

**CAVALRY SWORD EXERCISE.**

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*First Position.*

S

# REGULATIONS

AND

## Instructions

1797  
FOR THE

## CAVALRY SWORD EXERCISE.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, HORSE-GUARDS,

10th JUNE, 1819.

By Authority.

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# GENERAL ORDER.

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HORSE-GUARDS,

June 10, 1819.

HIS Royal Highness The Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, has been pleased to direct, that the following Rules and Regulations for the *Sword Exercise*, shall be observed and practised by the several Regiments of *Cavalry* in His Majesty's Service.

By Order of His Royal Highness


The Commander in Chief,

HARRY CALVERT,

*Adjutant-General.*



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## INTRODUCTION.

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**THE** use of the Sword cannot be attained with requisite efficacy by the Cavalry, unless they are properly and perfectly trained to an Exercise *on Foot*, previous to the practice on Horseback. Such is the object of the *First Part* of the following Regulations, in the knowledge and practice of which, a thorough command and suppleness of the limbs becomes habitual, as well as the quickness of the wrist and eye, which gives a decided superiority to Swordsmen. In addition to this consideration, it will be evident that the Preparatory Movements and Positions must very essentially tend to form a good horseman, as he thereby gains the erect and just position of his body, particularly when in motion; and he will find himself improved and strengthened in his seat by the balance, to which he is so fully accustomed in this portion of the Exercise.

Being thus prepared, the *Second Part* points out the application of the Science *when mounted*;

it will then become the particular duty of the Riding Master to give instruction in the mode by which Horsemanship and the Use of the Sword are combined, and which cannot fail to be acquired with facility, and confidence, by those who are well practised in the preceding directions on Foot.

The present Instructions are considered sufficiently explanatory to guide the Instructors of the Drill; and to which, with their previous knowledge of the Exercise, they can at all times refer, so as to ensure a regular system being kept up throughout the Cavalry.

## EXPLANATION AND USE

OF THE

## TARGET.

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THE Target should be placed so as to have the centre rather below the height of a man's shoulder: from below this centre a line is drawn on the ground directly to the front; and at the distance of about ten feet, the Recruit should be placed in the Position of *Attention*, with his left heel on the line, so that when he turns to the *First Position* of the Exercise, his right foot may cover it. The Circular Figure shews the seven *Cuts* and *Guards*. The *Cuts* are directed through the centre, distinguished by lines, and named according to that figure from which each *Cut* commences. The *Guards* are performed by holding the sword opposite, and in the inclination of the dotted lines; which have sword-hilts attached to them, and supposing the circular figure to be about the breadth and height of a man's body, the *Cuts* and *Guards* will be regulated according to the lines described upon the circle; nor should the Recruit be practised in any other mode, until he has gained the proper direction of the *Cuts*, as well as the inclination of the blade, and position of the wrist, in forming the *Guards*.

The *Points*, or *Thrusts*, should be directed, as marked in the Target, with the wrist towards No. 1, and the edge of the sword raised to the right in the *First Point*; or towards No. 2, with the edge raised to the left in the *Second Point*: and in the *Third Point*, with the wrist rising to the centre, the edge upwards to the right, and the point directed as marked on the bottom of the circle.



The sectional lines of the Figures over the Target represent the Preparatory Positions.

## EXPLANATION AND USE

OF THE

## TARGET.

The Target should be placed so as to have the centre of the circle at the height of a man's shoulder; from below this centre a line is drawn on the ground directly to the front; and at the distance of about 10 paces a Recruit should be placed in the Position of Attention, with his left heel on the line, so that when he turns to the First Position of the Exercise, his right foot may cover it. The Circular Figure shows the seven Cuts and Guards. The Cuts are directed through the centre, distinguished by lines, and named according to the figure from which each Cut commences. The Guards are performed by holding the sword opposite, and in the inclination of the body, and having sword-hills attached to them, and supposing the circular figure to be about the breadth and height of a man's body, the Cuts and Guards will be regulated according to the lines described upon the circle; nor should the Recruit be practised in any other mode, until he has gained the proper direction of the Cuts, as well as the inclination of the blade, and position of the wrist, in forming the Cuts. The Points, or Thrusts, should be directed, as marked in the Target, with the wrist towards No. 1, and the edge of the sword raised to the right in the First Point; or towards No. 2, with the edge raised to the left in the Second Point; and in the Third Point, with the wrist rising to the centre, the edge upwards to the right, and the point directed as marked on the bottom of the circle.



# Part the First.




## SECTION I.

PREPARATORY POSITIONS AND MOVEMENTS,  
PREVIOUS TO USING THE SWORD.




## SECTION II.

CUTS, POINTS, GUARDS, AND PARRIES.




## SECTION III.

ATTACK AND DEFENCE.



## SECTION IV.

PRACTICE DRILL WITH STICKS.



*Words of Command.*

## DIRECTIONS.

elbows pressed back, and shoulders kept down.

*Two.*

Separate and extend the arms and fingers, forcing them obliquely back, till they come extended on a line with the shoulders : and as they fall gradually from thence to the original position of *Attention*, endeavour, as much as possible, to elevate the neck and chest.

These two motions should be frequently practised with the head turned as much as possible to the right, or left, and, the body kept square to the front, they should be repeated by flugelmen placed to the respective flanks :—this tends very materially to supple the neck, &c.

*Three.*

Turn the palms of the hands to the front, and press back the thumbs with the arms extended, and raise them to the rear, till they meet above the head ; the fingers pointing upwards, with the ends of the thumbs touching.

*Four.*

Keep the arms and knees straight, and bend over till the hands touch the feet, the head being brought down in the same direction.

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.**Five.*

With the arms flexible and easy from the shoulders, raise the body gradually, so as to resume the position of *Attention*,

The whole of these motions should be done very gradually, so as to feel the exertion of the muscles throughout.

*First Position  
in*

*Three Motions.*

*Caution.*

*One,*

Move the hands smartly to the rear, the left grasping the right arm just above the elbow, and the right supporting the left arm under the elbow.

*Two.*

Make a half face to the left, turning on the heels, so that the back of the left touches the inside of the right heel; the head retaining its position to the front.

*Three,*

Bring the right heel before the left, the feet at right angles, and the right foot pointing to the front; the shoulders square to the left, and the weight of the body resting on the left leg.

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.**Second Position  
in**Two Motions.**Caution.**One.*

Bend the knees gradually, keeping them as much apart as possible, without raising the heels, or changing the erect position of the body.

*Two.*

Step out smartly with the right foot about eighteen inches in line with the left heel; the weight of the body remaining on the left leg.

*Balance Motions.**Caution.**One.*

Move the right foot about eight inches to the rear of the left heel, the toe lightly touching the ground, with the heel perpendicular to it, forcing the knees well apart.

*Two.*

Raise the body gradually by the extension of the left leg.

*Three.*

Bend the left knee, resuming the position made previous to the second motion.



*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.*

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*Four.*

Advance the right leg, and with a smart beat of the foot resume the *Second Position*, from which the balance motions commenced.

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*First Position.* Extending both knees, draw the right heel up to the left,

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*Third Position*  
*in*  
*Two Motions.*

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*Caution.*

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*One.*

Incline the right side to the front, with the hip kept in, so that the shoulder, and knee, are perpendicular to the point of the foot.

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*Two.*

Step out smartly to the front, about thirty-six inches, with the knee perpendicular to the instep; the left knee and foot kept straight and firm, the heels in a line, the body upright, and the shoulders square to the left.

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*Second*  
*Extension*  
*Motions.*

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*Caution.*

---

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*One.*

Bring the arms to the front of the body

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with the hands closed, and the knuckles uppermost, touching each other below the lower button of the jacket; raise them gradually (keeping the elbows on the same line with them) to the pit of the stomach, the knuckles of the fingers by degrees turning inwards: then, by forcing back the shoulders, the hands will be drawn apart, and the motion is completed, by sinking the elbows, and smartly extending the arms and fingers in a diagonal line, with the right wrist as high as the head, the shoulders kept down, and the thumbs inclined to the right.

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For beginners, this motion may be divided, by giving the word *Prepare*, for the first part; and remaining perfectly steady, when the hands are brought to the breast ready to separate; then give the word, *One*, for the motion to be completed.

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*Two.* Close the right hand, and draw it in to the shoulder, at the same time inclining the body forward, until the right elbow rests upon the point of the knee: the left arm rising gradually, and remaining extended, as the body advances, so as to bring the wrist as high as the head, which must be well kept up.

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*Words of Command.*

## DIRECTIONS.

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*Three.* Raise the upper part of the body, drawing in the elbow, and, when nearly upright, extend the right arm smartly, and open the hand ; thereby resuming the position formed by the first motion.

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*Four.* Raise the body by extending the right leg.

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*Five.* Bend the right knee and advance the body, so as to resume the position in the first motion.

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*First Position.* Spring up with the arms to the rear, and the right heel close to the left, which forms the *First Position*, as before described.

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*Front.* Come smartly to the position of *Attention*, bringing the hands and feet, in one motion, to their proper places.

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In the foregoing instructions, *the Positions and Movements preparatory to using the Sword*, have been explained, giving a separate word of command for each motion respectively. The same positions may now be gone through, naming only in the word of command the *position* or *movement* required,

and distinguishing it by the numbers *One, Two, &c. &c.* It is intended by this to practice the recruit in changing from the different positions readily, and without losing his balance, which will almost invariably rest upon the left leg.

*Words of Command.*

*DIRECTIONS.*

*Positions  
by Numbers.*

*Caution.*

*One.*

Raising the arms to the rear, and the right heel to the front, come at once to the *First Position.*

*Two.*

Come to the *Second Position.*

*Three.*

— to the *Third Position.*

*Two.*

— to the *Second Position.*

*One.*

— to the *First Position.*

*Three.*

— to the *Third Position.*

*First*

*Balance Motion.* Spring up to the Position, as shewn in the *First Balance Motion.*

*Three.*

Step out to the *Third Position.*

*First*

*Balance Motion.*

Spring up as before.

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.*

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*Two.*

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*Step out to the Second Position.*

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*Single Attack.*      Raise the right foot, and beat it smartly on the ground.

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*Double Attack.*      Raise the right foot, and beat it, as before, twice on the ground; first with the heel, and then with the flat of the foot.

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*Advance.*      Move forward the right foot about six inches, and place it smartly on the ground; then bring up the left foot lightly about the same distance.

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*Single Attack.*

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As before.

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*Retire.*

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Move the left foot lightly to the rear about six inches, the whole weight and balance of the body still continuing to rest upon it; then move the right foot back the same distance, and place it smartly on the ground.

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*Double Attack.*

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As before.

---

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*Front.*

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Draw back the right foot, and resume the position of *Attention*.

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The object of the preceding portion of the Drill as Positions and Movements preparatory to using the sword, is to



give a free and active use of the limbs : a thorough command of which, with the knowledge of the best mode of position, in applying the force of the muscular powers, will not only facilitate and give great advantage in the use of the sword, but tend to ensure a proper efficacy to the cuts, and guards ; enabling the beginner to gain more easily that pliability, as well as strength in his position, which may be required either for assault—defence—or in quickly returning the attack upon his adversary. The instructor should prove the firmness of the positions by bearing equally, and firmly, on the shoulders of the recruit, and during the changes in forming the *Second Position*, and *Balance Motions* ; when in the *First* of the *Second Extension Motions*, by taking hold of his right wrist with both hands, and bearing upon it in the direction of the left leg, upon the line of which the right arm should be, if properly placed : and making him also in each position, move the right toe up and down, without its motion affecting the body. In all positions where both knees are bent, the more so they are, the better ; as a greater spring and elasticity will be gained in forming quickly any other position. The body must be generally (and indeed almost always) balanced, and rest upon the left leg ; by which means greater flexibility is allowed to the right leg in moving forward to gain distance upon an adversary, or *vice versâ*, in retiring from his reach. No precise length can be assigned in moving the right leg to the front in the *Third Position*, as it depends upon the length and stride of the person ; but it should not be beyond what may allow of his return to the *First* or *Second Position* with quickness, and a perfect facility to himself. When this Section of the Exercise is practised as a Drill for the limbs only, it should be performed with the left shoulder and foot to the front, as well as with the right.



## SECTION II.

**T**HE Recruit being perfectly instructed in the preparatory movements, may now take the sword ; making him acquainted with the strong and weak parts of it ; the *forte*, (strong) being the half of the blade near the guard : the *foible*, (weak) the half towards the point. Indeed a knowledge of these distinctions is very material, either in giving, or guarding, a cut ; as much depends upon their proper application. From the guard upwards in opposing the blade of an adversary, the strength decreases in proportion as it is received towards the point ; and *vice versâ*, it increases from the point downwards. The *forte* ought always to gain the *foible* of the opponent's weapon, and the cuts should be given within eight inches of the point, that the sword may clear itself. In delivering a cut, it is advantageous if the *forte* meets the adversary's *foible*, as it will of course force his guard. The sword should be held flexible, and easy in the hand, but yet sufficiently firm to resist the cut of an adversary ; and to give a cut, or thrust, with proper force and precision. The middle knuckles are to be in the direction of the edge in all cuts, and guards. If the sword is light, the thumb may be placed along the back of the handle ; if heavy, the grip of the handle should be held by the thumb and fingers around it. According to the directions stated in the *Explanation of the Target*, the recruit should now be placed before it ; or he may be previously instructed in the *drawing, returning, carrying, and sloping swords*, the same as hitherto practised, and as follows :—

**Draw Swords.** Bring the right hand smartly across the body, over the bridle arm, to the sword knot, placing it upon the wrist, and giving the hand a couple of turns inwards, in order to make it fast; and at the same time seize the hilt, turning it to the rear. By a second motion draw the sword from the scabbard, with an extended arm, the edge being to the rear, and sink the hand till the hilt is under the chin, the blade perpendicular, and the edge to the left: then by a third motion bring the hilt down in a line with the bridle hand, the elbow near the body, the blade perpendicular, the wrist slightly rounded, so as to turn the edge rather inwards, which brings it to the position of *carry swords*.

**Slope Swords.** Loosen the grasp of the handle, and let the back of the sword fall lightly on the shoulder; the arm and hand remaining, as in the previous position.

**Carry Swords.** By a motion of the fingers, resume the grasp of the handle, so as to bring the blade, as before, perpendicular to the hilt.

**Return Swords.** Carry the hilt to the hollow of the left shoulder, the blade kept perpendicular, and the back of the hand to the front: then

\*Vorn of mand.

## DIRECTIONS.

by a sharp turn of the wrist drop the point into the scabbard, turning the edge to the rear, until the hand and elbow are in a line with each other, square across the body. By a second motion replace the sword in the scabbard, at the same time loosening the sword-knot from the wrist; keeping the hand upon the hilt, until withdrawn by a motion from the flugelman.

As it is frequently difficult in returning swords to insert the point immediately, this will sooner be effected by resting the blade upon the bridle arm; and great care should be taken that the sword is not returned with force, but that the edge of the blade may be preserved, by letting it fall gradually, with the back alone bearing upon the scabbard.

**Prep are to perform** Being at the position of *Attention* with sloped swords, turn the body and feet to the *First Position*, with the left arm placed in the hollow of the back; the hand closed, and fingers outwards.

**Right prove Distance.** Extend the arm to the right, and lower the sword in a horizontal direction from the shoulder, with the edge to the rear, and the left shoulder brought square to the front.

Slope Swords,

As before.

*Words of Command.**DIRECTION.*

*Front, prove Distance.* Step out to the *Third Position*, and then extend the arm, lowering the point of the sword to the centre of the target, with the edge to the right.

*Slope Swords.* As before.

In both movements of proving distance, the forefinger and thumb should be stretched along the handle, the thumb being on the back, with the end or pommel of the hilt, in the palm of the hand.

*Guard.* Advance the point of the sword, extending the arm towards the centre of the target; the edge downwards, and thumb along the back of the handle: then, without pause, step out smartly to the *Second Position*, bending and raising the elbow, the hand being directly over the right foot, and turning the edge of the sword upwards to the right with the point lowered, and inclining to the left, so as to form an angle, through which the opponent should always be seen; the left shoulder brought a little forward, and the hilt of the sword inclining towards No. 1, and the point directed rather below, and to the left of No. 4.

*Inside Guard.* Lower the wrist with the knuckles down,



Words of Command.

DIRECTIONS.

and over the foot; the point to the front, the edge to the left, and the hand as low as the elbow, which is to be nearly on a level with, and in front of, the hip; at the same time make the *single attack*. The wrist is here inclined towards No. 4; the point towards No. 1.

**Outside Guard.** Turn the wrist with the nails downwards, and bring the edge to the right, repeating the *single attack*; the hand inclining to No. 3; the point towards No. 2.

**Assault.** Draw up to the *First Position*, and raise the right arm to the front, with the wrist opposite No. 1, and the elbow rather bent towards the centre of the circular figure; the back of the sword near the point resting on the shoulder, with the edge inclined to the right.

**One.** Extending the arm, direct the cut to the front in a diagonal line from right to left, as shewn from No. 1, to No. 4; and as the point clears the circle, turn the knuckles upwards, and continue the sweep of the sword, so as to bring the point to the rear of the left shoulder, upon which it rests, with the edge inclined to the left, and the wrist opposite No. 2.

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.*

**Two.** Direct the cut diagonally from No. 2, to No. 3, and turn the wrist, so that the sword continues its motion till it rises perpendicular to it, with the edge to the rear, and the arm extended to the right, on a level with the shoulder.

**Three.** Cut diagonally upwards from No. 3, to No. 2, and continue the motion of the wrist so as to bring it to the hollow of the left shoulder, with the point of the sword perpendicular to it, and the edge to the rear.

**Four.** Cut diagonally upwards from No. 4, to No. 1, and carry the sword to the right, turning the knuckles downwards, with the wrist as high as the shoulder, and the edge to the rear.

**Five.** Cut horizontally from No. 5, to No. 6; and turn the knuckles up with the edge of the sword to the left, and point to the rear over the left shoulder.

**Six.** Cut horizontally from No. 6, to No. 5; and bring the hand in the direction of No. 7; the sword being on the same line over the head, with the point lowered to the rear, and the edge uppermost.

*Seventh.*

Cut vertically downwards from No. 7, to the centre of the circle, and remain with the arm extended, placing the thumb along the back of the handle, with the left shoulder well pressed back.

*First Point.*

Turn the wrist with the edge of the sword upwards to the right, drawing back the hand just above, and in front of the right eye; the elbow well bent, and raised; and the left shoulder brought a little forward. By a second motion, extend the arm, and deliver the point smartly to the front in the direction of the centre of the Target, with the wrist inclining to No. 1, and press back the left shoulder, so as to advance the right, which should be equally attended to in the *second and third Points* also.

In this, and throughout the instructions, where a *second motion* is required, the word of command *Two* must be given, unless the practice is carrying on with a flugelmann.

*Second Point.*

Turn the edge upwards to the left, and draw in the elbow close to the body, with the wrist in a line above it, as high as, and in front of, the breast. By a second motion deliver the point as before directed, the wrist inclining to No. 2, and the edge raised with the knuckles downwards.

**Words of Command.****DIRECTION.****Third Point.**

Draw in the arm till the wrist reaches the upper part of the hip; the edge raised to the right, the left shoulder advanced, and the hips well thrown back. By a second motion deliver the point in the direction, as marked on the Target, and raising the wrist towards the centre.

**Guards.**

This serves as a caution for the seven guards which follow, distinguished in the words of command by *First, Second, &c.*

**First.**

Turn the edge to the left, the thumb resuming its grasp of the handle, and draw in the elbow close to the body; the wrist being kept to the front, and the sword placed opposite the diagonal line, as shewn in the Target by the hilt marked *First Guard*.

In this, and in all the following Guards, the point should be advanced rather to the front.

**Second.**

Turn the wrist with the knuckles uppermost, and the edge to the right; the sword placed opposite the diagonal line with the hilt marked *Second Guard*.



*Third.*

Turn the wrist and edge to the left, nearly as high as the shoulder, with the point lowered to the right; the sword being held towards the diagonal line from the hilt marked *Third Guard*.

*Fourth.*

Turn the wrist and edge to the right, with the point to the left; the sword held towards the diagonal line from the hilt marked *Fourth Guard*.

*Fifth.*

Turn the edge to the left, with the wrist as high as the shoulder, to the front and left of the body; the sword being placed opposite the perpendicular line from the hilt marked *Fifth Guard*.

*Sixth.*

Turn the wrist and edge to the right, so as to bring the sword opposite the perpendicular line from the hilt marked *Sixth Guard*.

*Seventh.*

Raise the hand above, and in advance of the right ear; the elbow being raised, and well kept back, with the left shoulder slightly brought forward, and the sword in the direction of the line from the hilt marked *Seventh Guard*.

*Words of Command.*

## DIRECTIONS.

*Left Parry.*

Lower the wrist nearly close to the right shoulder, with the thumb at the back of the handle, and the edge to the right ; the hips well pressed back, and the sword opposite the centre perpendicular line. By a second motion turn the wrist, so that the point falls to the rear, and forms a circle from left to right of your body, and again returns to its former position.

*Right Parry.*

Drop the point to the rear, and by the turn of the wrist continue the motion, so as to form a circle from right to left of your body ; the sword returning to its position as before.

The *Cuts* and *Guards* may now be combined, and here it is more particularly intended to practise the recruit in shewing the guard for each cut, so as to impress it on his recollection. The cuts should be given from the wrist to the full extent of the arm to the front, and in the *Third Position* ; with the cut directed no further than the centre of the circle, opposite which the point should remain.

*Left Check.*

Step out to the *Third Position*, and deliver the cut *One* to the centre of the Target, opposite to which the point is to remain steady with the arm extended, and

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.*

the wrist kept well up in this, as in all the following cuts.

*First Guard.* Spring up to the *First Position* and form the *First Guard*.

*Right Cheek.* Deliver cut *Two*, and remain as before.

*Second Guard.* Spring up the *Second Guard*, &c.

*Wrist.* Deliver the cut *Three*, &c.

*Third Guard.* Spring up to *Third Guard*, &c.

*Leg.* Deliver cut *Four*, the point not carried above the height of the knee, &c.

*Fourth Guard.* Spring up to *Fourth Guard* low down and arm extended, &c.

*Left Side.* Deliver the cut *Five*, &c.

*Fifth Guard.* Spring up to *Fifth Guard*, &c.

*Right Side.* Deliver cut *Six*, &c.

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.*

*Sixth Guard.* Spring up to *Sixth Guard*, &c.

*Head.* Deliver cut *Seven*, &c.

*Seventh Guard.* Spring up to *Seventh Guard*, &c.

*First Point.* As before directed, but the second motion given in the *Third Position*.

*Left Parry.* Spring up to *First Position*, and parry.

*Second Point.* As before, in *Third Position*.

*Right Parry.* As before, in *First Position*.

*Third Point.* As before, in *Third Position*.

*Right and Left Parry.* Form both *Parries*, on drawing up to the *First Position*.

*Guard.* As before directed, in the *Second Position*.

*Slope Swords.* As usual, drawing up to the *First Position*.



# FIRST DIVISION

1<sup>st</sup> Practice

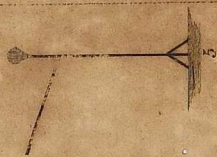
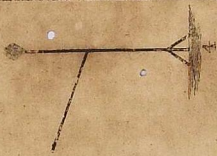
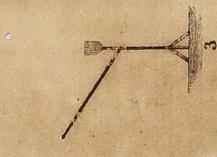
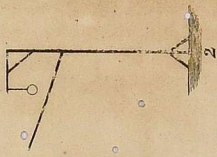
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6<sup>th</sup>

5<sup>th</sup>

4<sup>th</sup>

3<sup>d</sup>

2<sup>d</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Practice

# SECOND DIVISION

*Words of Command.*

## DIRECTIONS.

*Stand at Ease.* Bring the hands together, the left supporting the right; the back of the sword resting on the inside of the left arm, the right instep drawn close to the left heel, and the left knee slightly bent.

When performing by *flugelman*, the practice of the *Assault* should also be made as follows:—The elbow is slightly bent, and the wrist turned sufficiently to deliver the cut *One*; the hand being brought to the front, and about the height of the face, so as to be in the direction of the centre of the Target, with the hips pressed well back. The seven cuts are then delivered without any material pause between them, as by the proper and timely turn of the wrist, each cut will lead into the other, and consequently blend their force together: the cuts should be given strong with the edge leading forwards, the hand retaining its direction to the front, as much as possible, without moving to the right or left; and in returning to prepare for another cut, the edge should be drawn back nearly in the same line; the arm being a little bent, so as to allow a free play of the elbow and shoulder, in giving effective force to the cut, and then extended to the utmost in the delivery of it. Whenever the recruit fails to carry the edge well in making the *Assault*, he should be practised in combining the cuts *One* and *Four*, repeating them several times; also *Two* and *Three*, and *Five* and *Six*; taking care that the edge leads on the respective lines in the Target, the wrist being darted towards the centre in each cut.

END OF THE SECOND SECTION.

## SECTION III.

**THE** Recruit being now complete in the formation of the *Cuts*, and their respective *Guards*, may put them in practice according to a regular mode of exercise as follows :—

The whole are drawn up in *Two, Four* or more *Ranks*, in the same proportion, so as to be well under the eye of the instructor : each rank being three paces, and the files two paces and a half, distant from each other. In this formation the whole of the preceding drill may be gone through, either by separate words of command, or with a flugelman.

*Words of Command.*

*DIRECTIONS.*

*Front Rank Files.*

*Rear Rank Files.*

*Front (or alternate) Ranks.*

*Caution.*

*Right about Face.*

*Come to the Right about.*

*Prepare to perform The Files* oppose each other in the *Attack* *First Position*, with sloped swords, as shewn and in Sec. 2d, in *preparing to perform Sword Defence.* *Exercise.*

*Prove Distance.* Each File extends the arm with the knuckles uppermost, and sword horizontally on a line with the shoulder, so that

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.*


---

*Front Rank Files. Rear Rank Files.*

---

the point of each blade slightly touches the guard of the other; the hips well kept back; the Front Rank having their swords uppermost; and the Rear Rank giving way, or advancing, if requisite, to the proper measure.

---

*Slope Swords.*

---



---

*Files, slope Swords.*

---



---

*Guard.*

---



---

The whole step out to *Guard.*

---

*Inside Guard.* With the *single attack* the Files engage on the *Inside Guard*; the swords joining near the point.

*Outside Guard.* Repeating the *single attack*, change to the *Outside Guard*; the swords joining, &c.

---

*Left Check.* Step out to *Third Position*, and deliver the cut *One*.

---



---

Spring up to *First Position*, with *First Guard*.

---



---

*Right Check.* Spring up to *First Position* with *Second Guard*.

---



---

Step out to *Third Position*, and cut *Two*.

---



## Words of Command.

## DIRECTIONS,

Front Rank Files.

Rear Rank Files.

Wrist. Cut Three in  
Third Position.

Form Third  
Guard in First Po-  
sition.

Leg. Form Fourth  
Guard in First Po-  
sition low down,  
with the arm ex-  
tended.

Cut Four in  
Third Position.

Left Side. Cut Five, &c.

Fifth Guard, &c.

Right Side. Sixth Guard, &c.

Cut Six, &c.

Head. Cut Seven, &c.

Seventh Guard, &c.

First Point. Left Parry,  
springing up to  
First Position, and  
ready to deliver  
Third Point.

Deliver First  
Point, &c.

Third Point. Deliver Third  
Point.

Left Parry, &c.  
and ready to return  
Third Point.

The *Second Point* is omitted in the practice with swords, as in delivering it, the assailant's wrist is liable to be struck by the *Right Parry*, or he may be disarmed by the *Left Parry*, and accidents would consequently occur : but the Recruit should be fully instructed to avail himself of the *Second Point*, and both *Parries*, when opposed to an Enemy.

*Words of Command.*

*DIRECTIONS.*

*Guard.*

Files to *Guard* in *Second Position*.

*Slope Swords.*

*Slope Swords* in *First Position*.

As this, and the following practices in the present Section are not intended for loose practice, but to shew the different applications of the *Cuts* and *Guards* ; both, and particularly the *Cuts*, should be given with the same precision, as at the *Target* ; nor should one sword bear upon the other, but the wrist be kept well up, and ready to renew any requisite movement. Most particular attention should be observed that after proving distance, the Files do not move their left feet. The *Feint* with the point, and advantage of shifting the leg, (when engaged at the proper distance,) in preference to the guard, is shewn by the following Practice.

*Feign Point,*  
*and shift the Leg,*  
*in*  
*five Motions.*

*Caution.*

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.**Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.**Guard.**Files to Guard.**One.*

Prepare to give  
*Third Point*, re-  
 maining in *Second*  
*Position*.

Prepare to *Par-*  
*ry*, remaining in  
*Second Position*.

*Two.*

Advance the  
 point towards the  
 body, and by a  
 quick motion of the  
 wrist, raise it and  
 avoid the *parry*,  
 giving the point of  
 the sword a sweep  
 round the head,  
 ready to cut *One*,  
 and stepping out to  
*Third Position*.

*Left Parry,*

which not meeting  
 the opponent's  
 blade, rise to *First*  
*Guard in First Po-*  
*sition*.

*Three.*

Cut *One* at *Left*  
*cheek*.

Remain steady  
 with *First Guard*.

*Four.*

Spring up *First*  
*Position* with the  
 sword over the left  
 shoulder ready to  
 cut *Two*.

Cut *Four* at Leg  
 in *Third Position*.

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS:**Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.**Five.*

Cut Two at  
shoulder, but with  
caution and lightly,  
as the Rear Rank  
File does not guard  
it ; being merely  
to shew the ad-  
vantage of shift-  
ing the leg, and de-  
livering a cut at the  
same instant.

Remain steady,  
and receive the cut.

*Guard.**Files to Guard.**Slope Swords.**Files Slope Swords.*

This Practice should be afterwards performed in three motions, by combining the second and third motions into one ; and the fourth and fifth into one also.

The following practice is to exercise the Drill in giving, defending, and returning the point quickly ; and it may be continued eight or ten times, giving a quick successive word of command, according to the ability of the parties engaged.

*Give Point and Parry**in**Second Position,**by the numbers**Two and One.**Caution.*



## Words of Command.

## DIRECTIONS.

---

Front Rank Files.

---

Rear Rank Files.

---

Guard.

---

Files to Guard.

---

Point.

---

Prepare to give

---

Prepare to Parry.

---

Third Point.

---

Two.

---

Advance the body  
by the extension of  
the left leg, and  
give *Third Point*,  
which when parried,  
draw back the arm,  
ready to Parry.

---

*Left Parry* with  
the body and hips  
well back, and bring  
the sword ready to  
give *Third Point*.

---

One.

---

Draw back the  
body and *Left Par-*  
*ry*.

---

Advance the body  
and give *Third*  
*Point*.

---

Guard.

---

Files to Guard.

---

Slope Swords.

---

Files Slope Swords.

Equal practice may be given to all by the *Ccution* which *Rank* is to commence ; the *Front Rank* always doing so, unless otherwise directed.

The Squads should occasionally be formed rank entire, and it is good practice to put them through the *Guards* and *Points*, in each position, particularly in the *First* ; and also to change frequently from *First* to *Third*, and from *Second* to *Third*, in *Giving Point*.

END OF THIRD SECTION.

## SECTION IV.

AS no exercise with the Sword can be brought to perfection without some species of *loose or independent practice*, Sticks should be substituted for Swords in the present instance, as, in Fencing, Foils are used for the acquirement of that Science.

The *Point* also is to be occasionally substituted for the *Cut*, and defended by the same *Guard* as for the latter; and as a thrust should always be given, if a good opportunity and opening is offered, such an advantage should be taken of the practice with sticks, and the thrust delivered by an immediate extension of the arm, when the point is in the proper line of direction.

In the following directions the word *sword* is retained, although the practice is with *sticks*, which should be about forty inches long, and not so weak as to bend; and the leather-practising hilts merely large enough to cover the hand, without confining it: strong wire masks ought always to be used, as it enables those who practise, to cut, or thrust, with more confidence.

The ranks are placed opposite to each other in *First Position*, with *sloped swords*; having previously proved their distance, and are ordered as follows for the *Practice by Numbers* :—

*Words of Command.*

*DIRECTIONS.*

*Front Rank Files. Rear Rank Files.*

*First Division. Caution.*

*Engage. Files to Guard.*

*Inside Guard. To inside Guard.*

*Outside Guard. To outside Guard.*

*One. Cut one at Face First Guard in First Position.*

*Two. Second Guard in First Position. Cut Two at Face in Third Position.*

*Three. Cut Three at Wrist in Third Position. Third Guard in First Position.*

*Four. Fourth Guard in First Position. Cut Four at Leg in Third Position.*

**Words of Command.****DIRECTIONS.****Front Rank Files.****Rear Rank Files.****Five.****Cut Five at Left  
Side in Third Po-  
sition.****Fifth Guard in  
First Position.****Six.****Sixth Guard in  
First Position.****Cut Six at Right  
Side in Third Po-  
sition.****Seven.****Cut Seven at Head  
in Third Position.****Seventh Guard in  
First Position.****Slope Swords,****Files slope swords in First Position, and  
this may be ordered after each division,  
or at any time when they are required to  
stop.****Second Division.****Caution.****Engage.****Guard.****One.****First Point in  
Third Position.****First Guard in  
First Position.****Two.****Second Guard in  
First Position.****Second Point in  
Third Position.**



## Words of Command.

## DIRECTIONS.

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*Front Rank Files. Rear Rank Files.*

---

*Three. First Point in Third Guard in  
Third Position. First Position.*

---

*Four. Fourth Guard in Second Point in  
First Position. Third Position.*

---

*Five. Second Point in Fifth Guard in  
Third Position. First Position.*

---

*Six. Sixth Guard in First Point in  
First Position. Third Position.*

---

In this Division, the Files on the defensive should give sufficient opening for the *point*, springing up to the *First Position*, and forming the defence at the instant of the thrust, which is always directed at the body, according as the wrist is previously placed, either in *engaging*, or after having formed a *guard*; except in delivering the thrust from the *Fourth Guard*, when the quick turning of the wrist gives the point a better direction. The attacking File should also be attentive to raise his wrist, and oppose the edge of his own to that of his opponent's sword, immediately he finds the thrust is parried, or the point thrown out of the line.

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Words of Command

DIRECTIONS.

Front Rank Files.

Rear Rank Files.

Third Division.

Caution.

Engage.

Files to Inside Guard.

Two.

Step out to *Third Position*, and cut *Two* (lightly) below the knee.

Extend the left knee, with the arm raised ready to cut *One*.

One.

Remain in *Third Position*, guard head, bringing up left shoulder.

Cut *One* at head, remaining in *Second Position*, with the left knee extended.

Two.

Cut *Two* as before, throwing back the left shoulder, so as to advance the right.

Raise the hand as before to cut *One*.

To give proper distance for the movements in this Division, the Rear Rank File moves back his left leg on coming to *Engage*, and brings it up again at *Slope Swords*. The thrust at the body may also be substituted for the cut at the leg, the Rear Rank File defending by the *Sixth Guard*, and returning the cut at the head, as directed.

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.**Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.**Fourth Division.**Caution.**Engage.**Files to Inside Guard.**Two.*

*Cut Seven at head, or Two at leg, in Third Position, as appears most advantageous.*

*First Position and Seventh Guard which defends either cut.*

*Fifth Division.**Caution.**Engage.**Files to Inside Guard.**Two.*

*Cut Six at leg in Third Position.*

*First Position and cut Six (lightly) at neck.*

*Sixth Division.**Caution.**Engage.**Files to Inside Guard.**Two.*

*Cut Two at arm, remaining in Second Position.*

*Second Guard, remaining in Second Position.*

**Words of Command.****DIRECTIONS.****Front Rank Files.****Rear Rank Files.****Seventh Division.****Caution.****Engage.****Files to outside Guard.****Two.**Cut **Three** at  
wrist, remaining in  
**Second Position.****Third Guard** re-  
maining in **Second**  
**Position.****Eighth Division.****Caution.****Engage.****Files to outside Guard.****Two.**Cut **Three** at  
wrist, remaining in  
**Second Position.**Slip the wrist to  
the hip, with the  
point to the left  
allowing the oppo-  
nent's sword to  
pass the line of di-  
rection.**Three.**Draw the arm  
back to **Second**  
**Guard**, still remain-  
ing in **Second Posi-**  
**tion.**Cut **Two** at arm,  
remaining in **Se-**  
**cond Position.**



In the three preceding Divisions, sufficient opening should be given for the Cut, and the left knee extended in the delivery of it; and when forming the defensive Guard in the *Second Position*, the hand should be kept over the level of the right foot, with the point directed to the front.

Words of Command.

DIRECTIONS.

Font Rank Files.

Rear Rank Files.

Ninth Division.

Caution.

Engage.

Files to Inside Guard.

One.

Feint Two, and  
shift leg to First  
Position.

Outside Guard,  
and Single Attack.

Two.

Cut One at breast  
in Third Position.

First Guard in  
First Position.

As the *Engage*, and *One*, in the three following practices, are the same as in the preceding one, the directions for them are not repeated.

(2d) Two.

Cut Three at  
wrist in Third Po-  
sition.

Third Guard in  
First Position.

Words of Command.DIRECTIONS.Front Rank Files.Rear Rank Files.3d) Two.Cut Five at leg,Cut Five at breast,in Third Position.(lightly) in First Position.(4th) Two.Cut Three at leg,Third Guardin Third Position.(low) in Second Position, and extend left knee.Three.Remain in Third Position, and cut One at breast.Cut Six at leg (lightly) and shift to First Position, and First Guard.Tenth Division:Caution.Engage.Files to Outside Guard.One.Feint One, and shift leg to First Position.Inside Guard, and Single Attack.Two.Cut Two at arm in Third Position.Second Guard in First Position.

The *Engage*, and *One*, through the following practices, as in the preceding one, and the directions are consequently not repeated.

*Words of Command.*

*DIRECTIONS.*

*Front Rank Files. Rear Rank Files.*

(2d) *Two.* Cut *Six* at right side in *Third Position.* *Sixth Guard in First Position.*

(3d) *Two.* Cut *Six* at leg in *Third Position.* Cut *Six* at neck (lightly) in *First Position.*

(4th) *Two.* Cut *Four* at leg in *Third Position.* *Fourth Guard in Second Position, and extend left knee.*

*Three.* Remain in *Third Position*, and cut *Two* at neck. Cut *Five* at leg (lightly) and shift to *First Position* and *Second Guard.*

In the *First* and *Second Practices* of the two last Divisions, the *Thrust* should be occasionally given at the body, instead of the *Cut*.

It is good practice in the Drill with Sticks for each movement of Attack, or Defence, first to be performed in two motions, by repeating each number, the stick slightly touching the part to which it is directed, and the defence only formed when the number is given a second time : this enables the Instructor to see that the Attacking Files give their *Cuts* and *Thrusts* fully home, and according to rule ; and that the Files on the defensive come to a firm and correct position : it also greatly assists them in judging exactly where the weapons should cross each other.

As in the preceding Section, the whole should be reversed, by the *Rear Rank* commencing, instead of the *Front* ; and when perfect by word of command, they should be exercised by *Division*, the caution for this practice being given after the distance is proved, viz :—" *Practice by Division*," to distinguish it from the "*Practice by Numbers*." In the Practice by Numbers, each Division may be kept up as long as requisite, by the Instructor repeating the *Numbers*, and "*Engage*," except in the *First, Second, Third* and *Eighth Divisions*, where the numbers only are repeated ; and in the Practice by Division, each is continued also, without any further word of command, until (in both Practices) the Division is finished by the order to "*Slope Swords*."

A Feint is a half cut, or thrust, menacing an attack on one part, whilst the intention is to direct it at another ; and the cut, or thrust, may be given immediately after the feint, without shifting the leg, when practising by Division.

Particular attention should be paid, that in the *Attack* the wrist preserves, as much as possible, the line of direction ; and in each position of defence, that it only deviates sufficiently to form the guard, taking care to have the wrist, elbow, and shoulder, supple and easy, so as to be ready to deliver a cut, thrust, or any movement of Attack, or Defence.



When perfectly exercised and complete in the whole of the above Drill, the *Independent Practice* may be tried (under proper control) by the Files opposing each other, as in Single Combat, with swords; and delivering such cuts, or thrusts, as their judgment points out: avoiding, however, if possible, both making the attack at the same time, as the object should be to defend well, and immediately return upon their adversary; nor should their cuts, or thrusts, be given too strongly, as in friendly practice any unpleasant accidents should be avoided; and the moment either party is touched, they must stop, and after a pause, engage again at the proper distance, which should always be cautiously preserved: as it is supposed that the *Stick* is the substitute for the *Sword*, the cut is only considered fair, and effective, when given with that part which would, of course, correspond with the edge; nor should any thing be attempted with the *Stick*, which could not be performed with the *Sword*.

#### END OF FOURTH SECTION, AND PART THE FIRST.

A Point is a half cut, or thrust, menacing an attack on one part, whilst the intention is to direct it at another; and the cut, or thrust, may be given immediately after the feint, without shifting the leg, when practising by Division.

Particular attention should be paid, that in the Attack the wrist preserves, as much as possible, the line of direction; and in each position of defence, that it only deviates sufficiently to form the guard, taking care to have the wrist, elbow, and shoulder, supple and easy, so as to be ready to deliver cut, thrust, or any movement of Attack, or Defence.

# Part the Second.

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## SECTION I.

CUTS, AND GUARDS, POINTS, AND PARRIES.

WHEN MOUNTED.

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## SECTION II.

ATTACK AND DEFENCE.

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## SECTION III.

PRACTICE AGAINST THE POSTS.

---

## SECTION IV.

PRACTICE WITH THE STICKS.

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SECTION I.

POSTS, AND GUARDS, POINTS, AND BARRIERS.

WHEN MOUNTED.

---

SECTION II.

ATTACK AND DEFENCE.

---

SECTION III.

PRACTICE AGAINST THE POSTS.

---

SECTION IV.

PRACTICE WITH THE STICKS.

---

## Part the Second.

### SECTION I.

**T**HE Drill being complete, and practised according to the preceding directions, is now required to apply, or vary, such portion of them, as may be more immediately calculated for the Exercise when mounted; and, to enable the Instructor to judge of the accuracy of the motions, the Drill should be first made competent on Foot, before any practice is attempted on Horseback. For this purpose Squads, not exceeding twelve men each, should be formed at extended order, and in two ranks, proving distance as before directed, but without moving the feet.

*Words of Command.*

*DIRECTIONS.*

*Attention.*

The former position, in *Part the First*, is varied by placing the heels about six inches asunder; the left hand lightly closed a little below the pit of the stomach: being on the same line with the elbow, which will be nearly its height, when holding the reins. The sword remains at the slope.



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**Engage.** Bring the extremity of the sword hilt to the pit of the stomach, with the thumb along the back of the handle; the knuckles to the front; the flat of the blade to the face, and the point rather carried to the front.

---

SECTION I.

**Guard.** Advance the sword smartly to the *Outside Guard*, with the arm extended, but flexible; the hand in the direction of the horse's off ear, and the upper part of the body rather forward: with scarcely any pause, the *Guard* is continued by moving the sword-arm gradually to the right, keeping the hand nearly as high as the breast, until as much to the rear as the body will admit, by turning well upon the hips; then by a quick motion, raise the arm, and turn the wrist, so as to form the position of *Guard*, with the point and edge of the sword to the left rear, the head changing round at the same moment, with the left shoulder pressed back, and lowered as much as possible, though not to discompose the bridle-hand; and continue the *Guard* along the left to the front, which gradually brings the body to its original position: the sword continues its motion by passing over, and in front of the horse's head, with the point kept down, and the edge upwards: the

arm extended, and the wrist in line with the right eye, so that the point of the sword is carried well to the front, when, by a smart motion, the wrist resumes the *Outside Guard*, as before.

*Assault.*

Raise the hand as high as, and in front of, the face, with the wrist turned, and sword placed ready for the *Seven Cuts*, which are to be delivered according to the Instructions in *Part the First*, where directed to be combined, but with the left shoulder kept nearly square to the front, which rule must be adhered to in all the movements of the Exercise when performed to the front: and, in practising this and the following Section, (as the whole should be first shewn on foot,) the Recruit should make all the offensive and defensive movements, the same as if mounted, and in such manner as would not touch his horse, or discompose his bridle-hand.

*First Point.* As before directed, the body being now kept square, &c. &c.

*Second Point.* As before directed, &c. &c.

*Third Point.* As before directed, &c. &c.

**Guards.** Turn the wrist to the *First Guard*, keeping the arm nearly extended, with the hand as high as, and in front of, the left shoulder. The same rule to be followed in forming the *Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Guards*; having the hand inclined to the left in the *First, Third, and Fifth*: to the right in the *Second, Fourth, and Sixth Guards*: and in the *Seventh*, the hand is well raised in the line of the right shoulder, and rather in front of the head, with the point to the left. In the first *Six Guards*, the upper part of the body should be inclined to the front; and in the *Seventh* it should be erect, and, when mounted, sitting firmly down in the saddle.

**Left Parry.** Extend the arm to the left, and as high as the shoulder, in the direction of the near side of the horse's head: the sword being perpendicular to the hand, with the back inclining to the left; the thumb along the back of the hilt. By a second motion form a circle with the point, from the rear to the front, returning to the same position as before.

**Right Parry.** Draw in the arm slightly, and then extend it in the direction of the off-side of

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.*

the horse's head, as high as the shoulder; the thumb still placed along the back of the hilt, the sword perpendicular, and edge inclining to the rear. By a second motion drop the point to the rear, and continue the motion to the front, until it has formed the circle, and regained its perpendicular position.

*Slope Sword.*

*As usual.*

It is frequently requisite to parry to the front, or rear of the near side, and also of the off-side, of the horse; and as the circle is formed with the sword from right to left, or from left to right, of whatever point may be attacked; the motion of the wrist in the *left parry*, forms a parry to the front on the left, or near side; and becomes the rear parry, when executed to the right. By the same rule, the *right parry*, is a parry to the front on the right, or off-side; and is the rear parry, when performed to the left.

In order to combine the *Cuts* and *Points*, as to their application in the attack against Cavalry or Infantry, the two following Divisions will be sufficient to bring the Drill into the practice of such combinations.

*First Division*  
(against Cavalry.)

*Caution.*

*Engage.*

*As before.*



**First Point.** By quickly raising the right elbow as high as the head, the hand is brought in the position of giving point, as before directed; and delivered to the front.

**Cuts, One, Two;** The two **Cuts** are given to the front; and with the second, the arm is carried to **Right Point.** the right, the sword continuing its sweep round the head, so that the hand comes up to **Point**, which is then delivered to the right.

**Cuts, Five, Six;** The two **Cuts** are given to the right as high as the neck; the cut **Five** rather inclining to the direction of **Three**; and the cut **Six**, to that of **Two**: from the last cut the hand is brought up to **Point**, which is delivered to the left.

**Cuts, Five, Six,** The **Cuts Five** and **Six** are given to the left; the cut **Five** inclining to the direction of **One**, and the cut **Six** to that of **Two**: in making the last Cut, the sword is carried round the head, and the blade placed flat on the left shoulder, which is then brought forward with the head turned to the right rear, in which direction the cut **Six** and **Point** are given: and as soon as the arm is extended, the edge is turned smartly to the front, but the point still kept to the rear.

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.*


---

*Cuts,* Turn the head to the left, and deliver the  
*Five, and Six.* cut *Five* in that direction, and without any  
 material pause turn the head back to the  
 right, and deliver the cut *Six* in the same  
 direction, and return to the *Engage*, by the  
 sword continuing its motion round the  
 head.

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*Slope Swords.*

---



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As usual.

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*Second Division*  
*(against Infantry.)*

---



---

*Caution.*

---



---

*Engage.*

---



---

As before.

---

*Right Parry,* Pressing back the right shoulder extend  
*Cut Two,* the arm to the rear, on the same line with  
*Point,* the shoulder: the sword kept perpendi-  
*and* cular; the back of it rather inclining to the  
*Cut Three.* rear, and the thumb placed on the side of  
 the hilt: after a slight pause, parry to the  
 front, continuing the motion until the back  
 of the blade is brought to the left shoulder,  
 with the point to the rear, and the thumb  
 round the handle; and immediately cut  
*Two*, and raise the hand as high as the right  
 ear, to give point to the right downwards,  
 shifting the thumb along the back of the  
 handle. After a pause deliver the point

## Words of Command.

## DIRECTIONS.

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and raise the arm extended to the rear, with the edge to the rear also : and after another pause, cut *Three*, allowing the wrist to rise to the *Seventh Guard*, with the arm extended, the head and eyes still kept to the right.

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*Left Parry,* Lower the wrist into the hollow of the  
*Cuts, One, Four,* left shoulder, with the back of the blade to  
*and* the rear, and the thumb along the back of  
*Point.* the hilt : then parry to the front, and raise the sword high above the head, with the arm extended and point lowered, ready to cut *One*, having the right shoulder well to the front ; and after a pause, deliver the cuts *One* and *Four*, steadying the hand after the latter cut above the right ear, from which the point is given downwards to the left front.

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---

*Cuts,* Carry the sword smartly over the head  
*Three and Four.* to the Right Rear, and give the cut *Three*, as before directed ; after which place the wrist in the hollow of the left shoulder, and deliver the cut *Four*, returning to the *Engage*.

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---

*Slope Swords,*

---



---

As usual.

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The foregoing Divisions are intended principally to give a confidence in delivering the *Cuts* and *Thrusts*, to their full extent, and yet recover the sword, without losing the balance. The Instructors should also occasionally make the Drill repeat either single, or combined, movements of each Division, having them ready to form at the moment both correctly and powerfully, such *Cuts* or *Thrusts*, as may be required; and with flugelmen, or by numbers, to mark the time. There is no practice which loosens the shoulder more than to repeat the cut *Three* at Infantry; or alternately giving the cut *Five* to the left at Cavalry, and then again the cut *Three*, rising up well to the Seventh Guard, with the arm extended, as already directed. Or to keep repeating the cuts *One* and *Four* at Infantry; or *Four* at Infantry, and *Six* at Cavalry. In these instances the caution should be given for what is to be performed, and the word *Prepare*; so that the Drill may place themselves ready for the required movements; the flugelman making sufficient pause between each cut to enable every man to gather up his strength, and give the respective movements with effect. The cut *Two* and *Point* at Infantry, may be similarly practised, as also the cut *Four* and *Point* at Infantry; and the *Rear Cut* and *Point* at Cavalry.

Nor is it less requisite to practise the Recruit in forming quickly his *Engaging Guard* to any point required, so as to enable him to meet at once the attack of an opponent. This may be effected by dividing the Guard into seven variations, and which can easily be understood by supposing the Target placed horizontally on the ground, and the Recruit over the central point fronting to No. 7, which will be the direction of the *Front Guard*, and, continuing it round to the right, the diagonal line at No. 1, forms the *Right Front*; No. 5, the *Right*; No. 3, the *Right Rear*; No. 4, the *Left Rear*; No. 6, the *Left*; No. 2, the *Left Front Guard*: the sword being carried in the direction of these lines; and either of the above variations being made imme-



diately from the *slope* on the word being given, which Guard is to be formed, and then changing quickly from one to another ; for which the change from *Guards* on the same line, brings the Recruit more readily into this practice, viz. ; *Right Front Guard—Left Rear ; Left Front—Right Rear ; Left—Right ; Front Guard*. From these positions the point should also be given sharply, drawing back the hand immediately to the *Guard*, from which it was delivered.

The mode of *Saluting* for Officers should be uniform, and in the following manner :—

Being at the position of *Carry Swords*, raise the hand as high as, and in front of, the upper part of the breast ; the sword perpendicular, the edge to the left, with the thumb extended on the side of the handle ; then, without pause, gradually sink the wrist to the right of the thigh, below the hip, with the elbow in, and sword lowered until on a line with the knee, the point in the same direction as the foot, and the edge still kept to the left.

To recover the sword, raise it as before, then smartly sink the wrist to the *Carry Swords*.

The effect of the salute depends upon the manner and address with which it is given, and also upon properly marking the time when to move quick, or slow, so that the movement may be uniform, and have the requisite grace, which should always be attached to it.

#### END OF THE FIRST SECTION.

## SECTION II.

**T**HE Drill being now complete, and practised in the Offensive and Defensive Movements of the preceding Sections, previously on Foot, and afterwards on Horseback, may continue to be mounted in carrying on the Exercise; and for that portion of it, which will be pointed out in the present Section, the Squads should be formed in two ranks at extended and open order, the ranks being at least four horses' lengths distant, so as to give sufficient space for the Exercise. The distance of Files should never, if possible, be less than two horse's lengths, but in both cases, where the practice is carried on in a Riding-house, or confined space of ground, no regular distance is stated; yet care must be taken, that the ranks and files are sufficiently opened to allow of a free play of the sword.

*Words of Command.*

*DIRECTIONS.*

*Front Rank Files.      Rear Rank Files.*

*Rear Rank,  
attack  
the Front.*

*Caution.*

*March.*

*Move towards  
the Front Rank.*

*Engage.*

*Files to Engage.*

*Guard.*

*Raise the arm to  
the Left Rear*

*Advance the arm  
to the Right Front*

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.**Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.*

*Guard*, turning the body and head in that direction.

*Guard*, and halt at the Left Rear of the Front File, just within measure, (which is to be strictly attended to throughout the following, and all movements of Attack and Defence) inclining the horse's head to the left.

*Five, Six, Seven, Form the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Guards; and Left Parry*, (according as the numbers are given) resuming the *Guard* after the latter, which is always to be opposed to the attacking File, in whatever direction he may be.

Deliver the cuts *Five, Six, and Seven*; and give the *Third Point*; after which resume the *Guard*, and move forward so as to halt on the left front of the defending File, keeping the horse's head inclined to the front, and croup to the left; and waiting for the numbers to

*Words of Command.*

## DIRECTIONS.

*Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.*

perform each movement, which rule is to be followed at each point of attack.

*One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven,* Form the *Seven Guards*, and *Left Parry*, resuming, as before, the *Guard*, with the Sword directed to the breast of the attacking File.

Deliver the *Seven Cuts*, and *Third Point*; and move round so as to halt on the right front of the defending File, inclining the horse's head to the left.

*One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven,* Form the *Seven Guards*, and *Left Parry*, recovering the sword ready to return *Third Point*; then resume the *Guard*.

Deliver the *Seven Cuts*, and *Third Point*, recovering the sword ready to *Parry*; then resume the *Guard*, and move on to the *Right Rear*, with the horse's head inclined to the right, and croup to the left.



*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.**Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.*

*One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven,* *Form the Seven Guards, and Right Parry,* recovering the sword ready to cut to the rear;

then resume the *Guard and Slope Swords*, when at the distance of a horse's length, which rule is to be followed in all practices of *Attack and Defence.*

Deliver the *Seven Cuts*, and *Third Point*, turning the wrist to prevent being disarmed by the *Right Parry*; then resume the *Guard and Slope Swords*, moving on to the rear, and when on the former ground, halt, and wait for the word to come about.

*Files, About.**By Single Files to the Right About.*

*Front Rank, attack the Rear.*

*Caution.*

*March.*

Move on towards the *Rear Rank.*

*Engage.*

*Files to Engage.*

*Words of Command.*

## DIRECTIONS.

*Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.**Guard.*

Come to Right  
Front Guard, and  
halt on the right  
front of the Rear  
Rank File.

Form the Guard  
on the Right Front.

It is unnecessary to enter into a detail, as the only difference of the *Front Rank* attacking the *Rear*, is by commencing the attack on the Right Front, and concluding it at the Left Front: after which the *Front Rank* moves on to its original Position. If the Drill is well practised, it is not requisite to give the words of Command at each point of attack, it being perfectly sufficient to order "*Rear Rank, attack the Front,*" *March*; and *vice versa*.

The same formation is still continued, *viz.*, Two Ranks; in both of which the Files are then faced to the left, and the caution is given, *Front Rank attack the Rear*, by the *Seven Practices*; and upon the word *March*, they circle left. If the attack is commenced by the *Rear Rank*, the Files will be faced to the right, and the *Rear Files* circle left also; so that, in both instances, the attack and defence is on the Right Front.

The attack is here supposed to commence by the *Front Rank Files*, who move on at the word *March*, and form the Circle, so as to come within the proper distance to attack the *Rear Files* on their Right Front; they will then halt on completing the circle, which will, of course, bring them to their own ground, unless previously ordered to continue the same movement, until otherwise directed.

*Words of Command.*

## DIRECTIONS.

*Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.**First Practice.**Caution:**March.*

Move on in Circle to attack, as above stated, and come to the *Engage*; then give *First Point* at breast, and prepare for *Third Point*, receiving the thrust of the *Rear Rank File*, and continue the circle.

Come to the *Engage*, and directly incline the face and body to the right, as a decoy, with the point of the sword rather lowered to the left, and at the instant of attack, form the *Second Guard*, and return *First Point* at breast lightly, raising the wrist, and with caution, to prevent accidents.

In the *Six* following Practices, the word *March* being given in each, after the Practice is named, the same as in the *First*, it is unnecessary to repeat it here also:

*Second Practice. Give First Point**Incline to the*

*Words of Command.*

## DIRECTIONS.

*Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.*

as before, and raise the hand prepared to cut *Seven*, receiving the *Second Point*.

*Right Guard* ; then defend by *First Guard*, and return *Second Point* at breast, lightly, raising the wrist, &c. &c.

*Third Practice.* Give *Third Point* and raise the hand prepared to cut *One*, receiving *Third Point*.

Incline to *Right Guard* ; then defend by *Left Parry*, and return *Third Point* lightly.

*Fourth Practice.* Cut *Two* at neck, and prepare for *Third Point*, receiving cut *Five*.

Incline the face, &c., as in the *First Practice*, and defend by *Second Guard*, then by a quick turn of the wrist, and extended arm, draw the cut *Five* lightly, and with great caution, across the neck within the sword ; and when the op-



## Words of Command.

## DIRECTIONS.

*Front Rank Files.**Rear Rank Files.*

ponent has passed, carry it smartly to the front round the head, to slope swords.

*Fifth Practice.* Cut *Five* at face, bearing against opponent's sword, and receive cut *Six*.

Incline to *Right Guard*, and defend by *First Guard*; then as soon as the swords meet, raise the hand, and lower the point to the rear, so as to pass your opponent's sword over your head, and cut *Six* cautiously at neck.

*Sixth Practice.* Give *Third Point*, and form *Left Parry*, without recovering the sword, but keeping the point low down to the rear and receive cut *Five*.

Incline to *Right Guard*, and defend by *Left Parry*; then feint *Third Point* and cut *Five* lightly at neck, continuing the sweep of the sword, as in the *Fourth Practice*.

In the six preceding Practices, as soon as the Drill is sufficiently complete, without the probability of creating confusion, there will be no occasion for their making any halt; nor need they wait for the word *March*, but continue the circle, and repeat the same practice, unless the caution is for another; so that the only words given will be *First*, *Second* or *Third Practice*, and so on, at the option of the Instructor. After each practice also, as soon as the Attacking File has passed on, and is out of measure, both files will *slope swords*, and resume the *Engage* when they are abreast of each other in continuing the circle.

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*Words of Command.*

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*DIRECTIONS.*

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*Front Rank Files.*

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*Rear Rank Files.*

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*Rear Rank  
Files About.*

”

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*Go to the Right  
About.*

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*Seventh Practice.*

---

*Third Point*

---

*Left Parry*

Cut *Five* at Neck,  
Cut *Six* at Face,  
Form *First Guard*,  
Cut *Two* at Face,  
Form *Fourth Guard*  
Cut *Five* at Horse's  
Head,  
Form *Second Guard*.

Form *Fifth Guard*,  
Form *Sixth Guard*,  
Give *First Point*  
*Second Guard*,  
Cut *Four* at Arm,  
  
Form *Fifth Guard*,  
Cut *Six* at Arm.

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This *Seventh Practice* commences on the *Left Rear*, for


which purpose it is that the *Rear Rank* is previously faced about, so that the *Front Rank Files*, in circling, come on the rear of their opponents; and, to assist beginners, it will be best to give numbers (from one to eight) for each movement, and at the commencement the word *Prepare* for the *Attacking File* to prepare to *point*, and the *File* on the defensive to prepare to *parry*, as well as for the latter casting his view towards the *Left Rear*. It consequently enables the Instructor to see that the *Attacking File* preserves the requisite distance, and places himself at the proper point of attack.

When the *Squads* do not exceed six, or eight, men in front, (though they may consist of four, six, or more, ranks in the same proportion,) the first six Practices may be carried on as follows:—The whole being opened out to their proper distances are faced to the left, and on the word *March*, being given, (having previously named the *Practice* required,) the front rank moves on by files, and after a few paces, the leader turns round to his left, the succeeding files following him; and they all move down along the right of the second rank files, performing the *Practice* ordered, as they pass each individual of the rank in succession; which having completed, the leading file again turns to his left, and they resume their ground, ready for the next word of Command. The *Third Rank* does the same with the *Fourth*; and so on according to the depth of the *Squad*.

To give an equal opportunity of practice to the *Second*, *Fourth*, or as many alternate ranks as there may be, the whole are faced about, and, consequently, become faced to the right of their original front; and on the word *March*, the *Second* and *Fourth* ranks, &c. move on only, and become the *Attacking Files*.

END OF THE SECOND SECTION.

### SECTION III.



**T**HE Squad should now be instructed to thrust and cut at the Rings, and Heads, attached to the Posts, which are supplied to the Cavalry Riding-Houses for the practice with Arms. This practice will give a confidence and precision in the application of the edge and point, as well as the requisite celerity, and judgment of time and measure, as each Post having an arm attached to it to represent a lance, or bayonet, the Swordsman is consequently forced to turn it out of the line by some mode of defence, before he can make his own offensive movement, both of which must be executed with great quickness, and should therefore be practised first at a walk, and so on progressively to a canter, &c. The six Machine Posts may be numbered according to each practice, and where the Riding-House is only supplied with one set (or four), the same Posts as used for the *First* and *Fourth Practices*, will do also for the *Second* and *Fifth*, by raising the arms, so that in passing they clear the horse's head; as the Files, to have regular movements in acting against the Heads and Rings, perform the first Six Practices as shewn in the preceding Section, (and here termed *First Division of Practice against the Posts*) with the Posts on their right, three being placed at equal distances on each side of the Riding-House; and to make them equally expert, both to the Right and Left, the following *Second Division of Practice* is added; having the Posts on their left, the Files going about, and consequently commencing at the Sixth Post, which, with the rest, must have the arms turned.



## SECOND DIVISION.

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<i>Sixth Post.</i>	Right Parry and	Cut Four.
<i>Fifth —</i>	Second Guard	Cut Five.
<i>Fourth —</i>	First Guard	Cut Six.
<i>Third —</i>	Right Parry	First Point.
<i>Second —</i>	Second Guard	First Point.
<i>First —</i>	First Guard	Second Point.

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In the above Divisions it will be observed, that the Posts No. 2 and No. 5, are those at which the defence is made to the Front, whether they are to the Right, or Left; and with the remaining four, viz., Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6, it is always made to the Rear.

### END OF THE THIRD SECTION.

## SECTION IV.

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**I**N the *Practice with Sticks*, the same Formation is continued as when performing the Seven Practices of Attack and Defence, the Squad being extended, and in Two ranks; they should then (with Sticks and Masks) go through the first Six at a Canter, and afterwards both Ranks, as in the Lesson of the Double Ride, performing the movements, as they pass each other. The opposing Files should also circle *Right* within measure, and at a walk, before they are allowed to play loose: as it is good previous practice to put them through such Divisions of the Stick Drill, as are applicable for them when mounted: the only alterations are as follows—omitting altogether the *Fourth* and *Fifth* Divisions, and *Third* Practices of the *Ninth* and *Tenth*.

The Distance is to be proved with the point touching the elbow, instead of the Guard-hilt: and, at the *Engage* in the *First* and *Second* Divisions to look over, instead of under, the arm;—the leg to be guarded in the *Third* Division; and, in the last practices of the *Ninth* and *Tenth* Divisions, instead of finishing with the cut at the Leg, the cut *Four* is given at the arm, and defended by the *Fourth Guard* in the former; and the cut *Three* at the arm, defended by the *Third Guard* in the latter Division: strict attention being paid that all movements are made from the hips upwards, so as to keep the legs and bridle-arm in their proper position. The loose play, or independent practice, should first be attempted at a walk, then at a canter; and that the Files may practice on their *Left*, as well as on

their Right, they should frequently be turned about *outwards* or *inwards*; they must also, as in the Practice on Foot, make a slight pause when touched, by the File who receives the hit, returning to the position of *Slope Swords*; and although the attack is principally to be directed at the *Man*, yet occasionally it must be given towards the *Horse*, but with caution, so as to touch it very lightly in case the opposing File is not sufficiently quick in his defence. For the horse's head, the *Fifth* is the best guard on the *near Side*; and the *Second* and *Fourth* on the *off Side*.

It would be useless to endeavour to state which are the best movements, as that must depend entirely on the judgment of the parties engaged, and their respective abilities; but as the loose play should not be allowed until a sufficient competency is attained by the parties, and they have been thoroughly instructed in the movements of attack and defence, they can never find themselves at a loss, if the Science is followed up by sufficient practice, and attention to the instructions they have received.

#### END OF THE FOURTH SECTION, AND PART THE SECOND.

# GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

AND

## Directions.

**T**HE Exercise of the Sword consists of Seven Cuts or directions of the Edge ; the same number of Guards, or defensive Positions ; the Point (or Thrust) given with the nails up or down ; and two circular motions of the Blade, termed *Parries* :—therefore, whatever may be the attack, or Defence, it can only be formed by having recourse to some of the above movements, or a combination of them.

In Engaging, by which is meant the action of joining the sword of an opponent, either previous to his, or your own, attack, there should be only a slight pressure on his blade, so that the hand, or wrist, may be the more susceptible of any motions he may make ; and though the Position termed *Guard* affords protection at the moment, it is merely considered as preparatory to any offensive, or defensive, movement, varying the latter according to the points liable to be attacked.

In all attacks, whether Cuts or Thrusts, the motion ought to increase in speed, the impetus being given at the last ; the same rule should be observed in stepping out to the *Second* and *Third Position* : but, in recovering, the reverse is to be



followed, as the first part, is the quickest ; and nothing can be of more importance, than that the eye should follow those of an opponent, and slightly glance at the part at which you intend to cut or thrust ; taking care never to look at your own sword, which will invariably follow the eye wherever you direct it.

It is merely Drill Practice in making the *Assault* by *Numbers*, and although each *Cut* has its *Guard* according to the number, which answers for both, yet it does not follow, that the File on the Defensive is always to have recourse to it, as he may frequently be enabled to secure himself more effectively, and quicker, by forming another Guard. If, for example, he makes the cut *Six* at the body, and his opponent, after defending by the *Sixth Guard*, returns the cut *One*, at the breast, then the *Fifth Guard* becomes the quickest movement of defence ; but if the opponent has defended by the *Second Guard* previous to his return of the cut *One*, then the *First Guard* is the soonest formed ; consequently, the *First* and *Fifth Guards*, each, defend the cuts *One* or *Five*. The *Second* and *Sixth Guards* each defend the cuts *Two* or *Six*, according as they may be given high or low ; and if the *Third* or *Fourth Guards* are required for the defence of the leg, the arm must be extended, so that the *forte* of the blade may receive the *foible* of the opponent's weapon ; bearing well in mind, however, that in all cuts at the leg, when at the proper distance, the shifting of your own leg and delivering a cut at the same moment, becomes the most effective, and advantageous defence ; and which is still more so to a tall man (even in every part of the body) when engaged with another of lesser stature, or length of arm, as he will be out of his opponent's reach, whilst the latter may be within his. The power of defence does not, in fact, consist so much in your

own strength of position, as in effecting a decided quick movement in that direction, in which your opponent has the least power of resistance, especially in defending against the *Point*, when the *First*, *Third* and *Fifth Guards*, are the most effective against the *First* and *Third Point*; and the *Second*, *Fourth*, and *Sixth Guards* against the *Second Point* provided the wrist is previously so placed, that the requisite *Guards* may be quickly executed. The two *Parries* must also be regulated by the position of the opponent's wrist, so that the bearing of your sword may tend to open his hand, and, if well judged, and timely given, will disarm him; or so cripple his wrist, as to preclude even the capability of forming a defensive guard, or continuing the attack.

If opposed to the small sword, have recourse to the cuts *Three* and *Four*, directing them at the arm, by which means there is every probability of the cuts taking effect, as it must always in thrusting come within range of the *Edge*, before the *Point* can be sufficiently advanced to reach the body. If the above cuts are quickly given and continued, they will also be found advantageous in advancing against the small sword, as they form an *Attack* and *Defence* at the same instant; but should the opponent be the most skilful and quickest, then it is best to retire while forming them, cautiously preserving the proper distance, so that each cut may just reach the fore part of his arm.

The *Second Point*, if delivered as a first movement, should be given with great caution, the wrist being then so liable to the disarm. It should be resorted to chiefly in the return, or after a *Feint* from the outside or inside *Guards*; if from the former, *Feint Third Point* under and deliver *Second Point* over the arm; if from the latter, *Feint cut Two*, and continue the sweep of the sword, until the point is sufficiently lowered to deliver without pause the *Second*

*Point* at the body under the arm. When mounted, the *Second Point* may be given to the right with effect, if the parties engaged are passing each other.

Thus far the observations are more particularly applicable to the First Part of the Instructions, or when previously practising on foot; though they may generally answer for the Exercise also when mounted: and here the greatest attention should be paid to maintain the proper position and balance of the body, from which by too great an exertion in delivering a *Cut*, or *Thrust*, the horseman may suddenly be thrown, and thereby lose the advantage of his science in the use of the sword, by the natural efforts which he must make to regain his seat; nor should he fail to have every confidence, and dependence upon his *Guard*, without trusting to his avoiding the attack of an opponent by turning, or drawing back the body to escape from it.

In delivering a *Thrust* very little force is necessary, when the horse is in quick motion, as the extension of the arm, with a good direction of the point, will be fully sufficient; nor should a *Cut*, under the same circumstances, be given too strong, as in both cases the impetus of the horse will give the effective force; or in the latter, the drawing of the edge can very frequently be applied with advantage, particularly where the point may not have taken effect, when by a quick turn of the wrist, the edge is drawn along the face of your opponent, or any other part which more immediately comes in contact with it. A similar advantage may be gained after forming a *Guard*, particularly from the *Second*, with the point of the sword kept well forward. The forcing also of the edge can be resorted to, when very near and closely pressed upon by an adversary, by suddenly extending the arm, and directing the edge across the face, or where the opening is shewn: in this case, however, the



hand should not be carried more than absolutely requisite, either to the *Right* or *Left*, so as not by too wide a movement to offer an equal chance to your opponent.

Where sufficient space of ground allows of choosing the point of attack, you should endeavour to turn this to your own advantage ; if not, at all events to avoid its being made on your *Left Rear*, when change of position can alone bring you upon the least equality with your opponent ; either by making a sudden halt, so as to allow him to pass, and then pressing upon his *Left Rear* ; or by turning quickly to the left about, and thereby having your *Right* also opposed to his. Should you be prevented from doing this, and he still keep upon your *Left*, you must bear up as close as possible to him, otherwise your opposition will be ineffectual ; for in his situation, by keeping at the proper distance from you, his *Cut* will reach, when your's cannot, and consequently you are reduced to the defence alone. In meeting an opponent on the *Left Front*, turn sharply to the left on your own ground, which brings you immediately with your sword-arm free, and at liberty to act upon his *Left* ; and in meeting him upon the *Right Front*, press your horse quickly on, and by a sharp turn to the right gain his *Left Rear* ; or, if pursued, endeavour to keep your adversary on the *Right Rear*, when the distance will be always in your favour, and you may, by the *Rear Cut* and *Point*, keep checking his advance with impunity. When attacked by more than one, you will naturally endeavour to keep them either to the *Right*, or *Left* ; but where they have been enabled to place themselves on both sides, press close upon the *Left* opponent, and keep the *Right* one at a distance.

Although a regular mode is laid down for drawing the sword, yet occasional practice should be given, both on Foot and on Horseback, to come to the *Guard* immediately



and at any required point, without going through the Parade motions, &c., which will prepare the Swordsman for any sudden attack of an Enemy.

The movements in the *Seventh Practice*, or any part of them, may be performed at speed by the Files alternately passing each other on the near side; and the File attacked must check the pace of his horse, so as to enable his Pursuer to come up with him, otherwise the object of the practice would be frustrated, and in place of its being a lesson of instruction, it would become a trial of speed between the horses. The attack is, consequently, here commenced on the *Left Rear*, as it is the point upon which an Assailant in pursuit should engage, when in actual combat; nor should he fail to retain this advantage, by keeping his opponent at the proper distance, being particularly cautious not to pass him.

The defence, or attack against the Lance must depend greatly upon the Rider; for, admitting that the Lancer is equally well mounted, and skilful in the management of his horse, he will always endeavour to keep at such a distance as to be out of your reach, whilst he can easily make good his thrust, from the greater length of the lance, to that of a sword; and he will very frequently succeed in directing his point at your horse also, which, becoming unruly from the pain of a wound, will leave you exposed to the attack of your opponent. You must, therefore, invariably endeavour to gain his *Right Rear*, where he is less able to attack or defend, as his position, from its being so contracted, becomes weak; whereas, if (as against the sabre) the attack is made on his *Left Rear*, he has the advantage of resting his lance upon the bridle-arm, and can lengthen, or shorten his thrust with facility and quickness. If engaged on his *Left* the object must be to keep just out of distance.

of the lance, watching the opportunity to close, either by having previously-formed a defence, or by bearing the lance out of the line. When meeting him on *his* and on *your own Right Front*, you may then have recourse to the first *Five Practices*, (as against the Sword) closing instantly after any of them, with confidence and resolution: he will not here attempt to aim at the horse, as he becomes exposed to any Cut or Thrust; for it is only when engaged directly *Right*, or *Left* in circling, that he gives his short stabs at the horse, without exposing himself, or losing the power of regaining his lance. If both are engaged on the *Right*, you should endeavour to defend all thrusts that are made high by the *First* and *Second Guards*; and all low thrusts by the *Third*, *Fourth*, and *Fifth Guards*; the most effective being that of forcing the lance downwards by the *Third Guard*, and without pausing to raise it by the *Second*, seizing the opportunity to close at the same instant, and delivering such Cut, or Thrust, as appears the most effectual. In all these cases, your horse should have been well accustomed to the waving of the lance, without which no skill of yours, either in the science of the sword, or in that of riding, can be of much service to you.

When opposed to Infantry, endeavour to meet an opponent on your *Right*; as every Guard parries the point of a sword, so will each defend the point of a bayonet; taking care that the *forte* of your own weapon, meets the *foible* of your opponent's; consequently it is the bayonet which must be struck, and supposing the attack to be directed as usual, with the opponent's left shoulder advanced, those *Guards* or *Parries* which force the point of the bayonet to the front, are, in effect, the most powerful; not from the strength of your mode of defence, but because the bearing acts in such a manner against your opponent, as to render

him less capable of resisting, or recovering the command of his weapon in time to defend himself, or renew the attack. It gives you the opportunity of returning a Cut or Thrust : whereas, if you parry to the rear, that advantage is lost, unless you halt, which of course affords time to your opponent to take equal advantage of it also. In fact, very little exertion is sufficient to effect a strong parade, if it is made in the direction in which your horse is moving, and, from the same cause, all *Rear Parries* are weak ; and as it is of little use to engage merely for the purpose of defence, you lose the chance of returning a Cut, if you advance sufficiently for the parries to the rear. Still, however, assecurity is the main object, recourse must be had to them, where they become requisite ; and if well-timed, the *Third Practice* in the *Attack and Defence* will be found effectual. In defending on your *Left*, a parry to the rear will, for the reasons before stated, disorder your opponent's position, more than parrying to the front ; and every returning Cut or Thrust must be instantaneous, as, though for the moment you may be able to oppose the bayonet ; yet, from your opponent having the advantage of both hands in the management of it, he may, if confident, guard sufficiently to enable him to fix his point. In advancing against Infantry, be resolute, and assume as imposing an appearance as possible ; the *Right Guard* with the hand high, leads well to the attack, and is ready for defence, or to take advantage of any opening ; and should your opponent appear irresolute, or draw back his weapon, then, while passing, the Cut *Five* may be given to advantage at the neck. The Cuts *Two* and *Three* on the Right ; and *One* and *Four* on the Left form a defence, as well as an attack upon Infantry ; and the smarter the beat is given, the more effectual they will be as *Guards* and *Parries*, so as to cripple your opponent's position.

The point should be used chiefly in the pursuit, and is so with greater advantage on your right, as from thence you can reach farther, and are better prepared for defence; and at all times keep the horse in motion, unless an opportunity is given of singling out some particular individual, without the danger of being attacked by others; but if you halt, several may be collected to assail you, or, what is still more probable, you may be exposed to the sure aim of a musket.

Many similar remarks will naturally occur to those who have had practical experience with an enemy; and the Instructors should endeavour, as much as possible, in their progressive directions to the Recruit, to impress them upon his mind by such occasional observations, as they become most applicable. Opportunities of thus explaining may often be taken during the pauses of rest, as no Squad should be kept too long either in the Positions, or Movements; and where any Recruits are more deficient than the rest, the whole should be made to cease for the moment, and those only, who have gone wrong, be required to correct their error.

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The point should be well chosen in the current, and in  
with great advantage on your right, as from thence you  
can reach further, and are better prepared for defence  
and at all times keep the horse in motion, and  
an opportunity is given of singling out some particular  
individual, without the danger of being attacked by others,  
but if you halt, several may be collected to assault you,  
and it will more probably, you may be exposed to the  
aim of a musket.

Many similar remarks will naturally occur to those who  
have had practical experience with an enemy; and the  
stratagem should be chosen as much as possible, to  
prevent the direction of the musket to favour them, and  
to prevent the enemy from being able to fire upon them  
from the direction of the musket, as they have  
often been known to do during the battle of Red Bank,  
and in the late war, when the British were more  
numerous; and yet it is not always the more prudent  
to choose the musket to be made to come from the  
front, and those who have been engaged in regular  
to collect their arms.

# Words of Command.

## THROUGHOUT THE PROGRESSIVE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE DRILL.

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Those printed in *Italics* are to serve as a Caution only.

### FIRST PART.

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Attention.

*First Extension Motions.*

One.—Two.—Three.—Four.—Five.

Stand at Ease.

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Attention.

*First Position in three Motions.*

One.—Two.—Three.

*Second Position in two Motions.*

One.—Two.

*Balance Motions.*

One.—Two.—Three.—Four.

First Position.

*Third Position in two Motions.*

One.—Two.

*Second Extension Motions.*

One.—Two.—Three.—Four.—Five.

First Position.

Front.

Stand at Ease.

---

Attention.

*Positions by Numbers.*

One.—Two.—Three.

Two.—One.—Three.

First Balance Motion.—Three.

First Balance Motion.—Two.

Single Attack.—Double Attack.

Advance.—Single Attack.

Retire.—Double Attack.

Front.

Stand at Ease.

---

Attention.

Draw Swords.

Return Swords.

Draw Swords.

Slope Swords.

Prepare to perform Sword Exercise.

Right Prove Distance.

Slope Swords.

Front Prove Distance.

Slope Swords.

Guard.

Inside Guard.—Outside Guard.

*Assault.\**

One.—Two.—Three.—Four.—Five.—Six.—Seven.

First Point.—Second Point.—Third Point.

*Guards.\**

First.—Second.—Third.—Fourth.—Fifth.—Sixth.—Seventh.

Left Parry.—Right Parry.

Left Cheek.—First Guard.

Right Cheek.—Second Guard.

Wrist.—Third Guard.

Leg.—Fourth Guard.

Left Side.—Fifth Guard.

Right Side.—Sixth Guard.

Head.—Seventh Guard.

First Point.—Left Parry.

Second Point.—Right Parry.

Third Point.—Right and Left Parry.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

Stand at Ease.

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\* If performed by Flugelman the Numbers are omitted.



Attention.

Front Rank, Right about Face.

Prepare to perform Attack and Defence.

Prove Distance.

Slope Swords.

Guard.

Inside Guard.—Outside Guard.

Left Cheek.—Right Cheek.

Wrist.—Leg.

Left Side.—Right Side.—Head.

First Point.—Third Point.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

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*Feint Point, and Shift Leg; in Five Motions.*

Guard.

One.—Two.—Three.—Four.—Five.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

*The same Practice in Three Motions.*

Guard.

One.—Two.—Three.

Guard.

Slope Swords.

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*Point and Parry in Second Position, by Numbers Two and One.*

Guard.

Third Point.

Two.—One.—(Continuing them as long as requisite.)

Guard.

Slope Swords.

Stand at Ease.

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## SECOND PART.

At Reviews, Inspections, &c., a Flugelman is placed in Front of each Flank, so that the time of each Motion may be taken from them, according as Right or Left is attached to the following words of Command ; given by the one pointed out. In some cases it is noted both *Right* and *Left*, as the motions comprised in that Word of Command are taken from the Flugelman in the direction of the eye at the previous movement.

### *Perform Sword Exercise.*

Words of Command. — Flugelman.

Engage.....	<i>Right.</i>
Guard.....	<i>Right and Left.</i>
Assault.....	<i>Right.</i>
First Point.....	<i>Right.</i>
Second Point.....	<i>Right.</i>
Third Point.....	<i>Right.</i>
Guards.....	<i>Right and Left.</i>
Left Parry.....	<i>Left.</i>
Right Parry.....	<i>Right.</i>
Slope Swords.....	<i>Right.</i>

*First Division. (Against Cavalry.)*

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Engage..... *Right.*  
 First Point..... *Right.*  
 Cuts One, Two, and } ..... *Right.*  
     Right Point. }  
 Cuts Five, Six, and } ..... *Right and Left.*  
     Left Point. }  
 Cuts Five, Six, Rear } ..... *Left and Right.*  
     Cut and Point, }  
 Cuts, Five and Six..... *Left and Right.*  
 Slope Swords..... *Right.*

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*Second Division. (Against Infantry.)*

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Engage..... *Right.*  
 Right Parry, Cut Two, } ..... *Right.*  
     Point and Cut Three, }  
 Left Parry, Cuts One, } ..... *Right and Left.*  
     Four, and Point. }  
 Cuts Three, and Four..... *Right and Left.*  
 Slope Swords..... *Right.*

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*Variations of the Guard.*

Right Front Guard.—Left Rear.—Left Front.

Right Rear.—Left.—Right.—Front.

Slope Swords.

**N. B.** From each Guard also the Point should occasionally be given.

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*Rear Rank attack the Front.*

March.

Engage.

Guard.

Five.—Six.—Seven.—Point.

One.—Two.—Three.—Four.—Five.—Six.—Seven.

Point.

One.—Two.—Three.—Four.—Five.—Six.—Seven.

Point.

One.—Two.—Three.—Four.—Five.—Six.—Seven.

Point.

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Files About.

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*Front Rank attack the Rear.*

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*The same practice as above, except that it is to commence on the Right Front.*

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*Front Rank attack the Rear, by the Seven Practices.*

Files Left Turn.

*First Practice.*—March.

*Second Practice.*—March.

*Third Practice.*—March.

*Fourth Practice.*—March.

*Fifth Practice.*—March.

*Sixth Practice.*—March.

Rear Rank, Files about.

*Seventh Practice.*—March.

Front Rank, Files about.

*The Rear Rank then go through the Seven Practices, the Front Rank Files being turned about for the last.*

Front.

**FORMATION**  
**FOR AN**  
**INSPECTION OF FOOT.**

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The distance of Files is here laid down for the practice of the Sword Exercise in battalion, and smaller divisions :—  
The battalion being told off in wings, and ranks of threes.

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*Tellings off in Battalion, or Division.*

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*Words of Command.*

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**DIRECTIONS.**

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*Rear Rank take* The Right and Left hand Man of the distance for rear rank belonging to both wings will re-  
*Sword Exercise.* treat nine paces, dressing by the right.

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*March.*

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The rear rank falls back, and dresses by the pivots : the flugelmen at the same time taking their stations to the front.

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*From the Centre,* The men of the right wing instantly open your Files ; open out, placing their right hands in the

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*March.*

---

hollow of the left side, so as to barely touch with their elbows their left hand files. The left wing will open out, and upon the same

*Words of Command.**DIRECTIONS.*


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principle ensure the distance of files by means of the right arms. The rear rank do the same, and the arms to be kept up until brought down by a motion from the right flugelman.

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Great attention from the Drill Officer is requisite, in observing that the proper distances of files are taken to prevent accidents, which may otherwise occur, and on this account the arm should be kept up, until he has seen that the distances are correctly observed.

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*Prepare  
for*

*Sword Exercise.*

The right sub-division of each wing will give the distances of files, as follows :—The right-hand man of ranks by threes stands fast, the centre man takes three paces to the rear of the right-hand file, and covers him; whilst the left-hand file of the division retreats six paces and covers the two preceding files. The doubling files are all to step off with the right foot; the rear do the same, and, consequently cover the front-rank files.

*March.*

The right-hand files of all the divisions stand fast: the left and centre, men taking their distances, as before directed: the officers and non-commissioned officers to the rear, except such as are told off in ranks by threes.

---

By this movement the Battalion will become six deep, and after the exercise is performed, it will be necessary to bring the Battalion to its proper formation, as follows.

*Word of Command.*

*DIRECTIONS.*

*Front for... Line,* The centre, and left hand, men of divisions move up, and dress by the pivots.  
*March.*

*Rear Rank close  
to the Front,  
March.*

Rear Rank closes to the front.

*Close to the  
Centre,  
March.*

The files close in by the side step.

In proving distance, the right hand men of the line always remain with their swords sloped; and the whole of the front rank remain equally so, in proving distance to the front, as in both instances there is no occasion for making the movement.

*Distance of Ranks on Horseback.*

*Rear Rank  
rein back for  
Sword Exercise.*

The distance of the wings to be marked as directed in the foot practice.

*March.*

The rear rank reins back four horses' lengths, and dresses by the pivots.



**Words of Command.****DIRECTIONS.**

**Prepare for Sword Exercise.** The right sub-division of each wing to mark the distance of files, in a manner directed for the foot practice, allowing the distance of a third of a horse's length between head and croup.

**March.** The centre and left files rein back, all clear of the standing flank, when they will file to the right, and dress by the pivots, taking care to cover correctly, by placing their horses square to the front.

## REVIEW EXERCISE.

At the Review of a Regiment of Cavalry, the Sword Exercise is (after the Regiment has marched past and formed) to precede the evolutions, and the whole being executed by Flugelmen, the Commanding Officer has only to give the following Words of Command, having first opened the ranks, and doubled the files according the preceding directions.

Right prove Distance.

Slope Swords.

Front prove Distance.

Slope Swords.

Perform Sword Exercise.

First Division.

Second Division.

He will then form up the doubling files, and close ranks.

It will here be seen, that under "*Perform Sword Exercise*," the *Cuts, Guards, Points, and Parries*, are shewn; whilst in the "*First Division*" the attacks against Cavalry, and in the "*Second Division*" the attacks against Infantry are sufficiently evinced for a Review, where the Regiments are obliged to go through whatever is shewn with their own swords: the Attack and Defence cannot, therefore, be then practiced, as the former mode of striking with the flat, or back, of the blade, tends to inculcate a bad habit, neither is the thing given to effect, or as it ought to be; and with the edge it would be dangerous, as well as materially damaging the swords; nor could it be done with *Practice Swords*, which it is difficult to supply to a whole Regiment, besides the loss of time in changing them during the operations of a Review.

At an inspection for forming a report on the actual state of the men, they should be seen in their Riding-School, or where most convenient, both on Foot and mounted, so as to go through the whole, and progressive system of the Drill.

THE END.