

Napoleonic Light Cavalry Tactics

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Comments:

This is very much a companion volume to Elite 188, 'Heavy Cavalry and Dragoon Tactics' by the same author, and the two books should probably be read together. For instance, the reader is referred to the earlier volume for much of the basic information on manoeuvres and organisation.

There are no surprises in this book, except maybe the section that discusses how light cavalry could, and did, defeat their heavier counterparts in melee. Other than that, you will not be surprised to learn that the role of light cavalry was concerned with outpost duty, scouting, pursuit, skirmishing (on foot as well as mounted) and general harassment. I was taken however by the apparent keenness of light cavalry to skirmish dismounted. The chapter on Mamelukes and Cossacks was interesting in that the author illustrated how the former are over-rated and the latter under-rated by many.

All in all a good, solid, well-written account; maybe not required reading for experienced gamers but a good addition to your bookshelves nevertheless when paired with the volume on heavy cavalry.

--Paul Le Long

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