



AN ABRIDGEMENT

OF THE



OF THE

FIELD EXERCISE

AND

EVOLUTIONS OF THE ARMY.

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Part First.

*Compiled for the Use of the Montreal Volunteers.*

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## INTRODUCTION.

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LET it be most strongly impressed on the mind of every man who has engaged himself to perform any Military duty, whatever may be his rank, that a prompt and willing obedience to the orders of his superior Officer is the first great principle upon which his usefulness depends, and without which no successful operation can be hoped for. Embodied for the mutual defence of our lives and properties, and for the preservation of the peace of the city, the support of our laws and glorious Constitution, let unanimity and concord be our watchword, so that when called upon to defend our rights, all may be actuated by that spirit of loyal determination which will make the Volunteers of the city of Montreal a terror to its enemies.



## FIELD EXERCISE, &c.

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### PART FIRST.

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#### WITHOUT ARMS.

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##### S. 1. *Position of the Soldier.*

The equal squareness of the shoulders and the body to the front is the first and great principle of the position of a soldier. The heels must be in a line, and closed;—the knees straight;—the toes turned out, so that the feet may form an angle of sixty degrees;—the arms hanging close to the body; the elbows turned in and close to the side;—the hands open to the front, with the view of preserving the elbow in the indispensable position, as above described, and thereby of preventing false distances when marching in line;—the little fingers lightly touching the seams of the trowsers, with the thumb close to the fore-finger;—the belly rather drawn in, and the breast advanced, but without constraint;—the body upright, but inclining forward, so that the weight of it may principally bear on the fore part of the feet;—the head to be erect, and the eyes straight to the front.

N.B.—The words at the head of paragraphs, which are printed in small type, are

the words of command to be given by the instructor.

### S. 2. *Standing at Ease.*

Stand at Ease.

On the words *Stand at Ease*, the right foot is to be drawn back about six inches, and the greatest part of the weight of the body brought upon it; the left knee a little bent; the hands brought together before the body; the palms being struck smartly together, and that of the right hand then slipped over the back of the left; but the shoulders to be kept back and square; the head to the front, and the whole attitude without constraint.

Attention.

On the word *Attention*, the hands are to fall smartly upon the outside of the thighs; the right heel to be brought up in a line with the left; and the proper unconstrained position of a soldier immediately resumed.

### S. 3. *Eyes to the Right.*

Eyes Right.—Eyes Left.—Eyes Front.

On the words *Eyes Right*, glance the eyes to the right with a slight turn of the head. At the words *Eyes Left*, cast the eyes in like manner to the left. On the words *Eyes Front*, the look and head are to be directly to the front, the habitual position of the soldier.

These motions are useful on the wheeling of divisions,—or in closing to a flank,—or when dressing is ordered after a halt; and particular attention must be paid, in the several turnings of the eyes, to prevent the soldier

from moving his body, which must be preserved perfectly square to the front; but in all marches to the front, the recruit, at open order, must be taught to select objects in his front, and to march straight upon them;—at close order, the touch, with the preservation of a uniform and proper cadence, must form his only guide in marching.

*S. 4. The Facings.*

In going through the facings, the left heel never quits the ground; the body must rather incline forward, and the knees be kept straight.

To the Right, face.

1st. Place the hollow of the right foot smartly against the left heel, keeping the shoulders square to the front.

2nd. Raise the toes, and turn to the right on both heels.

To the Left, face.

1st. Place the right heel against the hollow of the left foot, keeping the shoulders square to the front.

2nd. Raise the toes, and turn to the left on both heels.

To the Right about, face.

1st. Place the ball of the right toe against the left heel, keeping the shoulders square to the front.

2nd. Raise the toes, and turn to the right about on both heels.

3rd. Bring the right foot smartly back in a line with the left.

To the Left about, face.

1st. Place the right heel against the ball



of the left toe, keeping the shoulders square to the front.

2nd. Raise the toes, and turn to the left about on both heels.

3rd. Bring up the right smartly in a line with the left.

Right, or Left, half face.

On the word of command *Right* or *Left Half Face*, each man will make an exact half face, as directed, by drawing back or advancing the right foot one inch, by which the whole will stand individually in echelon.

Front.

When it is intended to resume the original front, the word of command *Front*, will be given, and the whole will face, as accurately as possible, to their former front.

Right or Left about, three-quarters face.—Front.

When it is necessary to perform the diagonal march to the rear, the recruit will receive the word *Right (or Left) about three-quarters face*, upon which he brings the ball of the right foot (not the ball of the toe) to the left heel, or the right heel to the ball of the left foot, and makes a three-quarters face in the given direction. Upon the word *Front*, if he has faced to the right, he fronts to the left; and if he has faced to the left, he fronts to the right.

The feet in the first of the above motions are to be slipped back or brought forward without a jerk; the movement being from the hip, so that the body is kept perfectly steady until faced.

The greatest precision must be observed in these facings, for if they are not exactly executed, a body of

men, after being properly dressed, will lose their dressing on every small movement of facing.

*S. 5. Position in Marching.*

In marching, the soldier must maintain the position of the body as directed in Sect. 1. He must be well balanced on his limbs. His arms and hands must be kept perfectly steady by his sides, and on no account be suffered to move or vibrate; care must be taken that the hand does not cling to the thigh, or partake in the least degree of the movement of the limb. The body must be kept erect and square to the front. The movement of the leg and thigh must spring from the haunch, and be free and natural. The foot must be raised sufficiently high to clear the ground without grazing it, carried straight to the front, and, without being drawn back, placed softly on the ground, so as not to jerk or shake the body in the slightest degree. The head to be kept well up, and straight to the front, and the eyes not to be turned to the right or left.

*Balance Step.*

1ST. WITHOUT GAINING GROUND.

Caution.

Balance step without gaining ground, commencing with the left foot.

Front.

The left foot is brought gently forward with the toe at the proper angle to the left, the foot about three inches from the ground,

the left heel in line with the toe of the right foot.

*Rear.*

When steady the left foot is brought gently back (without a jerk), the left knee a little bent, the left toe brought close to the right heel. The left foot in this position will not be so flat as to the front, as the toe will be a little depressed.

*Front.—Halt.*

When steady, the word *Front* will be given as above, and repeated to the *Rear* three or four times; to prevent the recruits being fatigued, the word *Halt* will be given, when the left foot, either advanced, or to the rear, will be brought to the right.

The instructor will afterwards make the recruit balance upon the left foot, advancing and retiring the right in the same manner.

2DLY. GAINING GROUND BY THE WORD FORWARD.

*Front.*

On the word *Front*, the left foot is brought gently to the front without a jerk; the knee to be gradually straightened as the foot is brought forward, the toe turned out a little to the left and remaining about three inches from the ground. In this posture he remains for a few seconds only in the first instance, till practice has steadied him in the position.

*Forward.*

On this word of command, the left foot is brought to the ground, at 30 inches from heel to heel, while the right foot is raised at

the same moment, and continues extended to the rear. The body remains upright, but inclining forwards; the head erect, and neither turned to the right nor left.

Front.

On the word *Front*, the right foot is brought forward, and so on.

### S. 6. *Slow Step.*

March.

On the word *March*, the left foot is carried 30 inches to the front, and without being drawn back is placed softly on the ground so as not to jerk or shake the body; the recruit is to be taught to take 75 of these steps in a minute.

The recruit must be carefully trained, and thoroughly instructed in this step, as an essential foundation for arriving at accuracy in the paces of more celerity. This is the slowest step at which troops are to move.

### S. 7. *The Halt.*

Halt.

On the word *Halt*, let the rear foot be brought upon a line with the advanced one, so as to finish the step which was being taken when the command was given.

### S. 8. *Stepping Short.*

Step Short.—Forward.

On the word *Step Short*, the foot advancing will finish its pace, and afterwards each recruit will step as far as the ball of his toe, and no farther, until the word *Forward* be given, when the usual pace of 30 inches is to be taken.

This step is useful when a momentary retardment of

either a battalion in line, or of a division in column, shall be required.

*S. 9. Marking Time.*

Mark Time.—Forward.

On the words *Mark Time*, the foot then advancing completes its pace, after which the cadence is continued, without gaining any ground, but alternately throwing out the foot and bringing it back square with the other. At the word *Forward*, the usual pace of 30 inches will be taken.

This step is necessary when a column, division, &c. on the march, has to wait for the coming up of others.

*S. 10. The Side or Closing Step.*

The side or closing step is performed from the halt in quick time, by the following commands :

*Right Close—Quick March.*

*Left Close—Quick March.*

Right Close, Quick March.—Halt.

In closing to the right, on the word *Quick March*, eyes are turned to the right, and each man carries his right foot about 10 inches directly to his right (or, if the files are closed, to his neighbour's left foot), and instantly brings up his left foot, till the heel touches his right heel, and proceeds to take the next step in the same manner ; the whole with perfect precision of time, shoulders kept square, knees not bent, and in the true line on which the body is formed. At the word *Halt*, the whole halt turn their

eyes to the front, and are perfectly steady.  
(Vide S. 33.)

NOTE.—In closing on rough or broken ground the knees must necessarily be bent.

### S. 11. *Changing the Feet.*

Change Feet.

To change the feet in marching, the advanced foot completes its pace, the ball of the other is brought up quickly to the heel of the advanced one, which instantly makes another step forward, so that the cadence may not be lost.

This may be required of an individual, who is stepping with a different foot from the rest of his division; in doing which he will in fact take two successive steps with the same foot.

### S. 12. *The Quick Step.*

The cadence of the slow pace having become perfectly habitual to the recruits, they are now to be taught to march in *quick* time, which is 108 steps in a minute, each of 30 inches, making 270 feet in a minute.

Quick March.

The command *Quick March*, being given with a pause between them, the word *Quick* is to be considered as a caution, and the whole to remain perfectly steady. On the word *March*, the whole move off, conforming to the directions given in Sec. 5.

After the recruit is perfectly grounded in marching to the front in quick time, all the alterations of step, as above, for slow time, must be practised in the quick time.

This is the pace which will be applied generally to all movements by large as well as small bodies of troops;

and therefore the recruit must be trained and thoroughly instructed in this essential part of his duty.

S. 13. *The Double March.*

The directions for the March, in the preceding section, apply in a great degree to this step, which is 150 steps in the minute, each of 36 inches, making 450 feet in a minute.

Double March.

On the word *Double March*, the whole step off together with the left feet ; keeping the heads erect, and the shoulders square to the front ; the knees are a little bent ; the body is more advanced than in the other marches ; the arms hang with ease down the outside of the thigh. The instructor will be careful to habituate the recruit to the full pace of 36 inches, otherwise, he will get into the habit of a short trot, which would defeat the obvious advantages of this degree of march.

Halt.

As directed in Section 7.

The word *March*, given singly, at all times denotes that *slow time* is to be taken ; when the *Quick*, or *Double March* is meant, the words *Quick*, or *Double*, as a caution, will precede the word *March*.

The great advantage attending the constant use of the plummet must be obvious ; and the several lengths swinging the times of the different marches in a minute, are as follows :

	In. Hun.
Slow time ... ..	75 steps in a minute 24, 96
Quick time... ..	108... .. 12, 03
Double March... ..	150... .. 6, 26

A musket-ball suspended by a string which is not subject to stretch, and on which are marked the differ-

ent required lengths, will answer the above purpose, may be easily required, and should be frequently compared with an accurate standard in the adjutant's possession. The length of the plummet is to be measured from the point of suspension to the centre of the ball.

*S. 14. Dressing when halted.*

*Dress.*

Dressing is to be taught equally by the left as by the right. On the word *Dress*, each individual will cast his eyes to the point to which he is ordered to dress, with a slight turn of the head, but preserving the shoulders and body square to their front. The whole person of the man must move as may be necessary, and bending backward or forward is not to be permitted. He must take short quick steps, thereby gradually and exactly to gain his position, and on no account be suffered to attempt it by any sudden or violent alteration, which must infallibly derange whatever is beyond him. The faces of the men, and not their breasts or feet, are the line of dressing. Each man is to be able just to distinguish the lower part of the face of the second man beyond him.

In dressing, the eyes of the men are always turned to the officer who gives the word *Dress*; and who is posted at the point by which the body halts; and who from that point corrects his men, on a point at or beyond his opposite flank.

The faults to be avoided, and generally committed by the soldier in dressing, are, passing the line; the head too forward, and body kept back; the shoulders not square; the head turned too much.



S. 15. *File Marching.*

To the — Face.

The recruits must first *face*, and then be instructed to cover each other exactly in file, so that the head of the man immediately before may conceal the heads of all the others in his front. The strictest observance of all the rules for marching is particularly necessary in marching by files, which is first to be taught at the *slow time*, and afterwards in *quick time*.

March.

On the word *March*, the whole are immediately to step off together, gaining at the first step 30 inches, and so continuing each step without increasing the distance betwixt each recruit, every man locking or placing his advanced foot on the ground, before the spot from whence his preceding man had taken up his. No looking down, nor leaning backward, is to be suffered on any pretence whatever. The leader is to be directed to march straight forward on some distant objects given him for that purpose, and the recruits made to cover one another during the march, with the most scrupulous exactness: great attention must be paid to prevent them from opening out and losing their compact formation.

S. 16. *Wheeling of a single Rank, in Slow Time, from the Halt.*

Right Wheel.—March.—Halt, Dress.—Eyes front.

At the word, *Right Wheel*, the man on

the right of the rank faces to the right; on the word *March*, they step off together, the whole turning their eyes to the left (the wheeling or outward flank), except the man on the left of the rank, who looks inwards, and, during the wheel, becomes a kind of base line for the others to conform to, and maintain the uniformity of front. The outward wheeling man steps the usual pace of 30 inches, the whole observe the same time, but each man shortening his step in proportion as he is nearer to the standing flank on which the wheel is made. During the wheel, the whole remain closed to the standing flank; that is, they touch, without incommoding their neighbour; they must not stoop forward, but remain upright; opening out from the standing flank is to be avoided; closing in upon it, during the wheel, is to be resisted. On the word, *Halt, Dress*, each man halts immediately, without pressing forward. The dressing being completed, the squad receives the command *Eyes front*.

When the recruits are able to perform the wheel with accuracy in the *slow time*, they must be practised in *quick time*.

Nothing will tend sooner to enable the recruit to acquire the proper length of step, according to his distance from the pivot, than continuing the wheel without halting for several revolutions of the circle, and also giving the word *Halt, Dress*, at instants not expected, and when only a 6th, 8th, or any smaller proportion of the circle is completed.

*S. 17. Wheeling backwards, a single Rank.*

On the Right, backwards Wheel.—Quick March.—Halt.—Dress.

At the words *On the Right, backwards Wheel*, the man on the right of the rank faces to his left. At the word *Quick March*, the whole step backward in quick time, dressing by the outward wheeling man; those nearest the pivot making their steps extremely small, and those towards the wheeling man increasing them as they are placed nearer to him. The recruit in this wheel must not bend forward, nor be suffered to look down; but, by casting his eyes to the wheeling flank, preserve the dressing of the rank. On the word *Halt*, the whole remain perfectly steady, still looking to the wheeling flank till they receive the word *Dress*.

The recruits should be first practised to wheel backwards at the slow step; and at all times it will be necessary to prevent them from hurrying the pace; an error soldiers are very liable to fall into, particularly in wheeling backwards.

*S. 18. Changing the Direction by the Wheel of a single Rank on a moveable Pivot.*

Right (or Left) Shoulders forward.—Forward.

When the rank is marching to the front, and is ordered to change its direction to either flank, it receives the word *Right (or Left) Shoulders forward*; upon which the outward file of the named flank continues to step out at the full pace, and the wheel is performed (according to the principle explained in Section 17) upon the inner file

of the other flank, which brings the shoulder gradually round,—and gaining ground sufficient to circle round the wheeling point (where such is given), marks time, until it receives the word *Forward* ; but the wheel on the moveable pivot is always made at the same time at which the body may be moving. The commander gives the word *Forward*, when he sees that the rank has gained the front on which he intends it to move in a perpendicular direction.

*S. 19. Diagonal March.*

Right (or Left) half face.—March.—Halt, Front.—Right (or Left) Half turn.—Front turn.

This march will be commenced from the halt, by giving the command *Right* or (*Left*) *half face*, as described in Section 4, and on the word *March*, the men move on the diagonal lines upon which they are individually placed in echelon. Upon the command, *Halt, Front*, the original front is resumed. When the squad is marching to the front, and it is desired to take an oblique direction, the word *Right* (or *Left*) *half turn* is given, and the men move as above prescribed,—and when it is intended to move to the original front without halting, the word *Front turn* is given, when each man will turn his body to the front and move forwards without checking the pace.

When the movement is performed to the left, the reverse of the foregoing instructions will take place.

During the diagonal march the leading flank will be

the pivot for the time being ; for instance, when a squad or company is moving by the right half turn, the right-hand man must pay particular attention to the length of pace, and to move perpendicular to the line he took up when he made his half turn, as the accuracy of his movement may assist very much in preserving the division in its proper position. The other files must be careful that their right arms do not get beyond the centre of the men's backs who precede them in echelon ; and if they keep this position, their right feet will just clear the left of the preceding file.

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WITH ARMS.

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*S. 20. Position of the Soldier.*

When the firelock is shouldered, the person of the soldier remains in the position described under the head of *Close Order*, except that the wrist of the left hand is turned a little out, the better to embrace the butt, the firelock is placed in the hand, with the two first joints of the fingers grasping the inside of the butt, the thumb alone to appear in front. The piece must be carried at the full length of the arm, the butt a little forward, the fore part nearly even with that of the thigh ; the hind part of it lightly touching the thigh, when stationary, without being in the least degree affected by it when in motion. The firelock will rest upon the hollow of the shoulder, and be held firm and steady.

S. 21. *Open Order.*

Rear Rank, take Open Order.—March.

The recruits being formed in two ranks at close order, on the word *Rear Rank, take Open Order*, the flank men on the right and left of the rear rank step briskly back one pace, face to their right, and stand covered, to mark the ground on which the rear rank is to halt, and dress at open order; every other individual remains ready to move. On the word *March*, the dressers front, and the rear rank steps back one pace, dressing by the right.

S. 22. *Close Order.*

Rear Rank, take Close Order.—March.

On the word *Rear Rank, take Close Order*, the whole remain perfectly steady; at the word *March*, the rank closes within one pace.

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 S. 23. THE MANUAL EXERCISE.

1st. Secure Arms.

1st. Bring the right hand briskly up, and place it under the cock, the fore-finger touching the back part of it, the thumb placed between the stock and barrel, and pointing to the muzzle, keeping the firelock steady.

2nd. Quit the butt with the left hand, and seize the firelock with it at the swell, bringing the elbow close down upon the lock, carefully avoiding to raise or lower the

shoulder ; the right hand kept fast in this motion, and the piece still upright.

3rd. Quit the right hand, giving the piece a cant with the fore-fingers, and bring it down to your right side, bringing the firelock down to the *secure*, under the left arm, the elbow thrown a little to the rear, the guard *just* visible, the thumb on the sling, the fingers grasping the barrel, and the hand rather below the hip bone.

2d. Shoulder Arms.

1st. Bring the firelock up to the perpendicular line, seizing it with the right hand under the cock, as the first motion of the *secure*.

2nd. Quit the left hand, and strike the butt with the palm, grasping it at the same instant.

3rd. Quit the right hand, and bring it smartly down to the right side.

3rd. Order Arms.

1st. Seize the firelock with the right hand at the lower loop, just at the swell, the elbow close to the body.

2nd. Bring it down to the right side, to the *trail*, allowing the little finger to slip between the stock and barrel, the butt as low down as the arm will admit without constraint.

3rd. Drop the heel of it on the ground, placing the muzzle against the hollow of the right shoulder, and the hand flat upon the side of the stock ; the thumb only to appear on the sling.

## 4th. Fix Bayonets.

1st. At the word *Fix*, place the thumb of the right hand, as quick as possible, behind the barrel.

2nd. As soon as the word of command is fully given, take a gripe of the firelock, and push the muzzle a little forward, grasping the bayonet with the left hand, the elbow kept well forward so as not to interfere with the left-hand man, and fixing it with the utmost celerity. The instant this is done, return, as quick as possible, to the order, as above described, and stand perfectly steady.

## 5th. Shoulder Arms.

1st. As soon as the word *Shoulder* is given take a gripe of the firelock with the right hand, as in fixing bayonets.

2nd. At the last word, *Arms*, the firelock must be thrown, with the right hand, in one motion, and with as little appearance of effort as possible, into its proper position on the left shoulder. The hand crosses the body in so doing, but must instantly be withdrawn.

## 6th. Present Arms.

1st. Seize the firelock with the right hand, under the guard, turning the lock to the front, but without moving it from the shoulder.

2nd. Raise the firelock up from the shoulder to the *poise*, by placing the left hand (smartly and with a tell) upon the sling, fingers pointing upwards; the wrist upon the guard, and the point of the left



thumb of equal height with, and pointing to, the left eye : the piece to be kept perpendicular in this position, the left elbow close to the butt, and right elbow close to the body.

3rd. Bring down the firelock with a quick motion, as low as the right hand will admit without constraint, making it tell with the left hand, drawing back the right foot at the same instant, so that the hollow of it may touch the left heel. The firelock in this position, with the guard to the front, to be totally supported in the left hand, and opposite to the left thigh ; the right hand lightly holding the small of the butt ; the fingers pointing rather downwards ; the body to rest entirely on the left foot ; both knees straight.

#### 7th. Shoulder Arms.

1st. By a turn of the right wrist, bring the firelock to its proper position on the left shoulder, making the motion tell, the left hand grasping the butt, and bringing up the right foot at the same instant to its original position.

2nd. Quit the right hand briskly, and bring it down to the right side.

#### 8th. Port Arms.

At one motion throw the firelock from the shoulder across the body, meeting it smartly with both hands at the same instant, to a diagonal position, in which the lock is to be turned to the front, and at the height of the breast ; the muzzle slanting upwards, so

that the barrel may cross opposite the point of the left shoulder, with the butt proportionably depressed.

The right hand grasps the small of the butt, and the left holds the piece at the swell, close to the lower pipe; the thumbs of both hands pointing towards the muzzle; both elbows close to the body, the fingers of the left hand between the stock and barrel.

9th. Charge Bayonets.

Make a half-face to the right, the right toe straight off to the right, and the left toe full to the front, and bring down the firelock to nearly a horizontal position, with the muzzle inclining a little upwards, and the right wrist resting against the hollow of the thigh below the hip.

10th. Shoulder Arms.

1st. Throw the firelock up to its proper position on the left shoulder, the left hand falling smartly on the butt, and grasping it, and at the same instant coming to your proper front.

2nd. Quit the right hand smartly, and bring it down to the right side.

11th. Advance Arms.

1st. Seize the firelock with the right hand under the guard, turning the lock to the front, but without moving it from the shoulder.

2nd. Raise the firelock up from the shoulder to the poise, by placing the left hand upon the sling, fingers pointing upwards, the wrist upon the guard, and the

point of the left thumb of equal height with, and pointing to, the left eye; the piece to be kept perpendicular in this position.

3rd. Bring the firelock down to the right side with the right hand as low as it will admit without constraint, at the same time striking it smartly with the left hand at the swell, the guard between the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand, the three last fingers under the cock, with the guard to the front.

4th. Quit the left hand.

12th. Order Arms.

1st. At this word the left hand is brought smartly across the body, and seizes the firelock, with the fore-finger in line with the point of the right shoulder.

2nd. Bring the firelock down as low as the left arm will admit, to the right side; at the same time let the right hand seize the top of the ramrod, between the second joint of the fore-finger and thumb, the whole of the fingers shut in the hand.

3rd. Let the firelock drop on the ground, and the right hand be smartly brought to the position of ordered arms, quitting the left hand short away, at the same instant.

13th. Advance Arms.

1st. At the word *Advance*, the thumb of the right hand is slipt quickly in rear of the barrel.

At the word *Arms*, it is brought to the advance by a sharp cant of the right hand; the left arm is brought across the body, to

## 2nd. Quit the left hand.

## 14th. Shoulder Arms.

1st. Bring up the left hand, and seize the piece at the swell, raising it about one inch ; at the same instant slip the thumb of the right hand under the cock, by a turn of the right wrist.

2nd. Throw it smartly to its proper position on the left shoulder, the left hand falling smartly on the butt, grasping it.

3rd. Quit the right hand, and bring it to the right side.

*N.B. In these motions great care must be taken to preserve the squareness of the body, and to avoid raising or sinking the shoulder.*

## 15th. Support Arms.

1st. Seize the small of the butt, under the lock, with the right hand, the thumb pointing upwards.

2nd. Bring the left arm under the cock.

3rd. Quit the right hand.

## 16th. Stand at Ease.

At this word of command, the right hand is brought smartly across the body, and seizes the firelock at the small of the butt close up under the left arm, with the thumb of the right hand pointing upwards, the right foot drawn back, the left knee bent, and the firelock a little sloped.

## 17th. Attention.

At this word of command the right hand is dropped smartly to the right side, and the right foot brought in line with the left.

## 18th. Carry Arms.

1st. Seize the small of the butt under the left arm, with the right hand.

2nd. Smartly place the left hand grasping the butt, the firelock kept steady.

3rd. Quit the right hand.

At the same instant allowing the left arm to sink to the full extent.

## 19th. Slope Arms.

In sloping arms the upper part of the arm is not to move, the guard of the firelock is to be raised so as gently to press against the hollow of the shoulder, the hand in a line with the elbow, the toe of the butt in a line with the centre of the left thigh.

## 20th. Stand at Ease.

On the word *Ease*, bring the right hand smartly across the body, placing it on the left hand, both thumbs on the fore part of the heel of the butt, that of the left hand uppermost, and drawing the right foot back at the same instant, the left knee bent.

## 21st. Attention.

At this word of command resume the attitude of attention, by bringing the right hand smartly to the right side, and the right foot in line with the left.

## 22nd. Carry Arms.

1st. Drop the left arm to its extent, and bring the right hand smartly across the body, the fore part of the fingers to meet the small of the butt, as in the first motion of the "Secure."

2nd. Quit the right hand.

## 23rd. Order Arms.

As before directed.

## 24th. Unfix Bayonets.

At the word *Unfix*, slip the thumb of the right hand in rear of the barrel ; at the last sound of the word *Bayonet*, force the muzzle a little forward, bring the left hand smartly to the upper loop, the thumb pointing upwards. Strike the bow of the bayonet with the heel of the right hand so as to unfix it ; let the bow fall over the thumb, and the two fore-fingers on the top of the socket, with the left hand force the muzzle of the firelock back to its proper position, at the same instant bring the thumb of the left hand on the top of the scabbard, for the purpose of guiding the bayonet into it ; and bring the right hand smartly to the position of ordered arms.

## 25th. Stand at Ease.

As before directed.

It is to be understood that whenever a battalion in line charges with bayonets, the whole are in the first instance to advance at a firm quick step, with shouldered arms ; at the word *Prepare to Charge*, the firelocks of the front rank will be brought to the long trail, and those of the rear rank to the slope ;—at the word *Charge*, the firelocks of the front rank will be thrown smartly to the charging position, and the pace increased to double march, carefully avoiding too much hurry. The enemy being routed, it will depend on the officer commanding to give the word *Halt*, when both ranks will shoulder arms, and proceed as may be afterwards directed.

In marching any distance, or in standing at ease when *supported*, the men are allowed to bring their right hand across the body to the small of the butt, which latter must, in that case, be thrown a little forward ; the

fingers of the left hand being uppermost, must be placed between the body and the right elbow ; the right hands are to be instantly removed when the division *halts*, or is ordered to *dress* by *the right* or *left*.

#### T I M E .

The motions in the Manual Exercise are to be performed, leaving one pause of the slow time of march between each motion, except that of *fixing bayonets*, in which a longer time must be given. One pause should also be made between the first and last parts of the words of command ; for instance, *shoulder* (one pause) *arms*, both in manual and platoon.

The manual is not to be executed by one word, or signal, but each separate word of command is to be given by the officer who commands the body performing it.

#### S E N T R I E S .

Sentries, posted with shouldered arms, are permitted afterwards to *support*, but not to slope them. On the approach of an officer, they immediately *carry* their arms, and put themselves into their proper position, which is not to be done at the instant he passes, but by the time he is within twenty yards of their post, so that they may be perfectly steady before he comes up.

Sentries are to *port arms* when challenging any person approaching their posts.

#### C O R P O R A L S .

Corporals marching with reliefs, or commanding detachments or divisions, are to be

on the right, and will carry their arms *advanced* with bayonets fixed.

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*S. 24. Platoon Exercise, and different Firings.*

The recruit having a thorough knowledge of the different motions of the firelock, as shewn in the Manual Exercise, will now be taught the Platoon Exercise as follows :—

Eight or ten recruits being formed in a single rank, at close files, and shouldered firelocks, will be thus taught to fire before they are formed in two ranks.

- 1st. As a front rank standing.
- 2nd. As a rear rank standing.
- 3rd. As a front rank kneeling.
- 4th. As a rear rank kneeling.

As a Front Rank.—Prime and Load.

1st. Upon the command, make a quarter face to the right, which will bring the left toe direct to the front, the right foot to be drawn back six inches in a diagonal direction to the right, at the same time bring down the firelock to the priming position, with the left hand at the swell, the elbow close in front of the left hip, the side-brass touching the right hip, the thumb of the right hand placed in front of the steel with the fingers clenched and wrist a little turned out, the firelock nearly horizontal.

2nd. Open the pan by closing the elbow to the side, fingers straight along the lock plate pointing towards the muzzle.



## Handle Cartridge.

- 1st. Draw the cartridge from the pouch.
- 2nd. Bring it to the mouth, holding it between the fore-finger and thumb, and bite off the top of the cartridge.

## Prime.

- 1st. Shake some powder into the pan, and place the three last fingers on the steel.
- 2nd. Shut the pan by closing the elbow.
- 3rd. Seize the small of the butt with the above three fingers.

## 'Bout.

1st. Turn the piece nimbly round to the loading position, meeting the muzzle with the heel of the right hand, the butt within two inches of the ground, and the flat of it against the left ancle: at the same time bring up the right shoulder to the front, and square the heels.

2nd. Place the butt on the ground without noise, raise the elbow square with the shoulder, shake the powder into the barrel, putting in after it the paper and the ball, after which the fingers are straight, with the second joint of the fore-finger resting on the head of the ramrod and thumb pointing downwards, elbow square with the shoulder.

In this position each recruit must feel the guard against the centre of the left shin, the thumb of the left hand pressed against the centre, and in front of the left thigh, the muzzle of the firelock to be brought in front of the breast-plate, and the barrel to the front.

3rd. Drop the right elbow close to the body, and seize the head of the ramrod with the second joint of the fore-finger and thumb.

Draw Ramrods.

1st. Force the ramrod half out, and seize it back-handed exactly in the middle, with the elbow square with the shoulder.

2nd. Draw it entirely out with a straight arm above the shoulder, turning it at the same time to the front, put it one inch into the barrel; the ramrod is thus held between the two fore-fingers and thumb, with the two last fingers shut in the hand.

Ram down Cartridge.

1st. Push the ramrod down, holding it as before exactly in the middle till the second finger touches the muzzle, elbow close.

2nd. Press the ramrod lightly towards you, and slip the two fore-fingers and thumb to the point, then grasp it as before.

3rd. Push the cartridge well down to the bottom.

4th. Strike it two very quick strokes with the ramrod.

Return Ramrods.

1st. Draw the ramrod half out, catching it back-handed, with the elbow square.

2nd. Draw it entirely out with a straight arm above the shoulder, turning it to the front; put it into the loops, and force it as quickly as possible to the bottom, the fore-finger and thumb holding the ramrod as in the position immediately previous to drawing it, and after a pause of one pace of the slow

time bring the firelock with one motion to the same position as at the word *prime and load*, at the same time resuming the half face to the right, and carrying the right foot diagonally to the rear.

As Front Rank. Ready.

Place the thumb of the right hand on the cock, and fingers behind the guard, and cock the piece; then take a grasp of the butt, fixing the eye steadily upon some object in front.

P'sent.

Bring the firelock up to the present slowly and independently until in line with the object the eye had fixed upon; then pull the trigger without a jerk, and when fired, remain looking on the aim until the word *load* is given.

Too much pains cannot be taken to prevent the recruit from raising his firelock with a jerk, it must be deliberately raised until aligned with the object that the eye is fixed upon, and so that he may lay the right cheek on the butt without too much stooping of the head; particular care must be taken that the recruit in this position shuts the left eye in taking aim, looking along the barrel with the right eye from the breech-pin to the muzzle.

Load.

Bring down the firelock to the priming position, and take hold of the cock with the thumb and fingers behind the guard, and

draw it back to the half cock ; the loading will be performed as before directed.

Shoulder Arms.

Seize the small of the butt and place the firelock on the left shoulder, bringing the shoulders and heels square to the front.

As Rear Rank. Ready.

Make a half face to the right, which will bring the left toe direct to the front, and step with the right foot as far to the right as will bring the right toe of each man close to the toes of the left foot of his right-hand man and pointing to the right ; at the same time bring down the firelock to the right side, seizing it with the left hand at the swell ; the side-brass to be four inches above the right hip, and cock the firelock, fixing the eye on some object in front, as before directed.

P'sent.

Bring up the firelock to the present slowly and independently, and pull the trigger when the object is covered, as before directed for front rank.

Load.

Bring down the firelock to the position described for making ready as rear rank, and half cock, as before directed.

Handle Cartridge.

As before directed.

Prime.

As before directed.

'Bout.

Turn the piece nimbly round to the loading position, meeting the muzzle with the heel of the right hand, butt within two inches of the ground, and the flat of it against the inside of the left ancle, bringing the right shoulder square to the front, and keeping the right foot fast.

2nd. Place the butt on the ground without noise, inside the hollow of the left foot, and proceed as before directed.

Draw Ramrods.

As before directed.

Ram down Cartridge.

As before directed.

Return Ramrods.

As before directed, and after a pause of one pace of slow time, bring the firelock to the position of prime and load, resuming the right half face.

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### TO FIRE KNEELING.

As Front Rank kneeling. Ready.

Sink down smartly on the right knee, which is to be drawn back about six inches from the left heel, the left leg to be perpendicular, the head and body erect, the firelock to be brought down to the priming position, the side-brass in line with the haunches; then cock the piece, and grasp the small of the butt, at the same time fixing the eyes steadfastly on some object in front.

P'sent.

Raise the firelock slowly until in line with the object, and fire as already directed for front rank standing.

Load.—Handle Cartridge—Prime.

As before directed.

'Bout.

With the left hand pass the firelock round in front of the left knee, and bring it to the left side close to the thigh, the butt to the rear, the sling upwards, the muzzle about three inches farther back than the left knee.

Load.—Draw Ramrods.—Ram down Cartridge.—Return Ramrods.

As before directed, and bring the firelock round in front of the left knee to the priming position by shifting it through the left hand.

N. B. When the word *Order Arms* is given, the men are to spring up to the standing position, bringing the firelock to the order.

As Rear Rank kneeling. Ready.

Sink down smartly on the right knee, which is to be drawn back about six inches diagonally to the right of the left heel; the left leg to be perpendicular, the head and body erect, the firelock to be brought down to the priming position, the side-brass four inches above the haunches; then cock the piece and grasp the small of the butt, at the same time fixing the eyes steadfastly on some object in front.

P'sent.—Load.—Handle Cartridge—Prime.

As before directed.

'Bout.

Turn the body to the right and lean to the rear, and with the left hand reverse the firelock, bringing the butt to the front, the sling upwards, the muzzle about the same height as the right elbow.

The recruits being thoroughly grounded in the foregoing instructions, may now be practised in two ranks at close order, in the different firings as a company in line, as a wing of a battalion, as a battalion firing a volley, file firing, &c. &c.

From twenty to thirty files may now be formed into two ranks at close order, with shouldered arms and fixed bayonets.

As a Company, Prime and Load.

The front rank and rear rank as described in the foregoing directions, each man doing his motions with the greatest celerity, and as correctly as shewn in slow time; after shutting the pan, and placing the hand on the small of the butt, the right-hand man will, as soon as he hears the division has done, cast about, the division taking the time from him; after casting about, each man will load and work his ramrod, as shewn in slow time, but the motions to be done without pause between them.

After returning ramrods, the whole remain perfectly steady, with the fore-finger and thumb grasping the head of the ramrod, and after a pause of one slow pace, come to the priming position.

Company.

This serves as a caution only.

Ready.

As shewn before, both ranks keeping the feet fast.

## P'sent.

As before directed:—"P'sent"—At the close of the General, or at the word *Cease firing*, the company, if made ready, receives the words *Half-Cock Arms*.

## Half-Cock Arms.

Place the thumb of the right hand in front of the cock-screw, and the fore-finger at the same time upon the trigger; the cock is then to be drawn a little back, and the trigger to be drawn so as to disengage the catch; the cock to be gently let down till the edge of the flint touches the hammer; then quit the trigger and draw back the cock to the catch of the half-cock; the small of the butt to be seized with the right hand, and the right foot brought up to the left.

## Shoulder Arms.

In the usual manner, and stand perfectly steady.

But—if the company should be in the act of loading, it will go on, and come to the priming position when done, waiting for the command of the officer to shoulder.

Firing as a wing or as a battalion, is performed precisely as laid down for a company.

When a battalion fires a volley, and it is not intended to reload, the caution will be given to *fire a volley and half-cock* (at the priming position). The battalion will then *Shoulder Arms* and *Shut Pans*, by word of command from the Commanding Officer.



N. B.—A company, wing, or battalion, can prime and load, or make ready from the order, with the same ease as from the shoulder.

For instance, at the words *Prime and* slip the thumb behind the barrel, and at the word *Load* according to direction.

Any movement can take place from “Ordered Arms,” as occasions may require in the following manner:— Upon the first word of the caution, bring the fingers round the barrel, and raise the butt about one inch from the ground, with the muzzle close against the hollow of the left shoulder; and at the word *Halt* resume the position of “Ordered Arms.”

The long trail, for the ease of the soldier, may be used on a line of march, or in marching to and from the place of parade, or exercise, or with guards marching to and from their posts.

Trailed arms must never be used in field movements, as upon such occasions it will cause loose marching, and loss of distance.

### *How performed at the Halt.*

#### Trail Arms.

Slip the right hand down to the swell of the stock, and lower the muzzle to a horizontal direction; at the same time the rear rank will fall nimbly back a short pace, so that the muzzle of the firelock shall touch the cuff of the front-rank man's jacket.

#### Change Arms.

Change from one hand to the other, as often as may be necessary.

The short trail must never be used in any instance, except the second motion of the order, and fixing and unfixing bayonets on the march, as such motion tends to cramp the muscles of the arm.

At the word *Halt*, arms are to be ordered without the word *Order Arms*, when the rear rank will close to the front.

## INDEPENDENT, OR FILE FIRING.

Independent or file firing may commence from the right or left of companies, or from any particular part of the line, as may be directed, and should be done as follows:—

At the close of the preparative, the first file will begin, the caution having previously announced at what part of the line the firing is to commence; when the first file comes to the present, the next file makes ready, and so on for the first fire, after which each file will fire as soon as loaded, the rear rank man keeping his eye on his front-rank man, and preserving his fire until his front-rank man has fired, and at the close of the General they will come to the shoulder independently, after loading.

The recruits having a thorough knowledge of the preceding portion of the drill, may now be formed in four ranks and practise to receive cavalry with two ranks kneeling, as it is necessary to do so in square four deep.

Prepare to resist Cavalry.—Ready.

The first rank kneel as front rank, the second rank kneeling as rear rank, both bringing at the same time the butt of the firelock in front of the right knee, the lock turned uppermost, the right hand lightly grasping the small of the butt, holding the firelock firm with the left hand at the middle of that part between the third loop and the swell, the lower part of the left arm resting upon the thigh, the muzzle of the firelock slanting upwards, so that the point of the

bayonet will be about the height of a horse's nose.

The third rank make ready as a rear rank, with this difference; they will carry the right foot only six inches to the right; the fourth rank make ready as rear rank; in this the kneeling ranks do not cock, the two standing ranks will commence file firing at the close of the Preparative, or at the words *commence Firing*,—and at the close of the General, or at the words *Cease firing*, they will load, and come to the front with ordered arms (at the right side), and shoulder by word of command, with the kneeling ranks who will also shoulder from the right side; the kneeling ranks may be fired if necessary, for which the Commander will give the words *Kneeling Ranks, ready, p'sent*, and which they do as directed in the foregoing instruction; then with a quick motion bring the firelock down to resist cavalry as before, and remain perfectly steady till the word *Load* is given.

N. B.—When the word *Load* is given, after firing in a square, the kneeling ranks will load as front ranks.

### S. 25. *Turning on the March.*

Right Turn.—Left Turn.

*Turning on the March*, in order to continue it, is necessary when companies, or their divisions, are moving in file, and that, without halting, it is eligible to make them move on in front; or when moving in front, it is proper without halting to make them move on in file.

Right About, turn.—Left About, turn.—Forward.

This movement is applicable to companies whereby the front is changed on the march without halting. On the word *Turn*, each individual soldier, without changing step, or cadence, comes to the right or left about on his own ground, and in his own person performing the movement in the time prescribed for three distinct paces, then marking time till he receives the word *Forward*, when he resumes the full pace to the front.

Strong taps of the drum, regulated by the plummet, will be given immediately *before the word March*, to imprint the required measure on the mind of the recruit; but the words *left, right*, are never to be used.

*S. 26. Open and Close Order, on the March.*

Rear Rank, take Open Order.

The squad, when moving to the front in slow time, receives the words *Rear Rank, take Open Order*; on which the front rank continues its march, without altering the pace, and the rear rank marks the time, one pace, and steps off at the second step.

Rear Rank take Close Order.

On the words *Rear Rank, take Close Order*, the rear rank steps nimbly up to close order, and instantly resumes the pace at which the front rank has continued to march.

*S. 27. March in File to a Flank.*

The accuracy of the march in file is so essential in all countermarches, file move-

ments, and all deployments from close column, that the recruit cannot be too much exercised in it.

To the —face, March.

After *Facing*, and at the word *March*, the whole squad steps off at the same instant, each replacing, or rather overstepping, the foot of the man before him; that is, the right foot of the second man comes within the left foot of the first, and thus of every one, more or less overlapping that of his preceding man. The front rank will march straight along the given line; each soldier of that rank must look along the necks of those before him, and never to right or left, otherwise a waving of the march will take place, and, of course, the loss and extension of the line and distance, whenever the body returns to its proper front. The men of the rear rank must regulate themselves by their leaders of the front rank, and always dress in their file. Although file marching is in general made in quick time, yet it must also be practised and made in slow time. The same position of feet, as above, takes place in all marching in front, where the rear rank is closed, and locked up.

The Instructor must take care that every man takes at once his full length of pace at the word *March*.

### S. 28. *Wheeling in File.*

Squad.—Right Wheel.—Left Wheel.

The squad, when marching in file must, be accustomed to wheel its head to either

flank ; each file following successively, without losing or increasing distance. On this occasion, each file makes its separate wheel on a pivot moveable in a very small degree, but without altering its time of march. The front-rank men, whether they are pivot men or not, must keep up to their distance, and the wheeling men must take a very extended step, and lose no time in moving on.

The head of a company marching in file, must change direction in the same manner on the moveable pivot, by gradually gaining the new from the old direction, and thereby avoiding the sudden stop that otherwise would take place.

*S. 29. Wheeling forward from the Halt.*

Right Wheel.—Quick March.—Halt.

The directions already given for the wheeling of a single rank (vide Sect. 16) are to be strictly attended to in this wheel of the squad. On the words *Right* (or *Left*) *Wheel*, the rear rank if, at one pace distance, locks up. At the words *Quick March*, the whole step together in quick time, and the rear rank, during the wheel, inclines so as to cover the proper front-rank men. At the word *Halt*, the whole remain perfectly steady.

*S. 30. Wheeling backward.*

The squad must be practised in wheeling backward in quick time. In this wheel, the ranks may preserve the distance of one pace from each other. Great attention should be paid, to prevent the recruits from fixing their eyes on the ground. (Vide Section 17.)

## OF THE COMPANY.

*S. 31. Formation of the Company.*

The recruit being thoroughly grounded in all the preceding parts of the drill, is now to be instructed in the movements of the company, as a more immediate preparation for his joining the battalion; for this purpose from 10 to 20 files are to be assembled, formed, and told off, in the following manner, as a company in the battalion.

The company FALLS IN at close order, with shouldered arms, the files lightly touching, but without crowding; each man will then occupy a space of about 21 inches. The commander of the company takes post on the right of the front rank, covered by a serjeant in the rear rank. The other serjeants will form a third, or supernumerary rank, three paces from the rear rank.

When a company is thus singly formed with its officers, the captain is on the right, and the other officers in the rear, as also the drummer or pioneer in a third rank, at three paces distance. In this formation companies are to assemble on their private parades, being sized from flanks to centre.

The company will be told off in sub-divisions, and four sections. If four officers are present, the captain, when the company is in column of sections, takes the leading section, the next in seniority the third section, the third in rank the fourth section, and the junior officer the second. The covering ser-

jeant will cover the second file from the pivot of the leading section. When there are but three officers, the covering serjeant will take the second section from the head of the column. The company will also be told off by threes from the right, numbered 1, 2, 3.

Should there be a blank file in telling off the company in line, it will invariably be the fourth file from the left.

When thus formed, the company will be practised in

Opening	}	Ranks.		
and				
Closing of				
Dressing	}		by the right and left;	
				to the front,
				to the rear, in an oblique direction,

and be exercised in the several motions of the firelock.

*Close order* is the chief and primary order in which the battalion and its parts at all times assemble and form. *Open order* is only regarded as an exception from it, and occasionally used in situations of parade and show. In close order, the rear rank is closed up to within one pace, the length of which is to be taken from the heels of one rank to the heels of the other rank. In open order, they are two paces distant from each other; when for inspection, three paces.

In order to distinguish the words of command given by the instructor of the drill (who represents the commander of the battalion) from those given by the commander of the company, or its divisions, the com-



mands of the former are in CAPITAL letters, those of the latter in *Italic*.

### S. 32. *Marching to the Front*

BY THE RIGHT (OR LEFT), MARCH, OR QUICK MARCH.

1. In the drill of the company, the person instructing must always consider it as a company in battalion, and regulate all its movements upon that principle; he will therefore, before he puts it in motion to front or rear, indicate which flank is to direct, by giving the word BY THE RIGHT, LEFT, OR CENTRE, MARCH, on which eyes will be directed full to the front, and the touch preserved to the named flank, or to the centre, as required. Should the right be the directing flank, the commander of the company himself will fix on objects to march upon in a line truly perpendicular to the front of the company; and when the left flank is ordered to direct, he and his covering serjeant will shift by the rear to the left of the front rank, and take such objects to march upon. The conductor of the company, before the word MARCH is given, will remark some distinct object on the ground, in his own front, and perpendicular to the directing flank; he will then observe some nearer and intermediate point in the same line, such as a stone, tuft of grass, &c.; he will move upon them with accuracy, and as he approaches the nearest of these points, he must from time to time, choose fresh ones in the original direction, which he will by

this means preserve, never having fewer than two such points to move upon.

2. As the MARCH of every body, except in the case of inclining, is made on lines perpendicular to its front, each individual composing that body must remain perfectly square to the given line; otherwise he will naturally and insensibly move in a direction perpendicular to his own person, and thereby open out, or close in, according to the manner in which he is turned from the true point of his march. If the distortion of a single man operates in this manner, and all turnings of the head do so distort him, it may be easily imagined what that of several will occasion, each of whom is marching on a different front, and whose lines of direction are crossing each other.

### S. 33. *The Side Step.*

The *side* or *closing step* must also be frequently practised; it is very necessary and useful on many occasions, when halted, and when a very small distance is to be moved to either flank.

#### TO THE RIGHT OR LEFT, CLOSE.

When the whole company is to close to a flank, if supposed to be a division of a column, its commander remains in his place upon the flank, and closes with his company; but if the company is to be considered as the division of a line, and no stated number of paces is mentioned, its commander will in that case step nimbly forward on the caution TO THE

RIGHT (OR LEFT), CLOSE, and place himself three paces in front of that flank which is supposed the inner one, or that which is nearest to the centre of the line, in order that he may be prepared to halt his company at the proper time, as well as to take a general superintendance of its movement.

QUICK MARCH.

At the words QUICK MARCH, the men step off together.

HALT.

On the word HALT being given, the officer instantly resumes his place in the line by the rear.

*S. 34. To Form Four Deep.*

FORM FOUR DEEP.—MARCH.

1. The company will be told off from the right by alternate files right and left; and when it is intended to form four deep, preserving the same front, the word FORM FOUR DEEP will be given, upon which the rear rank will step back one pace, and on the word MARCH, the left files will double behind the right files, by taking one pace to the rear with the left feet, and one pace to the right with the right feet, which forms four deep, leaving the intervals which the left files had quitted.

REAR, FORM FOUR DEEP.—MARCH.

2. *When four deep is to be formed to the rear.* On the same caution the rear rank will step back as before, and on the word MARCH, the whole go to the right about, and

the left files will then double as before, in the *proper* rear of the right files.

RIGHT, FORM FOUR DEEP.—MARCH.

3. *When ground is to be taken to the right in the formation of four deep.* On the caution the rear rank steps back as before, and on the word MARCH, the whole face to the right, and the left files, at the same instant, form on the right of the right files, taking one pace to the right with the right feet, and one pace to the front with the left feet.

LEFT, FORM FOUR DEEP.—MARCH.

4. *When ground is to be taken to the left.* The rear rank steps back as before, and on the word MARCH, the whole face to the left, and the left files, at the same instant, form on the left of the right files, by taking one pace to the left with the left feet, and one pace to the rear with the right feet.

In all these formations two deep is re-formed from each of them by the word *Front*, upon which the files move up to their respective intervals into line, the rear rank immediately closing on the front rank; the word *Halt* will precede the word *Front* if the company has been in movement.

In moving to a flank, file marching may be adopted, if necessary, by the files leading out in their proper order upon the word, FORM TWO DEEP; and, at the word RE-FORM FOUR DEEP, resuming their former places.

S. 35. *File Marching.*

LEFT FACE.

In marching by files, the commander of the company will lead on the inward flank

of the front rank, his covering serjeant leading the front rank ; therefore when the movement is by the left, on the word TO THE LEFT FACE, he will instantly shift to the left flank of the company by the front, and his covering serjeant by the rear ; at the word QUICK MARCH, the whole step off together (vide Section, 15,) : and on the word *Halt, Front*, the leader and his Serjeant will return to their posts on the right by the rear.

*S. 36. Wheeling from a Halt.*

RIGHT WHEEL, QUICK MARCH.—*Halt, Dress.*

In wheeling either forward or backward from a halt, the commander of the company, on the word RIGHT or LEFT WHEEL, moves out, and places himself one pace in front of the centre of his company ; during the wheel, he turns towards his men, and inclines towards that flank which has been named as the directing, or pivot one, giving the word *Halt, Dress*, when his wheeling man has just completed the required degree of wheel ; he then squares his company, but without moving what was the standing flank, and takes his post on the directing flank.

*S. 37. Wheeling forward by Sub-divisions from Line.*

BY SUB-DIVISIONS, RIGHT WHEEL.

1. On the caution BY SUB-DIVISIONS, RIGHT WHEEL, the commander of the company places himself one pace in front of the centre of the right sub-division, at the same

time the men on the right of the front rank of each sub-division face to the right.

QUICK MARCH.—*Halt, Dress.*

At the word QUICK MARCH, each sub-division steps off in quick time; observing the directions given in Sects. 16 and 29. The commander of the company turning towards the men of the leading sub-division, and inclining to its left (the proper pivot flank), gives the word *Halt, Dress*, for both sub-divisions, as his wheeling man is taking the last step that finishes the wheel square; and instantly posts himself on the left, the pivot flank. The covering serjeant shifting by the rear to the proper pivot flank, assumes his place in column, one pace in rear of the second file from the pivot, the senior subaltern taking post on the pivot flank of the second sub-division; the commander of the company always leading the first.

2. The company marching to the front may be wheeled into open column of sub-divisions on the moveable pivot, to either flank *without* halting; the instructor giving the word FORWARD, when the sub-divisions have wheeled square into column.

The *proper* pivot flank in column is that which, when wheeled up to, preserves the divisions of the line in the natural order, and to their proper front; the other is the *reverse* flank.

In column, divisions cover and dress to the proper pivot flank; to the left when the right is in front; and to the right when the left is in front.

*S. 38. Wheeling backwards by Sub-divisions from Line..*

CAUTION.

The company will also break into open

column of sub-divisions by wheeling backwards. When the right is intended to be in front ; at the caution **BY SUB-DIVISIONS ON THE LEFT, BACKWARD WHEEL**, the commander of the company moves out briskly and places himself one pace in front of the centre of the right sub-division. The man on the left of the front rank of each sub-division at the same time faces to the right.

**QUICK MARCH.**—*Halt, Dress.*

On the word **QUICK MARCH**, each sub-division wheels backward, as directed in Sections 17 and 30. During the wheel, the commander of the company turns towards his men, inclining at the same time to the left, or pivot flank, and on completing the wheel gives the word *Halt, Dress*, to both divisions ; he and his covering serjeant then place themselves in their proper stations, as directed in the last Section.

*S. 39. Marching on an Alignment, in Open Column of Sub-divisions.*

**MARCH.**

The company having wheeled backwards, by sub-divisions from line, (as directed in the foregoing Section,) and a distant marked object in the prolongation of the two pivot flanks being taken ; the commander of the company, who is now on the pivot flank of the leading sub-division, immediately fixes on his intermediate points to march on. (Vide Section 32.) On the word **MARCH**, given by the instructor of the drill, both divisions step off at the same instant ; the

leader of the first division marching with the utmost steadiness and equality of pace on the points he has taken ; and the commander of the second division preserving the leader of the first in the exact line with the distant object ; at the same time he keeps the distance necessary for forming from the preceding division, which distance is to be taken from the front rank. These objects must occupy the whole attention of the leaders of the two divisions.

*S. 40 Wheeling into Line from Open Column of Sub-divisions.*

HALT.—LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE.—QUICK MARCH.

*Halt, Dress.—Eyes Front.*

1. The company being in open column of sub-divisions, marching on the alignment receives the word HALT from the instructor of the drill ; both divisions instantly halt, and the instructor sees that the leaders of the divisions are correct on the line in which they have moved ; he then gives the word (supposing the right of the company to be in front) by sub-divisions LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE ; on which the commander of the company goes to the centre of his sub-division, the two pivot men face to their left exactly square with the alignment, the rear rank men covering off, and a serjeant runs out and places himself in a line with them, so as to mark the precise point at which the right flank of the leading sub-divisions is to halt, when it shall have completed its wheel. At the word QUICK MARCH, the whole wheel



up in quick time ; during the wheel, the commander of the company turning towards his men, inclines to the wheeling flank, and gives the word *Halt, Dress*, at the moment the wheel of the division is completed : the commander of the company, if necessary, corrects the internal dressing of the company on the serjeant and pivot men : this dressing must be quickly made, and, when done, the commander of the company gives the word *Eyes front*, and takes post in line.

*S. 41. Countermarching.*

The company, when it is to countermarch, must always be considered as a division of a battalion in column : the instructor of the drill will therefore, previous to his giving the caution to countermarch, signify whether the right or left is supposed to be in front, that the commander of the company, and his covering serjeant, may be placed on the pivot flank before such caution is given, as it is an invariable rule in the countermarch of the divisions of a column by files, that the facings be made from the flank, then the pivot one, to the one which is to become such.

*Countermarch by files.*

**RIGHT (OR LEFT) FACE.—QUICK MARCH.—***Halt, Front, Dress.*

1. On the word **RIGHT, OR LEFT, FACE**, the company faces, the commander of it immediately takes one pace outwards, and faces inwards ready to halt his company ; and his covering serjeant faces to the right about, and covers. At the word **QUICK**

MARCH, the whole, except the commander and his covering serjeant, step off together, and the leading file wheeling short round the front rank, proceeds, followed by the company in file, till it has reached the covering serjeant, who has remained immovable ; when the commander instantly gives the words *Halt, Front, Dress*, squares, and closes his company on his serjeant, and then replaces him.

*S. 42. Increasing and Diminishing the Front of an Open Column halted.*

FORM COMPANY.—*Left Sub-division, Left Half Face ; Quick March.—Halt, Front, Dress up.*

INCREASING.

The company standing in open column of sub-divisions (suppose the right in front) receives from the instructor of the drill a caution to FORM COMPANY ; upon which the covering serjeants will run out to mark the pivot flank. The commander of the company, turning round, instantly orders, *Left Sub-division, Left Half Face ; Quick March* ; and the leading (or pivot) file will march straight on the covering serjeant. When the left sub-division has obliqued so as to gain the line of the right sub-division, the commander gives the word *Halt, Front, Dress up* ; and takes post on the left, the pivot flank of the company.

FORM SUB-DIVISIONS.—*Left Sub-division, Right about three-quarters Face, Quick March.—Halt, Front, Dress.*

#### DIMINISHING.

On the cautionary command from the instructor of the drill to FORM SUB-DIVISIONS, the senior subaltern instantly falls back to mark the point where the left flank of the sub-division is to rest. The commander of the company, advancing one step, orders, *Left Sub-division, Right about three-quarters Face, Quick March*; and the leading file of the left sub-division marches in the diagonal direction, until the pivot file reaches the officer who has taken up its distance and covers; and who, when it shall reach him, gives the words *Halt, Front, Dress*.

The commander remains on the left flank of the right sub-division, and the next officer on that of the left.

In increasing and diminishing the front of an open column halted, upon the usual caution, the rear-rank man of the pivot file of the reverse sub-division falls back and covers the third file of his sub-division, in order to leave room for the flank of the other sub-division, resuming his place as soon as the flanks are clear.

It is to be observed as a general rule in diminishing the front of a column by the doubling of sub-divisions or sections, whether the column be halted or in motion, that the sub-division or section on the *reverse* flank is the one behind which the other sub-divisions or sections double. Thus, when the right is in front, the doubling will be in the rear of the right sub-division; and *vice versâ* when the left is in front. And in increasing the front of a column, the rear sub-divisions, or sections, oblique to the hand the pivot flank is on; so that, when the right is in front, the obliquing will be to the left, and the reverse when the left is in front.

S. 43. *Increasing and Diminishing the Front of an Open Column on the March.*

INCREASING.

FORM COMPANY.—*Left Sub-Division, Left half-turn, Double. Front turn. Quick.*

The company marching at quick time in open column of sub-divisions (suppose right in front,) receives from the instructor of the drill the cautionary command, FORM COMPANY: the commander of the company instantly turning round, gives the words, *Left Sub-division, left half turn, Double*, and it instantly moves off at the *Double March*; and as soon as its inward flank is open, it receives the word *Front turn*, and when in line with the reverse sub-division, *Quick*, the commander taking post on the pivot flank, towards which he has been moving.

DIMINISHING.

FORM SUB-DIVISIONS.—*Left Sub-division mark time; Right half turn.*

When the instructor of the drill gives the caution to FORM SUB-DIVISIONS, the commander of the company, advancing one step, immediately orders, *Left Sub-division, mark time; Right half turn*; and when it has doubled properly behind the right one, the senior subaltern gives the word, *Front turn*, placing himself on its pivot flank.

The same directions that apply to increasing or diminishing by sub-divisions, apply equally by sections.

If the column is moving in slow time, when its front is to be increased, the division moving up will do so in quick time; but when the column is marching in quick

time, the rear sub-division will in that case move up in double time as directed.

*S. 44. The Company in Open Column of Sub-divisions to pass a short Defilé, by breaking off Files.*

**BREAK OFF THREE FILES.**—*Three Files, right turn, left wheel.*

The company is supposed in open column of sub-divisions, with the right in front ; when the leading division is arrived within a few paces of the defilé, it receives from the instructor of the drill an order to break off a certain number of files (suppose three.) The commander of the leading division instantly gives the words, *Three files, on the left, right turn, left wheel* ; the named files immediately turn to the right, and wheeling to the left follow in file in rear of the left flank of the sub-division. When the second sub-division comes to the spot where the first division contracted its front, it will receive the same words of command from its own leader, and will proceed in like manner.

*Two Files, right turn.*

Should it be required to diminish the front of the column one or two files more, the commander of the leading division will, as before, order the desired number of files to *turn* ; on which those already in the rear will incline to the right, so as to cover the files now ordered to break off, and which turn to the right and wheel to the left in the manner already prescribed.

In this movement, the files in the rear of the sub-divisions must lock well up, so as not to impede the

march of the succeeding division. The covering serjeant will cover his officer until all the files are again brought up.

*Three files to the Front.*

As the defile widens (or the instructor of the drill shall direct,) the commander of the leading sub-division will order files to move up to the front, by giving the word, *One, two or three files to the front*; on which the named files turn to their front (the left,) and lengthening their pace, march up, file by file, to the front of their sub-division, and immediately resume the march. Those files which are to continue in the rear will 'oblique to the left, lengthening also their step, till they cover, and are closed up to the right flank of their sub-division.

It is to be observed that in passing a défilé, the rule is that the files break off from the pivot flank; but interruptions may in some cases present themselves, requiring that files be broken off from the reverse flank. The same instructions apply in both cases.

*S. 45. The Company halted or on the March Moves to a flank, in Column of Sections, or of Sections of Threes.*

SECTIONS, OR THREES, RIGHT OR LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD—  
*if halted*, QUICK MARCH, FORWARD.—SECTIONS, OR THREES,  
ON THE RIGHT OR LEFT BACKWARDS WHEEL, QUICK MARCH,  
*Halt, Dress.*

The company from line will be practised in forming sections and sections of threes, both when halted and in motion, by the command, SECTIONS, OR THREES, RIGHT OR LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD—QUICK MARCH, FORWARD; and the only exception to this rule will be, when pivots are required to be

accurately dressed, or when the alignment of the company is to be preserved ; in this case the command will be, SECTIONS, OR THREES, ON THE RIGHT OR LEFT BACKWARDS WHEEL, QUICK MARCH, *Halt, Dress.*

RIGHT OR LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD.—FORWARD, or *Halt, Dress.*

In re-forming company, the command will be RIGHT OR LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD—FORWARD, if the march is to be continued ; otherwise, *Halt, Dress.*

RIGHT OR LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE, QUICK MARCH, *Halt, Dress.*

When pivots are required to be accurately dressed, or when the alignment is to be preserved, the command will be, RIGHT OR LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE, QUICK MARCH, *Halt, Dress.*

The word *Forward*, or *Halt*, must be given just as the outward men of threes are completing their third pace.

Should the telling off by threes leave either one or two files over, they will be placed on the right of the left section of threes, which is always to be complete. If there is one file over—on the word THREES, SHOULDERS FORWARD, the front-rank man wheels up, and places himself in rear of the pivot flank of the section in front of him ; his rear-rank man placing himself in the rear of its reverse flank, both men locking up ; but if the odd file is a blank one, the reverse flank of the preceding section must necessarily remain uncovered. If there are two files over,—they wheel as ordered, and form a section of themselves, covering the outward flanks of the section preceding them ; but if one of these two files is a blank file, the three men will form a single rank, the two front-rank men covering the flanks of the preceding section, and the rear-rank man stepping up between them.

In forming threes from line to the right or to the left

by the shoulders forward, the leading section must frequently be practised to wheel upon the centre man of the three, as they will often be required to do so, in disengaging to the réar, when formed as a division of a line.

The company at any time may form THREES to a flank, after the telling off has been deranged, if the men are practised to do so rapidly in succession. The first three is formed at once; the fourth man in the front rank then sees that he is the pivot for the next three, and turns or faces into the new direction; the seventh file then follow, and so on to the reverse flank of the company; when on the march, the company may mark time until the threes are formed, when they receive the word FORWARD.

In changing the direction of a column of threes, the command will be the same as in file marching, *right wheel—left wheel*.

Should it be required to form company upon the leading three, the commander will order FRONT FORM COMPANY, upon which the leading three will mark time, the remainder will make a half turn to the proper hand, and moving up to their proper places in line will mark time, until the word FORWARD OR HALT is given.

If from sections of threes it be required to form sub-divisions or sections, the commander will order RIGHT (OR LEFT) TURN, RIGHT (OR LEFT) WHEEL, and when in file, FRONT FORM SUB-DIVISIONS (OR SECTIONS), upon which the leading file of sub-divisions (or sections) will mark time; the remainder turn their bodies a whole face to the proper hand, and wheel in sub-divisions or sections to the right or left as may be required. During these formations the company leader will move by the front to his proper station.

The company marching to a flank in threes will be practised to turn to the right and left, and to the right about, wheeling forward, afterwards, rear rank in front; the company may also be inverted by wheeling the threes forward on their reverse flank, as the inversion can at any moment be corrected.



*S. 46. Forming Company, Sub-divisions, Sections, or Sections of Threes, from File Marching.*

FRONT FORM COMPANY, SUB-DIVISIONS, OR SECTIONS.

At this word of command, the leading file marks time, the remainder turn their bodies a whole face to the left, and wheel to the right, looking to the outward flank and feeling inwards (that is to say) if right in front, turn to the left, and if left in front, turn to the right—the officer, if not already in his place, passing along the front to it during the wheel.

As soon as the quarter circle is complete, the word FORWARD is given, if the march is to be continued.

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GENERAL PRINCIPLES

FOR THE MOVEMENTS OF A BATTALION.

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*Commands.*

All words of command must be given short, quick, and loud, so as to be heard and understood from right to left of a battalion in line. The confidence and prompt obedience of the soldier can only be in proportion to the firm, decided, and proper manner in which every one gives his orders.

*Degrees of March.*

General Intentions.

1. All military movements are intended

to be made with quickness, consistent with order, regularity, and without hurry or fatigue to the troops.

Slow March.

2. The slow step is particularly applicable to purposes of parade, and occasionally to the march of extended lines.

Quick March.

3. The *Quick March* is the usual pace to be applied to all general movements of battalions, or general bodies, in column or line.

Double March.

4. The *Double March* is only to be applied to the movements of the divisions of a battalion; that is, to the interior movements of the divisions of a battalion when forming on any of its fixed parts. It cannot be applied to the movements of greater bodies, without exhausting the men, except upon peculiar occasions for a short distance; as in a charge, or where a post or position is to be seized, or the wheel of a column to be performed. In echelon movements the *Double March* may be safely applied to subdivisions or sections, when used in rapid formations from line to square, and from square to line, or for quickly throwing back or forward a flank; but not to the march of companies or strong divisions in echelon changes of front or position. The double march must never be applied to file marching except in the formation of square on the two centre sub-divisions.

*Marching in Line.*

1. The march in line, either to front or rear, is the most important and most difficult of all movements, and requires every exertion of commanding officers and every attention of officers and men for its true attainment. The essential points to be observed are, the perpendicular direction of the march to the front of the battalion as then standing; the perfect squareness of shoulders and body of each individual;—the light touch of the files to the directing point;—and the accurate equality of cadence and step given by advanced serjeants.

*Directing Serjeants.*

2. Every individual should therefore be well prepared for this movement. But to ensure its correct execution, three directing serjeants must be formed in the centre of the battalion; upon whose exact cadence, step, squareness of body, and precision of movement, dependence can be placed. They will be posted as follows: one, between the colours in the front rank, covered by another in the rear rank, and again covered by a third in the supernumerary rank.

3. At all times when the battalion is formed in line, and directed to advance, the front directing serjeant, of the three, who lead the line, takes six paces to his front and halts; the two other serjeants who were covering him pass through the interval, and move upon each side of him; an officer or serjeant from the rear replaces the leading

serjeant, in the front rank, and is again covered by the serjeant-major six or eight paces in rear of the line. These three points being corrected by the adjutant, or a mounted officer, a fourth point in prolongation is easily obtained. If a distinct and visible object should present itself in the true line, the mounted officer will order the directing serjeant to march upon it. If this be not the case, the directing serjeant, (after being assured by the mounted officer that he himself is perfectly and squarely placed,) will, by casting his eyes down the centre of his body, from the junction of his heels, take up and prolong a line perpendicular to himself and to the battalion; for this purpose he will observe and take up any accidental small point on the ground within 100 or 150 paces. Intermediate ones cannot be wanting, and their renewal is easy, as he successively approaches them in his march.

4. These preparatory arrangements being made, the mounted officer will give the word "*Steady*," as a signal that the line of direction is determined.

5. When the battalion advances, the serjeant-major will remain steady in the rear of the line for 20 or 30 paces, to ascertain under the directions of the mounted officer, the squareness and correctness of the line of march. If no waving or crowding in the line appear, the direction is certainly true, and the serjeant-major will then follow in the rear, covering as before.

6. Upon the caution that the battalion is

to retire, the directing serjeants will face about, and the same arrangements are made as directed for the advance. The rear-rank men must avoid closing their files more than usual, otherwise the front men, who are in general larger, will be crowded in their ranks.

### *Wheeling.*

1. The manner of performing the wheels of a division is sufficiently explained in Sections 18 and 36. It is shewn that they are made on halted and moveable pivots; and it may only be necessary to add an explanation of the circumstances under which each description of wheel is respectively adopted.

Wheel of divisions may be made forward or backward.—How performed.

2. Wheels of divisions may be made either forward or backward. In progressive movement they are made forward, but particular occasions require that they should be made **BACKWARD**, on the pivot flank. In this manner the line may wheel into open column of companies, sub-divisions, or sections, and be prolonged when necessary to either flank, the pivots being thus preserved. The wheel backwards is also advantageously used in marching off parades, where guards are of different strengths, and is often essentially necessary in narrow grounds. By this means, although divisions should be unequal, either in the same battalion, or in a line, yet all their pivot flanks will, after the wheel,

remain truly dressed ; of course, the distances will be just, the line of marching accurately preserved, and each division, by afterwards wheeling up, will exactly occupy the identical ground it quitted. The backwards wheel, however, need not be practised where the ground is uneven, and the divisions stronger than 15 or 16 files : where this is the case, the command will be FORM OPEN COLUMN RIGHT (OR LEFT) IN FRONT ; upon which the pivot men face as required, and the divisions are FACED TO THE RIGHT ABOUT—RIGHT (OR LEFT) WHEEL ; and are *halted* and *fronted* by the leaders of each when the wheel is performed.

Necessary Recollections.

3. It appears that the number of paces of 30 inches, comprised in the front of any division or body, is nearly 3.4ths of the number of files, of which it is composed ; and that the number of files being once ascertained in each division, the officer commanding it must on all occasions recollect the number of paces that are equal to his front.

*Table of the Number of Paces corresponding to a given Number of Files.*

Number of Files in a division, each occupying 21 inches.	5	10	12	14	15	16	18	20	30	40	50	100						
	Paces In																	
Front of divisions in paces of 30 inches	3	15	7	8	12	9	24	10	15	11	6	12	18	14	21	28	35	70

*Open Column.*

## Formation of Open Column from Line.

1. When a column is to be formed from line, it may be done by the wheel of divisions, either backward or forward. Upon the caution, the leaders of divisions place themselves close before the centre of their companies, facing to the front; the pivots face, and a supernumerary serjeant of the right or left company (according to which flank is to be in front) runs out, and places himself at the point where the wheeling flank of that company is to rest at the completion of the wheel; the covering serjeants of the whole fall back one pace; and the supernumerary rank closes up within one pace of the rear rank. When the wheel is performed, the covering serjeant covers the second file from the pivot flank.

2. When divisions march by threes, in order to take up a new alignment in open column, either to the front or rear, the serjeant of each, successively, as it arrives at 20 paces from that line, runs out, takes his distance, covering in the alignment, and remains as a point on which his officer will conduct his division and afterwards occupy. When such change of front is made from line to the front, each covering serjeant, in taking distance for his own company, becomes the point upon which the division next in front must be directed, and he resumes his station (by the reverse flank) in rear of his own company as soon as his place



is taken by the officer. In changes to the rear, the serjeants in like manner take distance for their own company, which in this case will also form upon them.

Covering of Pivots.

3. In column, divisions cover and dress to the proper pivot flank ; to the left when the right is in front ; and to the right when the left is in front. The proper pivot flank in column is that which, when wheeled up to, preserves the divisions of the line in their natural order, and to their proper front ; the other is called the reverse flank.

Posting of Serjeants.

4. The covering serjeant accompanies and assists the leader of a company in all his movements, and preserves his place whenever the officer's duty requires him to quit it.

5. When the column marches, if the officer is in front of the company, the serjeant is on the pivot of the front rank, and is answerable for the division distance. If the officer remains on the pivot flank, the serjeant then falls back behind the rear rank, and covers the second file from the pivot.

Column of sub-divisions.

6. When the battalion is in column of sub-divisions, if there is no second officer, the covering serjeant takes the flank of the second sub-division.

Column of Sections, and Threes, and Files.

7. In column of sections the covering serjeant takes the flank of the second section,

if there is not a third subaltern to command it. If there is a third subaltern, giving an officer to every section, then the covering serjeant will cover the second file from the pivot flank of the leading section. In the march by threes, the officer commanding the division is placed on the inner flank of the leading section of threes. The covering serjeant leads the centre file. In file marching the covering serjeant leads the front rank.

In Countermarches.

8. When divisions countermarch in column, the position of the covering serjeant is the same as that laid down in the countermarch of a single company. (S. 46.)

9. The same observation applies to the countermarch by ranks. (S. 46.)

Formation of Line from Open Column.

10. On the caution, officers move to the centre of their companies, one pace from the front rank ; their covering serjeants place themselves on the right of each, if the wheel is to be to the left, or behind the pivot file, if the wheel is to be to the right, and a serjeant of the leading company of the battalion runs up and places himself in the new alignment, to mark where the wheeling flank of that company is to rest. Pivot men of the front rank face square into the new direction, and the rear rank locks up to the front rank. The whole wheel up and halt. Officers dress the interior of their

companies, and then replace their serjeants, who are now in the front rank.

**Column March.**

11. The rear division of a column, either of march or manœuvre, will constantly follow every turning which the head may make ; each successively changing its direction at the same point with the leading division ; and although in route marching the files of a division may be permitted to loosen, and move with freedom, yet the pivot files must carefully preserve their place and distance at all times, under the constant superintendence of an officer of each division. In long marches, officers and pivot files may be frequently relieved in these essential attentions. Preparatory to any relaxation in route marching, the words MARCH AT EASE should be given, when the soldiers may be allowed to open their files, carry their arms as they please and converse. The officers may march likewise at ease, and with the exception of the officer charged with the superintendence of the pivot files, they will be found most useful in the rear of their companies. At the word ATTENTION, files are closed, the step taken up, silence preserved, and arms sloped. In this restored order all alterations of front, formations, &c., should be executed.

**Music, Drummers, &c.**

12. In passing in Review Order, the drummers are with the music, in front ; in Field Movements the drummers and music

are in the rear, when the battalion is in line, and on the reverse flank when in column.

*Close Column.*

1. When close columns are formed, the companies, or divisions, are one pace distant, measuring from the heels of the rear rank to the heels of the front rank. On the caution being given, the covering serjeant of the named company, places himself in front or rear of the officer, who will shift, if necessary, to the flank which is to become the pivot one of the column. The covering serjeants of the remaining companies, when within twenty paces of the proper pivot point, will step out to take up the distance, and the covering in column. The covering serjeant will remain steady until he is replaced by his officer, when he will cover his officer in the rear rank. All supernumeraries take post on the reverse flank of the column, and in deployment will halt with their respective companies. If a close column is formed from any more open columns, the covering serjeants will not run out, but remain during the march in rear of their respective companies, and when halted cover their officers.

*Column at quarter distance.*

2. The column at quarter distance partakes of all the properties, and is capable of all the formations and deployments, applied to close column, but the covering serjeants and supernumerary rank are posted as laid down for open column.

## Wheel in Close Column.

3. Upon the caution for the column to wheel, the covering serjeant of the front company will move out to mark where the outer flank of the column will rest when the wheel is complete ; and, in order to perform the wheel without crowding at the inner flank, the flank file, whether officer or man, must be the pivot upon which the wheel is made, and thus the whole column wheels as a division, under the direction of the commanding officer.

Rear Divisions half face to the reverse Flank.

In order, also, to avoid, crowding in the wheel of a close column, it is necessary that, upon the wheel being ordered, all the rear divisions make a half face to the reverse flank, each file on the word *Quick* or *Double March* and during the wheel, circling round and covering the relative files of the divisions in front ; the officers and covering serjeants will circle in the same way round the officers in their front, and confine their attention to the covering.

*Deployments.*

From close and quarter distance Columns on a Central Company.

If from close column the covering and a supernumerary serjeant from the named company move in front of the flank files of the leading division and face inwards, thus giving the base for the new line.

If from quarter distance column, by sections of threes, the covering and supernumerary serjeants act as laid down for the

close column, but take up the points *three* paces in front of the leading division.

### *Firings.*

1. When the battalion fires by divisions, the serjeants take the places of the officers, who have moved to the rear.

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## FORMATION OF THE BATTALION.

### Formation of the Battalion.

When the companies join, and the battalion is formed, there is to be no interval between any of them, grenadier, light company, or other ; but every part of the front of the battalion should be equally strong.

Each company which makes a part of the same line, and is to act in it, must be formed and arranged in the same manner.

### Position of the Companies in Battalion.

The companies will draw up as follows from right to left, viz :—grenadiers on the right, light company on the left, the other companies 1, 2, 3, &c. from right to left.

### Divisions.

The battalion will be told off as follows, viz., into right and left wings. By companies divided into right and left sub-divisions, into four sections numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, and into sections of threes.

### Companies equalized.

The companies may be equalized in point of numbers when the battalion is formed for field movement ; but it is also desirable

that they should be accustomed to exercise in companies of unequal strength, as must often be the case on service.

Formation of the Battalion at Close Order.

Ranks are at the distance of one pace.

All the field officers and the adjutant are mounted.

The commanding officer is the only officer advanced in front, for the general purpose of exercise when the battalion is single ; but in the march in line, and in the firings, he is in the rear of the colours.

The lieutenant-colonel is behind the colours, twelve paces from the supernumerary rank.

The first major is six paces in the rear of the second battalion company from the right flank ; the second major at the same distance in the rear of the second battalion company from the left flank ; the adjutant at the same distance in rear of the colours.

One officer is on the right of the front rank of each company, and one on the left of the battalion ; all these are covered in the rear rank by their respective serjeants ; and the remaining officers and serjeants are in a third rank behind their companies.

The colours are placed between the two centre companies, both in the front rank, and each covered by a non-commissioned officer, or steady man in the rear rank. One serjeant is in the front rank betwixt the colours ; he is covered by a second serjeant in the rear rank, and by a third in the supernumerary rank. The sole business of

these three serjeants is, when the battalion moves in line, to advance and direct the march as hereafter mentioned. The place of the first of those serjeants, when they do move out, is preserved by a named officer or serjeant, who moves up from the supernumerary rank for that purpose.

Use of the Third or Supernumerary Rank.

The supernumerary rank is at three paces' distance when in line: when in column it is at the distance of one pace. The essential use of the supernumerary rank is, to keep the others closed up to the front during the attack, and to prevent any break beginning in the rear; on this important service, too many officers and non-commissioned officers cannot be employed.

The pioneers are assembled behind the centre of the grenadier company, formed two deep, and nine paces from the supernumerary rank.

The drummers, fifers, and buglers of the battalion are assembled in two divisions, nine paces behind the supernumerary rank of the first and last battalion companies.

The musicians are nine paces from the supernumerary rank, in rear of the centre of the battalion, formed two deep and at loose files, only occupying no more space than is necessary.

The staff, consisting of the paymaster, surgeon, assistant-surgeon, and quartermaster, are three paces behind the music.

Officers.

In general, officers remain posted with



their proper companies; but commanding officers will occasionally make such changes as they may find necessary.

*Replacing Serjeants.*

Whenever the officers move out of the front rank, in parade, marching in column, wheeling into line, or otherwise, their places are taken by their serjeant coverers, or senior subalterns, as may be ordered, and preserved until the officers again resume them.

*When the Battalion takes Open Order.*

*Rear Rank take Open Order.*

At the word *Order*, officers recover swords, and move at once close in front of the files opposite which they are to stand,—that is, the captain in front of the second file from the right of the company, the senior subaltern in front of the second file from the left, and the third subaltern in front of the centre file—if there is a fourth officer the distance between the flanks will be divided. The serjeant coverers take a pace to the left to allow the officers to pass, and then move up to the front rank to preserve the intervals left by the officers. The flank men on the right of the rear rank of each company step briskly back one pace, to mark the ground upon which the rank is to halt; they face to the right, and cover as pivots, corrected by the serjeant-major on the right.

*March.*

At this word, the rear rank steps back

one pace, dressing by the right : the officers of companies march three paces direct to the front, glance their eyes to the right, correct their dressing, and port their swords; at the word *Steady* from the major, who dresses them. The officers with the colours march forward three lengthened paces, and dress in the line of officers.

The music, drummers, and pioneers remain as posted at close order. The first major places himself on the right of the line of officers ; the second major on their left ; the adjutant on the left of the front rank. The staff, viz., the paymaster, surgeon, assistant-surgeon, and quarter-master, place themselves on the right of the front rank of the grenadiers, at one pace distance. The colonel and lieutenant-colonel advance ten and six paces before the colours.

The whole thus arrive at their several posts, and the battalion remains formed in this parade order, to receive a superior officer. When the battalion is reviewed singly, the division of drummers will be moved up and formed two deep on each flank of the line ; the pioneers will be formed two deep on the right of the drummers of the right, and the staff will form on the right of the whole.

*When the Battalion resumes Close Order.*

*Rear Rank take Close Order.*

The officers recover swords, and, with the colours and staff, face to the right.

The drummers and pioneers (if on the flanks) face to the centre.

The serjeants (if in the front rank) face to the right.

Similar precautions to be observed previous to entering a defilé or hollow way.

4. The head of an advanced guard must never commit itself by entering a defilé, or hollow way, without previously occupying the heights on either side by flanking parties. When the heights are thus crowned, the leading party on the road will send on a single file, which will be followed by others in succession, near enough to keep the preceding one in view—the flanking parties on either hand continuing to precede the centre until the defilé is passed, when they will gradually fall back to their former stations, and the whole move forward in the original formation.

General Rule in approaching Villages, Woods, &c.

5. That woods, villages, and, generally, every object capable of affording concealment to an enemy, will invariably be turned, and the rear threatened previous to being *felt* in front.

Bogs and impassable ground of every kind to be carefully examined.

6. Should the advanced guard meet with bogs or other impassable ground of any extent, they must not leave it between themselves and the column, without careful examination; otherwise they might leave an enemy concealed within the chain, and not only risk being cut off themselves, but compromise the safety of the column.

The Commander of an Advanced Guard to observe every thing himself, and to be distinct and accurate in his reports.

7. The commander of an advanced guard

should endeavour to observe every thing himself, taking especial care that any reports he may have to make are clear, decided, and correct.

Conduct of detached parties and Patroles in falling in with the  
Enemy.

8. No specific rules can be laid down for the conduct of an advanced guard in every case of falling in with an enemy. It cannot, however, be too strongly impressed on all employed on services of this nature, that nothing is more dangerous or reprehensible than offensive or defensive measures undertaken in an isolated manner: advanced parties and patroles should never, therefore, be suffered to engage of their own accord if it can possibly be avoided; but, as before remarked, they should, on the first appearance of an enemy, either fall back under cover or hide themselves on the spot (making a signal to the rear) according as he may be coming on, or stationary,—in either case securing all the advantages of a surprise.

The Advanced Guard should invariably reform after dislodging the  
Enemy from any post.

9. No advanced guard or detached party of any kind, after carrying a post, should ever be permitted to advance without reforming. The men should on no account pursue the flying enemy, but reform rapidly, and wait for further orders.

*Patroles.*

## Utility of Patroles.

1. The object of a patrole is to obtain intelligence, and to ascertain the presence of an enemy. They are detached to examine houses, copses, inclosures, &c. near the line of march, capable of affording concealment to the enemy, and too distant to be inspected by the advanced or flanking parties. All heights from which a view of the surrounding country can be obtained, should also be ascended by patroles, precaution being used to see every thing, if possible, without being seen.

A Patrole never commits itself in action.

2. It is a rule, therefore, that a patrole never commits itself in action, if it can be avoided, but retires (under cover if possible) as soon as the requisite information is obtained.

The Rules laid down for Advanced Guards apply equally to Patroles.

3. The rules laid down for the conduct of an advanced guard, in approaching places capable of concealing an enemy, apply with equal force, although upon a smaller scale, to a patrole. The house, or object, to be searched should, in the first place, be turned by one or two files on either side, and beyond the certain range of musketry; and this movement of itself will, in most cases, induce the enemy to leave it; whereas, if the approach were made in front, it could only be at the certain risk of losing men without an object. When the flanking files have

passed the house, so as to command the rear, a file of the patrol advances to examine it, another file remaining behind will watch its motions, and be ready to give assistance, supported by the reserve if required. As soon as the file in advance is satisfied that there is no enemy in the place, one of the men will make a signal by holding up his firelock above his head, in a horizontal position, and the rear file will join and move forward as before; the flanking files falling back at the same time to their former places.

To ascend a Hill.

On coming to a hill the same caution will be observed. The patrol halting at the bottom will detach a file or two, in both directions round the base, before any one is permitted to ascend. A file is then sent to the top, with instructions not to show itself upon the summit, but to make its observations from behind the brow, creeping on, or lying down, according to circumstances and the nature of the ground. If no enemy is in sight, a signal as above directed will be made.

*Rear Guard.*

General intentions of Rear Guards.

1. A rear guard is an advanced guard reversed; it covers the retreating column from any sudden assault in the rear, and it prevents the enemy from stealing round, and gaining on the flanks of the main body. The prevention of straggling is also an important part of the duties of a rear guard.

Degree of resistance required from a Rear Guard.

2. The object being that of securing the retreat from interruption or annoyance, resistance will generally cease when that end is gained; but when the pursuit is close and vigorous, every hedge-row, copse, or defilé becomes a post, which a rear guard must defend with obstinacy to the last.

*Piquets, and their Sentries.*

Necessary precautions for an Officer ordered upon Piquet.

1. An officer ordered upon piquet must take a close and careful survey of the country he passes over, in marching from the camp or the cantonment to his post, in order that he may defend it properly if attacked and driven back. The strongest points, in his line of retreat, ought to be selected, and noted down if necessary; and the officer's mind should be previously made up, as far as possible, upon the best mode of disputing the ground he must retire over.

How Posted.

2. The officer intrusted with the posting of a piquet must select its station near the principal road to be guarded, and behind, if practicable, all cross roads leading into it, and taking especial care to leave no road unguarded on its flanks, by which it might be surprised in its rear. The piquet should, as much as possible, be concealed from observation, and where the ground naturally affords neither cover nor protection, the defect must be remedied by artificial means,

and the employment of such materials as may be procurable on the spot.

Measures for immediate Security.

3. As soon as the piquet arrives on the ground it is to occupy, sentries will be thrown out in elevated situations upon its flanks and front, for *immediate* security, and the officer commanding *having reconnoitred the neighbourhood of his post, with a strong patrole, in person*, will proceed to form a chain, covering his front and flanks, and communicating with the piquets on his right and left.

Line of Sentries.

4. In selecting the line for the chain of sentries, care must be taken not to extend it too much,—to post the men in the most advantageous situations for observing the roads and country in front, and to keep them as much concealed from the view of the enemy as the nature of their duty will admit. It is very desirable that every elevated spot, which overlooks the communications in the rear, should be taken within the chain of sentries ; but if this cannot be effected without extending the sentries too much, a party must be sent to occupy the height during the day, and care must be taken to support and ensure the retreat of this party if attacked. Sentries must be so placed, moreover, as to secure one another from being cut off, and at such distances as to prevent any enemy from passing unperceived between them during the night. Sentries never



should be posted near any copse or cover from which a sudden rush might be made upon them ; but all woods, ravines, &c. in the neighbourhood of the post, must be watched, and occasionally visited by patrols, to prevent the enemy from assembling, unobserved, a body of troops in the vicinity. No sentry should be placed at such a distance from the piquet, that the report of his musket may not be distinctly heard from it ; and he should always have the sentry on his right and left in view, as well as the intermediate ground between them, to prevent the enemy from passing through the chain unnoticed.

5. In order to guard against surprise of every kind, the sentries of an advanced piquet will be invariably posted double, and at night, or in thick or foggy weather, one of them will be always walking to the right, till he approaches the adjoining file, while the other is looking vigilantly out to his front. In this mode they alternately relieve each other. During the day an officer, or non-commissioned officer, should always be kept on the look-out, in the best situation for commanding a view of the country occupied by the enemy.

*Advanced Piquets require three Reliefs.*

6. All advanced piquets must have three reliefs.

*When any thing particular is observed in front, or firing is heard.*

7. When any thing particular is observed in front during the day, such as any change

in the enemy's sentries or piquets, the disappearance of any sentry of our own, any unusual bustle or accession of force in front, troops in motion, or the appearance of a cloud of dust indicating that troops are on the march, or when firing is heard by any sentry, one of the sentries will instantly run in, and report to the officer what he has noticed, taking care to mention the circumstance at any post he may happen to pass on his way.

When Piquets are attacked.

8. When piquets are attacked, the same rule will be observed as in all other skirmishing, and the detached officers' parties will not run in on the main body, but support the skirmishers ; and when compelled to retire, they will if possible, retreat on the flank of the main body, and thereby afford mutual support to each other. When a sentry is satisfied that the enemy is moving on to the attack, he should not hesitate to fire at once, although the enemy may be far beyond the range of his musket.

When posted in a Village.

9. If a piquet should be posted in a village, the main body must be placed so as to be behind the junction of all the roads that lead to the enemy's position, the entrances from which must be blocked up, or dug across, with the exception of a small retiring path for the sentries placed in observation in front. Small parties will be placed behind each barricade for its defence.

## First duty of an Officer on Piquet.

10. The first care of an officer ought to be the strengthening of his post, by constructing abattis, breast-works, &c. ; and particularly where the defence of a bridge or ford is intrusted to him, he ought never to omit to throw up something of the kind to protect his men, and impede the advance of the enemy. An officer ought not, however, without permission, to block up a main road with other materials than such as are easily removed.

A Piquet must not shut itself up without orders.

11. A piquet ought not to shut itself up in a house, or an inclosure, with the intention of defending itself to the last extremity, unless particularly ordered to do so, or that circumstances may render it necessary at the moment, for the preservation of the party, in the expectation of support.

Under what circumstances a Piquet should retire.

12. A piquet may with safety defend its front as long as its flanks are not attacked, but as soon as the enemy attempts to surround the post, the piquet must begin to retire.

Signals by Day.

13. Signals may be established by sentries during the day ;—for instance—one man holding up his cap on the muzzle of his firelock signifies that the enemy's patrol is advancing ; and both men holding up their caps in the same manner, signifies that the enemy is advancing in force.

*Flags of Truce.*

14. On the approach of a flag of truce, one sentry will advance and halt it at such distance as will prevent any of the party who compose it from overlooking the piquet posts. The other sentry will acquaint the officer commanding the piquet of the circumstance, who will, according to his instructions, either detain the flag of truce at the outpost, until he has reported to the field officer of the day, or he will forward the party blind-folded to the camp, under an escort. If the flag of truce is merely the bearer of a letter or parcel, the piquet officer must receive it, and instantly forward it to headquarters. After having given a receipt, the flag of truce will be required forthwith to depart, and none of the piquet must be suffered to hold any conversation with this party.

*Night Duties.*

15. At night the situations of the sentries ought to be changed, and drawn back from their elevated situations, so as to have the highest ground before them ; as an object is more easily discerned at night from a low situation, than when looking from a hill. Night sentries will patrol alternately to the front (as well as to the flanks) to a distance of twenty or thirty yards, lying down also with the ear to the ground for the purpose of listening. The tread of men or horses on the march, the noise of artillery in motion, the neighing of horses, &c. are heard at a great distance in the stillness of the night ;

and not unfrequently the knowledge of an intended attack at day-light may be gained in this way.

Precaution to be used for directing the Sentry's attention to the proper quarter.

16. To prevent sentries from looking in a wrong direction during the night, two forked sticks will be placed in the ground, and a horizontal stick laid across them, so as to point out by looking along it, the situation of the enemy's posts. This precaution is also particularly useful to the sentries of reserve and inlying piquets, directing their attention to the proper quarter.

17. The sentries ought to be relieved every hour during the night.

The Countersign only given to the Sentries.

18. When a sentry is posted, the countersign only is given him; and no person under the rank of a non-commissioned officer is usually intrusted with the parole, which serves as a test for passing armed bodies inside the line.

Challenging of a Double Sentry.

19. The moment a sentry sees or hears any person, he calls out, "Halt,"—"Who comes there?" and at the same time brings his firelock to the charge, fronting the party; his comrade instantly retires a few paces behind him, uncovering to the right, cocks his piece, and also comes to the charge. This will ensure support to the sentry in advance, and prevent both men from being committed.

at the same time, as well as the piquet from being surprised. If the answer is not satisfactory, the leading sentry instantly fires and retires behind his comrade.

20. If more than one individual approach the post, the sentry will on all occasions, command them to halt, and one man only to advance. If there is the slightest hesitation, *or more than one* attempt to move, the sentry will instantly fire.

#### Deserters.

21. Sentries must be very distrustful of people who answer the challenge by saying "Deserters;" they must be immediately ordered to lay down their arms in the rear, and not suffered to approach the sentry, until a party arrives from the support to receive them, and then singly. If the suspected person hesitate, the sentry will instantly fire.

22. When a piquet is permitted to have a fire, it should always be as much as possible concealed from observation; and the alarm post of the piquet, in the event of an attack at night, should invariably be fixed at a short distance in the rear of the fire, so as to prevent the piquet from being seen, when drawn up, and compelling the enemy to expose themselves while passing the fire in coming on.

Advanced Piquets to be under arms an hour before day-light.

23. Piquets will get under arms in the morning an hour before day-light: and if *every* thing appears quiet in front, the

officer will, as soon as he can discern objects distinctly, proceed to occupy the same posts that he held the day before ; but he must previously send forward patrols to feel his way, and should any change be remarked in the enemy's posts or position, he will report it immediately to the officer of the day.

When Advanced Piquets should be relieved.

24. As attacks are most commonly made about day-break, a desirable accession of force will be always obtained by relieving the piquets at that hour.

Arrival of the Relief.

25. When the new piquet has arrived, the officer commanding it will accompany the officer of the old piquet along the chain of posts, and this officer will point out the situation and strength of all the enemy's posts, and afford every other information to the relieving officer, in his power.

Duty of the Officer of the old Piquet.

26. When the sentries are relieved, and the weather is sufficiently clear to ascertain that there is no indication of an attack, the officer who has been relieved will forward a written report to the field officer of the day, fall back upon the reserve piquet, and march to the camp in the same order as when he advanced ; *but if the advanced piquets should be attacked before he arrives in camp*, he will consider it his duty to face instantly about, and march to their support.

Patrolling.

27. One of the most necessary and effec-

tual methods of preventing surprise, and of gaining information, remains to be noticed, viz., *patrolling*, without which, however active and alert the sentries, the service of the out-post never can be properly fulfilled. The mode of conducting these patrols, their strength, and the distance to which they may be sent, are all necessarily dependant on the ever varying local circumstances in which piquets may be placed; but it may be laid down as a good general rule, that, when near the enemy, a patrol should be sent out once between every relief during the night.

Vigilance, silence, and circumspection indispensable in patrolling.

28. Vigilance, silence, and circumspection must be strictly enjoined upon all patrols; no noise must on any account be made, and when any thing is to be communicated, it should be done in a whisper.

It is not pretended to lay down exact rules for conducting patrols in every case that may occur on service, but one or two of the most usual modes of carrying on this important duty may be briefly adverted to.

Patrolling in front of the line of Sentries.

29. The patrol, on leaving the piquet, should, when practicable, communicate in the first instance with the next post upon the right (or left), and patrol cautiously along the whole front of the line of sentries, just near enough to see them, and communicating with the next post upon the left (or right), return again to the piquet by the rear of the chain. The sentries must not be thrown off their guard by the frequent appearance of these patrols, but be taught to



expect an enemy in all who may approach them ; some preconcerted signal, or interchange of countersign in a low tone, should be used, and which should be changed at every relief. Should the patrole, in returning along the rear of the sentries, fall in with the enemy, who must in this case have passed through the chain, a continued fire should be kept up to alarm the piquet, and prevent surprise.

When the Enemy's posts are distant.

30. Patroles must also be sent along the roads in the direction of the enemy's posts to such distance as may be deemed expedient. These patroles must be preceded by *feelers*, quick intelligent men, selected for that duty, whom no sound will escape, and whose experienced ears will detect the approach of danger long before it reaches them. A patrole must avoid all things avoid unnecessary firing, or, in other words, *false alarms* ; on hearing the approach of footsteps the *feelers* should instantly fall back to the patrole ; and should the sound indicate the advance of a larger body than a patrole, one or two men should be sent back with all haste to inform the officer of the piquet, who will make immediate preparations for defence. The patrole retires steadily and unobserved, if possible, upon the piquet ; but if perceived and overtaken by the enemy, an incessant fire must be maintained, in order to apprise the camp that the enemy is coming on in force ; although

it may safely be inferred, that if the piquets know their duty, and are judiciously drawn up for the defence of the roads, it will be extremely difficult for an enemy, however strong, *having failed in his plan for taking the advanced posts by surprise*, to make head, under all the disadvantages of a night attack, when resolutely opposed by men who know the ground, and whose plans have been previously concerted for disputing those points in their line of retreat, where the disparity of numbers must, in the dark, be in a great measure neutralized.

To avoid exchanging shots with the Enemy's Patroles.

31. In falling in with an enemy's patrole in advance of the chain of sentries, it will always be most prudent to retire at once without exchanging shots, which could only tend to harass and disturb the troops.

A strong Patrole to be sent out just before day-light.

32. A strong patrole will always be sent some distance on, towards the enemy's posts, just before day-light, and this patrole, above all others, must proceed with redoubled caution, for fear of falling in with the enemy's columns, waiting for day-light to attack.

33. In the event of an attack, the commander of a piquet must ever bear in mind, that the great object of his efforts is to gain sufficient time to enable the main body in his rear to get under arms and prepare for action. The points he is to dispute in falling back having been previously selected, few cases can occur in which it will be

impossible to attain that end, without endangering the safety of his piquet; but even in an extreme case, he must remember that it is his duty to sacrifice himself, rather than be driven in upon the main body, before it has had time to form.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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*Mode to be observed in dismissing a Company off  
Parade.*

Recover Arms.

Bring the firelock to the recover, by throwing it briskly out of the left hand, (if with shouldered arms,) the guard to the front, the cock resting against the left breast; the left hand seizes the firelock above the lock, and the right hand grasps the small of the butt.

Ease Springs.

At this word, the firelock is kept steady at the recover, the pan thrown open with the thumb of the right hand, and the cock let easy down with the fore-finger and thumb of the same hand.

Right Face.

In the manner prescribed by Regulation.

Lodge Arms.

At this word, the whole drop their firelocks smartly to the *port*, the front rank springs off to the left, the rear rank to the right, break off, and quit the parade without noise.

N.B.—In turning in a Guard or Piquet, the same mode is to be observed, with the exception of Easing Springs.

*Manner of Inspecting a Company on Parade.*

Attention.

As per Regulation.

Fix Bayonets.

As already directed.

Shoulder Arms.

As already directed.

Rear Rank take Open Order, March.

As already directed.

Open Pans.

1st. Bring the right hand across the body, place the fore-finger on the face of the pan.

2d. Force the pan open with the fore-finger, turning the back of the hand against the barrel.

3d. Quit the right hand.

Slope Arms.

As already directed.

[The inspection of arms is now to take place.]

Carry Arms.

As already directed.

Shut Pans.

1st. Bring the right hand across the body ; place the fore-finger on the back of the pan-cover, elbow close to the body.

2d. Force the pan down.

3d. Quit the hand.

Order Arms.

As already directed.

Examine Arms.

At the word "Examine," slip the thumb in rear of the barrel ; at the word "Arms," face to the right, bringing the butt between the feet, sling towards the body, holding the firelock with the left hand at the full extent of the arm ; draw the ramrod, let it down the barrel, and quit the right hand. When the officer comes within a pace, draw the ramrod and place it on

the upper brass, nine inches to the front, forefinger one inch in rear of the brass, elbow square, and arm above the ramrod.

**Return Ramrods.**

Return the ramrods, shifting the firelock on the right side.

[An inspection of the appointments, clothing, &c., is now to be made.]

**Unfix Bayonets.**

As before directed.

Rear Rank take Close Order, March.

As before directed.

Stand at Ease.

As before directed.

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*Posting of Sentinels.*

The instructor will now post his recruits as sentinels, giving each of them some particular orders to attend to, and instruct them, while on their post, not to allow those orders to be infringed;—that they are not to quit their arms, or walk more than ten yards on each side of their post;—that they are never to converse, loiter, or lounge upon their post, nor remain in their sentry-boxes in good, or even in moderate weather, but are to move about briskly in a soldierlike manner;—that on the appearance of an officer, they are to stand firm on any part of their walk, paying the compliment due, until the officer has passed, taking care to front the point specially recommended to their observance:—that to all field officers and to officers of a superior rank, they must present their arms; to all other officers, they are to carry arms. That all guards and sentinels must pay the same compliments to officers of the royal navy and marines as are directed to be paid to the officers of the army according to their relative ranks. That although guards do not turn out after sunset to pay compliments, yet sentinels, whenever officers approach their posts, must pay them a proper attention by standing steady with carried arms, facing to their proper front, nor must this be discontinued until the evening is so far

advanced, that they begin challenging and demanding the countersign.

When sentinels are directed to challenge, the recruit must be instructed to do it in a *clear, sharp tone*, pronouncing his words as distinctly as possible. On any one approaching his post, he must challenge them by the words "*Who comes there,*" and at the same moment *port Arms*; but if posted where a sudden rush might be made upon him, he will at once come to the *charge*,—if the person approaching gives a satisfactory reply, the sentinel will direct him to pass;—after the challenge, "*Who comes there,*" should the reply be "*Rounds,*" he must instantly demand "*What Rounds?*" if answered "*Grand Rounds,*" and he is posted at the guard house, he must turn out the guard, by calling out "*Guard, turn out,*" remaining steady on his post till the officer has received them, and they have passed.

If he is posted elsewhere than at the guard house, after the reply of "*Grand Rounds,*" he must say, "*Stand, Grand Rounds, advance one and give the countersign,*" immediately coming to the "*charge,*" in which position he will receive the *countersign*, after which he must desire them to pass, by saying "*Pass, Grand Rounds, all's well,*" shouldering his arms at the same time, and presenting as the rounds pass him.

Visiting rounds are received in the same manner by sentinels.

When double sentries are posted, the front one, on challenging, will come to the *charge*, and the rear one to the *port*.

The duties of sentinels on out-posts before an enemy, beyond that of vigilance on their posts, and a strict attention to the orders that are given them, can only be learned by practice;—they never pay any compliments.

## COMPLIMENTS

TO BE

*Paid by Non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers to  
Officers of the Royal Navy, Army, and Marines.*

It is considered essential, that, in the case of the non-commissioned officer and soldier, as in the case of the officer, there should be one uniform mode of saluting a superior.

The recruit should accordingly, when at his ordinary drills, be taught to salute his superior in a soldierlike manner.

The following instructions are to be inculcated under this head.

When approaching to speak to an officer, they should be taught to raise the arm to its full extent, at right angles with the body, and when horizontal (the fingers and thumb being kept together), to bring the hand to the peak of the cap, keeping the elbow square, the fore-finger and thumb feeling the edge of the peak.

When passing an officer, they bring the hand, in like manner, to the peak of the cap, commencing when about four paces from him, turning the head and looking the officer in the face, and retaining the hand at the peak until he has passed him two paces, when the arm will be brought gradually to the side.

The salute is to be given with the opposite hand to the side on which the officer may be; consequently it will be necessary to practice the salute with the left hand as well as the right.

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## TO FIRE À FEU DE JOIE.

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The line drawn up at open order (double distance), with shouldered arms, and bayonets fixed.

With Blank Cartridge, Prime and Load.

In quick time as per Regulation.

Ready.

As per regulation.

Present.

Elevated in the air.

The right-hand man of the front rank commences the fire, which will run down the front and up the rear, as quick as possible. When the right-hand man of the rear rank has fired, the whole will glance their eyes to the right, to bring the firelock to the priming position, and when loaded they will remain steady, waiting for the word.

Ready, Present.

As before directed.

The same to be repeated a third time.

After the third fire, the whole will glance their eyes to the right, to bring the firelocks to the position of prime and load, and half cock together.

Shoulder Arms.—Shut Pans.—Present Arms.—Shoulder Arms.—

Order Arms.

As per regulations.

*Three Cheers.*



## FIRING.

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When the recruit has attained a perfect knowledge of the Platoon Exercise he is to be carefully habituated in TAKING AIM; to this great object too much care and attention cannot be devoted; it is the means by which the soldier is taught to fire with precision, or, in other words, to *kill his enemy*; and it cannot be too strongly inculcated, that every man, who has no defect in his eyes, may be made a good shot at a fixed object. The firelock is placed in the soldier's hands for the destruction of his enemy; his own safety depends on his efficient use of it, and no degree of perfection he may have attained in the other parts of his drill can, upon service, remedy any want of proficiency in this; indeed all his other instruction in marching and manœuvring with perfect steadiness and precision, can do no more than place him in the best possible situation for using his weapons with effect. The true principles upon which correct shooting may be taught are extremely simple; they are to be found in the natural connexion that exists between the hand and the eye; the eye is the guide and regulator of every action of the hand, which can only act the part of a subordinate agent; and constant practice must therefore be employed to perfect the connection and enable them so to act together that the hand will readily raise the firelock in a line with any object that the eye is fixed upon.

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## FIXING FLINTS.

The recruits must be individually taught the true principles which direct the fixing the flint. In fixing flints, no uniform mode should be attempted; the flat side must be placed either upwards or downwards, according to the size and shape of the flint, and also according to the proportion which the cock bears in height to the hammer, which varies in different muskets;

this is ascertained by letting the cock gently down, and observing where the flint strikes the hammer, which ought to be at the distance of about one-third from the top of the hammer:—most diligent observation ought at the same time to be made whether every part of the edge of the flint comes in contact with the hammer, so as to strike out the fire from the whole surface. A flint will often appear to the eye to be carefully and skilfully fixed, and to stand firm and square, yet on trial being made as above-directed, it will prove to have been very ill fixed, inasmuch as the surface of the hammer in some muskets, does not stand square, but stands a little aslant to the cock. Each particular flint, therefore, requires its own particular mode of being fixed, so as to accommodate itself to the particular proportions and conformations of each particular lock. In whatever position the flint should be, it must be screwed in firmly\*, and the cock should be let down, in order to observe whether the flint passes clear of the barrel.

Whenever a piece has been fired, the first opportunity should be embraced of examining whether the flint remains good, and fixed as it ought to be, and no time should be lost in correcting whatever may be found amiss, which may be done without the recruit falling out of the ranks, by his facing to the right if he belongs to the front rank, and to the left if belonging to the rear rank, at the same time seizing the stock at the small with the right hand, and letting it fall into the hollow of the left arm, the left hand will then hold the firelock at the lock, and at the same time assist the right in any alteration which may be requisite with the flint. In this position, the recruits may also be practised in taking off and putting on their locks.

\* Two pieces of very soft lead, which will embrace the flint, are recommended to ensure this.

THE  
**Manual and Platoon Exercises**  
 OF  
 RIFLEMEN.

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*The Manual Exercise.*

Of Carrying the Rifle.

The rifle is to be carried in the right hand, at arm's length, as in advanced arms, the cock resting upon the little finger, the thumb upon the guard, and fore-finger under it, the upper part of the barrel close in the hollow of the shoulder, and the butt pressing upon the thigh.

Present Arms.—Three Motions.

1st. The rifle is to be raised about two inches by the right hand, and brought forward a little from the shoulder, at the same time the left hand is brought briskly across the body, and seizes the rifle with a full grasp, even with the shoulder.

2nd. The right hand brings the rifle even with the face, and opposite the left eye, grasps the small of the stock, turning the lock outwards; the left hand seizes it by the stock, so that the little finger touches

the hammer-spring, on a level with the chin, the left elbow close to the butt.

3rd. The rifle is brought in a straight line to the *present*, the cock turned inwards, and even with the bottom of the waistcoat, the right foot at the same instant is drawn back, so that the hollow of it may touch the left heel, the right hand holding the small of the stock between the fore-finger and thumb, the knuckles upwards, the three other fingers shut in the hand.

Shoulder Arms.—Two Motions.

1st. The rifle is brought quickly across the body to the right side, the right hand slipping round into the original position when shouldered, the left quits its hold, and seizes the rifle again smartly, even with the right shoulder, at the same time the right foot is brought up in a line with the left.

2nd. The left hand quits the rifle, and is brought as quickly as possible to the position of attention.

Order Arms.—Three Motions.

1st. At the word "Arms," the left hand seizes the rifle even with the right shoulder; the rifle, as in the first motion of the *present*, is raised about two inches.

2nd. The right hand quits its hold, grasps the rifle round the muzzle, and brings it gently to the ground, even with the toe of the right foot, the wrist pressing against the side and elbow as close as possible.

3rd. The left hand is brought as before on the left thigh.

Shoulder Arms.

At the word "Arms," the rifle is thrown at once into the right shoulder by a jerk of the right hand; the left catches it till the right seizes the rifle in the proper place, and is then instantly brought to its original position on the left thigh; but this must be done with the quickness of one motion.

In the performance of this, as indeed of every other motion, the greatest care is to be taken to prevent the rifle falling to the ground, as it is an arm easily damaged.

Support Arms.

The rifle is brought across the body with the guard upwards, by bending the right arm; the left hand is laid across the right.

Carry Arms.

The rifle is brought smartly on the right side, and the left hand on the left thigh.

Trail Arms.

The left hand seizes the rifle at the second pipe, the right close over the sight, and trails it on the right side at arm's length, the left falls back on the left thigh.

Shoulder Arms.

The rifle is brought to the shoulder, as from the order.

*From the Order to Trail Arms.*

Trail Arms.

The right hand seizes the rifle as low as

possible, without constraint, then raises and catches it just above the sight.

*From the Trail to Order Arms.*

Order Arms.

The rifle slides gently through the right hand to the ground; when even with the right toe, the right hand again grasps the muzzle.

Fix Bayonets.

The rifle is thrown six inches to the front, the bayonet brought back-handed from the scabbard, locked by the thumb and fore-finger of the left hand, and the rifle brought back quickly to its place.

Shoulder Arms.

As before.

Charge Bayonets.—One Motion.

The rifle is brought smartly into the hollow of the right hip, the left hand firmly grasped round the barrel with the thumb in rear of the sight, the right hand clear of the guard, and grasping the small of the butt, the right toe to the right, and the left toe to the front: the rear rank to remain at the shoulder.

Shoulder Arms.—Two Motions.

1st. The rifle is thrown smartly into the shoulder, and steadied as before by the left hand.

2nd. Quit the left hand.

Order Arms.

As before.

## Unfix Bayonets.—One Motion.

The rifle is brought briskly between the knees, the lock in and guard out ; the bayonet unlocked by the thumb and fore-finger of the left hand, and knocked off by the right, at which time it is returned to the scabbard, directed by the thumb of the left hand on the top of the scabbard, when the rifle and left hand are brought to their proper position.

Stand at Ease.

The muzzle is brought to the front at the extent of the right arm, the elbow resting on the hip, the hollow of the right foot brought in rear of the left heel, and the left knee bent.

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 PLATOON EXERCISE.

Prepare to Load.

1st. Is the same as the first motion in the *present arms*.

2nd. The soldier half faces to the right, and in the motion brings down the rifle to a horizontal position, just above the right hip ; the left hand supports it at the swell of the stock, the elbow resting against the side, the right thumb against the hammer, the knuckles upwards, and elbow pressing against the butt, the lock inclining a little to the body, to prevent the powder from

falling out. The officer now warns the men, in going through the loading motions.

*To wait for the Words of Command.*

At the word,

One.

The pan is pushed open by the right thumb, the right hand then seizes the cartridge with the three first fingers.

Two.

The cartridge is brought to the mouth, and placed between the two first right double teeth, the end twisted off and brought close to the pan.

Three.

The priming is shaken into the pan ; in doing which, to see that the powder is properly lodged, the head must be bent ; the pan is shut by the third and little finger, the right hand then slides behind the cock, and holds the small part of the stock between the third and little finger, and ball of the hand.

Four.

The soldier half faces to the left : the rifle is brought to the ground, with the barrel outwards, by sliding it with care through the left hand, which then seizes it near the muzzle, the thumb stretched along the stock ; the butt is placed between the heels, the barrel between the knees, which must be bent for that purpose ; the cartridge is put



into the barrel, and the ramrod seized with the fore-finger and thumb of the right hand.

Rod.

The ramrod is drawn quite out by the right hand, the left quits the rifle, and grasps the ramrod the breadth of a hand from the bottom, which is sunk one inch into the barrel.

Home.

The cartridge will be forced down with both hands, giving two distinct strokes with the rod to ensure its being so ; the left then seizes the rifle about six inches from the muzzle, the soldier stands upright again, draws out the ramrod with the right hand, and puts the end into the pipe.

Return.

The ramrod will be returned by the right hand, which then seizes the rifle below the left.

Shoulder.

The right hand brings the rifle to the right shoulder, turning the guard outwards ; the left seizes it above the hammer-spring till the right has its proper hold round the small of the stock, when the left is drawn quickly to the left thigh.

Make Ready.

Bring the rifle with one brisk motion in the same position as at the word " Prime and Load," placing the thumb of the right hand on the cock : cock the rifle, then grasp

the small of the butt, and place the fore-finger on the swivel nail, three fingers grasping the guard, right foot drawn back.

**Present.**

Raise the rifle to the present with the fore-finger within the guard ready to fire ; in this too much pains cannot be taken to prevent the recruit from raising his rifle with a jerk, it must be sufficiently raised so high that he may lay the right cheek on the butt, without too much stooping the head ; particular care must be taken that the recruit in this position shuts the left eye in taking aim, the use of the sights being previously explained, and takes his object.

No word of command given to fire.



## INSTRUCTIONS

FOR THE

**DRILL OF OFFICERS,**

*In order to establish and ensure an uniform mode of carrying the Sword, Saluting, &c., both on the March, and when Halted.*

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The officers to be formed in line at five paces distant from each other, and standing at ease in the following manner: holding the sword in the right hand, with the point lowered between the feet, the edge to the right, the hands together, the left covering the right.

The following motions will then be performed by word of command:—

## DIRECTIONS.

*Words of Command:—Attention—(Close Order.)*

Bring the arms to the position of "Attention," the sword being held between the fore-finger and thumb, the remaining fingers along the side of the handle, ready to grasp it, the upper part of the hilt resting upon the hand across the back part of the thumb, the edge direct to the front, and the back of the blade in the hollow of the right shoulder, elbows close to the body.

## Recover Swords.

Take a grasp of the handle, bring up the hand, the thumb as high as the chin, and close in front of it, the thumb on the side of the handle, the blade perpendicular, and the edge to the left.

## Port Swords.

Bring the sword diagonally across the body, with the edge upwards, at the same time bending the left elbow,

so that the hand rises as high as the shoulder, the fingers being lightly closed, with the blade passing between the fore-finger and thumb; elbows close to the sides.

Stand at Ease.

As directed above.

Attention—(Open Order.)

Resume the position of "Port Swords."

Rear Rank, take Open Order.

At the word "Order" bring the sword to the "Recover."

March.

Move forward three paces, and on completing the last, at the word "*Steady*," let the sword be brought to the position of "Port Swords."

Present Arms.

Bring the sword up to the "Recover" at the second motion of the firelock, and drop it at the third motion of the firelock, extending it to the right, parallel with the right foot; elbows close to the side; and at the same motion raise the left arm as high as the shoulder, the hand being brought round by a circular motion over the peak of the cap, the knuckles uppermost and fingers extended.

Shoulder Arms.

Bring up the sword to the "Recover" at the first motion of the firelock, the left arm resuming its position at the same time; and at the second motion of the firelock, resume the position of "Port Swords."

Rear Rank, take Close Order.

Face to the right, and as the right foot is drawn to the rear, bring up the sword to the "Recover."

March.

Move back into the original line, and front at the same time, bringing the sword down to the right, in position of "Attention"—(close order.)

## TO SALUTE ON THE MARCH.

The officers will fall in at five paces distant from each other in column, three or four officers being in one line, as when in front of a company, when they will march past and salute as follows :—

The salute on the march in open order is to commence when at ten paces from the General, the officer on the right of the company giving a signal to prepare the other officers, by raising the fingers of the left hand. The sword is brought to the "Recover," by slowly extending the arm to the right, and by a circular motion of the hand to the left ; and, without pause, the sword is gradually lowered with an extended arm to the right ; the time occupied in performing the motions will be that of four paces (commencing with the left foot) ; the left hand is then gradually raised over the peak of the cap, to the position already directed, two paces being required for this motion ; the head is turned to the officer saluted during the time of marching past. Having past him six paces, the sword is again brought to the "Recover," and to its original position in four paces, the officer on the right of the company giving the signal with the left hand.

In marching past in quick time the arms are to be kept perfectly steady to the sides, the sword in the hollow of the shoulder. The band and drums are to practise at this drill, which is never to be without a pendulum and pace-stick.

In taking post of exercise to the rear at open order, the officers, when fronted, will bring the swords to the position of "Attention," (close order), and on moving from thence to their places in line at close order, the swords to be brought to the "Recover," and when they have reached their place in line, resume the position of "Attention."

On the march, or when the battalion is manœuvring, the following position of the sword is to be adopted, viz :—The sword to be carried to the full extent of the arm, the right side of the guard resting on the inside of the fingers, the thumb having a sufficient grasp on the outside, so as to hold it with ease and flexibility, the back of the blade being kept against the hollow of the right shoulder.

With reference to that part of the Regulations for the Field Exercise and Evolutions of the Army, in which it is directed, that when troops in column at quarter distance are marching past at inspections in quick time, the mounted officers are to salute, it is to be understood, that, if the troops have previously marched round in slow time, the mounted officers are not to salute.

FINIS.

