

THE  
BRITISH ARMY:

ITS

Origin, Progress, and Equipment.

BY

SIR SIBBALD DAVID SCOTT, B.A.,

LATE CAPTAIN ROYAL SUSSEX MILITIA ARTILLERY,  
FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON,  
MEMBER OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE,  
ETC. ETC.

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“April 2, 1672.

“CHARLES R.

“Our will and pleasure is that a Regiment of Dragoons which we established and ordered to be raised in Twelve Troopes of four score in each besides officers, who are to be under the command of Our most deare and most intirely beloved Cousin, Prince Rupert, shall be armed out of Our stoares remaining within Our office of the Ordinance, as followeth: that is to say, three corporalls, two serjeants, the gentlemen-at-arms, and twelve souldiers of each of the said twelve Troopes, are to have and carry each of them one halbard, and one case of pistolls with holsters; and the rest of the souldiers of the severall Troopes aforesaid are to have and carry each of them one match-locke musquet with a collar of bandaliers, and also to have and to carry one *bayonett* or *greate knife*. That each lieutenant have and carry one partizan; and that two drums be delivered out for each Troope of the said Regiment.

“By His Majesty’s Command,

(Signed)

“ARLINGTON.

“To Sir Thomas Chichely, Master-General of the Ordnance.”

The introduction of a lighter fire-arm, the fusil, would render the bayonet far more effective. The old unwieldy musket, even when armed with the bayonet, was very unequal to cope with the comparatively light spear or pike. It has been already stated that our first regiment of Fusiliers (the 7th)