



A Nation Trained in Arms or a Militia? Lessons in War from the Past and the Present

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1918 edition. Excerpt: ...soldiers of Napoleon. 1 Vom Kriege, I. Buch, 8 Kap. CHAPTER V THE PRUSSIAN ARMY IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY The Peace Years From 1814 To 1859 Universal military service, which originated in 1813 out of the need of the moment, and was at first intended to last only for the duration of the war, was made a permanent institution by the law of September 3, 1814, concerning the liability for military service. At the same time the Landwehr also was declared to be a permanent institution. This law, together with the order of the 21st of November, 1815, concerning the Landwehr, henceforth constituted the basis of Prussia's armed strength. Every Prussian capable of bearing arms was bound to serve in the standing army from the age of 20 up to the age of 23, in the reserve from the age of 23 up to the age of 25, in the first levy of the Landwehr from the age of 25 up to the age of 32, in the second levy of the Landwehr from the age of 32 up to the age of 39. The Landsturm was composed of all those capable of bearing arms between 17 and 49 years of age who were not included either in the standing army or the Landwehr. The privilege of the one-year voluntary service was subject to proof of a certain degree of culture and the condition that the individual should bear his own cost of maintenance. This institution took the place of the volunteer Jäger detachments. The organization of the army, in the shape which it assumed after the first and second Peace of Paris, was the work of General von Boyen, who occupied the post of Minister of War from June, 1814. He made it his aim to effect a complete separation between the standing army and the Landwehr, so that they should to a certain extent exist as two armies side by side. Both, however, were to be equally subject...

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