

of removing the feeling—reasonable enough in the days of muzzle loaders—that squares must be formed whenever an attack of cavalry is to be resisted. It may be safely asserted that the time necessary for bringing a line into square may be more usefully employed in watching the approach of the enemy, in carefully estimating distances, and in file firing as soon as they approach within 600 yards. Very few men or horses would traverse the half of the intervening distance.

If the flank of a line is turned, a company may be wheeled back, or even if the cavalry gains the rear, the instantaneous change of front under this system of drill gives them no advantage on that account.

Skirmishers and their supports will of course form rallying or company squares, as heretofore, when assailed by cavalry.

21. It may sometimes be deemed necessary to form a battalion into square for the protection of baggage, or to impart confidence to raw troops, and squares may be formed from column in the usual manner, but the following is the simplest method of forming them from line:

22. TO FORM A SQUARE TWO DEEP FROM LINE, THE BATTALION HAVING SIX COMPANIES.

The company numbers are referred to as first told; if they have been inverted, then the captain will act accordingly.

Square on the Centre.
On the caution, the colour party will face about and retire six paces, by command of the officer carrying the Queen's colour.

Centre Companies Inwards Close (and when closed) Halt.
The captain of the centre company in the first wing will close the centre companies as soon as the colour has retired.

The two centre companies will stand fast.

Flank Companies Form Fours Inwards. Remaining Companies—Right About Face. Inwards Wheel. Quick—March.
The remaining companies will move as in the command, and on the word Quick March the whole will step off.

No 2, Halt. Right About—Face. No 5, Halt. Right About—Face.
No 2 company, or whatever company may be on the right of the right centre company will immediately wheel to the right, and, when the quarter circle is completed, the captain will give his command, "No. 2, Halt—Right About—Face." The captain of No. 5, or the company on the left of the left centre company, will in like manner face his company to the right about when it has wheeled the quarter of a circle to the left.

No 1, Halt. Left Form. No 6, Halt. Right Form.
The captain of the flank companies will lead their companies to the rear face of the square. When there, they will halt, and form to their right and left respectively.

All officers and supernumeraries will place themselves in the square, in rear of their respective companies.

In re-forming line, the centre companies will close outwards by command of the captain of the centre company of the first wing. The colour party will move up on command of the officer carrying the Queen's colours. 2 and 5 will wheel into line. 1 and 6 will form fours outwards, and proceed as in forming line to the front or deploying.

The command will be—

Re-Form Line.

Centre Companies Outwards Close.

Quick—March. (and when sufficient space is made for the colour party)
Halt.

Flank Companies Form Fours—Outwards. Quick—March.

No 1 Left Half Turn. Left Form—Halt. Dress Up. No 6 Right Half Turn. Right Form—Halt. Dress Up.

Square may be formed from a line consisting of eight companies on the same principle; the only difference being that Nos 2 and 7, after facing to the right about, will make a face inwards, and move by the diagonal march sufficient distance, when they will be wheeled inwards by their respective captains, and form line on 3 and 6 in the usual manner.

A double column of companies may be formed from square in the following manner—

Double Column of Companies. Quick—March.

No 1 Halt. Right about Front. No 8 Halt. Right About Front. No 2 Right About Face. No 7, 3, 6, same.

Observe that 1 and 8 change front when halted, 2, 3, 6 and 7 only face to the right about when halted.

This is a most convenient method of reducing a square, a line can now be readily formed to either flank, to the front, or to the rear. Square may also be re-formed by wheeling 2, 3, 6, 7, outward, the quarter of a circle, and advancing 1 and 8 to the previous position.

A BATTALION IN LINE RETIRING IN REAR OF ANY NAMED COMPANY.

In Rear of a flank Company.

Retire by Companies from the Right, in rear of the Left.

On the word "March," No 2 will wheel to the left No. 5 to the right; No 1 having formed fours left, and No 6 fours right, will step off at the same time, and having moved the length of the company, the captain of No 1 will give the command "Left Half Turn," and when clear of No. 2, "Left Form," and as soon as in line "Halt—Dress Up;" the captain of No 6 will proceed in a similar manner, using the word right instead of left.

On the caution the right and left faces of the square will face to the right about. On the word March, the flank companies will step off, and will be halted by the captain of the right flank company at wheeling distance from the ground they occupied in square. 2 and 3 will wheel to the left, 6 and 7 will wheel to the right, and will be faced to the right about by their respective captains when in column.

On the command the right company will be faced to the right about by its captain, and will retire six paces. He will then give the command

No—Right About—Face. Quick—March. Form Fours—Right. Left Form—Forward.

No Right About—Face.

Quick—March. Form Fours—Right. Left Form—Forward.

In rear of the Right Centre Company.

Retire by Companies in Rear of the Right Centre Company. No—Right About—Face. Quick—March. Form Fours—Left. Right Form—Forward. &c.

Right Company Right About—Face.

Quick—March. No—Form Fours—Right. Left—Form, &c.

A battalion may also retire by double column of companies in rear of the centre on the same principles, both flank companies and the centre companies moving simultaneously, and receiving the command "Forward" from the captains of the companies belonging to the front wing.

A BATTALION IN LINE ADVANCING FROM A FLANK OR FROM EITHER CENTRE COMPANY.

From a Flank.

Advance by Companies from the Right. Form Fours—Right. Quick—March.

No—Left Form—Forward.

From a Centre Company.

Advance by Companies from the Right Centre Comp'y

"Form Fours—Right, and march his company along the rear of the line until in rear of the left company, when he will give the command "Left—Form," and march to rear. So soon as the right company has formed fours the company next to it (suppose No. 2) will be faced to the right about, and as soon as No 1 is within six paces of being clear of its flank it will in like manner be marched off by command of its captain, will form fours right, march along the rear, "Left—Form," and so on with each company in succession, until the last, which will simply face to the right about and move off with the column when proper wheeling distance has been gained.

On the command the companies in the left [second wing] will proceed as above, retiring in rear of the named company, and as soon as the left centre company is within six paces of being in rear of the named company, the major commanding the first wing will give the command Right Company, Right About Face, Quick—March, when all the companies of the right wing will proceed as above described, the right centre company facing about and retiring when at proper distance. The colour party will move as soon as the left centre company receives the word "Forward."

On the command the major of whichever wing may be at the right at the time, will give the command [suppose first] wing Form Fours Left, Quick