

*George B. Dyer*  
By His Majesty's Command.

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ABSTRACT  
OF THE  
FIELD EXERCISE  
AND  
EVOLUTIONS  
OF  
THE ARMY.

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Adjutant General's Office, Horse Guards,  
25TH OCTOBER, 1824.

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## GENERAL ORDER.

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HORSE GUARDS,  
25th October, 1824.

WITH reference to the System of *Field Exercise and Evolutions*, established by The King's Command, and published to the Army by His Majesty's Authority, The Commander in Chief has deemed it expedient that the following *Abstract* should be prepared from the said work, for the use, information, and guidance of the Non-Commissioned Officers of the Army.

His Royal Highness therefore commands, that every Serjeant of Cavalry and Infantry shall be provided with a Copy of this *Abstract*, and that the Rules and Instructions therein contained shall be strictly adhered to.

By command of  
His Royal Highness  
The Commander-in-Chief,

HENRY TORRENS,  
*Adjutant-General.*



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## RULES AND REGULATIONS.

### PART I.

#### INSTRUCTION OF THE RECRUIT.

**T**HE several heads of Instruction for Recruits are to be attended to, and followed, in the manner and order here set forth. The Instructors, to whom this duty is intrusted, and who are to be answerable for its execution, must possess an accurate knowledge of the part each has to teach, and evince such a clear, firm, and concise manner of conveying their instructions, as will command from the men a perfect attention to their directions. They must allow for the weak capacity of the Recruit; be patient, not rigorous, where endeavour and good-will are apparent; for quickness is the result of much practice, and ought not at first to be expected.

Recruits must be carried on progressively; they should comprehend one thing before they proceed to another.— In the first circumstances of position, the firelock, fingers, elbows, &c., are to be justly placed by the Instructor; when more advanced, they should not be touched; but from the example shewn, and the directions given, be taught to correct themselves, when admonished. Recruits should not be kept too long at any particular part of

of their exercise, so as to fatigue or make them uneasy, and marching without arms should be much intermixed with the firelock instruction. Neither fife, nor music, must on any account be used ; it being essential to confirm the Recruit by habit alone in that cadence of step which he is afterwards to maintain in his march to the enemy, amidst every variety of noise and circumstance that may tend to derange him.

In the manner hereafter prescribed, each Recruit must be trained singly, and in squad ; and until he is perfect in all points of his duty, he is not to join the battalion ; —for one awkward man, imperfect in his march, or distorted in his person, will derange his division, and, of course, operate on the battalion and line in a still more injurious manner. Every soldier, on his return from long absence, must be re-drilled before he is permitted to act in the ranks of his company.

WITHOUT

## WITHOUT ARMS.

### OPEN ORDER.

OPEN ORDER is taken by each Recruit stretching out his right arm and keeping that distance from his right hand man.

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

THE equal squareness of the shoulders and 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 without stiffness.—The toes a little turned out, so that the feet may form an angle of about 60 degrees.—The arms hanging near the body without stiffness; the elbows close to the side, the hands open to the front; the little fingers touching the seams of the trowsers. Great care must be taken that the arms are not kept back too much. 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 neither turned to the right nor left.

In order to supple the recruit, open his chest, and give freedom to the muscles, he should be exercised in the use of a wooden club; which ought to be about two and a half feet in length, rounded and shaped to the hand, and of a weight in proportion to the strength of the recruit: He should circle this round his head, continuing it in its vertical position, first with the right hand and then with the

the left: A club will then be put in each hand, and he will circle both round his head alternately. He will also be practiced at the extended motions laid down for the Sword Exercise.

Too many methods cannot be used to improve the carriage of the recruit, and banish the air of the rustic. But any excess of setting up, which stiffens the person, and tends to throw the body backward instead of forward, is contrary to every true principle of movement, and must therefore be carefully avoided.

N. B. The words on the margin, which are printed in *Italics* are the words of command to be given by the instructor.

All words of command, and particularly the words *Halt* and *March*, must be given distinctly and loud.

## 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.

When the recruit falls in for instruction, he is first to be taught to place himself, on the word *Attention*, in the position above described, to remain perfectly silent and to give his whole attention to his commander. Before the word *Attention* is given, and occasionally during the time of



of drill, the recruit may be allowed to rest by *Standing at Ease*, as above explained.

When standing at ease for any considerable time in cold weather, the men are permitted to move their limbs, but without quitting their ground, so that upon the word *Attention*, no one shall have materially lost his dressing in the line. In this case the *Stand at Ease* is given in the tone of a permission and not of command.

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

*Eyes Right.* On the words *Eyes to the Right*, glance the eyes to the right with the slightest turn possible of the head. At the word *Eyes to the Left*, cast the eyes in like manner to the left.

*Eyes Left.*

*Eyes Front.* On the words *Eyes to the 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, or obliquing, 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 should be preserved perfectly square to the front:—but in all marches to the front, the recruit is to be taught to keep his eyes steadily fixed as if looking at some object of his own height at 100 yards distance in front, and the eyes are never to be cast down, or thrown to a flank, except under the circumstances above stated. On all other occasions the touch of the recruit alone must be his guide.

### 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.

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

1st.

*To the Left  
face.*

- 1st. Place the right heel against the hollow of the left foot, keeping the shoulders square to the front.
- 2d. 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.
- 2d. Raise the toes, and turn to the right about on both heels.
- 3d. 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.
- 2d. Raise the toes, and turn to the left about on both heels.
- 3d. 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.*

When it is necessary to perform the diagonal march to the rear, the recruit will receive the 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.

*Front.*

The

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, as much as possible, the position of the body as directed in Sect. 1. He must be well balanced on his limbs. His arms and hands, without stiffness, must be kept steady by his sides, and not suffered to vibrate. He must not be allowed to stoop forward, or to lean back. His body must be kept square to the front, and thrown rather more forward in marching than when halted, that it may accompany the movement of the leg and thigh, which movement must spring from the haunch. The ham must be stretched, but without stiffening the knee. The toe a little pointed, and kept near the ground, so that the shoe-soles may not be visible to a person in front. The head to be kept well up, straight to the front, and the eyes not suffered to be cast down. The foot, without being drawn back, must be placed flat on the ground.

### *Balance Step.*

The Recruit being placed in the position of the Soldier, as described above, is instructed in the *Balance Step* in the following manner:—

#### 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.

When



*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.*

{ When steady, the word *Front* will be given as above, and repeated to the *Rear* three or

*Halt.*

{ 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 smartly to the front as before: the knee straight, 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.

*Two.*

{ On the word *Two*, the right foot is brought forward in a line with the left, the toe a little turned out, and the sole quite flat, but raised two inches from the ground.

*Front.*

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

*3dly.*



*3dly. In Double Time.*

The balance step in double time is performed in the manner above described in No. 2, but without the word of command for each step, the instructor merely giving the words *Double time, March*. The recruit judges his own time, going through distinctly the balance of each leg, and when the instructor observes that he is steady, the time is gradually increased to the slow step.

In the balance step, the toe is not to be pointed, or any flourish made with the foot, which is to be placed flat on the ground, without shaking the body.

With a view to determine the exact length of pace required from the recruit in the above movements, recourse will be had to the pace stick, to measure and regulate his step according to the time required.

*S. 6. Slow Step.*

The length of each pace, from heel to heel, is 30 inches, and the recruit must be taught to take 75 of these steps in a minute, without tottering, and with perfect steadiness.

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, and will be applied to movements of parade, and occasionally to the march in line of considerable bodies.

*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 taken when the command was given.

N. B. The words *Halt, wheel—Halt, front—Halt dress*—are each to be considered as one word of command and no pause made betwixt the parts of their execution.

Three or four recruits will now be formed in one rank at very open files, and instructed as follows.

*S: 8.*

S. 8. *Stepping Out.**Step out.*

The squad marches, as already directed, in slow time. On the word *Step out*, the recruit must be taught to lengthen his step to 33 inches, by leaning forward a little, but without altering the cadence.

This step is necessary, when a temporary exertion in line, and to the front, is required; and is applied both to slow and quick time; and at the word (slow or quick step) the pace of 30 inches must be resumed.

S. 9. *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 a division in column, shall be required.

S. 10. *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. 11. *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.*

In

*Right Close.  
Quick March.*

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. 44.)

*Halt.*

### S. 12. *Stepping Back.*

*Step Back,  
March.*

The *Step Back* is performed in the slow time and length of pace, from the halt. On the command *Step Back*,—*March*, the recruit must be taught to move straight to the rear, preserving his shoulders square to the front, and his body erect. On the word *Halt*, the foot in front must be brought back square with the other.

*Halt.*

A few paces only of the *Step Back* can be necessary at a time.

### S. 13. *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. 14.



S. 14. *Oblique Step.*

*To the Left  
oblique,  
March.*

When the recruit has acquired the regular length and cadence of the slow pace, he is to be taught the oblique step. At the words *To the left oblique—March*,—without altering his personal squareness of position, he will, when he is to step with his left foot, point and carry it forward 19 inches in the diagonal line, to the left, which gives about 13 inches to the side, and about 13 inches to the front. On the word *Two*, he will bring his right foot 30 inches forward, so that the right heel be placed 13 inches directly before the left one. In this position he will pause, and on the word *Two*, continue to march, as before directed, by advancing his left foot 19 inches, pausing at each step till confirmed in his position; it being essentially necessary to take the greatest care that his shoulders be preserved square to the front. From the combination of these two movements, the general obliquity gained will amount to an angle of about 25 degrees. When the recruit is habituated to the lengths and directions of the step, he must be made to continue the march, without pausing, and with firmness; when he has been made perfect in the oblique step in slow time, he must be instructed in quick time on the same principle.

As all marching (the side step excepted) invariably begins with the left foot, whether the obliquing commences from the halt, or on the march, the first diagonal step taken is by the leading foot of the side inclined to, when it comes to its turn, after the command is pronounced.

The squareness of the person, and the habitual cadenced step, in consequence, are the great directions of the oblique, as well as of the direct, march.

Each



Each recruit should be separately and carefully instructed in the principles of the foregoing sections of the drill. They form the basis of all military movements.

### S. 15. *The Quick Step.*

The cadence of the slow pace having become perfectly habitual to the recruits, they are now to be taught to march a *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 still and steady; on the word *March*, they step off with the left foot, keeping the body in the same posture, and the shoulders square to the front; the foot to be lifted off the ground, that it may clear any stones or other impediments in the way; and to be thrown forward, and placed firm; the whole of the sole to touch the ground, and not the heel alone; the knees are to be bent a little so as not to occasion fatigue or constraint.—The arms to hang with ease down the outside of the thigh; the head is to be kept to the front, the body well up, and the utmost steadiness to be preserved.

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. 16. *The Wheeling Step.*

*The Wheeling Step*, or *March*, is 120 steps of 30 inches each, or 300 feet in a minute. The directions already given

given for the march in quick time relate equally to this step.

This is applied chiefly to the purpose of wheeling, and is the rate at which all bodies accomplish their wheels, the outward file stepping 33 inches, whether the wheel is from line into column, during the march in column, or from column into line.—In this time also, should divisions double, and move up, when passing obstacles in line.

### S. 17. *The Double March.*

The directions for the march, in the two preceding sections, apply in a great degree to this Step, which is 150 steps in a 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 ball of the foot only need be brought to the ground. The body is more advanced than in the other marches; the arms hang with ease down the outside of the thigh, as in the quick march. The greatest care must always be taken that the recruit shall step off at and preserve the full pace of 36 inches, which can be done with ease, if the soldier is properly placed in position, as directed in Section 1; and that the weight of the body inclines well forward on the fore part of the feet.

*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*, will precede the word *March*.

Three or four recruits in one rank, with intervals of 12 inches between them, should be practised in the different

ferent steps, that they may acquire a firmness and independence of movement.

PLUMMETS, which vibrate the required times of march in a minute, are of great utility, and can alone prevent or correct uncertainty of movement; they must be in the possession of, and constantly referred to by, each instructor of a squad. The several lengths of plummets, swinging the times of the different marches in a minute, are as follow :

		In.	Hun.
Slow time.....	75 steps in the minute	24	, 96
Quick time... ..	108 .....	12	, 03
Wheeling time..	120 .....	9	, 80
Double March..	150 .....	6	, 26

A musket-ball suspended by a string which is not subject to stretch, and on which are marked the different required lengths, will answer the above purpose, may be easily acquired, and should be frequently compared with an accurate standard in the adjutant's or serjeant-major's possession. The length of the plummet is to be measured from the point of suspension to the centre of the ball.

Accurate distances of steps must also be marked out on the ground, along which the soldier should be practised to march, and thereby acquire the just length of pace.

## CLOSE ORDER.

Six or eight recruits will now be formed in rank at close files, having a steady well-drilled soldier on their flank to lead, and may be instructed as follows.

### S. 18. *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 the smallest turn possible of the head, but preserving



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.

With a view to establish more exactly, the principles on which all dressing depends, the following instructions in the drill of recruits will be observed.

The right hand man will be moved up a pace and a quarter (or half), and another soldier, as a second point, four paces to his right, while the left hand man, or any other person, serves as a corresponding point for the instructor, upon the left. The instructor will then give the word, No. 2, by the *Right forward dress*, when the second recruit will take a pace to the front with the left foot, and shuffle up into line with the two points on his right, taking up his touch and dressing at the same time; the instructor, standing clear to the right of the two points when he sees that the recruit is properly dressed,

By the Right  
(or left)  
forward  
*Dress.*



*Eyes front.*

dressed, and the touch perfect, gives the word *Eyes front*, that heads may be replaced and remain square to the front.

*By the Right  
(or left) back-  
ward Dress.*

When every recruit individually has practised and is perfect in his dressing up, both by right and left forward, he must be taught to dress back by the right and left in the same manner.

The instructor will then cause two or three recruits to dress up and back together, taking care that the touch is always preserved, and afterwards the whole squad together.

No rank, or body, ought ever to be dressed, without the person on its flank appointed to dress it, determining, or at least supposing a line, on which the rank, or body, is to be formed, and for that purpose taking as his object the distant flank man, or a point beyond such flank, or a man thrown out on purpose;—dressing must then be made gradually, and progressively, from the fixed point, towards the flank one; and each man successively, but quickly, must be brought up into the true line, so as to become a new point, from whence the person directing proceeds in the correction of the others; and he himself, when so directing, must take care that his person, or his eyes at least, be in the true line which he is then giving.

### S. 19. *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 very first step 30 inches, and so continuing each

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 to some distant object 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 marching with their knees bent, which they will be very apt to do at first, from an apprehension of treading upon the heels of those before them.

## S. 20. *Wheeling of a single Rank in Slow Time, from the Halt.*

*Right Wheel.*

*March.*

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 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 always lengthens his step to 33 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

*Eyes Front.*

each man halts immediately, without pressing forward. The dressing being completed the squad receive the command *Eyes front.*

When the recruits are able to perform the wheel with accuracy in the *slow time*, they must be practiced in *wheeling 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. 21. *Wheeling of a single Rank, from the March.*

*Halt, Right Wheel.*

The recruits are first to be taught to perform this wheeling in *slow time*, and afterwards in the *wheeling time*;—the rank, marching to the front in *slow time*, receives the word of command, *Halt, Right Wheel*; the man on the right of the Rank instantly halts and faces to his right; the rest of the rank turning their eyes to the wheeling flank, as directed in the preceding section, immediately change the step together to *wheeling time*; as soon as the portion of the circle to be wheeled is completed, the words *Halt, Dress*, will be given, and then *March*, on which the whole rank steps off together at the *slow time*.

*Halt, Dress. March.*

### S. 22. *Wheeling backwards, a single Rank.*

*On the Right backwards Wheel. Quick March.*

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 *wheeling time*, dressing by the outward wheeling man; those nearest the Pivot man making their step



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. This wheeling is necessary to preserve the covering of pivot flanks when large bodies wheel from line into column for the purpose of prolonging the alignment.

### S. 23. *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 20,) 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.

WITH



## WITH ARMS.

### S. 24. *Position of the Soldier.*

WHEN the firelock is shouldered, the person of the soldier remains in the position described (Section 1), except that the wrist of the left hand is turned out, the better to embrace the butt; the thumb alone is to appear in front, the four fingers to be under the butt, the left elbow is a little bent inwards, without being separated from the body, or being more backward or forward than the right one. The firelock is placed in the hand, not on the middle of the fingers, and carried in such a manner that it shall not raise, advance, or keep back one shoulder more than the other; the butt must therefore be forward, and as low as can be permitted without constraint; the fore part nearly even with that of the thigh, and the hind part of it pressed by the wrist against the thigh; the piece must be kept steady and firm below the hollow of the shoulder; should the firelock be drawn back, or attempted to be carried high, in that case, one shoulder will be advanced, the other kept back, and the upper part of the body distorted, and not placed square with respect to the limbs.

Each recruit must be separately taught the position of shouldered arms, and not allowed to proceed until he has acquired it.

### S. 25. *Different Motions of the Firelock.*

The following motions of the firelock will be taught and practised as here set down, until each recruit is per-

fect in them; they being necessary for the ease of the soldier in the course of exercise.

As mentioned in the Manual Exercise.	{	Supporting arms.
		Sloping arms.
		Carrying arms.
		Ordering arms.
		Standing at ease.
		Attention.
	{	Shouldering from the order.

The recruit must be accustomed to *carry* his arms for a considerable time together; it is most essential he should do so, and not be allowed to *support* or *slope* them so often as is practised, under the idea that long *carrying* them is a position of too much constraint.

A company or battalion is never to come to the HALT, or FORM IN LINE, or to PRESS, (which are situations where the greatest accuracy of front is required,) but with *carried* arms.—When marching in column, or moving by threes, or in file, arms may be *sloped*.—It is to be understood, as a general rule, that in the double march, as the men make the first step, they slope arms, without any separate word of command; on being halted, arms are instantly carried in the same manner.

### S. 26. *Attention in forming the Squad.*

When the SQUAD or division (consisting of from six to eight files) *falls in*, each man, with *carried* arms, will take his place in his rank, beginning from the flank to which he is ordered to form; he will dress himself in line by the rule already given; assume the ordered position of a soldier, and stand perfectly still, and steady, until ordered to stand at ease, or that some other command be given him. Attention must be paid that the files are correctly closed: that the men in the rear rank cover well, looking their file leaders in the middle of the neck:—That the rear rank has its proper distance of one pace (30 inches) from the front rank, and that both ranks are equally well dressed:—That the men do not turn their heads to the right or left; and that each man has the proper unconstrained attitude of a soldier.

S. 27.

**S. 27. Open Order.**

*Rear Rank  
take Open  
Order.*

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.—

*March.*

On the word *March*, the dressers front, and the rear rank falls back one pace, dressing by the right the instant it arrives on the ground.

**S. 28. 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, and then halts.

**S. 29. 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.

2d. 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.

3d. 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

*just*



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, at the first motion of the secure.

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

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

3d.  
Order Arms.

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

2d. 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.

3d. 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.

2d. 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.

1st.



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.

2d. 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.

2d. 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.

3d. 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 thumb under the cock; 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

right foot at the same instant to its original position.

2d. 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 on 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.

2d. 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.

2d. Raise the firelock up from the shoulder to the poise, by placing the left hand upon

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.

3d. 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.

2d. 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.

3d. 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 slipped 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 steady the firelock to the shoulder.

2d. 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



of the right hand under the cock, by a turn of the right wrist.

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

3d. 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.  
2d. Bring the left arm under the cock.  
3d. 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 dropt 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.  
2d. Smartly place the left hand grasping the butt, the firelock kept steady.  
3d. 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.

On



20th.  
*Stand at Ease.*

On the word "Ease" bring the righthand 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.

22d.  
*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.

2d. Quit the right hand.

23d.  
*Order Arms.*

As prescribed in page 24.

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

rank will be brought to the long trail, and those of the rear rank to the port ;—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*.

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### TIME.

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 the 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.

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### SENTRIES.

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 posts, so that they may be perfectly steady before he comes up.

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

CORPORALS.

## CORPORALS.

Corporals marching with reliefs, or commanding detachments or divisions, are to be on the left, and will carry their arms *advanced*, with bayonets fixed.

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## METHOD OF PILING ARMS THREE DEEP.

*Pile Arms.*

The front and rear rank men of each file face to the right, turn their locks outward, and cross the muzzles and tops of ramrods.

The centre rank man places his butt about 30 inches to the left, the lock outwards, and crosses the muzzle of his firelock with those of the front and rear rank men, so that both the tops of their ramrods are placed across, between the ramrod and barrel of the centre rank man.

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## METHOD OF PILING ARMS TWO DEEP.

*Pile Arms.*

The company standing in close order with ordered arms, and told off by threes, the word "Pile" is then given, the whole of the company slip the thumb of the right hand in rear of the barrel of the firelock, at the same time drawing back their right feet, in order to face to the right, with the exceptions of numbers two in the rear rank, they advance their right feet in the hollow of the left, in order to face to the left. The word "Arms" is then given, the whole of the front rank, and one and three of the rear, face to the right; one and three files of the front rank turn the firelock on the heel of the butt with the sling towards them. One and three files of the rear rank turn the firelock



firelock on the heel of the butt with the sling from them, which brings the lock outwards : having done this, they lock their ramrods together, still bearing them well up so as to shew an interval. Number two file of the front rank throws his firelock to the rear as he then stands, and brings his left hand on number one muzzle, and completes that pile ; having done that, he remains perfectly steady face to the right ; in piling with number three, the front and rear ranks have already locked their ramrods. Number two of the rear rank throws his firelock off to his own rear as he then stands, and completes number three pile by bringing his left hand on the muzzle of the firelock : having done this he faces to his right-about, and remains steady.

### UNPILE ARMS.

*Unpile Arms.*

At the word " Unpile," the whole advance their right feet in the hollow of the left, and seize their firelocks at the top brass, thumbs pointing upwards, the files numbered two of the rear rank must work well round on the hips to reach their firelocks : at the word " Arms," the whole snatch their firelocks smartly towards them; and front at the same time.

## PIKE EXERCISE.

A corporal when appointed to act as serjeant must be exercised in the different motions of the Pike, as follows, until reported complete by the serjeant-major, who will make his report to the adjutant for his inspection.

The Pike must be justly placed in the right hand, with the end of the shaft resting on the middle part of the forefinger ; the thumb and three last fingers grasping it ; with the back of the hand a little to the front, and in line with the front part of the thigh, the shaft resting against the hollow of the shoulder.

1st. *Order Arms.* { 1st. Bring the left hand across the body, and seize the shaft with the little finger in a line with the point of the right shoulder.

2d. Lower it to the extent of the left arm, and at the same instant bend the right arm, and seize it in a line with the right shoulder.

3d. Drop it on the ground in line with the middle part of the foot, placing the thumb of the right hand in front of the shaft, and the fingers extended down by the side of it, at the same instant quit the left hand.

2d. *Shoulder Arms* { 1st. At the word "Shoulder," slip the thumb behind the shaft, and bring the fingers round to the front at the last word "Arms;" give it a smart cant up to the shoulder, bringing the left hand across the body to steady the pike ; the left hand is then to be quickly withdrawn.

3d. *Port Arms.* { Drop the pike across the body, seizing it with the left hand, in line with the point of the left shoulder.

Turn

- 4th. *Charge Bayonets.* } Turn a half face to the right on both heels, and lower the pike to a horizontal position, with the shaft touching the right hip, and right arm extended to the rear.
- 5th. *Shoulder Arms.* } 1st. Come square to the front, and raise the pike to its position on the right shoulder, bringing the left hand at the same time across the body, to steady it.  
2d. Quit the left hand.
- 6th. *Support Arms.* } Let the pike slope over the shoulder in proportion to the men's firelocks when sloped.
- 7th. *Stand at Ease.* } Bring the left hand across the body, and seize the shaft about the middle of that part below the hollow of the right shoulder; the feet to be as already explained.
- 8th. *Attention.* } Spring up, and quit the left hand.
- 9th. *Carry Arms.* } 1st. Sink the right arm to its extent, bringing the left hand across the body, to steady the pike.  
2d. Quit the left hand.
- 10th. *Slope Arms.* } The same as the support.
- 11th. *Stand at Ease.* } As at the support.
- 12th. *Attention.* } As at the support.
- 13th. *Carry Arms.* } As from the support.
- 14th. *Recover Arms.* } Bring the pike in a perpendicular position in front of the body, with the end of the shaft resting on the fore-finger, as at the shoulder, at the same time bring the left hand up, and seize it between the last joint of the fore-finger and thumb, with the elbow and hand in a line with the shoulder.
- 15th. *Shoulder Arms.* } 1st. Place the pike to the shouldered position closing the left elbow to the body, with



- with the hand straight across the shaft, to keep it steady.  
2d. Quit the left hand.

N. B. In taking up an alignment, the pike is to be brought before the body in a perpendicular direction, with both elbows close, the left hand holding it about the height of the breast, and the end of the shaft resting on the fore-finger, as above directed for the *recover*.

Serjeants in line will remain steady during the performance of the Manual Exercise, with the exception that they charge their pikes at the same time as the Bayonets.

### S. 30. *Platoon Exercise, and different Firings.*

The recruit having a thorough knowledge of the different motions of the firelock, as shown in the Manual Exercise, may now be taught the Platoon Exercise, as follows.

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

- 1st. As a front rank standing.
- 2d. As a centre rank standing.
- 3d. As a rear rank standing.
- 4th. As a front rank kneeling.
- 5th. As a rear rank kneeling.

*As front  
Rank.  
Prime and  
Load.*

- 1st. Turn the body a quarter face to the right on both heels, placing the right foot six inches behind the left; at the same instant drop the firelock to the priming position, with the left hand at the swell, and elbow close pressed in front of the hip, the side brass touching the right hip, the thumb of the right hand placed in front of the steel, with the

the fingers clenched, and wrist a little turned out; the muzzle to be at the height of the breast-plate.

2d. Open the pan, by closing the elbow, fingers straight upon the lock, and pointing towards the muzzle.

*Handle  
Cartridge.*

1st. Draw the cartridge from the pouch.  
2d. 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.  
2d. Shut the pan by closing the elbow.  
3d. 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.

2d. Drop the butt on the ground without noise; raise the right 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.

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, with the muzzle of the firelock, about four inches from the centre of the breast-plate: in this position the barrel is full to the front.

3d. 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.

1st.

*Draw  
Ramrods.*

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

2d. Draw it entirely out with a straight arm above the shoulder, turning it at the same time to the rear, and close to the elbow ; put it in one inch into the barrel, the back of the hand to the front ; the ramrod is thus held only 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, and the back of the hand to the front.

2d. Press the ramrod lightly towards you, and slip the two fore-fingers and thumb to the point ; then grasp it, as before, with the back of the hand, still remaining to the front.

3d. Push the Cartridge well down to the bottom, with the back of the hand to the front as before.

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.

2d. Draw it entirely out, with a straight arm above the shoulder, turning it to the rear, and close to the elbow : 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, keeping the firelock perfectly steady, and remaining the quarter face to the right.

*As a Front  
Rankstanding  
Ready.*

Bring the firelock, 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, and fingers behind the guard,



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guard, and cock the piece ; then take a grasp of the small of the butt.

*P'sent.*

{ Raise the firelock to the present, with fore-finger within the guard, ready to fire. In this too much pains cannot be taken to prevent the recruit from raising his firelock with a jerk ; it must be deliberately raised sufficiently high, in order that the recruit may be accustomed to arrive at the proper level, and so 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, looking along the barrel with the right eye, from the breech-pin to the muzzle, and, remaining steady, taking an object upon which he is to fire.

*Fire.*

{ Pull the trigger strong with the fore-finger, without a jerk, and when fired, remain looking on the aim.

*Load.*

{ Keeping both feet fast, come to the priming position.

*Handle Cartridge. }  
Prime. ' Bout. Draw }  
Ramrods. Ram down }  
Cartridge. Return }  
Ramrods. }*

As before directed.

N. B. It is not necessary to explain again the different motions of loading, as they have been already detailed. After firing in each rank, it will be necessary to come to the shoulder, in order to be instructed in the movement of the feet, in firing the succeeding rank, by which means, after returning ramrods, they will face to their proper front, and bring the right feet to the left, the fore-finger and thumb of the right hand holding the ramrod, as in the position immediately previous to drawing it, pressing it close against the left shoulder, and the butt raised two inches from the ground.

Quit

## RECRUIT—*With Arms.*

*Shoulder  
Arms.*

Quit the right hand, and at the same time throw it up with one motion to the shoulder.

*As centre  
Rank  
Ready.*

Drop the firelock with one brisk motion, seizing it with the left hand at the swell, with the side brass about four inches above the right hip; at the same instant turn upon both heels a half face to the right, stepping to the right with the right foot, so that the ball of the toe touches the back of your right-hand man's left heel, and cock the firelock as before directed. The position of the firelock in making ready determines that of priming.

N. B. After loading, each man will resume his proper front, bringing at the same time, his right foot to the left, and shoulder arms, as before directed.

*As rear rank  
standing.  
Ready.*

Drop the firelock into the same position as in a centre rank, and as it is brought to that position, step briskly to the right a full pace, with the right toe pointing straight to the right; at the same time, place the left heel about six inches before and in line with the right, and the toe pointing straight to the front; the body to be kept straight, and a half face to the right.

*P'sent.*

With the left knee bent, the right kept straight, reaching forward as far as possible, without overbalancing the body, and bring the firelock to the present.

*Fire.*

As before directed.

*Load.*

Keep both feet fast, and load as a centre rank, and after loading, spring to the front, and shoulder as before directed, taking, at the same time, a side step to the left.

*As front rank  
kneeling.  
Ready.*

Bring the firelock down, as before directed for front rank standing, and without stooping, sink down with a quick motion upon the right

## PART I.

right knee keeping the left foot fast; cock the piece, as the body is sinking. The right knee is to be thrown so far back, that the left leg may be upright, the right foot also upright, and the toe drawn as much as possible under the instep, the body straight, and the head as much kept up as if shouldered: the firelock is to be held firm in this position.

*P'sent.* { Raise the firelock to the present, with the fore-finger within the guard;—all that has been said about this in the preceding practice, must be strictly attended to.

*Fire.* As before.

*Load.* { Spring up, placing the right foot six inches behind the left, as before directed.

*As rear rank kneeling Ready.* { The same as making ready as front rank kneeling, with this difference, the side-brass four inches above the right hip, and the right knee carried about six inches to the right.

*P'sent.* As before.

*Fire.* As before.

*Load.* { Spring up, with your right toe touching the back of your right-hand man's left heel, and the firelock as in centre rank.

N. B.—In casting about after firing as centre rank, and as rear rank standing and kneeling, the butt of the firelock must be placed inside of the left ankle instead of the out, with the toe of the butt close inside of the left heel, and after loading, spring to the front and shoulder arms, as before directed.

Firing as rear ranks kneeling and standing, is applicable only to firing in square.

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 grand division, as a wing of a battalion,  
as



a battalion firing a volley, oblique firing 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 as a front rank, and rear rank as a centre rank, described in the foregoing directions, each man doing his motions with the greatest celerity, and as correctly as shewed 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, from whom the division will take the time; 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.

*Company.*

This serves as a caution only.

*Ready.*

As shewn before, both ranks keeping the feet fast.

*P'sent-Fire.*

As before directed: observing that in the present, the firelock will be brought up with a smarter motion than is prescribed for the recruit in page 38.

After firing, make a pause of two slow paces, then bring the firelock to the loading position, without the word load, and proceed with the loading motions as before directed, waiting only to cast about, and to make ready together.

It is to be understood, after the first fire as a company, the whole make ready of their own accord, taking the time from the right-hand man, and only receive the word  
"P'sent"

## PART I.

"*Present*"—"*Fire*"—instead of "*Ready*"—"P'sent"—"*Fire*." At the close of the General, or at the word "*Cease firing*," the company, if already 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 shoulder when done, taking the time from the right-hand man.

Firing as a grand division is done in the same manner as that of a company, with this difference, the grand division wait for the word, "*Ready!*" "*P'sent!*" "*Fire!*" after each fire, and at the close of the General, they come to the shoulder, as they do in firing as a company.

If a wing of a battalion is ordered to fire, it will come to the shoulder after loading, as will also a battalion after firing a volley.

N. B.—A company, grand division, 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

## RECRUIT—*With Arms.*

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 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, when marching to and from the place of Parade, 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 word, "*Trail Arms*" must always precede the word "*Quick March*," except when done on the march, from the Slope or Carry, when the firelock will be grasped with the right hand, at the word "*Arms*," and brought down, as above described, to the long Trail.

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 not to be ordered without the word "*Order Arms*," when the rear rank will close to the front."

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## OBLIQUE FIRING.

THE company receives the cautionary word from the instructor of the drill, "The company will fire obliquely to



## PART I.

to its right ;" the commander being on the right of his company. On the close of the preparative, he takes one pace to his front, faces to the left, and orders " Company to the Right Oblique."

*Right Oblique.*

At this command, the company makes an exact quarter face to its right on both heels, and the rear rank at the same instant covers exactly by taking a moderate pace to the left.

*Ready.*

Agreeably to regulation in firing to the front.

*Present.*

Agreeably to regulation, but to their then front.

*Fire.*

Agreeably to regulation.

The company still remains a quarter face to the right and loads, taking the time from the right to cast about, and come to the priming position, till the close of the General, when it will come to the front and shoulder; the rear-rank man brings his left foot to his right, and the commander takes post on the right.

The company receives the order to fire obliquely to its left; at the close of the preparative, the commander steps out one pace to his front, faces to the left, and orders " Company Left Oblique."

*Left Oblique.*

The company makes an exact quarter face to its left on both heels, and the rear rank covers at the same instant by taking a moderate pace to the right.

*Ready.*

Agreeably to regulation.

*Present.*

Agreeably to regulation to their then front.

*Fire.*

Agreeably to regulation.

The company still remains a quarter face to its left and loads, both ranks turning the ramrod to the front, and taking the time from

## RECRUIT--*With Arms.*

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{ the left to cast about, and come to the priming position, till the close of the General, when they will come to the front and shoulder.

## 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 four ranks, and practised 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

## PART I.

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

The third rank make ready as centre rank, the fourth rank as rear rank standing; in this the kneeling ranks do not cock, the two standing ranks will cock. File Firing at the close of the General, or at the word "Commence Firing," or at the close of the General, or at the word "Cease Firing" they will load and stand steady till the word "Load" is given to the kneeling ranks, when they come to the front and shoulder with the front rank; the kneeling ranks may be fired if necessary, for which the commander will give the words "Kneeling Ranks, ready, present, fire," which they do as directed in the foregoing instructions; then with a quick motion bring the firelock down to resist cavalry as before, and remain perfectly steady till the word "Load" is given.



## LIGHT INFANTRY.

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In regiments of light infantry, or in detached corps acting as such, it may occasionally be expedient to prime, load, and fire, with both ranks kneeling. This mode of firing is permitted in corps of the above description; and the following Motions will be adopted in the practice of it.

### *Firing Two Ranks Kneeling: Priming and Loading in that Position.*

*Ready.*

Both ranks sink down smartly on their right knees, and throw back their right legs. In the front rank, the left side of the right knees is directly to the rear of the right side of the left foot; but the rear rank carries the right knee about four inches to the right. The left legs of both must be perfectly perpendicular. The front and rear ranks respectively bring their firelocks down to the priming position, as hereafter explained, cock and replace their right hands on the small of the butt.

From the left arm being brought across the body, the left shoulders of both ranks are brought forward in a small degree; but the body must be kept as square to the front as possible, without producing constraint.

*Present.*

On the word "Present," both ranks bring their firelocks to the present, each man slowly and independently levelling at the particular

particular object which his eye has fixed upon ; and as soon as he has covered his object, each man fires of his own accord, without waiting for any word of command. The elbows must on no account be projected.

Both ranks keep their firelocks at the *present* till the word "Load" is given, which the officer orders as soon as he sees they have all fired.

Then the men come to the priming position which in this particular mode of firing is as follows :

The firelocks of the front rank are in line with the haunches ; and those of the rear rank are placed about four inches above the haunches.

The elbows of both ranks must be as close to the body as possible.

The front rank men, after priming, bring round their firelocks to the left side, and throw the butts to the rear ; so that the barrels may be close to the left thigh, and the muzzles three inches behind the left knees.

The left hand moves the firelock from the right side to the left, and the right hand is brought across the body to accomplish the loading. After loading, the firelock is raised, and advanced to the front by the left hand, and the position for making ready is resumed.

The rear rank men, after priming turn the body to the right in a small degree, lean well to the rear, and throw the butts to the front, so that the firelocks may be in contact with the right thighs of the front rank men, and the muzzle in line with the hip-bone.

They then resume their original position for making ready.

On

{ On the signal to cease firing, the ranks resume their standing position, and shoulder.

**S. 31. Firings.**

When the recruits have acquired the management of their arms, and are perfect in the motions of the manual and platoon exercises, they will be instructed at closed ranks in firing—

Direct to their front, and both ranks kneeling.

Obliquely to the right and left.

By files.

**S. 32. Marching to the Front and Rear.**

{ The squad, or division, is to be particularly well dressed; files correct; arms carried; the rear rank covering exactly; and each individual to have his just attitude and position before the squad is ordered to move. The march will be made by the right or left flank, and a proper trained man will therefore conduct it. The word *Squad* or *Division*, may be given as a caution: and at the word *March*, each man steps forward a full pace. The recruit must not turn his head or eyes to the flank by which he is marching, as a turning of the shoulders would undoubtedly follow. His elbows must be kept steady without constraint; if they are spread from his body, the next man must be pressed upon; if they are closed, there arises an improper distance which must be filled up; in either case, waving on the march will take place, and must therefore be avoided.

*Caution.  
March.*

*Halt, front,  
March.*

{ Turning to the right or left, or about, in march, is not to be at first practised; but the squad is to *Halt, front*, by command, and then *March*.

A squad



A squad, or division, great or small, after a movement to the rear, to a flank by threes, or in file, may immediately resume its proper front; instead of the words to halt, and face about, the word *Halt front*, as one command, will be given, when it is instantly to face to its proper front in line. In general there should be no sensible pause between the *Halt front* of any body; and it is after fronting, that the dressing, if necessary, is ordered to take place.

To march straight forward is of the utmost consequence, and he who commands at the drill will take the greatest pains to make his squad perfect in this essential object;—for this purpose he will often place himself behind the flank file by which the squad is to move in marching, and take a point, or object, exactly in front of that file, and another in its rear; he will then command *March*, and, remaining in his place, he will direct the advance of the squad, by keeping the flank file always in a line with these objects. It is also from the rear, that the leaning back of the soldier, and the bringing forward, or falling back of a shoulder, are soonest perceived: faults which, if not instantly rectified, will create confusion in line, where one man, by bringing forward a shoulder, may change the direction of the march, and oblige the wing of a battalion to run, in order to keep dressed.

In short, it is impossible to labour too much at making the soldier move straight forward, keeping always the same front as when he commenced his march. This is effected by moving solely on the heels, keeping always the body steady, the arms square, and the head to the front; and it is effected without difficulty, by a strict attention to the rules given for marching, and a careful observance of an equal length of step, and an equal cadence, or time of march.

The recruit must be practised in changing the pace, without halting, from *slow* to *quick* and *double*, and from *quick* to *slow time*; as well as from *quick* to *double*, and from *double* to *quick time*: but never from *double* to *slow time*, without a previous halt.

*Turning*

*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.*

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.

*Forward.*

As an aid for fixing the true time, or cadence of the march, the plummet must be frequently resorted to; the words, *left*, *right*, may, when necessary, be repeated. Strong taps of the drum, if in just time, and regulated by the plummet, may be given immediately before the word *March*, to imprint the required measure on the mind of the recruit; but they are on no account, or in any situation, to be given during the march.

S. 33. *Open and Close Order, on the March.*

*Rear Rank*  
*take Open*  
*Order.*

When moving to the front in close order, the word *Rear Rank* takes place; on which the front rank continues its march, without altering the pace, and the rear rank marks the time, and steps off at the second step.

*Rear Rank*  
*take Close*  
*Order.*

On the word *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. 34.

S. 34. *March in File to a Flank*

The accuracy of the march in file is so essential in all countermarches and all file movements, 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, according to the closeness or openness of the files, and the length of step. 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 swerving 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 look to, and 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.

S. 35. *Wheel in File.*

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, or the eyes of the rear ranks being turned from their front rank.—The front rank men, whether they



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. 36. *Oblique Marching in Front.*

*Right  
Oblique.*

When the squad is marching in front, and receives the word *To the right oblique*, each man, the first time he raises the right foot, will, instead of throwing it straight forward, carry it in the diagonal direction, as has been already explained in Sect. 14, taking care not to alter the position of his body, shoulders, or heels. The greatest attention is to be paid to the shoulders of every man in the squad, that they remain parallel to the line on which they first were placed, and that the right shoulders do not fall to the rear, which they are very apt to do in obliquing to the right, and which immediately changes the direction of the front.— On the word *Forward*, the incline ceases, and the squad march forward. In obliquing to the left the same rules are to be observed, the only difference being the direction of the left leg going to the left, and the attention to keep up the left shoulder.

*Forward.*

The same instructions that are given for slow time serve also for quick time.

In obliquing to the right the eyes are invariably to be turned to the right, but the touch must be preserved to the left, and *vice versa*, excepting in the obliquing of a battalion, when the touch must always be to the centre.

S. 37.

S. 37. *Diagonal March.**Right (or left)  
half turn.**Front turn.*

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 on the diagonal lines upon which they are individually placed in echelon, as described in the half-facings, S. 4.—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 outer 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.

NOTE.—It will be desirable that the instructions for the diagonal march should commence in a single word.

S. 38. *Wheeling forward in the Halt.**Right Wheel.**Quick March.*

The directions already given for the wheeling of a single rank (vide Sect. 20) are to be strictly attended to in this wheel of the squad.—On the word *Right (or left) Wheel*, the rear Rank, if at one pace distance, locks up. At the word *Quick March*, the whole

whole step together in the wheeling time, and the rear rank during the wheel, inclines so as to cover the proper front-rank man. At the word *Halt*, the whole remain perfectly steady.

**S. 39. *Wheeling backward.***

The squad must be practised in wheeling backward in the wheeling 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 Sect. 22.*)

**S. 40. *Wheeling from the March, on a halted and moveable Pivot.***

The directions for wheeling on a *halted*, and on a *moveable* pivot, have already been given, in Sects. 21 and 23. The squad should now be practised in both, until the recruits are thoroughly confirmed in those movements.

**S. 41. *Stepping out,—Stepping short,—Marking Time,—Changing Feet,—The Side Step,—Stepping back.***

The squad must likewise be practised in *stepping out, stepping short, marking time, changing feet, the side step, and stepping back*, the instructions for which have been given in the foregoing sections.

It cannot be too strongly inculcated, that every just movement and manœuvre depends upon the correct *equality of march*, established and practised by all the troops of the same army. When this is not attended to, disunion and confusion must follow, on the junction of several battalions, although, when taken separately, each may be well trained: It is in the original instruction of the recruit



recruit, and squad; that his great point is to be attained. The *time* and *length* of step are prescribed: The *TIME* is infallibly ascertained, by the frequent corrections of the *plummet*; which, when so applied, will soon give to each man the habitual measure so much desired; and the *LENGTH* of step is acquired by repeated practice of the pace stick. When a squad marches by files, by threes, or by fours, a man should be placed upon the flank of the leading files, to whose step the pace stick can be conveniently applied, to correct the length of step of the whole.

The directions for wheeling on a halloo, and on a moveable pivot, in Sect. 21 and 22. The squad should now be practised in both, until the recruits are thoroughly conversant in those movements.

2. 41. Stepping out—Stepping short—Marching Time—Marching Back—The side step—Stepping over.

The above must likewise be practised in the same manner as the preceding, marking time, marching, the side step, and stepping out, the positions for which have been given in the foregoing sections.

It cannot be too strongly intimated, that every instruction in this manual depends upon the correct execution of the movements established and practised by all the troops of the same arm. When this is not attended to, dissension and confusion must follow, on the junction of several battalions, although when taken separately, each may be perfect. It is in the original instruction the recruit

## PART II.

### OF THE COMPANY.

#### S. 42. *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 fire-locks; 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.—Two 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 ensign or junior subaltern on the left. In the front rank, the lieutenant in the rear, as also the serjeant or pioneer in a third rank, at three paces' distance. In this formation companies are to assemble in 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 takes the leading section, the next in seniority the rear section, the third in rank the third section from the head of the column,

column, and the junior officer the second. The covering serjeant 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 by threes from the right, numbered 1, 2, 3.

The four best-trained soldiers are to be placed in the front rank, on the right and left of each sub-division.

When thus formed, the company will be practised in

Opening and Closing of } Ranks. (Sect. 27 and 28.)

Dressing { to the front,  
to the rear,  
in an oblique direction, } by the right & left ;

and be exercised in the several motions of the firelock, as have been shewn in the preceding part.

*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.

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

S. 43. *Marching to the Front.*

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



BY THE RIGHT,  
OR LEFT  
MARCH.

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. To MARCH on one object only, and to preserve a straight line, is an operation not to be depended on; the conductor of the company, before the word MARCH is given, will therefore endeavour to 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 those 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. If no object in the true line can be ascertained, his own squareness of person must determine the direction of the march.

A person placed in the rear of a body can more readily than if placed in its front, determine the line which is perpendicular to such front (vide S. 32); and could we suppose ranks and files most perfectly correct, the prolongation of each file would be a perpendicular to the front of the body.

2. As the MARCH of every body, except in the case of inclining is made on lines perpendicular to its front, each

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.

The company, during its march in line, will occasionally be ordered to

<i>Step Out</i> .....	Vide Sect. 8.
<i>Mark Time</i> .....	10.
<i>Step Short</i> .....	9.
<i>Open and close ranks</i> .....	33.
<i>Oblique</i> .....	36.
<i>Diagonal March</i> .....	37.

#### S. 44. *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.—As, for instance, to open or close files ; to join one division to, or open it from, another ; to regain an interval in line ; to move a whole battalion, or parade, 20 or 30 paces to a flank ; to regulate distances between close columns before deploying ; alterations made in this manner are imperceptible from the front, and better made than by facing and file marching.

When the whole company is to close, at the word TO THE RIGHT CLOSE, the company officer takes one step to the front, and instantly faces about, the covering serjeant replacing him : On the word QUICK-MARCH, the whole move together agreeably to the directions (in Sec. 11.) On the word HALT, the company officer resumes his place, having stepped in the same manner

manner as the men, but fronting them, and thereby assisted in preserving the direction.

At the word *left close*, the officer will step nimbly out, and place himself in front of the left file of his company; and at the word *Halt*, he resumes his place in line by the rear.

### S. 45. *The Back Step.*

STEP BACK, —  
MARCH. { The Company must be accustomed from the halt, at the word STEP BACK—MARCH, to step back any ordered number of paces in the slow time and length, as it is an operation that may be frequently required from a battalion.

### S. 46. *To form Three Deep.*

FORM THREE  
DEEP.  
MARCH. { 1. At the word MARCH, the rear rank man of the file, No. 2, takes one pace to the rear, with the left foot, and a pace to the right, with the right foot, so as to cover the rear rank man of the file, No. 1; at the same instant, file, No. 3, takes one pace to the rear with their left feet, and a pace to the right, so as to cover the front-rank man of file, No. 2.

REAR FORM  
THREE DEEP.  
MARCH. { 2. When three deep is formed facing to the rear, the word *March* is given, as above, and the instant the men cover, the whole face to the right about.

FRONT. { 3. Two deep is re-formed from three deep in the following manner: Upon the word FRONT, the file, No. 3, steps up to the left of No. 2, the rear-rank man of No. 2, steps nimbly up and covers his front-rank man. If three deep has been formed to the rear, the whole come to *right about* on the word *Front*, and then instantly form in the same manner.

The



The threes may close their intervals by the side step to the centre, or to either flank, and again open out, as may be required.

### *Marching to a Flank by Threes.*

THREES  
RIGHT.

4. The company receives the command THREES RIGHT, and the whole face to the right; the rear rank man of file, No. 2, forms on the right of file, No. 1, and file, No. 3, forms on the right of the front-rank man of file, No. 2.

THREES LEFT.

5. On the command THREES LEFT, the whole face to the left; the rear-rank man of file, No. 2, forms on the left of file, No. 1, and file, No. 3, forms on the left of the front-rank man of file, No. 2.

HALT FRONT.

6. Upon the word HALT, FRONT, the whole front and instantly form up two deep, by the rear-rank man of No. 2, covering his front-rank man, and file, No. 3, moving up to the left of No. 2.

The company must be frequently practised in these formations until the men are perfectly trained to form at the words; THREES RIGHT, THREES LEFT, THREES INWARDS, THREES OUTWARDS, without pause or hesitation; and with a readiness equal to the execution of the commands applied to the different facings in file.

The threes must likewise be accustomed to turn on the march *Two deep* to the front and rear, preserving their perpendicular line, unless an order is given to retain their original formation.

Should the telling off by threes leave an odd file, it should form on the right of the left threes, so that in forming threes it retains its place at the usual distance between the two left sections of threes. When there are two men over the threes, they form a file in the same place; and when there are three, they form a single rank of three: When four, they form a section of two file only; and when five, they form in the same manner, leaving the front-

front-rank man of No. 3 uncovered. The outer section of threes must always be complete.

### S. 47. 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, behind 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 right files, at the same instant form on the right of the left files.

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.

In all these formations the files preserve their proper order and place, and 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

mediately 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.

In the telling off for four deep, the odd files will be placed as explained in the last section.

### *On the March in Line.*

**FORM FOUR  
DEEP.**

5. *The company advancing or retiring in line, will form four deep on the march.* Upon the word *FORM FOUR DEEP*, the rear rank will mark time one pace, and the left files will double in rear of the right files, taking up the step from the front rank. In retiring, the front rank will mark time one pace, and the left files double as before, taking up the step from the rear rank.

Upon the word *RE-FORM TWO DEEP*, the left files will resume their places, and the rear rank will close to the front.

### *S. 48. File Marching.*

**LEFT FACE.**

**QUICK MARCH**

*Halt, Front.*

In marching by files, the commander of the company will lead the front rank ; therefore, when the movement is by the left ; on the word *TO THE LEFT FACE*, he, and his covering serjeant, will instantly shift to the left flank of the company by the rear ; at the word *QUICK MARCH*, the whole step off together (vide Sect. 19) ; and on the word *Halt, Front*, the leader and his serjeant will return to their posts on the right in the same manner.

*S. 49.*



S. 49. *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. 50. *Wheeling forward by Sub-Divisions from Line.*

BY SUB-DIVISIONS  
RIGHT  
WHEEL.

QUICK MARCH

*Halt, Dress.*

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

[ At the word QUICK MARCH, each sub-division steps off in wheeling time, observing the directions given in Sec. 20 and 38. 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 serjeant coverer, during the wheel, goes round by the rear, and takes post on the pivot flank of the second sub-division. It is to be observed, that the commander

commander of the company invariably takes post with the leading sub-division; therefore, when the company wheels by sub-divisions to the left, the commander of the company moves out to the centre of the left sub-division, and during the wheel inclines towards the right, now become the proper pivot flank of the sub-divisions.

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 may be called 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. 51. *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 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

On the word QUICK MARCH, each sub-division wheels backward, as directed in Section 22, and Section 39. 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

**Halt, Dress.** | the wheel gives the word *Halt, Dress*, to both divisions: he and his covering serjeant then place themselves on the left flanks of their sub-divisions.

**S. 52.** *Marching on an Alignement, 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 S. 43.) 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 are in themselves sufficient to occupy the whole attention of the leaders of the two divisions; therefore they must not look to, nor endeavour to correct the march of their divisions, which care must be entirely left to the non-commissioned officers of the supernumerary rank.

**S. 53.** *Wheeling into Line from Open Column of Sub-divisions.*

**HALT.**

1. The company being in open column of sub-divisions, marching on the alignement, receives the word **HALT** from the instructor of



LEFT WHEEL  
INTO LINE.

QUICK MARCH.

*Halt, Dress.*

*Eyes front.*

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 alignement, 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-division is to halt, when it shall have completed its wheel.—At the word QUICK MARCH, the whole wheel up in the wheeling 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*, in a moderate tone of voice, and takes post in line, as directed in Sect. 42.

2. The company may be wheeled into line on the march on the moveable pivot, receiving from the instructor either the word FORWARD, or HALT, DRESS, when the wheel is complete.

In all wheels of the divisions of a column that are to be made on a halted pivot in order to form line, the flank firelock of the front rank on the hand wheeled to is such pivot, not the officer who may be on that flank, and whose business is to conform to it.

All wheelings by sub-divisions, or sections, from line into column, or from column into line, are performed on the word given by the commander of a battalion, when the

the whole of a battalion is at the same instant so to wheel; or on the word given by the commander of the company, when companies singly, or successively, so wheel; they are not to be repeated by the leaders of its divisions.

When the company is in open-column of sub-divisions, it must be occasionally practised to wheel into line upon the reverse flank of the column: and in shewing a front line also to that reverse flank by wheeling backwards on the regular pivots.

*S. 54. In Open Column of Sub-divisions wheeling into an Alignement.*

*Halt Wheel.*

*Halt Dress,  
March.*

*Halt Wheel.  
Halt Dress,  
March.*

When the company marching in open column of sub-divisions arrives at the ground, where the wheel is to commence, the leading division receives the word *Halt, right or left wheel*, from its commander; on which the rear rank, if at one pace distance, locks up; the flank front-rank man alone halts, and faces into the new direction, while the others quicken their pace to the wheeling time, and regulate their step by the outward man (to whom they have turned their eyes,) until the wheel is completed.—He then gives the word *Halt, Dress*, and immediately the word *March*, and moves on so, that its rear rank may not occasion even a momentary stop to the division behind it, which at that instant receives the word *Wheel*, then *Halt, Dress*, and finally *March*. Any pause is to be carefully avoided.

The officer conducting the leading (and every other) division of the column in march, on any given point or object where it is to wheel into a new direction, and to its proper halted pivot; always stops at that point, or object, close on his own outward hand, and gives the word *WHEEL*, when the front rank of his division has taken one pace beyond such object; he thus allows space

space for his own person (when the wheel is finished) to move on the new direction of march.

But if the proper pivot flank is to be the wheeling one, each commander of a division gives his word *Wheel*, as he successively arrives at such a distance from the point on which he has moved, as that at the completion of the wheel, his division may *halt* perpendicular to the new line, but with the given point, of course, behind the proper pivot; and that he also in his own person be on the new direction, prepared to give his word *March*, and to proceed.

The sub-divisions must take care that they continue their march correctly upon the point where the leading one wheeled, and that they do not shift to either flank, which, without much attention, they are apt to do.

In this manner the sub-divisions succeed each other: and if the words of command be justly given, no stop made on arriving at the wheeling point, and the wheels performed at an increased time and step, no extension of the column will take place, but the just distances between the divisions will be preserved at the word *Halt*.

**S. 55. In Open Column of Sub-divisions entering into a new Direction on a moveable Pivot.**

*Right  
Shoulders  
forward.*

*Forward.*

The commander of the leading sub-division, when it arrives at the new direction, will give the word *Right* (or *left*) *Shoulders forward* (Vide Sect. 23), and when his sub-division has wheeled square to that direction, he will give the word *Forward*.—The leader of the second sub-division, when he arrives at the ground where the first began to change its direction, will give the same words, following the exact track, and always preserving his distance from the division in his front.



S. 56. *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 goes to the other flank, and his covering serjeant faces to the right about.—

At the word QUICK MARCH, the whole, except the serjeant coverer, step off together, the company officer wheeling short round (to his left, if he has shifted to the right of the company; or to his right, if he has shifted to the left of it); and proceeds, followed by the company in file, till he has conducted his pivot front-rank man close to his serjeant, who has remained immovable; he then gives the words *Halt, Front, and Dress*, squares, and closes his company on his serjeant, and then replaces him.

*Countermarch by Ranks.*

RIGHT AND  
LEFT FACE.

2. On the word FACE, whether the right or left is in front, the front rank faces from the pivot, the rear rank to it; officers place themselves on the outward flank of their serjeants facing inwards, and the covering serjeants go to the right about.

The

RIGHT OR  
LEFT COUN-  
TERMARCH.  
QUICK  
MARCH.

*Halt, front,  
Dress.*

{ The whole step off together, the two ranks severally wheeling in single file, till the leading file of the front rank comes close to the covering serjeant; they then receive the word *Halt, Front, Dress*, from the officer who replaces the serjeant.

### *Countermarch by Files from both Flanks.*

SUB-DIVI-  
SIONS OUT-  
WARD FACE.

{ 3. The company standing in distinct subdivisions (an officer and a serjeant coverer on the outer flank of each sub-division, with a central serjeant marking the point of separation between the two) receives the caution to countermarch and change ground from both flanks, on which the covering serjeants on the flank of each sub-division exchange places, and face to the future front, in the line of the rear rank, and the central serjeant goes to the right about.

{ The sub-divisions face with their respective officers.

RIGHT  
COUNTER-  
MARCH.  
QUICK  
MARCH.

*Halt, Front,  
Dress.*

{ The whole step off together, each sub-division wheeling short round to the right, and proceed as directed for the countermarch by files; each sub-division receiving the word *Halt, Front, Dress*, from its own officer, as soon as they have respectively changed places.

All countermarches by files necessarily tend to an extension of the files; unity of step is therefore absolutely indispensable, and the greatest care must be taken that the wheel of each file be made close, quick, and at an increased length of step of the wheeling man, so as not to retard or lengthen out the march of the whole.

Companies, or their divisions, when brought up in file to a new line, are not to stand in that position, till the men cover each other minutely; but the instant the leading man is at his point, they will receive the word *Halt Front*, and in that situation close in and dress correctly.

The

The countermarch from both flanks of the company is principally applicable to the countermarch of a double column of sub-divisions, in which the wings change places. On other occasions the countermarch by sub-division is performed by their wheeling, the reverse sub-division going to the right about, and coming to the front when halted.

### S. 57. *Wheeling of the Centre of the Company.*

The Company must be accustomed to wheel upon its centre, half backward, half forward, and to be pliable into every shape which circumstances can require of it; but always in order, and by a decided command.

The words of command are,

COMPANY ON THE CENTRE	{	RIGHT, LEFT, RIGHT ABOUT, LEFT ABOUT,	}	WHEEL.
--------------------------	---	--	---	--------

MARCH.

When the wheel is to the right, or right about, the right half company wheels backward, and the left forward.—In this case the right hand man of the left sub-division is the pivot man; he faces to his right or right about, and the covering serjeant springs out, and alignes himself with him, but to the flank which is to become the pivot.—The reverse will take place, when the wheel is to be made to the left, or to the left about.—The left hand man of the right sub-division is then the pivot man, who will face to his left, or left about; the covering serjeant alignes himself with him, as in the wheel to the right.—On the word MARCH, the whole move off together in the wheeling time, regulating by the two flank men, who, during the wheel, preserve themselves in a line with the centre of the company; as soon as the required degree of wheel is performed, the



*Halt, Dress.* the commander of the company gives the word *Halt, Dress*, and instantly squares it from that flank, on which he himself is to take post.

### S. 58. *Diagonal March.*

The instructor of the drill will have the diagonal march frequently practised, in company, and in sub-divisions; (vide S. 36, 37.) He will see that the rear rank locks well up, and covers exactly; that the exact distances are preserved between the files; and that the pivots, or outward files, march in the direct line to which they have faced, the others conforming to them.

### S. 59. *Increasing and Diminishing the Front of an Open Column halted.*

#### *Increasing.*

FORM COM-  
PANY.

RIGHT SUB-  
DIVISIONS.  
RIGHT ABOUT  
THREE-  
QUARTERS  
FACE;  
QUICK  
MARCH.

*Halt, Front,  
Dress.*

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 serjeant will run out to mark the reverse flank, the instructor will instantly order, RIGHT SUB-DIVISIONS, RIGHT ABOUT THREE QUARTERS FACE; QUICK MARCH; and the reverse file will march straight to the covering serjeant—When the sub-division has obliqued so as to gain the line of the left sub-division, the commander gives the word *Halt, Front, Dress*; and takes post on the left, the pivot flank of the company. The men front to the left from the right-about three-quarters face, vide Part I.

#### *Diminishing.*

FORM-SUB-  
DIVISIONS.

On the cautionary command from the instructor of the drill to FORM SUB-DIVISIONS, the commander advances to mark the

RIGHT SUB-DIVISION,  
LEFT HALF  
FACE,  
QUICK  
MARCH.

*Halt, Front,  
Dress.*

the point where the left flank of the right sub-division is to rest. The instructor of the drill, while the commander is advancing to that point, orders, RIGHT SUB-DIVISION, LEFT HALF FACE, QUICK MARCH; and the file of the inner flank of the right sub-division marches straight to the commander, and when it shall reach him, the sub-division receives the word, *Halt, Front, Dress.*—The commander remains on the left flank of the right sub-division, and his serjeant on that of the left.

It is to be observed, both in increasing and diminishing the front of an open column halted, that upon the usual caution, the reverse file of the pivot sub-division falls back one pace to leave room for the flank of the reverse sub-division, and upon the word *Halt, Front*, it resumes its place.

The sub-divisions or sections on the reverse flank, must always double in front of the pivot sub-divisions or sections. Thus, when the right is in front, the doubling will be in front of the left sub-division; and, when the left is in front, it will be in front of the right sub-division. When the front of a column is increased, the front sub-divisions or sections, make a three quarters face to the right, and move by the diagonal march to the reverse flank; so that when the right is in front, the diagonal movement will be to the left and rear, and the reverse when the left is in front.

### S. 60. *Increasing and diminishing the Front of an Open Column on the March.*

*Increasing.*

FORM  
COMPANY,  
RIGHT SUB-DIVISION,  
RIGHT TURN.

The company marching in open column of sub-divisions (suppose right in front), receives from the instructor of the drill the cautionary command, FORM COMPANY, RIGHT SUB-DIVISION, RIGHT TURN; the men at the word *Turn*, lengthen their pace

to

to 33 inches, and when the division has cleared the extent of its own front, the left sub-division, which has continued to march with the utmost steadiness, will have gained its inner flank; and then the commander of the company gives the word *Front turn* to the right sub-division, which moves on in line with the left sub-division, and takes post on the pivot flank of the company towards which he has been moving.

### *Diminishing.*

FORM SUB-DIVISIONS.

RIGHT SUB-DIVISION,  
LEFT HALF TURN.

Front turn,  
Quick.

Slow.

When the instructor of the drill gives the caution to FORM SUB-DIVISIONS, the commander of the company advances to the proper distance in front, the instructor then gives the word, RIGHT SUB-DIVISION, LEFT HALF TURN, and it instantly moves off at the *Double March*, if the column has been moving in quick time; and when the inner file of the reverse sub-division shall reach the commander, he gives the words *Front turn, Quick*, and the sub-division takes up the step at which the pivot divisions of the column are moving. If the column has been marching in slow time, the reverse divisions double up in quick time, and resume the step of the pivot division at the word *Slow*.

Upon the usual caution in diminishing as before, the reverse file of the pivot sub-division will mark time one pace, to leave room for the diagonal advance of the right sub-division; and when the flanks are clear, it will resume its place.

The instructor of the drill must take particular care that the pivot divisions continue their march at the regular time and length of pace, and that the exact distances between the divisions are accurately preserved.



**S. 61. The Company in Open Column of Sub-divisions to pass a short Defilé by breaking off Files.**

**BREAK OFF 3  
FILES.**

*Three files,  
left turn,  
right 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 right, left turn, right wheel*; the named files immediately turn to the left, and wheeling to the right follow in file in rear of the right 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, left  
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 left, so as to cover the files now ordered to break off, and which turn to the left and wheel to the right 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.

*Three files to  
the front.*

As the defilé 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 right), and lengthening their pace, march up, file by

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 right, 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 defilé, the files always break off from the reverse flank.

**S. 62. Forming Company, Sub-Divisions, or Sections, from the Flank March of Threes, Right in Front.**

FRONT, FORM  
COMPANY FOR  
SUB-DIVISIONS.

Upon the word FRONT, FORM COMPANY, the leading man will mark time, the remainder will turn their bodies a whole face to the left, and wheel to the right, and that instant will form two deep: If the company are to keep on the march, the word FORWARD is given.

The same rule to be observed, if left in front, with the difference of turning their bodies to the right and wheeling to the left.

THREES  
RIGHT,  
LEFT WHEEL.

THREES LEFT,  
RIGHT WHEEL

If the flank march is again to be resumed, the word is given THREES RIGHT, LEFT WHEEL, if the column is right in front; and if the column is left in front, the word is given THREES LEFT, RIGHT WHEEL.

**S. 63. Forming Company, Sub-Divisions, or Sections, 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

right in front, turn to the left, and if left in front, turn to the right.

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

ON THE LEADING FILE TO THE RIGHT FORM COMPANY.

At this word of command, the leading file will halt and face to the right, the remainder of the company form on the left of the right file, by files in succession.

ON THE LEADING FILE TO THE LEFT FORM COMPANY.

The same rule is to be observed in forming to the left, with this difference, the leading file will halt and face to the left, and the remainder will form on the right by files in succession.

ON THE LEADING FILE TO THE RIGHT ABOUT, FORM COMPANY.

At this word the leading file halts and faces to the right about, the remainder of the company march on in file and form on the left of the leading file in succession, and halt as they come into the line.

ON THE LEADING FILE TO YOUR LEFT ABOUT, FORM COMPANY.

The same rule is to be observed in this, with the difference of the leading file facing to the left about, and the remainder forming on the right.

## S. 64. To form to either Flank, from Open Column of Sub-divisions.

HALT, LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE, MARCH.

The company marching in open column of sub-divisions, to form to its left, receives the words, HALT, LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE,—MARCH, &c., and proceeds as has already been shewn in S. 53.

RIGHT FORWARD, FORM COMPANY.

To form the company to its right flank, the instructor of the drill gives the cautionary word of command, TO THE RIGHT, FORM THE COMPANY; on which the commanders of the several divisions shift to the right



*Left Shoulders  
forward,  
Halt, Dress.*

*Left half turn.*

*Front turn.*

*Left Shoulders  
forward, Halt  
Dress.*

right flank, and the commander of the leading sub-division instantly gives the word to his division, *Left Shoulders forward*. When it has wheeled square, he orders, *Halt, dress* : and dresses it on the intended line of formation.—The commander of the other sub-division on the leading one being ordered to wheel, gives the word, *To the left half turn*, and gradually inclines, so as to be able to march clear of the rear rank of the sub-division forming : this being well effected, the word *Front turn*, will be given to the sub-division, and it will move on in the rear of the one formed.—When the second sub-division is arrived at the left flank of the first, its commander gives the word, *Left Shoulders forward*, then *Halt, dress* ; on which the division moves up into the line with the one formed : and its commander, from the left of his first division, dresses his own on the given flank point, as quickly and as accurately as possible, and resumes his proper company place.

This formation to a flank may also be performed by a wheel of sub-divisions on their halted pivots.

*S. 65. The Company moving to the Front, to gain Ground to a Flank, by a March in Echellon, by Sections.*

In the drill of the company, when the soldier is completely formed, he may be taught to march in echellon by sections. This is a very useful movement for a battalion, or any large body moving in line, or column, that is required to gain ground to a flank ; and it may be substituted instead of the oblique march.—It will be performed in the following manner.

SECTIONS  
RIGHT.

{ The company, marching to the front, receives the word by SECTIONS RIGHT ; the right

FORWARD.

right-hand men of the front rank of each section turning in a small degree to their right, mark the time two or three paces, during which the sections are wheeling on their pivot men; and on the word *Forward*, the whole move on direct to the front that each section has now acquired: and the company continues its march in echelon.

FORM COMPAN-  
NY.

On the word FORM COMPANY, the pivot men mark the time as before, turning back in a small degree to the left, the original front, and the sections instantly wheel backward into line; on the word FORWARD, the whole advance in line.

FORWARD.

S. 66. *Marching.*

The company must be well drilled in the different degrees of marching, viz. Slow—Quick—and the Double March, until the men have acquired the utmost precision in these movements.—It ought to be much practised in the double march, in all the formations of *threes* as well as in the company formed in line—in column of sub-divisions, sections, &c. &c. that march being essential in the interior formations of the battalion.

S. 67. *To form the Rallying Square.*FORM THE  
RALLYING  
SQUARE.

The instructor of the drill having caused the recruits to fall out and disperse to a certain distance, will give the word FORM THE RALLYING SQUARE, at the same time placing himself facing the supposed enemy; the recruits hasten to the person so posted, fixing bayonets, and shouldering their arms as they reach him. The two first who join him form on his right and left, facing outwards. The three next place themselves in front of those posted, and three others to the rear facing to the rear, thus forming a square of three. The instructor will

cause

cause the next four men to take post at the several angles ; and others as they come up will complete the different faces between these angles, which will form a square of five. If the front rank of either of the faces of the square should be incomplete, the instructor will fill the vacancies from the rear rank.

2. A square thus composed of twenty-four men (besides the person who is to rally) and formed two deep, may be augmented to a square of seven, three deep, by four more men taking post at the angles, and others coming up to complete the faces as before ; the square will then consist of forty-eight men, and may be augmented in the same manner to a square of nine, four deep, by the angles being occupied by four more men, and the faces filled up as before ; and the square will then be composed of eighty-men.

3. *If a mounted officer is to rally the dispersed men*—He will give the words *Form the Rallying Square*, and five men will form in his front, five in the rear, and three on the flanks ; the rest of the formation proceeds as before.

4. *When the square is to march*.—In order to move with the necessary regularity previously to putting the square in motion, the instructor will cause the faces to be dressed ; and after the caution that THE SQUARE WILL MOVE TO THE FRONT, REAR, RIGHT OR LEFT, he will give the words INWARDS FACE, and it will face to the named face of the square, and step off accordingly at the word QUICK MARCH.

THE SQUARE  
WILL MOVE  
TO THE FRONT,  
REAR, RIGHT,  
OR LEFT  
INWARDS  
FACE,

QUICK MARCH

HALT.  
PREPARE TO  
RESIST CA-  
VALRY.  
READY.

5. *To resist Cavalry*.—Upon the word HALT, the square will halt and face outwards, and when it is to PREPARE TO RESIST CAVALRY ;—upon the word READY, the



FIRE.

{ the front rank only (if the square is two or three deep) will kneel; if four deep, the two front ranks will kneel, and plant their bayonets. If ordered to fire, the standing ranks only will commence an independent fire, bringing the firelock gradually up to the present.

In this manner small dispersed parties, from eight to eighty-men, may be formed to resist an attack of cavalry in an open country, where, either from fatigue, or other causes, soldiers may have separated from the column of march. The formation must be frequently practised in squad and company drill, so that soldiers, thoroughly instructed, may always be enabled to protect themselves upon an emergency.

END OF PART SECOND.

PART III.



## PART III.

## FORMATION OF THE BATTALION.

Strength of the Battalion. The battalion is composed of eight companies, viz.

{ 1 Grenadier,  
 { 6 Battalion,  
 { 1 Light.  
 { 3 Officers,  
 { 3 Serjeants,  
 { 3 Corporals,  
 { 1 Drummer,  
 { 69 Privates.

Each company consists at present of

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, according to the regimental rank of their respective captains: viz.—grenadiers;—1st captain;—3d captain;—5th captain;—6th captain;—4th captain;—2d captain;—light company.

Divisions.

The battalion will be told off as follows, viz. four grand divisions;—eight companies,—sixteen sub-divisions,—thirty-two sections, when sufficiently strong to be so divided, otherwise twenty-four for the purposes of march.—The battalion is also divided into right and left wings.

The battalion companies will be numbered from



from the right to the left, 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.—The sub-divisions will be termed right and left of each ;—the sections will be numbered 1. 2. 3. 4. of each, &c.—The grenadier and light companies will be numbered separately in the same manner, and with the addition of those distinctions. These several appellations will be preserved, whether faced to front or rear.

Companies  
equalized.

The companies must be equalized in point of numbers, at all times when the battalion is formed for field movement ; and could the battalions of a line be also equalized, the greatest advantages would arise ; but though from the different strengths of battalions this cannot take place, yet the first requisite always must be, and is, indispensable.

Formation  
of the batta-  
lion at close  
order.

Ranks are at the distance of one pace, except the third, or supernumerary rank, which has three paces.

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 rear-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

The colours are placed between the third and fourth battalion 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 third rank is at three paces distance when halted or marching in line. When marching in column, it must close up to the distance of the other ranks. The essential use of the third 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, formed two deep, and nine paces from the third rank.

*NOTE.—When the battalion consists of ten companies, the colours will be placed between the fourth and fifth battalion companies.*

The drummers of the six battalion companies are assembled in two divisions, six paces behind the third rank of their first and sixth companies.—The grenadier and light company drummers and fifers are six paces behind their respective companies.

The musicians are three paces behind the pioneers in a single rank, and at all times, as well as the drummer and pioneers, are formed at loose files, only occupying no more space than is necessary.

The

The staff of surgeon, assistant-surgeon, and quarter-master, 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, and preserved until the officers again resume them.

When the line is halted, and especially during the firings when engaged, the serjeant coverers fall back into the third rank, and observe their companies.

### *When the Battalion takes Open Order.*

**Rear Ranks take Open Order.**

At the word *Order* officers recover swords and two aids are placed with their flags erect, on the right, and one on the left of the battalion, three paces in front: They are corrected in the proper line of covering by the first major. 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 falls back one pace, dressing by the right: The leaders of companies march three paces obliquely to the left, so as to place themselves in front of, and opposite to, the second file; then instantly face to the right, and cover the points afforded by the adjutants' aids: The officers with the colours march forward three paces, and cover to their right: The other officers pass through the intervals, and cover to the right; the lieutenants taking post on the



the second file, from the left; the remaining officers (if there are more than two subalterns) covering the centre of the second and third sections: If there are only two subalterns, the second subaltern will cover opposite the centre of the company.

The music pass through the centre of the battalion, and form in rank entire between the colours and the front rank. The pioneers fall back six paces behind the centre of the rear rank: The drummers take the same distance behind their divisions. 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 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 (dismounted) advance four and two paces before the colours. The serjeant covers move up to the front rank, to preserve the intervals left by the officers.

The whole remain in this position until the first major, who has corrected the covering of the officers, orders the aids to *lower their flags*; and upon this signal, the officers face to the *front*, and drop their swords across their bodies: The aids retire to their places.

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 may be moved up and formed two deep on each flank of the line: The pioneers may be formed two deep on the right of the drummers of the right, and the staff may form on the right of the whole.

## *When the Battalion resumes close order.*

Rear Rank  
take Close  
Order

The lieutenant-colonel, officers, colours, staff, music, face to the right.

The

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

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

The rear rank closes within one pace.

The music marches through the centre interval.

*March.*

The serjeants, drummers, pioneers, &c. &c., resume their places, each as in the original formation of the battalion in close order.

The officers move through and into their respective intervals, and each individual arrives, and places himself properly at his post in close order.

*Colours.*

When the battalion wheels by companies or sub-divisions to either flank into column, both colours and the file or directing serjeants always wheel to the proper front, and place themselves behind the third file from the new pivot.

*Colours reserve.*

There is no separate colour reserve; the pioneers, music, &c., sufficiently strengthen the centre; but in the firings the two files on each side of the colours may be ordered to reserve their fire.

ABSTRACT

**ABSTRACT FROM THE EVOLUTIONS OF THE BATTALION OF THE MOST ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES AP-  
PERTAINING TO THE DUTY OF NON-COMMISSION-  
ED OFFICERS.**

*Degrees of March.*

**Slow March.**

1. The *Slow Step*, hitherto called the *Ordinary March*, need only be applied to the purposes of parade, upon some occasions to the march in line, or when required for any special object.

**Quick March.**

2. The *Quick March* is the ordinary pace to be applied to all general movements of battalions, or greater bodies, in column, or **Double March**. line: The *Double March* to the movements of the divisions of a battalion when forming on any of its fixed or particular parts—and to the wheels of Columns of close and quarter distance.

**Diagonal March**

3. The *Diagonal March* may be adopted with great advantage, upon most of the occasions to which the *Oblique March* has hitherto been applied.

**Oblique March.**

4. The *Oblique March* is, however, still necessary in the instruction of the Recruit, for the purpose of giving him the habit of moving obliquely, without affecting the square position of his body to the front.

*Marching in Line.*

**Directing  
Sergeants.**

1. The march in line, either to the front or rear, is the most important and most difficult of all Movements; and to ensure its correct execution, three or more directing (or colour)



colour,) Serjeants must be trained and formed in the centre of the Battalion, between the Colours, upon whose exact cadence, step, squareness of body, and precision of movement, dependence can be placed. A Serjeant is also to cover them in the supernumerary rank.

2. Upon the caution to *Advance in Line*, the centre Serjeant of the three who are placed between the Colours, will advance six paces, and halt. His Serjeant coverer, who has taken his place in the line, covers him correctly, and the latter is again covered by the Serjeant Major, six or eight paces in rear of the line.

3. These three points being corrected, 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 two 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*, and the other two centre Serjeants will then immediately move out, and align themselves upon the one already posted.

5. When the battalion advances, the serjeant-major will remain steady in the rear of the line, for twenty or thirty paces, to ascertain,

certain, under the direction 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.

### *Wheelings.*

**On a halted pivot.** 1. Wheels are made on a halted pivot from line into column, and from column into line; and they may also be made in open column of march or manœuvre, when the change of direction is at a right angle with the line on which a column has been moving; and when of course the wheel of the quarter circle is necessary.

**On a moveable pivot.** 2. Successive wheels of the quarter circle into a new alignment may be made on the moveable, as well as the halted pivot, when the divisions are at full distance; and they will be found equally accurate with the halted pivot, in all the essential points of covering distances, &c., provided the leading division shall receive the word *Forward* the very moment the quarter circle is completed, without waiting for the division in its rear.

3. The principle of the moveable pivot must always be applied to the wheel of divisions in column at half or quarter distance, each succeeding division giving the word *Forward*, whenever the Leader sees that he covers in alignment with the division in his front.

4. In

Wheel of divisions may be made forward or backward,

4. In progressive movement the wheel of divisions is 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.

5. The wheel backwards is also advantageously used in marching off parades, where Guards are of different strengths.

6. The backwards wheel, however, need not be practised where the ground is uneven, and the divisions stronger than fifteen or sixteen file. Where this is the case, the divisions may *face about, wheel, and then halt, front.*

7. If the divisions of a battalion are kept equalized, (which they ought always to be for the purposes of manœuvre,) they may wheel in succession upon the reverse, as well as the pivot flank, without deranging the line of covering: but where divisions happen to be unequal, and that they are to wheel successively on the reverse flank, a strong division must wheel at a point short of the preceding one, by the space of as many files as the strength of the latter is exceeded; and a weak division must overpass the wheeling point of its preceding stronger one, by the space of as many files as it is deficient.

Necessary  
Recollections.

8. The number of paces of thirty inches comprised in the front of any division, or body, is nearly three-fourths of the number of files of which it is composed; and upon this calculation (the number of files being once ascertained in the division,) the serjeant commanding it must, on all occasions, recollect the number of paces that are equal to his front.

Table



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

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
Front of Divisions in paces of 30 Inches.	3—15 Inches.	7	8—12	9—24	10—15	11—6	12—18	14	21	28	35	70

Points.

### *Points of Formation.*

Covering  
Serjeants.

1. To remedy the inconvenience which has been found to attend the formation upon distant or battalion points alone, two Serjeants will place themselves, upon all occasions of formation of lines, in front of each flank file of the company named as the base, facing the point from which the formation is made : And a covering Serjeant will run out from each company as it arrives within eight paces of this point, and will cover at the distance of the division in the line established by the Serjeants in front of the base, who will remain steady until the third company from them receives the word *Eyes front*, when they will pass to the rear. The covering Serjeant of the next company will also remain steady, until the third company from him receives the word *Eyes front*, and so on until the line is formed. In this manner each covering Serjeant will have two points to cover upon ; and each division will always have two points upon which it will be brought parallel to the general line, and independent of the divisions already formed ; and if the points are well taken up, and the divisions properly conducted, little dressing will be necessary. When covering Serjeants are taking up points, they must hold their pikes perpendicular in front of their bodies.

Points to be  
always kept  
clear.

2. It is most essential that these Serjeants, who are so many intermediate points, connecting the flank of appui with the outer flank point of the battalion, should be always kept clear of the view of division officers. Divisions therefore must dress up to them upon all occasions.

Base points.

3. Whenever a company is named as the base of a formation, two Serjeants belonging to

to it will immediately spring out, and give the base for the covering points. As formations will generally be made upon the flanks or centre, two serjeants of each flank company, and of the two centre companies, will always be told off for this purpose. When formations are made upon the centre, the intermediate points of each wing will cover the central base; and upon change of front on the colours, one of the supernumerary serjeants of the centre will place himself in the new front before the colours, and the covering serjeants of the two centre companies will change places, and cover him, the coverers of each wing aligning on them as before.

**Covering Serjeants in changes of position by the open column.**

4. When a line changes its front, in any direction, by means of the open column, a covering serjeant from each division will always run out 20 paces before the division reaches the new alignment, to mark its distance; and he will cover at the proper pivot flank, upon the point of formation.

5. When formations to line or changes of position are made by sub-divisions, or sections, the covering serjeants of companies are sufficient to take up points.

**Corrections upon flank pivots.**

6. The covering of serjeants, whether in line or column, will always be corrected from the flanks, or from the base of formation, upon the flank point of the battalion.

### *Dressing.*

**General attention in all dressings.**

1. When forming into, and dressing in, line from column, and also forming line from echelon, the soldiers come into line with their eyes directed to the general point of appui, where the leading flank is to rest.

2. The officer or non-commissioned officer, in dressing, is placed on that flank of his division to which the men's eyes are turned;



turned; and from the second file from the flank of the company towards which his wheeling flank moves from column, or his inward flank from echelon, he makes his corrections on his intermediate point, and the battalion point, which is previously marked by the adjutant, or some other person placed in the true general line.

### *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 the covering 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 two paces; and the supernumerary rank closes up within two paces of the rear rank. When the wheel is performed, the officer corrects the dressing, and places himself on the pivot flank; his covering serjeant covers the second file from that 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 distance, places himself on it, covering in the alignment, and remains as a point on which his officer will conduct his division and afterwards occupy. When such change of position is made to the front, the column will move by threes, and take up the alignment facing the pivot of the halted company, the covering

covering serjeant of which will mark where the wheeling flank of that company is to rest on forming line ; the covering serjeant of the next company will take up distance from that serjeant ; and the others will move out in succession, as before.

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 reserve flank.

Posting of  
Serjeants.

4. The covering serjeant accompanies and assists the leader of a company in all his movements, and preserves his place on the pivot flank in column, 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.

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.

8. When

**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. 56.)

9. The same observation applies to the countermarch by ranks, and the countermarch in double column, and by files, from both flanks. (S. 56.)

**Formation of line from open Column.**

10. On the caution, officers move to the centre of their companies, three paces 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 of March.**

11. The rear divisions 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



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.

Double Columns.

12. When double columns are formed, a serjeant will always place himself between each of the divisions, to mark the interval between the two columns. When it is a double column of sub-divisions (or sections), the serjeant next in seniority to the covering serjeant, will mark the interval: When it is a double column of companies, the interval will be marked by the serjeant next in seniority to the covering serjeants of the right wing.

13. When a double column changes its position, by the wings filing through each other, so as to deploy to the former rear, the centre serjeant will remain steady, being the point on which the divisions shall form after they have passed each other. When this change is made while the column is in motion, the centre serjeant will mark time, at the word *Inwards turn*, and will resume his pace when the divisions have passed each other, and receive the word *Front turn*.

Music, Drummers, &c.

14. 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, must be two paces distant,

distant, in order to make room for the formation of threes, 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 six 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 be posted on the flank of the rear rank. All supernumeraries take post on the reverse flank of the column, and in deployment will halt with their respective companies.

Column at  
quarter dis-  
tance.

2. The column at quarter distance partakes of all the properties, and is capable of all the formations, and deployments, applied to close 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 officer, or outward file, whether officer or man, must be the pivot upon which the wheel is made, (otherwise officers and their covering serjeants must fall back as the pivot files face and cover,) and thus the whole column wheels as a division, under the direction of the commanding officer.

Rear divisions  
half face to the  
reverse flank.

4. In order, also, to avoid crowding in the wheel of 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 *March* and during the wheel, taking care to cover the one in

in front, by which the component parts of the column will be rendered flexible, and freedom will be given to the files to move in the course of their respective circles, without pressing inwards upon each other, and upon the inward flank.

Special attention to the wheel of a battalion at quarter distance.

5. In the same manner the rear divisions will make a half face to the reverse flank, when the wheel is made at quarter distance ; But in order to preserve the quarter distance accurately, the flank file of the leading division on which the wheel is made, will, upon the caution, advance six paces, halt, and face : The leading division will advance on the word *Quick* or *Double March*, and will wheel round this file, at the usual pace, while each succeeding division will advance in circling round to quarter distance, which will leave room for the divisions of the rear wing to circle into their relative positions at that distance. Thus in all such wheels at quarter distance, the battalion must gain six paces to its front. In wheeling on the moveable pivot, the rear divisions make a *halfturn* towards the shoulder brought forward, and the front division wheels and advances in the new direction, the rear divisions circling round.

### *Echellon.*

Direct echellon.

1. The direct echellon is where the divisions of a battalion march off successively from a flank, at equal distances from one another.

Oblique echellon.

2. The oblique or wheeled echellon is where the divisions of a battalion are previously wheeled into an oblique direction, for the purpose of gaining ground to a flank.

3. Whenever the divisions of a battalion are cautioned to wheel forward or backward, any



any named number of paces in echelon position, the covering serjeants post themselves before or behind the outer shoulder of the eighth file from the standing flank, and take the ordered number of paces on the circumference of the circle. When the divisions have been respectively wheeled, and receive the word *Eyes front*, these serjeants place themselves on the outward flanks. Great accuracy is required from serjeants in taking these paces, as upon them depends the correctness of the echelon.

4. When divisions, wheeled into echelon, form line, upon a division already formed in their front, the covering serjeants will run out to take up the distance and covering in the intended line, when the divisions in march shall respectively approach to ten paces from the division already placed, covering from the point on which the formation is made: when the line is formed, the serjeants will remain on the outward flanks, until replaced by the leader of each succeeding division.

### *Firings.*

1. When the battalion fires by divisions, the serjeants take the places of the officers, who have moved one pace to the front, facing inwards.

2. When the battalion fires by wings, or in volleys, the covering serjeants fall back, and in concert with the supernumerary rank, keep the rear ranks well locked up, and attentive to their duty.

3. It is most essential that battalions should be well practised in formations while divisions already formed are firing, for precise dressing will then be difficult; and officers commanding divisions must therefore give their utmost attention to the true parallel direction

direction of their divisions upon the line, the outer section of each division will always reserve its fire until the officer of the next division shall give the word *Eyes front* to his men; after quickly dressing them.

END OF PART THIRD.

PART

direction of their divisions upon the line, the  
 other section of each division will always re-  
 main in the rear the object of the next  
 division shall give the word March to his  
 men; after quickly dressing them.

END OF PART THIRD.



## PART IV.

### LIGHT INFANTRY.

#### Signals and Sounds.

1. It is required of all non-commissioned officers, that they shall make themselves perfectly acquainted with the Bugle Sounds. The following appear sufficient for every situation in which Light Infantry can be placed.

The light infantry call } as established,  
and } and therefore  
The officers call } not numbered.

I. To EXTEND—from that part of the line where the bugle sounds, except preceded by the distinguishing G.

II. To CLOSE—to the spot from whence it proceeds, and for skirmishers to run in upon the supports, except preceded by the distinguishing G.

III. To MARCH—in order of the present formation.

IV. To HALT—in the same order; excepting in advancing or retiring from line by files, in which case they form up to the front.

V. To FIRE—If when halted, they fire upon the spot, skirmishers selecting their objects. If on the march, whether advancing or retiring, it will be by alternate ranks, if in single files; by alternate files, if in double files, unless otherwise ordered.

VI. CEASE FIRING.—Every man to cease firing and load.

VII. To RETREAT—When not firing,  
to

to retire immediately in *quick* time. The line, reserves, and skirmishers, facing to the right about, if no other order or rate is specified.

VIII. **ASSEMBLY.**—This sound may be used on many occasions, *viz.*, to turn out a corps, or company, at any time by day or night : to repair to a place of rendezvous previously appointed, when extended as skirmishers, and surprised by cavalry in open ground. For skirmishers, with their supports and reserves, to run in upon the battalion.

IX. **DISPERSE.**—The whole to disperse according to the object and the orders given.

X. **SKIRMISH.**—To send out any portion to skirmish. This may be indicated by each sub-division and section (or each company if a battalion) having its distinguishing sound.

XI. **INCLINE TO THE RIGHT.** *Left shoulders forward.*

XII. **INCLINE TO THE LEFT.** *Right shoulders forward.*—Whether marching in close or extended order, this is obeyed by bringing forward the shoulder gradually.

XIII. **THE ALARM.**

XIV. **THE LIE-DOWN.**

XV. **THE RISE.**

2. The following signals being repetitions, or combinations of the preceding sounds, are not numbered.

**TO ANNUL.**—Whenever the halt is sounded, it is considered as annulling every previous sound excepting the "*Fire*;" therefore, if the company or battalion be inclining to the right, or left, or extending in any direction, upon the halt being sounded, they are to stand fast, and the subsequent movements will depend upon the sounds that may hereafter be given, without any reference to the former sounds.

**FORWARDS.**—When the direction has been

been sufficiently altered after inclining to the right, or left, the bugle will sound the "MARCH," which in this situation signifies "Forwards."

**INCLINE TO THE RIGHT AND LEFT—**  
Nos. XI. and XII. These two sounds immediately following, signify that a chain or line of skirmishers, an advanced or rear guard, should occupy more space to the right and left. The space to be occupied, if no certain number of paces is fixed upon, should be one half of their original extension. When they have sufficiently increased their distances, the "MARCH" will be sounded. Should the increased extension not be sufficient, the sound should be repeated. In increasing their distances, they are to continue their front and other operations, should they either be firing or advancing, and extend themselves by degrees from the centre.

Distinction between the assembly and the close.

3. If when the battalion or company is detached, the skirmishers have to close, they always run in upon the supports in the *first* place; and the assembly will afterwards be the signal for the *whole* to close in upon the battalion :—But if the assembly sounds first, without any close, it is a signal for the whole to make the best of their way to the rear of the battalion ; in which case they must move as rapidly as they can, as this implies the necessity of greater expedition. If skirmishers are pursued when the assembly is sounded, they should be taught to keep wide of the battalion.

4. **THE MARCH—RETREAT—HALT—FIRE—CEASE FIRING,** and **DISPERSE,** are the only sounds which should be repeated by all the buglers on every occasion.

How the use of the Bugle may be increased.

5. The use of the bugle may be considerably increased by adopting the use of three simple G.'s, as distinguishing sounds.

One



One G, to denote the right of the line.

Two G's, the centre.

Three G's, the left.

This, preceding any sound, denotes the part of the line to which it applies. For instance, two G's before the **EXTEND**, signifies to extend from the centre. One G. followed by the **CLOSE**, signifies to close to the right. Where no G. is prefixed to the **EXTEND**, it will mean from that part of the line where the bugle sounds.

6. There should be a pause of three seconds between all orders by sounds.

7. Signals by bugle sounds do not apply to bodies of troops in reserve.

**How to regulate the movements of a company or battalion flanking at a distance.**

8. The movements of a company or battalion at a distance, may be regulated by the bugle. When it sounds the double time, it indicates that the utmost expedition, consistent with good order, is necessary.

**Time of movement.**

9. When no particular time is specified, all light infantry movements in close order, excepting formations from file, are in quick time : all formations from file, and from extended order, and all extensions also, are in double time. A just discretion, however, is necessarily vested in every commanding officer on actual service, when the double time must be sparingly used. In broken grounds, or when rushing in advance to seize an advantageous point, or in cases of great danger in retreating and in assembling, it may always be resorted to ; but for common skirmishing it is liable to exhaust the men.

**Situation of the light infantry companies in battalion.**

10. The light infantry company will always occupy its place on the left of the battalion till called for. When the call sounds, the company will order arms, and unfix bayonets, without word of command, and will be ready to move.

*Skirmishing.*

## Skirmishing.

### Detached skirmishers.

Number of paces in advancing or retiring.

General rule in advancing and retiring.

How to proceed when no mode of skirmishing is specified.

All preparatory cautions to be passed along the line before the bugle sounds.

1. A battalion or company may extend its files from any part of the line, and at any distance, either by single or double files; but a battalion had better extend by double files, as it is more readily accomplished in that manner for a large body. If this particular mode, however, is not specified for a detachment or corps, it will extend by single files.

2. Detached skirmishers must be governed by circumstances and situation; and fire kneeling, lying, &c., as either of these may require.

3. The number of paces in advancing or retiring, must be regulated in the same manner by the superior officer commanding.

4. It is a general rule, that in advancing, the men advance by the right of the men in their front, and in retiring, by the left of the men in their rear.

5: When extended in *single* files, and *no mode of skirmishing is specified*, it will be by alternate ranks; when extended in double files, it will be by alternate files.

6. All commands to which the bugle sounds do not directly apply, to be passed in the first instance distinctly along the rear, by the officers or non-commissioned officers. In many cases the following few signals by sword, which every soldier can easily comprehend, will supersede the necessity of others:

**FORWARD.**—The sword at arm's length pointed.

**TO THE RIGHT.**—The sword ditto, to the right.

**TO THE LEFT.**—The sword ditto, left arm to the left.

**HALT.**—The sword held unperpendicular.

7. In

**Skirmishers to overlap the flanks of lines.**

7. In covering the advance of lines, skirmishers will take care to protect and overlap the flanks.

**How to occupy the edges of hills, &c.**

8. In occupying the edges of hills, or the backs of fences, whether in close or extended order, the line will always follow their direction, provided the salient angles are not too acute; but the men must be very careful to fire clear of each other.

**Relieving skirmishers.**

9. In relieving a line of skirmishers, the new line extends in the rear, out of reach of the enemy's fire, and afterwards runs up rapidly to the old line; each file of the former proceeding straight in rear of the latter, so as to keep them between the enemy's fire.

**When halted.**

10. If the relief is to take place when halted, each file of the old skirmishers runs straight to the rear, the instant that a file of the new skirmishers reaches the line of defence; and whenever the former is out of reach of the enemy's fire, they close in upon their supports. Should an immediate advance be intended, the relieved skirmishers ought to remain in the line, if covered, instead of exposing themselves, to a fire whilst retiring.

**When advancing.**

11. If the relief takes place while advancing, the new skirmishers will run up in the same way, and pass briskly in front of the others, the old skirmishers *lie down* till they are out of the enemy's fire, after which they close upon their supports as before.

**When retiring.**

12. If relieving while retiring, the new skirmishers extend a considerable distance in rear, and each man looks out for a good situation. The old skirmishers continue to retire in their usual order, until within 20 or 30 paces of the former; they then run through them to the rear, until they are out of reach of the enemy's fire, after which they close.

13. Those



Supports and skirmishers to relieve each other.

13. Those which have been acting as supports may relieve their own skirmishers in this way,—in which case the latter afterwards form in as many parties of reserve as the others consisted of, closing to the right and left accordingly, when out of reach of the enemy's fire.

The whole relieved, or strengthened, or diminished.

14. But if the reserves and skirmishers are *all* relieved by fresh parties, each of the supports preserve the relative position with respect to *their own* skirmishers, until the two lines have relieved each other. Any *part* of a line of skirmishers may be relieved in the same manner :—It may also be strengthened by throwing forward one or more companies or sections to particular parts of the line ; in that case they must mix with the others, and divide the distances, or it may be weakened by calling in one or more sections ; in which case the remaining skirmishers will extend to the right and left, so as to cover the vacancies of those who retire.

## DETAIL OF FORMATION.

### *S. To cover the advance and retreat of the Line.*

To extend from the right.

1. As soon as the order is given, (either by word, or command, or by bugle), the officers drop to the rear :—The captain places himself in rear of the centre ; the first lieutenant is attached to the front line of skirmishers ; the second to the rear line ; the third lieutenant remains with the captain, ready to receive his orders. The serjeants fall likewise to the rear,—but two remain posted directly behind the centre, (unless the company has been acting detached, in which case they are in the centre), ready to direct the

the lines in their advance. At the last sound of the bugle, the right-hand file stands fast; the remainder trail arms, face to the left, and extend.

When soldiers are drilled by word of command, they move or obey in the same manner, at the *last* word, which should be given short:—

PACES—FROM THE RIGHT—EXTEND.

PACES—FROM THE CENTRE—EXTEND, &c.

TO THE RIGHT—CLOSE, &c.

ADVANCE—HALT—FIRE—RETIRE, &c.

Light companies should often be practised in judging their own distance of files; the points on which the flanks are to rest being previously notified.

2. There is a particular sound for double time, as above specified, which, if necessary, the men can assume upon the march; but the files must be loosened before they attempt it.

3. The front rank men of files move straight before them, covering correctly on the march; their respective rear rank men cast their eye over the right shoulder, and tap their front rank men, at the distance of two, four, six, or any other given number of paces, as a signal for them to halt and front.

Distance of  
files.

4. The paces are indicated by the previous caution of the commanding officer; but if no number is specified, six paces is the regulated distance between the files. If the left hand file, who leads on this occasion, be a steady man, and has moved correctly on his front, the line will require little dressing, too much attention to which, in extended order, is to be carefully avoided. If the distance between the files be not correct, it must not be altered by closing or opening out:—This can only be done upon the march.

To extend from  
the left.

5. Requires no additional explanation. The rear rank men cast their eye over the left shoulder.

6. In

*To extend from the centre.*

6. In extending from the centre, the left hand file of the right sub-division (if a company) is the centre file from which all movements take place. The other files face outwards, and proceed as before. When battalions extend from the centre, it will be performed quicker and more regularly by the companies moving in close order to the required distance, and then extending from the proper flank.

*To fire in extended order on the spot.*

7. So soon as the "*Fire*" has sounded, the rear rank men take a side step of ten inches to the right; and both ranks fire alternately in this position, commencing with the front rank; each making ready when he hears the ramrod of the rank which has fired working.

*To cease firing.*

8. In this manner the firing is continued, until the bugle sounds the "*Cease*." After this sound, not a shot must be heard; the unloaded men re-load as rapidly as possible, and if any rear rank men should happen to be in front, they fall into their natural places covering exactly as before; the whole then remain steady, and ready to move.

*To fire kneeling on the spot.*

9. This caution is repeated by the officers; and where there is any deficiency of them, by the serjeants along the line. The bugle sounds the "*Fire*," and the whole drop instantly on the knee. The right knee is on the ground, and the right leg to the rear. The rear rank man, in coming down, disengages to the right, but not more than is necessary, that he may not be too much exposed. The firing proceeds as before, with this difference, that the rear rank men retain their place, and continue disengaged, to avoid the awkward movement of covering and uncovering upon their knees.

*To fire lying.*

10. As soon as the bugle sounds the *Lie down* and the "*Fire*," the whole drop on both knees (the rear rank men disengaging), and throw



throw themselves on their bellies ;—the firing proceeds as before ; the men load on their knees, or they may load sitting or lying, though the latter is an objectionable position, and very liable to accident. Rifle-men may fire on their backs in favourable situations ; in this position, the feet are crossed, the right foot passing through the sling of the rifle, and the piece supported by it ; but this position is not suited to the musquet of light infantry companies of the line : it furnishes a steady aim with a rifle, but it can only be used in cloudy weather, or with the sun at the men's backs. If in a very exposed situation, the soldier attempts to load lying, he will, after priming, roll over on his back, and, placing the butt between his legs, the lock upwards, and the muzzle a little elevated, draw his ramrod, and go on with his loading without exposure, rolling over on his breast again when ready to fire.

*To form in chain order, or order of double files.*

11. The caution being passed to "*Form Chain Order*," the left files face to the right, and close upon the right files, without further word of command. The whole line now stands extended in double files, ready to advance by alternate files, if required. Light troops are never to remain halted and exposed unnecessarily at Chain Order, neither is any firing allowed in this formation. It is to be used only preparatory to the advance by files.

*To reform—order of single files.*

12. On this caution the left files face to the left, and take up their former situation.

*The line will advance.*

13. At the last sound of the bugle to "*Advance*," the whole step off in quick time, dressing by the centre.

*To fire—advancing.*

14. When extended in single files, and no mode of skirmishing is specified, it will be by alternate

alternate ranks.—When extended in double files, it will be by alternate files. But skirmishing by files, whenever circumstances permit, will prove the most efficient manner, and should always be preferred, if possible—from the increased confidence with which it naturally inspires the soldier, more particularly in advancing.

*To fire—advancing by alternate ranks.*

15. The *Advance* and *Fire* having sounded, the front rank men give their fire independently as before. The rear rank disengages, moves on the number of given paces, in double time—(12, if covering an advancing line, and 24 if skirmishing detached,) deliberately aims at the enemy, and fires when the front rank has approached, and so on alternately.—The ranks wait for no signal to advance at the same moment, but whenever the man who has fired is reloaded and ready, he moves on, and looks at his file-leader, and the enemy, without attention to his right or left hand neighbour. In the field, a skirmisher, in advancing, regulates his distance to the front by the cover and advantage that the ground presents, and, if these are particularly good and commanding, he fires two or three shots without moving, as long as he sees that he retards none of his comrades. In firing, advancing, by alternate ranks, the rear rank men take care to advance always by the right of the men in their front.

*To fire—advancing by alternate files. (when extended in chain order.)*

16. In firing, advancing by alternate files, the rear rank men of the right files, instantly disengage to the right, and fire independently, but cover their front rank men when they load. The left files then move out, covering exactly, while the right remain halted, to load, and the firing is continued as before.—The attached officers move along their respective lines, attended each by a Bugler, and are not confined

confined to any particular spot.—The captain, or other commanding officer, is usually in the centre and rear of the whole.—If the line of skirmishers is already in march when the “*Fire*” is sounded, the whole make a momentary halt, the right files give their fire, and the left move out; as already detailed.

The line of skirmishers will retire.

17. If the company or battalion in extended order be directed to retire by ranks, the front rank men give their fire, and go to the right-about; the rear rank men disengaging to the right, to let them pass.—Having retired the regulated distance (24 paces) in double time they halt, and when loaded, the rear rank men give their fire, and retire beyond them, passing by their left.

To retire by alternate files.

18. If the company or battalion in extended order be directed to retire by alternate files, the right files fire first, the rear rank men disengaging for this purpose to the right, and go to the right-about; then the left files, who retire beyond them as before. The files cover exactly in retiring as in advancing.

19. The men come to the *left about* upon halting, and proceed with their loading. They come to the left about, because the arms being at the long trail, would otherwise not be clear of each other.—In going to the right about, after firing, the men go smoothly round upon their heels, without bringing them square:—they preserve the position at which they stood in the *present*, and have already, in coming about, one pace to the rear; the piece is brought at the same time to the trail.—They go to the right about because the rear rank men (whether retiring by alternate files or ranks) having disengaged, as above explained, renders no deviation from the prescribed mode necessary.

20. So



20. So soon as the ramrods of the rear rank commence to work, the front files, covering their opponents, fire independently as opportunities offer, go to the right-about, and retire as before.

*To fire kneeling, advancing (from extended order in single files.)*

21. The caution having passed along the line, at the last sound of the bugle to "*Fire*," the whole drop instantly upon the knee; the front rank men give their fire, and the rear rank men spring up, and advance, by the right of their file leaders, the regulated distance to the front.

*To fire kneeling, advancing (from extended order in double files.)*

22. If from chain order, or order of double files,—the right files first give their fire, and the left files spring up, and advance as before.

23. On the sound to "*Fire*," the whole line or lines drop instantly on the knee, the right files (or the front rank men only, if retiring by *ranks*) giving their fire, and then rising and going to the right about;—the left files (or the rear rank men only, if as before) following as previously described.

*To fire kneeling, retiring.*

24. If already in two lines, when the "*Retire*" and "*Fire*" be sounded, the line which may be *then* in front, will, of course, be the first to give its fire and to retire.

25. It is an invariable rule that skirmishers always load *before* they advance, and *after* they retire, unless expressly ordered to do so on the march. If the "*Cease fire*" sounds without the halt, then the men load on the march.

26. On the signal being sounded, the men trail arms, face to the point required, and close in quick time.—If the double quick be sounded, they take it upon the march, and shoulder, and dress, as soon as they reach the part to form upon.

*To close.*

27. In

*To extend while a division is advancing; from the centre—from the right—or from the left.*

27. In all these cases, the files from which the extension takes place, move straight forward in quick time; the others make a half turn to the flank, to which they are ordered to extend.—As soon as each file has got its regular distance, it will turn to the front, and advance; rear rank men covering their front rank men, and keeping in line with the directing file.

*To incline to the right.  
Incline to the left  
Advance.*

28. The skirmishers make a half turn to the flanks to which they are ordered to incline, and continue in the diagonal direction, until the "*Advance*" is sounded, when they will return to their original front, and move forward as before. If, when the skirmishers have made the half-turn, the bugle should sound the "*Incline*" a second time, the men's shoulders should be brought up, so as to complete the face, and march in file.

*To fire and load upon the march in a single line.*

29. At the signal to "*Fire*," the front rank man of each file fires, and instantly drops to the rear, by the left of his comrade, and loads, as quickly as he can, upon the march; and so soon as his ramrod begins to work, and the other man fires, and proceeds in the same manner, taking care that both men are never unloaded at the same time.—This rule is always to be attended to, but more particularly in this instance, when the skirmishers are advancing in a single line, and firing without halting.—This movement applies more particularly to a rapid advance upon a retiring enemy.—When regular resistance is encountered, the formation of two lines, together with the utmost practicable regularity in the alternate advance of each, is to be observed.

*To halt.*

30. At this signal, the whole kneel down, and take advantage of any inequalities of the ground near them, continuing to fire until

until the signal for "*Cease Firing*," has sounded.

*To retreat.*

31. If the signal to "*Retreat*" should be sounded when the skirmishers are *not firing*, both ranks will retire together: rear rank leading; but if firing at the time (which presumes always contact with the enemy), they will retire, as above directed, in two ranks; the front rank men moving off first, and loading after they have halted and fronted; unless the "*Cease Fire*" sounds without the halt; Vide Nos. 17 and 25 of the section.)

*To Halt.*

32. If the "*Halt*" should be sounded the rank next the enemy will stand fast, (or face about, if not already fronting to the enemy), and the other rank will close up to it, and the whole continue firing, taking care that both ranks are never unloaded, as before.

*To change front: to the right, on the right file.*

*Double March.*

33. The right file faces to the right, kneeling, the others rise up and trail:—At the word "*Double March*," they bring the left shoulders forward, and form on the right file:—The distance will be preserved from the halted flank.—Each file will move in the shortest line to its situation in the new position, and instantly kneel down.

*Distinction between changing front and throwing a wing backward or forward.*

34. But in throwing a wing backward or forward, the distance of files must be preserved from the inward flank, and they must look to the outward flank for dressing, and bring forward the shoulders gradually, conformably to its progress.

*To change front to the right on the left file.*

*Double March.*

35. The left hand file faces to the *right*, kneeling. The others rise up, trail, and face to the right about; step off at the double march, and when in line face about and kneel.

36. The



*To change front to the rear of the centre file.*

**Double March.**

36. The centre file faces to the right about and kneels; all the others rise up, trail arms, and face inwards by sub-divisions, and counter-march by files in extended order; the right sub-division passing in rear of the centre file, and the left sub-division in front of it. Each file will kneel the instant it arrives at its place in the new line; or this may be performed by the sub-divisions bringing forward their shoulders inwards, each file passing through the alternate intervals, and halting as before.

37. The last four movements are principally intended to be practised at the drill, and with small bodies, in order to render the men intelligent; but on service they can rarely be required. Whenever circumstances render these direct changes necessary in extended formations, it is desirable to throw out a new line of skirmishers from the reserve supports, or some other body.

#### END OF PART FOURTH.

MODE

## 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 spring 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 Picquet, the same mode is to be observed, with the exception of easing springs.*

MANNER

## MANNER OF INSPECTING A COMPANY ON PARADE.

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- Attention.** As per Regulation.
- Fix Bayonets.** As directed in page 24.
- 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 directed in Page 28.
- The inspection of arms is now to take place.
- Carry Arms.** As directed in Page 29.
- 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, fore-finger one inch in rear



rear of the brass, elbow square, and arm above the ramrod.

**Return Ram-** Return the Ramrod, shifting the firelock  
**rods.** on the right side.

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

**Unfix Bayonets.** As directed in Page 29.

**Rear Rank take** As before directed.  
**Close Order, March.**

**Stand at ease.** As before directed.

## POSTING OF SENTINELS.

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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, loitre, or lounge upon their post, nor remain in their sentry-boxes in good, nor even in moderate weather, but are to move about briskly in a soldier-like 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, or handle their 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* ;—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

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 "*port;*" 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.



## 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 observations 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

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

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.

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## CARTRIDGE PRACTICE.

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WHEN the Recruit has attained a perfect knowledge of the Platoon Exercise, he is to be instructed in the mode of priming with powder. The instructor will take care to explain, that the pan half filled with powder is sufficient for the purpose, the grains kept clear of the spring of the hammer. This explanation is particularly necessary, as much of the unsteadiness in soldiers, when firing two deep, proceeds from the useless quantity of powder expended in priming, scorching their faces.

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### *Burning Priming.*

THE Recruit must then by word of Command,—“Make Ready—Present *and* (Snap) Fire.”—Previous to giving the Word “Fire,” the instructor will see that the Recruit is perfectly steady,—has taken good aim at some given object,—the left eye shut: the use of the *sight* having been previously explained.—After the Fire, the Recruit is to be taught to keep the Firelock steady to his aim, with the Cheek down on the Butt, until the Word “Load” is given.—A few lessons of burning priming in this manner,  
(and

(and afterwards two deep) will accustom the Recruit by degrees to take a steady and firm Aim, and will prevent him being flurried and over anxious when brought to Fire Cartridge.

A traversing Rest will be found a very useful method of instructing Recruits to level ;—It is a scooped piece of Wood, placed on a stand, which receives the Firelock, and is made to elevate, depress, or traverse at will,—several small spots being painted on the Barracks or Wall—as

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)—&amp;c. the

Recruit at 100 yards, is ordered to aim at No. ———. Having done so, he leaves the Firelock on the stand, and removes himself in order that the Instructor may take his place, and look along the sight, to correct if necessary any error.

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### BLANK CARTRIDGE.

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THE Recruit, in loading, is to be instructed to shake the powder well out of the cartridge, and to ram the paper, as wadding, home. The instructor will then fire each Recruit *singly*, looking to his levelling, as before directed, and pay particular attention that the cheek is not removed, or any start of the head permitted after the fire. The word "Load" will be given as previously ordered, and the Recruit proceed accordingly.

When several Recruits are steady in their firing singly, they will be placed first in single rank, that every man may be observed, and two or three men fire together by word of command; afterwards a couple of files will fire two deep, occasionally changing ranks; then the files will be increased by degrees, until the platoon fires together.

The rear rank men must be most particularly attended to, as they generally fire too high; this is a great fault in the service, and every soldier must be cautioned against it.

The



The centre part of a man, at 150 yards, is perhaps (in Platoon) the best general rule to lay down for aim. Riflemen, and Light Infantry firing at *long distances*, will of course receive particular instructions, regulated by the different description of sights in use.

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### BALL FIRING.

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WHEN the Recruit has gone through the blank cartridge drill, he will, as soon as opportunity offers, practice at a target with ball.

The first target for the instruction of Recruits is to be round, eight feet in diameter, and the practice will commence at a distance of *thirty* yards, (or nearer, if necessary,) so that it will be almost impossible that the Recruit should miss it. This method is intended to produce confidence in the young soldier, at the commencement of his practice, instead of the system hitherto observed, of placing him in front of a small target at a long range, and by this means frequently producing in the mind of the Recruit (from constantly missing) a degree of despair of ever becoming a good shot. On the contrary, finding that he always hits at a certain distance, confidence ensues, and he feels determined to command his object, at an increased range ever afterwards.

The range will be increased by degrees to 50—80—100 yards, at the same target; when the Recruits are individually steady at these distances, the instructor will fire them by files, increasing the distance from 50 yards upwards, changing ranks occasionally—then by sections—and lastly by platoon.

The Recruit will now practice at a target of six feet by two, as the last of his drill. This target will be divided by black lines into three compartments *upper*, *centre*, and *lower* divisions, (the centre division having a bull's-eye of eight inches diameter in its centre, surrounded, at two inches

inches distance, by the circle of an inch broad,) and be placed at a range of 80 yards, which distance will be increased, as improvement takes place, to 100, 150, and 200 yards.

This division of the target is necessary, in order to correct any soldier's general line of fire, by referring to former practice reports where his shots have been inserted—as for instance, “always fires low, &c.”—The reports must be correctly copied into a book kept by each company for the purpose; and signed by the officer who superintended the practice, according to the following form:—

Report of the Target Practice of Capt. _____ Company, on the _____ Day of _____									
No.	NAMES.	Dist. yds.	Hits.			Total Hits.	Total Misses.	Number of Rounds.	REMARKS.
			Upper.	Centre.	Lower.				
1	Serjeant J. Adam .....	100	1	..	2	3	3	6	
2	Corporal B. Brown .....	..	..	×	1	3	4	2	6 Outer Circle
3	Drummer C. Grant .....	..	2	⊙	1	..	3	3	6 ⊙ Bull's eye
4	Private A. Alexander .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	In Hospital.
Total ..		..	3	2	5	10	8	18	

(Signed) J. D., Captain.

N. B.—This Form will enable any Commanding Officer to judge of the proficiency of his Companies, and any General of his Battalions, by comparison with others.

TO

# TO FIRE A FEU DE JOIE.

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.

After loading, remain quarter-faced to the right, firelocks to be brought smartly to the recover and cock.

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.

As before directed.

Present.

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 port together.

Half-cock

Arms.

Shoulder

Arms.

Shut Pans.

Present Arms

Shoulder

Arms.

Order Arms.

As per Regulation.

Three Cheers.

DIRECTIONS.



## DIRECTIONS

FOR

## FUNERAL PARTIES.

THE party appointed for the escort, according to the rank of the deceased, is to be drawn up two deep, with open ranks and unfixed bayonets, facing the house, or marquee, where the corpse is lodged; and when it is brought out, the officer commanding will give the following words of command:

PRESENT ARMS.

REVERSE ARMS.

### EXPLANATION FOR REVERSING ARMS.

The right hand strikes the butt of the firelock, which is turned upwards; the guard turned towards the body; the firelock is then placed under the left arm, seizing the cock and hammer with the left fore-fingers and thumb. The right hand is thrown behind the body, and grasps the firelock; the right heel at the same time is brought to its original position.

The officers' swords are reversed under the right arm: the point of the sword downwards, grasping the hilt with the right hand.

The Serjeants' pikes to be reversed under the left arm: the pike upwards, and the right hand thrown behind the back, grasping the shaft.

### REAR RANKS TAKE CLOSE ORDER.

The party will then wheel forwards or backwards by divisions, or sub-divisions, as circumstances may require, and will stand a column, the left in front, until the procession

is

is ready, when the ranks will be opened by word of command.

## MARCH.

The party moves off in slow time, followed by the music, with drums muffled, playing the dead march.

## THE CORPSE.

**FALL-BEARERS OF EQUAL RANK WITH THE DECEASED.**

**CHIEF MOURNERS.**

**OFFICERS TWO AND TWO,**

According to rank, the juniors next to the body of the deceased.

When the first division of the funeral party arrives near the burial-ground, the word of command, "Halt," is given, and the officer commanding will order the ranks of the divisions to wheel to the right and left, having been previously told off for that purpose, and facing inwards, forming a lane for the corpse to pass through.

**REST UPON YOUR ARMS REVERSED.**

## EXPLANATION.

The firelock is quitted by the right hand, and brought to a perpendicular position; the muzzle placed upon the toes of the left foot. The right and left hands open are placed upon the butt-end of the firelock.

The soldier's head leaning on the back of the left hand so as to look towards the corpse.

The corpse, &c. having passed through the lane, the word "Attention" is given, on which the soldiers raise their heads.

## REVERSE ARMS.

The ranks are then wheeled up, and at "Open Order," move in ordinary time, and form in line in the same order, near to and facing the Grave.

The command will then be given,

**REST**

## FUNERAL PARTIES.

## REST UPON YOUR ARMS REVERSED.

After the performance of the Funeral Service, the following words of command are given :

## ATTENTION.

## PRESENT ARMS,

by seizing the firelock with the left hand at the swell, the right hand shifted, and both holding the firelock in the position of *Presented Arms*.

## SHOULDER ARMS.

PRIME AND LOAD WITH BLANK CARTRIDGE, AND SHOULDER. FIRE THREE VOLLEYS IN THE AIR.

## ORDER ARMS.

## FIX BAYONETS.

## SHOULDER ARMS.

## REAR RANKS TAKE CLOSE ORDER.

Wheel backwards by divisions on the left, and march to camp or barracks, the right in front, quick time.

In marching back, the music are not to play, or the drums to beat, until the party is entirely clear of the burying ground.

*N. B. In the funerals of General Officers, the arrangement of the prescribed number of pieces of cannon, and of the different troops, must be made under the superintendence of the General Officer commanding the whole, and must necessarily depend on local circumstances.*