

which the head of the column or columns is halted before the formation begins, and therefore the division 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.

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 equally 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. Forming in line.

The same number of *points* are required for the march in any 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, though 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 positions those of every following one depends.—The same exactness is required in every extension from close column into line, As many points are required for one battalion as for several.