

be at the conducting point of movement or formation, and to that address their orders by voice or message; for if that point is led, or placed in the direction it should take, there is little danger of the parts of the body not properly and successively conforming to it.

There are many situations in the movements of great bodies, where commands, that are not immediately to influence the whole, are not given loud, but quietly, to the directing body, to whose situation the rest by the eye conform; as when the head of an open column is ordered to halt, that the rest of the divisions may move on, and successively stop in close column; and on all occasions where parts only of a large body are to march, or halt successively, commanding officers of regiments should have an attention to give their commands in such manner as not to produce an alteration in those points that are not meant to be influenced by them at that instant.

Where a large body is marching in column or columns, through narrow ground, and when its parts are to be assembled beyond the defilé in several lines, in a compact manner behind each other, such parts are not to begin to assemble when the leading one does, but the head of each line is successively first to come up to the ground on which it is to stand, and when it there halts, its proper followers (and not before) move into line with it, and thereby do not impede the bodies that are behind them, which are still in the defilé, and are to perform the same operation.

Precision of movement depends altogether on the instant circulation of commands of execution, and that on the attention of officers to the point they may be expected to come from, unless the whole of a body, however large, is put in motion at the same instant, a column will be extended, and a line will be ill dressed, and with false intervals.

Officers must particularly attend to the difference between changes of direction made by *Wheel*, and by *Shoulder*