

**Cuirassier, Trooper**

Winkler's "French Cuirassier Trooper" is from the 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment, as we can deduce from the details of facing color and the fact that this is the only one of the "yellow" regiments that was in the Dresden-Freiberg area.

Again, as seen on many other coats in this manuscript, the collar has a patch rather than the full facing color. Remarkable is the absence of the fringed epaulettes, a symbol of elite status proudly displayed by any unit eligible to wear them. But the 1813 shortages make this omission plausible. Meanwhile, instead of the usual big red fringed epaulettes emerging from beneath the cuirass, this trooper has his shoulder straps buttoned over the armor in a most unconventional manner. The trooper has retained the red plume, at least. We see a white cartridge pouch indicative of Saxon rather than French regulation issue.

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As were most of the heavy cavalry in 1813, the 9<sup>th</sup> Cuirassiers entered the field relatively weak. Part of GD Latour-Maubourg's 1<sup>st</sup> Reserve Cavalry Corps, the regiment had only 16 officers and 241 men on 15 May just before the Battle of Bautzen. The 9<sup>th</sup> was reduced to 16 officers and 159 men by the time of the Battle of Leipzig.

After the summer armistice, but before the Battle of Leipzig, officer casualties in the 9<sup>th</sup> Cuirassier Regiment tallied two wounded, while suffering one fatality and 14 wounded among the 16 officers at the Battle of Leipzig in October 1813.

Freiberg I, 37 >



Brun's copy (above) from Plate 51.



50-Gemeiner französischer Cuirassier

Freiberg I, 37