

Of these nine subjects, candidates will not be allowed to take up more than four, nor less than two, exclusive of drawing.

In order to secure a proper proficiency in all the subjects taken up by a candidate, a certain number will be deducted from the marks gained in each subject, after which the remainders will be summed up, and the marks gained by the candidate in geometrical drawing at the Preliminary Examination will be added. The total will determine the place of the candidate in the competitive list, [the successful candidates being those who stand at the head of the list up to the number of vacancies competed for.

Some of these are gazetted at once to regiments; others, lower in the list, as sub-lieutenants unattached, to be gazetted to regiments afterwards as vacancies occur.* The whole number then go to the Military College at Sandhurst, where they are required to go through a course of study in the following subjects:—Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army; regimental interior economy, accounts, and correspondence; military law; the elements of tactics; field fortification and the elements of permanent fortification; military topography and reconnaissance; riding; drill.

At the end of the course they will be required to pass an examination in the field and on paper, and those who satisfy the examiners will be placed in one of three classes. The lieutenants' commissions of those who pass in the first class will be antedated two years; and of those who pass in the second class, twelve months. No antedate will be granted to officers who pass in the third class. Sub-lieutenants will be liable to forfeiture of the whole or a portion of the antedate for misconduct during their residence at the Military College.

This course being completed, the sub-lieutenant is appointed to a regiment, and after serving for twelve months will be examined by a board of officers, on passing which he will be promoted to the rank of lieutenant.

Sub-lieutenants will be removed from the service for moral or physical unfitness, or if they fail to pass the examination at the Military College within two years from the date of their commissions as sub-lieutenants. They will be allowed to be re-examined once, at the expiration of not less than three months from the date of their first examination, provided two years from the date of their commission shall not have expired. No extension of the above period of two years will be granted, excepting in cases of absence through illness, or in cases of officers, through no fault of their own, not being afforded during their first two years of service an opportunity of going through the course of study prescribed.

But the sub-lieutenant may possibly be appointed at once to a regiment serving in India, in which case he will not join the Military College, but will proceed to

join the *depôt* or the regiment in India, and after serving twelve months, and passing the board of officers, will join a class of garrison instruction in India for eight months, for instruction in the College course, after which he will be examined and classified as in England. This examination will have to be passed within *three* years from the date of his commission.

Besides these open examinations, a certain number of commissions in the Cavalry and Infantry are allotted every half-year to the Universities; and in case there should be more candidates than vacancies, the required number will be selected by competition amongst themselves at the ensuing July or December Examination for first appointments, but without a Preliminary Examination. The successful candidates must then be prepared to accept commissions in the course of six months, otherwise their claims will lapse.

University candidates who may have been unsuccessful at their first examination, will be allowed a second opportunity of competing, provided that "students" shall not have exceeded their twenty-second year, and that "graduates" shall not have exceeded their twenty-third year, at the time of such second examination. These limits of age will be ruled by the 1st of July for the summer, and by the 1st of January for the winter examinations.

A graduate or student who is desirous of becoming a candidate for a commission in the Army, must send an application to the Military Secretary in the month of May or October; but no such application can be admitted before he has actually attained the age of seventeen, nor later than the 31st of May or 31st of October next following the date of his attaining the age of twenty-two. The application must be accompanied by the register of his birth and certificate of good moral character, already mentioned as required in the case of candidates for the Open Examination, and also by a certificate from the proper authority that he has taken his degree in Arts, or has passed the examination specified below, at one of the following Universities, viz.:—

Oxford: "Moderations."

Cambridge: the "Previous Examination."

Dublin: the "Final Examination of the Senior Freshman's Year."

Durham: the "First Year's Examination."

Queen's University, Ireland: the "First University Examination in Arts or in Engineering."

Scotch Universities: the "Examination for Candidates for the Army."

London University: the "First Examination for the Degree of B.A., L.L.B., B.Sc., or M.B."

A commission can be obtained without competition by young men qualified for Queen's Cadets or Indian Cadets. Queen's Cadets are sons of officers of the Army, Navy, or Marines who have fallen in action, or died of wounds within six months, or of illness brought on by fatigue, privation, or exposure incident to active operations in the field before an enemy, within six months of having been first certified to be ill. Ap-

* These unattached sub-lieutenants receive no pay, but have to support themselves at the Military College, at a cost of about four shillings a day.

plications for Queen's Cadetships must be addressed to the Military Secretary or to the Secretary of the Admiralty, according to whether the candidate is the son of an officer of the Army, or of the Navy or Marines.

Indian Cadets are the sons of men who have served in India in the Military or Civil Service of Her Majesty, or of the East India Company, and are nominated by the Secretary of State for India. Applications should be addressed to the Military Secretary, India Office.

These Cadets will be required to pass a qualifying Entrance Examination only; *i.e.*, having passed the Preliminary Examination, it will only be necessary for them to obtain such an aggregate of marks in the Further Examination as may indicate a competent amount of general proficiency. A Cadet who can produce a University Certificate will be exempted from this qualifying Entrance Examination altogether.

Pages of Honour are admitted to the same advantages as Queen's Cadets and Indian Cadets.

Another way of entering the Army is through the Militia. Officers commanding Militia regiments are permitted to recommend one or two lieutenants of their regiments annually. For the year 1875, ninety-eight Militia regiments recommended one lieutenant, and twelve recommended two lieutenants each. The principle is that one commission shall be given to each company in every ten years, so that regiments consisting of more than ten companies will occasionally receive two commissions in a year, and regiments below that strength will in some years get no commission.

A lieutenant of Militia, recommended for a commission in the Army, must be within the ages of nineteen and twenty-two on the 1st of May of the year in which it is applied for, and before it can be granted he will be required—

(a) To have served two annual trainings.

(b) To obtain a certificate from a Board of Examination that he is thoroughly acquainted with the following subjects:—

1. The first two parts of the "Field Exercises of the Infantry," and the command of a company in battalion.

2. Rifle drill and practice; and the theoretical principles of musketry, as defined in the authorised book of instruction.

3. The duties of regimental orderly officers, of officers commanding guards, and of subaltern officers of guards under officers of superior rank; and the mode of marching reliefs and posting sentries.

4. Those portions of the Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army which relate to the duties and conduct of a subaltern officer; and the Mutiny Act, and Articles of War, so far as is necessary for the performance of the duties of a member of a court-martial.

5. The regulations for the Army in regard to the pay and messing of the troops, the supply of clothing and necessaries, and all details regarding the mode of carrying the various articles of the soldier's kit, arms, accoutrements, and ammunition.

(c) To be recommended by his commanding officer, the recommendation being confirmed by the officer commanding the sub-district, and also the general officer commanding the district. (In the case of the Channel Islands Militia, the recommendation must be confirmed by the Lieutenant-Governor.)

(d) To pass the examination before the Civil Service Commissioners, or else to produce a University certificate. In this case again, as in that of the Cadets, the examination is not competitive; but the candidate is required to obtain such an aggregate total of marks as may indicate, in the judgment of the Civil Service Commissioners, a competent amount of general proficiency.

The purely military examination by a board of officers, which has to be passed previous to that before the Civil Service Commissioners (unless the candidate has got a certificate of having passed a school of instruction), is, as a rule, held during the training. The recommendation will be forwarded as soon as possible after the 1st of May, in the case of officers who have already served two trainings, and in other cases immediately after the conclusion of the annual training, and must be accompanied by a certificate that the officer has served two trainings; an extract from the register of his birth, and in case of exemption from the Civil Service Examination in virtue of a University qualification, the certificate to that effect.

No candidate will be permitted to appear for examination before the Civil Service Commissioners until he has been examined by a Medical Board as to his fitness in respect of height and physical qualifications for Her Majesty's service.

An officer is allowed three trials to pass the Civil Service Examination, but the third failure is final.

The circumstance of a lieutenant of Militia having been an unsuccessful candidate at the competitive examinations for commissions in the Army, will not preclude his being nominated for a Line commission by his commanding officer. If so nominated he will, unless he can produce the University certificate, be required to pass the qualifying examination; but the Civil Service Commissioners may, if they think fit, dispense with such qualifying examination in the case of any candidate who, at a previous competitive examination, has shown that he possesses the necessary qualifications.

And now as to the important question of age. The limits of age for candidates for admission by competition, Queen's Cadets, Queen's Honorary Cadets, Indian Cadets, and Pages of Honour will be from seventeen to twenty; for students of the Universities who have passed the examination above mentioned, for graduates of the Universities who shall have passed for the degree of B.A. or M.A., from seventeen to twenty-two; and for lieutenants of Militia, from nineteen to twenty-two. Officers who entered the Militia between the 16th of February and the 1st of November, 1871, inclusive, may be admitted up to the age of twenty-three.

Candidates who desire to compete for commissions in West Indian regiments may be admitted up to the age of twenty-four.

Candidates must be within the prescribed limits of age on the following dates:—

Those for admission by competition, Queen's Cadets, Queen's Honorary Cadets, Indian Cadets, Pages of Honour ...	On the 1st of January next following the Winter Examination, and on the 1st of July for the Midsummer Examination.
University graduates and students	As already mentioned.
Lieutenants from the Militia ...	On the 1st of May of the year in which they are recommended for a commission in the Army.

There will always be some lads who find their lessons at school come easier to them than seems to be the case with regard to the majority of their mates, to whom book-work is not that intense nuisance it is to others, and who head classes and carry off prizes without much difficulty; and these, if they make choice of a military career, will naturally aspire to the Engineers or Artillery. The admission to these higher branches of the service is through the R.M. Academy at Woolwich, the examination for which requires so special a preparation that the candidate should always go to one of those private tutors who make this particular course of study a speciality, so that it would be useless to dwell on the matter here. The limit of age is from sixteen to eighteen; the course extends over two years and a half, the payment for the son of a civilian being £125 per annum. Boys who possess industry or talents above the average, however, may go in for extra examinations, and push through in a shorter time. Those who stand highest on the list at the final examination have the choice of taking a commission in the Engineers or Artillery.

The question is often asked: "Can an officer in the British Army live on his pay?" The fairest answer to which seems to be that it is possible, but not probable. If a young man enters the Army because he has a strong passion for the scientific destruction of his

fellow-creatures, and if his soul is so devoted to that art that nothing more trivial can attract him, it would be quite feasible for him to live upon six-and-sixpence a day, after deducting income tax, barrack damages, mess and band subscriptions, and the renewal of an expensive and easily soiled uniform. But if he is attracted to the service by the hope of finding more fun in it than in the Church or the law, he will find the problem of settling his monthly accounts a hard one, at least in England. In India it is different, and a subaltern entirely dependent on his profession should get out to the East and keep there till he is a captain. For a frugal captain may manage very well, provided he makes, and keeps, a vow of celibacy. A young officer who is exceptionally smart and energetic may indeed get made adjutant of his regiment, and then his pay and allowances will be equal to the income of a captain. Indeed there seems to be no reason why an adjutant should not save money, for he hardly ever has a moment's time for spending it. But he must give up the adjutancy when he gets his company.

A poor man who is able and studious may also pass the Staff College, and so become qualified for many lucrative appointments, but that is a consideration beyond the scope of the present paper.

The cost of a lieutenant's outfit varies very much in different regiments. In the Engineers or Infantry it is about £60; in the Artillery, including horse furniture, about £120. Cavalry saddlery may cost £90.

A sufficient quantity of barrack furniture may be procured for £30.

As a general rule, one may say that a young man with £100 a year, besides his pay, ought to be able to live in an Infantry regiment very comfortably. But in the Army, as in any other profession, expenditure depends entirely upon tastes, habits, and early training. What is comparative wealth to one man is penury to another.

THE GATHERER.

A Rooster in a Trance.

There are some people, mentioned in Hudibras, who got into trouble for—

—"putting knavish tricks
Upon green geese and turkey chicks;"

but we are going to show the reader how to play a trick upon a rooster without even incurring the very salutary censure of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Catch the bird. Then set him on a table with a smooth dark-coloured top. A narrow streak of sunlight should fall across the table. Hold the bird's head down, so that his beak may touch the wood. Now let your confederate—for the trick requires a confederate—take a piece of chalk and draw a line in the sunlight straight from the rooster's beak, as shown in our engraving. The chalk must be moved very slowly. By the time the line is a couple of feet long, the bird

will fall into a cataleptic or trance-like condition. You may remove your hands from his body; for a minute or two he will remain quite rigid.



Hens may be dealt with in the same way, but their brains—if they have any—are less easily overpowered.