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# RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE

# MILITIA FORCES

OF

# NOVA-SCOTIA.

ALSO

An Abstract of the Militia Laws ;  
And a Circular Letter to the Inspecting Field Officers of  
DISTRICTS.

---

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# RULES AND REGULATIONS,

FOR THE

# MILITIA FORCES

OF

NOVA SCOTIA.

---

## SQUAD DRILL.

---

**T**HE squads are always to assemble with their arms, and completely accoutred.

At first the arms are to be piled, and the squad to fall in, in a rank entire.

*Position of the soldier.* An equal squareness of the shoulders and body to the front, is the first great principle; the heels must be in a line and closed; the knees straight without stiffness, and the toes a little turned out.

*standing ease.* On the words "stand at ease," the right foot is to be drawn back about six inches, and the greatest part of the weight of the body upon it;

the

the left knee a little bent, the hands to be brought smartly together before the body, shoulders square, and attitude without constraint.

*Attention.*

At this word the hands are to fall smartly down the outside of the thighs, and the right heel to be brought up at the same moment in a line with the left.

*Eyes right  
Eyes left!*

These motions must be practised, as they are useful in wheeling and dressing when halted, and should be made without the smallest turn of the body.

*The facings*

In going through the facings the left heel never quits the ground, the knees must be kept straight, and the turnings made smoothly, without jerking the body.

*To the right face  
2 motions.*

1st, place the hollow of the right foot smartly against the left heel; 2d, raise the toes, and turn to the right on both heels.

*To the right about face (3 motions.)*

1st, place the ball of the right toe against the left heel; 2d, raise the toes, and turn to the right about on both heels; 3d, bring the right foot smartly back in a line with the left.

*To the left face (2 motions.)*

1st, place the right heel against the hollow of the left foot; 2d, turn to the left on both heels.

*To the left about face (3 motions.)*

1st, place the right heel against the ball of the left foot; 2d, raise the toes, and turn to the left about on both heels; 3d, bring up the right smartly in a line with the left; (the body to be kept square.)

*Dressing—  
which is to be taught*

In dressing, the eyes of the men are always turned to the person who gives the word "dress," and who is posted at the point by which the body

*equally by left as by right.*

body halts, and who from that point corrects his men on a point at, or beyond, his opposite flank; which may be marked by a camp colour, or by a man thrown out for that purpose; as soon as the dressing is accomplished "eyes front" will be given, that the heads may be square to the front.

*Marching, &c. (ordinary step).*

All marching (the side step excepted) invariably begins with the left foot. The length of each pace, from heel to heel is 30 inches, and the recruit should be taught to take 75 of these paces in a minute, without tottering, and with perfect steadiness; at the word "halt," let the rear foot be brought upon a line with the advanced one, so as to finish the step which was taken when the command was given.

*The quick step.*

The recruit having practiced the ordinary pace, must now be taught to march in *quick time*, which is 108 steps in a minute, each of 30 paces, making 270 feet in a minute.

*The wheeling march.*

Is 120 steps of 30 inches each, or 300 feet in a minute. This is the rate at which all bodies accomplish their *wheels*, the outward file stepping 33 inches, whether the wheel is from line into column, or from column into line.

*Double quick time.*

Should be performed at a short trot, the men beading their knees, and looking to the inner flank for the time. It should never exceed that pace in which a formation cannot be executed without confusion.

Close

*The side or  
closing  
step.*

Cloſe to the right—March! Each man carries his right foot about 12 inches directly to his right, and instantly brings up his left foot 'till the heel touches his right heel: he then pauses ſome time to perform this movement in ordinary time, and proceeds to take the next ſtep in the ſame manner. Cloſe to the left—March! Step to the left 12 inches and bring up the right foot, &c.

*The back  
step.*

This ſtep is performed in ordinary time.—On the word “Step back, march,” the recruit muſt be taught to move ſtraight to the rear, taking his full pace of 30 inches at each ſtep; preſerving his ſhoulders ſquare to the front, and his body erect; on the word “Halt,” the foot in front muſt be brought back ſquare with the other. Ten or twelve paces only of the back ſtep can be neceſſary at a time. It is an operation frequently required from a battalion.

*Plummet.*

A muſket ball ſuſpended by a ſmall ſtring (knotted) of the following lengths, will mark the times of the different marches in a minute, meſſuring from the point of ſuſpenſion to the center of the ball:

<i>Vibration.</i>	<i>Length of Cord:</i>	
	<i>Ins.</i>	<i>Hun. parts.</i>
Ordinary time 75 paces	24	96
Quick time 108	12	3
Wheeling time 120	9	80

*Wheeling.*

In all wheelings forward, on a *fixed or halting pivot*, the flank front rank man, on whom the wheel is made, that is to ſay—the *pivot man* faces *outward* from his diſpoſition. The other flank front rank

rank man, that is the man on the reverse flank, is called the *outward* or *wheeling* man.

In all wheelings backward, the pivot faces *inward* to his division.

In all wheelings, the eyes of the men are turned to the wheeling man.

In all wheelings the eyes of the wheeling man, are turned to the pivot. "Halt Dress" is only one word of command.

Whenever the squad is ordered to wheel *To* either right or left, it always means that the wheel is to be *forward*, and when ordered to wheel *On* either right or left, it means that the wheel is to be *backwards*.

*Wheeling forward on single rank from the halt—that is on a fixed pivot.*

At the words "To the right Wheel," the man on the right of the rank faces to the right, taking particular care that his person is square in the new direction; on the word "*March*" they step off together, the whole turning their eyes to the left (the wheeling flank) except the outward man on the left flank, who looks inward, and during the wheel becomes a kind of base line for others to conform to, and maintain the uniformity of front. The outward wheeling man always lengthens his pace to 33 inches—the whole observe the same cadence; but each man shortens his step, in proportion as he is nearer to the wheeling flank, on which the wheel is made.

During the wheel, the files lightly touch, and great care must be taken not to open out, but rather to incline to the pivot, without pressing on it.

On the word "*Halt*" each man halts immediately.

ately, without jumping forward, or making any false movements, and the whole remain perfectly steady, still looking to the wheeling flank, until they receive the word "right dress," and then "eyes front."

*Wheeling  
a single  
rank from  
the march*

This is a wheel on a halted pivot; the rank marching at the ordinary time; receives the word of command "halt," "right wheel;" the moment the word "halt" is pronounced, the man on the right halts and faces to his right, when the whole wheel as directed in the preceding section. As soon as the portion of the circle is completed, the words "halt dress" will be given; then after a pause of two or three seconds, the word "march" may be given, on which the whole rank step off together in ordinary time.

*Wheeling  
backwards  
a single  
rank.*

If the wheel is to be on the right backwards, then at the words, on the "right backwards wheel," the man on the right of the rank, that is, the pivot, faces to the left; at the word "march," the whole step backwards, those nearest the pivot man making their steps extremely small, and those towards the wheeling man increasing them as they are placed nearer to him. In the wheel forward to the left, and the wheel backward on the left, all that has been before said takes place, and is in the same manner executed; only the left flank front-rank man, does what has been directed for the right.

*Wheeling  
a single  
rank on a*

In wheeling of a single rank on a moveable pivot, a well drilled man should be placed on each flank of the squad; when the wheel is to be

made

*moveable  
pivot.*

made to the directing pivot flank (suppose the left) the rank marching at the ordinary step, receives the word "right shoulders forward," on which the pivot man, without altering the time or length of pace, continues his march on the circumference of the lesser circle, and on the principle of dressing, gradually brings round his rank to the direction required, without obliging the other flank which is describing the circumference of the larger circle, to too much hurry; on the word "forward," shoulders are squared, and the whole march to the front.

When the directing pivot has to describe the circumference of the larger circle, on the words "left shoulders forward," he will, without changing the time or length of his pace, gradually bring round the rank, and when the rank has wheeled the required degree, then the word "forward" is given, as before mentioned.

From what has been said, it is evident that whether the pivot man is moving on the smaller or the larger circle, he never changes the length or cadence of his step; when he is moving on the smaller circle, the other flank must accelerate its pace or lengthen its step, or both; and this will be in proportion to the number of files in the division, and to the portion of the circle on which the pivot man marches. When the outward man is the pivot, the inner flank, which has less ground to go over, will in the same proportion, step shorter and gradually conform.

*Attention  
in forming  
the squad  
or division*

The squad to fall in two deep, and to be taught to cover in file to the right or left.

When the squad or division or any larger body is ordered to *fall in*—each man will with carried arms as quick as possible take his place in the ranks, and dress according to the directions already given: attention must be paid that the files are correctly closed, lightly touching, but without crowding. Each man will then occupy a space of about 23 inches. Attention must also be paid that the men in the rear rank cover well, looking their file leaders in the middle of the neck—that the ranks have their proper distance of one pace (30 inches) from each other—that they are equally well dressed, and that the men do not turn their heads to the right or left.

*Open order  
from the  
halt.*

The recruits being formed in two ranks, on the words "rear rank take open order" the flank men on the right and left of the rear rank step briskly back one pace—instantly face to the right, and stand covered, to mark the ground on which the rear rank is to halt and dress. On the word "march" the dressers, (that is the men who had stepped back) front; and the rear rank at the same time falls back one pace, dressing by the right the instant it arrives on the ground.

*Close order  
from the  
halt.*

On the words "rear rank take close order, march" it closes one pace and then halts:

*To wheel  
its head  
to either  
flank.*

At the words "to the right file, or "to the left file," each file will make its separate wheel, but without altering its time of march, the rear rank men keeping their eyes on their file leaders,

thus



thus gradually gaining the new from the old direction, and thereby avoiding the sudden stop, which, otherwise would take place.

*Marching  
in file.*

The accuracy of the march in files to a flank, is essential, and should be frequently practised; in this march, the commander of the squad or division will lead the front rank; suppose the movement is to the left, at the words "to the left face," he, and his covering serjeant, instantly shift to the left flank. At "quick march" the whole step off together. When the words "halt front" are given, the leader and his serjeant return to their posts on the right.

*Oblique  
step.*

At the words to the left oblique march, the recruit without altering his personal squareness of position, but preserving his shoulders parallel to the line on which they first were placed; he will when he is to step with his left foot, point and carry it forward about 19 inches in a diagonal line to the left, which gives about 13 inches to the front; the next step, he will bring his right foot 30 inches forward, so that the right heel be placed thirteen inches directly before the left one, continuing to march in this manner in the cadence of the ordinary step, viz. 75 paces in the minute.

Obliquing to the right is done exactly upon the same principle, the right foot being carried 19 inches in a diagonal line to the right, and the left foot 30 inches forward—this is also to be practised in quick time; when obliquing to the right, eyes must be turned to the left; and when obliquing

liquing to the *left*, eyes must be turned to the *right*.

The oblique march enables a body to preserve its *parallel* direction, and at the same time to gain ground to a flank as well as to the front, without filing or opening out.

*Stepping out.*

At the words "*step out*," the step is lengthened to 33 inches, but without altering the cadence.

*Marking time.*

At the words "*mark time*," the foot then advancing, completes its pace, after which the cadence is continued without gaining ground, but alternately throwing out the foot, and bringing it back square with the other.

*Stepping short.*

At the words "*step short*," the foot advancing will finish its pace, and afterwards each recruit will step as far as the ball of his toe, until the word "*forward*" is given, when he resumes the usual pace.

*Entreaf-  
ing the  
front of an  
open co-  
lumn halt-  
ed.*

The company standing in open column of subdivisions, (suppose the right in front,) receives from the instructor of the drill the caution, "*form company*:"

The commander of the company turning round instantly orders, "*rear (or left) subdivision, left oblique—quick—march*."

When it has obliqued so as to open its right flank, (that is, when its right flank has room to march past the left flank of the division that was in its front) he (the same officer) gives the word "*forward*," the division marches straight forward, and when it is in a line with the first division

division, he orders "halt, dress", and takes post on the left the pivot flank of the company.

*Diminishing the front of an open column halted; the right in front.*

When the instructor of the drill gives the caution "form subdivisions," the covering sergeant steps back, and remains to mark the spot where the left flank of the sub-division is to be placed. The commander of the company, advancing one step, orders "left sub-division—inwards, face," on which the sub-division faces to the right, and the three leading files disengage to the rear; he then gives the word "quick—march," the division in file passes round and behind the sergeant who had stepped back to mark their ground, and as soon as the commander of the company sees that the left flank of the division is close to the sergeant, he instantly gives the words "halt, front, left, dress"; he then posts himself on the left flank of the first sub-division, and his covering sergeant on that of the second.

*General rule.*

In diminishing the front of an open column, the sub-division or section on the reverse flank, is the one behind which the other sub-division or section doubles.

Therefore, when the right is in front, the doubling will be in the rear of the right division; and when the left is in front, the doubling will be in the rear of the left division.

And in increasing the front of an open column, the rear sub-divisions, or sections, oblique to the hand the pivot flank is on; so that when the right is in front, the obliquing will be to the left; and when the left is in front, the obliquing will be to the right. The

*Increasing the front of an open column on the march, the right in front.*

The platoon marching at the ordinary time in open column of sub-divisions, the instructor of the drill gives the cautionary command, "form company;" the commander of the platoon instantly turning round, gives the words, "left oblique, quick march;" on which the rear sub-division obliques to the left, and as soon as its right flank is open, it receives from the same officer, the word "forward," and when it gets up to the first division, which has continued to march with the utmost steadiness at the ordinary pace, the same officer gives the word "ordinary time," and takes post on the pivot flank, towards which, of course he has been moving.

*Diminishing the front of an open column on the march, the right in front.*

The company marching at the ordinary pace, receives from the instructor of the drill, the caution, "form—sub-divisions."

The commander of the platoon advancing one step, immediately orders "left sub-division—mark time;" this it does until the right sub-division, which continues its march steadily, has cleared its flank; he then orders the "left sub-division—quick oblique," and when he perceives that it has doubled properly behind the right one, he gives the word "forward" on which it takes up the ordinary march, and follows at its proper wheeling distance, the commander of the company being then posted on the pivot flank of the first sub-division, and his sergeant on that of the second.

The same directions that apply to increasing or diminishing by sub-divisions, apply equally to sections, which individually repeat the same operations. On

On this principle, the front of a column may be reduced or increased any number of files.

As increasing and reducing the front of a column is an operation that will frequently occur in the march of large bodies, it is of the utmost importance that it be performed with exactness, the transition from one situation to the other must be made as quick as possible, the leading division must continue its march at the regular time and length of pace, the exact distances between the divisions must be accurately preserved; and during the operation the ranks must be closed, arms carried, and the greatest attention required from every individual.

*vati*: The column of march or manoeuvre, in consequence of obstructions in its route, which it cannot surmount, is frequently obliged to diminish its front, and again to increase it when such difficulties are passed; it is one of the most important of movements, and a battalion which does not perform this operation with the greatest exactness and attention, so as not to lengthen out in the smallest degree, is not fit to move in the column of a considerable corps.

The increase or diminution of the front of the column is performed when in movement, by each company successively, when it arrives at the point where the leading one of the column performed it, or else by the whole companies of the battalion at the same moment; in either case the commander of the battalion, at the instant that it should

should begin to reduce or increase its front, give the general caution, that is to do so.

When a column of companies in march diminishes its front, either by companies successively or the whole battalion at once, so soon as the leading company arrives within 12 or 15 paces of the point where it is necessary to diminish its front, the commander will give a loud caution that the subdivisions are to double either by companies successively, or the whole battalion at once.

### OBSERVATIONS AND DIRECTIONS.

The instructor of the drill previous to putting his squad or division in motion should mark out an oblong square, 40 paces by 20 or 30 (according to the strength of his squad) the corners of which he will ascertain by camp colours, pikes stones, or in any other visible manner: he will place the pivot flank of his division on the outside of this square, but close to one of the camp colours. He will then march his squad along the sides of the oblong, making correct *Wheels* and *Halts* at the angles.

The time of march being exactly ascertained as already directed, he will see that the sides of the oblong are gone over at the known number of steps: and if there be any inaccuracy he will lengthen or shorten the step until the squad marches with the utmost precision.

He will frequently make his squad face to the right about, and march and wheel with

rear rank in front. He will make them break off, and the men fall in again in different places from what they before occupied in the ranks, so that each man in his turn may be the pivot man of the squad.

In these positions the squad should be marched and wheeled both in ordinary and quick time.

The division during its march in line will occasionally be ordered to *step out, step short, mark time, and oblique.*

To acquire the just length of pace, cords should be prepared by tying small pieces of cloth on them at the distance of 30 inches from each other; at the end of 75 paces or ties, a piece of cloth larger than the rest should be fastened; at 108 a piece of cloth of a different colour should be tied; and one differing still from both should be tied at 120 paces; these mark the extent of the *ordinary* the *quick* and the *quickest* time in a minute.

---

## THE MANUAL EXERCISE.

### EXPLANATION.

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

ords of  
ommand

ure  
ms.

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.*

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.

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 sling.

*Fix bayonets.*

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

*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.

*Present 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 pointed 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.

*Shoulder arms.*  
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.

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

*Port arms* 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 be opposite the point of the left shoulder, without being proportionably depressed.

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

*Charge  
bayonets.*

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 back below the hip.

*Shoulder  
arms.*

1st. Throw the firelock up to its proper position on the left shoulder, grasping the butt with the left hand, and at the same instant coming to the proper front.

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

*Advance  
arms.*

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

2d. Raise the firelock up from the shoulder to the portez, by placing the left hand upon the trigger, 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, slipping up the left hand at the same time to the swell, the guard between the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand, the three last fingers under the cock, with the guard to the front.

4th. Quit the left hand.

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.

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.

Barry  
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 soldier 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

quick advance, and when arrived at a few distance only from the body to be attacked. position of ported arms is also that which are to take when challenging any persons approach their posts.

In explanation of the 17th movement prescribed in His Majesty's Regulations for the inspection and review Exercise, it is to be clearly understood, that whenever a battalion or line charge with bayonets, the whole are in the first instance to port their arms, and advance at a firm quiet 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 give the word "halt"; when the front rank 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 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 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 *halts*, or is ordered to *dress by the right*. *Sloped arms* on a march, and in quick movements, are also allowed.

*ime.* The motions in the manual exercise are to be performed, 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.

*ries.* Sentries, posted with shouldered arms, are permitted afterwards to *support*, but not to slope them. On the approach of an officer, they immediately *carry* their arms, and put themselves in 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 to be practised in unfixing bayonets.

The 1st and 2d motions the same as orders 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.

## THE PLATOON EXERCISE.

Words of Command      EXPLANATION OF THE SEVERAL MOTIONS TAUGHT AT THE DRILL

*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.

*Present*

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 looking stedfastly along the barrel of the firelock.*

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

*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.*

*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.*

*1st. Shake some powder into the pan.*

*2d. Shut the pan with the three last fingers.*

*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*

*Load.*

*Handle*

*cartridge.*

*Prime.*

*Cast about.*

*as it is to be pronounced for the*

*muzzle*

Take of  
brevity  
about.

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.

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 the top of the ramrod with the fore-finger and thumb.

Draw  
ramrods.

1st. Force the ramrod half out, and seize it back-handed, exactly in the middle.

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

Ram  
down car-  
tridge.

1st. Push the ramrod down, holding it as before, exactly in the middle, until the hand touches the muzzle.

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.

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 draw-

ing



ing it, and the butt raised two inches from the ground.

*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 load.*

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 *dispatch as possible, every man shouldering or recovering as soon as his ramrod is properly returned.*

*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

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 sergeant.

#### FIRING BY PLATOONS.

The officers, instead of giving the words, *make ready, present, fire*, are to pronounce the words short; as for instance, *ready, p'sent, fire.*

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

When a division 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 use of in any firing whatever.

It is expected that, from the insertion of the fourth command, "Load," in the Platoon Exercise, the troops will become so habituated to the pause after pulling the triggers, which is requisite to ensure precision, and the full effect of their fire, that they will invariably adopt it on all occasions, though in the field they are not to expect any word of command after firing, but

But each man after making the pause, which he feels to be necessary for the effectual delivery of the contents of his piece, is to proceed to prime and load.

In all firing by platoons, divisions, or companies, the first words, "*ready, present, fire,*" are to be regular, and generally from centre to flanks of the battalion, each wing independent, though circumstances may occasion it to commence from any other part of the battalion that may be first formed; but, after the first round, every company is, by command of its officer, to present and fire as soon as loaded.

In all firing by platoons or divisions, after the *first round* the firelock is not to be shouldered but briskly thrown up to the *recover*, which will render the word "*ready*" unnecessary, and reduce the words of command to the following; viz. "*p'sent, fire.*"

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

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CEASE FIRING.

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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 rear rank men will spring to the left and accurately cover their file leaders.

*Pause.*

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.

*Firing.*

When the recruits have acquired the management of their arms they will be instructed first in single rank, and afterwards at two deep, in firing with blank cartridges: and at a subsequent meeting to fire individually with ball cartridges at a target.

Prior to the commencement of the firing a particular inspection of the arms and ammunition should be made by the officers, and great attention must be paid to the proper fixing of the sights.

N. B. Marching in line and in file in ordinary, quick, and double quick time, to be practised each day, particularly advancing and retreating by files, and forming divisions.

#### 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 apprised 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

principal attention this is) that the rear rank is well locked up in the firings, and that in loading they do not fall back.

3. The line, if retiring, *halts, fronts*, at one command; and instantly begins firing, having been apprised, 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 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 com-  
pany

pany 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.

*Marching  
to be front  
or rear,  
and turn-  
ing on the  
march.*

The squad or division is to be particularly well dressed, files correct, arms carried, the rear ranks covering exactly, and each individual to have his just attitude and position, before the squad is suffered to move; which ever flank the march is made from, a well trained man will be placed on it to conduct it. The caution "squad or division" will then be given; and at the word "march," each man steps forward a full pace, the recruit must glance his eyes to the hand to which he is dressing, but he must not be suffered to turn his head, as a turning of the shoulders will undoubtedly follow. His elbows must be kept steady without constraint; if they are opened from his body, the next man must be pressed upon; if they are closed there arises an improper distance, which must be filled up; in either case, waving on the march will take place, and must be avoided.

When

When the division is marching, and that it receives the words "to the right about—turn," as soon as the recruit's left foot is placed on the ground, at the full length of pace, he makes a momentary halt in that position, gradually turns his body round on both heels to the right, and then brings his left foot the full pace to the front, and so continues the march.

*Turning to the right or left a bout, on the march.*

If the words are to the "left about—turn," then if the recruit's left foot be advanced, he must make another pace, and when his right foot is advanced, he will proceed as above directed with the exception of turning on both heels to the left, instead of to the right. It is however at first better to practise the squad to *Halt*, and then to give the words, "right, or left about—face," and then "*march*"; as the other method is less accurate, and the men will of course be more likely to lose their dressing.

When Companies or their Divisions are moving in file, and that without halting, it is eligible to make them move on in front; or when moving in front, it is proper without halting to make them move on in file; the words of command are, "to the right—turn", or "to the left—turn".

Changing from *ordinary* to *quick time*, and from *quick* to *ordinary time*, must always be preceded by a previous, but instantaneous *halt*; although this may not appear essential for the movements of a squad, division, or battalion, it is absolutely so for those of a larger body, and is therefore required in small ones.

The

From 2  
deep, to  
form 4  
deep.

The squad or division having been told off in right and left files alternately, at the words "prepare to form four deep" the rear rank steps back one pace; at the word "March" the left files step back to their right, covering the men who before stood at their right hand.

From 4  
deep to  
form 2  
deep.

"Form two deep!" will be a caution—at the word "March!" the files that stepped back, will move up into their proper places, and the rear rank will close to the front.

It is a very common and a very proper practice to march a battalion by *Fours*—particularly in narrow roads, or passes. At the words "halt, front" the corps forms two deep as above directed.

#### FORMATION OF THE COMPANY.

The formation of the company, as well as that of the battalion is to be *two deep*—being better calculated for the nature of this country, and for quick movements, than three deep.

Sizing.

Having an exact size roll of the company, you begin with the shortest man placing him in the centre, the next taller on the left, the next above him on the right, and so on alternately forming a rank entire until the tallest of all are on the flanks. You then tell off this rank into four divisions, telling the division on the right and that on the left that they are the *front rank*, the remaining divisions form the *rear rank*. By ordering the men told off for the front rank to march forward one pace—face inwards—march until they meet, and then front—the company is formed. Each



*Falling off:* Each company is divided into right and left sub-divisions;—each sub-division into right and left sections;—there should be four files at least in a section. If the company is not strong enough to have four sections, it should be divided into three, each of which ought to have five files. The company should also be told off in right and left files alternately.

*Distance of files.*

In close files each man when in his true position under arms, shouldered, and in rank, must just feel with his elbow the touch of his neighbour, with whom he dresses, nor in any situation of movement in front, must he ever relinquish such touch, which is the principal direction for the preservation of his order.

In open files—the files are to be two feet asunder, they may be extended from right, left, or centre, according to circumstances.

*Open order*

Is when the ranks are two paces asunder.

*Close order*

Is when they are one pace asunder: when the body is halted and to fire, they are still closer locked up.

Close ranks—is the constant and habitual order, at which troops are at all times formed and moved.

Open order—is for parade and show, and is used also for the inspection of arms and accoutrements.

*Counter-march by files.* The counter-march by files is of two kinds; either *successive* (the division being halted) by each file wheeling successively on its ground, as it comes to its turn, or *progressive* (the division being

ing in motion) by each file wheeling when it comes up to the point at which the leading file, is wheeled.—In the *successive* countermarch, the division must shift its ground to a flank, a space at least equal to its front.

In the *progressive*, it will perform this operation of the countermarch on its original ground.

In the countermarch of all divisions by files, the facings are made *from* the flank, then the pivot, to the one which is to become such.

When an open column with the right in front, is to countermarch on its own ground, the *left* being the pivot, it faces to the *right* flank, which when the countermarch is completed, will then be the pivot flank, where the officer is posted: for as in the first instance the officer was posted next to the *left* hand man of his division, so is now posted, next to the *right* hand man of his division, which stands *fronted* to its former rear, without its order being inverted.

1. March the company in a single rank, to front and to rear—by a flank and obliquely.

2. Open and close files and intervals by the side step.

3. Sub-divisions double on the march, and again form up by obliquing.

4. Wheel backwards by sub-divisions, march along the line, prolonging it, form to the left flank by wheeling up, or to the front by obliquing.

*At close ranks and files.*

5. Exercise of the firelock—manual and platoon by ranks and company.

6. Firings by files, sub-divisions, and company.

*Marching  
to the front*

In the drill of the platoon, the person instructing must always consider it as a company in battalion, and regulate all its movements upon that principle; he will, therefore, before he puts it in motion to front or rear, indicate which flank is to direct. If the right flank is to lead, he will give the word *Eyes—Right*. If the left flank is to lead, he will give the word *Eyes—Left*, when the officer and his covering sergeant (if not already there) will shift to the left of the front rank; the officer, before the word *March* is given, will endeavour to remark some distinct object on the ground in his own front, and perpendicular to the directing flank, that is, the flank which he is on.

Every leader of a body, which is to move directly forward in front, must take care to conduct it in a line, *truly perpendicular to that front*. To march straight on one object only, with certainty and without wavering, is not to be depended on; two objects will therefore in general be prepared for the direction of any considerable body. But should a leader, either in file or in front, have *only one* marked point of march ascertained to him, he will then observe some nearer and intermediate point in the same line, such as a stone, tuft of grass, &c. These he will move upon with accuracy, and as he approaches the nearest of these points; he must, from time to time, choose fresh ones in the original direction, which he will by this means preserve, always having *two such points* to move upon. If no object in the true  
line.

Line can be ascertained, his own squareness of person must determine the direction of the march.

As the march of every body, except in the case of inclining, is made on *lines perpendicular to its then front*, each individual composing that body must, in his person, be placed and remain, *perfectly square* to the given line, otherwise he will naturally and insensibly move in a direction perpendicular to *his own person*, and thereby open out, or close in, according to the manner in which he is turned *from the true point of his march*. If the distortion of a single man operates in this manner, (and all turnings of the head do so distort him,) it may be easily imagined what that of several will occasion, each of whom is marching on a different front, and whose lines of direction are crossing each other.

*Wheeling from a halt* In wheeling either forward, or backward, from a halt, the commander of the platoon on the caution "right, or left—wheel," moves out and places himself one pace in front of the centre of his platoon; during the wheel he turns towards his men, and inclines towards that flank which has been named as the directing or pivot flank; he gives the word "halt, dress," when his wheeling man has just completed the required degree of wheel; he then squares his platoon by bringing up or throwing back his reverse flank, but on no account suffering his pivot to move; when this is correctly done, he then takes his post on the pivot flank.

*Wheeling forward by sub-divisions, or half companies, from line.* On the caution, "by sub-divisions—to the right wheel," the commander of the platoon, or company, places himself one pace in front of the centre of the *right* sub-division, at the same time the men on the right of the front rank of each sub-division, or half company, face to the right, *from* their divisions.

*Quick-march.* At the word "march," each sub-division steps off in wheeling time. The commander of the platoon turning towards the men of the leading—*i. e.* the *right* sub-division, and inclining to its left, (the proper pivot flank) gives the words, "halt, dress," for both sub-divisions, and instantly posts himself on the left, the pivot flank. His covering serjeant, during the wheel, goes round by the rear, and takes post on the pivot flank of the second, or *left*, sub-division.

It is to be observed as a **General Rule**, that the officer commanding the company or platoon **INVARIABLELY** takes post with the leading sub-division or section, with the right when the right is in front, and with the left when the left is in front, and during the wheel inclines to his post, the proper pivot flank.

When the wheel is completed, and *not before*, the leaders who are to conduct the pivot flank of the second sub-division, or of the second, or other sections, place themselves there—the commander of the company is then on the pivot flank of the leading section or sub-division, his covering serjeant on the second, an officer on the third, and, if there be a fourth section, a serjeant or non-com-

missioned officer is on the pivot flank of that section.

All wheelings by sub-divisions, or sections, from line into column, or from column into line, are performed on the word given by the officer who commands the company, that is, when companies singly, or successively so wheel, the words of command are not to be repeated by the leaders of its divisions.

When the company from line breaks into open column of sub-divisions or sections, after the commander of the company has given the word *Halt, Dress*, for the whole, the officer or sergeants on the pivots of the other sub-division or sections may be permitted to correct the dressing of their divisions; but in no case in the wheel up into line, whether the company is acting singly or in battalion, must any officer or sergeant attempt to interpose in the dressing of the company, but the officer who commands it.

*Wheeling  
back  
wards by  
sub-d. v. s.  
ions from  
line.*

When the right is intended to be in front, at the caution, **BY SUB-DIVISIONS, ON THE LEFT BACKWARD WHEEL**, the commander of the platoon moves out briskly, and places himself in front of the center of the right sub-division. The man on the left of the front rank of each sub-division at the same time faces, inwards, that is, to the right; at the word *March*, the wheel is performed as directed in the foregoing section.

In wheeling forward, the ranks should lock up close; but in wheeling backward, they may be at their usual distance of one pace asunder.

*Observations on wheeling backward.*

By wheeling backward on the pivot flank from line into column, although divisions should be unequal either in the same battalion or in line, yet all their pivot flanks will after the wheel remain truly dress'd; of course the distances will be just, the line of marching accurately preserved, and each division, by afterwards wheeling up, will exactly occupy the identical ground it quitted.

Whereas in wheeling forward, even if the divisions are of equal strength, the pivots and distances after the wheel will not be true, because the different sizes of men, and the least over or under wheel of any one division, will dérange them, which in practice will infallibly happen. But if the divisions are of unequal strength, independent of the pivots necessarily not covering, the distances which the column marches off at, must be all changed during the march, otherwise when the column is to *wheel up*, and form, strong divisions would have to wheel into the space which the weaker ones had left; and *vice versâ*, the consequences and confusion thence arising are obvious.

Suppose four divisions are drawn up in line, the first consisting of eighteen files; the second of twelve; the third of fifteen, and the fourth of ten files, if these divisions are wheeled *Forward* to the right into open column, they will be at unequal distances from each other; for the second will be thirteen paces 6 inches from the first, the third will be eight paces 24 inches from the second, and the fourth will be eleven paces from the third, nor in this situation would it be prac-

ticable.

licable to wheel them up into line ; if it should at any time happen, that unequal divisions are wheeled forward into open column, the column is first to march off, and afterwards the pivots are gradually to be corrected *during the march*, preparatory to the wheel up into line ; to prevent, however, such inconvenience, it must be regarded almost as a

GENERAL RULE,

That all wheels by companies or smaller divisions from battalion or line, (when halted) into open column, should be made BACKWARD, and all wheels from open column into line FORWARD.

If the division does not exceed sixteen or eighteen files, it may readily wheel back ; but if the division is stronger, and the ground broken, or very uneven, it must *Face about*, wheel, and then *Halt, Front*.

In wheeling BACKWARD from *line* into column, when the right is to be in front, the wheel is made *On* the left ; and when the left is to be in front, the wheel is made *On* the right.

In wheeling forward, from line into open column to the right, the *proper pivot* flank of the column is the wheeling one. In wheeling backward, the *proper pivot* flank is the standing one, and remaining fixed, the divisions, however unequal, will always cover on that hand, which will not be the case if the wheel is made forward.



*Circum-  
stances in  
wheeling.*

As the circumference of the quarter circle, which a division describes in its wheel, is *one half* more (nearly) *than its front*, it is necessary that in open column it should, in the time that it takes to march over a space equal to the extent of its front, not only complete the wheel of the quarter circle, but be enabled to move on at its just distance from its preceding division, and *not to stop* that which succeeds it. The wheel must therefore be quickened, or the step lengthened, (or part of both applied,) in proportion to the general march.

## T A B L E

Shewing what extent of ground a given number of files will cover when drawn up in line, each man being supposed to occupy a space of 22 inches.

<i>No. of files in a division each occupying 22 inches</i>	<i>Front of divisions in ordinary paces of 30 inches</i>	Files	will occupy	Paces	Inches
5		5	will occupy	3	20
10		10	.	7	10
12		12	.	8	24
14		14	.	10	8
15		15	.	11	
16		16	.	11	22
18		18	.	13	6
20		20	.	14	20
30		30	.	22	
40		40	.	29	10
50		50	.	36	20
100		100	.	70	10

*The Company in open column of Sub-Divisions, to pass a Bridge or Defile by breaking off Files.*

**Words of command.** The platoon is supposed in open column of sub-divisions, with the right in front, marching in ordinary time; when the leading division is arrived within a few paces of the defile, it receives

*Break off three files* from the instructor of the drill an order to break off a certain number of files (suppose three.)

*Three files right turn.* The commander of the division instantly gives the words, *Three files on the left, right turn*; the named files immediately turn to the right, and wheel out in the rear of the three adjoining files.

The commander of the subdivision himself closes into the flank of the part formed. When the second subdivision comes to the spot where the first division contracted its front, it will receive the same words of command from its own leader, and will proceed in like manner.

*Two files right turn.* Should it be required to diminish the front of the column one or two files more, the commander of the leading division will, as before, order the desired number of files to *turn*; on which those already in the rear will incline to the right so as to cover the files now ordered to break off, and which are wheeling out in the manner already prescribed.

In this movement the files in the rear of the subdivisions must lock well up, so as not to impede the march of the succeeding division.

As the defile widens, (or the instructor of the drill shall direct) the commander of the leading sub-division, will order files to move up to the front, by giving the word, *One, two, or three files, to the front*; on which the named files turn to their front (the left) and lengthening their pace, march up, file by file, to the front of their sub-division, and immediately resume their ordinary pace. Those files which are to continue in the rear will oblique to the left, lengthening also to their step, till they cover, and are closed up to the three files on the left flank of their sub-division.

### FORMATION OF THE BATTALION.

The battalion is generally  
ten companies

Each company consists of

{ 1 Grenadier,  
8 Battalion,  
1 Light  
Officers,  
Serjeants,  
Corporals,  
Drummer,  
Privates.

*Formation of the battalion.* 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.

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.

*Position of the companies.* The companies will be formed as follow from right

*nies in bat-* right to left—grenadiers on the right ; light com-  
*talions.* - pany on the left. The four eldest captains are  
 on the right of the grand divisions ; officers com-  
 manding companies or platoons, are all on the  
 right of the front rank of their respective com-  
 mands.

*Divisions.* The eight battalion companies will compose  
 four grand divisions ; eight companies or pla-  
 toons, sixteen sub-divisions ; thirty-two sections,  
 when sufficiently strong to be so divided ; other-  
 wise 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 de-  
 ploying, be divided into five grand-divisions from  
 right to left.

The battalion companies will be numbered  
 from the right to the left, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,  
 8 ; the sub-division 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 num-  
 bered, 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.

*companies* The companies should be equalized in point of  
*qualified.* numbers at all times when the battalion is form-  
 ed for field movement ; and could the battalions  
 of

of a line also be equalized, the greatest advantages would arise.

*Words of Command to be given in trying the Battalion after it has been told off.*

1. Right companies,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
2. Left companies,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
3. Right sections,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
4. Left Sections,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
5. Right-hand men of grand divisions,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
6. Left hand men of grand divisions,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
7. Right-hand men of companies,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
8. Right hand men of subdivisions,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
9. Left-hand men of subdivisions,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
10. Right-hand men of sections,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
11. Left-hand men of sections	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
12. Right files	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms
13. Left files,	{ Order—arms
	{ Shoulder—arms

- |                            |   |                       |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 14. First grand division,  | } | Order— <i>arms</i>    |
| 15. Second grand division, |   | Shoulder— <i>arms</i> |
| 16. Third grand division,  |   |                       |
| 17. Fourth grand division, | } | Order— <i>arms</i>    |
| 18. Right wing,            |   | Shoulder— <i>arms</i> |
| 19. Left wing,             | } | Order— <i>arms</i>    |
|                            |   | Shoulder— <i>arms</i> |

The officers should also answer to their numbers for the opening of a column, and for all their different firings.

Too much attention cannot be given in telling the battalion off correctly.

*Formation  
of the bat-  
talion at  
close order*

Ranks are at the distance of one pace, except the third or supernumerary rank, which has three paces.

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 the firings, his station is in the rear.

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

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 sergeants; and the re-  
maining

maining officers and sergeants are in a third rank behind their companies.

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 sergeant is in the front rank betwixt the colours; he is covered by a second sergeant in the rear rank, and by a third in the supernumerary rank.— The sole business of these three sergeants is, when the battalion moves in line, to advance and direct the march as hereafter mentioned. The place of the first of those sergeants, when they do move out, is preserved by a named officer or sergeant, who moves up from the supernumerary rank for that purpose.

*Use of the  
third or  
supernume-  
rary rank.*

The third 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 third 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 should be posted in the rear of the right centre company in a single rank, three paces behind the third rank.

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

The drummers of the eight battalion compa-  
nies



nies 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.

*Officers.* In general, officers remain posted with their proper companies; but commanding officers will occasionally make such changes as they may find necessary.

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

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

### WHEN THE BATTALION TAKES OPEN ORDER.

*Rear rank take open order* At this command the flank men on the right of the rear rank of each company step briskly back one pace to mark the ground on which that rank is to halt.

*March.* At the word “march” the flank Dressers face to the front, and the rear rank falls back one pace, 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

ervals 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. paymaster, surgeon, quarter-master, assistant surgeon.

The lieutenant-colonel, (dismounted), advances before the colours two 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

never to be acted upon when more than one battalion is in line.

### WHEN THE BATTALION RESUMES CLOSE ORDER.

*Rear Rank, take* The lieutenant-colonel, officers, colours, staff, music, face to the right.

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

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

*March.* The rear rank closes within one pace and halts.

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

The sergeants, 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.

INSPECTION OR REVIEW  
OF A  
BATTALION OF INFANTRY.

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The Battalion marches to its ground in open column of companies or half companies :— marches into the alignment by companies ; forms in close order ;—takes open order as directed in the formation of the battalion.

In this disposition, and the whole dressed to the right, the General is awaited.—He is to be received with the compliments due to his rank, as set forth in the regulation of military honours.—The lieutenant-colonel on this occasion is on foot at the head of the colours ; and at all other times he is to remain on horseback.

A camp colour is to be originally placed 80 or 100 paces in front of the centre of the battalion, where the General is supposed to take his station ; but although he may chuse to quit that position, still the colour is to be considered as the point to work upon, and to which all movements and formations are relative.

RECEIVING THE GENERAL.

When the reviewing general presents himself before the centre, and is 50 or 60 paces distant, he will be received with a general salute. The men present arms, and the officers salute, so as to drop their swords with the last motion of presented arms ; the music will play, and all the drums will beat. The colours only salute such persons

*Present arms.*

persons as from their rank, and by regulation, are entitled to that honour.

*Shoulder arms.*

The men shoulder, and the officers recover their swords with the last motion.

The General then goes towards the right, the whole remaining perfectly steady without paying any farther compliment while he passes along the front of the battalion, and without facing when he goes along the flank and rear. While the General is going round the battalion, the music will play, and the drums beat; they will cease as soon as the general has returned to the right flank of the battalion.

*Rear rank take close order—march.*

While the General is proceeding to place himself in the front, this command will be given, and the lieutenant-colonel will then mount on horseback, in the rear of the centre.

## MARCHING PAST IN ORDINARY TIME.

*Companies on your left backward wheel—march. Halt, dress March.*

The battalion will break into column of companies the right in front. The column is put in motion, pioneers and music having been previously ordered to the head of it. Points will be ascertained by the adjutant for the exact and several wheelings, of the divisions, so that their right flanks in marching past shall be only 4 paces distant from the camp colour, where it is supposed the general places himself to receive the salute.

*Halt, left wheel. Halt, dress march.*

The several companies wheel successively at the first angle of the ground.

*Halt, left, wheel.* The companies successively make this wheel at the second angle of the ground, and which brings them on the line on which they pass the General. Each leader of a company, when it has advanced six paces from the wheeling point, *Halt, dress* changes quickly by the rear to the right flank of his company, and as soon as he has placed himself on that flank, he will order eyes to be turned to the right. *March.*

*Eyes, right*  
*Rear rank take open order* The leading company, and each other successively, as it arrives within 50 paces of the General, opens its ranks, at which time the officers move into the front of the company, and the leading one is replaced on the right flank by his sergeant.

In marching past the reviewing General the lieutenant-colonel is at the head of the grenadier company, the major is to be in the rear of the column with the adjutant a little behind and on his left;—if there is a second major he is to be a little behind, and on the left of the lieutenant-colonel. The music are in two ranks, six paces before the lieutenant-colonel:—The pioneers are in two ranks six paces before the music, having a corporal at their head to lead them. The drummers and fifers are on the left flank of their respective companies.

The colours are 3 paces behind the fourth battalion company, covered by their sergeants.—Staff officers do not march past.

In marching past at open ranks, the sergeant, who is on the right flank of the company, is responsible

possible for the proper wheeling distance being kept from the front rank of the company preceding him.—The leading officer must invariably preserve his distance of 3 paces before the right of the company, and not derange its march, the rank of officers dress to him, eyes are turned a little to the right, and they divide the ground in order to cover the front of the company: if there is only one officer with the company, he is towards the right of it.—Supernumerary sergeants are 3 paces in the rear of their several divisions.

The music begin to play, just after the leading company has made the second wheel; they continue to march on, and do not draw up opposite the General.—They, as well as the pioneers, regulate their march by the head of the column.

The officers, when they arrive at their proper distance from the general, must prepare to salute successively by companies, when within 6 paces of him, and recover their swords when 10 paces past him, without in the least altering the rate of march, or impeding the front rank of companies.—The commanding officer, when he has saluted at the head of the battalion, places himself near the general, and remains there till the rear has marched past. The drummers give a roll each, when the officers of his own company salute.

*Rear rank take clo'se order.* The officers commanding companies will each successively, when he has passed the general by 30 paces, close his rear rank, and at this time each individual of the company resumes the post which

which he held when the column was first put in motion.

*Halt, left wheel, halt, dress, march.* The several companies wheel successively when opposite the ground where the left of the regiment stood, their leading officers having shifted to their left flank when the ranks closed.

*Halt. Support arms.* When the leading company is near to where the left of the battalion stood, the whole halt, music ceases, arms may be supported, and the quick march may instantly commence.

### MARCHING PAST IN QUICK TIME.

The whole march off in quick time.—No music.

*Quick march*

*Halt, left wheel, halt, dress, Quick march.* The column makes three several wheels, viz. at the point where the left of the battalion first stood: at the point where the first wheel was made: and at the point where the second wheel was made, which places it on the line of passing the general.

*Carry arms.* Before the leading company has made the last wheel, arms are carried.—When it has completed that wheel the music begin to play.

In *marching past* the general in quick time, and at close order, officers do not salute or pay any compliment, but are attentive to preserve the proper intervals between their companies.—The leading officer of each company shifts to its right by its rear in the same manner as in the ordinary march, 6 paces after the last wheel, which brings him on the line with the general, and when he has passed the general 30 paces he will resume  
his



his proper pivot flank.—The supernumerary officers and sergeants march in a rank, in rear of the companies, at one pace from the rear rank, and officers swords are carried against the right shoulder, and steady.

The mounted officers, are in the same places as in marching past in ordinary time; as also drummers, pioneers, and music; which last will commence playing just after they have wheeled into the line of passing; and will continue to march on at the head of the column.

*Eyes left.* The several companies 30 paces after passing will successively dress to the left the proper pivot flank, and the officers will shift to that flank.

*Halt, left wheel.*

*Halt, dress* The companies successively wheel when opposite to the ground where the left of the bat-  
*—march:* talion stood.

*Halt.*

When the head of the column approaches to the left of the ground on which it originally received the general, the music will cease, and the column will be halted in order to take up the ordinary march, for the purpose of moving on an alignement.

*March.*

*Halt, left wheel,*

*Halt, dress*  
*march.*

When at the point on the left of the alignement.

### FORMING IN LINE.

*Halt.*

*Left wheel*  
*into line—*  
*march.*

*Halt, dress*

The column prolongs the alignement, till arrived at the point where its head or right is to be placed.—It receives the word halt; pivots

are

are instantly corrected, if necessary ; it wheels up into line, and the pioneers and music go to their posts behind the center.

*With cartridge ;  
prime and  
load.*

The battalion being now formed at close order, the commanding officer will order it to prime and load with cartridge, and will proceed with *Movements and Manœuvres.*

*But, should the performance of the Manual, and Platoon Exercise be required,*

The commanding officer, after the line has formed, gives a caution that the manual and platoon exercise will be performed, and goes to the rear of the battalion. The major advances to the front of the battalion, opens ranks ; unfixes bayonets ; shoulders arms ; makes the officers and colours take their post of exercise in the rear, by facing to the right ; marching through the several intervals occupied by the sergeants ; and when 3 paces beyond the rear rank, they halt, and then receive the word front : The mounted officers, pioneers, music, supernumerary sergeants, drummers, fifers, are at their posts in the rear, as when the battalion is formed at close order.

### MARCH OF THE BATTALION IN LINE.

*General  
attentions.*

The March of the battalion in line, whether to front or rear, being the most important and most difficult of all movements, every exertion of the commanding

commanding officer, and every attention of officers and men become peculiarly necessary to attain this end. The great and indispensable requisites of this operation are, the direction of the march being perpendicular to the front of the battalion as then standing; the perfect squareness of the shoulders and body of each individual; the light touch of the files; the accurate equality of cadence, and length of step, given by the advanced sergeants, whom the battalion, in every respect, covers, follows, and complies with. If these are not observed, its direction will be lost; opening, closing, floating, will take place, and disorder will arise, in whatever line it makes a part of, at a time when the remedy is so difficult, and perfect order so essential.

*Directing  
sergeants.*

It is evident therefore that every individual should be well prepared for this operation. But more particularly to ensure its correctness, two or more directing sergeants must be trained to this peculiar object, on whose exactness of cadence, step, squareness of body, and precision of movement, dependance can be had. The habitual post of the two directing sergeants in the battalion is to be in the center of the battalion, and betwixt the colours, one of them in the front rank, and one in the rear, that they thereby may be ready to move out when the battalion is to march, one other also covers them in the supernumerary rank.

At all times when the battalion is formed in line, and halted, the instant attention of the front directing

directing serjeant is (after being assured that he himself is perfectly and squarely placed in the rank) by casting his eyes down the centre of his body, from the junction of his two heels, and by repeated trials to take up and prolong a line perpendicular to himself and to the battalion; for this purpose he is by no means to begin with looking out for a distant object, but if such by chance does present itself in the prolongation of the line extending from his own person, he may remark it: he is therefore rather to observe and take up any accidental small point on the ground, within 100 or 150 paces, intermediate ones cannot be wanting, nor the renewal of such as he afterwards successively approaches to in his march.—In this manner he is prepared, under the future correction of the commanding officer, to conduct the march.

*When the battalion halted, and correctly dressed, is to advance in Line.*

The commanding officer having previously placed himself 10 or 12 paces behind the exact line of the directing serjeant, will, if such file could be depended on, as standing truly perpendicular to the battalion, and great care must be taken to place it so, remark the line of its prolongation, and thereby ascertain the direction in which it should march; but as such precision cannot be relied on, he will from his own eye, readiness,

readiness, and having the square of the battalion before him, make such correction, and observe such object a little to the right or left, as may appear to him the true one; and in doing this he will not at once look out for a distant object, but will hit on it, by prolonging the line from the person of the directing sergeant to the front: or he will order the covering sergeant to run out 20 paces, and will place him in the line in which he thinks the battalion ought to advance.—The directing sergeant then takes his direction along the line which passes from himself betwixt the heels of the advanced sergeant, and remarking his object, preserves such line in advancing.

*The battalion will advance,*

The commanding officer will give the caution, the battalion will advance, on which the front directing sergeant moves out 6 accurate and exact paces in ordinary time, and halts; the two other sergeants who were behind him move up on each side of him, and an officer from the rear replaces in the front rank the leading sergeant. The center sergeant in moving out marches and halts on his own observed points, and the two other sergeants dress and square themselves exactly by him.—If the commanding officer is satisfied that the center sergeant has moved out in the true direction he will acquaint him so, if he thinks he has swerved to the right or left he will direct him to bring up the shoulder on that side the smallest degree possible, in order thereby to change his direction, and take new points on the ground, towards the opposite hand.

The

*March.*

The line of direction being thus ascertained, at the word *March*, the whole battalion instantly step off, and without turning the head, eyes are glanced towards the colours in the front rank: the replacing officer betwixt the colours preserves, during the movement, his exact distance of six paces from the advanced serjeant, and is the guide of the battalion. The center advanced serjeant is answerable for the direction; and the equal cadence and length of step; to these objects he alone attends, while the other two, scrupulously conforming to his position, maintain their parallelism to the front of the battalion, and thereby present an object to which it ought to move square: they are to allow no other considerations to distract their attention, and will notice and conform to the direction of the commander only; and if any small alteration in their position is ordered, it must be gradually and coolly made.

1. Officers in the ranks can only be observant of their own personal exactness of march, they are then but individuals equally attentive as their men; they are not to attempt to dress their companies by looking along or calling to them, otherwise they will certainly err themselves, and derange the march: such care belongs to the officers in the rear; and well trained soldiers themselves know the remedy that is required, and will gradually apply it.

*Colours.*

2. The weight of the colours, and the embarrassment attending them in windy weather,  
rough

rough ground, &c. make it impossible at any time to depend on the officer carrying them for a true direction, or an equal and cadenced step: but they must always be carried uniformly and upright, thereby to facilitate the moving and dressing of the line.

*Soldiers.*

3. The men are on no account to turn their heads to the colours, but to preserve them, and consequently their shoulders, square to the front, and to depend principally on the light touch of the elbow, together with an occasional glance of the eye, and the accuracy of step for their dressing.—If heads were permitted to be turned to the centre, the inward shoulder would be brought forward, the wings would remain behind, the files would open, and disorder would arise in endeavouring still to adhere to the centre, and to counteract what would be occasioned by the fault of principle, and not of the soldier.

*op.*

4. Inattention, or inequality of step, will produce a waving in the march of the battalion; but the communication of this may often be stopped, by the exertions of the major and adjutant, who seeing where and why it originates, will immediately apprise the companies in fault, and coolly caution the others that are well in their true line not to participate of the error.—A flank of the battalion may at first sight appear to be behind; when the fault really arises from a central division bulging out, and thereby preventing the flank from being seen.

5. Whatever alteration is to be made in any part

part of the battalion must be made gradually, and not hurried, that the consequent shake it occasions may be as little felt as possible; the mounted officers only can point out, and correct such faults.

*Flanks.*

6. The flanks on no account are to be kept back; much less are they to be advanced before the centre; in either case the distance of files must be lost, and the battalion will not be covering its true ground; the convex or concave shape of the battalion will show this to the commander, and the beginning of each inaccuracy is to be studiously corrected by necessary cautions. — The officer who is on each flank of the battalion, being unconfined by the ranks; and not liable to be influenced by any floating that does arise, may, by preserving an accurate step, and having a general attention to the colours and to the proper line which the battalion should be in with respect to the advanced directors, very much assist in preserving the flanks in their new position: When he observes that a line drawn from himself through the center of the battalion passes considerably before the other flank, he may conclude himself too much retired; when such line passes behind that flank, he may conclude himself too much advanced; he will therefore regulate himself accordingly. — When the battalion in march is convex, the wings must gain the straight line of the center, by bringing up the outward shoulder; and it must be strongly impressed on the soldier, that in all situations



of movement, by advancing or keeping back the shoulder as ordered, the most defective dressing will be gradually and smoothly remedied, whereas sudden jerks and quick alterations break the line and produce disorder.

*Rear rank* 7. The rear rank must lock up, as the correct movement of the battalion depends much on it's close order.

*Arms carried.* 8. Supported arms are allowed when halted or when in column, as not interfering with its exactness; but in the march in line, arms should be carried **SHOULDERED**.

*Change of direction on the centre in march.* 9. The commander must himself attend to the correct movement of the directing sergeant; if during the first 20 paces he perceives steadiness and no floating in the battalion, he may be assured that the line of march is justly taken; but the contrary will be the case if (the parallel front of the battalion being preserved) he sees the files on one flank opening and on the other crowding; he will instantly apply the remedy by ordering the directing sergeant—"right shoulder forward," if the opening is on the left of the battalion, or, left shoulder forward, if the opening is on the right: At this command the sergeant making an almost imperceptible change of his position, (by bringing up one shoulder) and of his points and the colours in the battalion when they have advanced 6 paces to his ground conforming to it, the whole will by degrees gain a new direction.—Every change of direction made in this manner must produce a kind of wheel of the battalion

battalion on its center, one wing gradually giving back, and the other as gradually advancing, an attention which the commander must take care is observed.

*Halt.*

The battalion marching in perfect order, when it arrives at its ground receives the word halt; the step which is then taking is finished, and the whole halt; eyes remain turned towards the centre, the whole remain steady, and the commanding officer places himself close to the rear rank, in order to see whether the battalion is sufficiently dressed, and in a direction perfectly parallel to the one it quitted.—No preparatory caution is to be used before halting, such caution supposes and encourages incorrectness, and creates uncertainty; at the word halt, the whole halt firmly.

When the battalion is advancing in line for any considerable distance, or moving up in parade, the musick may be allowed at intervals to play for a few seconds only, and the drums in two divisions to roll, but it is the wind instruments only which play, the large drum, or any other instrument whatever which marks time by the stroke, is not to be permitted.—When the line is retiring, musick are never to play.

#### WHEN THE BATTALION IS TO DRESS.

It is evident that in the dressing of a single battalion after the halt, whatever correction is necessary, must be made by advancing or retiring the flanks, and not by moving the center, which  
having

having been the guide in the march, has justly stopped at the point where it has arrived.

*Dress.* 1. When the commanding officer gives the word dress, the company officer on the left of the colours instantly dresses the 6 or 8 files to the right of the colour in a proper parallel direction, the two wings immediately conform to the center, and afterwards receive the word eyes front.

*Eyes front*

2. Should the commander require a more exact dressing than the above gives, he will order one colour to advance one step, and face to the left, also the second company officer on the left of the colour to advance one step, and face to the left; then the flank company officers to advance, and to face to the center; then each other company officer instantly to cover those at their due distances, and face to the center; then the officers of the left wing to face about, so as the whole stand fronted to the left.—Then battalion, right, dress, on which the companies March up to their respective officers, who are favourably posted for halting and dressing each his company; after which, and without loss of time, the officers front into line.

*Battalion,  
right,  
dress—  
march.  
Halt, dress*

3. It must be observed in this mode of dressing, whether it is taken from the centre, or from a flank, that platoon officers, who originally face to the left, take distances equally to the front of their own platoons from the officer before them; but such officers as face to the right must take distances from the officer before them equal to the front of the platoon, which in line is on

the

the right of them.—When circumstances allow the dressing to begin from the left, an advantage arises, that the officers do all originally face to the left.

4. A small change of direction may in this *change of direction on the flank halted.* manner be given to the battalion when halted, either on a flank or central company.—To the *Front* by advancing and placing the officers.—To the *Rear* by the covering sergeants in the same manner giving the ground, the men facing about, lining with the sergeants; then fronting; and the officers replacing the sergeants. But a flank is never in such case supposed to move above 20 or 30 paces.

The battalion may also be occasionally dressed in the following correct manner.—One of the colours is advanced some paces.—An under-officer on one flank of the battalion is placed in a determined line.—An under-officer on the other flank lines himself with the last placed one, and the colour.—The two center grand divisions are moved up to the colour, and dressed to each flank.—The wing grand divisions then move up, and the grenadier and light company in same manner. This dressing may soon be made if done at the ordinary pace, without hurry, and that the chiefs of divisions aligne in the prolongation of the base.

#### WHEN THE BATTALION IS TO RETIRE.

It is evident that it ought to be previously dressed

dressed with the same correctness, as when it was to advance, and the same care in ascertaining the direction of its march must be taken. — Therefore, before the retreat is to begin, an officer will have placed himself 30 paces in the rear, so as to stand perpendicular to the front directing sergeant, and of course he will be in the line, or nearly so, of the directing sergeants.

*The bat-  
talion will  
retire.*

At the word, “the battalion will retire,” the directing sergeants face about. The same centre sergeant that directs to the front, directs also to the rear; he moves on in the line of the advanced officer, 6 paces beyond the rear rank and halts; and the other sergeants are on each side of him.

*Right a-  
bout face.*

At the word “right about face,” the whole face; and the supernumerary officer who replaces the directing sergeant, moves up into the leading rank; a mounted field officer passes through to the rear, and the directing sergeant in the interim prolongs his line, and takes his objects betwixt the feet of the posted officer.

*March.*

Immediately after facing about, the word “march” is given, and the whole proceed in the same manner, and with the same attentions as in moving to the front; the directing sergeant conducting on his points, under the correction of the field officer who is 10 paces behind the battalion.

*Halt,  
&c. &c.*

When the battalion is to front it receives the word “halt, front,” and immediately halts and fronts, the sergeants, &c. resuming their proper

stations; it is then dressed if necessary in the manner already prescribed.

*Attentions in retiring.* In marching to the rear, the battalion must cover its proper extent of ground.—The rear rank men must avoid closing their files more than usual, otherwise the front men who are in general larger, will be crowded in their rank.—Music, drums, supernumerary officers, &c. will take care to march with exactness, not to interrupt, but rather to assist the battalion.—The battalion is not to face about, until every thing is prepared for its instant march, and its halt, front, is one command: when retiring therefore it never unnecessarily stands faced to the rear.

### COVERING PLATOON SERGEANTS.

*Position of the covering sergeant.* The covering sergeant 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.

*In column.* When the battalion breaks into column to the right or left, the sergeant 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 sergeant is on the pivot of the front rank, and is answerable for the platoon distance; if the officer remains on the pivot flank, the sergeant then falls behind the rear rank, and covers the second file from the pivot.

*Wheeling into line.*

When from column, the right in front platoons wheel up to the left into line; the sergeant at the word *wheel*, goes to the right of the front rank of the platoon, and wheels up with it, thereby preserving the officer's place. If the wheel is to the right, the sergeant 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 sergeant 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 sergeant of the leading platoon runs out, and marks the point in the line of pivots where its flanks are to halt.

*Counter-march.*

When platoons counter-march in column, the sergeant 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 counter-march 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 sergeant of each successively, as it arrives within

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.

*Firings.*

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

*Sub-division-  
ors.*

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

*Close column.*

In close column the sergeant 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 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.

Whenever



*Echelon.*

Whenever the platoon is cautioned to *wheel* forward or backward any *named* number of paces, the sergeant 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.

### ATTENTIONS IN PLATOON OFFICERS.

*Position of  
platoon  
officers.*

When the battalion is formed in line, company or platoon officers are all on the right of their platoons — In column, 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, the sergeants under their directions, preserve their ordered distance.

*Wheeling  
into column*

In wheeling from line to column, each moves out, and places himself one pace before the centre of his platoon; each turns towards his men during the wheel, and inclines to his pivot flank: each gives his word *Ha't, 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  
into 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 eyes 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 between the platoons.

When

*On the pivot  
or flank.* When an officer is marching on the pivot flank, he is to be answerable for distance and covering; these circumstances alone must 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 counter-march on its own ground, the officer, when his platoon faces, goes to that flank, which is to become the pivot flank, conducts his platoon in file, and closes its leader to the sergeant, who has remained to mark the pivot, halts, fronts, and dresses it square; he then places himself where the sergeant stood.

*In line.* When the battalion marches in line, officers then become 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.

*In file.* When the platoons of a column file separately to a flank, the officer conducts the head, and when he arrives within 30 paces of the new position in which he is to form, he detaches his sergeant 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 sergeant, and halts, fronts, and dresses his platoon.

to be close to the sergeant : he then himself, after correcting his platoon, replaces the sergeant, who falls back to the rear rank.—In filing, distances and dressing are taken from that hand to which, by a face 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.

*Leading officer.*

On the leading platoon officer of the column much of the precision of march depends, he must lead at an equal, 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

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 sergeants are placed behind the second file from the pivot officers, that the officers may the more correctly see and cover each other in column.

*Pivots*

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 column.*

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 sergeant to proceed with the division; at the due instant gives his word halt, front, dress, and as soon as the front of his division

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 join 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 sergeant. 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 sergeant 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.

*In front  
of their  
divisions.*

When officers march in front of their divisions, they must 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.

*Wheeling  
in column  
of march  
on a move-  
able point.*

When the head of a column of march changes its direction, and that marching in an alignment is not in question, instead of making regular wheels on fixed points, the officer who conducts the

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.

*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 ahead 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.

ATTENTIONS

## ATTENTIONS OF COMMANDING OFFICER OF BATTALION.

—

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

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

*Commands* Whatever operation is to be performed by the whole of 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.

*Points of march.* Before the column marches, the commanding officer ascertains 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 platoons 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.—  
*Points of doubling and wheeling.* That 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.

*Halt of the column.* 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.

*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 dispatch a mounted officer to ascertain that point.—When the platoons wheel up into line, he immediately, (if necessary) corrects the dressing the battalion from the flank which led when in column, and that generally upon a point beyond the other flank.

*Commands.* When acting in line with others, the commanding officer of each battalion conforms to the

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 mark-captions, makes his battalion step out, or short or incline, as is necessary to preserve place in the general line; his great attention to see and prevent the beginning of faults, not wait till they have had their effect; by watching and regulating his advanced sergeants 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 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 look to it, will be immediately dressed on the colour of the next adjoining battalion: by this means a general continued line will be obtained, and at any rate, a straight one between each colour; and if all the colours should have been halted in one line, the whole corps will be completely formed in a straight line. But if the

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 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 (until 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.

*Intervals.* 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.

*Aides in  
service.* Commanding officers cannot take too much precaution to ascertain true points in the line in  
which

-which they are to form, before the arrival of their battalions in it, and this by the aid of the mounted officers.

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.

*Attentions.*

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.

*Close column.*

A battalion close column forms a 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 there

fore 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.

*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 se-  
veral.*

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 co-

luno, 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 examined 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 harrassed 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.*

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

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.

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.

*Marching  
in an  
alignement*

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

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.

*Field officers.*

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 commanding 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.

### EVOLUTION.

Evolutions are the movements which troops perform their manœuvres by, changing their order and situation relative to ground and circumstances.— Without evolutions, troops would be

but



but a mass without movement, reduced to that primitive order they were first ranged in, and incapable of acting on every variety of ground which circumstances might require.

### DISCIPLINE.

Is the mechanical part of the business of war, or the practice of every thing that may be executed in the field; military discipline may therefore be defined the formation, training, and government of troops.

### LINE.

When an army is drawn up in battle array it is in one or more lines. Troops march to the attack in straight lines, otherwise, in advancing, they must inevitably fall into confusion: but troops may be formed for defence according to the nature of the ground, in lines either curved or straight. The movements and manœuvres of a considerable line are similar to, and derived from, the same general principles as those of the single battalion. No considerable body should ever be formed without a proportion of it being placed in reserve, or in second lines, and more or less strong, according to circumstances.

SECOND LINES are seldom composed of as many battalions as the first; they are often divided into distinct bodies covering separate parts of the same line.

The distance between the lines may in general be supposed equal to the front of two battalions.

All great bodies of troops are formed in one or more lines.

Each

Each line is divided into right and left wings. — Each wing is composed of one, two, or more divisions.

Each division is composed of one or more brigades. Each brigade is formed of two, three, or four battalions.

Each battalion is again subdivided into companies, subdivisions, and sections, observing only, that no section should, if possible, consist of less than five files.

These bodies have their immediate commanders subordinate to each other.

Battalions are formed in line, at a distance of twelve paces from each other, and this interval is occupied by two cannon, which are attached to each battalion. There is no increased distance betwixt brigades, unless particular circumstances require it. In exercise, should there be no cannon betwixt the battalions, the interval may be reduced to six paces.

### BASE LINE.

The line on which troops in column move, or are successively to form, is taken up to any extent by the prolongation of an original short and given base, established where they begin to enter or form on that line.

In successive forming of divisions into line, as from close column, from echelon, &c. the first division that arrives in, and is truly formed on it, may be considered as the BASE, which is constantly prolonging for the others.

### ALIGNEMENT

## ALIGNEMENT.

To march or form in the *Alignement*, is to make troops march, or form in any part of the straight line, which joins two given points. On the justness and observance of this line depends the accuracy of the most essential movements and formations, and therefore, every relative help must be applied to ensure it.

POINT D'APPUI, or *Support*,

Means that point where the leading flank of the body to be formed is to rest.

## POINT OF FORMATION,

Is that point, whether near or distant, on which the body forming is to be dressed or corrected.

No rank or body ought ever to be dressed without the person on its flank appointed to dress it determining, or at least supposing a line on which the rank or body is to be formed; therefore, when troops are to form in a straight line, two necessary points in it must always be previously ascertained. One, the point of *appui*, at which one flank of the body, whether small or great, is to be placed; the other is the point of formation, placed at, or beyond the opposite flanks, on which point the body is to be aligned or dressed.

In general, the point where a formation or entry into an alignment is to be made being marked, suppose by a camp-colour (the point of *Appui*), the commander will place a second camp-colour 30 or 40 paces beyond the first, exactly in the direction which he determines to give

give his new line, and which will generally be on some distant object. These two original or base points (marked by the camp colours) which are to be prolonged and formed upon, should not be too close together, otherwise the direction of the line must be indistinct, and the further they are asunder, the better can a line be taken upon them.

When battalions, or divisions of a battalion, come up successively into line, the outward flank of the last formed and halted body is always considered as the point of *Appui* (or support), of the succeeding one; and in this manner is the general line prolonged from each successive point of *appui* towards the given distant point of information. The looking and lining of the soldier forming is always towards the point of *Appui*, and the correction or dressing is always from that point towards the opposite hand. This great principle is to be observed, from the smallest body to the most considerable corps, and regulates the formation of the division, the battalion, and the line.

On all occasions, without exception, of forming and dressing in line, it must be remembered, that the soldiers come into line with their eyes turned to the general point of *appui*, where the leading flank is to rest, and of course to whatever part of a line is nearer to that point than themselves, which may be already formed before them, the flank of which is to them a direction or new point of *appui*.

The officer in dressing, without exception, is placed on that flank of his division or body towards which the men's eyes are turned, and from thence he makes his corrections on the distant point, which is previously marked by the adjutant: therefore, on all occasions, by the men lining themselves to one hand, and the officers correcting to the other, the most perfect line may be obtained.

Should it be neglected to give or prepare such points of correction, the dressing of the line would be irregular and slow, and depend entirely on the men taking it up from each other, and from the first formed flank, which is an imperfect method, and can never produce a just line, capable of marching forward in due order. The having such points quickly and successively prepared the instant before they are wanted, and without any noise or apparent bustle, so that no delay may be made in the operations of the battalion or line, is one of the great attentions of the commanding officer and adjutant, and in this they may be assisted by well-trained camp-colour-men.

When the persons who prolong a line are on horseback, the head of the horse of each, standing perpendicular to that line, is the object, and when they dismount, their own breast is the object which the shoulders of the leaders of the divisions of a column in march raise in passing, and which is in the line of the head of the horse. It is also the breast of such other men as may be  
 posted

posted on foot, which the several leaders in like manner raise, as they successively arrive at them.

### DEPLOY, DEPLOYER.

The literal translation of this word is *unfold*. We have no word to substitute for it. A column is said to *deploy*, when the divisions that compose it open out, or extend, in order to form line upon some one of those divisions.

### PROPER PIVOT FLANK.

When the battalion stands in open column, the proper pivot flank is that which, when wheeled up to, preserves the divisions of the line in the natural order, and to their proper front.

### INVERSION OF THE BATTALION OR COLUMN.

If the battalion standing in open column with its right in front, is to be wheeled into line, then to preserve the divisions of the line in their natural order, and to their proper front, it would receive the command, to the left wheel into line. If the left was in front, then the command would be, to the right wheel into line. If the column stood with its right in front, received the command, to the right wheel into line, then the divisions would be inverted, or, it is commonly expressed, the regiment would be club'd : for, when wheeled into line, it would stand fronted to its former rear, and although every company, singly considered, would be properly formed, yet altogether the order of the battalion would be inverted, that is, the light infantry would

would be on the right, and the grenadiers on the left; the right hand man of the grenadiers would stand next to the left hand man of the first battalion company; whereas, if they stood in their natural order, the right hand man of the first battalion company would touch the left hand man of the grenadiers, and so of the others. Although, in general, the inversion of all bodies in line is to be avoided, yet there are situations where this rule must be dispensed with, and the quickest formation to a particular front thereby obtained. The battalion, or a whole line, may be obliged to face to the right about, and oppose its rear ranks to the enemy, instead of changing its position by a counter-march. The column may be obliged to deploy with its rear ranks in front, and all its divisions inverted. Troops must therefore be accustomed to such operations: but the application of them requires great method and recollection, otherwise, in such critical situations, confusion is very easily produced, and will be attended with the most fatal consequences.

### FLANK.

Flanks of a battalion are the right and left of the battalion. Every division has its right and left flank. If the battalion in line is faced to the right, the front rank is the left flank; if in column the right in front, then the left or pivot is the left flank, the reverse flank is the right flank: and the contrary when the left is in front.

### REVERSE

## REVERSE FLANK.

The reverse flank is the flank not the pivot; on this flank in close column, the supernumerary officers, colours, music, &c. are placed.

## COLUMN.

When the divisions that compose a battalion, or other corps, stand the one directly behind the other, and parallel to each other, that battalion or corps is then in column:

Column divisions cover and dress to their proper pivot flank, to the left when the right is in front, and to the right when the left is in front. All columns are supposed formed from line for the convenience of movement, and for the purpose of again extending into line.

When the divisions of a column are distant from each other, by the length or extent of one of them, they being each supposed to consist of an equal number of files, then it is called an

## OPEN COLUMN.

The line breaks into open column, by wheels of the quarter circle.

An open column occupies the same extent of ground as when in line, *minus* the front of its leading division. The chief objects of the open column are facility of movement, the quick formation of the line to the flank, and the change of situation in the shortest lines from one position to another; it is named the

## COLUMN OF ROUTE.

When applied to common marches, where the attention of men and officers are not so much kept



kept on the stretch, the column of route, formed by divisions of the battalion, is the foundation of all great distant movements, and even of evolutions and manœuvres. All marches are therefore made in column of divisions of the line, and never on a less front than six files where the formation is three deep, or four files where it is two deep. Where a considerable space is to be gone over, the front of the column should not be more than sixteen or eighteen files.

In the route march, it is not to be supposed that men can, for any considerable length of time, continue to march in the regular cadence of 75 paces of 30 inches each in the minute; yet it may be absolutely necessary where the arrival of a column at a given point is to be perfectly punctual, that the column should move at that rate; in which case, the distance being known, a well drilled sergeant should march at the head of the column, in the exact cadence of time; he might be relieved every half hour by another equally well drilled sergeant or corporal which march the commanding officer might occasionally (if requisite) regulate by his watch: in this case, the attention of the rest of the column is allowed to be relaxed, the soldier moves on without the restraint of cadence of step, or carried arms: rear ranks are opened to one or two paces; files are loosened, but never confounded; but in no situation is the ordered distance between divisions ever to be increased, and the proper flank officers and under officers remain answerable

answerable for them. When platoon officers are permitted to be mounted, each will remain on the flank of his division, watching over its exactness. When cannon can possibly move on the flank of the battalion they ought, and mounted officers or bat-horses must not be permitted betwixt the divisions.

## THE COLUMN OF ROUTE

IS NAMED THE

## COLUMN OF MANŒUVRE,

When being within reach of the enemy, the greatest exactness is required, in order to speedy formation at any instant into line, during its transition from one position to another. No time whatever ought the column of manœuvre or of route, to occupy a greater extent of ground in marching, than what is *equal to its front* when in order of battle; no situation can require it an advantage.

## CLOSE COLUMN.

When the divisions that form a column no more than one pace distant from each other, is called a close column.

The battalion close column forms in line on front, on its rear, or on a central division by *deployment* or *flank march*, and by which it cessively uncovers, and extends its several divisions.

Previous to its deployment, it will stand companies in front, that is, it will form a column of grand divisions, and must be well-closed before it deploys.

The march to and from the field of exercise in column, should be considered as one of the most material parts of exercise, and be made with attention, equality of step, just distances, and perfect order; the front of the march should be frequently increased and diminished, and the battalion at different periods formed by wheels to the flank, to shew that distances have been duly preserved.

### **ECELLON** (*from Echelle a Ladder*).

When the divisions of a battalion are placed, not directly behind each other, but parallel to each other, like a step-ladder, or a flight of steps, such battalion is then in Echellon or in Echellon column, and it is thrown into this form from line, by the wheel of divisions, less than the quarter-circle, which places them in the position for making oblique changes.

The attacks of considerable bodies are almost always conducted on the principles of the echellon.

Echellons are either direct or wheeled.

The direct echellon is formed from line, by the perpendicular and successive march of divisions to front or rear.

The wheeled echellon is formed from line, or open column, by the wheel of its divisions, backward or forward, always less than the quarter circle.

The echellon may be considered as a column of a particular kind, as well as the open column.

*When*

*When the Battalion moving in Line, passes a Wood, or other impediment, to front or rear, by the filing of Companies.*

1. *If to pass a wood or other embarrassed ground to the front ; when it is found necessary to break the battalion, the commander will order it to pass from the right of companies to the front, which each company officer orders his company right, turn, wheels out his leading file, and passes on as fast as the difficulty of the ground will allow him, endeavouring to preserve a relative distance from the left as being the head of the column, or from the other flank if particularly ordered.—Each officer on arriving at the farther edge of the wood will halt his company, and remain till the others are come up, and till the whole are ordered to march out, and form in battalion ; which will generally be done by standing in open column the left in front, dressing the flanks, and wheeling up into line.—On the companies form separately on the edge of the wood, they will march out and join in the battalion.*

2. *If to pass to the rear.—When the battalion retiring in line, arrives at the point where it must break, it is ordered to pass companies by files.—The leader of each gives his word left turn, and proceeds as above directed ; the heads of files are regulated from the left ; and*

*Pass to the front.*

*Right turn.*

*Pass companies by files.*

*Left turn.*

*2 march.*

*after*

*Halt, front.* after quitting the wood, at an ordered distance, they halt, front into column, the right in front, and wheel to the left up into line. — The line then again retreats if necessary.

### WHEN THE BATTALION FORMS A SQUARE, OR OBLONG.

*Caution.*

*Form square. Companies inwards face.*

*Q. march.*

*Halt, front*

1. The 4th, 5th, 6th battalion companies stand fast (in consequence of the explanatory caution that is given preparatory to forming the square), the rest of the battalion faces inwards, and disengages the heads of companies to the rear; the colours and their coverers fall back, the 4th company closing to the left to fill up their place. They march quick. — The 7th, 8th, and light companies place themselves in open column behind the 6th; the 3d, 2d, and 1st place themselves in open column behind the 4th; the grenadiers place themselves between the light company and the 1st. — When these three last companies close up to the 8th and 2d, and face about (having each first counter-marched, if it is thought necessary to have the front rank outer-most) at the same time that the 7th, 8th, and the 3d, 2d, wheel outwards, the oblong stands complete, or, the square may be a perfect one, if it is composed of the eight battalion companies only; the grenadier and light company being in reserve in the rear, ready to be applied according to circumstances.

*Caution. Form square. Companies back wheel.*

*Q. march.*

2. The square or oblong may be formed by the

H

4th.

*4th, 5th, 6th companies standing fast.*—The rest of the battalion wheels backward, each company the 8th of the circle, on its inward flank.—They face about. They march to complete the square as above; each wheeling when it comes to its ground, and then fronting. and in this manner will the proper front rank of the rear face be outward.—The commanding officer, colours, and their coverers, drums, &c. &c. are within the square, as also the battalion guns which are shifted to wherever they are most necessary.—The square is composed of the front, the right, the left, the rear faces: the front face is that on which the square originally forms.

3. *When the square or oblong is to march by any one face.*—The side which is to lead is announced; the colours move up behind its centre; the opposite side faces about; and the two flank sides wheel up by sub-divisions, so as to stand each in open column. The square marches, two sides in line, and by their center; and two sides in open column, which cover, and dress to their inward flanks on which they wheeled up, carefully preserving their distances.—The square halts, and when ordered to front square, the sub-divisions in column immediately wheel back, and form their sides, and the side which faced about again faces outwards.

## FIRST MANŒUVRE.

*Close Column in Rear of the Right Division.*

Commanding Officer.		Words of Command. By Officers of Divis.
Caution.	Commands.	
The battalion will form column of divisions in rear of the right division.	Remaining divisions to the right face r Quick march. 2	2d Division, halt, Front dress, 3d Div. do. do. do. &c. &c.
Form column of grand divisions 3	Left divisions to the left face quick march. 4	2d Division halt, front dress 5 march.
The column will close to the front 6	March.	Halt, dress eyes front, &c. &c. 2d Grand division, halt dress: 3d do. do. do. &c. &c.
The column will take ground to the right, and on the march deploy on the rear grand division.	To the right face, quick march 7 5th grand division halt front. 4th grand division halt front. 3d ditto do. do. 2d ditto do. do. 1st ditto do. do.	Dress 8, 5th grand division, march, halt dress, eyes front. Dress 4th grand div. march, halt dress, eyes front. Ditto do. do. Ditto do. do. Ditto do. do.

*Remarks*

*Remarks on the First Manœuvre.*

1. The commander and sergeant coverer of the 1st division face to the right-about, and sluff by the rear to the left of the division; the sergeant coverer places himself eight paces in front of the pivot flank to mark the perpendicular of the column; as soon as three divisions have marched into column and correctly covered, he will resume his station in rear of his commander.

2. On the word "march," the rear rank of the 1st division locks up.

3. The commander of the 5th division moves his division six paces to the right by the side step, to give space for the colours.

4. All supernumeraries face to the right, and on the word *quick march*, go to the rear of the column and form rank entire.

5. On the word "dress," to the left divisions, after filing out, the sergeant coverers of them step forward and place themselves in a line with the right divisions, and become the outward point for the dressing of the left divisions.

6. On the caution the column will close to the front; the commanders and sergeant coverers in the centre, face to the left about, and sluff by the rear to the right of their divisions; the sergeant coverers on the left, face to the left-about and sluff by the rear to the centre of grand divisions.

7. In this deployment care must be taken that



the 1st grand division does not shut out the point of dress by marching on the line.

8. On the word "dress" to the 5th grand division, a supernumerary sergeant from that division will step forward and place himself on the new line with the camp colours on the right, and becomes the inward point of dressing; the officer on the right of that division taking care on the "halt" to post himself in a line with the points on the right for the outward point of dressing; as soon as the grand division is correctly dressed, the commander gives the word "eyes front," and shifts by the rear to the right of his own division.

N. B. It is to be observed as an invariable rule, that when the commanders of divisions have to shift from one flank to the other of their divisions, it is always to be done by the rear and never by the front.

## SECOND MANŒUVRE.

*Close Column in Front of the Left Division.*

Commanding Officer.		Words of Command. By Officers of Divis
Caution.	Commands.	
The battalion will form a close column of Divisions in front of the left division.	Remaining divisions to the left face 1 Quick march 2.	9th Division, halt, front dress 8th Ditto do. do. &c. &c.
Form column of grand division. 3	Left divisions to the left face 4 quick march.	2d Division, halt, front dress 5 3d March, halt, dress, eyes front, &c. &c.
The column will close to the front 6.	March.	2d Grand division, halt dress. 3d Ditto do. do &c. &c.
The columns will take ground to the left, and on the march deploy on the front grand division.	To the left face quick march 7 1st Grand division. Halt front. 2d Grand division. Halt front. 3d Ditto ditto	Dress Dress 2d grand division, march Halt dress, eyes front.

*Remark*

*Remarks on the Second Manœuvre.*

1. The commanders and serjeant coverers face to the right-about, and shift to the left of their divisions; the serjeant coverer of the left division places himself 8 paces behind the pivot flank of that division, to mark the perpendicular of the column; as soon as three divisions are in column and properly covered, he will resume his place in rear of his commander.

2. On the word "march," the rear rank of the left division locks up.

3. The commander of the 5th division moves his division six paces to the right, by the side step, to give space for the colours.

4. All supernumeraries face to the right, and on the word *quick march*, go to the rear of the column, and form rank entire.

5. On the word "dress," to the left divisions after filing out, the serjeant coverers of them step forward, and place themselves in a line with the right divisions, and become the outward point for the dressing of the left divisions.

6. On the caution, the column will close to the front; the commanders and serjeant coverers in the centre, face to the left-about, and shift to the right of their divisions; the serjeant coverers on the left face to the left-about, and shift to the centre of grand divisions.

7. The officer on the left of the 1st grand division will march correctly on the camp colours on the left placed for the line, and when halted  
and

and fronted, to glance his eyes to the left, to see that he is in the correct line, and becomes the outward point of dressing for the grand division; the officers on the left of each succeeding grand division observing, in like manner, as they are halted in the line to dress on the camp colours correctly for the outward point of dressing; as soon as the grand division is correctly dressed, the commander gives the word "eyes front," the officer on the left will shift to the right of his division.

## THIRD MANŒUVRE.

*Close Column on a central Div. facing the Rear*

Commanding Officer.		Words of Command. By Officers of divisions.
Caution.	Commands.	
The battalion will form a close column of divisions on the right centre division right in front and facing to the rear 1.	Remaining divisions outwards face 4 to the right counter march quick march.	Right centre division to the left face 2 to the left counter-march Quick march 3 Halt front dress back.
The close column will change its front by the counter-march of divisions 5	To the right face, left division file out. Quick march, halt.	4th Division halt Front dress, eyes front. 6th Ditto do do. &c. &c.
The whole will counter-march.	Quick march 6	1st Division halt, front dress, eyes front, 2d Ditto do. do. &c. &c.
The column will deploy and form line on the right centre division.	Remaining division outwards face.	5th Division, march, halt dress, eyes front. 9.
	Quick march 8	

*Remarks*

*Remarks on the Third Manœuvre.*

1. On this caution the commander of the right centre division will counter-march his division by the left.

2. On the word, "face," the commander will himself face to the right-about and shift to the left of his division, the serjeant coverer taking his place and faces to the right-about; the two left files as soon as they have faced, will disengage to the rear.

3. As soon as the counter-march is completed, to dress his division correctly on the front rank.

4. On the word "face," all the commanders and serjeant coverers of the left wing will face to the right-about, and shift to the left of their divisions; the two right files in each division of the right wing will disengage to the rear; the two left files in each division of the left wing will disengage to the front; the colour division faces to the left, and counter-marches with the 6th division.

5. On this caution all the commanders of divisions turn to the left and shift to the right of their divisions, the serjeant coverers immediately replace them, and on the column facing to the right they come to the right-about.

On this caution also, the colour division will step two paces forward, and when the divisions counter-march, they will counter-march on their own ground.

6. As the commanders lead their divisions up to the serjeant coverers, they pass in the rear of them, and give the word "halt," &c. &c.

7. On this caution the commanders and serjeant coverers of the left wing, and the serjeant coverer of the right centre division will turn to the right-about and shift to the left of their divisions. A supernumerary serjeant from the right centre division will, at the same time, step forward to the head of the column, to mark the new line where that division is to halt.

8. The right centre division should be marched up the instant it is uncovered—the commander of it dresses the colour division on the general line:

9. The serjeant coverers being on the outward flanks of their divisions, must be correct in taking up the line with the camp colours, they being the outward point of dressing for their divisions; those of the left wing will not shift to cover their commanders, until the commander of the division on their left gives the word "eyes front."

## LIGHT INFANTRY.

*To extend from the right, left, or centre.* *Of Extending and Closing again.*  
 1. When the company is formed at close order, and is required to extend from the right, the words of command will be given as follow :

*To the left extend.*

At this word of command the company, except the right hand file, faces to the left, moves on in quick time, casting the eyes over the right shoulder, so that each file when at two paces distant from his right hand file may halt, front, and dress by the right. The rear rank steps to the right, in order, if necessary, to march or fire without impediment through the intervals of the front rank. This is the usual distance between files, at which light troops when ordered to extend will form; but in particular cases, when they are required to cover the front of a corps, or mask a manœuvre, the commanding officer will signify at what distance the files are to form from each other, before he gives the order for them to extend themselves.

When the company is to extend from the left, the word of command will be given.

*To the Right extend.*

The whole, except the left hand file, face to the right, in taking their distance look over the left shoulder, halt, front, and dress by the left. The rear rank, as in opening to the left, take ground to the right of their file leaders.

When



When to extend from the centre, the word of command will be given.

*From the Centre extend.*

At which the right wing faces and moves to the right, as in extending from the left; the left wing performs the same movements as when extending from the right; the centre file stands fast.

As soon as the recruits are perfect in this mode of extending, the words of command of *from right, left, or centre extend*, are laid aside, and the commanding officer takes post on the wing, or point from which the company is to extend; and orders the bugle to sound the signal to extend; and should the distance proposed to be taken between the files be more than two paces (the usual extended order), he will signify, before the signal to extend is made, at what distance the files are to form, at 3, 4, 5, or 6 paces.

On the signal to extend, the files open from the spot where the commanding officer has placed himself with the bugle. When extended, the riflemen trail their arms. If detached corps should happen to be without a bugle, the officer must make use of the before mentioned words of command to extend.

*Of closing again.*

*When an extended corps is to close again*

On the signal from the bugle to close, every man faces and closes briskly to the point from whence the signal is given; the whole shoulder their rifles and dress; in this movement the files must be careful not to intermix, to prevent the confusion

confusion that would unavoidably arise from their doing so. Should the commanding officer have no bugle with him to give the signal, he must give the word of command *Close*.

*Of Firing in extended Order, and of Skirmishing.*

*Of firing  
on the  
spot.*

1. When riflemen or light corps are to fire from the spot in extended order, the bayonets of the latter must be first unfixed, the commanding officer then orders the hornet to give the signal to commence firing. At this signal the front rank makes ready, presents (each man selecting his particular object), and fires: soon as the rear rank man sees his file leader put the ball into his piece, he makes ready, and fires through the intervals of the front rank; and when the rear rank men have got their balls into their pieces, each man gives notice to his file leader to fire. In this manner the fire is continued *on the spot*, till the signal is given to cease firing.

*Of firing  
in advan-  
cing.*

2. In firing in advancing, the commanding officer first orders the signal to march to be sounded, and immediately after, the signal to fire.

On this the rear rank moves briskly six paces before the front rank, each man having passed to the right of his file leader, makes ready, takes his aim, and fires; and, as soon as he has loaded again, trails his rifle. When the sergeant of the front rank sees the rear rank has fired, he steps in front, gives a signal with his whistle, upon which the front rank moves briskly six paces before the rear rank, each man then presents, takes  
aim,

aim and fires ; following the directions that have been given to the rear rank. Thus each rank continues advancing and firing alternately. If the firing in advancing is to cease, the commanding officer orders the signal for *halt*, after which not a shot must be heard.

*Of firing  
in retreat-  
ing.*

3. At the signal of the bugle to *commence firing*, immediately followed by the signal to *retreat*, the first rank (namely, that which happens to be in front), makes ready, takes aim, and fires, goes to the right about, marches with a quick step twelve paces in the rear of the second rank, fronts and loads. As soon as the serjeant on the flank of the second rank sees that the first is formed and loading, he steps two paces to the front, and gives the signal with his whistle, upon which the second rank makes ready, takes aim and fires ; then faces to the right about, marches with a quick step twelve paces into the rear of the first, fronts and loads. In this manner both ranks retire, supporting each other. When the fire in retiring is to cease, the commanding officer orders the signal for *halt* to be made.

*Of skir-  
mishing.*

4. The companies being sufficiently instructed in the above firings, they will proceed to the practice of them, in which one general principle must be observed : namely, that never more than one half of a body of riflemen must be sent forward to skirmish, the other half remain formed and ready to support. If a battalion or company of riflemen is to make an attack, or by means of the above disposition keep the enemy at a distance  
from

from their front, the commanding officer will first signify, whether the right or left platoons are to advance. If the latter, the left platoon of each company moves briskly fifty paces forwards, the right half of that platoon then halts with closed ranks, the left half moves sixty paces further to the front and extends its files, so as to cover completely the front of the main body from which it is detached. Whenever right platoons advance to skirmish, right half platoons must be pushed on in their front and extend themselves to the left, and *vice versa*.

If the signal is sounded to *march*, the platoons which remain formed in line, and the half platoons which were advanced fifty paces in front of them, move forward in ordinary time, taking care to preserve their intervals. The skirmishers who have been pushed on in front, conduct themselves in the same manner as in firing in advancing. If the signal for *halt* is given, the whole corps halts, and the skirmishers cease firing; but keep their ground: on the signal for *retreat*, the whole corps, except the skirmishers, face to the right about, and retire in ordinary time, paying the greatest attention to the preservation of distances. The platoons which have been pushed on in front in extended order, conduct themselves in the same manner as in firing in retreating. On the signal to *halt*, the whole halts, fronts, and the skirmishers cease firing.

At the signal to *close*, the half platoons which have extended themselves in front to skirmish,

fall

fall back on the half which has remained formed in their rear. At the second signal to *close*, the advanced platoons retreat in quick time, and take their places in the line.

When a company or battalion has been formed for an attack in the above manner, and the signal for *alarm* is sounded, the skirmishers retire with the greatest celerity through their respective intervals in the battalion; in the rear of which they form and resume their several stations in the line.

This manœuvre will be requisite only when the battalion is to attack, or may have occasion to make use of its whole fire: the skirmishers therefore will not wait for another, but will retire as fast as they can through the intervals, as above; but the quarter platoons will remain formed, and move with a firm and quick step into their proper places. The officers of the detached platoons must direct their principal attention to combine in such a manner, the movements of their half platoons and skirmishers, with those of the battalion or corps, as always to keep parallel with them, and to preserve the proper distances of the extended order they have been directed to take.

It may happen that an entire company be required to extend itself for the purpose of covering the front of a corps, without leaving any part formed as a reserve. In this case the company will trail arms, advance in close order, and when arrived at the proper distance, will extend itself

with all possible celerity. If the company is detached from the right wing, it will extend to the left; if from the left wing, it will extend to the right; and if from the centre to both the flanks.

Should it be necessary to retire across a plain; on the battalion going to the right about, the right and left flank files of each platoon remain fronted; in retreating, the battalion will carefully preserve the intervals left by the above files, whose business it is to extend themselves to cover its retreat, following it at the distance of thirteen paces, and by their fire endeavouring to keep off the enemy's flankers: for this purpose, riflemen should be practised to load and fire in marching; during this manœuvre it will be particularly necessary to caution the flankers against expending their fire all at the same time.

If attacked by cavalry, the signal for *halt* will be first made, on which the battalion fronts; the signal for *retreat* will then be sounded, on which the skirmishers fall into their respective places in the line.

If the battalion is to continue its retreat, it will face to the right about; the skirmishing files remain fronted as before. When the retreat has been effected to the point proposed, the signal to *halt* is made, on which the battalion fronts, the skirmishers are called in, and the whole dresses by the centre.

*Of the Formation of the Chain and Advanced Guard.*

*Formation of the chain.*

1. The object of this branch of the duty of light troops is to scour a tract of country by means of numerous and detached bodies, clearing the woods and enclosures of the enemy's posts, and in a word, to establish a complete chain of your own troops, by occupying, as far as circumstances will permit, every advantageous spot ; taking particular care, however, that your own posts are so stationed as to have easy communication, and the power of mutually supporting each other.

When a company of light infantry is destined to form the chain without any other corps to support it, the commanding officer signifies that one fourth of it, *i. e.* one half platoon or section, will remain formed as a reserve : suppose, for instance, the fourth section is fixed on for this service ; in this case the three first advance fifty paces in quick time ; the order is then given to *form the chain to the right or left*, or as circumstances may require ; the signal from the bugle is immediately given, and the detachment extends in divisions of two files at ten paces distant from each other ; the fourth section remains formed. This disposition being made, the signal from the bugle is given to *march*. The chain moves forward in ordinary time, taking care to preserve the distance and alignment. The section of reserve follows at the distance of fifty paces, in order to give support to any part of the chain that may be attacked.

On

On the signal *halt*, the whole halts and dresses. If the chain is to fire, the signal is made to *commence firing*; on which the right flugelman of each division of the chain takes three paces to the front and fires, falls back into his place again and loads. The other three men perform the same singly; and by this means the fire is kept up, without intermission, till the signal is made to *cease firing*.

At the signal to *retreat*, the whole chain faces to the right about, and retreats in ordinary time. On the signal to *halt*, the whole chain halts and fronts. If it is to *incline to the left*, it faces to the left, and takes ground to the left; if to *incline to the right*, it faces and takes ground to the right; or the object of gaining ground on either flank may be obtained with equal facility by an oblique movement. On the signal to *close*, the whole chain closes to the point from whence the sound is given.

Should the two flank platoons of a corps of light infantry be ordered to form the chain, or extend themselves (as circumstances may require), in order by this means to mask the formation of the battalion, or to keep the enemy at a distance, in a country, where his front is difficult of approach; the two flank platoons will advance in quick time the distance which may be directed, and when arrived on the spot, the right flank platoon forms the chain to the left, and the left flank platoon to the right, proceeding according to the directions already given for extending, and  
for



for the formation of the chain: On the signal being made to *close*, the platoons close to the point from which they extended, and both resume their situations on the flanks of the corps as quickly as possible.

*Disposition of a company of rifle men or light infantry which is to form an advanced guard.*

2. The company is told off into four half platoons, or sections. The commanding officer, with the first half platoon, marches in front of the corps to which he forms the advanced guard, in the day-time five hundred paces, but in the night, or in hazy weather, three hundred only. The second section is detached two hundred paces in front of the first, and a party of a sergeant and six men is pushed on one hundred paces further, which forms the head of the advanced guard. The third and fourth half platoons are placed three hundred paces to the right and left of the first, and even with it, taking care to preserve as much as possible the above distance from it, and detaching one hundred paces forwards, and in an oblique direction to the outer flank, a non-commissioned officer and six men.

The duty of the advanced guard is to scour the whole country in its front penetrating through woods and enclosures, and searching into villages. If the patrols meet with an enemy, the officer of the half platoons informs the captain of the company, who reports the same by a steady non-commissioned officer to the commanding officer of the corps.

The commanding officer of the advanced guard will of course have been previously directed,

ed, whether in case of falling in with an enemy, he is to attack or merely to amuse him with his skirmishers, or whether he is to fall back. In the last instance he must not retire with the main body, but, by withdrawing in an oblique direction, leave a clear stage for the operations of that corps against the enemy. He will by this movement avoid the possibility of confusion ensuing from the retreat of his own troops, which, under particular circumstances, may unavoidably become precipitate. On the signal to *march*, the whole advanced guard moves forward. On the signal *halt*, the whole halts, keeping, however, the disposition. If the signal to *close* is sounded, the non-commissioned officers' detachments join their respective half platoons; and on the second signal to *close*, the second, third, and fourth half platoons close and form to the first. When one single platoon is to compose an advanced guard, it will be told off in four sections, which are then to represent the four half platoons. In every other respect the regulations and directions given in the foregoing paragraph are applicable in the present instance.

*Of the Service of Light Troops in the Field.*

2. During the campaign, light troops are usually cantoned in villages, and are not provided with camp equipage. They may, however, be occasionally required to occupy ground on the flank of a corps in the line of encampment; the men must, in that case, construct huts of earth, or boughs of trees, and will perform all the camp duties,

duties, and in every respect comply with the regulations laid down for the discipline of regular infantry.

*Of Patrols in General.*

*Disposition to be observed by a patrolle in reconnoitring ground, villages, or woods, or if defiles, hollow ways, or enclosures, are to be passed during the march.*

1. Supposing a patrolle to consist of a sergeant and twelve men, the sergeant detaches two men and a corporal in front, and two on each flank, the latter extending themselves to the right and left as far as possible, without losing sight of the main body; but the distance of these skirmishers, both in front and on either flank, must be regulated by local circumstances:— in an open and plain country, they may venture to extend themselves further from the main body than in one that is enclosed or hilly. On coming to an enclosure, one man advances into it and examines it closely; the other, remaining behind it, keeps upon the watch, and takes care to be always ready to support his comrade in case of his being attacked.

*On arriving at an hill.*

2. On coming to an hill, one man will ascend; the other, remaining at the bottom, will be given to understand, by a signal concerted between them, whether the enemy occupy any part of it or not. If an enemy is discovered, both the skirmishers must conceal themselves, and having ascertained as nearly as possible the strength of the enemy, one must endeavour to join the patrolle, to give the intelligence; upon which the patrolle should retire, and, if possible, throw itself into an ambuscade to observe the enemy's motions.— When a flanker sees a detachment of the enemy advancing immediately upon the patrolle, and that

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he is not able *by any other means* to give the alarm of their approach, he must fire, which will be the signal for all the flankers to join the main body, or the signal will be given for assembly, and the patrol with united forces will attack the enemy if equal to him in numbers, or will secure its retreat by a firm resistance, if the superior strength of the enemy makes it imprudent to risk an attack.

*In passing  
hedges and  
enclosures:*

3. When a patrol marches through an enclosed country, or one much intersected by hedges, the flankers must be sent on each side of them, in order to examine them thoroughly; in doing which, they must always keep as near as possible in a line with the main body, and resume their proper stations, as soon as they have passed any obstacle which may have drawn them out of their direction. It may sometimes be necessary for flankers to get to the tops of trees for the purpose of reconnoitring, and on no account must they leave any high ground behind them without first viewing the environs from it.

*In traversing open  
ground.*

4. In marching over an open country, and where objects are seen at a great distance, it will not be necessary to send out skirmishers on the flanks, unless an house or an enclosure is perceived at a distance; in which case they must be detached to examine it thoroughly. By night, or in hazy weather, flankers are in all situations indispensably necessary, and must be particularly careful to regulate their movement by that of the main body.

5. Great

*In passing  
through an  
hollow  
way.*

5. Great precaution is requisite when a patrol is under the necessity of passing an hollow way, in order to guard against a surprise or being cut off. To avoid this, the patrol should be divided into files, which follow each other at such a distance that each may be able to distinguish the two men immediately before them ; by this arrangement, an enemy will only be able to perceive the two men in front, and the whole patrol will be alarmed, either by their comrades in front being attacked, or by their fire upon the enemy. If there should be turnings or windings in the hollow way, which prevent those in the rear from seeing the file in front of them, the latter must give notice of the presence of an enemy by firing a shot.

*In march-  
ing  
through a  
wood.*

6. When a wood presents itself in front of the march, through which the patrol must pass, the flank skirmishers are sent to the skirts of it ; they must, however, keep so much within the wood as not to be perceived from without ; the main body marches directly through, but if possible by some other road than that which is commonly used. For the security of a patrol, when it is a strong one, detachments should be left at the entrance of the wood, to sustain the main body in its march through, and to give the alarm in case of the approach of an enemy. If the wood is of great extent, small patrols should be sent in front and on the flanks of the main body ; and small intermediate patrols must be sent out, keeping at the distance of 4 or 500 yards from those in front

of them, whose object will be to examine all cross roads, there being little apprehension for the safety of these detachments, supposing even the enemy to be in ambuscade in the wood. Three men will be sufficient for these patrols, two of which will advance in a line, and keep within sight of each other; the third following them and placing himself so as always to keep them both in view: by this means, should the most advanced patrol be carried off by the enemy, the second and following ones would escape, and the main body would have timely notice of the danger.— In returning the patrol should take a different route from that by which it advanced, for the better chance of discovering the enemy; indeed, it must be considered as a general rule, that no patrol should return by the way it came; nor in case of being attacked, and obliged to retreat should it ever fall back in a direct line upon the main body. Bye roads are always to be preferred to the main route, either in returning from patrols or in retreating before an enemy; in patrolling through a wood, care should be taken not to venture too far, and that the skirmishers are not at too great a distance from each other, for fear of hazy weather, or the approach of night.

*In marching  
through a  
defile.*

7 Before a patrol ventures into a defile the two men advanced in front must examine it well, and at the same time flankers must reconnoitre the ground on the right and left of it, where it is probable the enemy might lie in ambuscade.

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In returning, a patrol should if possible avoid a defile it has before passed. When the defile has been passed, a few men may be left at the extremity of it, to give the alarm by a shot, in case a detachment of the enemy should attempt to cut off the patrol; these men will eventually disconcert the enemy's plans, who may naturally conceive them to be the head of a detachment passing the defile, as a support to the patrol.

*In recon-  
noitring a  
village.*

8. When a patrol is to reconnoitre a village, the directions that have been already given for its conduct during the march must be strictly adhered to. Whether the patrol is a strong one or not, it must halt at a few hundred paces from the village, assemble all the skirmishers, and lie concealed; a few men must then be sent towards the village, and must endeavour to seize one of the inhabitants, and conduct him to the officer commanding the patrol, in order that he may be examined respecting the presence of the enemy. If upon diligent inquiry it is found that the enemy are in the village, the patrol must make its retreat: the deposition of one person should not, however, be depended upon; the men who have been sent to the village must endeavour, if possible, to take another person, who must be separately examined, to see whether his report coincides with the former one. If after all inquiry it appears that the enemy are not in the village, some men must be sent into it, and small parties to the right and left of it to examine the environs, and all the avenues must at the same time be occupied.

ed. The men who were sent into the village must immediately repair to the mayor or chief magistrate of the place, and make him accompany them to search all the houses, stables, barns, and all other places where the enemy might be concealed. If they find all safe, the men must return to the main body, and make their report.— After this, should the commander of the patrol wish still to be himself convinced of the truth of the report, he may go in person into the village, accompanied by a few men, for prudence would suggest the impropriety of taking the whole patrol, as, notwithstanding the former search, it is still possible the enemy may be in ambush, and only watching the opportunity of the whole detachment being in the village, to attack it to advantage. When a non-commissioned officer commands a patrol, before he leaves a village he has been directed to examine, he should require a certificate of his having been there. When a patrol is to reconnoitre a village by night, the whole must assemble at some distance in front of it, as in patrolling by day, and the environs must be examined; but the men who are sent into the village must, in this instance, be directed to creep gently along the fronts of the houses, and particularly along those of the publick houses, looking at the same time in at the windows, and endeavouring to distinguish whether any of the enemy are within. Should this be found impracticable, they must conceal themselves, and wait the opportunity of some inhabitant passing, whom it will be their object to carry off to the commanding officer.



officer of the patrol with as little noise as possible, and without raising any alarm. If it should appear to be certain, from the report that the prisoner makes, and from other intelligence, that the enemy are not in the village, the same directions must be followed as have been already laid down for the day patrol; but should the enemy be in the village, the patrol must retire; an attempt, however, should be made to carry off one of his videttes, in order to gain more certain accounts. Whatever has been said with respect to villages, is applicable also to any place or town.

*On meeting  
an enemy.*

9. When skirmishers give notice of the approach of the enemy, the patrol should endeavour to conceal itself, the object of a patrol being to reconnoitre a country, and to get intelligence of the enemy, their movements, &c.; all engagement should be avoided, and, unless absolutely compelled to fight, a patrol should always endeavour to get away undisturbed. If a patrol allows itself to be unnecessarily drawn into an affair with one of the enemy's, it must run an equal risk of being captured, and the service it was to have performed remains unaccomplished, so that the army or detachment, from whence the patrol was sent out, may wait in vain for the intelligence that was expected from it. If a patrol should be unavoidably engaged in an affair, the officer commanding it will send immediate notice by two trusty men to the corps from which he was detached, and at the same time a written report of whatever information he may have been able

able to obtain, which he should always have ready in case of such an event. When a patrol is to be sent out, every sort of instruction for its conduct during the march should be communicated to the men. The greatest attention in the officer commanding a patrol will be requisite to watch the conduct of his men: they must be attentive, obedient, and vigilant, from the moment of their departure till their return; and, under pain of the severest punishment, they must be forbidden to go into any public-house during the march: they should therefore be supplied with their complete ration of provisions. A patrol should always endeavour to conceal its march; therefore woods and enclosures are to be preferred in its progress through a country. Bridges should be avoided, for fear of ambuscades or of being cut off. If, however, a bridge must of necessity be passed, a few men should be posted at it, to give the alarm to the patrol on the approach of the enemy. In this case it will be advertised of the danger by a shot; by which means it may gain time to repass the bridge, and at least avoid being cut off. Should every thing remain quiet, at the expiration of a certain time, previously determined, the men who were left at the bridge will follow, and join the patrol.

If the patrol is forced to pass places, where notwithstanding every precaution, there is still a probability of being cut off, small posts must be left at such places, or the patrol should be divided into a number of small detachments, advance by  
different

different routes, and some place should be appointed for a rendezvous of the whole.

When a patrol finds itself *unexpectedly* in presence of an enemy, if of equal force it should attack; but should the enemy's numbers be very superior, and there remain no possibility of getting away undiscovered, the patrol must disperse, and each man save himself as he can. In such a case, and when, from an apprehension of danger, the patrol is advancing in small detachments, one in front of the other, as soon as those in the rear are made aware of the enemy being so superior, they must immediately retreat, without waiting for the detachments in their front. It is the duty of a commanding officer of a patrol to point out to each man all the dangers to be expected, the manner in which he is to conduct himself in retiring singly, the roads that are open to him in such a case, the places at which the patrol may rendezvous, and (should that be impracticable) the position of the detachment or army, to which he must endeavour to make his escape. The above instructions it is absolutely necessary to impress strongly on the minds of the men, in order that each man may know how he is to save himself under the above-mentioned events.

As the greatest prejudice may arise from a patrol having committed the most trifling error, and as, on the contrary, the greatest advantage may be derived to an army from the good conduct of one, all the above instructions, and as many more as may be thought useful, should

should be explained to the men in the clearest terms previous to the marching off, and during the march of the patrol.

*Of the Advanced Guard, Flank Patrols, and Rear Guard, and of their several Duties on a March.*

*General rule.*

1. It is a rule which must always be attended to that no column, regiment, or detachment, whether it be near, or at a distance from the enemy, marches without an advanced guard, and flank patrols, in order to reconnoitre the country, and prevent the possibility of an attack, before the column has time to form, or to look for and dislodge the enemy when he is supposed to be in the neighbourhood, though no account is received of his exact position.

*Distribution of the advanced guard and flank patrols.*

2. The distribution of the advanced guard, and flank patrols, remains as has been before directed. The intention being, that they should be sent as far in front and on the flanks as possible, it becomes equally necessary, that they again should detach in their front and on their flanks (in as large proportion as their numbers will allow) skirmishers, whose business it will be to examine closely all objects which present themselves on the march, to traverse all enclosures, and the like. Skirmishers must always be in parties of two men each, so that while one is employed in examining any object, the other may remain on the look out, and if any thing approach, or is perceived at a distance, the one may immediately make a report to the body from

from which he is detached, while the other keeps his eye constantly on the object till the return of his comrade.

*Of the distance of the advanced guard and flank patrols from the column.* 3. The distance at which an advanced guard and flank patrols should keep from the columns must be determined by local circumstances, and by the strength of the column. They should, however, be always at such a distance, that if they should be unexpectedly attacked, the column may have time to put itself in a posture of defence; and also, that if defiles, villages, or woods present themselves on the line of march, they may be examined thoroughly before the arrival of the head of the column, that there may then be no delay. The skirmishers must be every cautious during the march, not to be cut off from the advanced guard; and the same precautions are necessary for the advanced guard, with respect to the column.

*Duties of Skirmishers.* 4. Skirmishers, whether from the flank patrols or advanced guard, are to stop every person they meet, to question them respecting the enemy, and then conduct them to the main body, where they will be detained or released according to circumstances. Persons so taken may be occasionally found useful as guides for the bye roads, or to point out such places as might serve as ambuscades for the enemy. All houses, gardens, enclosures, &c. must be closely searched by the skirmishers, and no height, or village, from whence the neighbouring ground can be seen, must be left unexamined by them. It is hardly necessary

sary to observe, that the arms of skirmishers should always be in the best order, and ready for immediate use.

*When an advanced guard approaches a village ;* 5. If a village should happen to lie on the road, through which a column must unavoidably pass, it will first be examined by the advanced guard, after the manner that has been prescribed for patrols on similar occasions, and a report made to the commanding officer of the column. The commander of an advanced guard or flank patrol, will at all times make an exact report to the commanding officer of the column, of any thing extraordinary that may occur during the march, or of any remarkable feature of the country.

*or is to pass a defile or wood ;* 6. An advanced guard, or flank patrol, will on no account enter a wood or defile, until a small party has previously passed through it, and closely examined it. In reconnoitring a wood, an advanced guard will follow the same directions as have been given for patrols, so that when the column arrives at the defile, or wood, it may pass without risk or loss of time.

*or meets an enemy.* 7. If the commander of the head of an advanced guard should have intelligence of the approach of an enemy's patrol, he will first halt, endeavour to discover the strength of it, and then fall back on the main body ; the commanding officer of which, if the enemy is not in too great force, should try to conceal his men, suffer the enemy to approach, and endeavour to entangle him between his parties and the head of the column,

column, when he may attack him without risk. If an advanced guard is set upon unawares by a body of the enemy, in ambuscade, the officer commanding it, must immediately attack; but it will depend upon what may be the general object of the move, whether he is to engage with his whole force, trusting to the column for support, or whether he is merely to keep the enemy in check, so as to gain the time sufficient for the column to make such dispositions as may be thought necessary. It is a maxim, however, and one which cannot be too strongly impressed upon the mind of every officer commanding an advanced guard, or flank patrol, that in the event of his being pursued by a considerable body of the enemy, he is by no means to fall back immediately upon the column: officers should therefore take precautions against any unforeseen accidents that may occur during the march, and attentively observe the ground by which a retreat may be effected. The commanding officer of an advanced guard is not to confine himself to the main body, but occasionally to visit the advanced and flank patrols, that he may make his own observations, and trust as little as possible to the reports of others.

*If an advanced guard meets an enemy in the night.*

8. If the advanced guard should meet the enemy in the night, the officer commanding it will immediately attack, if not with the whole, at least with part of his force, and not give the enemy time to force him back upon the column;— he must exert himself to prevent confusion among his own men, but endeavour to spread dismay in

the

the detachment of the enemy. A resolute officer, with a few determined men, may at night render the most important services; for even should he not be able to gain any solid advantage, still a spirited and well-timed attack will at least have the effect of embarrassing the enemy, during which time the column may form and prepare to act as the occasion may require. It is always useful, in these rencontres, to make prisoners, in order to find out the strength of the enemy, and what may have been the object of his march.

9. It is a rule that flank patrols are never to leave impracticable ground, or other obstacles, between them and the column; for example, if in the course of a march they meet with a morass, or piece of water of considerable extent, close to which the line of march is to pass; it would be a great fault to leave such an obstacle between the patrol and column, as it would be exposing the former to be cut off in sight of the column, by a detachment of the enemy, without the possibility of receiving succour. When a flank patrol therefore meets with any impediment of this sort, it will draw as near to the column as the local circumstance requires, and continue to march in this manner, until the nature of the ground suffers it to resume its usual station; for as long as a column is passing by a morass or lake it is sufficiently covered by them: the above rule is equally to be observed by all skirmishers from the flank patrols; but if a flank patrol should meet with a thicket or small wood, the skirmishers will immediately

*When a flank patrol meets with any unpassable obstacle on the march.*



immediately enter and examine it, and a small detachment should be sent round it, in order to prevent any concealed party of the enemy falling upon the rear of the column, after it has passed the wood.

*When the column halts.*

10. If in the course of a march the column should halt, the advanced guard will of course do the same; the flank patrols and skirmishers making front outwards; and it is to be observed, that no defile within a short distance of the advanced guard or flank patrols should be left unoccupied. The advanced guard should endeavour even to make itself master of the ground beyond the defile, if it is only by sending a few men to take post there, that the column may be in security during the halt, and the men be suffered to rest themselves. Besides, by this precaution, the advanced guard will secure the pass of the defile. It will of course be understood, that when a column halts, the advanced guard and flank patrols will post their own sentries, and thus form the pickets and chains of sentries for the whole column.

*Of the rear guard.*

11. No column is ever to march without a rear guard, the strength of which must depend upon circumstances. The disposition of it is the same as the advanced guard, with this difference only, that the main body precedes the smaller. In marches where the enemy is supposed to be in front, the rear guard should be composed of a few trusty men, whose business it is to collect all stragglers, and to take up deserters.

*General directions for the conduct of a rear guard.*

12. A rear guard is as much as possible to avoid engaging the enemy, inasmuch as nothing more is usually expected from the officer commanding it, than to join the army without loss.— He must however, endeavour to execute his instructions, which generally have for object to prevent the loss of baggage and capture of stragglers, and to keep the enemy at a distance from the column. The means of performing this service must depend upon the nature of the ground, and the relative situations of the column and the enemy. This, however, may be considered as a fixed principle, that the rear guard should dispute every defile as long as possible, in order to enable the column to gain ground: as soon as this object is attained, or the rear guard is obliged to leave the defile, the next defile must be gained as expeditiously as possible.

The officer commanding a rear guard is as much as possible to avoid passing a defile in the presence of a superior enemy; to this end he must without loss of time occupy the defile, the moment the column has passed, without giving the enemy time to bring up more troops.

*Of the conduct of rear guards of different columns relative to each other.*

13. When an army retires before an enemy in several columns, each having his own rear guard, they will preserve a communication with one another, and in common cover the retreat of the army. Suppose, for instance, an army retiring in three columns, and each having a defile to pass, but the first having a better and shorter road outmarches the second; in this case the officer commanding

commanding the rear guard of the first must not give up the defile, till he has ascertained that the rear guard of the second column is actually passing: the second is to observe the same conduct with regard to the third, and *vice versâ*. For want of this precaution, a body of the enemy which had followed the first column, might attack the rear guard of the second in flank, which, as long as the rear guard of the first remains posted before the defile, he cannot venture to do, without risking himself to be taken in flank. This is an instance which affords to an officer the opportunity of displaying his judgment of ground. Before an officer commanding a rear guard arrives at a defile or village, which he must of necessity pass, if time permits him, he should send forward some intelligent men, to patrol to the right and left, and to discover the different passes, which he should occupy, to guard against being cut off, and to effect his passage with the greater facility.

*Of the rear guard when pursued by the enemy.*

14. If a rear guard should be pursued by the enemy, it will divide itself into two bodies, which will continue to retreat in communication with one another, sending out several skirmishers, who will extend themselves by twos, and fire in retiring. The skirmishers must preserve as good a line as possible. the two bodies will retire alternately, the one covering the retreat of the other. If the enemy should press forward, the skirmishers will throw themselves on each flank, and endeavour by their fire to disconcert his attack. An enemy may sometimes be led to commit himself by a feigned retreat, and by leaving  
part

part of the corps in ambush, which may fall upon him with advantage, while in the heat of his pursuit. The officer commanding the skirmishers must take care that, in advancing and retreating, they do not extend themselves too much, and that the strictest attention is paid to his signals.

*Of the skirmishers of rear guards.* 15. Officers of rear guards and flank patrols must be very careful to prevent their skirmishers loitering in any village: soldiers offending in this respect should be severely punished.

*Battalion in line to form open column, right in front.*

*By companies on your left form column to the rear.* The officer commanding the company moves to the center, the left hand man faces to the right at this caution.

*Quick march.* The whole face to the right about, wheel to the rear the quarter circle and come to the right about again without any word of command for halting, and dress on the left hand man, the officer comes to the pivot flank, corrects any inaccuracy in dressing and remains steady.

*column left face.* To form line from column, the whole face to the left.

*Form line, quick march.* On the word *form line*, the officer steps back to the 4th or 5th file of the front rank, the sergeant to the 2d file of the rear rank, the pivot files look to the right for their dressing, and when *quick march* is given, each file steps up obliquely to the right the rear rank man of the left file

doubling

doubling behind his front rank man; each file as it comes up dresses on the file on its left; the officer looks to his company sees each file come regularly up and then takes the place kept by the sergeant of the company on his right, who changes by the rear and covers his own officer.

*To form open column, left in front.*

*By companies on your right form column to the rear.*

The officer commanding the company moves to the center, the right hand man faces to the left.

*Quick march.*

The whole face to the left about, wheel to the rear the quarter circle and come to the left about again, dressing on the right file.

*Right face*

To form line again, the whole face to the right.

*Form line, quick march.*

The officer steps back to the 4th or 5th file of the front rank, the sergeant to the 2d file of the rear rank, the pivot files look to the left for their dressing and on the word *quick march*, each file steps up obliquely to the left and dresses on the right file, the rear rank man of which doubles behind his front rank man, his place being taken by the sergeant who remains there till the officer of the company replaces him, the officer faces his company, sees them come regularly up, and then takes his station on the right of his company which his sergeant has kept for him.

The

*Advance by files from the right of companies, quick march.* The officer moves out straight forward, his covering sergeant coming up on his right, the company face to the right and file in rear of their officer and covering sergeant looking to the left for their distance and dressing.

*Front form.* Front file, halts; the officer of the company and his covering sergeant leading, post themselves as in the direction given for forming line from column, *left* in front, the company coming into line in the same manner.

*Advance by files from the left of companies, quick march.* The officer commanding the company, at this caution goes to the right about as well as his covering sergeant and moves by the rear to the left flank of his company, at the word quick march he moves out, his covering sergeant coming upon his left, the company face to the left and follow in file: they look to the right for distance and dressing.

*Front form.* Front file halts, officers and covering sergeants take their places, and the company comes up into line in same manner as laid down for forming line from column *right* in front.

*Retreat by files from the right of companies, quick march.* The officer commanding the company, and his covering sergeant face to the right about and disengage to the rear, at the word quick march they lead out looking to their right for their distance and dressing.

*Front form.* The officer comes to his left about, his covering sergeant doing the same and forming in his rear, the files in rear of them move off obliquely

to their right and when in line with the officer come to the left about and dress on him, looking to their right.

*reat by  
from  
left of  
panies.* The officer and covering sergeant go to the right about and move by the rear to the left of the company standing as if they had disengaged to their rear from the left flank, at the word quick march they move out followed by the company (who face to the left for that purpose) towards their rear, looking to their left for their distance and dressing.

The officer come to his right about his covering sergeant coming round him and forming in his rear, the files in rear move off obliquely to their left and when in line with the officer come to the right about, looking to their left and dressing on him.

*ance  
able  
from  
inter  
mpa-* The officer followed by his covering sergeant comes to the center of his company the officer in front of the right file of the left subdivision the sergeant in front of the left file of the right subdivision, at the word *quick march*, the subdivision fall inwards, following the officer and covering sergeant who lead straight forward looking to their center for their distance and dressing, (except the two center files, namely, the right files of the left subdivision who move forward in rear of the officer and covering sergeant) the remaining files of the subdivisions who have faced inwards when they have come to where the center files stood, front and move forward, by which

means

means every file has the same rank, *two files*, *rank, two rear* and so on in file together.

*Front form.*

The center files stand fast, the files in rear of them move up to their places on the right and, of them, the sergeant moves off to the right to keep his officer's place, who remains fronting the company till he sees them, formed when he falls in on the right of them.

In advancing by files from the center, a formation may in like manner be made to right or left which will throw the companies into column if *right form* with the right in front, when the officer and sergeant will go to the left, that being the pivot, and if *left form*, into a column left or right when they will go to the right, the rear company may also be ordered to form to the right and the remaining companies be moved up or obliquing to the right and forming on left of or *vice versa*, should it be necessary to change the front on the march.

*Retreat by double files from the center of companies quick march.*

The two center files face to the right or left about, the rear rank men lead out to the rear followed by their front rank, the remaining of each subdivision facing inwards and follow in like manner, the officer and covering sergeant go to the right about and place themselves in front of the two center files, leading them and looking to the center for their distance and dressing.

*Front form.*

The officer and covering sergeant halt, the center files come to the right and left about, the rear move off obliquely to the right and the right subdivision to the left, the left sub



visions to the right, and dress on them, the officer and sergeant move to right of company as in forming after advancing.

Should it be necessary to form to the rear while retreating from the center of the company, it may be done by the files changing places with each other, each file on the right stopping in rear of the one on its left, and on the word rear form, the files then leading halting and those in rear of them coming up on right and left of them, when the files have changed in that manner (which is easily done on the march) a formation may be made in any direction to the rear, or the files changing back to their former position to the front.

*vance*  
*ndian*  
*from*  
*ht of*  
*panies,*  
*ub.*

The officer on the right of each company advances followed by his sergeant, the company face to the right and follow in single file, the front rank man keeping in rear of the sergeant, and his rear rank following him and so on.

*m two*

The officers, leading, mark time till the sergeant comes up on their right, the front rank till their rear rank men come up on their right.

*m line.* Same as explained in former part.

*vance*  
*ndian*  
*from*  
*com.*  
*ub.*

Same as from right, but that the officer at the first word of command changes by the rear to the left and at quick march moves out. Same

*Form two deep:* Same as form right, but the sergeant and' out come up on the left.

*form line.* Same as explained before.

*Advance by files from right of companies.* Same as explained before.

*Form subdivisions.* The right subdivision marks time, the left division leads out to the left and moves up in front, dressing and looking for its proper distance to the subdivision on its left, a supernumerary ficer from the rear and a sergeant as the subdivision disengages, moves up quickly to lead its place, the officer commanding the company when he sees the left subdivision in a line his own moves on in quick time.

*Form sections.* Same as subdivisions, left sections of each division stepping out, and as there may be officers to lead them sergeant alone to step do so.

*front form* All the officers and sergeants except the commanding the company, and his cover sergeant (who are with the right section right subdivision) go to the rear, the leading of each section halt, looking and dressing by right, except the right section who look left, the officer commanding and his cover sergeant fall on the flanks of their section as in line from column left in front, the each section coming up to the left in like manner.

The only difference in advancing from the left of companies and forming subdivisions on the march and sections is that the leading out is to the *right*, to which point the file leaders are to look for their distance and dressing, and in the forming line the officer commanding the company and his covering serjeant conform to the mode laid down for forming line from column when the right is in front.

*Open column of companies, right in front.*

*Deploy in-* Front company stands fast, the companies in  
*to line on* its rear move on in quick time by the oblique  
*the front* step to the right and form on it.  
*company.*

*Open column of companies, right in front.*

*Deploy in-* Front company stands fast, second company  
*to line by* moves by the oblique steps in quick time to the  
*alternate* right and forms on front company the third com-  
*companies;* pany move off in same manner to the left forming  
*on the* on left of it, and so on alternately till the line is  
*front com-* formed with what was the front company in the  
*pany.* center.

A deployment may also be made on the front company by moving the rear companies; *by files from the center of companies*, the officer leading out and taking the distance of his *subdivision* from the company he forms on or on any given company, those companies in front of the one named to be formed on *retreating* from the center of companies and those in the rear advancing.

*Bat.*

*Change front to the right on a given company.*

*Battalion of Line.*

The company named wheels to the right, those companies on the right go to the right about by word of command from their own officers.

*Quick march.*

Those companies that have gone to the right about move on bringing their left shoulders forward till on line with the named company when they get the word halt, front, dress back, from their own officers those on the left move forward in like manner getting the word, halt, front dress up.

The battalion may change its front in like manner on any given file of any named company that file facing, those on the right going to the right about and moving forward each wing, and being halted and dressed on the named file, when the change is made to the left, the left wing to the right about and act as the right did in former change.

**DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S  
OFFICE,**

HALIFAX, 6TH JULY, 1808.

(CIRCULAR.)

SIR,

**L**IEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR GEORGE PREVOST, wishes strongly to impress on your mind, that it will in a very great degree depend on your personal exertions to ensure the efficacy of the Militia Force of this Province

WITH this view it will be essentially necessary that you should make yourself immediately acquainted with every particular relating to the Militia within your District ; with their effective strength ; with the characters and extent of Military knowledge and information of their Officers ; with the state of the Corps with regard

L

to

to Arms, Ammunition, and every species of Military equipment; and above all with the degree of forwardness they have obtained in their Discipline and Field Movements; and whether they are, or are not, competent to act with regular Troops, or what Service they might be employed on with most advantage, of which you can only be a judge from your frequent Inspections, and by taking as many opportunities as possible of seeing them under Arms.

It will also be incumbent on you to concert with the Commanding Officers of the different Battalions, to fix the route by which in case of Alarm each Corps is to arrive at the place of General Rendezvous, and to ensure by every previous precaution and preparation that no obstacle shall occur to prevent the regularity and certainty of their movements at that critical moment, for which purpose it is highly necessary for you to make arrangements for providing Carts for the use of these Troops.

THE Lieutenant-General is aware that the duties hereby enjoined you, cannot be discharged with advantage to this Country without the utmost zeal and unremitting personal exertion on your part; in his expectation on this head he is persuaded that he shall not be disappointed; but it is moreover equally essential that you should continually bear in mind, that the Corps under your direction, are composed of men unused to the habits of a military life, and over whom you have very little direct controul, and that,

will see the necessity of conducting this duty with all the urbanity, mildness and indulgence, which is consistent with Military Discipline, without compromising or impeding the important primary objects of rendering the Militia effective and fit for actual Service.

It will become your duty to be constantly attending the Drills and Field Exercise of the Militia in your District, at such times as are ordered by the Acts of this Province, and to the end that the efficacy of this Force may be at all times ascertained, it will be your duty to muster each Regiment under your superintendance, by Companies four times in the present year and twice in Battalions, and to have the general superintendance of the various Squad Meetings, assisted by the Militia Staff of the several Regiments, together with the Adjutant of your District—You are to make a specific Report of the number under Arms when the Company and Battalion Meetings occur, and call upon the Commanding Officers to assign causes for the absence of those who do not appear, and likewise transmit your observations on the state of their Arms and Accoutrements.—It will be further your duty to visit frequently the places appointed for the Depôt of Arms, and especially to report whether the regulations established for the security and preservation of the same, are duly attended to; and to transmit a Return after each inspection of the Militia to this Office, agreeably to the annexed form; and you are generally

generally expected to exert your utmost endeavours to promote the discipline, instruction and welfare of the Militia, and use every exertion to render it as effective as possible, and that your Reports should be sufficiently detailed to enable the Lieutenant-General to judge of the degree of dependence which may be placed on those Troops.

As you will be furnished by the Deputy-Quarter-Master-General with a Map of the District under your superintendance, it will be essentially necessary that you make yourself acquainted with the Roads and Passes within it, whether they are passable for Cannon, and Heavy Carriages, and in short endeavour to acquire a perfect knowledge of the locality of the Country in which you will have to act.

WILLIAM BOWYER, Major,  
DEPUTY ADJT. GENL.

To

*The Inspecting Field Officer  
of the District.*



REPAIRABLE

UNSERVICABLE

WANTING

COMPLEMENT

CO

INSPECTION REPORT and RETURN of the several Corps of NOVA-SCOTIA MILITIA, in  
 District, under the Superintendance of [Name], Acting Field Officer of said Force

CORPS.	COMMANDERS.	No. of Companies	Field Officers	Captains	Subalterns	Staff	Sergeants.	Drummers	Present under Arms.	Sick.	Absent with leave.	Rank at [ ]	Remarks on the State of Discipline, &c.

Abstract of the Effective Militia Force.

County.	Description of Force.	Rank and File.		
		Under Arms.	Absent.	Total Effective.
	Artillery			
	Rifle			
	Infantry			
	TOTAL			

RETURN of Arms, Accoutrements, &c. in charge of the MILITIA FORCES, in the

GOOD	REPAIRABLE	UNSERVICABLE	WANTING	COMPLEMENT
				Pikes.
				Rifles.
				Rifle Swords.
				Carbines.
				Ramrods.
				Bayonets.
				Scabbards.
				Fuzees.
				Ramrods.
				Bayonets.
				Scabbards.
				Musquets
				Ramrods.
				Bayonets.
				Scabbards
				Drums.
				Colours.
				Swords.
				Sword Belts.
				Hangers.
				Belts.
				Drum Carriages.
				Drum Cases.
				Bayonet Belts.
				Pouch Belts
				Pouches.
				Slings

Serjts. Drummers. Rank & File.

ge of the WILLIAMSON

*An ABRIDGEMENT of the Act, passed in 48th year of His present Majesty's reign, for the better regulation of the MILITIA of Nova-Scotia; and also of an Act, passed the same year, for Quartering and Billeting His Majesty's Troops, or the Militia, on a March.*

Persons  
liable to  
serve.

Sec. 1. **E**VERY man from 16 to 60 is bound to serve in the militia of the district in which he resides.

Battalions  
and Com-  
panies—  
how for-  
med.

Sec. 2. The commander in chief to affix limits to the districts in which battalions are to be raised; the regiments of militia are to be formed by counties, or divisions of counties, and regiments if the population will admit, are to be sub-divided into battalions not to consist of less than 300 or more than 600 men. Field officers, and officers commanding companies, are to meet to settle the limits of the districts out of which each company is to

to be raised: Every company of the battalion except the flank companies are to be formed by districts into which the battalion district is to be divided, as conveniently as possible, for the attendance of the men ; No company to be less than 40 men, with one captain and two subalterns, when above 60 men, additional officers to be appointed, at the rate of one officer for every 20 men ; the names of the men of each company are to be entered by the clerk in a book, to which all officers shall have access.

Militia in  
small set-  
tlements

Sec. 3. When men are scattered in harbours or detached settlements, small companies are to be formed ; twenty men to have one officer, and 30 men shall have two officers.

Flank  
companies

Sec. 4. Not more than two flank companies to a battalion, to consist of light infantry or rifle men ; the Halifax battalion allowed a grenadier company ;

company ;—Commander in chief to settle the number of men to be in such companies.

Artillery  
companies

Sec 5 Governor may raise artillery companies, and persons enrolled in artillery or flank companies to serve three years, except in case of removal or discharge.

Cavalry

Sec. 6. Governor may establish troops of cavalry ;—men enrolled obliged to serve three years.

Cavalry

Sec. 7. The men enrolled in the cavalry not allowed to sell their horses without leave under the penalty of 10*l*.

Drum-  
mers and  
fifers,

Sec 8. A drummer or fifer enrolled in a company, must continue to belong to it although he may not reside in the company's district, but shall only be obliged to do duty in the company of the district in which he resides, unless ordered to march.

Enrolment  
of men.

Sec. 9. Officers commanding companies

panies to give seven days notice for the men within their districts to meet to enrol themselves ; persons neglecting to enrol, to pay a fine of 10s. ; persons removing out of the district in which they are enrolled obliged under a penalty of 10s. to enrol themselves within ten days in the company of the district into which they may remove ; persons coming to reside in the province obliged to enrol themselves within three months after their arrival under penalty of 10s. ;—persons attaining the age of 16 years, shall within three months after enrol themselves, under penalty of 5s.

Sec. 10. Persons neglecting or refusing to enrol may notwithstanding be entered on the roll of the Company to which they belong, and when so entered shall do militia duty : militia men in case of any dispute respecting their age must prove the same.

Sec.

Commanding officers to enrol persons who move into their limits.



Arms and  
accoutre-  
ments.

Sec. 11. In 20 days after notice that arms are deposited by Govern- ment, within the district of a Com- pany, every freeholder shall provide himself with arms, ammunition and accoutrements, and shall appear with the same at all meetings, under pe- nalty of ten shillings for the want of a musket, and one shilling for the want of every other appurtenance.

Arms.

Sec. 12. Freeholders to receive arms and certain accoutrements from their captains, on giving to him a bond, with one good surety, for 5l. conditioned, to keep the arms, &c in good order, and to return the same when called for;—bonds to be lodged with the Clerk of the Peace; and persons neglecting to provide arms are liable to a penalty of 2l..

Arms.

Sec. 13. Clerk of the Company to have 6d. for drawing the bond, and the Clerk of the Peace 6d. for filing it.

Sec.

Arms.

Sec. 14. Persons not freeholders to have arms furnished them on each getting a freeholder to be bound with him ; minors must find two sureties.

Arms.

Sec. 15. Every militia man at his own expense to provide certain ammunition and accoutrements, under the penalty of 10s.

Arms.

Sec. 16. Commanding officers of companies to make out a list of minors, and persons belonging to their companies, who cannot get security, and to receive arms for them, the officer to give two accountable receipts for the same, one to be entered in the orderly book of the battalion, and the other to be lodged with the Clerks of the Peace, under penalty of 5l. and the officer may be deprived of his commission for neglect of this duty.

Arms.

Sec. 17. Brands to be provided by  
the

the County Treasurer, and the commanding officer of each battalion shall cause all arms, before the same are issued, to be marked.

Arms.

Sec. 18. Officers commanding companies shall keep the arms delivered to them on their receipts in a convenient place, and shall issue them for all training and musters; and the persons receiving them, shall return the same within 24 hours, under the penalty of 5s.

Arms.

Sec. 19 Persons selling or exchanging their arms, or conveying the same out of the battalion district, and the person buying or receiving the same shall each forfeit 5l. for each firelock, and 10s. for each accoutrement; persons putting the same into a boat or vessel to be carried out of the county, and the master of the boat or vessel knowingly receiving the same, to pay a fine each of 10l. to be recovered before one Justice.

Sec.

Arms.

Sec. 20. Justice on complaint may cause such offenders (not being freeholders) to be arrested.

Arms.

Sec. 21. Persons after complaint made returning the arms, to be excused half the penalty.

Arms.

Sec. 22. Commanding officer of each battalion, at one and the same time, once a year, to cause the abode of every man under his command to be visited, and the arms inspected; and the officers ordered to make such inspection, are to make exact returns of the state and condition of the arms, &c. persons found deficient subject to a fine.

Arms.

Sec. 23. Persons to whom arms have been heretofore issued liable to account for the same, subject to the penalties and regulations in the former militia laws.

Training  
by squads.

Sec. 24. Commanding officers of companies to divide their men into squads,

squads, so that the men may be trained in the manner the Commander in Chief shall order, and to fix the limits of the district from which each squad is to be formed ; no squad to be less than 5 or more than 12 men ; and to settle the times for each squad to meet, and the places, so that no man shall have more than four miles to march from his abode to the place of meeting.

Squad drill.

Sec. 25. Within twelve months after the commander in chief shall order it, every man from the age of 16 to 50, shall attend 12 squad meetings, and all above 50 years and under 60, shall attend two meetings ; the men to bring such arms and accoutrements as they shall be ordered, and they shall be exercised three hours at each meeting, by the person appointed by the commanding officer of the battalion ; commanding officers of companies to order

order a non-commissioned officer to attend each meeting, to report to them who shall attend, and they shall report to the commanding officer of the battalion, those who attend and those who are absent.

Exemption  
from  
drilling.

Sec. 26. One field officer and the adjutant of the battalion, with the captain of the company, may excuse any squad or individual of the company from attending half the number of squad drills, if they shall have acquired in their opinion a sufficient degree of discipline.

Penalty  
for neglect  
of squad  
drill.

Sec. 27. Persons neglecting each squad meeting unless he shall give the commanding officer of his company a sufficient excuse, or if drunk, disorderly or disobedient shall pay a fine not more than 10s. nor less than 5s.

Squad  
drill.

Sec. 28. Persons hereafter coming to the age of 16 years, or who may hereafter be enrolled in each company, shall

shall be drilled, within the first six months, the same number of times that is before appointed, unless it shall appear to the before mentioned officer that such person is sufficiently instructed.

Company  
and batta-  
lion meet-  
ings.

Sec. 29. The companies of every battalion shall meet for the purpose of training four times, and the battalion twice in each year; battalions, if local circumstances shall require it, may assemble by detachments, the commanding officer of the battalion to settle the times and places of meeting, so that the field or staff officers may attend; three days previous notice to be given by warning or public notice at one time of meeting when the next is to take place; field officers neglecting to order such training to forfeit 20l. and the commanding officer of a company neglecting to assemble and train his men to forfeit

5l; men who neglect to attend or who are disobedient to pay a fine not more than 10s. or less than 5s.; excuses for non-attendance to be adjudged of by a majority of the commissioned officers of the company.

Persons  
exempt  
from train-  
ing.

Sec. 30. Established clergymen are exempt from every provision of the Act, members of council and assembly, chief justice, and judges of courts, attorney and solicitor general, justices of the peace, sheriffs, coroners, secretary, surveyor general, treasurer, officers of customs and excise, naval officer and his deputies, physicians, surgeons, attorneys, clerks, storekeepers, and persons employed in the civil or military departments of the army, licensed ferrymen, millers, quakers, and persons between the ages of 50 and 60 years are exempt from training, but must be furnished with arms and ammunition and are liable to perform

all



all other duties imposed on militia men, except the council, judges of the supreme court, secretary of the province and quakers, who are excused from watching and warding.

Tax to be paid by persons exempt from training.

Sec 31. All the persons before enumerated who are excused from training (ferry-men and persons between the age of 50 and 60 excepted) must in ten days after enrolment pay to the clerk of the company 20s. and 10s. every year after, to be applied to the use of the company.

Misbehaviour—how punished.

Sec 32. Any person at a muster or training misbehaving may be committed to jail by the commanding officer of the company for a time not more than 3 days, nor less than 12 hours, sheriffs and jailers under penalty of 5l. to receive such prisoner: non commissioned officer refusing to arrest such person shall be broke and pay a fine of 40s and every private man refusing his assistance to pay 10s.

Adjutants  
appointed.

Sec. 33. Each Battalion shall have an adjutant, who shall attend all company and battalion meetings, and pursuant to the orders of the commanding officer shall perform all the duties of an adjutant ; he shall be paid out of the Province Treasury, on a certificate of the field officer and a majority of the captains, 6s. 8d. for each day actually employed, provided such pay shall not exceed 20l. per annum.

Clerks and  
non-com-  
missioned  
officers.

Sec. 34. Commanding officers of companies, with the approbation of the commanding officer of the battalion, to appoint, and remove, the clerks, sergeants, and corporals of their respective companies ; and persons appointed to serve as such, if they refuse are to pay a fine of 40s.

Clerks of  
companies

Sec. 35. Clerks of companies to take an oath of office, and to furnish the non-commissioned officers with

lists

lists of men to warn for duty, to take lists of the men as often as ordered, to intend inspection of arms and all musters, and to prosecute for all penalties when ordered; he is to be allowed one fourth of all fines recovered, and is not liable to be balloted for.

Clerks.

Sec. 36. Clerks of Companies neglecting duty, subject to a fine not exceeding 5l. nor less than 20s.

Clerks of  
Battalions,  
and Ser-  
geant Ma-  
jors.

Sec. 37. Commanding officers of battalions to appoint and remove sergeant-majors, clerks, and additional clerks for the battalion, who shall be exempt from balloting: such clerks shall be sworn, and liable to the same penalties as Company clerks.

Returns—  
how made

Sec. 38. On or before the 15th of March and 15th November, and as often further as required, every year, the commanding officers of Companies shall make, to the commanding officers

officers of the battalions, returns of their companies, with fair rolls and returns of arms, and before the last days of March and November, annually, the commanding officers of battalions shall send to the Adjutant General, returns of the strength of their battalions, a return of the arms, and an account of all fines and the expenditures thereof; the form of returns to be settled by the Adjutant General, and persons making false returns to be punished.

Disturb  
ing militia  
at exerci-  
cise.

Sec. 39. A person disturbing the militia while at exercise, may be confined by the commanding officer during the time of exercise and shall pay a fine of 10s.

Persons  
disabled  
how dis-  
charged  
from duty.

Sec. 40. Persons from any cause disabled from performing military duties to be relieved from service on the certificate of a Board, consisting of one field officer and four captains:

physicians

False certificates. physicians or surgeons granting false certificates shall be fined 10l.

Meetings of officers to make regulations.

Sec. 41. Commanding officer of every battalion, within the first fourteen days of March in every year, and as often as he may think necessary, with the advice of three captains, shall call a meeting of the captains to confer respecting the regulations and discipline of the companies, to alter the limits of each company, and to appropriate the fines applicable to the battalion; all rules to be agreed to by a majority of those present; all officers to yield obedience to the commands of their superior officers, and to observe the regulations made in writing at the meetings of officers, under the penalty of 5l. to be adjudged at the next meeting; two thirds of the commissioned officers must agree in regulations respecting dress; an account of the

finer and appropriation to be rendered at the Secretary's Office; all rules made at the meetings of officers (except what relates to the limits of companies or appropriation of fines) shall not be enforced until approved of by the Commander in Chief.

Officers  
not attached  
to bat-  
talions.

Sec. 42. Officers who hold commissions in the militia, and who are not attached to any battalion, may be ordered to sit on Courts Martial, or to do any other duty within the district in which they reside, which may be deemed necessary by their superior officer, and may be tried for disobedience of orders.

Reduced  
officers to  
serve in  
the ranks.

Sec. 43. All officers cashiered by sentence of a Court Martial, or who may resign or have been dismissed the Service, or who shall not within six months qualify himself for service if deprived of his commission on that account, shall afterwards do duty as a private man.

Sec.

Militia  
called on  
actual ser-  
vice.

Sec. 44. The Commander in Chief on an invasion made or threatened, may call the whole or any part of the Militia into actual service, or to order them to march to or from any part of the Province.

How cal-  
led on ser-  
vice when  
there is  
not time  
to consult  
the Com-  
mander in  
Chief.

Sec. 45. In case of any attack made or threatened in any county where the Commander in Chief cannot be immediately consulted, the commanding officer of the county may call forth the militia; and if the danger be so sudden that the commanding officer of the county cannot be consulted, the commanding officer of the town, parish or district so threatened may call forth the militia, but must immediately report his proceedings to the commanding officer of the county, who must immediately dispatch an express to the Commander in Chief; and power is given to press men, horses, boats, carriages, and

and whatever the service may require, the expense to be paid out of the Treasury.

Militia  
called on  
service in  
their  
Counties.

Sec. 46. When the militia or any part thereof is called on service in the county to which it belongs, the service shall be equitably distributed by rosters, except in cases of great emergency, and all are bound to yield obedience to the commands of his superior officer under the penalties imposed by this Act.

Regulations  
for actual  
service.

Sec. 47. As soon after the publication of this Act as the Commander in Chief shall direct, and always afterwards between the 10th and 20th of March yearly, during war, unless the Commander in Chief shall otherwise order, the commanding officer of each battalion shall order the commanding officers of companies to divide their men into two classes, the first to consist of men  
from



from 18 to 50 years of age, the second to be composed of men above the age of 50 and under the age of 18 years, and shall take care that the first class be completely armed before any arms be given to the second class.

Rosters—  
how form-  
ed, and  
men draft-  
ed for ser-  
vice.

Sec. 48: The names of all the first class, with numbers for each, shall be publicly drawn by ballot, by two indifferent persons to be appointed by the commanding officer of the company, and the clerks, from such drawing, shall form a correct list or roster, in which the names of the men shall be placed according to the numbers that shall be respectively drawn for them, that is to say, beginning with number 1, and so entering all the numbers regularly succeeding, with the names that drew such numbers, until the whole first class shall be regularly placed on the roster by ballot.

Sec.

Drafting  
artillery,  
&c.

Sec. 49. Artillery companies and troops of cavalry shall be classed and drafted as aforesaid.

How men  
are to be  
called on  
actual ser-  
vice.

Sec. 50. Every corps or battalion shall furnish the number of men required for actual service, in proportion to the number of effective men belonging to it, and every company shall furnish its proportion out of the first class, beginning with the first name placed on the roster, by ballot as aforesaid, and following the succeeding names to make up the number called for; and the persons so marked for service on the roster, must go or find a substitute, and persons neglecting or refusing to serve, unless prevented by sickness or other sufficient cause, shall be confined and pay a fine of 10l. and the next person on the roster shall serve in his place, and have the fine of 10l. but if more than one fine shall accrue,

the

the person so called out of his turn can only receive the one fine and the remainder must be applied to the use of the battalion; no person to be called on service more than once in four years, unless all the effective men of the company have served each their turn; and if a Quaker shall stand on the list for service, the commanding officer shall find a substitute for him, when it comes to his turn, for which he is to pay a sum not exceeding 10l.

Drafts not  
hable to  
be called  
out.

Sec. 51. Those who served last year in the imbodyed militia are exempt for four years, unless all the men of their companies shall have served their turn.

Exempti-  
on.

Sec. 52. When it happens that two sons in one family shall be called on service at the same time, one of the two shall be excused, and the next man shall serve in his stead; and

and where a widow or aged person have, for a year previous to the draft, depended for their maintenance on a son, grandson or apprentice, such shall be excused from service while supporting such persons.

Persons in his Majesty's service, at Halifax, how excused from actual service.

Sec. 53. Clerks, storekeepers, mechanics or labourers, in his Majesty's Naval or Military Service at Halifax, if drafted for service, shall pay for the substitute or substitutes, which the commanding officer of the battalion shall provide to serve in their stead.

The cost of such substitute, how recovered.

Sec. 54. The amount of each clerk, storekeeper or mechanic's proportion of the expense of finding such substitute, shall, on refusal, be levied with costs, by warrant of distress to be issued by a Justice of the Peace.

Persons ordered for service refusing.

Sec. 55. A person refusing to march on service when ordered, shall be confined by his commanding officer,

officer, and a fine of 10l. shall be levied on his goods and chattels.

Pay of militia on actual service.

Sec. 56. Militia to be paid the same as his Majesty's regular troops from the day they march on service until dismissed, and to receive, when dismissed, one day's pay for every 15 miles they shall be distant from the district to which they belong, and shall be furnished while on service, with rations on their arrival at the first military post.

Pay of sergeants, drummers corporals and privates.

Sec. 57. If such pay clear of all deductions shall not amount to 2s. per day for a sergeant; 1s. 6d. for a corporal, drummer or fifer, and 1s. 3d. for each private man, the difference shall be made up out of the Treasury.

Boats for militia service, how provided.

Sec. 58. In counties or districts exposed to be attacked by water, the Sessions may provide a boat or boats for the defence of the same, to be under

under the directions of the commanding officer of militia, so long as the same may be necessary.

Militia to  
serve in  
in such  
boats

Sec. 59. The commanding officer of militia in the county, or district may order the militia to serve in such boats, so that the same shall not be sent more than three leagues from the land, and shall be under the command of a militia officer.

Men disa-  
bled provi-  
ded for.

Sec. 60. Men wounded or disabled on service to be taken care of at the expense of the Province.

Articles of  
war to go-  
vern mili-  
tia on ser-  
vice.

Sec. 61. Militia imbodyed on actual service made subject to such of the articles of war now in force for the regular army, as the Commander in Chief, with the advice of Council, shall appoint.

Courts  
martial.

Sec. 62. No officer of the regular army shall sit on a militia court martial, and the punishment of death to extend only to mutiny, desertion, sedition,

sedition, traitorous correspondence, or traitorously delivering up a post or guard; and no other corporal punishment, except imprisonment, shall be inflicted: sentences of courts martial before execution to be approved of by the Commander in Chief.

Courts  
martial—  
how for  
med.

Sec. 63. General courts martial to be held by warrant from the Commander in Chief, and to be composed of not less than thirteen officers, a field officer to be president.

Oath to be  
taken by  
the mem-  
bers.  
Judge Ad-  
vocate—  
how ap-  
pointed.

Sec. 64. The Judge Advocate to administer to each member of the court martial the oath directed by this Act. The Commander in Chief to appoint a Judge Advocate, who is to be sworn.

Sentence  
of death—  
how exe-  
cuted.

Sec. 65. No person to be put to death under the sentence of a court martial, until the Commander in Chief shall issue a warrant for that purpose; shooting or hanging to be  
the

the only mode of execution, and the warrant must be publicly read, and shall be a sufficient justification to the officer executing it.

Courts martial on field officers.

Sec. 66. No officer under the rank of a captain to try a field officer.

Appeals from regimental courts martial.

Sec. 67. Appeals may be made from a regimental court martial to a general one, which may increase the punishment if the appeal should appear to be without foundation.

Regimental courts martial.

Sec. 68. Regimental courts martial to be composed of not less than five members; and may be ordered by any officer not under the rank of a captain; having the command of a battalion or detachment.

Power of such courts.

Sec. 69. Regimental courts martial have power to take cognizance of all offences appointed to be tried in such courts, and may impose a fine not exceeding 5*l.* or imprison not more than 30 days. Sec.



Sentence  
how exe-  
cuted.

Sec. 70. The sentence of a regi-  
mental court martial shall not be  
executed without an order in writ-  
ing from the commanding officer of  
the battalion or detachment.

Oaths.  
Contempt  
how pu-  
nished.

Sec. 71. All courts martial may  
administer oaths and punish con-  
tempts, so as the fine shall not exceed  
5l. or the imprisonment 20 days.

Relations  
at courts  
martial.

Sec. 72. No person related within  
the fourth degree to the prosecutor  
or prosecuted, nor shall any accuser  
sit on a court martial.

Quarter  
masters  
how ap-  
pointed.

Sec. 73. Every battalion to have  
a quarter master, who shall give  
bond for the execution of his duty,  
shall receive all fines applicable to the  
battalion, and shall render regular  
accounts, and may, with the appro-  
bation of his commanding officer,  
appoint a quarter master sergeant, for  
whom he shall be accountable.

Fines how

Sec. 74. All fines not above 3l.  
to

recovered  
and appli-  
ed.

to be recovered before one Justice; and from three up to five pounds before two Justices; and all fines above 5*l.* shall be recovered in a Court of Record; no prosecution to be after three months from the time of the offence; all fines not exceeding ten shillings, if not otherwise applied, to be paid to the clerk for the use of the company; or if applicable to the use of the battalion, to be paid to the quarter master, to be expended under the direction of the officers commanding companies, or by the commanding officer of the battalion, for the contingent charges of the same.

Fines not  
above 10*s.*  
how reco-  
vered and  
applied

Sec. 75. All fines not exceeding 10*s.* shall be recovered by the clerks of companies and applied to the incidental expenses of the company by the commanding officer of it; and if there shall be a surplus it shall be paid to the quarter master. Sec.

Desertion,  
encourag-  
ing of it  
punished.

Sec. 76. Persons encouraging de-  
sertion from the militia on service, or  
harbouring deserters, liable to a pe-  
nalty of 5l. if convicted before two  
Justices, and if convicted in the  
Supreme Court liable to a penalty of  
20l.

Actions.

Sec. 77. Persons sued for any  
thing done under this Act may plead  
the general issue; and no action to  
be brought after 6 months.

Articles of  
war and  
militia law  
to be read.

Sec. 78. The articles of war and so  
many sections of this Act, as the  
Commander in Chief shall appoint,  
to be read so many times yearly as  
shall be ordered.

Inspecting  
officers.

Sec. 79. The Commander in Chief  
to appoint inspectors of the militia,  
and to appoint officers to command  
all the militia within such divisions or  
districts of the Province as he may  
think proper.

Repeal of  
former  
laws.

Sec. 80. Repeals all the former mi-  
litia laws.

Continu-  
ance of  
this Act.

Sec. 81. This Act to continue for one year, and to the end of the General Assembly next following.

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*SUBSTANCE of the Act for Billeting  
SOLDIERS or MILITIA.*

Officers  
and men  
to be bil-  
leted on  
licensed  
houses.

Sec. 1. **T**HE nearest Justice to billet officers and soldiers of the army, or militia, on a march, in the inns, taverns or ale-houses, and if more room shall be wanted, then in the houses of those who sell spirituous liquors by retail, or in the houses of those who have held tavern licenses one month previous to such march: such persons to furnish those billeted on them with lodgings and good provisions; and the commanding officer of the party is to give receipts

receipts for the number of meals furnished, which will entitle the persons to receive one shilling for every meal, and three pence for every night's lodging; militia officers granting false certificates, on conviction, to be broke and pay a fine of 5*l*.

rs. to be paid for a meal of victuals, and 3*d*. for a lodging.

Militia expenses—how to be paid.

Sec. 2. The Commander in Chief, with the advice of Council, to pay out of the Treasury the expense of the militia on a march; and when regular soldiers are marching on a route from one garrison to another, the Commander in Chief may pay out of the Treasury the cost of each soldier's dinner while on such march, provided the whole annual expense shall not exceed 500*l*.: the Governor to make regulations as to the certificates to draw the same.

Expense of regular army how paid.

Sec. 3. The persons who obtain receipts for the quarters and provisions furnished for the regular army,

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shall

shall be entitled to payment from the officers granting the same, or from the person who may be appointed to pay such expense, except such part thereof as is to be paid out of the Province Treasury.

Insuffici-  
ent num-  
ber of li-  
censed  
houses.

Sec. 4. When there are not sufficient public houses, the Magistrates may quarter soldiers in private houses.

Horses &  
carriages  
how pro-  
vided.

Sec. 5. Two Justices to provide horses and carriages to convey the baggage of the army, or militia, on a march, to be paid for at the rate of 1s. per mile for one driver and one horse and cart, to carry five gross hundreds, and for every additional horse 9d. per mile, each additional horse to carry five hundreds; carriages to travel only 20 miles a day, and if obliged to halt, or delay, on the march, they are to be paid 2s. 6d. for every hour's detention; commanding  
ing

ing officers to grant certificates, which are to entitle the party to receive his pay from the officers commanding the detachment.

Persons refusing to furnish horses or carriages, or overloading them, subject to fine

Sec. 6. Persons refusing to furnish horses or carriages to pay a fine of 40s. on conviction at the Sessions; officers compelling carriages to travel more than 20 miles per day—refusing to discharge them in due season—overloading them—or forcing them from their owner—shall pay a fine of 40s. besides the damages of the party; and horses or carriages while travelling from town to town are not obliged to perform this service.

Fines how disposed of.

Sec. 7. All fines recovered under this Act are to go to the militia.

Duration of the Act.

Sec. 8. Act continued for one year, and to the end of the next Session.