DISCIPLINE & DRILL, LECTURES

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649562879

Discipline & Drill, Lectures by S. Flood Page

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

S. FLOOD PAGE

DISCIPLINE & DRILL, LECTURES





LONDON: PRINTED BY BIOTILISWOODS AND CO., NEW-STREET SQUARE AND PAULIANEST STREET

DISCIPLINE & DRILL

LECTURES DELIVERED TO THE
OFFICERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF THE
LONDON SCOTTISH RIFLE VOLUNTEERS

BY

CAPTAIN S. FLOOD PAGE

Adjutant of the Regiment; late 105th Light Infantry; Adjutant of the Edinburgh Rifle Brigade; and Exceptive Officer,
National Rifle Association



LONDON
HENRY S. KING & CO., 65 CORNHILL
1871

231. c. 100.

PREFACE.

THE REGULATIONS for the Volunteer Force say: 'An adjutant is appointed to give instruction to the Volunteers.' These Lectures are an attempt to instruct the regiment for which I am responsible; they are printed with the sanction of my Commanding Officer. They are published in the hope that they may lead some Volunteers to take a higher view of the duty to which they are sworn; that they may induce some young men to join the Volunteer Service; that they may cause some men who are past the military age to support this national force by their purse and influence; and that they may even perhaps persuade some of our military opponents to think better of our capabilities—better of us as material to be worked into shape; and, instead of writing

us down and trying to get rid of us, may induce them to join their many comrades who offer us a willing and ready hand, and assist us in our earnest endeavour to make ourselves fit to stand with them shoulder to shoulder, should the country ever require our services. I lay no claim whatever to originality, for I have borrowed freely from a great many sources. I have tried to indicate from whom I have borrowed in nearly every instance. were to commence apologising for the character of my work, I should require greater space than I have at my disposal, for I am deeply conscious of its defects. 'I forbear to stile my readers gentle, courteous, and friendly, thereby to beg their good opinions: for it is certain, let us claw the reader with never so many courteous phrases, yet shall we be evermore thought fools that write foolishly."

S. FLOOD PAGE.

July 12, 1871.

* Sir Walter Raleigh,

CONTENTS.

LECTURE I.

1

Introduction—Arguments for a General Scheme of Instruction—Necessity of Officers learning Squad Drill with exactness—Importance of Discipline—	
Position of the Soldier at Drill—The Salute—Relations between Officers and Men—Skirmishing Drill .	1
LECTURE II.	
Wasting ammunition—Necessity of Volunteers saluting all Officers in uniform—Uniform—' Straggling'— Marching: 'legs and feet' in war—When and where Volunteers will be of service—Necessity for Reorganising the Service—Alterations in the new Drill Book—Height of Recruits—Intelligent Execution of Orders	36
LECTURE III.	
What is Discipline?—Laxity of Discipline in the Volunteer Service—Rarity of Insubordination among Volunteers—Adverse criticisms on the system—Are they just?—Inefficiency of the Army—Incident at Brighton—' Beery jollity' at Brighton—Straggling and marching at Brighton—Unity in the London	
Scottish Rifles	71

LECTURE IV.

PAGE.

Effects of the recent Examinations-Recruits and Resignations-Importance of Simplicity in Drill-French and Prussian drill movements-Studies on the Recent War'-Principles of Military Science are fixed-Their application varies-Prussian and English 'companies' compared - Defeat of the Prussians at Langensalza-A national Volunteer Uniform-First experience of breechloaders-Skirmishing fire, quick fire, and volley fire-Importance of the Yeomanry Cavalry-Outpost and picquet duty-Shelter-trench drill-Equipment and Stores-'The Battle of Dorking'-Concluding observations 106