ship from the stocks.

**VERROU**, Fr. a bolt.

**VERS**, Fr. towards. Hence, *marcher vers la côte*, to march towards the coast; *diriger les opérations vers la côte*, to direct a plan of operations towards the coast.

**VERSER**, Fr. to spill; to shed; to pour in. *Verser du sang*, to spill blood; *fusées versées à l'arsenal*, firelocks delivered up, or thrown into the arsenal; *verser des fonds*, to lodge money.

**VERTEVELES**, Fr. staples of a bolt.

**VERTEX**, the top of any thing; as the vertex of a cone, pyramid, conic section, &c.

**VERTICAL**, (*vertical*, Fr.) perpendicular.

**VERTICAL point**, (*point vertical*, Fr.) a term used in astronomy, to express an imaginary point in the heavens, which is supposed to fall perpendicularly upon our heads.

**VERTUGADIN**, Fr. in gardening, a glacis or rising ground that is made in the form of an amphitheatre, whose circular lines are not parallel to each other.

**Vertugade**, whence *vertugadin*, signifies a fardingale, a sort of hoop-petticoat.

VERUTUM, a weapon or dart, which was used among the ancients, short and narrow, headed with iron, like a narrow spit; some call it a casting dart with a string.

VERVENA, (*verveine*, Fr.) vervein, an herb that was reckoned sacred among the Romans, with which the *Pater Patratus*, or the king of heralds, was crowned, when he quitted the council of heralds, for the purpose of declaring war, or proclaiming peace.

VERVINA, among the Romans, a long javelin; also a spit or broach.

VESSIGNON, a wind-gall, or soft swelling on the inside and outside of a horse's hoof; that is, both on the right and left of it.

VESSION, a sort of wind-gall, or swelling, about the bigness of half an apple, consisting of soft spongy filth growing between the flesh and the skin, in the hollow next the hock of a horse, and beneath the big sinew, a little above the capelet and bending of the ham.

VESTIBLE, (*vestibule*, Fr.) in architecture, a kind of entrance into large buildings; being an open place before the hall, or at the bottom of the staircase.

VESTIBULE, (*vestibule*, Fr.) in fortification, is that space or covered ground which is in front of guard-houses, and is generally supported by pillars. Of this description is the front part of the new guard-house near Buckingham Gate. In a more general sense, any large open space before the door or entrance of a house. In the West-Indies the vestibule is called a balcony.

VETERAN, (*vétéran*, Fr.) an old soldier. This word comes from the Latin *veteranus*, a soldier in the Roman militia, who was grown old in the service, or who had made a certain number of campaigns, and on that account was entitled to certain benefits and privileges.

Twenty years service were sufficient to entitle a man to the benefit of a veteran. These privileges consisted in being absolved from the military oath, in being excused all the duties and functions of a soldier, and in being allowed a certain salary or appointment.

A French soldier is entitled to the honourable name of veteran, after he has served twenty-four years, without any break in his service.

VETERAN, as an adjective, is affixed to any person or thing that has been tried; as a *veteran* soldier, *veteran* skill.

VETERAN *Battalions*, regiments composed of men of a certain age.—They were formed during the late war.

VÉTÉRANCE, Fr. the state, condition of an old soldier.

*Lettre de VÉTÉRANCE*, Fr. the document or letter which enables an old soldier to claim the rights and privileges of an old soldier.

VETERANI. Among the Romans all soldiers were so called who, after having served twenty-five years, obtained their discharge. If they chose to continue in the service, they were exempted from all sentry and fatigue duties; and they only joined their different legions when the army took the field. The period for being put upon this list was shortened by the Emperor Augustus, and was (from having once been 29) reduced to twenty years service in the infantry, and to ten in the cavalry.

VÉTÉRINAIRE, Fr. See VETERINARY.

*Ecole VÉTÉRINAIRE*, Fr. veterinary school.

VETERINARIAN, (*veterinarius*, Lat.) one skilled in the diseases of cattle; a farrier, or horse-leech.

VETERINARY, appertaining to the science of taking care of cattle.

VETERINARY *surgeon*. The surgeon appointed to take care of the horses in a cavalry or dragoon regiment is so called. He is subordinate and accountable to the Veterinary College.

VETILLES, Fr. This word literally signifies trifles. In artificial fire-works, they are small serpentine compositions, confined within a single roll of paper. They have generally three lines in diameter.

VETO, *arc*, Lat. to forbid; to command not to be done; to prevent; to hinder. The Queen of France, Antoinette, who was universally supposed to exercise undue influence over the weak mind of her husband Louis XVI, and was consequently hated by the nation at large, became peculiarly obnoxious on this ground. Pasquinades and placards were stuck upon the walls of the capital, and a popular song, called *Madame Veta*, was sung about the streets. Nor can any sensible man be surprized at this expression of national disgust; especially in a country where a law existed to prevent all sort of female ascendancy in government. The veto constitutes, at present, a material obstacle to the

emancipation of the Irish Roman Catholics.

**VEXTIOUS** and *groundless*. Charges of accusation, and appeals for redress of wrongs, are so called, when the persons who make them cannot substantiate their subject matter. Officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, are liable to be punished, at the discretion of a general court-martial, for vexatious conduct. His Majesty sometimes peremptorily dismisses the former, without permitting them to stand the investigation of a court-martial.

**VEWER, Fr.** See *To TEASE*.

**VEWILLARII**, standard-bearers. Among the Romans, the vexillarii were a certain number of chosen men, who were attached to the standards, and who were the first on the lists of promotion, and military reward. This standard was called *vexillum legionis*. There were five hundred vexillarii, or standard-bearers, belonging to each legion, who enjoyed the same privileges as were given to the veterans; with this exception, that they were obliged to carry the standard on service.

**VEWILLUM**, the standard which was carried by the Roman horse. It corresponds with the standard and guidon of modern times. It also signifies, generally, a banner, ensign, or flag.

**VEWILLUM navale**, a streamer; the top-gallant of a ship. Whence *vexilla submittere*, to strike the colours.

**VEWILLUM** likewise meant the Imperial standard. See *LABARUM*.

**VEWUN**, *Ind.* a month which partly corresponds with November: it follows Katik.

**VEWANDE, Fr.** meat; animal food. In the old régime, every French soldier was allowed half a pound of meat per day.

M. de Louvois, who was in a public situation under the old monarchy of France, sent in a plan, recommending that a quantity of dried meat reduced to powder, should be distributed to troops on service. He took the idea from a custom which is prevalent in the East. He did not, however, live to fulfil his intentions, although he had already constructed copper ovens that were large enough to contain eight bullocks. Very excellent broth can be made of this powder; one ounce of which, boiled in water, will supply a sufficient quantity for four men; and one pound of fresh

meat gives one ounce of powder; so that, according to the inventor's assertion, there is a saving of one pound. The portable soup-balls and dried meats which are sold in this country are of the same nature.

**VIBRATION.** See *PENDULUM*.

**VICE**, among smiths, &c. is a machine or instrument serving to hold fast the piece to be filed, bent, riveted, &c.

**VICE**, with glaziers, a machine for turning or drawing lead into flat rods, with grooves on each side, to receive the edges of the glass.

**VICE-ADMIRAL**, (*vice-amiral, Fr.*) a naval officer of the second rank, who takes rank with generals of horse. Louis XIV. who endeavoured to establish a French navy in 1669, created two vice-admirals of the fleet, whom he called vice admiral of the East, and vice-admiral of the West.

**VICE-ROY**, one acting with delegated powers from the chief or heads of a government; as the vice-roy of Ireland; the vice-roy of Mexico, &c.

**VICTOR**, a conqueror; generally applied to the chief officer of a successful army.

**VICTORY**, (*victoire, Fr.*) the overthrow, or defeat of an enemy in war, combat, duel, or the like.

**VICTUAILLES, Fr.** The provisions which are embarked on board ships of war, are so called by the French.

**VICTUALLER**, (*victuaillieur, Fr.*)

**VICTUALLERS**, § See *SUTLERS*.

**VICTUALS**, food or sustenance allowed to the troops, under certain regulations, whether on shore or embarked in transports.

**VIDAM**, (*vidame, Fr.*) the judge of a bishop's temporal jurisdiction. He formerly held lands under the bishop, on condition, that he should always be ready to defend the temporal rights of the church, and to place himself at the head of the ecclesiastical troops.

**VIDIMER, Fr.** to certify that an act is conformable to its original.

*Crier la VIE, Fr.* to ask quarter of an enemy, who has one's life in his power.

*Donner la VIE, Fr.* to give quarter.

**VIE, Fr.** is also used in a variety of significations, as *donner, hasarder, exposer sa vie*, to give, to hazard, to expose one's life; *ôter, arracher, ravir la vie*, to take away, to wrest, to snatch away life; *entreprendre sur la vie de*

*quelqu'un*, to have some design against the life of another; *sous peine de la vie*, under pain of death, or at the forfeit of one's life; *soutenir au péril de sa vie*, to sustain any thing at the risk of one's life.

A *VIE*, *Fr.* for life.

*Eau de VIE*, *Fr.* brandy.

*VIÉDASE*, *Fr.* a puppy; a coxcomb.

*Les VIES de mulets*, *Fr.* literally, mules' pintles. See *SWIVEL*.

*VIEUX corps*, *Fr.* a term used among the French before the Revolution, to distinguish certain old regiments. There were six of this description, viz. Picardy, Piedmont, Navarre, Champagne, Normandy, and the Marine corps. The three first were formed in 1562, and that of Champagne in 1575. They were then called *les vieilles bandes*, the ancient or old bands; and before that period, each was known by the name of its colonel.

*Les petits VIEUX corps*, *Fr.* La Tour du Pin, Bourbonnois, Auvergne, Bel-sunce, Meilly, and the Régiment du Roi, or the King's own, were so called, during the old French monarchy. All the other regiments ranked according to the several dates of their creation, and the officers took precedence in consequence of it.

*VIEW of a place*. The view of a place is said to be taken when the general, accompanied by an engineer, reconnoitres it, that is, rides round the place, observing its situation, with the nature of the country about it; as hills, valleys, rivers, marshes, woods, hedges, &c. thence to judge of the most convenient place for opening the trenches, and carrying on the approaches; to find out proper places for encamping the army, and for the park of artillery.

To *VIEW*. See *To RECONNOITRE*.

*VIF*, *Fr.* This word is frequently used among the French to signify the core, or inside of any thing—viz.

*VIF d'un arbre*, *Fr.* the inside of a tree.

*VIF d'une pierre*, *Fr.* the inside of a stone.

*Vif de l'eau*, *Fr.* high water.

*VIF*, *Fr.* alive, busy; applied to the artificers in a wharf, dock or ship, who are all at work on the shipping.

*Etre en VIGIE*, *Fr.* to watch at the top of the mainmast.

*VIGIER*, *Fr.* to keep watch; to convoy.

*VIGIER une flotte de vaisseaux marchands*, *Fr.* to convoy a fleet of merchantmen.

*VIGIES*, *Fr.* a term given to certain rocks under water near the Açores. *Vigie* likewise signifies a watch, or sentinel, on board ship; but it is chiefly used among the Spaniards in South America.

*VIGILANCE*, (*vigilance*, *Fr.*) watchfulness; circumspection; incessant care. This quality is essentially necessary in a general; nor will it be found in his character, unless he has sedulously cherished it through all the intermediate stations of his profession.

*Vigilance*, or *vigilancy*, must not be confounded with precipitancy of conduct; for the latter does not comprehend either the care or the reflection and regularity which must all be united in the former.

It is well said, page 199, vol. ii. *Guide de l'Officier particulier en Campagne* par M. Cessac Lacuée. "Pendant les marches de nuit, on doit redoubler de soins et d'attentions; alors, comme le dit Xénophon, *les yeux doivent être remplacés par les oreilles*."

*VIGILANT*, (*vigilant*, *Fr.*) watchful; attentive.

*VIGILES*, guards or outposts, round a camp, &c. and sentinels, were so called among the Romans. Their duty was, in some degree, similar to that which is practised in these days; with this difference, that the *Vigiles*, among the ancients, were not armed, in order to prevent them from sleeping, either by leaning against their pikes, or by lying upon their shields. The man or sentry held a sort of dark lantern, which was so constructed, that the light reflected to himself and his three comrades only. The Roman sentinel challenged in the following manner:—*State, viri; quæ causa viæ? Quis estis in armis?* Stop, men; what is the cause of your journey, or on what business are you? or wherefore are you in arms? He then demanded the *tessera*, or watchword, from the patrolle.

*VIGNETTE*, *Fr.* a flourish; head-piece; generally ornamental.

*VIGOROUS*, (*vigoureux*, *Fr.*) strong, brisk, active, resolute; as, a vigorous attack.

*VIGOTE*, *Fr.* a model by which the calibres of pieces of ordnance are ascertained, in order to pick out appropriate bullets. This model consists of a

thick piece of wood, in which there are holes of different sizes, according to the several calibres of cannon.

VILBREQUIN, *Fr.* a wimble.

VILLAGE, (*village*, *Fr.*) Gen. Lloyd in his history of the Seven Years War, viz. 1756,—has laid down the following maxim:

When a village is intended to be supported, the retrenchment must be separated from the houses by an interval, sufficient for the troops to form in, between the houses and the retrenchments; and the village must be cleared behind, that you may march two or more battalions in front, otherwise you cannot defend it; the instant it is put on fire, you must abandon it in such confusion as sometimes communicates to the whole line.

VILLAIN, (*vilain*, *Fr.*) formerly a man of low and servile condition, who had a small portion of cottages and land allotted him, for which he was dependant on his lord, and bound to certain work and corporal service. In the ancient days of France, it was customary to degrade officers and men of rank, by reducing them to the condition and servitude of a villain. In these times, villain generally signifies an arrant rogue, or pitiful sordid fellow.

VILLE, *Fr.* See TOWN.

VILLE *moyenne*, *Fr.* See *Moyenne*.

VILLE *ouverte*, *Fr.* See *Ouverte*.

VILLES *libres*, *Fr.* free towns. See HANS-TOWNS.

VIN, *Fr.* wine. The genuine juice of the grape, which is so plentiful and so cheap in France, that a common soldier has a larger quantity to his share than a British soldier can get of small beer here.

VINCIBLE, conquerable; in a state to be defeated.

VINDAS, *Fr.* See WINDLASS.

VINEÆ. See VALLUM.

VINEGAR, (*vinaigre*, *Fr.*) Vinegar is frequently used in the artillery to cool pieces of ordnance. Two pints of vinegar to four of water is the usual mixture for this purpose.

VINGTIÈME. See POUNDAGE.

VINTAINE, *Fr.* a small rope which masons use to prevent stones from hitting against a wall when they draw them up.

VINTENARY, or *Vintenarius*, a military officer in the reign of Edward III. belonging to the army sent to Ire-

land. He had 20 archers under him at four pence per diem.

VINGTNER, a term used in the old English army to designate a particular class of officers who had the command of twenty men. The companies or hundreds were commanded by centenaries; but the title of the officer commanding thousands is not mentioned.

VIOL, *Fr.* a rape, or the act of forcing a female, by main force, to give up her person. It sometimes happens, that through the obstinacy of the governor of a besieged place, the inhabitants are exposed to the dreadful calamity of seeing themselves and their property given up to the plunder of an enraged soldiery. When this is the case, the conquering general does himself infinite honour, by strictly forbidding every soldier, under pain of death, to commit the least violence on the persons of the inhabitants, but most especially on those of defenceless women, or to set fire to their houses.

The punishment in the French army for a rape on a girl under fourteen years of age, is two years in irons; if followed by death,—death.

VIOLENCE, (*violence*, *Fr.*) an irrational indulgence of an ungovernable temper, which is frequently mistaken for real spirit; and almost always defeats itself.

VIOLENT man, (*homme violent*, *Fr.*) a person who yields to the first impulse of passion, and never listens to the sober dictates of good sense.

VIRAGO, a female warrior.

VIRE, *Fr.* a quarrel, an arrow used for a cross-bow.

VIRER, *Fr.* to change, to turn round. The word is used figuratively by the French, viz. *tourner et virer*, to beat about the bush; as, *tourner et virer quelqu'un*, in an active sense, to pump another, or to draw out his secret.

VIRETONS, *Fr.* arrows.

VIREVAU, *Fr.* the same as *vindas*, a sort of moveable capstan; a draw-beam; a windlass.

VIRE-VOLTE, *Fr.* a quick turning about. It is a term in the manege.

VIROLE, *Fr.* a ferrule; a verrel.

VIRTUE, (*vertu*, *Fr.*) efficacy, power, force, quality, property.

By VIRTUE of, (*en vertu de*, *Fr.*) in consequence of powers vested, or delegated; by authority of.

Political VIRTUE, a steady adherence

to sound principles; an inviolable attachment to truth; unshaken integrity, in matters of state.

*Military VIRTUES*, (*vertues militaires*, Fr.) strict adherence to discipline, great patience and undaunted resolution, under the controul and guidance of unblemished honour and fidelity.

*VIS*, Fr. the vice or spindle of a press; also a winding stair.

*VIS à jour*, Fr. stairs so contrived that, though consisting of many steps, a person may from the highest discern the lowest.

*VIS*, *ou noyau d'escalier*, Fr. in architecture, the center piece of timber of a staircase.

*VIS*, *ou noyau de montée*, Fr. the spindle tree of a staircase.

*Un escalier à VIS*, Fr. a winding staircase.

*VIS à VIS*, Fr. over against; opposite; as *vis-à-vis de l'ennemi*, opposite to, or in front of the enemy.

*VISA*, a word from the Latin, and generally used by the French in their passports and other public documents. It is a form in an instrument which must bear the sign manual of the person through whom it becomes authentic and has effect.

*VISER*, Fr. to aim at any thing.

*VISER à un but*, Fr. to aim at a mark; also to have some object in view.

*VISIBLE*, Fr. visible; at home; ready to see any body: a familiar instruction which masters give to their servants when they mean to receive a person. *Not visible* is the contrary.

*VISIER*, } (*visir*, Fr.) an officer of  
*VIZIER*, } dignity in the Ottoman  
*VIZIR*, } Empire; whereof there are two kinds, the first called by the Turks *Vizir Azem*, or *Grand Vizir*, first created in 1370 by *Amurath the First*, in order to ease himself of the chief and weightier affairs of the government. The *Grand Vizir* possesses great powers, especially with regard to military affairs. The orders he issues are so thoroughly discretionary, that when he quits Constantinople to join the army, he does not even communicate his intentions to the sultan. This system entirely differs from that which is followed by European generals. When the latter take the field, they proceed upon plans that have been previously digested; and although they may occasionally change their dis-

positions, yet they never deviate from the essential and governing principles.

The *Grand Vizir*, on the contrary, not only makes the arrangements according to his own judgment, but he even changes an operation that has been previously ordered by the sultan, if, on his arrival at the spot, he should think it expedient to employ the troops in a different way. This absolute power is not, however, without its risk; for if the *Grand Vizir* should fail in his enterprise, it is more than probable that the sultan will cause him to be beheaded: a punishment which has long been familiar to the Turks, from the arbitrary manner in which it is practised, and the frequency of its occurrence.

When the Turks engage an enemy, the *Grand Vizir* generally remains with the reserve, and seldom mixes with the main body, which is soon converted into a mob of desperate combatants. The war which was carried into Egypt once bade fair to change the whole system of Turkish tactics.

*VISIÈRE*, Fr. the sight which is fixed on the barrel of a musket or fire-lock.

*To VISIT*, (*visiter*, Fr.) to go to any place, as quarters, barracks, hospital, &c. for the purpose of noticing whether the orders or regulations which have been issued respecting it, are observed.

*VISITE des postes*, Fr. the act of visiting posts, &c.

*Faire la VISITE*, Fr. to visit, to inspect.

*VISITEUR*, Fr. the person who visits, or goes the rounds.

*VISITING officer*, he whose duty it is to visit the guards, barracks, messes, hospital, &c. See *Orderly OFFICER*.

*VISOR*, } that part of the helmet  
*VIZARD*, } which covered the face.

*VITAL*, essential; chiefly necessary.

*VITAL air*, or oxygen, the cause of the rapid ignition of gunpowder.

*VITCHOURA*, Fr. a furred coat; a corruption of the German word *Wildschurr*, which signifies the skin of a wild beast.

*VITESSE*, Fr. dispatch; promptitude of action.

*VITIS*, a vine; a centurion's rod; such as was used among the old Romans to chastise soldiers that stepped out of the ranks, or were guilty of small irregularities. Mercenaries, and those men that were not Roman citizens,

were flogged with switches on their naked shoulders.

**VITONIERES**, *Fr.* limber holes.

**VITRAGE**, *Fr.* This term comprehends every thing that relates to the glazing of houses, &c.

**VITRERIE**, *Fr.* a term comprehending every thing that appertains to the use of glass; also the glass trade.

**VIVANDIERS**, *Fr.* victuallers, sutlers, &c.

**VIVAT**, *Fr.* a familiar exclamation, which is used not only by the French, but by the Dutch and Germans. It comes from the Latin and signifies, literally, May he live!

**VIVE le Roi!** *Fr.* God save the king! Long live the king.

**VIVE la République**, *Fr.* Long live the republic.

**Qui Vive?** *Fr.* a military phrase which is used in challenging.—Who comes there? literally, who lives? To be kept upon the *Qui Vive*, to be roused to particular vigilance by some unexpected accident, or occurrence.

**VIVE eau**, *Fr.* high water; the same as *vif de l'eau*, or *marée*.

**VIVO**, in architecture, the shaft or fust of a column; it is also used for the naked of a column.

**VIVOTER**, *Fr.* to live from hand to mouth; as is the case with most military men.

**VIVRE**, *Vivres*, *Fr.* food; provisions; subsistence. In the *Dictionnaire Militaire*, vol. iii. page 525, there is an interesting account of the manner in which troops were subsisted during the first years of the old French monarchy.

**VIVRES, et leur distribution chez les Turcs**, *Fr.* the kind of provisions, &c. and the manner in which they are distributed among the Turks. The food or provisions for the Turkish soldiery form an immediate part of the military baggage.

The government supplies flour, bread, biscuit, rice, bulgur or peeled barley, butter, mutton or beef, and grain for the horses, which is almost wholly barley.

The bread is generally moist, not having been leavened, and is almost always ready to mould. On which account, the Armenians, who are the bakers, bake every day, in ovens that have been constructed under ground for the use of the army. When there is not sufficient time to bake bread, biscuit is distributed among the men.

The ration of bread for each soldier consists of one hundred drams per day, or fifty drams of biscuit, sixty of beef or mutton, twenty-five of butter to bake the peeled barley in, and fifty of rice. The rice is given on Friday every week, on which day they likewise receive a ration of fifty drams of bulgur mixed with butter, as an extraordinary allowance, making a kind of water-gruel.

These provisions are distributed in two different quarters. The meat is given out at the government stall or butchery, where a certain number of Armenians, Greeks, and Jews regularly attend. Each company sends a head cook, who goes with a cart and receives the allowance from a sort of quarter-master serjeant, who is in waiting with a regular return of what is wanted for each oda.

This person is styled among the Turks *Meidan Chiaous*. He stands upon a spot of ground which is more elevated than the rest, and receives the allowance due to his district.

The distribution of bread, &c. is made within the precincts of the Tefterday-Bascy, where the Vekil-Kharet attends as director or superintendent of stores and provisions, and by whose order they are delivered.

When the allowance is brought to the oda or company, the Vekil-Kharet, a sort of quarter-master, sees it regularly measured out, and if any portions be deficient, he takes note of the same, in order to have them replaced for the benefit of the company. The remainder is then given to the head cook, who divides it into two meals, one for eleven o'clock in the morning, and the other for seven in the evening.

These two meals consist of boiled or stewed meat, mixed with rice, and seasoned with pepper and salt; water-gruel being regularly made for each man on Friday.

There are six kitchen-boys or quateri attached to each oda, by which they are paid a certain subsistence. On solemn occasions, and on festival days, the quateri are dressed in long gowns made of skins, with borders to them; they likewise wear a large knife, with an encrusted silver handle, which hangs at their side. They serve up the victuals in two copper vessels, that are laid upon a table covered with a skin, round which seven or eight persons may be seated.

**VIVRES-pain**, Fr. bread provided for the sustenance of a French army by contract or requisition.

**VIVRES-viande**, Fr. meat provided for the sustenance of a French army, by contract or requisition.

**VIVRIERS**, Fr. purveyors and other persons employed by the commissary general, or contractor for stores and provisions.

Mons. Dupré D'Aulnay, in a work entitled *Traité des Subsistances Militaires*, has suggested the establishment of a regular corps of *Vivriers*, or persons whose sole duty should be to attend to the subsistence of an army in the field, as well as in garrison. His reasoning upon this subject is very acute, full of good sense, and seems calculated to produce that system of economy and wholesome distribution, that, to this day, are so manifestly wanted in all military arrangements.

**VIZ**, *Ind.* a small coin; it is also a weight equal to about three pounds; but differs much in value according to place.

**VIZARUT**, *Ind.* the office of vizier.

**VIZIER**, *Ind.* prime minister.

**UKASE**, a Russian word signifying manifesto, proclamation, &c.

**ULANS**, Fr. This word is sometimes written Hulans, and more frequently Uhlans. A certain description of militia among the modern Tartars was so called. They formerly did duty in Poland and Lithuania, and served as light cavalry.

It is not exactly known at what epoch the Tartars first came into Poland and Lithuania. Dlugossus, in his *History of Poland*, book XI, page 243, relates that there were troops or companies of Tartars attached to the army which was under the command of Alexander Witholde, Grand Duke of Lithuania. Heidenstein, in his account of Poland, *Rer. Polonic.* p. 152, makes mention of a corps of Tartars belonging to the army which Stephen Bathori, King of Poland, carried into the field when he fought the Russians. This corps, according to the same author, was headed by one Ulan, who said he was descended from the princes of Tartary.

Although the origin of the word Ulan, as far as it regards the modern militia so called, does not appear to be indisputably ascertained, it is nevertheless

well proved, that besides the Tartar chief under Stephen Bathori, the person who in the reign of Augustus II, formed the first pulk, or regiment, of that description, was not only called Ulan himself, but likewise gave the name to the whole body under his command. This chief is mentioned in the records of the military institution of Poland in 1717. He was then colonel or commandant of the first pulk, or King's regiment, and there were three captains under him of the same name, viz. Joseph Ulan, David Ulan, and Cimbej Ulan. In 1744, one of these was captain of a company of Ulans in Bohemia, and was afterwards colonel of a corps of the same description in Poland. He is likewise said to have been descended from the Tartar princes. It is, however, left undecided, whether Ulan be the name of a particular family, or a term given to distinguish some post of honour; or again, whether it barely signify a certain class of turbulent haughty soldiers, such as the Strelez of Russia, or the Janizaries of Constantinople.

If there be any thing which can make us question the authenticity or probability of this account, it is the passage we find in the book already quoted; viz. Dlugossus, where he says, liv. XIII. page 423, that in 1467 an ambassador from Tartary had arrived at Petrigkow to announce to King Cassimir, that, after the death of Ecziger, his son Nordowlad had ascended the throne of Tartary, with the unanimous consent and concurrence of all the princes and Ulans.

Quitting the etymology of the word, and leaving the original name to the determination of wise and scientific men, we shall confine our present researches to the modern establishment of the Ulans: which, by the best accounts, we find to have happened in 1717.

It is acknowledged by all writers, that the Ulans are a militia, and not a separate nation or class of people; their origin, in this particular, resembles that of the Cossacks. When Augustus II, in 1717, altered the military establishments of Poland, he formed two regiments of Ulans; one consisting of six hundred men, which had already existed, and was called the King's Pulk, and the other of four hundred, which was given to the great general of the republic.

Augustus III. on his accession to the

throne, took both these regiments into his own immediate pay, and afterwards augmented the establishment by raising several other pulks or corps of this description. The Ulans are mounted on Polish or Tartar horses, and do the same duty that is allotted to hussars; with this essential difference, that they are better armed and accoutred, and that their horses excel those of the hussars in strength and swiftness, although they are mostly of the same size. The Ulans have frequently distinguished themselves on service, particularly in Bohemia.

Their principal weapon is a lance five feet long, at the end of which hangs a silk streamer, that serves to frighten the horse of the Ulan's opponent, by its fluttering and noise. The lance is suspended on his right side, by means of a belt which is worn across the Ulan's shoulders, or by a small leathern thong which goes round his right arm, the end of the lance resting in a sort of stay that is attached to the stirrup. Before the Ulan takes his aim, he plants his lance upon his foot, and throws it with so much dexterity, that he seldom misses his object.

The dress of the Ulan consists of a short jacket, trowsers or breeches, made like those of the Turks, which reach to the ankle bone, and button above the hips. He wears a belt across his waist. The upper garment is a sort of Turkish robe with small facings, which reaches to the calf of the leg; his head is covered with a Polish cap. The colour of the streamer which is fixed to the end of the lance, as well as of that of the facings, varies according to the different pulks or regiments which it is meant to distinguish. The Ulan is likewise armed with a sabre, and a brace of pistols which hang from his waistbelt.

As the Ulans consider themselves in the light of free and independent gentlemen, every individual amongst them has one servant, if not two, called *pocztoy* or *pacholcks*, whose sole business is to attend to their baggage and horses. When the Ulans take the field, these servants or batmen form a second or detached line, and fight separately from their masters. They are armed with a carbine, which weapon is looked upon with contempt by their masters, and they clothe themselves in the best manner they can.

The Ulans generally engage the enemy in small platoons or squads, after the manner of hussars; occasionally breaking in the most desultory manner. They rally with the greatest skill, and frequently affect to run away, for the purpose of inducing their opponents to pursue them loosely; a circumstance which seldom fails to be fatal to the latter, as the instant the pursuers have quitted their main body, the Ulan wheels to the right about, gets the start of him through the activity of his horse, and obtains that advantage, hand to hand, which the other possessed whilst he acted in close order.

The instant the Ulans charge an enemy, their servants or batmen form and stand in squadrons or platoons, in order to afford them, under circumstances of repulse, a temporary shelter behind, and to check the enemy. The batmen belonging to the Ulans are extremely clever in laying ambushes.

The pay of the Ulans in time of peace is very moderate. Poland, before its infamous dismemberment and partition by Russia, Prussia, and Austria, kept a regular establishment of four squadrons and ten companies on foot. These troops were annually supplied with a thousand rations of bread and forage, which quantity was paid them at the rate of 272 florins, Polish money, per ration. The Grand Duchy of Lithuania subsisted, in the same manner, fifteen other companies of Ulans. The other pulks were paid by the king. The annual pay of the captains was five rations, and that of the subalterns two; that is 1360 florins to the former, and 544 florins to the latter.

In 1743 Marshal Saxe, with the approbation and concurrence of the French court, raised a regiment of Ulans, which was attached to the military establishment of that country. This corps consisted of one thousand men, divided into six brigades, each brigade composed of one hundred and sixty men, eighty of whom were Ulans, and eighty dragoons. So that the regiment consisted of five hundred Ulans, properly so called, armed and accoutred like those in Poland, and the other five hundred were dragoons, without being considered as the servants or batmen of the Ulans; in which instance, they differed from the pacholeks of the Polish Ulans. These dragoons

were paid by the king; whereas in Poland each Ulan paid his own servant or batman, who looked to him only for clothing, arms, and subsistence. On the death of Marshal Saxe, the Ulans in France were reduced; and the dragoons only kept upon the establishment. They were considered as a regiment; being in the first instance given to Count de Frise, who was a major-general in the service, and became their colonel. They remained on that footing until the Revolution.

The uniform of the French Ulans consisted of a green coat or cloak, with green breeches, Hungarian half-boots, pinchbeck helmet, with a turban twisted round it of Russian leather; the tail, or mane, of the helmet consisted of horse hair, which was coloured according to the facings of the brigade; their arms were a lance nine feet long, with a floating streamer at the top, a sabre, and a pistol in the waist-belt.

The dragoons were clothed like other regular troops. Their coat was green, with cream-coloured facings and scarlet linings; plain brass buttons, an aiguillette or tagged point, made of red worsted; a fawn-coloured waistcoat, edged round with scarlet; leather breeches; half-boots that were laced up to the calf of the leg; pinchbeck helmet, with a seal-skin turban round it, and two rosettes made of pinchbeck; the top was adorned with horse-hair, which hung behind. Their arms consisted of a fusil with a bayonet, which was always fixed; two pistols and a sabre; the horse was covered with a wolf's skin. The Ulans rode horses which were somewhat lower than those of the dragoons, and were more active. The dress of the German Ulan is somewhat similar to that of the French.

At the commencement of the French revolution, particularly in 1792 and 1793, the Ulans belonging to the Imperial army that endeavoured to penetrate into France, were the terror of the inhabitants all along the frontiers. The excesses which they committed, and the desolation they occasioned, rendered their very name a signal of alarm. They seldom gave quarter, and they never received it.

**ULTIMATUM**, a term used in negotiations to signify the last condition or conditions upon which propositions that

have been mutually exchanged, can be finally ratified.

**ULTRAMARINE**, (*d'outré mer*, Fr.) from beyond the sea; foreign.

**ULTRAMARINE**, (*outré mer*, Fr.) a very delicate sky-blue powder used in the drawing of plans, &c.

**ULTRAMONTANE**, derived from the Latin, *ultra*, beyond, and *mons*, mountain. This term is principally used in relation to Italy and France, which are separated by the Alps. According to Bailey, *ultramontanus* is a name given by the Italians to all people who live beyond the Alps.

**UMBO**, the pointed boss, or prominent part in the center of a shield or buckler; literally, the navel.

**UMBRO**, a colour which resembles that of new oaken wainscot; it dries quickly and with a good gloss.

**UMBRIERE**, the visor of a helmet.

**UMPIRE**, (*arbitre*, Fr.) an arbitrator, or a power which interferes for the adjustment of a dispute or contest.

**UNANELED**, a term in Shakspeare, signifying without the bell rung, from *un*, negative, and *knell* the tolling of a bell. Dr. Johnson doubts the propriety of this interpretation. As the term, however, was used with respect to the mangled remains of our brave countrymen who fell in the battle of Talavera de la Reyna in Spain, and who were left to the mercy of the elements, we cannot omit the word; and in so doing, we are solicitous to pay that just tribute, which the heroic conduct of British soldiers deserves from every well thinking Englishman. Their bodies may lie unaneled on foreign ground, but their praises will be rung as long as the memory of that hard fought day shall last.

**UNARMED**, the state of being without armour or weapons.

**To UNCASE**, in a military sense, to display, to exhibit; as, to uncase the colours. It is opposed to the word *To Case*, which signifies to put up, to enclose.

**To UNCOCK**, to put the trigger of a musket completely at rest.

**To UNCOVER**. When troops deploy, the different leading companies or divisions, &c. successively uncover those in their rear, by marching out from the right or left of the column.

**UNCONDITIONAL**, at discretion; not limited by any terms or stipulations.

**UNCONQUERED**, not subdued or defeated; in opposition to conquered or defeated. Thus Wales considers itself unconquered, though subject to England, because it never yielded to invasion.

**UNDAUNTED**, not appalled by fear; valiant.

**UNDECAGON**, a regular polygon of eleven sides or angles.

**UNDECIDED**, not determined. See **PROMPTITUDE**.

**UNDER**, in a state of subjection to; also in the days of, or during the reign of, as under Alexander the Great; under George the Third.

**UNDER-arms**, (*sous armes*, Fr.) in a state of military array; having the necessary weapons of offence and defence, as musket, sword, &c.

**UNDER-sentence**, liable to be punished according to a sentence passed; as, under the sentence of a general court-martial; under sentence of death.

**UNDER-acceptances**, in a state of being liable to, or limited by; as, every accountant is who accepts a bill.

**UNDER command**, (*sous ordre*, Fr.) in subjection to; liable to be ordered to do any particular duty.

*To be cool UNDER fire*, (*être de sang-froid sous le feu de l'ennemi*, Fr.) not to be disconcerted by the noise, or smoke, or other casualties of a battle; the groans of the dying, or the ghastly appearance of the dead.

**UNDER cover**, (*à couvert, à l'abri*, Fr.) shielded, protected, &c. See **COVER**.

**UNDER-officer**, an inferior officer; one in a subordinate situation.

**UNDER contribution**, liable to give, in money or in kind, what may be authoritatively called for. Countries are sometimes put under contribution, for the support of an army. See **REQUISITION**.

This term is also figuratively applied, when an individual is weak enough to permit himself to be alarmed at the abuse of a hacknied and unprincipled writer; especially, if he should ever have committed himself to him by an ill-placed confidence.

**UNDER-Secretary of State**, a principal clerk in the home or foreign department, who acts under the orders and instructions of the chief secretary.—The Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department has now the superintendence and direction of all aliens; the office in Crown Street, Westminster, having been abolished.

*To bring UNDER*, to submit to the perusal and consideration of another; as to bring the memorial of an officer *under* the Commander in Chief's eye.

**UNDERHAND**, (*sous main*, Fr.) clandestinely; with fraudulent secrecy. A term not known in military phraseology; or if known, that ought to be expunged, by the expulsion of every secret pander, and underhand dealer.

*To UNDERMINE*, to dig cavities under any thing, so that it may fall, or be blown up; to excavate.

*To UNDERMINE*, in a figurative sense, to injure by clandestine means.

**UNDERMINER**, a sapper, one who digs a mine.

**UNDERMINING**, in a figurative sense, adopting secret measures for the purpose of attaining any particular end.

**UNDERPENASING**, in building, signifies the bringing it up with stone under the ground cells. Sometimes it is used to signify the work itself when finished.

**UNDERSTANDING**, skill; knowledge; exact comprehension; also intelligence; privity; concurrence.

**UNDISCIPLINED**, not yet trained to regularity or order: not perfect in exercise or manœuvres.

*To UNFIX*, in a military sense, to take off, as *Unfix bayonet!* on which the soldier disengages the bayonet from his piece, and returns it to the scabbard. The word *Return*, as we have already observed, is sometimes used instead of *unfix*: but it is improperly used, although it more immediately corresponds with the French term *Remettre*.

**UNFORTIFIED**, not strengthened or secured by any walls, bulwarks, or fortifications.

**UNFURLED**. A standard or colour, when expanded and displayed, is said to be unfurled.

**UNGENTLEMANLIKE-conduct**.—Under this term is comprehended every infraction of the laws relative to social intercourse, in which the most trifling deviation from truth, honour, or honesty, must subject an officer to a charge for ungentlemanlike conduct and behaviour.

**UNGENTLEMANLY**, illiberal, not becoming a gentleman.

**UNGULA**, in geometry, is the section of a cylinder, cut off by a plane, passing obliquely through the plane of the base, and part of the cylindrical surface.

UNHARNESSED, disarmed; divested of armour or weapons.

UNHORSED, thrown from the saddle; dismounted.

UNHOSTILE, not inimical, or belonging to an enemy.

UNIFORM, (*uniforme*, Fr.) The coat, waistcoat, breeches, &c. of an officer and soldier, are comprehended under this term.

Scarlet is the national uniform of the British army, blue of the modern French, except of the *Légions* who are dressed in white, white of the Austrian, green of the Russian, &c. But in each of these armies there are particular corps which are clothed in other colours, and whose clothing is made in a shape peculiar to themselves. Though, generally speaking, each has an uniform within itself, yet this uniform, strictly considered, is a regimental. Thus, the regimentals of the Guards cannot be called the regimentals of the 29th, but scarlet is the uniform of both. In the same manner, though sky blue be the regimental colour of dragoon regiments which serve in India, and dark or bottle green be that of rifle corps, yet neither the one nor the other can be called the uniform of the British army. It were to be wished, indeed, that, like the navy, all the land troops could be clothed alike, and in one colour. With respect to the origin of *Military Uniforms*, we may assert, with some degree of confidence, that however ancient the custom of being clothed in some distinguished manner is allowed to be, it is impossible to trace their first adoption beyond the eleventh century.

We should make useless inquiries, were we to direct our attention to those periods in which the Romans fought covered with metal armour, or with leather, which was so dressed and fitted to the body, that the human shape appeared in all its natural formation; nor to those in which the French, almost naked, or at least very lightly clad in thin leather, conquered the ancient Gauls.

Better information will be acquired by referring to the crusades which were made into Palestine and Constantinople by the Europeans. We shall there find, that the western nations, France, England, &c. first adopted the use of rich garments, which they wore over their armours and adorned their dresses with furs from Tartary and Russia.

We may then fix the origin of coloured

dresses to distinguish military corps, &c. in the eleventh century. The Saracens generally wore tunics or close garments over their armour. These garments were made of plain or striped stuffs, and were adopted by the Crusaders under the denomination of coats of arms, *Cottes d'armes*. We refer our readers, for further particulars, to a French work intitled, *Traité des Marques Nationales*, and to page 533, tom. iii. of the *Dictionnaire Militaire*; observing, that the uniforms of the French army were not completely settled until the reign of Louis XIV. and that the whole has undergone considerable alterations since the late revolution. The uniform of the British army is too well known to require any particular detail from us. We must, however, observe, that from the great attention which the Commander in Chief pays to every species of military system and organization, we make no doubt, but the great principles of economy and uniformity in dress, will form no inconsiderable part of the reform and good order which he is gradually effecting.

UNIFORMITY, conformity to one pattern; resemblance of one thing to another. In order to preserve this essential requisite, in the exercise and manœuvres of the British forces, it is expressly ordered by his Majesty, that the general officers appointed to review his troops shall pay particular attention to the performance of every part of the Regulations issued for the Formations, Field Exercise, &c. and report their observations thereupon, for his Majesty's information; so that the exact uniformity required in all movements may be attained and preserved, and his royal intentions thereby carried into full effect. See *General Regulations*.

UNION. The King's or national colours are called the Union.

The UNION, a term used to signify the junction of Scotland with England, under certain stipulations. It also signifies the annexation of Ireland to Great Britain, without almost any stipulations, except for the benefit of the latter.

UNITED, connected; bound together by oath, &c.; hence United Irishmen.

UNIVERSITY, in a general acceptation of the word, any nursery where youth is instructed in languages, arts, and sciences. It likewise means the whole in general, generality. But, in a

more partial sense, it signifies one of the two national institutions which have been established for the encouragement of literature at Oxford and Cambridge.— Among other privileges which belong to these royal foundations, the vice-chancellors have a right to know the authority by which any armed force enters either city; and every commanding officer, the instant he has marched in, should report to the vice-chancellor the nature of his route, &c. In this respect, the vice-chancellors of both Universities are to be looked upon as governors of their respective cities.

To UNLOAD a gun or a musket, (*décharger un canon, un mousquet, Fr.*) to take the powder and ball out of a piece of ordnance, or musket.

UNMILITARY, (*pas militairement, Fr.*) not according to military rules and regulations. Thus, to quote the words of General Dundas, "The marching of great bodies in file, where improper extension is unavoidable, must be looked upon as an *unmilitary* practice: and ought only to be had recourse to when unavoidably necessary."

UNSAFE, not to be trusted; not to be depended upon; liable to betray.

UNSAFE-man, a person from whose indiscretion, or want of principle, every thing may be apprehended, that is contrary to honour and honesty. A creature of this sort is a most dangerous inmate at head-quarters, and ought always to be kept aloof.

To UNSHOT, a gun, (*désarmer un canon, Fr.*) to take the ball out of a piece of ordnance.

UNSKILLED, wanting skill; wanting knowledge; as, unskilled in the stratagems of modern warfare.

UNSOLDIERLIKE conduct. This term is intimately connected with a former article on ungentlemanlike conduct, with some additional circumstances in regard to personal behaviour when on service, that may expose the character of a military man to censure or degradation. Cowardice, like the loss of virtue in a female, is, however, the most to be guarded against. In the Articles of War these terms constitute what is generally called the *Sweeping Clause*, under which officers may be tried, when any difficulty arises with respect to a specific article.

To UNSPRING, a word of command used in the exercise of cavalry.

UNSPRING your carbine; quit the reins

of your bridle, and take hold of the swivel with the left hand, placing the thumb on the spring, and opening it; at the same time take it out of the ring.

UNSTEADY, mutable; restless; as, unsteady under arms.

UNTENABLE, not to be held in possession; incapable of being defended.

UNTRAINED, not disciplined to exercise or manœuvre.

UNTRUTH, moral falsehood; false assertion; a thing of so base and degrading a nature among military men, that the very appearance of it is sufficient to create disgust. See LIAR.

UNVANQUISHED, not conquered or defeated.

UNWALLED, being without walls of defence; dismantled.

UNWARLIKE, not fit for, or used to war.

UNWEAPONED, not provided with arms of offence.

VOGUE, *Fr.* the course, or way which a galley, or ship, makes when it is rowed forward.

VOGUER, *Fr.* to make way upon water either by means of sailing, or by oars. It also signifies generally to row.

VOIE, *Fr.* way, means, course of communication.

VOIE ou voye, *Fr.* a way; a road.

VOIE royale, *Fr.* the king's high-way.

VOIE militaire, *Fr.* a military road.

VOIE, *Fr.* This word also means the way of conveying any thing. As, *par la voie de Paris*, by the way of Paris. We generally adopt the Latin term *viâ*, as *viâ Dublin*, by the way of Dublin.

VOIE, *Fr.* the riding bed in a carriage.

VOIE, ou voye d'eau, *Fr.* a leak in a vessel.

VOIE de pierre, *Fr.* a load of stone. Among the French this load is generally reckoned not to contain less than fifteen cubic feet.

VOILE, *Fr.* a sail. This word is frequently used by the French to signify the ship itself; and so sail is with us.

VOILE quarrée, ou à trait quarré, *Fr.* a square sail, such as the main-sail.

VOILE latine, voile à tiers point ou à oreille de lièvre, *Fr.* a triangular shaped sail, such as is used in the Mediterranean.

Jet de VOILES, *Fr.* the complete complement of sails for a ship.

Faire VOILE, *Fr.* to go to sea.

VOIR, *Fr.* literally to see; to behold.

VOIR en grand, *Fr.* to view, or consider

things and men upon a large scale; and not to be diverted from a main object, by attending to trifles.

*VOIR en petit*, Fr. to view, or consider things and men in a confined way; and by so doing to lose sight of the main object.

*VOIR l'ennemi*, Fr. to be in active warfare; literally, to see the enemy.

*VOIRIE*, Fr. a lay-stall. The French say figuratively, *jetter quelqu'un à la voirie*, to deny a person Christian burial.

*Gens de VOIRIE*, Fr. scavengers, dung farmers, &c.

*VOIRIE*, Fr. a road, way, path, &c.

*VOITURES*, Fr. carriages, wagons, &c.

*VOL*, Fr. theft. The military regulations on this head during the existence of the old French monarchy were extremely rigid and severe.

Whosoever was convicted of having stolen any of the public stores was sentenced to be hanged, or strangled; and if any soldier was discovered to have robbed his comrade, either of his necessaries, bread, or subsistence money, he was condemned to death, or to the galleys for life. So nice, indeed, were the French with respect to the honesty of the soldiery in generally, that the slightest deviation from it rendered an individual incapable of ever serving again.

*VOLANTS*, Fr. the sail-beams, or flights of a windmill.

*VOLÉE*, Fr. the vacant cylinder of a cannon, which may be considered to reach from the trunnions to the mouth.

*VOLÉE et culasse d'une pièce*, Fr. This term signifies the same as *tête et queue d'une pièce*, the mouth, or head, and the breech of a piece of ordnance.

*VOLÉE* signifies not only a discharge of ordnance, or musketry, but also the single shot of a cannon. *Il eut la tête emportée d'une volée de canon*; his head was carried off by a cannon shot.

*Tirer à toute VOLÉE*, Fr. to fire a cannon laid upon the sole, without giving it any particular aim, so that the ball may hit and rise again *à ricochet*. In a general sense, *tirer à toute volée* signifies, to fire so as to propel the shot to the greatest possible distance by elevation.

*Homme de haute VOLÉE*, Fr. a person of high rank and distinction.

*Parler à la VOLÉE*, Fr. to talk at random.

*Prendre entre bond et VOLÉE*, Fr. to get any thing by availing one's-self of

the nick of time, or of circumstances just arising.

*VOLÉE*, Fr. See *SONNETTE*.

*VOLET*, Fr. a shutter. It likewise means a small sea compass.

*VOLET ou oiseau*, Fr. a mason's hod.

*VOLET brisé*, Fr. a shutter made of two folds which close, and enter into the opening of a wall.

*VOLIGE ou Volille*, Fr. in carpentry, a small piece of deal, or poplar, which is extremely thin and light; it is generally from three to five lines thick, ten inches broad, and six feet long.

*VOLISSE ou Volice*, Fr. in carpentry, the lath or thin board upon which a slate is nailed; it is generally twice the breadth of the common lath.

*VOLETTES*, Fr. horse's net.

*VOLLEY*, the discharging of a great number of fire-arms at the same time.

*VOLONÉS*. In a general acceptation of the term, *volones* signified volunteers among the ancient Romans. This word was also particularly applied to those slaves who volunteered their services after the battle of Cannæ, and on which account they became Roman citizens.

*VOLONTAIRES*, Fr. See *VOLUNTEERS*.

*VOLONTÉ*, Fr. will, &c. It likewise signifies readiness to do any thing. *Officier, soldat de bonne volonté*, an officer, a soldier that is ready to do any sort of duty.

*Dernières VOLONTÉS*, Fr. the last will and testament of a man.

*VOLT*, (*volte*, Fr.) in horsemanship, a bounding turn. It is derived from the Italian word *volta*; and, according to the Farrier's Dictionary, is a round, or a circular tread; a gait of two treads made by a horse going sideways round a center; so that these two treads make parallel tracts; the one which is made by the fore feet larger, and the other by the hinder feet smaller; the shoulders bearing outwards, and the croupe approaching towards the center.

*Mettre un cheval sur les VOLTES*, Fr. to make a horse turn round, or perform the volts. They likewise say in the manège, *demi-volte*, half-turn or volt.

*VOLTE*, Fr. in fencing, a sudden movement, or leap, which is made to avoid the thrust of an antagonist.

*VOLTE-face*, Fr. right about.

*Faire VOLTE-face*, Fr. to come to the right about. It is chiefly applicable to a

cavalry movement; and is sometimes generally used to express any species of facing about, viz. *Les ennemis fuirent jusqu'à un certain endroit, ou ils firent volte face*; the enemy fled to a certain spot, where they faced about.

**VOLTE** is also used as a sea phrase, among the French, to express the track which a vessel sails; likewise different movements and tacks that a ship makes in preparing for action.

**VOLTER**, *Fr.* in fencing, to volt; to change ground in order to avoid the thrust of an antagonist.

**VOLTIGER**, *Fr.* to float; to stream out; to hover about; *la cavalerie voltige autour du camp*; the cavalry hovers about the camp. It also means in the manège, to ride a wooden horse for the purpose of acquiring a good seat.

**VOLTIGEURS**, *Fr.* springers, leapers.

"The corps of voltigeurs were formed but a few years since, by Bonaparte himself.

"The difference betwixt *traillieurs* and voltigeurs, is, that the first move irregularly, and scattered about, and the others are formed and act as numerous and collected bodies.

"The qualifications required for being admitted into that corps are, an unequivocal reputation for courage, a short stature, a sound body, and great agility.

"Their uniform is the same as worn by the French infantry, with the appropriate distinction of the collar being yellow.

"They wear the grenade, and enjoy the same additional pay as the grenadiers, though the greatest part are of a diminutive size.

"Each regiment of infantry has a company of voltigeurs, which always marches in front of the grenadiers. They have two trumpeters instead of drummers.

"The voltigeurs are armed with a short fusil, (carbine,) and a short broadsword, the pouch is supported on the loins by a waist-belt; according to regulation, their pack should be very light.

"When in presence of the enemy, the voltigeur companies of each regiment are collected together, forming a distinct corps, and lead the attack; they are in general employed to climb up the mountains, (if there be any,) or to attempt difficult passes; the grenadiers follow at a short distance; but it is the voltigeur's

privilege to shew the road to victory. They are, on such occasions, carefully reminded of that honourable distinction.

"Ever since their formation, those corps have proved of the greatest utility to the French armies; the pride of their grenade, the hope of being first at the pillage, every thing has contributed to raise the spirit of these diminutive soldiers to the highest degree of enthusiastic valour."

**VOLUMUS**, i. e. *We will*, the first word of the clause in the king's letters patent, and letters of protection.

**VOLUNTEER**, in a general acceptation of the word, any one who enters into the service of his own accord. The signification of it is more or less extensive, according to the conditions on which a man voluntarily engages to bear arms.

**VOLUNTEERS** are also bodies of men who assemble, in time of war, to defend their respective districts, and do so, generally, without pay.

*To VOLUNTEER*, to engage in any affair of one's own accord. Officers and soldiers often volunteer their services on the most desperate occasions; sometimes specifically, and sometimes generally.—Hence, to volunteer for any particular enterprize, or to volunteer for general service. In some instances, soldiers volunteer for a limited period, and within certain boundaries. Of this description were the drafts from the militia in 1798, who volunteered to serve in Europe only. It is not our business to enter into the impolicy of this measure; the inconveniences which have already arisen from it, and the enormous addition to the half-pay list, sufficiently condemn it. We are certainly advocates for a limited period of enlistment, quoad time or duration, but decidedly repugnant to limited service, quoad place and situation. Even the regular militia ought, in our humble opinion, to be subject to Channel duty. A real soldier knows no boundary to his exertions, when the interests of his country require an extension of them.

With respect to the volunteer system, of which so much has been written, and concerning which so many contradictory opinions have been hazarded by individuals, both in and out of Parliament, we cannot conceive, how any difference should exist on the ground of national utility. That there were defects in its organization no man will pretend to deny; but that the root of its establish-

ment, and its staminal branches, might have been converted into a state-engine of defence, the most prejudiced of its opposers must acknowledge. When the enemy was on the frontiers of France, and a victorious, because an imposing army from established fame, was ready to storm the gates of her capital, no member of the French Convention, no regular old officer, or upstart hero of the line, attempted to weaken the energies of the country, by throwing a damp upon the public spirit of the nation. All were invited to join the threatened standard of their mother country; all were respected alike, and when uncommon genius was elicited by uncommon circumstances and events, extraordinary stations were allotted to it. La Fayette, who had distinguished himself, as a regular officer, against the bravest troops that ever crossed the Atlantic, had too much good sense, and (though not the best politician in the world) too much discernment not to see, that the aggregate of a nation is never to be despised. Every part has its little orbit; and if it be permitted to move so as not to jar, or come in mischievous contact, with larger bodies, it will always contribute to that general harmony, which constitutes good order. It is a solecism in state, and a most fatal error in military government, to cause any man to feel little within himself, whose assistance in person, or mind, may be useful to community; but it is more than a solecism, and worse than an error, to depreciate a whole body of men. Every part can be usefully employed, and no part, especially in a military organization, ought to be lessened or degraded. With regard to individuals, it will certainly not be denied, that in the dispensations of Providence, and in the immense variety of the gifts of nature, many may be found, who, without having been born in the womb of grandeur, or brought up in the lap of opulence, are equal to the first employments of a state. History can furnish us with innumerable instances of this sort; and the annals of our own times sufficiently prove the justness of this observation. How, therefore, any man of these Islands,—whose great boast is equality of right, and whose pride is the aristocracy of talents!—could descend to invidious comparisons, or degrading animadversions before the grave senate of such a nation; or how any officer, of common sense, could be prejudiced

against an active and meritorious individual, because he had not been in the line, is a circumstance, in our opinion, which deserves the severest censure.— This gentleman did not, probably, recollect, that some of the best generals in Europe, and, indeed, some of the bravest warriors on record, have issued out of the aggregate of a nation, and, not unfrequently, out of bodies of volunteers,—witness General Moreau, who was a lawyer till he was more than 30 years old.

*To VOLUNTEER.* Dr. Johnson calls this a cant word, signifying to go for a soldier. It is, however, in such general currency now, especially among military men, that with all due deference to the learned lexicographer, we shall treat of the term according to its acceptation. There appear to be three different kinds of volunteers, exclusive of the common class who go into the ranks as enlisted soldiers. The first consists of young gentlemen joining a regiment going upon service, and doing duty with that corps, until they get a commission. This kind of volunteer in the Austrian, Prussian, and Russian services, is called a cadet. The second kind of volunteers, are officers of foreign armies who serve with troops not belonging to their own sovereign, for the purpose of acquiring experience, and learning their profession. The third species of volunteers, are officers who, though actually in the same service, do not belong either to any regiment employed, or to the staff of the army. With respect to the prevailing notion, that officers actually employed may volunteer in general; it does not appear, how such a notion can be admitted; as every man must do his appropriate duty, and go where he is ordered, and not where he chuses himself; nor can the circumstance of not offering to go on any extraordinary service be viewed in any light derogatory to the high spirit of an individual.

The official answer, *that whenever an officer's services may be wanted, they will be called for*, ought to silence the least insinuations of that sort.

Volunteers formerly were much more numerous, and men of higher rank in the world than they have been of late years. Spinola was a volunteer in the Spanish army before Genoa, during one year; and in the next campaign he commanded that very army. Prince Eugene began his military career as a volunteer in the Austrian army against the Turks. We

could enumerate many other instances of the same cast. We wish, however, to impress upon the minds of young military men, that although to volunteer be very laudable, not volunteering, when actually employed, is not disgraceful.

**VOUCHERS**, receipts; written documents to prove the payment of monies, &c. Bankers, agents, commissaries, and regimental paymasters, &c. cannot be too circumspect, or minute on this head, particularly with officers and soldiers. They ought not only to require receipts for the most trifling disbursement, or payment; but also, at stated periods, to deliver them to the several parties, taking especial care, at all such periods, to require a written acknowledgement of the examination, and final delivery of the documents. Public accountants are, above all others, most interested in the observance of this rule. Entries may be omitted, double entries may be made, and miscellaneous services may be confounded together; but vouchers can always replace the first, correct the second, and separate the third. The French call vouchers, *pièces justificatives*.

**Regimental VOUCHERS**, particular documents which are signed by regimental colonels, paymasters, adjutants, quarter masters, &c. for pay and allowances, &c.

**VOUGE**, *Fr.* a sort of hedging bill. It likewise signifies an axe, which the ancient bowmen of France had fixed to their halberts. It is also called a hunter's staff.

**VOULGUE**, *Fr.* a sort of javelin which was formerly used in hunting the wild-boar. See **GUISARMIERS**.

**VOUSSOIR**, in architecture, a vault-stone, or a stone proper to form the sweep of an arch.

**VOUSSURE**, *Fr.* the arch, or bending of a vault.

**VOUTE**, *Fr.* a vault; an arch.

**VOUTE**, *Fr.* vaulted; arched.

**Fer de cheval VOUTÉ**, *Fr.* a horseshoe hollowed.

**VOUË**, *Fr.* speaking of persons crooked, *round shouldered*.

**VOUTER**, *Fr.* to vault; to make an arch roof; to arch.

**Se VOUTER**, *Fr.* to bend; to stoop with age; to grow round shouldered.

**VOYAGE sur mer**, *Fr.* a sea voyage. The French call a voyage to the East Indies, *un voyage de long cours*.

**UP**, an adverb frequently used in military phraseology, viz.

*To cut UP*, the same as cut down, in a military sense; or rather a more general term to signify the entire destruction of a body of men. See **CUT**.

*To draw UP*, to put in regular array, as to draw up a regiment.

**UP**, in a state of insurrection, ready to oppose. This term is also figuratively used; as, my soul is up in arms.

**UP-hill**. A line of cavalry will always make a more advantageous attack up hill, than when it is descending; but the case is reversed with infantry.

**UP-to**, adequate to. Hence, up to the circumstances of the times. The French say, *à la hauteur des circonstances*, up to every thing, or commensurate with circumstances; a trite, and indeed a vulgar phrase, which implies, that a person is adequate to, and ready for, every project, or undertaking. It is generally used in a bad sense. The French say, particularly with respect to play, &c. *Il a fait les quatre coups*, or he has been up to every thing.

*To come UP with*, a term used in the British service, when an army, or detachment is in pursuit of an enemy, and gets near enough to harass and attack him.

**UP!** exhorting, exciting, or rousing to action.

Thus, Dryden says:

**UP!** up, for honour's sake; twelve legions wait you,  
And long to call you chief.

**Heads-UP**, (*la tête haute*, *Fr.*) a term used at the drill, by which recruits and soldiers are cautioned to take an erect and soldier-like posture, without constraint.

**UPHERS**, in carpentry, long fir poles, used in scaffolding, for masts, &c.

**UPON**, this word is variously used in military matters.

**UPON**, noting assumption; as, he took the office of commander in chief upon him. Also to incur responsibility; as, the general took every thing upon himself.

**UPON**, near to; adjoining; as, the enemy lodged themselves upon the river Thames.

**UPON**, noting attack; as, the infantry rushed upon them.

**UPON** also denotes security, as, upon honour. This term is particularly used when an officer, who purchases a commission, or exchanges, &c. in the British army, is obliged to sign upon honour,

that he has not given, or received, one shilling above, or under the regulation. It were to be wished, for the honour of the service, that so long as trafficking for commissions is allowed to exist, an oath could be attached to each negotiation.

**UPRIGHT**, in architecture, a representation, or draught of the front of a building, called also an *elevation*.

**UPRIGHT**, a principal piece of timber which serves to support rafters, or any part of a building.

**UPSET**, part of a horse's bit. See **PORT**.

**URBANICI**, from Urbanicus, belonging to a city; a body of armed men, amounting to six thousand effectives, which was formed by the Emperor Augustus for the defence and internal tranquillity of Rome. This body was divided into four cohorts, which were quartered in a particular part of the city called *Castra Urbana*.

**VRILLE**, *Fr.* a wimble.

**VRILLER**, *Fr.* among fire-workers, to rise in a spiral manner, as sky-rockets do.

**URN**, in architecture, a sort of vase of a circular form, but largest in the middle. It serves as an ornament over chimney pieces, a buffet, &c.

A *funeral URN*, a covered vase enriched with sculpture, and serving as the crowning, or finishing of a tomb, a column, a pyramid, or any other funeral monument. It is generally made in imitation of the ancients, who deposited the ashes of their deceased friends in this kind of urn. We sincerely wish, for the sake of the survivors, that this decent custom could be restored with respect to the remains of the dead in our time. See *Funeral PILE*.

**USARI**, *Ind.* the name of a month; which partly corresponds with June; it follows Jeth.

*To USE*, to employ to any particular purpose; to bring into action; as, he used his choicest troops on that decisive day.

*To make USE of another*, to convert the talents and industry of a fellow creature, either to one's own advantage, without the least regard to truth or honour, or to that of the public, for the common interest of all. In the first sense, which is a bad one, genius and real knowledge are frequently made use of, or rather abused and misused, by assumed superiority, under the mean

garb of affected friendship, and barren patronage; in the latter sense, which is a good, and certainly a political, one, wise men know how to derive advantage, by employing characters of all descriptions, and adapting their abilities and sources of information to the various exigencies of the state.

**USTENSILES**, *Fr.* the necessary articles which a soldier, who is quartered or billeted at an inn, &c. has a right to be supplied with.

**USTENSILES de magasin**, *Fr.* Under this word are comprehended all the various tools, implements, &c. which are required in military magazines and store-houses.

**USTENSILES d'un vaisseau**, *Fr.* every thing which is necessary in the navigation of a ship.

**USTENSILES de canon**, *Fr.* every thing which is required to load and unload a piece of ordnance, viz. the rammer, sponge, priming horn, wedges, &c.

*To USURP*, (*usurper*, *Fr.*) to seize upon by violence or stratagem.

**USURPER**, (*usurpateur*, *Fr.*) Any person is so called, who by force, or stratagem, gets possession of a power, or authority, to which he is not legally entitled.

**USURY**, (*usure*, *Fr.*) excessive interest for money lent; from the Latin *usura*. No class of individuals, perhaps, (if we except that of gamblers,) are so often driven to the necessity of applying to this ruinous source of accommodation, as that of military men; especially of such of the profession as have been placed upon the half-pay list of Great Britain and Ireland. The danger which attends every species of usurious contract, is rendered less, and the practice consequently more frequent, in proportion to the nice sense of honour that is attached to a military character. It is not, however, less criminal, particularly with regard to the half-pay; and we should be deficient in our duty to the army at large—for whom alone we write—did we omit to warn them against the insidious aid of discount, and of temporary loans. Nor do we scruple to say, (however sacred the word of an officer must at all times be held,) that a deviation from it, under circumstances of palpable extortion, is not dishonourable. Perhaps it might not be wholly useless, were the legislature so far to interfere, as to express in the Mutiny

bill, not only the nullity of all pecuniary engagements, beyond the *bona fide* interest of the law, between officers and money lenders; but also to make it criminal in the latter to injure the King's service, by inveigling the former into promissory notes, &c. With regard to usury in general, it is defined to be an unlawful profit which a person makes of his money; in which sense, usury is forbidden by the civil and ecclesiastical, and even by the law of nature. For the information of those gentlemen who are in the habit of accommodating officers, it may not be irrelevant to state, that by stat. 12 Ann. c. 16, which is called the statute against *excessive usury*, it is ordained, that no person shall take for the loan of any money, or other thing, above the value of five pounds for the forbearance of one hundred pounds for a year; and so in proportion for a greater or lesser sum: and it is declared, that all bonds, contracts, and assurances, made for the payment of any principal sum to be lent on usury, above that rate, shall be void; and that whosoever shall take, accept, or receive, by way of corrupt bargain, loan, &c. a greater interest than 5 per cent. shall forfeit treble the value of the money lent; (provided the information is laid within the space of one year, for the borrower, or informer, and of two years for the King;) and also that scriveners, solicitors, and drivers of bargains, shall not take, or receive, above five shillings for the procuring of the loan of one hundred pounds for one year, on pain of forfeiting twenty pounds.

In an action brought for usury, the statute made against it must be pleaded; and in pleading an usurious contract, as a bar to an action, the whole matter is to be set forth specially, because it lies within the party's own privity; yet on an information on the statute for making such contract, it is sufficient to mention the corrupt bargain generally; because matters of this kind are supposed to be privately transacted; and such information may be brought by a stranger. 1 Hawk. P. C. 248. See *Ord on Usury*, also *Bentham*.

It will likewise be remembered, that upon an information on the statute against usury, he that borrows the money may be a witness, after he has paid the same. In closing this article, we cannot help remarking, that if money were in

this country to obtain its level, the term usury might be converted into a beneficial mode of general accommodation. Money would then be legally lent at 6, 7, or 8 per cent. and the necessity of granting ruinous annuities at 10, 12, and even 16½ per cent. be superseded; as is the case all over Europe, except Great Britain.

**UTENSILS**, in a military sense, are necessaries due to every soldier, and to be furnished by his host, where he is in quarters, viz. bed with sheets, a pot, a glass or cup to drink out of, a dish, a place at the fire, and a candle. See **BILLETING**.

**UTENSILS**, &c. directed to be provided for the use of regimental hospitals. In page 19, of the Regulations for the Sick, it is stated, that each hospital ought to be furnished with a slipper bath or bathing tub, two water-buckets, one dozen of Osnaburgh towels, one dozen of flannel cloths, half a dozen of large sponges, combs, razors, and soap; two large kettles capable of making soup for 30 men, two large tea kettles, two large tea-pots, two sauce-pans, 40 tin cans of one pint each, 40 spoons, one dozen of knives and forks, two close-stools, two bed-pans, and two urinals.

A regiment consisting of 1000 men, and provided with three medical persons, ought to be furnished with hospital necessaries and utensils for at least 40 patients. It should be provided with 40 cotton night caps, 40 sets of bedding, in the proportion of four for every hundred men; each set consisting of one paillasse, one straw mattress, one bolster, three sheets, two blankets, and one rug. For regiments of a smaller number, the quantity of hospital necessaries will, of course, be proportionally reduced.

**Bakery UTENSILS**. The following list of bakery utensils, being the proportion requisite for an army of 36,000 men, has been extracted from the British Commissary, to which useful treatise we refer the military reader for a specific description of field ovens, &c. and field bakery, page 16, &c.

12 double iron ovens, 11 feet long, 9 feet diameter, and 3 feet high; 23 troughs and their covers, 16 feet long, 3 feet wide, and 3 feet deep, to knead the dough.

12 large canvass tents, (having double coverings), 32 feet long, and 24 feet wide, to make the bread in.

4 ditto to cool and deposit the bread in.

2 ditto to deposit the meal and empty sacks in.

200 boards, 8 feet long, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  foot wide, to carry the bread to the ovens and back when baked; 24 small scales to weigh the dough, with weights from half an ounce to 6lb; 24 small lamps, for night work; 24 small hatchets; 24 scrapers, to scrape the dough from the troughs; 12 copper kettles, containing each from 10 to 12 pails of water; 12 trevets for ditto; 12 barrels with handles, to carry water, containing each from 6 to 7 pails.

12 pails, to draw water; 24 yokes and hooks, to carry the barrels by hand; 24 iron peels, to shove and draw the bread from the ovens; 24 iron pitch-forks to turn and move the fire-wood and coals in the ovens; 24 spare handles, 14 feet long, for the peels and pitch-forks; 24 rakes, with handles of the same length, to clear away the coals and cinders from the ovens; 4 large scales, to weigh the sacks and barrels of meal, and capable of weighing 500lbs.; 4 triangles for the said scales; to each must be added 500lbs. of weights, 3 of 100lbs. each, 2 of 50lbs. each, and downwards to half a pound.

UTER, a bladder to swim with. This machine is mentioned in Cæsar's Commentaries, and was frequently used by the Romans in crossing rivers, &c.

VU, *Fr.* seeing that; considering.

Vu l'état de l'armée, *Fr.* considering the state of the army.

VUE, *Fr.* sight; view; prospect; look, &c. The French say, *Les armées sont en vue*; the armies are in sight of one another. *Camper en vue de l'ennemi*; to encamp in sight of the enemy. *Marcher à vue de pays*; to march by guess, or without any particular direction to move by, except the mere appearance of the country.

Garder un prisonnier à VUE, *Fr.* to watch a prisoner so closely as to keep him always in sight.

Payable à VUE, *Fr.* payable at sight; or so many days after sight.—A term used in drawing bills of exchange.

À VUE d'œil, *Fr.* visibly.

VUE, ou bœc, *Fr.* This term signifies generally, every species of opening or aperture through which day-light enters; *bœc* meaning open.

VUE à plomb, *Fr.* a perpendicular

view of a building from its top and flat roof, taken in their whole extent. Some persons improperly call this *plan des combles*, plan of the roofs.

VUE de bâtiment, *Fr.* the view or inspection of a building taken from the center; hence called *vue de front*, front view.

VUE de côté, *Fr.* a side view.

VUE d'angle, *Fr.* a corner view.

VUE d'oiseau, *Fr.* a bird's eye view, or the representation of a plan raised in perspective, supposed to be seen from a very elevated spot.

VUE de toute longueur, et de toute hauteur, *Fr.* When you stand directly opposite the center of a plan or building, the aspect is called *vue de front*, a front view; when placed on one of the sides, it is called *vue de côté*, a side view; when the building is seen from one of its corners, the aspect is angular, or a corner view.

VIDUANCE d'eau, *Fr.* the draining or emptying of water out of any particular place, by means of water-mills, or other machines used in hydraulics, for the purpose of making the ground thoroughly dry, and building thereon.

VIDUANCE de terre, *Fr.* the carriage of any particular sort of earth, which is sold according to its quality.

VIDUE, *tant plein que vuide*, *Fr.* This expression is used in carpentry to signify the distribution of beams or rafters in a floor, in such a manner, that the intervals are not wider than the thickness of the beams or rafters. The French also say of a façade, or front of a building, *elle est espacée tant pleine que vuide*, when the piers or parting walls are as broad as the windows.

Tirer au VIDUE, *Fr.* to diverge or bulge, as the front of a house does when it goes out of its perpendicular direction. *Pousser au vuide* has the same signification.

VIDUER, *Fr.* literally, to empty.

VIDUER un fossé, *Fr.* to drain a ditch.

VULCANO, (*volcan*, *Fr.*) a burning mountain which throws forth flames, smoke and ashes; such as Mount Vesuvius, Mount Etna, &c.

VULNERABLE, susceptible of wounds; liable to external injuries; capable of being taken; as the town is extremely vulnerable in such a quarter. It is also applied to military dispositions, viz. the army was vulnerable in the center, or on the left wing.

**VULTURE**, a large bird of prey, well known and figuratively applied to many members even of civilized society, such as money scriveners, low attorneys, &c. It has lately been used to mark one of those blood thirsty followers of the French revolution, that pay no regard to honour or honesty. Hence

Bonaparte's vultures, or the adherents of that system which was governed by lawless rapine and devastation.

**UVULA spoon**, in surgery, an instrument to be held just under the *uvula*, with pepper and salt, or any other ingredient in it, to be blown up into the hollow behind the same.

## W.

**WAD**, in gunnery, a substance made of hay or straw, and sometimes of tow rolled up tight in a ball. It serves to be put into a gun, after the powder, and rammed home, to prevent the powder from being scattered, which would have no effect if left unconfined.

**WAD-hook**, a strong iron screw, like that which serves for drawing corks, mounted upon a wooden handle, to draw out the wads, or any part of cartridges, which often remain in guns, and, when accumulated, stop up the vent.

**WAD-mill**, a hollow form of wood to make the wads of a proper size.

**WADA**, or **WADADARY**, *Ind.* a farm of a district.

**WADABUNDY**, *Ind.* stated periods or dates, on which money is to be paid.

**WADADAR**, *Ind.* a government officer, who is responsible for the rents of a zemindary.

**WADDING**, hay or straw, or any other forage, generally carried along with the guns to be made into wads.

*Experiments relative to the effects of WADDING.* The quantity of powder requisite to raise a shell weighing 218 pounds, clear of the mortar and bed, was found to be 4 oz. 2 dr. without any wadding; but with the help of a little wadding, rammed over the powder, 3 oz. 1 dr. were sufficient. The powder requisite to raise a shell weighing 106lb. clear of the mortar and bed, was found to be 2 oz. 6 dr. without any wadding; but with wadding, properly rammed over the powder, 2 oz. were found to be sufficient.

To raise a shell of 16lb. 4 dr. were sufficient without wadding, and only 3 dr. with wadding.

And to raise a shell of 8lb. 2 dr. were enough without wadding, and 1 dr. two thirds with wadding.

From the above experiments, it may be observed, that the judicious ramming of a little wadding over the powder, adds about  $\frac{1}{4}$  part of the whole effect.

**WAFER**, paste made to close letters, &c. The French call it *pain à cacheter*.

The *Irish WAFER* is very thin, and consequently the best for use; the English wafer is thick, and if not well moistened, and left to dry a few minutes in the paper, it may be cut through. The safest method, however, especially in dispatches and official communications, is first to use a wafer, and then to cover it with sealing wax.

**To WAGE**, to attempt; to venture; to undertake any thing dangerous. Whence to *wage war*.

**WAGON**, in the army, a four-wheel carriage drawn by four horses, and for sundry uses.

**Ammunition WAGON**, a carriage made for transporting all kinds of stores, as also to carry bread, it being lined round in the inside with basket-work.

**WAGON Train.** The wagons, carts, &c. that are provided for the use of an army are so called. In page 25 of the British Commissary we find the following observations concerning this necessary establishment. "The great engine in the hands of the commissariat, on which the movements of an army depend, is a proper establishment of wagons. In all wars where a British army has taken the field, great abuses have unfortunately prevailed in this department, and it even now remains a problem, whether government ought to purchase wagons and horses, and form temporary establishments, or whether the army should be provided with a train by contractors?"

"In the seven years war, there was a general contractor for the wagon train,