

Memoirs 1848-1859 of Colonel RW de Chabert

Introduction

These memories were written down by the son of Colonel Richard Waldemar de Chabert [1](#)) (6.3.1815-6.2.1897) based on information provided by the father, who as an officer participated in the battles 1848-1850 at 4. reinforcement battalion and in 1864 at the 11th Regiment, where he i.a. took part in Dybbøl, the retreat from there and the fencing at Sankelmark. There are also short recollections from that time, just as there is a short section about growing up, cadet and page time.

The text is intended as a brief biography of the son Charles Christian de Chabert (17.1.1852-1.3.1922), when he became interested in his family's history as a young lieutenant.

Today, only the contents of the handwritten manuscript exist, starting with page 5. A total of 14 folio pages, which end with the battles of 1864. Almost exclusively, the colonel's military experiences as lieutenant and captain in the period 1848 - 1864 are described in a concise form.

The original spelling has been retained. A comma is inserted here and there, and the text is divided into sections and provided with headings to make it easier to read.

The text is also illustrated with plates of Danish troops from the period.

Colonel Chabert's Memoirs

The rebellion in Glückstadt

After the maneuvers came 17'Batl. [2](#)) back to Glückstadt (the maneuvers lasted for 6 weeks) where garrison life continued as usual until 1846, when they again took part in a troop assembly at Lockstedt [3](#)) (see page 4, bottom [4](#))) under the command of General Lützow, after which they returned again to Glückstadt, where garrison life continued unchanged until 24 March 1848. There was strong political unrest in the population of Glückstadt, and at 10 a.m. on the said day, a rally was blown throughout the streets of the garrison, as the postmaster, Oberstlieut. Fabricius, returned from Rendsborg with orders from the Prince of Nöer that the Battalion should be immediately dispatched to Rendsborg.

The German flag was immediately hoisted on the Town Hall and the officers hastily went to the Exercise House (called: Wagenhaus), just opposite the Prison House, here the Battalion was lined up by company and kept together all day, as the men in teams of 10 were allowed to go home and eat. Lobedanz, carrying the cloak on both shoulders, pretended not to see that several Civilians had crept into the Exercise House and taken the Front working the People with seditious speech, among these Civilians was General Superintendent Hertzstruch. During this tumult in the town, the penitentiary prisoners began to get restless, and men had to be sent over to keep the prisoners at bay.

Father's company commander, Kapitain CL Hansen, a very capable leader, born Holsteiner, was basically more Danish than German and very tight-lipped, but let his older brother, who was also a corps commander in 17'Batl. and an ardent Slevigholsteiner, induced himself to remain with the rebels, notwithstanding that his father, by his persuasions, was on the verge of moving him to accompany the Danes.

The battalion's Major, Bündiger, was sent in the afternoon with an extra train to Rendsborg with [5](#)) a part of the crew from all the companies to hear more about the Prince's order. They did not return, but were kept in Rendsborg.

At approx. At 7 in the evening, the German-born officers of the battalion were called out to the Lecture Room in the Exercise House, however, Father does not know what was negotiated with them. Then the 8 Danish Off. called in; and the following questions were presented to them by Lobedanz:

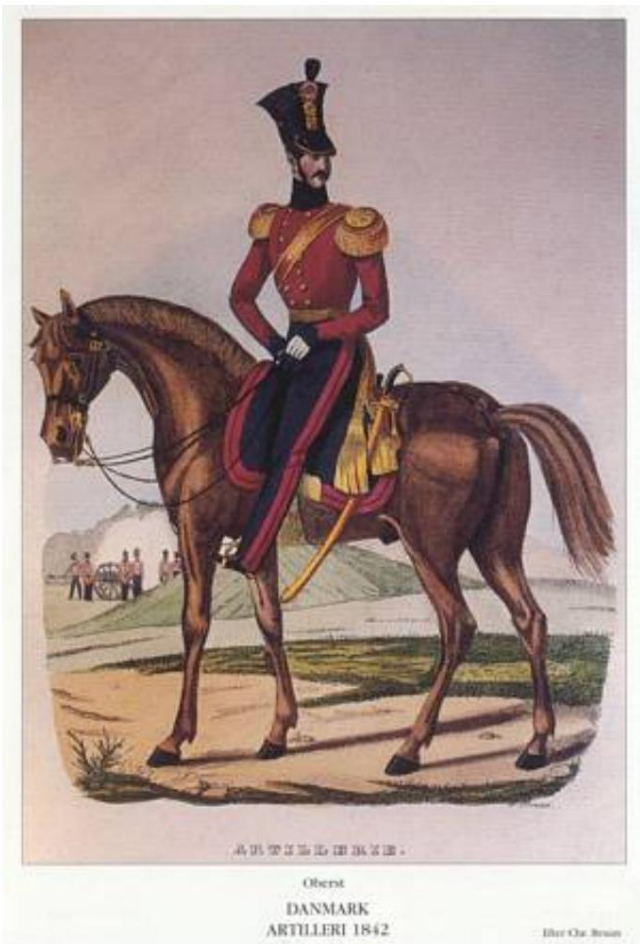
- 1) if they will remain in service with the battalion, they will be promised rapid advancement and good pecuniary conditions.
- 2) If they do not want this, they sign a reverse saying they would not serve against Slevigholsten, and can receive 50 rd in travel money and can leave.
- 3) Should they not agree to either of these two alternatives, tomorrow morning at 8 a.m., when the battalion leaves for Rendsborg, they will be taken as detainees.

Then stepped (the 8 Danish officers were: Premierlieut. Beck, Klingsey, Buhl, Chabert, Sectl. Haffner, Hammer, Brandhelft, Haffkiel) Premierlt. Klingsey came forward, after a short conversation among themselves, and declared that they demanded to be taken off as prisoners, whereupon they stepped down and the battalion was dismissed to assemble for departure next morning at 7½.

After the agreement, Chabert and Branhelft went to the Colonel's Quarters to demand veneers cut from the stick and handed over to them, but were turned away with a rude answer, whereupon they went home, dressed in Civil and all 8 Danish Off. embarked on what they walked and stood in along Landeveien to the village of Bideberg?, where they arrived at 1 in the night. They hired a small fishing vessel to cross the Elbe, came over to Stade in Hanover and boarded the Steamer to Harburg and thence to Hamburg.

On board the ship was a lot of Hanoverian military, who were going to Hamburg to gather there, prepared to move into Holstein. In Hamburg together with a number of other escaped Danish officers, and here it was that one of them, knowing the rich landowner Tesdorff til Aarupgaard ?, who was just staying in Hamburg, advanced the officers with money, which was repaid in 5 Rdl monthly installments after arrival at Kbhvn.

They went out into the Alsterhalle, where the notorious "*Freischärler*" 6) gathered and drank Gilde. A more ridiculous outfit was not easy to see, as some had armed themselves with belts around the waist, in which were stuck lots of old pistols, others just heavy sabers and still others had an old musket hanging from their backs.



The Dagvoggen was then taken over Oldesloe, where it was rumored that the refugees were Danish officers and where therefore the town's Civil Guard, in ridiculous costumes, marched up in front of the Gjestgiverigaard to protect the officers from demonstrations and hostilities, to Lybeck. On arrival in Lybeck in the afternoon, stay at the Hotel du Nord. Father immediately went out into town and bought a new shirt, which was put on unwashed, while the old one was thrown away.

In the evening there was a large public meeting on Raadhustorvet outside Rothes Weinkeller. Father and Buhl each bought a Schleswig-Holstein Blik Kokarde, and since they were both Höitydsk and Plattish completely powerful, they mingled with the Kokarden on the Hat among the crowd on the Square, where comical, if well-intentioned, rebellious speeches were made, and each of the Danes was portrayed as cowardly and washing up. A yacht was now hired, the entire cargo of which was fitted out for sleeping quarters, and here embarked: Colonel Köye 7) and Captain Just of the Artillery with ladies and refugees from Glücksstadt, on which they set sail for Nykjöbing on Falster.

Here they were received with jubilation by the population and well entertained, after which the journey per The day carriages continued over Vordingborg to Copenhagen, where they entered the Hotel Royal. As the refugees only owned the civilian Töi in which they walked and stood during the flight from Glückstadt, they had to report to the Ministry of War in civil. (* The uniforms and weapons left behind in Glückstadt were taken by the town's citizens as a good price, and the so-called hats with feathers now had to adorn the heads of the newly appointed Slewigholstein.)

They were received by War Minister Tscherning, who was not far from letting the officers understand that they should have stayed where they were. They each received 200 rdl for equipment, which had to be repaid in 5 rdl installments per month.

Bornholm 1848

When it was thought that the Prussians could take Bornholm by means of equipped privateers, Father, together with some other officers and an auditor, were sent to Bornholm in the month of May, under the command of a

most amiable Superior, Major Brockdorff of the Artillery, who had served in Ostinden. Here was Off. used to index Borgerväbningen and Bornholm's Militia as well as overlook Bauner and (illegible) Alarm stations under Kapit. Schröder of the Engineers and thus traveled around the island from town to town, whereby there was an opportunity to see this interesting island, as well as the small Christiansö.

Father's lot was to index Rønne Borgerkompagni, and on that occasion Father received a medal of honor on the later departure as recognition from the company.

In the month of September, father came back to Kbhvn and was employed at Kbhvn's Garrison Batl. under Major Krabbe, as Commander of the 1st Company, with quarters in the Sølvgadens Barracks, where Father performed garrison duty, until in the spring of 1849 he was sent to Viborg, to the 5th Reserve Battalion, under Colonel Ahrenfeld 8), to replace Capt. Mecklenberg, who was sent with a soldier's spoon aboard the liner Christian on the 8th, with which ship he later jumped into the air.

4. Reinforcement battalion at Fredericia

On 26 April 1849, Father was appointed Kapt. (of 2'Class) and then 4' Reinforcement Batl. was established, formed from 9' Liniebatl's surplus personnel and called-in reinforcements, Father was thereby employed as Commander of 4' Company with a strength of approx. 500 Vepl 9) and Privates and Uoff. and left for Fredericia, where the Battalion was increased under the command of Major Tuxen (People's Representative).

Now Fredericia's relief began 10), alternately on the Fyen and in the fortress, where Father on the Fyen had many different quarters, e.g. in Middelfart with Procurator Möller, and on Bubbegaard with Enkefru Lorentzen, two excellent Quarters, where everything was done to make it comfortable.

Father stood at Bubbegaard one afternoon at 3 to exercise the company on a field, and as an example of what courage and good will in the common man can accomplish can be cited here: A Dragoon ordonnants came bursting with orders to the company to march incessantly to Strib, as there was a suspicion of that the rebels wanted to storm, where Kp. had to be at 9 o'clock in the evening for transshipment.

Father immediately gave the order to the people to run to the Quarters to put on packing, and to set foot on the Field again as soon as possible. The order now informed the people that the 3 miles had to be covered so that Kp was at 9 o'clock in Strib. It was even barely 4 o'clock, and whoever couldn't win with them had to lie down on the way. The crew, for the most part older Reinforcement crew, older in age than even the Lieutenants at Kp.; The second lieutenants Valdemar Petersen and Pilegaard as father, were inspired by such a good spirit that when approximately one mile had been covered, there was literally a steam above Kp. and an old 60-year-old Command Sergeant Garmann was still swinging his cane and directing at the top, so that the result was that Kp KI 9 was in line and only 2 men had fallen. The people were full of courage and fighting spirit and the enthusiasm was great among these old married fathers of families. Kp was now transferred to Fredericia and spent the night on the Fortaugene with Tornystre under the head.

However, the attack did not materialize and after 2 Days Forløb Kp returned to Fyen, and the usual Replacement went on by itself.



When Father in Fredericia was inspecting the line from the harbor gate to the Prince's Gate one evening, and passed along the line, Father came to Command Sergeant Garmann's guard, and then Comsergt. was not present, Father sought out the Sentinel where the Guard Command was. The bombardment was fierce that very evening; The sentry pointed in front of one of the caves excavated in the rampart. When Father came down into the cave, Garmann sat writing by the glow of a horn lamp. When asked why he stayed here, instead of on duty with his men, Garmann, who, due to his age and his excellent personal courage, had claimed a fairly free language to his company commander, replied: *"I am writing to my wife that I've been shot; she's been a beast against me every day, and now she can feel so good up there in Aalborg !"* The comp chief personally convinced himself that the brave husband had really written this and put his name under it! However, the letter did not arrive.

When later the Schleswig-Holsteiners had set Fredericia on fire, Garmann had to help with the extinguishing one day with some crew and then found a number of full bottles in Ahlmann's cellar, which were saved and buried in a covered hole in the rampart. Father happened to pass the place one evening and saw Garmann in front of the hole with a bottle in each hand, drinking from one and then pouring the other on top of the one he was drinking from. When asked what this was supposed to represent, G. replied: *"Yes, Mr. Captain, this gentleman's is a rather awkward hug and therefore I dilute a little of this gentleman's other something stronger."* On closer inspection, it turned out that it was *Rødvin* that was thus "sweetened" with gl. Rome !

The day after that stood down(s) at the Dam about Fr. (edericia) Father's brother, Captain at 5th Reinforcement Battalion. E. Chabert 11), Father and Command Sergeant. Garmann in a Triangle and talked together. A piece of the bomb fell in the middle of the conversation and burrowed deep into the ground, this piece of the bomb was dug up by Father and is probably still stored.

When the rebels had established the Tred battery, the changeover could soon no longer take place, and it was therefore time to liberate the fortress by an assault.

Everything was now assembled in the greatest silence. The night between the 5th and 6th of July, and at around 2 a.m., the 4th Reinforcement Battalion (which, as one of the newly formed Batl., was the last to move out) moved out through

The Prince's Gate. The deepest silence was enjoined. The evacuation took place by company.

4de Kompagni advanced slowly in column towards the Dam to Snoghöi. The battle was when the company was already advancing on the whole line in full swing and the Schleswig-Holsteiners were being driven everywhere; so that Kp. did not get to participate directly in the Battle [12](#)) and came back to the Fortress.

The prisoners who were brought into the fortress were now lined up in the square by the exercise house, and placed under the command of Capt. E. Chabert. The booty, Cannons were arrayed at the Prince's Gate; the Danish-born officers were laid in the Church in Danmarksgade around the Altar and the men were laid in the pews [13](#)).

In the evening at 6 the order came that the entire conquered Terrain should be searched by companies disbanded in chain, to look for the dead and wounded left behind in the Terrain. The 4th Company thus passed through Treldeskov down towards Rands Fjord, and here Father ran his head against the legs of a hanged rebel sergeant who had been in Danish service in Rendsborg before the war. He was cut down, and Father recognized the Face from 1842 from Rendsborg.

On the 7th of July there was an order to remove all useful items of clothing and equipment from the dead and now the large giant grave was dug in the churchyard, where the fallen were immersed in layers and covered with unslaked lime. This spread such a stench over the whole fortress that many of the people got sick, and there was fear of an epidemic in the city.

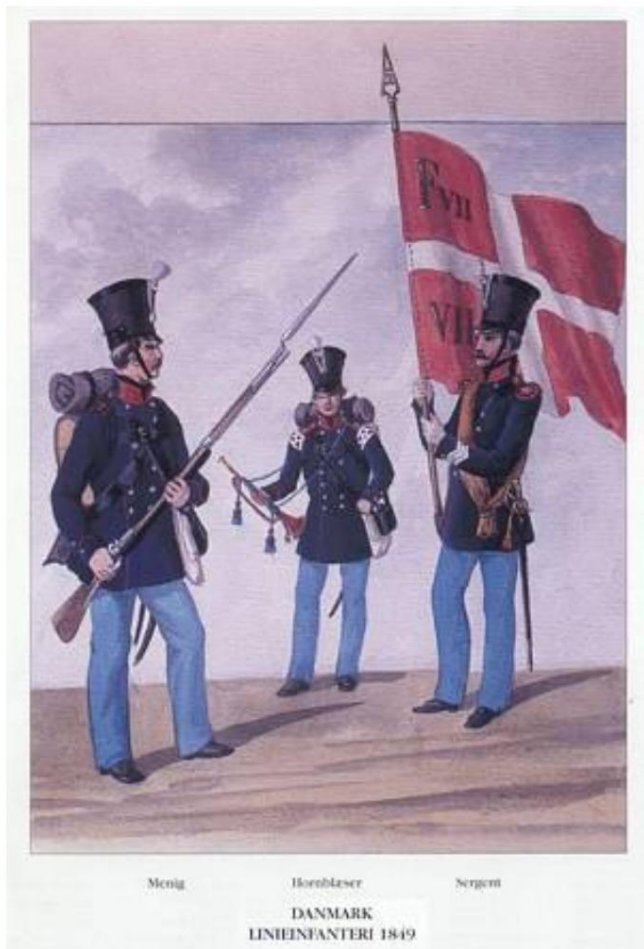
On the 9th, Kp went. back to Fyen, where it remained until, by order, it left for Kbhvn. Here, Colonel Irminger, formerly Adjutant to Christian the 8th, became Commander of the 4th Reinforcement Battalion, he was replaced shortly after by Major Saint-Aubain [14](#)), when Colonel [I.](#) took over the command of the brigade (Garden and 4th Reinforcement Battalion). Battle. then had a strength at each comp of approx. 1300 Male [15](#)).

1850

On 15 May 1850 Father held a wedding in Copenhagen. Under Major S.-A's Command left Batl. on 25 May 1850 to Herning, north of Horsens, where Father came to stay with Pastor: Fritz.

Here the Battalion indexed under the command of the very capable Chief. At Father's company, Prmlt was in the meantime. Ørsted was employed, and he became engaged in Herning to Proprietair Frick's daughter.

In Beg. of July 1850 Batl moved, which then had a strength of approx. 800 man per Company, as the rest had gone to other newly formed departments, down to Flensburg, where Father was lodged with City Treasurer Riber, an ardent Schleswig-Holsteiner, by whom, however, Father was treated very well.



On the 2nd day after the arrival, Father was ordered in the evening to meet with the Brigade Commander Oberst Irminger, as an officer, powerful in writing and speaking the German language, was to be used to take Proprietor Lorentz to Wassersleben in the Night Löb; north of Flensburg to Fange, he was a well-known Schleswig-Holsteiner in whose house rebellious nocturnal gatherings were held. Father could take with him as many men as were deemed necessary to surround the property, and the prisoner was to be handed over to the warship lying in the harbor under Captain Sommer's command.

With two Uoff. and 40 privates were quietly marched out along the Chaussée to Wasserleben, where they had to arrive at 5 o'clock in the morning, when L. was supposed to be at one of the nocturnal gatherings.

The house was surrounded and Father went with a sergeant to the front door, which was found open. In the niche between the double doors was a rebel banner and several weapons. After having passed through several rooms unhindered and in complete silence, Father came to a bedroom, the door of which was gently opened, and where L. with his wife and two daughters lay asleep. L. woke up and was ordered to get up immediately and enter the neighboring room, whereupon Father retired to this room out of concern for the family.

L. came out quickly, and the wailing of the women was heard from the bedroom. He was informed that F. had orders to seize his papers and take him as an arrestee to Flensburg. His wife and one daughter now rushed almost unclothed into the living room to us, and the father retreated again to the next room, since no police spy(s) gave him an opportunity to destroy the compromising papers, what L. probably also use the time allowed, as there was only a bland correspondence at the time of the seizure.

The wife and daughter, who had, however, remained clothed, now received the assurance that under Father's care not a hair would be bent on L's head. His closed wagon was now pre-tensioned and drove(s) to Flensburg.

Arriving in Flensburg, he begged to stay at the residence of Senator Jensen, a Danish-minded man and L's relative, as L pretended to have money from J, as he had brought none with him from home.

He got a sum and was taken to the port, where he was delivered according to the order.

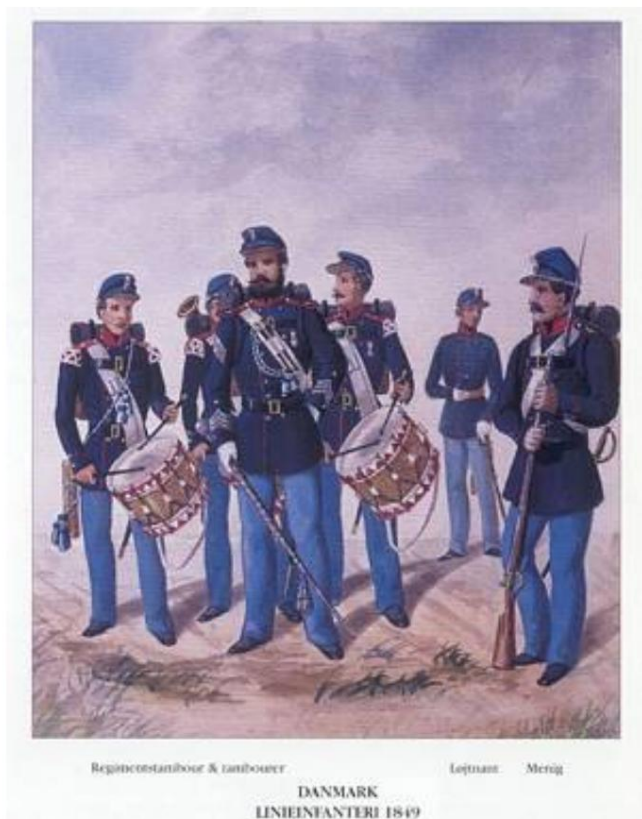
About 3 weeks later it was read in the Schleswig-Holstein Correspondence in a newspaper that Lorentzen had been abducted by the Danish military after the most terrible abuses, which made Father almost regret his considerate behavior towards the rebels.

The Battle of Isted 1850

On the 22nd (or 21st) of July, Batl. down north of Isted in a violent heat and during a forced march so that several people fell to their deaths on the road. Here we bivouacked on the open field, and on the 24th at midday the battle at Isted began.

At approximately 3½ Afternoon. got 4'Forst.Batl. there was one to the east of the Flensburg Chaussee, approximately in Höide, with Siversted's order to advance and take Poptret, which was strongly occupied by Slevigholsteiners. The forest was bordered by a rather high stone fence and a flat meadow had to be passed to reach the stone fence, the meadow was passed in a run, whereby a number of people were lost, and where also Captain Daue, commander of the 1' Corps, fell.

The forest was quickly taken, however, as the rebels retreated on the arrival of our people at the fence, while a swarm of the rebels occupied a large farm west? in front of the forest, where they barricaded themselves and made firing squads. 4th Kp. now went forward towards the Farm with the Kpkommandören at the head, straight towards the Gate.



The enemy's firing, however, was only dull; about 150 cubits from the gate, a huge Sergeant of the Company, Sergeant F, jumped forward in front of Father and said: *"Here I go in front, it doesn't matter if I fall, but the Captain must not go away!"*. The brave Sergeant recently came to the Garden.

There was a rush towards the gate and the pioneers cut it down with their axes. The rebels fired their rifles at our people and then ran, before the farm could be surrounded in wildest flight, out of a barn gate, so that only a few prisoners remained in our hands. A wounded Schleswig-Holsteiner was so embittered that when Father came near him he half rose and then aimed his detached bayonet at Father, which was only avoided by a sideways jump.

The battalion advanced further and assembled in the so-called Törvetærrain, south of Helligbæk, under Major S.-A.'s Command, and Outposts were exhibited in the evening at approx. 9, with 11' Batl. on the left Flöi (on höire Fløj ?).

It was a proud sight to see the row of great burning piles of peat, which after the end of the battle lit up the whole region.

At approximately 10, the 1st Reserve Jägerkorps, under Major Scheppelern, moved forward to relieve 4'Forst. Battle. in Forpostkaede, whereupon Batl. retreated and bivouacked in the open field, and where there was food in store was devoured with ravenous appetite, as nothing had been devoured since early morning. Brandy and Pork (Swine Stomach Food and Swineral Brandy, as the brave people call the depleted ration) were the men's dishes with which the hungry stomach was regaled. At 3 o'clock in the morning on July 25, the battle began, as the 3rd Reserve Battalion, under Colonel Gerlach, was engaged by the Schleswig-Holsteins. 4'Forst. Battle. was alarmed and ordered forward across the Mos to the west of the Chaussee towards Bögholt, which forest was strongly occupied by the Insurgents.

Three times Batl entered the forest, but was thrown by the Overpower back into the bog. A particularly not courageous man, Kapitain Teckl, had not moved forward, but had with the Company thrown himself behind some scrub, and as 4'Comp. with Batl.

2nd time was thrown out of the forest, the company Teckl opened a live fire against his own comrades, so that he had to be made aware of having shelled his own countrymen, 4th comp. ...?... förte The attack on the left Flöi.

Finally, Teckl's Sect: Walter with a large part of the company arrived at 4'Comp. left Flöi and Lieutenant Haffkill with a part of the 1'Lette Bataillon in the right flank, as the other companies of the 4'Forst.Batl. was further out to the right.

4' Comp. advanced towards the large brickwork at the southern edge of the forest, which was stubbornly defended by the enemy, so that the brickwork was soon set on fire with incendiary rockets, so that the enemy had to surrender, whereby we took 83 prisoners. In the forest fell from 4'Forst.Batl. Officers i.a. Lieutenant Bagge, who in 1849 had lost one arm.

After the brickworks had been taken, they advanced to some fences south of the forest, as the battalion commander, who was a very heavy man, had dismounted (Major S.-A. was a brother of the author Carl Bessehartz) and by his side stood the adjutant, Lieutenant Freiesleben, who was shot at the Major's side. During this the disaster at Oberstolk had passed, and the battalion was hastily ordered back to the Chaussee in the Centre. At It was then about 3 pm.

The return to the Chaussee over the Moss draget took place in an almost dissolved state, and people got stuck in the Moss, where they perished. At the Chaussee, Batl gathered. all in company columns, and the powder cases were selected with great difficulty so that the people could be supplied with new ammunition. In front of Batl. the Reserve Artillery was brought up.

The enemy had penetrated unnoticed into the so-called Sortehöe, and our reserve artillery, which was unable to silence the enemy artillery, lost many men and horses. While the father during this artillery battle stood by the side of Major S.-A. on the road, a bomb (grenade) came under a flat arc, as it literally rolled along the hard road and hit the Major's leg, just as close behind him the upper part of the head was hit by a man, so that the brain lay on the road .

Father jumped to lift the Major up, but the valiant commander of the entire battalion said: *"My dear friend, just let me lie down and take care of the battalion !"* The major was put on a cart to be taken to Flensburg, and father was later told that, as he was so unusually heavy that a horse could hardly carry him, they could not tie up the veins, which is why the major bled to death. and thus found Death soon after.

The brigade commander, Colonel Irminger, now rode to Father, saying; "You see, Captain, that our artillery cannot silence the batteries; they must be taken with the bayonet! The battalion will therefore multiply the storm column and take the batteries; within 20 minutes they must be ours!"

The battalion was now multiplied by Father, who after the Major's fall had the Command, while the Command of 4'Comp. is taken over by Preml. Ørsted, in 2 columns, each with 2 companies, and Father himself walked between the columns with the horn blowers.

They advanced and the last 200 steps were covered with the bayonet fixed and running, and there was such a pressure in the columns that one would think it was about overthrowing a wall. On the right a Deel Gardere on foot, under Kapitan Hoeter, rushed forward at the same time towards the Batteries. These were taken in a jiffy, and the enemy went in wild flight back towards Isted Kro, leaving all the guns behind.

Father stood with one leg on the breastplate and the other leg on the outer slope of the breastplate and to the right of Father the horn blowers. Suddenly, Ritmeister Schröder, who had been Father's classmate at the Land Cadet Academy for four years, but now served the rebels, moved with his squadron in career gear into the battery, where the Ritmester cowardly turned aside. The people came up, while Warden Kiene, who had also been in Danish service in the 4th Dragoon Regiment, and was a native of Schleswig, was at the head of the squadron. Kiene, who saw that Father was in command, sent a sharp blow from the horse at Father's head, which was only avoided by Father throwing himself behind and being caught in the arms of the hornblowers.

It was interesting to see how the people, when the enemy squadron cut in, crawled back like cats onto the outer parapet ramp and as one man directed the pipes at the horsemen, who were shot down at their feet, while those who remained in wild carriers fled towards the burning place. Inn.

Battle. now moved on to the south, and during this advance Father was hit by a dull bullet on the right side of the neck, which had the consequence that for several years afterwards Father suffered from pain from the relevant place.

Battle. advanced towards Lyhrskov, west of the Chausseen, and as all our Reserve Cavalry under General Flindt and Wegener's electing Battery were in front, thought Batl. the holy grave well preserved and camped quietly on the next field and life was high, as Colonel Irminger had directed a whole oxhead of Rödvin to the battalion from Flensburg.

Battle. had been lying for about an hour, when Irminger came bursting at furious speed, shouting: "Don't you see, Captain, that all the reserve artillery is retreating? They will immediately advance in chains!". Now General Flindt 16) with all the reserve cavalry and Wegener's battery came back through the battalion, and was received with less benevolent shouts by the old reinforcements, such as: "*Well, are you now going back to No. safe? Just take care that the horses' legs can run,*" and Battalion Surgeon Boesen, who served with the Cavalry, later told Father that this Retreat was one of the funnest things he had been part of, when they moved forward he was, of course, as Doctor in the Queen; but during the retreat they all pressed so hard that the Doctor came again in Queen, that is, nearer to the enemy.

Father does not forget how enraged the brave Captain Wegener was at this less than honorable retreat, which had hardly any good reason. Then 4'Forst. Batl advanced, there were only a few scattered Schleswig-Holstein small detachments that went south in wild flight. The battalion then reassembled and camped on the open field. The next morning, the battalion went in a composite command under the command of Oberstlieutenant la Cour first to Brodersby and from there to the Chapel, which was occupied for the time being by personnel from a gunboat, and the one-eyed Kaptl had been arrested. Kaufmann with whom Folk had served together in the Schleswig Regiment.

After Instead

Oberstlieutenant la Cour made F. Field Commander in the Chapel and left F. to arrange the necessary arrangements with the Citizens' Representation. F. immediately let the completely harmless Kapt. Kauffmann went home to his family. The City Council then met at the Town Hall and the King's Proclamation was read out, as it was ordered that it should be read out on the street corners, after which orders were given regarding accommodation and other measures.

When F. turned to leave the council chamber, one of the city council members said in Low German, as he assumed that F. did not understand this language: *"Just let the dirty Karl go, we'll do what we want."* F., however, turned around, bowed and said very politely in Low German: *"Yes, gentlemen, just do what you want, but if they do something that I don't want, then they will come man by man to the lamppost in the square and get each 25 on the hump; I recommend myself!"*

It was one of the funniest scenes F. has experienced, to see these people's astonishment at being addressed in their own slang in this way. F. then went to the parish priest and asked him, among other things, to pray from the pulpit for the King and the Royal House, the Fatherland, etc., the usual church prayer, and presented him with a reverse for his signature, that he undertook to keep these regulations strictly.

At the expression *"rightful king and hereditary crown"*, the priest makes the statement: *"Mr. Captain, he is not only king, he is also duke; I do not sign"*. F. replied: *"Sign, Mr. Pastor, or they will depart irresistibly as sent into captivity to Kbhvn."* The priest signed!

Due to the retreat of the Schleswig-Holsteins, the strict guarding of the Sli line became unnecessary, and the battalion therefore went across Schleswig to Lemsick near Frederiksort, presumably to possibly reinforce the garrison in Frederiksort.

After a 2-day stay, Batl. however, again orders to go to the center of the Dannevirke position, where barracks and huts were then erected from the bushwork at large Dannevirke. A long and tiring, monotonous outpost service at Dannevirke Vold now began; The battalion was alternately at the outpost and in reserve.

The Allerposition was particularly tiring, every morning before dawn they moved out and took positions for the day's break. 4th Forest Battalion had alarm position on a high hill, exposed to all winds, so that the crew froze very much. The bone of contention over the village of Klein Reide, which was occupied alternately by Schleswig-Holstein patrols and patrols from our side.

With the exception of these mischievous Smaaskjær killings, the Armies in the Center stood idly opposite each other. Finally came the Armistice and then Peace.

1850 - 1859

After the end of the peace, occupied 4th Reinforcement Battalion. House sum.

2 companies were quartered in the city (approx. 500 Md) while the 1st and 4th companies were deployed in the countryside, as the whole area was declared in a state of siege. F., with 4th comp, came to the village: Ostenfeldt, where F. got quarters with the priest Pastor Beck, one of the best quarters, F. with 4th comp. has had during all the campaigns. Pastor Beck was a perfectly loyal man. During this time Father was prepared and had to frequently traverse the entire district and Danish patrols were regularly sent out.

The district consisted of four towns: Ostenfeld, Wittbeck, Winnert and Rott. The premier lieutenant (Dræby) was in Svesing, where Pastor Hamburger, a native of Copenhagen, was the parish priest. In Svesing, the older population still spoke Danish among themselves, but to prove how Schleswig-Holstein tyrannized the town was, it can be stated that while the parishioners in the town were handing out the neighborhood tickets, Father went into the living room, where the parish bailiff's old father was sitting in an armchair. He spoke Danish with Father; but hearing the steps of the son, he seized

Father in his arms and said anxiously: Now my son is coming, now we have to speak German. The son, who knew Danish well, pretended that he did not understand Danish words.

Under Pastor Hamburger, however, the Danish language came to its right again in this parish in the school and in church activities. Thus passed the year 1851. At the end of this year, the 4th Reinforcement Battalion came to Schleswig, where Batl. at the beginning of 1842 was disbanded, after which father, in accordance with a wish of Oberstlieutenant Bentzen, was employed by the 6th Battalion with the garrison in Schleswig City.

In the summer of 1852, F. was ordered to Rendsborg with the company to dismantle the works built by the rebels north of Rendsborg. While the Company lay in Rendsborg, F. rode every Saturday Efterm. to Schleswig, where Mother lived, and early Monday morning back to Rendsborg; which was made possible by the fact that F at the Company had an old, very reliable and capable First Lieutenant, Nicolaisen, a former NCO.

Some years went by in this way with ordinary garrison duty, until the summer of 1854, when Father was commanded over Tönder, Höyer to Rudböll and Rosenkrantz, to keep order of the large mass of Prussian and Polish workers who were called up for the construction of Frederiks-Kogen. Many of these workers were raw, together they ran a pack, so that it became necessary for the protection of the rural population, who were often set on fire by these vagabonds, to station the military there. F., assisted by a highly skilled non-commissioned officer corps, succeeded in keeping the gangs in Ave. After a few months' absence, F. was replaced by the 6th Batl's 3rd Company, under Capt. Vaupell.

In 1855, F. was sent to Frederiksstad to protect the works still standing from the war. F. was accommodated in a particularly good quarter. After a month's delay, the company was again replaced by the 3rd company (Vaupell), and every 4 months the company now returned to Frederikssted to remain there for a month.

In 1856 the Battalion marched to the large troop gathering at Flensburg under the command of King Frederik the 7th.

In 1857, Father was commanded on Session and traveled through part of Southern Schleswig and Northern Holstein, including also to Fehmarn.

In 1859, F. was again at Session in North Schleswig.

Notes

1) *Cadet 1.1.1830. 1.2.1837 second lieutenant á la suite at Schleswig Inf.Rgt.. 1.5.1838 entered number. 1.7.1842 employed in 14.batl. 10.12.1842 first lieutenant in 17.Batl. 1.7.1849 employed in the 5th Reserve Batl. and 26.4. said captain's character and seniority. 10.1.1850 captain II. 6.10.1850 R. of Dbg. 6.10.1854 captain II in 6.Batl. 1.10.1863 employed in 11.Batl. 29.4.1865 resignation as major. 19.9.1867 colonel in the Infantry Reinforcement (Chief of 37.Batl.). 2.6.1880 dismissed.*

2) *The battalion was commanded by colonel August Vilhelm Lobedanz from 1840 to 23.4.1848. It was one of the battalions that almost entirely went over to the rebels on 24/3/1848. The majority of the officers, however, remained loyal to the Danish crown. The unit was called the Queen's Life Regiment from 1659 until the army's reorganization in 1842.*

3) *The gatherings at Lockstedt in Northern Germany were the "Natomaneuvers" of the time for the German Confederation, in which Denmark participated with a troop contingent as a result of the Danish king also being the Duke of Schleswig-Holstein. Our contingent consisted of the best equipped units in the Kingdom, which is why Rendsborg's Arsenal was particularly useful as an equipment depot for the rebels.*

4) *It is a bit difficult, as the memories start with page 5.*

5) Here the first stated "with 56 men" has been crossed out.

6) "Freischärler" (freshers) consisted primarily of loud students and the street parliament. Here, as everywhere else in Europe during the bourgeois revolutions of 1848, always at the front. A characteristic was the growing of a full beard and a soft hat with a feather bush, just as one also liked to be dressed in a "Polish" peasant blouse and baggy trousers, in order to visibly distance oneself from the ruling classes. The revolutionary romantic role models were Italian coal miners and Polish farmers.

7) Colonel FVPG Köye, commander of the 2nd Artillery Regiment, former Holstein Artillery Brigade from 1 July 1842 to 24 April 1848.

8) Adam Kristian Ahrenfeld, commander of the 5th Reserve Battalion from 23 November 1848 to 1850. The battalion, established on 19 April 1848, belonged in 1848 to the 1st Brigade. During the 1850 campaign, the battalion belonged to the 4th Brigade (Thestrup), which opened the battle at Isted.

9) Must be understood as an abbreviation for conscripts, a term introduced in Denmark by the Constitution of 1849. A so-called "democratic right to freedom", but in reality just the way of the new class, here the bourgeoisie, to secure state power through control of the military. At the same time, a cheap way to enable a state to raise large national armies. This "right to freedom" is, to say the least, of a dubious nature and a dubious "democratic" good. If you look at the wars that have been fought in Europe using conscription (1789 to 1945 inclusive), you can see the danger of such mass conscription. The mass armies do not lead to quick decisions on the battlefield, as the forces of the individual countries/groupings each time - for natural reasons - are almost in equilibrium. The only result has been enormous and unproductive slaughter.

Followed by social revolutions, which have often become even bloodier in their course. (See, for example, Siegfried Ziegler: *Kriegswesen und Kriegführung im Zeitalter der Millionenheere, Heerwesen der Neuzeit, Vol. V.2, Bernard & Graefe Verlag. 1993.*) Today, Danish conscription is used solely to train and recruit political soldiers of our time "for democracy's fight for peace", just as Cubans and East Germans previously stood up as surrogate troops for the Soviet Union and the communist system under the same rallying cry.

10) The Danish campaign plan was to hold Fredericia, while Olaf Rye split the enemy's forces by allowing himself to be pursued up through Jutland. Here he retired to Helgenæs. The Germans, who thought they now had him, got a long nose, as Rye and his troops were picked up by sea and transported to Fredericia. After this, the Danish army was numerically able to deal a crushing blow against the besieging forces.

11) Louis Emil de Chabert. (12.5.1809 - 1.1.1891). According to V. Richter: *Den Danske Landmilitæretat 1810-94, Copenhagen 1896*, he should per 1.3.1849 be a company commander at the 1st Reinforcement Battalion?

12) In the original text, the line is crossed out - "and without having seen anything about it".

13) It is the bodies of the fallen that are spoken of here. Rye was laid on the altar in his robe.

14) Colonel Anton Philip Saint-Aubain, commander of the 4th Reinforcement Battalion. The fall at Isted 25 July 1850.

15) That the companies of the reserve battalions have been so large in the field is rather surprising.

16) General Karl Ludvig Henrik Flindt, commander of the reserve cavalry, which consisted of the 3rd, 5th Dragon Regiment and 6th Dragon Regiment (all with 4 squadrons) as well as a 12-pound grenade battery under Joakim Teodor Wegener.