

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

*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.

*Unfix Bayonets (the Arms being at the Order.)*

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

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

3d. The left hand grasps the firelock above the upper swivel, 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.

*File Arms.*

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

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

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## THE PLATOON EXERCISE.

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### 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