

BY HIS MAJESTY'S COMMAND.

THE
MANUAL
AND
PLATOON
EXERCISES,

&c. &c.

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HORSE GUARDS,

1st NOVEMBER, 1804.

HIS MAJESTY having thought proper to take into his Royal Consideration the Modes in which the Manual and Platoon Exercises are at present performed by his Troops ; and it having appeared to His Majesty that they are capable of receiving some Alterations to the Advantage of his Service ; His Majesty is pleased hereby to recal and cancel his former Orders respecting the Manual and Platoon Exercises, and to command that, in their stead, the following Regulations shall be established.

With a View to give the most ready Circulation to His Majesty's Commands respecting the Manual and Platoon Exercises, the Commander in Chief has directed that they shall be printed, and transmitted to every Regiment and Corps in His Majesty's Service : and it is His Royal Highness's Order, that the Drill of every Regiment shall be immediately established in strict Conformity to the following System, which is to be adopted and invariably practised in future by the whole Army.

To His Majesty's Regulations on these Heads, the Commander in Chief has thought proper to add some General Observations and Extracts from "The Rules and Regulations for the Formation, Field Exercise, and Movements of His Majesty's Forces," on Points which it is essentially necessary that every Officer should have strongly implanted in his Memory, as being of daily and hourly Use. It is by no means His Royal Highness's Intention to substitute these Extracts for the Work itself, which all Officers are enjoined to have in their Possession, and which must constantly be referred to as the Source from which They are to derive the Information which is requisite to qualify them, as they rise in their Profession, to discharge their Duty with Honour to themselves, and with Advantage to His Majesty's Service.

*By Command of His Royal Highness
The Commander in Chief,*

HARRY CALVERT,
Adjutant-General of the Forces,

THE
MANUAL AND PLATOON
EXERCISES.

POSITION OF THE SOLDIER UNDER
ARMS.

THE equal squareness of the shoulders and body to the front is the first and great principle of the position of the Soldier :—The heels must be in a line and closed :—The knees straight, without stiffness :—The toes turned out, so that the feet may form an angle of about 60 degrees :—The arms hang near the body, but not stiff; the flat of the hand, and little finger, touching the thigh, and the thumbs as far back as the seams of the breeches :—The elbows and shoulders are to be kept back :—The belly rather drawn in; and the breast advanced, but without constraint :—The body to be upright, but inclining rather forwards, so that the weight of it may bear chiefly on the fore part of the feet :—The head to be erect; and neither turned to the right nor to the left; the eyes alone will be glanced to the right.

The body of the soldier being in this position, the firelock is to be placed in his left hand, against the shoulder: his wrist to be a little turned out; the thumb alone to appear in front; the four fingers to be under the butt; and the left elbow to be rather bent inwards, so as not to be separated from the body, or to be more backward or forward than the right one :—The firelock must rest full on the hand, not on the end of the fingers; and be carried in such manner as not to raise, advance, or keep back, one shoulder more than the other; the butt must therefore be forward, and as low as can be permitted without constraint; the fore part a very little before the front of the thigh; and the hind part of it pressed by the wrist against the thigh :
—IT

—It must be kept steady and firm before the hollow of the shoulder; should it be drawn back or carried too high, the one shoulder would be advanced, the other kept back, and the upper part of the body would be distorted and not square, with respect to the limbs.

THE MANUAL EXERCISE.

Words of
Command.

EXPLANATION.

- Secure Arms* 1st. BRING the right hand briskly up, and place it under the cock, keeping the firelock steady.
- 2d. Quit the butt with the left hand, and seize the firelock with it at the swell, bringing the elbow close down upon the lock; the right hand kept fast in this motion, and the piece still upright.
- 3d. Quit the right hand, and bring it down to the right side, bringing the firelock down to the *secure* under the left arm, and the hand rather below the hip bone.
- Shoulder Arms.* 2d. 1st. Bring the firelock up to the perpendicular line, seizing it with the right hand under the cock.
- 2d. Quit the left hand, and place it grasping the butt.
- 3d. Quit the right hand, and bring it smartly down to the right side.
- Order Arms.* 3d. 1st. Seize the firelock with the right hand at the lower loop, just at the swell.
- 2d. Bring it down to the right side, to the *trail*; the butt as low down as the arm will admit without constraint, the muzzle a little advanced.
- 3d. Drop the butt on the ground, placing the muzzle against the hollow of the right shoulder, and the hand flat upon the fling.
- Fix Bayonets.* 4th. 1st. At the word *Fix*, place the thumb of the right hand, as quick as possible, behind the barrel, taking a gripe of the firelock.
- 2d. As soon as the word of command is fully given, push the firelock a little forward, at the same time drawing out the bayonet with the left hand, and fixing it with the utmost celerity. The instant this is done, return, as quick as possible, to the order as above described, and stand perfectly steady.

1st.

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

5th.
Shoulder Arms.

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

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

6th.
Present Arms.

2d. Raise the firelock up from the shoulder to the *poize*, by placing the left hand upon the sling, fingers pointing upwards; the wrist upon the guard, and the point of the left thumb of equal height with and opposite to the left eye; the piece to be kept perpendicular in this position.

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

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

7th.
Shoulder Arms.

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

At one motion throw the firelock from the shoulder across the body, to a diagonal position, in which the lock is to be turned to the front, and at the height of the breast; the muzzle slanting upwards, so that the barrel may cross opposite the point of the left shoulder, with the butt proportionably depressed.

8th.
Port Arms.

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

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

9th.
*Charge En-
oncs.*

1st. Throw the firelock up to its proper position on the left

10th.
Shoulder Arms.

left shoulder, grasping the butt with the left hand, and at the same instant coming to your proper front.

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

11th.
*Advance
Arms.*

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

2d. Raise the firelock up from the shoulder to the poize, by placing the left hand upon the sling fingers pointing upwards, the wrist upon the guard, and the point of the left thumb of equal height with, and opposite the left eye; the piece to be kept perpendicular in this position.

3d. Bring the firelock down to the right side, with the right hand as low as it will admit without constraint, flipping up the left hand at the same time to the swell, the guard between the thumb and forefinger of the right hand, the three last fingers under the cock, with the guard to the front.

4th. Quit the left hand.

12th.
*Shoulder
Arms.*

1st. Bring up the left hand, and seize it at the swell.

2d. By a quick turn of the right wrist, throw it smartly to its proper position on the left shoulder, and grasp the butt with the left hand.

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

13th.
*Support
Arms.*

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

2d. Bring the left arm under the cock.

3d. Quit the right hand.

14th.
Carry Arms.

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

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

3d. Quit the right hand.

N. B. The position of ported arms is that which the foldier will, either from the shoulder, or after firing, take, in order to advance on an enemy whom it is intended to attack with fixed bayonets; and the word of command for that purpose is "*prepare to charge.*" The second position is that which the front rank takes after a quick advance, and when arrived at a few yards distance only from the body to be attacked. The position of ported arms is also that which sentries are to take when challenging any persons who approach their posts.

In explanation of the 17th movement prescribed in His Majesty's

Majesty's Regulations for the Inspection and Review Exercise, it is to be clearly understood, that whenever a battalion or line charges with bayonets, the whole are in the first instance to port their arms, and advance at a firm quick step, or at a steady run, if circumstances render it necessary, but in the most perfect order possible, until they reach the enemy.

It is at that instant that the front rank are necessarily to bring their firelocks down to the charging position, and the whole are to press forward with the utmost energy. The enemy being routed, it will depend on the officer commanding to give the word "halt;" when the front rank will resume their position of ported arms, and proceed as may be afterwards directed. But the word halt is on no account to be given during a charge, or as preparatory to the front rank bringing the firelocks down to the charging position. It is therefore to be understood, that in the charge or quick attack upon the enemy with fixed bayonets, either previous to, or after firing, which is usually begun at a distance of 150 or 200 yards, as the ground will admit, the charging position of the front rank is to be assumed only at the instant of attack or defence.

In marching any distance, or in standing at ease, when *supported*, the men are allowed to bring their right hand across the body, to the small of the butt, which latter must, in that case, be thrown a little forward; the fingers of the left hand being uppermost, must be placed between the body and the right elbow; the right hands are to be instantly removed when the division *kalis*, or is ordered to *dress by the right*.

The motions in the manual exercise are to be performed, *Time* leaving three pauses of the ordinary time of march between each motion, except that of *fixing bayonets*, in which a longer time must be given.

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

The *manual* and *platoon exercise* will no longer make a regular part of a review, but will only be gone through when particularly called for by the reviewing General.

The *platoon exercise* is always to be done with ranks closed, except at the drill.

Sentries, posted with shouldered arms, are permitted afterwards

terwards to *support*, but not to *flope* them.—On the approach of an officer, they immediately *carry* their arms, and put themselves into their proper position; which is not to be done at the instant he passes, but by the time he is within twenty yards of their post, so that they may be perfectly steady before he comes up.

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

N. B. The following are the motions which His Majesty orders to be practised, in unfixing bayonets, and in piling arms.

Unfix Bayonets (the Arms being at the Order.)

The 1st and 2d motions, the same as ordered for fixing.

3d. The left hand grasps the firelock above the upper flintel, and with the right the bayonet is to be struck off and immediately returned to the scabbard, and the firelock to be placed quickly in its original position at ordered arms.

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

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

THE PLATOON EXERCISE.

EXPLANATION OF THE SEVERAL MOTIONS AS TAUGHT AT THE DRILL.

Words of Command.

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EXPLANATION.

1st. *Make Ready.*

BRING the firelock to the *recover*, by throwing it briskly from the shoulder, the guard to the front, and instantly cock as soon as the left hand seizes the piece above the lock; the right elbow is to be nimbly raised a little, placing the thumb upon the cock, and the fingers open by the plate of the lock; then drop the elbow as quick as possible, forcing down the cock with the thumb.

Slip

Slip the left hand along the sling as far as the swell of the firelock; bring the piece down to the *present*, stepping back six inches to the rear, with the right foot, and look steadfastly along the barrel of the firelock. *2d. Present.*

Pull the trigger firmly, and remain on the present, looking steadily along the piece until the next word of command. *3d. Fire.*

1st. Bring up the right foot to the inside of the left heel, and at the same time drop the firelock briskly down to the priming position; the top of the cock opposite the right breast the muzzle raised to the height of the peak of the cap, and pointing directly to the front, which will throw the firelock into the hollow of the right side; the left hand continuing to grasp the piece at the swell, holding it firm and steady; seize the cock with the fore-finger and thumb of the right hand. *4th. Load.*

2d. Half-cock—by drawing back the right elbow briskly, bringing it down on the butt of the firelock.

1st. Draw the cartridge from the pouch.

2d. Bring it to the mouth, holding it between the fore-finger and thumb, and bite off the top of the cartridge. *5th. Handle Cartridge.*

1st. Shake some powder into the pan.

2d. Shut the pan with the three last fingers. *6th. Prime.*

3d. Seize the small of the butt with the above three fingers.

1st. Turn the piece nimbly round to the loading position; the butt within two inches of the ground, the lock towards the front, and the muzzle of the piece near the breast; the right hand to be brought on that part of the barrel on which the sight is placed; both feet are to be kept fast in this position. *7th. Cast about; as it is to be pronounced for the sake of brevity 'Bout.'*

2d. Drop the butt on the ground without noise, shake the powder into the barrel, putting in after it the paper and the ball.

3d. Seize the top of the ramrod with the fore-finger and thumb.

1st. Force the ramrod half out, and seize it back-handed exactly in the middle. *8th. Draw Ramrods.*

2d. Draw it entirely out, and turning it with the whole hand and arm extended from you, put it one inch into the barrel.

1st. Push the ramrod down, holding it as before, exactly in the middle, till the hand touches the muzzle. *9th. Ram down Cartridge.*

2d. Slip the fore-finger and thumb to the upper end, without letting the ramrod fall further into the barrel.

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

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

10th Return
Ramrods.

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

2d. Draw it entirely out, turning it very briskly from you, with the arm extended and put it into the loops, forcing it as quick as possible to the bottom; then face to the proper front, the finger and thumb of the right hand holding the ramrod, as in the position immediately previous to drawing it, and the butt raised two inches from the ground.

11th.
Shoulder
Arms.

Strike the top of the muzzle smartly with the right hand, in order to fix the bayonet and ramrod more firmly, and at the same time throw it nimbly up, at one motion, to the shoulder.

N. B. Though the butts are not to come to the ground in casting about, as accidents may happen from it, yet they are permitted, while loading, to be so rested; but it must be done without noise, and in a manner imperceptible in the front.

Words of
Command.

EXPLANATION OF PRIMING AND LOADING.

Prime and
loads

1st. Bring the firelock down in one brisk motion to the priming position, the thumb of the right hand placed against the pan-cover, or steel; the fingers clenched; and the elbow a little turned out so that the wrist may be clear of the cock.

2d. Open the pan, by throwing up the steel, with a strong motion of the right arm, turning the elbow in, and keeping the firelock steady in the left hand.

3d. Bring your hand round to the pouch, and draw out the cartridge.

The rest as above described, excepting that, in loading, all motions are to be done with as much *despatch as possible*, every man *shouldering or recovering as soon as his ramrod is properly returned*.

The priming position is the same for all the ranks, as above described, with the top of the cock opposite the right breast, and the muzzle raised to the height of the peak of the cap, which will throw the firelock into the hollow of the right side.

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EXPLANATION OF THE POSITION OF EACH RANK IN THE FIRINGS, BY BATTALIONS, WINGS, OR GRAND DIVISIONS.

Front Rank, kneeling.

Bring the firelock briskly up to the *recover*, catching it in the left hand; and, without stopping, sink down with a quick motion upon the right knee, keeping the left foot fast, the butt end of the firelock, at the same moment, falling upon the ground; then cock, and instantly seize the cock and steel together in the right hand, holding the piece firm in the left, about the middle of that part which is between the lock and the swell of the stock; the point of the left thumb to be close to the swell, and pointing upwards.

As the body is sinking, the right knee is to be thrown so far back that the left leg may be right up and down; the right foot a little turned out; the body straight; and the head as much up as if shouldered: the firelock must be upright, and the butt about four inches to the right of the inside of the left foot.

Bring the firelock down firmly to the *present*, by sliding the left hand to the full extent of the arm, along the sling, without letting the motion tell;—the right hand at the same time springing up the butt by the cock so high against the right shoulder, that the head may not be too much lowered in taking aim; the right cheek to be close to the butt; the left eye shut, and the fore finger of the right hand on the trigger; look along the barrel with the right eye from the breech-pin to the muzzle, and remain steady.

Pull the trigger strong with the fore finger, and, when fired, remain looking on the aim while you can count *one—two*; then spring up nimbly on the left leg keeping the body erect, and the left foot fast, bringing the right heel to the hollow of the left; at the same time drop the firelock to the priming position—Half-cock and proceed with the priming and loading motions as before directed.

Centre Rank.

Spring the firelock briskly to the *recover*: as soon as the left hand seizes the firelock above the lock, raise the right elbow a little, placing the thumb of that hand upon the cock, with the fingers open by the plate of the lock; and then, as quick as possible, cock the piece, by dropping the elbow, and

and forcing down the cock with the thumb, step at the same time with the right foot a moderate pace to the right, and keeping the left fast, seize the small of the butt with the right hand : the piece must be held in this position perpendicular, and opposite the left side of the face ; the butt close to the breast, but not pressed ; the body straight, and full to the front, and the head erect.

Present. As in the foregoing explanation for the front rank.

Fire. As in explanation for front rank, with this difference, that as soon as fired, and after dwelling on the aim as there directed, the firelock is to be dropped briskly to the priming position ; the left foot being at the same time drawn up to the right, and, immediately after the firelock is thrown up to the shoulder, the men spring to the left and cover their file leaders.

Rear Rank.

Make ready. Recover and cock, as before directed for the centre rank, and, as the firelock is brought to the recover, step briskly to the right a full pace, at the same time placing the left heel about six inches before the point of the right foot. The body to be kept straight, and as square to the front as possible.

Present. As in explanation for the centre rank.

Fire. As in explanation for the centre rank ; after shouldering, the men step to the left and cover their file leaders as the centre rank does.

In firing with the front rank *standing*, that rank makes ready, &c. as specified in the article relative to the *platoon exercise*.

Officers. N. B. In giving words of command as well in as out of the ranks, officers are to stand perfectly steady, and in their proper position ; their swords held firmly in the full of the right hand, with the upper part of the blade resting against the shoulder, the right wrist against the hip, and the elbow drawn back.

In firing by grand divisions, the centre officer falls back, on the *preparative*, into the fourth rank, and is replaced by the covering serjeant,

FIRING BY PLATOONS.

THE officers, instead of giving the words, *make ready ; present fire*, are to pronounce the words short ; as, for instance, *ready, psent, fire.* In

In firing by platoons or divisions, the officers commanding them are to step out *one pace* on the clofe of the preparative, and face to the left towards their men. They then stand perfectly steady till the laft part of the General is beat as a fignal to ceafe firing, when they instantly ftep back into the proper intervals.

When a divifion has fired, the men prime and load, and come to the recover as quick as they individually can without any flugel man, who is not to be made ufe of in any firing whatever.

It is expected that, from the infertion of the fourth command “Load,” in the Platoon Exercife, the troops will become fo habituated to the pause after pulling the triggers, which is requifite to infure precifion, and the full effect of their fire, that they will invariably adopt it on all occafions, though in the field they are not to expect any word of command after firing, but each man, after making the pause, which he feels to be neceffary for the effectual delivery of the contents of his piece, is to proceed to prime and load.

In all firing by platoons, divifions, or companies, the firft words, “*ready, prefent, fire,*” are to be regular, and generally from centre to flanks of the battalion, each wing independent, though circumftances may occafion it to commence from any other part of the battalion that may be firft formed; but, after the firft round, every company is, by command of its officer, to prefent and fire as foon as loaded.

No flugel man is to ftep out after firing to give the time of loading and recovering; every man is to load and recover as quick as he can. This is to be obferved in all firings by platoons or companies.

No flugel man is ever to remain advanced from a battalion, except to give the time of the General Salute, or during the performance of the Manual Exercife.

In all firing by platoons or divifions, after the *firft round* the firelock is not to be fhouldered, but briskly thrown up to the *recover*, which will render the word “ready” unneceffary, and reduce the words of command to the following; viz. “*psent, fire.*”

The pofitions of the feveral ranks to be as follow;

Front Rank.

The front rank man, being at the recover and cocked,
brings

brings his piece down to the *present*, stepping back six inches to the rear with the right foot. After having fired, the right foot is to be brought up to the left heel, preserving the quarter face to the right, and the priming and loading goes on as directed.

Centre Rank.

The centre rank man being at the recover and cocked, on the word *present*, regains his firing position by placing his left foot a moderate pace to the left, keeping the right foot fast; and having *fired*, the left foot is to be brought back to the priming position, preserving the half face to the right.

Rear Rank.

The rear rank man, being at the recover and cocked, on the word *present*, gains his firing position by stepping six inches to the front with the left foot.

When the rear rank man has fired, the left foot is to be brought back to the right foot and the priming and loading goes on in that position, preserving the half face to the right.

FILE FIRING.

In file firing, the same rules are to be observed by the several ranks, without waiting for any word of command.

CEASE FIRING.

When the signal has been made to cease firing, the men are to recover arms, half-cock, for which they will receive the word of command, as well as to shoulder; when the centre and rear ranks are to spring to the left, and accurately cover their file leaders.

PAUSE UPON THE PRESENT, AFTER HAVING FIRED.

It is to be observed, that in all firing the soldier is to be instructed to pay due attention to that order which enjoins the regulated pause upon the *present* after pulling the trigger.

LIGHT INFANTRY.

In regiments of light infantry, or in detached corps acting as such, and formed in two ranks, it may occasionally be

be expedient to prime, load, and fire, with both ranks kneeling. His Majesty has been pleased to sanction the occasional use of this mode of firing in corps of the above description; and to command that the following Motions shall be adopted in the practice of it. The following Regulations are therefore to be strictly attended to; and all light infantry corps and companies are immediately to be instructed and occasionally exercised in conformity to them.

FIRING, TWO RANKS KNEELING, PRIMING AND LOADING IN THAT POSITION. Light Infantry.

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

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

On the word *present* both ranks bring their firelocks to the *present*, each man slowly and independently levelling at the particular object which his eye has fixed upon; and as soon as he has covered his object, each man fires of his own accord, without waiting for any word of command. The elbows must on no account be projected. Present.

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

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

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

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

The front rank men, after priming, bring round their
P fire-

firelocks to the left side, and throw the butts to the rear ; so that the barrels may be close to the left thigh, and the muzzles three inches behind the left knees.

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

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

They then resume their original position for making ready.

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

REGULATIONS IN FIRING.

1. The advance of the battalion should instantly succeed the forming of the line ; and when it arrives and halts at the point where it is to fire, the firing ought instantly to commence at the word *halt* ; for the battalion having been apprized, during the march, of the nature of the required firing, no improper delay need therefore be made.

2. The greatest care is to be taken by the officers and under officers in the rear (whose principal attention this is) that the rear ranks are well locked up in the firings, and that in loading they do not fall back.

3. The line, if retiring, *halt, fronts*, at one command ; and instantly begins firing, having been apprized, during its movement, of the nature of the firing.

4. The pause betwixt each of the firing words—*Ready ! Present ! Fire !* is the same as the ordinary time ; viz. the 75th part of a minute ; and no other pause is to be made betwixt the words.

5. In firing *Wings by companies* : Each wing carries on its fire independent, and without regard to the other wing, whether it fires from the centre to the flanks, or from the flanks to the centre.—If there are five companies in the wing, two pauses will be made betwixt the *fire* of each, and the *ready* of the succeeding one.—If there are four companies

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in the wing, three pauses will be made betwixt the *fire* of each and the *ready* of the succeeding one.—This will allow sufficient time for the first company to have again loaded, and shouldered at the time the last company fires, and will establish proper intervals between each.

6. In firing by *grand divisions*, three pauses will be made betwixt the *fire* of each division, and the *ready* of the succeeding one.

7. In firing by *wings* : One wing will make ready the instant the other is shouldering.—The commanding officer of the battalion fires the wings.

8. In firing companies by *files* : Each company fires independent.—When the right file presents, the next makes ready, and so on.—After the first fire, each man as he loads comes to a recover, and the file again fires without waiting for any other ; the rear rank men are to have their eyes on their front rank men, and be guided by, and present with them.

9. In general, after the march in front, and halt of the battalion, company or platoon firing should begin from the centre, and not from the flanks.—In other cases, and in successive formations, it may begin from whatever division first arrives and halts on the ground.

FIRING IN LINE.

1st. The chief object of fire against cavalry is to keep them at a distance, and to deter them from the attack ; as their ^{Object of} *fire* movements are rapid, a reserve is always kept up. But when fire commences against infantry, it cannot (consistent with order and other circumstances) be too heavy or too quick while it lasts, and till the enemy is beaten or repulsed.

2d. Where infantry are posted on heights that are to be ^{Defensive} defended by the fire of musquetry, the front rank will kneel, ^{fire} that one third of the fire that may be given should not be loft, for otherwise, the rear rank, in such situation, could not sufficiently incline their pieces to raise the slope. As soldiers generally present too high, and as fire is of the greatest consequence to troops that are on the defensive, and who are posted, if possible, on commanding grounds, the habitual mode of firing should therefore be rather at a low level than a high one ; and the fire of the front rank kneeling, being

the most efficacious as being the most raising, should not be dispensed with when it can be safely and usefully employed.

In Line advancing. 3d. When infantry marches in line to attack an enemy, and in advancing makes use of its fire ; it is perhaps better to fire the two first ranks only standing, reserving the 3d, than to make the front rank kneel and to fire the whole ; but volleys fired at a considerable distance, or on a retiring enemy, may be given by the three ranks, the front one kneeling.

Platoon firing. 4th. A line posted, or arriving at a fixed situation, will fire by platoons, each battalion independent ; and such firing generally commencing from the centre of each. The first fire of each battalion will be regular, and establish intervals ; after the first fire, each platoon shall continue to fire as soon as it is loaded, independent and as quick as it can, till the battalion or line is ordered to cease.

File firing. 5th. Behind a parapet, hedge or abbatis, the two first ranks only can fire, and such firing may be *file firing*, deliberate and cool, the two men of the same file always firing together : it may begin from the right or left of platoons, and should be taught in situations adapted to it, not in open ground. Should the parapet, hedge or abbatis, be but little raised, platoon firing may be used.

Oblique firing. 6th. *Oblique firing* by battalions is advantageous on many occasions, as when it is proper, or that time does not allow to give an oblique direction to part of a line, or that their fire in this manner can be thrown against the opening of a defile, the flanks of a column, or against cavalry or infantry that direct their attack on some particular battalion or portion of the line.

Regularity of firing. 7th. As long as the fire by battalions, half battalions or companies, can be kept up regular, it is highly advantageous, and can at any time be stopped, and the march continued ; but should file firing be allowed and once begun, unless troops are exceeding cool and well disciplined, it will be difficult to make it finish, and to make them advance in order.

8th. When a line halts at its points of firing, no time is to be lost in scrupulous dressing, and the firing is instantly to commence. But a line that halts and is not to fire, or when its firing ceases after the halt, may immediately be ordered to dress from colours to colours.

9th. The attention of the officers and non-commissioned officers

officers of the rear to the locking up of the ranks in firing cannot be too often repeated.

A perfect Uniformity in the Formation and Arrangement of all Companies and Battalions is indispensable for the Execution of just and combined Movements.

FORMATION OF THE COMPANY.

THE company is always to be sized from flanks to centre.

The company is formed three deep.

The files lightly touch when firelocks are shouldered and carried, but without crowding; and each man will occupy a space of about 22 inches.

Close order is the chief and primary order, in which the battalion and its parts at all times assemble and form. Open order is only regarded as an exception from it, and occasionally used in situations of parade and show. In close order, the officers are in the ranks, and the rear ranks are closed up within one pace. In open order, the officers are advanced three paces, and the ranks are two paces distant from each other.

Each company is a platoon. Each company forms two sub-divisions, and also four sections. But as sections should never be less than five files, it will happen, when the companies are weak, that they can only (for the purposes of march) form three sections, or even two sections.

When the company is singly formed, the captain is on the right, and the ensign on the left of the front rank, each covered by a serjeant in the rear rank. The lieutenant is in the rear, as also the drummer and pioneer in a fourth rank, at three paces distance.

The left of the front rank of each sub-division is marked by a corporal; the right of the left sub-division may be marked by the other corporal.

When necessary, the places of absent officers may be supplied by serjeants; those of serjeants by corporals; and those of corporals by intelligent men.

When the company is to join others, and the battalion, or part of it, to be formed, the ensign and his covering serjeant quit the flank, and fall into the fourth rank, until otherwise placed.

S. 70. WHEN THE COMPANY IS TO TAKE OPEN ORDER FROM CLOSE ORDER.

Rear Ranks, { At this command, the flank men on the
take Open { right and left of the rear ranks step back to
Order. { mark the ground on which each rank respec-
 { tively is to halt and dress at open distance;
 { they face to the right, and stand covered;
 { every other individual remains ready to
 { move.

March. { At this command, the rear rank dresses
 { front, and the rear ranks fall back one and
 { two paces, each dressing by the right the in-
 { stant it arrives on the ground. The officers
 { move out in front three paces, and divide
 { their ground; one serjeant is on each flank
 { of the front rank; the pioneer remains be-
 { hind the centre of the rear rank; the drum-
 { mer places himself on the right of the right
 { serjeant.

S. 71. WHEN THE COMPANY IS TO TAKE CLOSE ORDER FROM OPEN ORDER.

Rear Ranks, { The officers, serjeants, drummer, face to
take Close { the right.
Order. { The ranks close within one pace, marching
 { one and two paces, and then halting.

March. { The officers move round the flanks of the
 { company in their respective posts; the ser-
 { jeants and drummers fall back; and each in-
 { dividual resumes his place as in the original
 { close order.

The above regards the company when single; but when united in the battalion, other posts are allotted to the drummer and pioneer.

FORMATION OF THE BATTALION.

*Strength of
 the Battal-
 ion.*

The battalion is ten companies, { 1 Grenadier,
 { 8 Battalion,
 { 1 Light.

Each company consists at present of { Officers,
 { Serjeants,
 { Corporals,
 { Drummer,
 { Private. When

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

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

The companies will be formed as follow from right to left: grenadiers on the right; light company on the left. The four eldest captains are on the right of the grand divisions: officers commanding companies, or platoons, are all on the right of the front rank of their respective commands. *Position of the Companies in Battalion.*

The eight battalion companies will compose four grand divisions: eight companies or platoons; sixteen sub-divisions; thirty-two sections, when sufficiently strong to be so divided; otherwise twenty-four, for the purposes of march. The battalion is also divided into right and left wings. When the battalion is on a high establishment, each company will be divided into two platoons; when the ten companies are with the battalion, they may then, for the purposes of firing or deploying, be divided into five grand divisions from right to left. *Divisions.*

The battalion companies will be numbered from the right to the left, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; the sub-divisions will be numbered 1, 2, of each; the sections will be numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, of each; the files of companies will also be numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, &c.; the grenadier and light companies will be numbered separately in the same manner, and with the addition of those distinctions. These several appellations will be preserved, whether faced to front or rear.

The companies may be equalized in point of numbers at all times when the battalion is formed for field movement; and could the battalions of a line also be equalized, the greatest advantages would arise. *Companies equalized.*

Ranks are at the distance of one pace, except the fourth or supernumerary rank, which has three paces. *Formation of the Battalion at close order.*

All the field officers and the adjutant are mounted.

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

The other mounted field officers are disposed of in the rear of each wing. The

The adjutant's station is in the rear of the battalion, rather to the left of the commanding officer.

One officer is on the right of the front rank of each company or platoon, and one on the left of the battalion; all these are covered in the rear rank by their respective serjeants; and the remaining officers and serjeants are in a fourth rank behind their companies. It is to be observed, that there are no coverers in the centre rank to the officers or colours.

The colours are placed between the fourth and fifth battalion companies, both in the front rank, and each covered by a non-commissioned officer, or steady man in the rear rank.—One serjeant is in the front rank betwixt the colours; he is covered by a second serjeant in the rear rank, and by a third in the supernumerary rank.—The sole business of these three serjeants is, when the battalion moves in line, to advance and direct the march as hereafter mentioned. The place of the first of those serjeants, when they do move out, is preserved by a named officer or serjeant, who moves up from the supernumerary rank for that purpose.

*Use of the
fourth or supernumerary
Rank.*

The fourth rank is at three paces distance when halted, or marching in line.—When marching in column, it must close up to the distance of the other ranks.—The essential use of the fourth rank is, to keep the others closed up to the front during the attack, and to prevent any break beginning in the rear; on this important service too many officers and non-commissioned officers cannot be employed.

The music shall be posted in the rear of the right centre company in a single rank, three paces behind the fourth rank.

The pioneers shall be posted at the same distance in rear of the fourth rank of the left centre company, and in a single rank.

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

The staff of chaplain, surgeon, quarter-master, and assistant surgeon, are three paces behind the music.

Officers.

In general, officers remain posted with their proper companies;

panies; but commanding officers will occasionally make such changes as they may find necessary.

Whenever the officers move out of the front rank, in parade, marching in column, wheeling into line, or otherwise, their places are taken by their serjeant coverers, and preserved until the officers again resume them. *Replacing Serjeants.*

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

S. 72. WHEN THE BATTALION TAKES OPEN ORDER.

*Rear Ranks,
take open order.*

At this command—the flank men on the right of the rear ranks of each company step briskly back to mark the ground on which each rank respectively is to halt. They face to the right, and cover as pivots, being regulated and dressed by the adjutant or serjeant-major on the right.—Every other individual remains ready to move.

March.

At this command—the flank dressers face to the front, and the whole move as follows:

The rear ranks fall back one and two paces, each dressing by the right the instant it arrives on the ground.

The officers in the front rank, as also the colours, move out three paces—those in the rear, together with the music, move through the intervals left open by the front rank officers, and divide themselves, viz. the captains covering the second file from the right; the lieutenants the second file from the left; and the ensigns opposite the centre of their respective companies.

The music form between the colours and the front rank.

The serjeant coverers move up to the front rank, to preserve the intervals left by the officers.

The pioneers fall back to six paces distance behind the rear rank.

The drummers take the same distance behind their divisions.

The major moves to the right of the line of officers.—The adjutant remains in the rear.

The staff place themselves on the right of the front rank of the grenadiers, viz. chaplain, surgeon, quarter-master, assistant surgeon.

The lieutenant-colonel, and the colonel (dismounted), advance before the colours two and four paces.

The whole being arrived at their several posts—Halt—Dress to the Right—and the battalion remains formed in parade, in the order in which they would receive a superior officer.

When the battalion is reviewed singly, the division of drummers may be moved up, and formed two deep on each flank of the line—the pioneers may form two deep on the right of the drummers of the right—and the staff may form on the right of the whole.—But this licence is never to be acted upon when more than one battalion is in line.

S. 73. WHEN THE BATTALION RESUMES CLOSE ORDER.

*Rear Ranks,
take close order.*

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

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

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

The rear ranks close within one pace, moving up one and two paces, and then halting.

March.

The music marches through the centre interval, and resumes its station in the rear.

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

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

When regiments are on a higher establishment than that of one lieutenant-colonel and one major, the following order is to be observed in posting the field officers at close and open order, and likewise on the regiment marching by the reviewing general, in column of companies or divisions.

BATTALION AT CLOSE ORDER.

The colonel (except when advanced in front for the purpose of exercising the battalion when it is single) is in rear of the colours, mounted.

The 1st and 2d lieutenant-colonels, mounted, in rear of the 1st and 8th battalion companies.

The 1st and 2d majors, mounted, in rear of the 3d and 6th companies.

The adjutant, mounted, in rear of, and a little to the left of the colonel.

N. B. This dislocation of mounted officers has a reference to the battalion only while halted.

When the regiment manœuvres, or is put in motion, the mounted officers are to be prepared to give such aid as circumstances may require from them, with the utmost alacrity and precision.

BATTALION AT OPEN ORDER.

The colonel, dismounted, to be advanced four paces in front of the colours.

The 1st and 2d lieutenant-colonels, dismounted, at two paces interval, and two paces in the rear of the colonel.

The 1st and 2d majors on the right and left of the line of officers, mounted.

The adjutant, mounted, four paces in rear of the rear rank and centre of the battalion.

MARCHING PAST THE REVIEWING GENERAL IN COLUMN OF COMPANIES OR DIVISIONS.— *Ordinary Time.*

The colonel in front of the centre of the grenadier company.

The 1st lieutenant colonel, and 1st major, with the interval of a horse's length, in a line in rear of the colonel.

The 2d lieutenant-colonel, and 2d major, in a line, with the same interval, in rear of the light infantry company.

The adjutant in rear of the whole.

MARCHING PAST IN QUICK TIME.

The field officers and adjutant are posted, as in marching past, in ordinary time.

Posting of officers. On particular occasions, and when necessary, officers commanding platoons, who in line are on the right of their platoons, shift to the left to conduct the heads of files, or the pivot flanks of their divisions, in column or echelon.

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

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

Light Company. The constant order of the light company when formed in line, and united with the battalion, is at the same close files as the battalion. Their extended order is an occasional exception.

Grenadiers. When the light company is detached, and the grenadier company remains, it will be undivided on one flank of its battalion, whenever there are several battalions in line: but when the battalion is single, it is permitted to be occasionally divided on each flank.

When the grenadier or light companies are detached, and make no part of the line, they may be formed two deep, if it is found proper.

With a very few obvious alterations, these general rules take place when a company or battalion is permitted or ordered to form in two ranks only, which may often be done for the purposes of exercise and movement on a more considerable front, it is also evident that they generally apply whether the companies are strong or weak, and whether a greater or a lesser number of them compose the battalion.

AB-

ABSTRACT OF THE MOST ESSENTIAL GENERAL ATTENTIONS REQUIRED IN THE MOVEMENTS OF THE BATTALION, AND WHICH ARE MORE FULLY DETAILED IN THE REGULATIONS FOR THE BATTALION AND THE LINE.

ATTENTIONS OF THE SOLDIER.

QUICK TIME is in general confined to WHEELINGS and FILINGS; the other movements of the platoon or battalion are made in ORDINARY TIME.—It is seldom that they will, or ought, to be required at quick time. *Times of march.*

All WHEELINGS, forward or backward, are made quick. *Wheeling*
—Eyes are turned to the wheeling hand at the word *march* (and not before).—The wheeling flankman steps out firm at a pace of thirty-three inches, till he receives his word *halt*; it is the business of the rest of the rank to keep up to him.—Eyes remain in all cases to the wheeling hand, till a new order is given by the commanding officer.

All FILINGS are made quick, close, and at the lock-step. *Filings.*
Files are at no time to open out, on occasions of exercise, parade, or manœuvre; but they will often be so permitted and ORDERED, when marching in the streets, or in common route, when the march by divisions cannot so conveniently take place. *Marching.*

All FACINGS must be accurately made on the left heel. *Pivot Men.*
Pivot men must cover carefully and exactly. In wheeling backward, the standing man faces the opposite way to what he does if wheeling forward.—Pivot men, whether in wheeling into column, or in wheeling into battalion, when once posted, are to remain immovable, and do not alter their position in consequence of platoon-dressing, nor on any account, but by order of the commanding officer of the battalion, when he finds it necessary to require a more correct dressing from the whole.

The great OBSERVANCE of the soldier in the ranks, and under arms, is the squareness of the shoulders and body, the head to the front, and the eyes only glanced to the point of dressing; the belly kept in, the breast out and rather inclining forward, but by no means backward. When the battalion is halted, and a more accurate *dressing* is ordered, the *Position.*

the head may be a little turned during that operation only, and each man should just distinguish the lower part of the face of the second man from him.—Whether in movement, or halted, each man is just to touch (without crowding) his neighbour's arm towards whom he dresses, to depend on that chiefly for his line, and at no time to separate from him.

March. At the word *march*, the stamp of the foot is not to be made, but the first step is to be taken as firm and lengthily as any other, and the body of each man, if in his true position under arms, is prepared for it by an inclination forward. On the perfect execution of this depends much of the accuracy of march.—On the word *march*, the first step in all situations is taken with the left foot.—When the commanding officer of the battalion gives the word *march*, the whole step off together, whether in line or in column. When he gives the word *halt*, the whole halt at that instant.

At the word *march* eyes are directed to the pivot flank, if in column, or to the head of the file, if filing; to the colours, if marching in battalion; and in general to that point by which they are conducted.

Halt. At the word *halt*, the foot in the air finishes its step, and the other is brought up to it.—*Eyes* remain directed to the pivot flank, if marching in column; to the colours, if in line; or to the wheeling flank, if wheeling; and in general, to the point to which they were turned when in movement, until a new order commands a new dressing. Whenever the word *dress* is given by platoon officers to their platoons, eyes are turned to the pivot where the officer is, and from whence he corrects them upon a distant object.

Line. In marching in line, each man must preserve his body perfectly square, and just feel the touch of his neighbour, who is nearer than himself, to the directing point; and the rear ranks are to be well locked up, particularly when firing. In marching in battalion, or when halted, rear ranks will be locked up; but in marching in column, they may in general be at one pace distance: the steps are to be taken firm and marked.

Carriage of arms. All alterations in *carrying, supporting arms, &c.* are done by the whole battalion at once, whether in line or column, and not by the divisions of it separately.—The commanding officer gives the word, and not the platoon officers; and no such change is at any time made, but in consequence

quence of his command ; the men therefore, in all cases, *wheel, halt, march, dress, &c.* with their arms *carried, supported, &c.* according as the last given command directed them. The same is to be observed whenever the battalion, moving in line or column, changes its time of march

In column, when the right of the battalion is in front, *Pivot flank* the left is the pivot flank ; and when the left of the battalion is in front, the right is the pivot flank.

In marching in column, the pivot files of men next to the officers must have great attention in covering, when the movement is made in a straight line, as they are points on which the formation is made, and therefore, for that purpose, they remain close to their pivot officers, who in that situation cover and give distance. *Pivot files*

Supported arms should only be allowed when halted in line, or when moving in column.—But the march in line, and in general all wheelings up into line, and all formations of the line or dressing it, should be made with *carried arms*, as the only situation which preserves the true distance of files, or can give an accurate line.

COVERING PLATOON SERJEANTS.

The COVERING SERJEANT accompanies and assists the platoon officer in all his movements, and preserves his place in line, or on the pivot flank in column, whenever the officer's duty requires him occasionally to quit it.—In battalion he covers in the rear rank. At open order, he moves into the officer's place in the front rank. At close order, he leaves it for the officer to take it. In the march in echelon, he is on the outward flank of the front rank. *Position of the covering serjeant.*

When the battalion breaks into column to the right or left, the serjeant falls back two paces ; and when the wheel is finished, he covers his officer on the pivot flank. When the column marches, if the officer is in front of the platoon, the serjeant is on the pivot of the front rank, and is answerable for the platoon distance ; if the officer remains on the pivot flank, the serjeant then falls behind the rear rank, and covers the second file from the pivot. *In column.*

When from column, the right in front platoons wheel up to the left into line ; the serjeant at the word *wheel*, goes to the right of the front rank of the platoon, and wheels up *Wheeling into line.*

up with it, thereby preserving the officer's place. If the wheel is to the right, the serjeant is behind the right file, ready to move up to the officer's place at the conclusion of the wheel. On all occasions, when any platoon (which is then separated) joins in line to one on its right, at that instant must the covering serjeant be on its right, to preserve the place of his officer, who may be employed in dressing his platoon.

Leading platoon. When the platoons *wheel* either into line, or into column, the serjeant of the leading platoon runs out, and marks the point in the line of pivots, where its flank is to halt.

Counter-march. When platoons *countermarch* in column, the serjeant moves into the officer's place (when he quits it to lead in file), *faces* to the right-about, stands fast, and becomes the pivot point for the front rank leader to close to after the countermarch is finished, and his place is occupied by the officer after dressing his division.

In file. When the platoons from columns file in order to take a new line, either to the front or rear, the serjeant of each successively, as it arrives within thirty yards of that line (and no sooner), runs out, takes distance, places himself on it, and remains as a point to which his officer is to bring and close in the pivot flank man of his platoon, and as a point which the officer himself is afterwards to occupy.

Firing. Whenever the battalion halts to fire, the serjeants fall back, and in concert with the supernumerary rank, keep the rear ranks well locked up, and attentive to their duty.—When the battalion again moves, serjeants resume their places.

Sub-divisions. When the battalion is in column of sub-divisions, if the officer is ordered to march in front of his platoon, the serjeant is on the pivot of the leading sub-division,—If the officer is on the flank of his leading sub-division, the serjeant takes the flank of the second. In column of sections the serjeant also takes the flank of the second section.

Close column. In close column the serjeant is on the flank of the rear rank behind his officer; and in forming line after the *halt*, *front* of the platoon, he remains on its outward flank, and marches up with it.

All non-commissioned officers, or persons on foot, marking a direction for the march in column, or formation of the line or its parts, take up such direction in file by covering

vering each other, and then stand faced to the flank of the column, or front of the line, so that their breasts become the line of march, or line of formation.

The PIONEERS in column of march, are in front.—In line, *Pioneers,* they are formed in single Rank behind the left centre Company, and six paces from the rear rank.

DRUMMERS in column of march, or close column, are with *Drummers,* their companies, and on the flank, not the pivot one.—In line the granadier and light drummers are six paces behind the rear rank of their companies.—The battalion drummers are in two divisions, and formed six paces behind the second and seventh companies.—In parade, at open ranks, the drummers preserve their six paces from the rear rank.

Whenever the platoon is cautioned to *wheel forward or backward* any *named* number of paces, the serjeant immediately posts himself before or behind the eighth file, from the standing flank, and takes the ordered number of wheeling paces; when his platoon has conformed, he places himself on its outward flank. *Excellence*

The MUSIC, in open or close column, are on the flank, *Musik,* which is not the pivot one; in line they are in a single rank behind the right centre company, three paces in rear of the fourth rank; in parade at open ranks, they are between the colours and the front rank.

Drummers, music, pioneers, &c. will take care not to impede the flank movements of the close column, nor its formation into line, but will get into the rear of their respective battalions as soon as they are disengaged from each other. *Music, &c.*

ATTENTIONS IN PLATOON OFFICERS.

When the battalion is formed in line, company or platoon officers are all on the right of their platoons.—In column, *Position of platoon officers.* they are on the pivot flank, unless particularly ordered into the front of each platoon, if a march for any considerable distance is to be made.—When on the pivot flanks, they are answerable in their own persons for distances and covering: when in front, their serjeants, under their directions, preserve the ordered distance.

In wheeling from line to column, each moves out, and *Wheeling into column.* places himself one pace before the centre of his platoon; each turns towards his men during the wheel, and inclines to his

R

pivot

pivot flank; each gives his word *Halt, Dress*, when his wheeling man has just completed his degree of wheel; each squares his platoon, but without moving what was the standing flank; each then places himself on the proper pivot flank.—After the wheel into column is completed, no one is to cause his platoon to shift, by way of covering on the pivot flank, unless so ordered by the commanding officer, or that in the course of marching a straight line is gradually taken up.

*Wheeling in-
to line.*

In wheeling from column into line, each places himself one pace before the centre of his platoon; each turns towards his men during the wheel, and inclines towards the pivot of his preceding platoon; each gives his word *Halt, Dress*, when his wheeling man, on whom his eye is fixed, is just arrived at the next standing pivot man; each then from that next pivot man corrects the interior of his platoon, upon his own pivot man; each then takes his place and remains steady on the right of his platoon.

All movements of company officers and non-commissioned officers from one position to another are to be made with alertness and precision.

*Wheeling in
column on a
fixed point.*

If the column is in movement, and platoons are successively to *wheel* into a new direction, each officer, to whatever hand he is to wheel, gives his word from the point he is then placed at, whether in front, or on the flank.—If on the wheeling flank, he conducts it.—If he is on the standing flank, he steps out two or three paces, to see that his platoon wheels quick, with a lengthy step, and that he may time his word *Halt*; this done, he is to fall back to his place on the pivot flank, no longer to look to his platoon, but having his eye fixed on the officer of the preceding platoon, he is to give his word *March* at the instant that officer is taking the last step which establishes the proper distance betwixt the platoons.

*On the pivot
flank.*

When an officer is marching on the pivot flank, he is to be answerable for distance and covering; these circumstances alone must solely engage his whole attention; he can only occasionally give a glance of his eye towards his platoon, which must dress to him of course, and without any particular direction.

*Counter-
march of
platoons.*

When platoons in column are each to countermarch on its own ground, the officer, when his platoon faces, goes to that flank, which is to become the pivot flank, conducts his
platoon

platoon in file, and closes its leader to the serjeant, who has remained to mark the pivot, *halts, fronts*, and dresses it square ; he then places himself where the serjeant stood.

When the battalion marches in line, officers then become *In Line*. individuals, equally attentive as the soldier ; nor can officers then be attentive to any thing but to the correctness of their own personal march ; every operation then depends on the word from the commanding officer, who MOVES, HALTS, and DRESSES the battalions.—Whenever the battalion is in line, officers give no commands, except in firings.

When the platoons of a column *file* separately to a flank, *In file*. the officer conducts the head, and when he arrives within thirty paces of the new position, in which he is to form, he detaches his serjeant to mark the point at which he is to place his pivot front rank man, either in filing to front or rear ; the officer stops at that serjeant, and *halts, fronts*, and *dresses* his platoon close to the serjeant : he then himself, after correcting his platoon, replaces the serjeant, who falls back to the rear rank.—In FILING, distances and dressing are taken from that flank to which, by a flank of the platoon, the whole would stand fronted in column, and the line breaks into column towards the directing point.—The leaders of the third, fourth, &c. platoons, from the directing flank, are never in the course of marching to overpass the straight line which joins the heads of the first and second, but are, if any thing, to be behind it, till they arrive and halt exactly in the new line.—In movements to the rear, distances and dressing are always taken from the same point to which they would be made if the movement was to the front, that is, from the left in going to the rear, if it should be from the right in going to the front.

On the leading platoon officer of the column much of the precision of march depends ; he must lead at an equal, *Leading Of- ficer*. steady pace ; he must lead on two objects either given to him, or which he himself takes up on every alteration of position ; this demands his utmost attention ; nor must he allow it to be diverted by looking at his platoon, the care of whose regularity depends on the other officers, and non-commissioned officers, belonging to it. The second platoon officer must also have a knowledge of the points on which the first leads ; he is always to keep that first officer and those points in a line, and those two officers, together with the placed mounted officers thus become a direction for the

other pivot officers to cover.—In marching in open column, the covering serjeants are placed behind the second file from the pivot officers, that the officers may the more correctly fee and cover each other in column.

*When pivots
march.*

In the column of march, after the word **HALT** is given, no one is to move, and pivots particularly must remain where they are then placed. In this situation, when ordered to **FORM**, each platoon **WHEELS** up to its adjoining pivot; the whole will then, perhaps (as in the case of marching on a road along the different turnings of a height, &c. &c.) be in a winding line, and must not attempt to get into a straight line, unless so ordered by the commanding officer to answer some particular object.

*Wheeling
backwards.*

When the platoon wheels **BACKWARDS**, from line into column, the situation and business of the officer is the same as when wheeling forwards. And he *halts* and *dresses* from his pivot flank, which he gains during the wheel.

*In close co-
lumn.*

In close column, division officers are on the pivot flanks.—In forming line, before the divisions face, they are shifted to the leading flank, if necessary. The officer of each stops in his own person when the division nearer to the forming point than himself receives the word *Halt, Front*. He allows his serjeant to proceed with the division; at the due instant gives his word *Halt, Front, Dress*, and as soon as the front of his division is clear, the word *March* conducting it into line. Before the division arrives within three or four paces of its ground, the officer will have stepped out nimbly to the flank of the preceding division, and will be thus ready to give the word *Halt, Dress*, at the instant his inward flank men joins the preceding division. The men dress by the formed part of the line, and the officer corrects them on the known distant point. He then resumes his platoon place, which has been preserved by a serjeant. When the close column, or part of it, forms line on a rear division, the officer of each, when the one behind him halts, fronts, will step nimbly round to the rear (and, without impeding his division, allow his serjeant to proceed); from thence he can judge the proper moment of giving his words *Halt, Front*, to his division; he then places himself on its inward flank, and *marches* up when his front is clear.

In general a mounted field officer *Halts, Fronts*, the divisions of the close column when they march up into line.

Column.

The officer of one of the centre platoons is always in open column

column to preserve distance for the colour files. The colours wheel up into column with the leading centre platoon, and place themselves behind the third file of men from its pivot flank; when the line forms, they close into that flank.

When officers march in front of their divisions, they must *In front divisions.* in their own persons keep so close to the preceding ones, as not to hinder the flank of their own division from preserving its proper distance.

When the head of a column of march changes its direction, and that marching in an alignement is not in question, instead of making regular wheels on fixed points, the officer *Wheels in column of march on a moveable pivot.* who conducts the leading division will often be directed gradually to bring it round into the new direction, by the turn of the outward shoulder making both his flanks continue moveable; but each succeeding division, without the formality of command, or halt, does the same thing, the whole attention resting on each pivot flank, which at no rate must increase its distance; but during this operation preserves the same equality of time and length of step at which it was before moving.

On all occasions of forming in line, either by wheeling *Close column.* up from open column, or in moving up from close column, or in marching up from echelon, &c. the conducting officer moves nimbly to his point d'appui, some paces before the arrival of his division in the line, and from thence gives his word to *Halt*, and instantly dresses it.

Officers and serjeants of the SUPERNUMERARY rank are in *Supernumerary rank.* the rear of their respective companies; when the battalion is halted, or marching in line, they are three paces from the rear rank. In open column, they are within one pace of the rear rank. In close column they go on the flank of their division which is not the pivot. Their great attention during movements is, that files are correct, ranks kept up, and that perfect order is preserved among the soldiers, circumstances in which they greatly assist the platoon officer, who having the important objects of distance and covering of pivots to observe, cannot in such situation be giving minute directions to his platoon, without losing sight of his more material duties. During the firings, the supernumerary rank, assisted by the platoon serjeants, are to keep the rear ranks well closed up to the front, and to prevent any break beginning in the rear.

The STAFF (adjutant excepted) in line are three paces *Staff.* behind the music. It

*Adjutant
gives point.*

It is the particular business of the ADJUTANT at all times to ascertain, under the orders of the field officers, the direction on which the column is to move, or on which the formation of the line is to be made. For this purpose he is mounted, otherwise he could not properly discharge this important duty; and he can be much assisted in it, by having two or three non-commissioned officers properly trained to line themselves quickly with any two given points. He is to take care, that the point where the battalion in column enters an alignment is ascertained to it. When it is moving in that alignment, that two points a-head of the column are always ascertained to, or by the leading officer. When it wheels up into line, that a point beyond each flank in that line is ascertained. When the line is to be prolonged, and has wheeled backwards by divisions, that two points in the exact line of the pivots are ready for its march. When the close column is to form in line, that a point to each flank is given. When the battalion changes position, either by files or by the diagonal march of divisions, that there are points given on which the pivots of files will cover, and can dress their divisions upon from their several points ofappui. In short, that upon all occasions, fixed points of forming, dressing, and march, are given, except in advancing in line, where the ascertaining such points does not depend on the adjutant.

Echelon.

Echelon.

When the battalion changes position by the echelon march, the named division wheels its 8th file into the new direction. The other division wheel their 8th file half the number of paces as the named one. The serjeant is on the outward flank, the officer on the inward flank of each division. At the word MARCH, they move on, preserving their relative distance, and covering of pivots from before them and just before the inward flank of each division arrives at the outward flank of its preceding one, which is already halted in line, its officer places himself before that flank and when his inward man touches it, he gives his word *Halt, Dress up*, if the movement is to the front, and dresses his division on the distant prepared flank point, so that his division is steadied before the arrival of the next one. When the change is made to the rear, the retiring part *faces* about before the division wheels are made, proceeds as above, and each officer gives the word *halt, front, dress back*, to his division when its inward man touches the preceding formed one.

AT.

ATTENTIONS OF COMMANDING OFFICERS OF BATTALIONS.

The battalion may be considered to the line, what the platoon is to the battalion.

Commanding and field officers are always to be mounted, *Field officers mounted.* and unless they are active on horseback, it is impossible for them to see, to correct, to prevent mistakes, or to move with that despatch which is necessary from one point to another.

Whatever operation is to be performed by the whole of *Commanders* the battalion at once, is done upon the word from the commanding officer, without any repetition being made by platoon officers; he puts it in *motion* and *halts* it whether in line or column; he *wheels* it from line into column, and from column into line; he *orders* arms to be *carried*, *supported*, &c. he *dresses* it from the centre, when it has marched in line, and halts, and from what was the leading flank when it has *wheeled* up from column into line.

Before the column marches, the commanding officer as- *Points of* *march.* certains *points* to the leading officer, and when he intends to change the direction of the march he gives new points, and he watches over the just leading of the column. He takes care that all *wheels* of platoons are made at the identical point where the leading platoon wheeled; that all *doublings* of sub-divisions are made successively in the same manner, and at the same point; and that *forming* up to platoons is made at the spot where the first forming up is made.—That *Points of* *doubling are* *wheeling.* in all diminutions of the front, the natural order of the column is preserved, whether the right or left of the battalion leads.—That a column of half platoons occupies no more space than a column of whole platoons, viz. just sufficient to wheel up into battalion.

When the open column marching in an alignment is to *form* in a straight line, and for that purpose *halts*; the instant that it does halt, the commanding officer from the head of the battalion at that instant corrects the pivot files of men (which ought not to be necessary) in the true line, and upon a rear point. But if the *march* is making in a winding direction, and that the intention is not to form, or not to take up a straight line, the platoons remain on the ground on which they *halt*, and do not move in any shape, until they receive a further *order*, either to form in line, or first to cover, and then to form; or to continue the march. The *Head of column.*

Dressing. The commanding officer always conducts the head of his battalion column to the point at which it is to *enter* a new line and he takes care in time to despatch a mounted officer to ascertain that point.—When the platoons *wheel* up into line, he immediately (if necessary) corrects the dressing of the battalion from the flank which led when in column, and that generally upon a point beyond the other flank.

Commands in line When acting in line with others, the commanding officer of each battalion conforms to the movements of the regulating one, and from it takes and rapidly repeats his words *halt*, *wheel*, *march*, &c. and the least delay in repeating the words *halt*, or *march*, must undoubtedly disorder the line in proportion to that delay, for the whole of a line should *march*, or *halt*, at the same instant.

Attentions in line. In line, the commanding officer, by marked cautions, makes his battalion *step out*, or *step short* or *incline*, as is necessary to preserve its place in the general line: his great attention is to see and prevent the beginning of faults, and not wait till they have had their effect; by watching and regulating his advanced serjeants, he best regulates his battalion; the squareness of the march, the compactness of the files, and the equality of step, are the great objects he is to have in view. The other mounted officers are behind the wings, and can assist much in preventing faults, and in correcting them.

Dressing in line. All the battalions of a line must *halt* at the same instant in consequence of that word, repeated by commanding officers, whether they are then correct or not in line. *Each* half battalion, from its own colour, and the men looking to it, will be immediately dressed on the colours of the next adjoining battalion: by this means a general continued line will be obtained, and, at any rate, a straight one between each two colours; and if all the colours should have truly halted in one line, the whole corps will be completely formed in a straight line. But if the *halt* is not justly made, and that a better line must be obtained, the colours of the defective battalions will be brought into the general line; the platoon officers will quickly *arrange* themselves, *eyes* will be ordered to the *right*, and the men will in an instant *move* up: too much celerity cannot be used in completing this operation.

A single battalion, when it halts, is thus dressed on its right or left centre company, and is therefore in a straight line. Two battalions dress each from its centre on each other's

ther's colours, their outward wings conforming, and are therefore in a straight line. Three or more battalions dress from the centre of each on their next colour; and therefore if all the colours halt in a line, the line of the whole will be straight; if they are not in a line, the general line will not be straight (till a special correction is made), but no flank will be thrown out of the general direction.

When a battalion retires and *halts*, it ought never to remain in that situation, but be immediately *faced* about, and dressed to the proper front.

The greatest fault that a battalion in line can make is *Increasing its interval*: bad dressing may be remedied without danger, but a false distance presents a weak part to an enemy, and is not to be closed, without a hazardous movement, and great operation of the line.

Commanding officers cannot take too much precaution to *ascertain true points in the line in which they are to form, before the arrival of their battalions in it, and this by the aid of the mounted officers.* *Aides in exercise.*

When a battalion is exercising singly, a commanding officer may have two non-commissioned officers behind each flank, properly trained, and ready to run out to that flank, to give points of marching, forming, or dressing upon the true line. In doing which, one flank of the battalion is generally considered as in that line, and often both.

Words of command cannot be specified for all the variety of circumstances and situations that occur; but commanding officers being themselves clear in what is to be done, should by distinct and explicit orders, which they divide and adapt for the occasion, lead their battalions through all the points of execution with precision: this will always be found the shortest path, nor on any account should any operation, more especially the correction of an error or mistake (once a battalion is assembled under arms) be performed in a careless or slovenly manner, which will always be the case if the commander's orders are not pointed, loud, and sufficiently explanatory. *Attention.*

A battalion *close column* forms in line on its front division, on its rear division, or on a central one, according as circumstances require; and in all cases the line formed upon is that on which the head of the column or columns is halted before the formation begins; and therefore the division

sion on which each battalion at any time forms, moves up at the proper instant, and halts on that line. When several close battalions, standing on the line, are to extend and form, the regulating and named battalion *only* can be obliged to form on a central division; *each* of the others will form on its front, or rear division; viz. on that which first arrives at its ground, where it *halts, fronts*, and occupies its proper place, while the others move on, and successively come up to it.

Forming in line. In forming line from close column, points must be given beyond both flanks in the direction of the line, and a mounted officer halts, and fronts each division, which is especially necessary for those that form upon a rear one, although less so for those that form upon a front one. The dressing and correction of the line is from the first formed division towards the other flank; and all the eyes of the battalion are of course turned to that first formed division.

As many points are required for one battalion as for several. The same number of *points* are required for the march in an alignment, and wheeling up into line of an open column of one battalion, as for that of several battalions; viz. *one* where the line is entered, and (always) *two* beyond the head of the column. Therefore, although these precautions may appear formal for the movements of the battalion when single, yet are they necessary in all its exercises, when it is recollected that such battalion is in the place of and must consider itself as the leading one of the column, on whose correct position those of every following one depends. The same exactness is required in every extension from close column into line, and in every forming and change of position that the battalion makes. In fine, in order to qualify the battalion for acting in general line, it must at its single exercise work on points fixed and relative, and make no chance and accidental movements and formations.

In all situations exact points of march cannot be given. Although on most occasions of movement and formation, and at all times in instruction, determined *points* marked by detached and mounted officers are given, yet such help cannot be expected or depended on when the line is advancing on an enemy, when a corps is harassed in its retreat, and when it is unsafe to send out officers, &c. In such situations every thing will depend on the eye and judgment of conducting officers, who must preserve such direction of movement, and seize such accidental points as present themselves, and lead to the object which is to be accomplished.

In

In whatever shape a battalion is moving, the commanding officer is never to lose sight of this great *principle*, that the battalion should at no time cover more ground than its proper extent when formed in line. Therefore, if he is marching in line, he must take care that his files do not open; and if he is marching in column, his great attention is that his divisions do not open. For this purpose his march must be just and compact, his wheels quick, and all doublings up, or back, which alter the extent of front, must be made so as not to impede the general movements of the column, or to change its distances. When the front is to be diminished, he must see that the doubling division slackens its pace, and when disengaged from the other division, that it inclines well up, quick, and covers, thereby not impeding the division behind it. When the front is to be increased, the moving up division does it quick and by oblique marching.

The battalion in no situation covers more ground than the proper extent of its front.

The commanding officer must recollect, in the winding movements of the *open column of march*, that the wheeling distances must be just; that the pivots are to follow on the exact tract which the leading one has traced out; that the whole, when ordered, halt on the precise ground they then occupy; and that when they wheel up and form, the line will not then be a continued, but probably an irregular curved one. But if a straight line is to be entered and formed upon, from the point where the head enters, and not sooner, and where a mounted officer remains posted, does every platoon pivot officer begin to cover in the true line, to march in that line and to preserve his true distance: nor must any obstacle that can possibly be surmounted ever force the pivot officers out of that line; although the men of their platoon, when it becomes necessary, may open or widen their files from them. And if the pivots, on account of any material obstacle, are thrown for a time out of the line, they should always, if possible, move to the hand which carries them behind the line, and again re-enter it when they can; and for which purpose an officer, or non-commissioned officer, should be placed where they are to re-enter it. In marching in the alignment, the commanding and mounted officers should frequently place themselves in it, with a glance of the eye see whether the files preserve it, and correct them if necessary.

Marching in alignment.

As one field officer at a time must command the battalion, the others present can only act in aid of him, nor can their situation in all cases be ascertained; but should the com-

manding officer not be at the head of the open column (when it marches, and particularly when it halts) to correct, if necessary, the pivots in the general line, another field officer, or the leading officer, if no field officer is there, should instantly attend to it, that the wheeling up may not be delayed. If in the course of exercise and instruction, the commanding officer is not behind the centre when the battalion marches in line or halts, another field officer from that situation can immediately give every proper aid in movement, or in lining, as it ought when halted; and in every case it must be evident in what manner the commanding officer can be assisted.

*Wheeling
backward.*

When the line is to break and wheel into open column of march, in almost all cases it is better done by wheeling *backward* than forward, for the wheel is in this manner made on the pivot flanks; and although divisions may be unequal, yet these flanks cover after the wheel, an advantage which is lost if the wheels are made forward.

*Attention to
echellon.*

When a battalion makes a retired *ECHELLON*, or part of an echelon of a considerable line, the Commanding officer must take great care to regulate his movements by those of the one preceding him; viz. that he preserves his parallelism; his ordered distance; his proper flank interval, and when the leading echellons halt; and that he is to move up into line; that the outward flank is not thrown too forward, (which, without great attention, will happen) and thereby perhaps be exposed to the enemy's enfilade.

—————
GUTHRIE AND SONS

* * The words marked in CAPITALS are given by the commander of the battalion.

The words marked in *Italicks* are given by the commander of the company.

ABSTRACT.	WORDS OF COMMAND.
1.	
When the battalion is halted, and wheels up by divisions of any kind to either flank (here the right).	COMPANIES, RIGHT (OR LEFT) WHEEL. QUICK MARCH. <i>Halt, Dress.</i> A caution. By the leader of each company.
2.	
When the battalion is halted, and wheels backwards into open column of companies (the right in front).	COMPANIES, ON YOUR LEFT BACKWARD WHEEL. QUICK MARCH. <i>Halt, Dress.</i> The left-hand man of the front rank of the company faces inwards. By the leader of each company.
3.	
When divisions are halted in column, and wheel up to either hand to form in line (to the left).	TO THE LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE. QUICK MARCH. <i>Halt, Dress.</i> A caution. By each leader of a division.

4. When

ABSTRACT.	WORDS OF COMMAND.	
4. When the head of the column wheels into a new direction, marches on, and is followed by the rear divisions.	Leading division. Succeeding division.	<i>Halt, Right, Wheel.</i> <i>Halt, Dress, March.</i> <i>Halt, Wheel, Halt, Dress, March.</i> One word of command, halt being merely a caution before the QUICK March is taken up. The first division marches when the second is within two paces, and thereby does not impede its wheel. Each succeeding division wheels in the same manner as the leading one, and marches on when its preceding one is at its due distance.
5. From line to form open column of companies, behind the right company.	RIGHT FACE. QUICK MARCH. <i>Halt, Front,</i>	The right company stands fast, and the other companies are ordered to wheel into open column, facing to that company. The companies that have wheeled face to the right. The serjeants successively take flank points, and the companies march in file. Each officer successively halts and fronts his company, when his pivot flank man arrives at his serjeant. 6. When

ABSTRACT	WORDS OF COMMAND.	
6. When the column of companies is to change its front, by the countermarch of each company.	COMPANIES WILL COUNTER- MARCH. RIGHT (OR LEFT) FACE. QUICK MARCH. <i>Halt, Front,</i> <i>Dress.</i>	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{A caution.} \\ \text{Each company faces.} \\ \text{In file.} \\ \text{Each company se-} \\ \text{parately.} \\ \text{To the pivot flank.} \end{array} \right.$
7. When the battalion is halted, and is to march in front.	THE BATTALION WILL ADVANCE. MARCH.	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{The centre serjeants} \\ \text{move out.} \end{array} \right.$
8. When the battalion is to halt.	HALT.	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{The advanced ser-} \\ \text{jeants return to} \\ \text{the battalion.} \end{array} \right.$
9. When the battalion is halted, and is to retire.	THE BATTALION WILL RETIRE. RIGHT ABOUT FACE. MARCH.	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{The serjeants move} \\ \text{out.} \end{array} \right.$
10. When the batta- lion, after retir- ing, comes to its proper front.	HALT, FRONT.	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{One command, and} \\ \text{the serjeants re-} \\ \text{turn to the bat-} \\ \text{talion.} \end{array} \right.$
11. From line to form close column in front of the right division.	FORM CLOSE COLUMN IN FRONT OF THE RIGHT DIVISION. RIGHT FACE. QUICK MARCH. <i>Halt, Front.</i> <i>Right, Dress.</i>	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{A caution.} \\ \text{All the other com-} \\ \text{panies face, and} \\ \text{disengage their} \\ \text{leading flanks.} \\ \text{Each company.} \end{array} \right.$

12. From

ABSTRACT	WORDS OF COMMAND.	
12. From line to form close column be- hind the right company or divi- sion.	FORM CLOSE COLUMN BEHIND THE RIGHT DIVISION. RIGHT FACE. QUICK MARCH. <i>Halt, Front.</i> <i>Left, Dress.</i>	A caution. All the other com- panies face, and disengage their leading flanks. Each company suc- cessively.
13. From line to form close column on a central compa- ny.	FORM CLOSE COLUMN ON THE — COM- PANY, THE RIGHT IN FRONT. INWARDS FACE. QUICK MARCH. <i>Halt, Front,</i> <i>Left, Dress.</i>	A caution. All but the named company, and dis- engage their lead- ing flanks. Each company suc- cessively.
14. From close column to form line on the front compa- ny (the right in front).	FORM LINE ON THE FRONT COMPANY. LEFT FACE. QUICK MARCH. HALT, FRONT. <i>Dress.</i> <i>March.</i> <i>Halt, Dress.</i>	A caution. Each company when opposite to its ground. When arrived in line.
15. From close column to form in line on the rear com-	FORM LINE ON THE REAR COMPANY. RIGHT FACE. QUICK MARCH. <i>March.</i> <i>Halt, Dress.</i>	A caution. All except the rear company. As soon as unco- vered. When it arrives in line.

pany

ABSTRACT.	WORDS OF COMMAND.
pany (the right in front).	HALT. FRONT. <i>Dress.</i> <i>March.</i> When opposite its ground. <i>Halt, Dress.</i> When it arrives in line.

16.

From close column (the right in front) to form line on a central company.	FORM LINE ON THE COMPANY. OUTWARDS FACE. QUICK MARCH. A caution. The several divisions to the hand they move to.
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The named company, when uncovered, moves up into line to its marked flank. Those that were in front of it, proceed as in forming on a rear company.—Those that are in rear of it proceed as in forming on a front company.

In the deployment of the close column into line, a mounted officer HALTS, FRONTS each company or division (of which it is composed) successively.

DIRECTIONS
FOR
FUNERAL PARTIES.

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

‘ PRESENT FIRELOCKS.’

‘ REVERSE FIRELOCKS.’

EXPLANATION FOR RE-
VERSING ARMS.

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

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

The serjeants’ pikes to be reversed under the left arm; the pike upwards, and the right hand thrown behind the back, grasping the shaft.

REAR RANKS TAKE CLOSE
ORDER.

The party will then wheel forwards or backwards by divisions, or sub-divisions, as circumstances may require, and will stand a column, the left in front, until the procession is ready, when the ranks will be opened by word of command.

The party moves off in ordinary
time,

March.

time, followed by the music, with drums muffled, playing the Dead March.

THE CORPSE.

PALL-BEARERS OF EQUAL RANK WITH THE DECEASED.

CHIEF MOURNERS.

OFFICERS TWO AND TWO, according to rank, the juniors next to the body of the deceased.

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

EXPLANATION.

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

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

'REST UPON YOUR FIRELOCKS REVERSED.'

The corpse, &c. having passed through the lane,

The word 'ATTENTION' is given, on which the soldiers raise their heads.

'REVERSE FIRELOCKS.'

The ranks are then wheeled up, and at OPEN ORDER move in ordinary time, and form in line in the same order near to and facing the grave.

The word will then be given,
'REST UPON YOUR FIRELOCKS REVERSED.'

After the performance of the funeral service, the following words of command are given:

T 2

AT-

‘ ATTENTION.’

‘ PRESENT FIRELOCKS,’

by seizing the firelock with the left hand at the swell, the right hand shifted, and both holding the firelock in the position of PRESENTED ARMS.

‘ SHOULDER FIRELOCKS.’

PRIME AND LOAD WITH
BLANK CARTRIDGE, AND
SHOULDER.

FIRE THREE VOLLIES IN THE
AIR.

‘ ORDER ARMS.’

‘ FIX BAYONETS.’

‘ SHOULDER ARMS.’

‘ REAR RANKS TAKE CLOSE
ORDER.’

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

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

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

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