ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Richmond, January 19, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7.

I. The exemption from military service of Route Agents of the Post Office Department, having been claimed by the Postmaster General, as executive officers of the Confederate States, under the act of October 11, 1862, is recognized. Such persons, if within conscript ages, will be enrolled, and furnished with certificates exempting them during the continuance of their appointments. In all cases where the appointment fails, or the term thereof expires, the party is required to report himself to the officer by whom he was enrolled, or if he cannot be found, to the Adjutant and Inspector General at Richmond.

II. Hereafter all field artillery, belonging to any separate army, will be parked together under the direction of the General, or other chief officer of artillery having control of the same, to be distributed, when required, according to the judgment of the Commanding General of such army.

III. Cavalry companies will, as far as practicable, be kept with their respective regiments. The practice of detailing such companies, or parts of them, as couriers and guides for the Head Quarters of General Officers, will be discontinued. Their places can be supplied by such infantry soldiers as may be able to furnish themselves with horses, and can be detailed for this duty by the General from their respective commands—the number not to exceed six for the commander of an army corps, four for commander of division, and two for commander of brigade.

IV. Medical officers, in furnishing certificates of disability to disabled and invalid officers, will confine themselves to the established FORMS of the service, provided for such certificates, and will hereafter abstain from recommending them for *light duty*.

By order.

S. COOPER, Adjutant and Inspector General.

Abrenate