

MANUAL OF THE MUSKET

extracted from

GILHAM'S MANUAL for VOLUNTEERS AND MILITIA

by

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RICHMOND.
WEST & JOHNSTON,
145 Main Street.
1862.

As Compiled by
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This booklet was originally created for the reenactment commemorating the 145th anniversary of the Battle for Rich Mountain, West Virginia. It has been updated by the addition of fresh illustrations from Gilham's manual and supplemented with illustrations from other period manuals when no applicable illustration existed in Gilham's manual.

The working title for this booklet remains : "*Gilham's for non-Gilhamites.*" In addition to the verbatim text from the manual of arms for the musket, it includes lessons from the Schools of the Soldier, Company and Battalion which are peculiar to Gilham.

Also included is information about how to place the second and third corporals when forming platoons from the only period source I've encountered after many searches for same.

Gilham's manual for infantry wasn't designed to include everything so a few interesting tidbits from other period manuals has been included and identified from said manuals.

Since this booklet faithfully reproduces Gilham's manual of arms for the musket, regular practitioners of Gilham will find the small size of this booklet much easier to carry than the full sized, hard bound manual.

- Silas

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ARTICLE III.
SCHOOL OF THE SOLDIER.

Principles of Shouldered Arms.



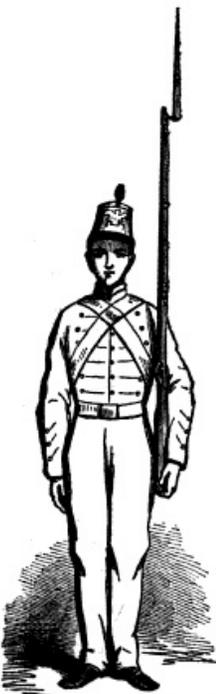
Feet. Position of the soldier.

94. Each soldier being in *the position of the soldier*, the instructor will cause him to turn up the left hand without bending the wrist, the left fore-arm only acting. The instructor will raise the piece perpendicularly, and place it as follows :

(Fig. 27.) The piece in the left hand, the arm very slightly bent, the elbow back near the body, the palm of the hand pressing on the outer flat of the butt ; the outer edge of the latter on the upper joints of the fingers, the heel of the butt between the middle and fore-fingers, the thumb on the front screw of the butt plate, the remaining fingers under the butt, the butt more or less kept back according to the conformation of the man, so that the piece, seen from the front, shall appear perpendicular, and, also, that the movement of the thigh, in marching, may not raise it or cause it to rive ; the stock, below the tail-band, resting against the hollow of the shoulder, just within the joint, the right arm hanging naturally as prescribed in the *position of the soldier*.

Shouldered Arms

Soldiers on first bearing arms are liable to derange their position, and particularly to distort the shoulders, which, causing the musket to lose its point of support, they drop the left hand to prevent the



Side view.

musket from falling from the shoulder, which again causes that shoulder to droop, a curvature of the side, spreading of the elbows etc. The instructor will be careful to correct all these faults by continually rectifying the position ; he will avoid fatiguing the men too much in the beginning, but labor to render this position natural and easy by degrees, that they may remain in it a long time without fatigue.

The instructor will also take great care that the musket be not carried too high or too low ; if too high, the left elbow would spread out, the soldier would occupy too much space in ranks, and the musket would be unsteady ; if too low, the files would be too close, the man would not have the necessary space to handle his musket with facility, the left arm would become too much fatigued, the shoulder would droop, etc.

The manual of the musket will be taught in the following order :

The instructor commands :

Support—ARMS.
One time and three motions.

95. *First Motion.* (Fig. 28.) With the right hand seize the small of the stock briskly, four inches below the lock, raising the piece a little, but not turning it.

Second Motion. Take the left hand from the butt; extend the left fore-arm upward across the body, and under the hammer, the left hand flat on the right breast.

Third Motion. Drop the right arm smartly to its position. The squad being at *support arms*, the instructor commands :



Support Arms



Fig. 19. Side view of support arms.

*Carry—ARMS.
One time and three motions.*

96. *First Motion.* Carry quickly the right hand to the small of the stock.

Second Motion. Place the left hand under the butt, as in the position of shoulder arms.

Third Motion. Let fall smartly the right hand to its position, and drop with the left, at the same time, the piece into the position of *shoulder arms*.

*Present—ARMS.
One time and two motions.*



Present Arms

97. *First Motion.* (Fig. 29.) Turn the piece with the left hand, the lock out, and seize the small of the stock at the same time with the right hand, the piece perpendicular and detached from the shoulder, the left hand remaining under the butt.

Second Motion. Complete the turning inwards of the piece, so as to bring it erect before the centre of the body, the rammer to the front the right hand under and against the guard ; seize it smartly at the same time with the left hand just above the lock, the thumb extended along the barrel and on the stock, the left fore-arm resting on the body without constraint, and the hand at the height of the elbow.

*Shoulder—ARMS.
One time and two motions.*

98. *First Motion.* Turn the piece with the right hand, the barrel to the front, raise and support it against the left shoulder with the right hand, drop the left under the butt, the right hand resting on, without grasping, the small of the stock.

Second Motion. Drop quickly the right hand into its position.



Ordered arms.

*Order—ARMS.
One time and two motions.*

99. *First Motion.* Drop the piece smartly by extending the left arm, seize it at the same time with the right hand, above and near the tail-band ; quit the hold of the left hand, and carry the piece opposite to the right shoulder, the rammer to the front, the little finger behind the barrel, the right hand supported against the hip, the butt three inches from the ground, the piece erect, the left hand hanging by the side.

Second Motion. Let the piece slip through the right hand to the ground without shock, and take the position about to be described.

Position of Order Arms.

100. (Fig. 30.) The hand low, the barrel between the thumb and forefinger extended along the stock ; the other fingers extended and joined ; the muzzle about two inches from the right shoulder ; the rammer in front ; the toe of the butt against, and in a line with, the toe of the right foot, the barrel perpendicular.



ORDER ARMS

101. When the instructor wishes to give repose in this position, he commands :

REST.

At this command, the soldiers will not be required to preserve silence or steadiness. They, however, will not quit their rank without special permission.

102. When the instructor wishes the men to pass from this position to that of silence and steadiness, he commands :

1. *Attention.* 2. SQUAD.

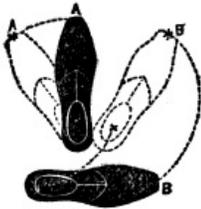
At the second word, the men will reserve the position of *order arms*, and remain firm and silent.

Shoulder—ARMS.
One time and two motions.

103. *First Motion.* Raise smartly the piece with the right hand, carry it against the left shoulder, turning it, so as to bring the barrel to the front ; at the same time place the left hand under the butt, and slip the right hand down to the lock.

Second Motion. Let the right hand fall briskly to its position.

Charge—BAYONET.
One time and two motions.



104. *First Motion.* Make a half face to the right on the left heel, bring the left toe directly to the front, at the same time place the right foot behind, and at right angles with the left, the hollow of right foot opposite to, and about three inches from the left heel ; turn the piece with the left hand, the lock outwards, and seize the small of the stock at the same time with the right hand, the musket perpendicular, and detached from the shoulder, the



Charge bayonet

left hand under the butt.

Second Motion. Bring down the piece with the right hand, letting it fall firmly into the left, the latter seizing it a little in advance of the tail band, the barrel up, the left elbow near the body, the right hand against the hip, the point of the bayonet as high as the eye. (Fig. 31.)

Shoulder—ARMS.
One time and two motions.

105. *First Motion.* Face to the front by turning on the left heel bring up the right by the side of the left heel ; at the same time bring up the piece with the right hand to the left shoulder, and place the left hand under the butt.

Second Motion. Let the right hand fall promptly into its position.

Load in Ten Times.

1. LOAD.
One time and two motions.



Load : feet and butt after second motion

106. *First Motion.* Drop the piece by a smart extension of the left arm, seize it with the right hand above and near the lower band ; at the same time carry the right foot forward, the heel against the hollow of the left foot.

Second Motion. Drop the piece with the right hand along the left thigh, seize it with the left hand above the right, and with the left hand let it descend to the ground, without shock, the piece touching the left thigh, and the muzzle opposite the centre of the body ; carry the right hand quickly to the cartridge-box and open it.



Open box.

2. *Handle*—CARTRIDGE.
One time and one motion.

107. Seize a cartridge with the thumb and the next two fingers, and place it between the teeth.

3. *Tear*—CARTRIDGE.
One time and one motion.

108. Tear the paper down to the powder, hold the cartridge upright between the thumb and two next fingers, near the top ; in this position place it in front of and near the muzzle, the back of the hand to the front.



Cartridge charged.

4. *Charge*—CARTRIDGE.

109. Fix the eye on the muzzle, turn quickly the back of right hand towards the body, in order to discharge the powder into the barrel, raise the elbow to the height of the wrist, shake the cartridge, force it into the muzzle, and leave the hand reversed, the fingers closed, but not clenched. (Fig. 33.)

5. *Draw*—RAMMER.
One time and three motions.

110. *First Motion.* Drop the right elbow smartly, and seize the rammer between the thumb and fore-finger bent, the other fingers shut ; draw it smartly, extending the arm, seize the rammer again at the middle between the thumb and fore-finger, the hand reversed, the palm to the front, the nails up, the eyes following the movement of the hand, clear the rammer from the pipes by again extending the arm.



Draw rammer. Soldier's view.



Half drawing the rammer.

Second Motion. Turn rapidly the rammer between the bayonet and the face, closing the fingers, the rammers of the rear rank grazing the right shoulders of the men of the same file in front, the rammer parallel to the bayonet, the arm extended, the butt of the rammer opposite to the muzzle but not yet inserted, the eyes fixed on the muzzle.

Third Motion. Insert the butt of the rammer, and force it down as low as the hand.

6. *Ram*—CARTRIDGE.
One time and one motion.

111. Extend the arm to its full length to seize the rammer between the right thumb extended and the fore-finger bent, the other fingers closed ; with force ram home twice and seize the rammer at the small end between the thumb and fore-finger bent, the other fingers closed, the right elbow touching the body.

7. *Return*—RAMMER.
One time and three motions.

112. *First Motion.* Draw the rammer briskly, re-seize it at the middle between the thumb and fore-finger, the hand reversed, the palm to the front, the nails up, the eyes following the band, clear the rammer from the barrel by extending the arm.

Second Motion. Turn the rammer rapidly between the bayonet and the face, closing the fingers, the rammers of the rear rank grazing the right shoulders of the men in the same file in front, the rammer parallel to the bayonet, the arm extended, the little end of the rammer opposite to the first pipe, but not yet inserted, the eyes fixed on that pipe.



Seizing rammer at middle between thumb and fore-finger.



Turning rammer by closing fingers, not by turning wrist.



Third Motion. Insert the small end, and with the thumb, which will follow the movement, force it, as low as the middle band ; raise the hand quickly, a little bent, place the little finger on the butt of the rammer, and force it down ; lower the left hand on the barrel to an extent of the arm without depressing the shoulder.

8. *Cast—ABOUT.*
One time and two motions.

113. *First Motion.* With the left hand bring up the piece vertically against the left shoulder, seize it smartly with the right hand at the small of the stock, and slide the left hand down as low as the chin.

Cast about.
First motion

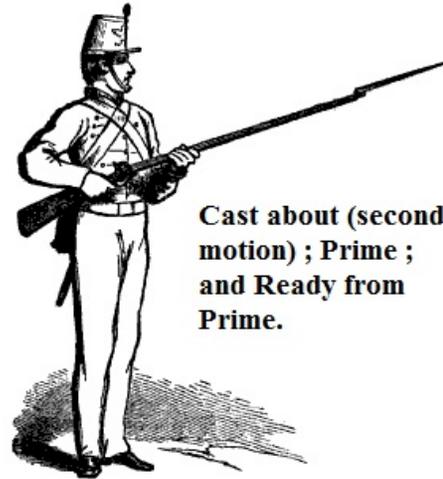
Second Motion. Make a half face to the right on the left heel, bring the left toe to the front, place the right foot at the same time close behind, and at right angles with the left, the hollow of the right foot against the left heel ; carry the piece opposite to the right shoulder ; bring down the piece with the right hand into the left, which will seize it at the tail band, the thumb extended on the stock, the butt under the right fore-arm the small of the stock against the body, and about two inches under the right breast, the muzzle at the height of the eye, the left elbow supported against the side, the right hand grasping the small of the stock. (Fig. 34.)



Second motion of cast about.

9. *Prime.*
One time and one motion.

114. Place the thumb of the right hand on the hammer (the fingers remaining under and against the guard), and half-cock the



Cast about (second motion) ; Prime ; and Ready from Prime.

piece ; brush off the old cap, and with the thumb and first two fingers of the right hand take a cap from the pouch, place it firmly on the cone by pushing it down with the thumb, and seize the piece by the small of the stock.

10. *Shoulder—ARMS.*
One time and two motions.

115. *First Motion.* Face to the front by turning on the left heel ; at the same time

bring the piece briskly with the right hand to the left shoulder, and place the left hand under the butt.

Second Motion. Let the right hand fall smartly into its position at *shoulder arms*.

READY.
(From the position of prime.)
One time and one motion.

116. Place the thumb of the right hand on the hammer (the fingers remaining under and against the guard), cock the piece, and seize the small of the stock.

READY.
(From the position of shoulder arms.)
One time and four motions.

117. *First Motion.* Turn the piece with the left hand, the lock to the front, seize it at the small of the stock with the right hand ; at the same time make a half face to the right on the left heel, bringing the left toe to the front and placing the right foot behind,

and at right angles to the left, the hollow of the foot against the left heel.

Second Motion. Bring the piece with the right hand to the middle of the body, place the left hand just above the lock, the thumb extending along the stock at the height of the chin, the counter (or S)-plate turned towards the body, the rammer obliquely to the left and front.

Third Motion. Place the thumb on the hammer, the fore-finger under and on the guard, the other three fingers joined to the first, the elbow at the height of the hand.

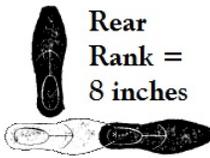
Fourth Motion. Close the right elbow smartly to the body in cocking, without bending the wrist, seize the piece by the small of the stock, let it descend along the body in the left hand to the tail-band, which will remain at the height of the shoulder. (Fig. 35.)



Fourth motions of Ready from Shoulder arms. (Closing right elbow and seizing at small of stock.)



Second motion of Ready from Shoulder arms. (Oblique, not front, view.)



Aim for direct fire.

AIM.
One time and one motion.

118. Raise the butt to the shoulder, the left elbow a little down, shut the left eye, direct the right along the barrel, drop the head upon the butt to catch the object, and place the fore-finger on the trigger. The rear rank will at the same

time, carry the right foot about eight inches towards the left heel of the man next on his right. (Fig. 36.)

FIRE.

One time and one motion.

119. Apply the fore-finger with force to the trigger without further lowering or turning the head, and remain in that position.

LOAD. (From the Fire.)
One time and two motions.



120. *First Motion.* Bring back the piece quickly with both hands, depress the butt strongly by extending the right arm, and carry it with the arm thus extended to the left side, the barrel to the front and opposite to the left shoulder, the left hand at the height of the chin, the back of the hand to the front, the left fore-arm touching the stock ; at the same time face to the front and carry the right foot forward, the heel against the hollow of the left foot.

Second Motion. Let go the handle with the right hand, let the piece descend through the left to the ground, without shock, and take the position of the second motion of *load*.

Shoulder—ARMS. (From the Fire.)
One time and two motions.

121. *First Motion.* Bring back the piece with both hands, face to the front, carry the piece against the left shoulder, and place the left hand under the butt.

Second Motion. Let the right hand fall smartly to its position.

The squad being in the position of *aim*, the instructor, to habituate the soldiers to wait for the word, *fire*, sometimes

commands :

*Recover—ARMS.
One time and one motion.*

122. Withdraw the finger from the trigger, throw up the muzzle smartly, and retake the position of the fourth motion of *ready*.

The men being in this position, if the instructor wishes them to come to a shoulder, he commands :

Shoulder—ARMS.

123. At the word, *shoulder*, the squad will face to the front, and bring their pieces to the middle of the body again ; the left thumb at the height of the chin, the little finger just above the lock; next place the right thumb on the head of the hammer, support the fore-finger on the trigger, sustain the hammer carefully in its descent at the same time, to the position of half-cock, then seize the small of the stock with the right hand. At the word, *arms*, carry the piece to the shoulder smartly, and take the position of *shoulder arms*.

To Load in Four Times (Or Pauses).

124. The instructor commands :

1. *Load in four times.*
2. **LOAD.**

Execute the first time of loading, handle cartridge, tear cartridge, charge cartridge.

TWO.

125. Draw rammer, enter it as far as the hand, and ram twice.

THREE.

126. Return rammer, cast about, and prime.

FOUR.

127. Execute the tenth time of loading.

To Unfix and Fix the Bayonet

128. The soldiers being at a shoulder, when the instructor may wish to return bayonets, he commands :

Unfix—BAYONETS.

One time and three motions.



Third motions of unfixing bayonet.

First Motion. Drop the piece by a smart extension of the left arm, seize it with the right hand above and near the tail-band.

Second Motion. Drop the piece with the right hand along the left thigh, seize it with the left hand above the right, lengthen out the left arm, rest the butt on the ground, without shock, and carry the right hand at the same time to the bayonet, with the thumb lower the clasp against the stop, and then seize the bayonet at the socket and shank.

Third Motion. Wrest off the bayonet, return it to the scabbard, place the little finger on the butt of the rammer, lower the left hand along the barrel in extending the arm, without depressing the shoulder.

Shoulder—ARMS.

One time and three motions.

129. *First Motion.* Raise the piece with the left hand along the left side, the hand at the height of the chin, the fore-arm touching the piece, the barrel to the front ; drop at the same time the right hand to seize the piece a little above the handle, the fore-finger touching the cock, and the thumb on the counter-plate.

Second Motion. Raise the piece with the right hand, drop the left, and place it under the butt, bring back the right heel to the side of the left, and on the same line ; support the piece with the right hand against the shoulder, in the position prescribed for *shoulder arms*, the right hand resting on, without grasping, the piece.

Third Motion. Let fall smartly the right hand into its position by the side of the thigh.

Fix—BAYONET.

130. *First and second motions.* As in the first and second motions of *unfix bayonet*, No. 128, by :

First, dropping the piece by a smart extension of the left arm, seizing it with the right hand above and near the tail-band ;

Second, dropping the piece with the right hand along the left thigh, seizing it with the left hand above the right, lengthening out the left arm, resting the butt on the ground, without shock, and carrying the right hand at the same time to the bayonet, with the thumb lower the clasp against the stop, and then seizing the bayonet at the socket and shank, so that the lower (now upper) end of the socket shall extend about an inch above the heel of the palm.

Third Motion. Draw the bayonet from the scabbard, carry and fix it on the muzzle, turning the clasp towards the body with the right thumb ; place the little finger on the head of the rammer lower the left hand along the barrel, in extending the arm.

Shoulder—ARMS.

The same as from the *unfix bayonet*, No. 128.

Secure—ARMS.

One time and two motions.

131. *First Motion.* Seize quickly the piece with the right hand, the on the counter-plate, and the fore-finger against the cock



Secure arms.

; detach the piece from the shoulder at the same instant, the barrel to the front, seize it at the tail-band with the left hand, the thumb extended on the rammer, the piece erect, opposite to the shoulder, the left elbow on the piece.

Second Motion. Reverse the piece, pass it under the left arm, the left hand remaining at the tail-band, the thumb on the rammer to prevent it from sliding out, the little finger resting against the hip, and the right hand falling at the same time into its position. (Fig. 37.)

Shoulder—ARMS.

One time and two motions.

132. *First Motion.* Raise the piece with the left hand, but not too suddenly, lest the rammer should fly out ; seize the handle with he right hand to support it against the shoulder, quit the hold of the left hand, and place quickly this hand under the butt.

Second Motion. Let fall smartly the right hand into its position ; drop at the same time the piece into the position of *shouldered arms*.

Trail—ARMS.

One time and two motions.

133. *First Motion.* As the first motion of *order arms*. No. 99, by dropping the piece smartly by extending the left arm, seizing it at the same time with the right hand, above and near the tail-band; quitting the hold of the left hand, and carrying the piece opposite to the right shoulder, the rammer to the front, the little finger behind the barrel, the right hand supported against the hip, the



Trail arms.

butt three inches from the ground, the piece erect, the left hand hanging by the side.

Second Motion. Incline a little the muzzle to the front, the butt to the rear, and about three inches from the ground, the right hand, supported at the hip, will sustain the piece so that the men of the rear rank may not touch with their bayonets the men in front of them. (Fig. 38.)

Shoulder—ARMS.

134. At the command, *shoulder*, raise the piece perpendicularly in the right hand ; at the command, *arms*, execute what has been prescribed for the shoulder from the position of *order arms*, No. 103, by raising smartly the piece with the right hand, carrying it against the left shoulder, turning the piece, so as to bring the barrel to the front ; at the same time placing the left hand under the butt, slipping the right hand down to the lock ; and letting the right hand fall briskly to its position.

To right shoulder, shift—ARMS.
One time and one motion.

135. Turn the piece with the left hand, the lock to the front, seize it at the same time with the right hand at the handle, place it on the right shoulder, the left hand not quitting the butt, the lock-plate upwards, the muzzle up ; sustain the piece in this position by placing the right hand on the flat of the butt ; let fall the left hand by the side. (Fig. 39.)

Shoulder—ARMS.

136. Raise the piece by extending the right arm, seize it with the left hand above the lock,



To right shoulder shift.

carry it against the left shoulder, turning the barrel to the front, the right hand being at the handle, place the left hand under the butt, and let the right fall into its position.

Arms—AT WILL.
One time and one motion.

137. Carry the piece at pleasure on either shoulder, or with one or both hands, the muzzle always up.

Shoulder—ARMS.

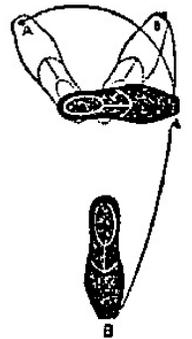
138. Retake smartly the position of *shoulder arms*.

Inspection of Arms.

139. The squad being at ordered arms, and having the bayonet in the scabbard, if the instructor wishes to cause an inspection of arms, he will command :

Inspection of—ARMS.
One time and three motions.

First Motion. Face to the right once and a half on the left heel, carrying the right foot perpendicularly to the rear of the alignment, about six inches from, and at right angles with, the left foot ; seize promptly the piece with the left hand a little above the middle band, incline the muzzle to the rear without displacing the heel of the butt, the rammer turned towards the body ; carry at the same time the right hand to the bayonet and seize it as has been prescribed, No. 130, by seizing the bayonet at the socket and shank, so that the lower (now upper) end of the socket shall extend about an inch above the heel of the palm.



No. 139,
First Motion :
Face to the right once and a half on the left heel...

Second Motion. Draw the bayonet from the scabbard, carry and fix it on the muzzle ; seize next the rammer, draw it as has been explained in loading it twelve times, and let it glide to the bottom of the bore.

Third Motion. Face promptly to the front, seize the piece with the right hand, and retake the position of ordered arms.

The instructor will then inspect in succession the piece of each man, in passing along the front of the rank. Each, as the instructor reaches him, will raise smartly his piece with his right hand, seize it with the left between the tail-band and the feather-spring, the lock to the front, the left hand at the height of the chin, the piece opposite to the left eye (Fig. 40) ; the instructor will take it with the right hand at the handle, and, after inspecting it, will return it to the soldier, who will receive it back with the right hand, and replace it in the position of ordered arms.

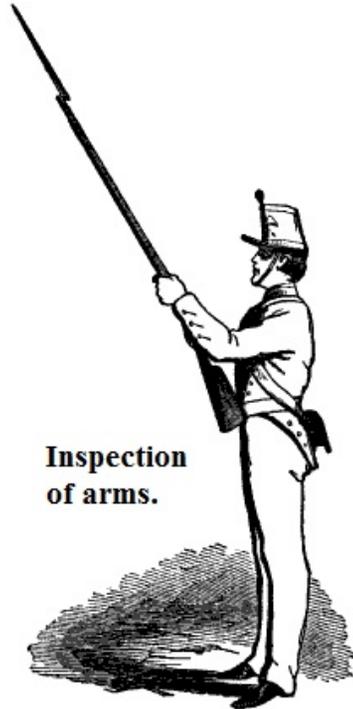
When the instructor shall have passed him, each soldier will retake the position prescribed at the command, *inspection of arms*, and return the rammer ; after which he will face to the front.

140. If, instead of inspection of arms, it be the wish of the instructor only to cause bayonets to be fixed, he will command :

Fix—BAYONET.

Take the position indicated, No.139, (first motion), fix bayonets as has been explained, and immediately face to the front.

Bayonets fixed, if it be the wish of the instructor, after firing, to ascertain whether the pieces have been discharged, he will



command :

Spring—RAMMERS.

Put the rammer in the barrel, as has been explained, No. 110, by :

First, dropping the right elbow smartly, and seizing the rammer between the thumb and fore-finger bent, the other fingers shut ; drawing it smartly, extending the arm, seizing the rammer again at the middle between the thumb and fore-finger, the hand reversed, the palm to the front, the nails up, the eyes following the movement of the hand, clearing the rammer from the pipes by again extending the arm ;

Second, turning rapidly the rammer between the bayonet and the face, closing the fingers, the rammers of the rear rank grazing the right shoulders of the men of the same file in front, the rammer parallel to the bayonet, the arm extended, the butt of the rammer opposite to the muzzle but not yet inserted, the eyes fixed on the muzzle ;

Third, inserting the butt of the rammer, and forcing it down as low as the hand ; and

Fourth, immediately facing to the front.

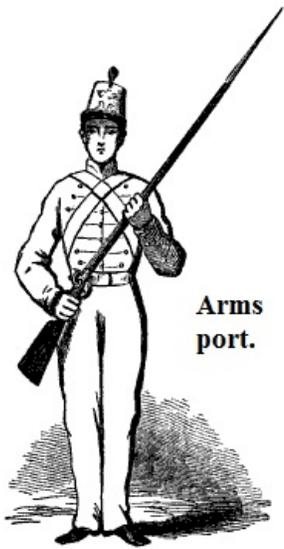
The instructor, for the purpose stated, can take the rammer by the small end, and spring it in the barrel, or cause each man to make the rammer ring in the barrel.

Each man, after the instructor passes him, will return rammer, and face to the front.

Arms—PORT.

One time and one motion.

141. Throw the piece diagonally across the body, the lock to the front, seize it smartly at the same instant with both hands, the right at the handle, the left at the tail-band, the two thumbs pointing towards the muzzle, the barrel sloping upwards and crossing



Arms port.

opposite to the point of the left shoulder, the butt proportionally lowered. The palm of the right hand will be above, and that of the left under the piece, the nails of both hands next to the body, to which the elbows will be dosed. (Fig. 41.)

Shoulder—ARMS.
One time and two motions.

First Motion. Bring the piece smartly to the left shoulder, placing the left hand under the butt.

Second Motion. Drop the right hand smartly by the side.

Firings.

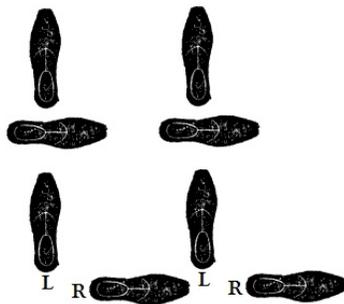
191. The firings are direct or oblique, and will be executed as follows :

The Direct Fire.

The instructor will give the following commands :

1. Fire by squad. 2. Squad.
3. READY. 4. AIM.
5. Fire. 6. LOAD.

These several commands will be executed as has been prescribed in the *Manual of Arms*, above. At the third command, the men will come to the position of *ready* as heretofore explained, No. 117, for firing from the position of



shoulder arms. At the fourth, they will aim according to the rank in which each may find himself placed, the rear rank men inclining forward a little the upper part of the body, in order that their pieces may reach as much beyond the front rank as possible.

At the sixth command, they will load their pieces, and return immediately to the position of *ready*, No. 116.

The instructor will recommence the firing by the commands:

1. Squad. 2. AIM. 3. FIRE. 4. LOAD.

When the instructor wishes the firing to cease, he will command :

Cease firing.

At this command, the men will cease firing, but will load their pieces if unloaded, and afterwards bring them to a shoulder.

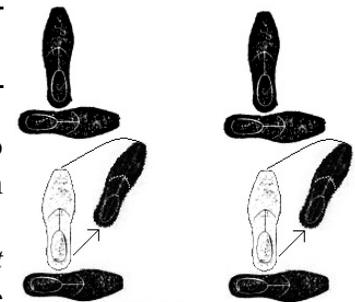
Oblique Firings.

192. The oblique firings will be executed to the right and left, and by the same commands as the direct fire, with this single difference—the command, *aim*, will always be preceded by the caution, *right* or *left oblique*.

Position of the Two Ranks in the Oblique Fire to the Right.

At the command, *ready*, the two ranks will execute what has been prescribed for the direct fire.

At the cautionary command, *right oblique*, the two ranks will throw back the right shoulder and look steadily at the object to be hit.

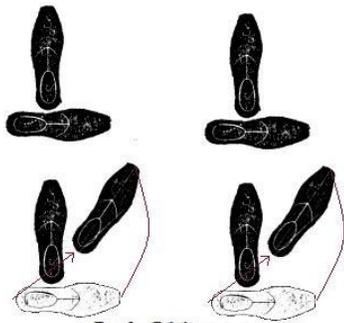


Right Oblique : pivot then advance LEFT foot

At the command, *aim*, each front rank man will aim to the right without deranging the feet ; each rear rank man will advance the left foot about eight inches towards the right heel of the man next on the right of his file leader and aim to the right, inclining the upper part of the body forward and bending a little the left knee.

Position of the Two Ranks
in the Oblique Fire to the Left.

At the cautionary command, *left oblique*, the two ranks will throw back the left shoulder and look steadily at the object to be hit.



Left Oblique :
move RIGHT foot

At the command, *aim*, the front rank will take aim to the left without deranging the feet ; each man in the rear rank will advance the right foot about eight inches towards the right heel of the man next on the right of his file leader, and aim to the left, inclining the upper part of the body forward and bending a little the

right knee.

In both cases, at the command, *load*, the men of each rank will come to the position of load as prescribed in the direct fire ; the rear rank men bringing back the foot which is to the right and front by the side of the other. Each man will continue to load as if isolated.

Compiler's Remarks on the Oblique Firings

For *Direct Firings*, the left foot points *toward* the direction of the aim—forward—while the right foot rests *perpendicular* to the direction of the aim.

For *Right Oblique*, the left foot pivots to the right oblique *toward* the direction of the aim and is advanced slightly ; the right foot remains in place.

For *Left Oblique*, the left foot remains in place ; the right is advanced—right heel to the instep of the left foot—then pivoted left until the left foot rests *perpendicular* to the direction of the aim.

After the cautionary command, *left oblique*, two things occur : (1) both ranks throw back the left shoulder and look steadily at the object to be hit ; and (2) rear rank men will, at the same time, raise their pieces to a vertical position. Commanders should wait for both movements to be completed before ordering the command of *aim*.

At the command, *aim*, five things occur : (1) the front rank will take aim to the left without deranging the feet ; (2) each man in the rear will advance the right foot about eight inches toward the right heel of the man next on the right of his file leader ; (3) “aim through the interval *to the left of his file leader*” ; (4) inclining the upper body forward and (5) bending a little the right knee.

To Fire by File.

193. The fire by file will be executed by the two ranks, the files of which will fire successively, and without regulating on each other, except for the first fire.

The instructor will command :

1. *Fire by file.*
2. *Squad.*
3. READY.
4. COMMENCE FIRING.

At the third command, the two ranks will take the position prescribed in the direct fire, No's 117 and 191.

At the fourth command, the file on the right will aim and fire ; rear rank man in aiming will take the position indicated, No. 118, by carrying the right foot about eight inches towards the left heel of the man next on his right.

The men of this file will load their pieces briskly and fire a second time ; reload and fire again, and so on in continuation.

The second file will aim, at the instant the first brings down pieces to reload, and will conform in all respects to that which has

just been prescribed for the first file.

After the first fire, the front and rear rank men will not be required to fire at the same time.

Each man, after loading, will return to the position of ready and continue the fire.

When the instructor wishes the fire to cease, he will command :

Cease—FIRING.

At this command, the men will cease firing. If they have fired they will load their pieces and bring them to a shoulder ; if at the position of *ready*, they will half-cock and shoulder arms. If in the position of *aim*, they will bring down their pieces, half-cock, and shoulder arms.

To Fire by Rank.

194. The fire by rank will be executed by each entire rank, alternately. The instructor will command :

1. *Fire by rank.* 2. *Squad.* 3. **READY.**
4. *Rear rank.* 5. **AIM.** 6. **FIRE.** 7. **LOAD.**

At the third command, the two ranks will take the position of *ready*, as prescribed in the direct fire, No's 117 and 191.

At the seventh command, the rear rank will execute that which has been prescribed in the direct fire, and afterwards take the position of *ready*, No. 116.

As soon as the instructor sees several men of the rear rank in the position of ready, he will command :

1. *Front rank.* 2. **AIM.** 3. **FIRE.** 4. **LOAD.**

At these commands, the men in the front rank will execute what has been prescribed for the rear rank, but they will not step off with the right foot.

The instructor will recommence the firing by the rear rank, and will thus continue to alternate from rank to rank, until he shall wish the firing to cease, when he will command, *cease firing*, which will be executed as heretofore prescribed.

To Fire and Load Kneeling.

195. In this exercise the squad will be supposed loaded and drawn up in one rank. The instruction will be given to each man individually, without times or motions, and in the following manner.

The instructor will command :

FIRE AND LOAD KNEELING.

At this command, the man on the right of the squad will move forward three paces and halt ; then carry the right foot to the rear and to the right of the left heel, and in a position convenient for placing the right knee upon the ground in bending the left leg ; place the right knee upon the ground ; lower the piece, the left fore-arm supported upon the thigh on the same side, the right hand on the small of the stock, the butt resting on the right thigh, the left hand supporting the piece near the lower band.

He will next move the right leg to the left around the knee supported on the ground, until this leg is nearly perpendicular to the direction of the left foot, and thus seat himself comfortably on the right heel.

Raise the piece with the right hand and support it with the left, holding it near the lower band, the left elbow resting on the left thigh near the knee ; seize the hammer with the thumb, the fore-finger under the guard, cock and seize the piece at the small of



To fire kneeling

the stock ; bring the piece to the shoulder, *aim* and *fire*.

Bring the piece down as soon as it is fired, and support it with the left hand, the butt resting against the right thigh ; carry the piece to the rear rising on the knee, the barrel downwards, the butt resting on the ground ; in this position support the piece with the left hand at the upper band, draw cartridge with the right and load the piece, ramming the ball, if necessary, with both hands.

When loaded bring the piece to the front with the left hand, which holds it at the upper band ; seize it at the same time with the right hand at the small of the stock ; turn the piece, the barrel uppermost and nearly horizontal, the left elbow resting on the left thigh ; half-cock, remove the old cap and prime, rise, and return to the ranks.

The second man will then be taught what has just been prescribed for the first, and so on through the remainder of the squad.

To Fire and Load Lying.

196. In this exercise the squad will be in one rank and loaded ; the instruction will be given individually and without times or motions.

The instructor will command :

FIRE AND LOAD LYING.

At this command, the man on the right of the squad will move forward three paces and halt ; he will then bring his piece to an order, drop on both knees, and place himself on the ground flat on his belly. In this position he will support the piece nearly horizontal with the left hand, holding it near the lower band, the butt end of the piece and the left elbow resting on the ground, the barrel uppermost ; cock the piece with the right hand, and carry this hand to the small of the stock ; raise the piece with both hands, press the butt against the shoulder, and resting on both elbows, *aim* and *fire*.

As soon as he has fired, bring the piece down and turn upon his left side, still resting on his left elbow ; bring back the piece until the cock is opposite his breast, the butt end resting on the ground ; take out a cartridge with the right hand ; seize the small of the stock with this hand, holding the cartridge with the thumb and two first fingers ; he will then throw himself on his back, still holding the piece with both hands ; carry the piece to the rear, place the butt between the heels, the barrel up, the muzzle elevated. In this position, charge cartridge, draw rammer, ram cartridge, and return rammer.

When finished loading, the man will turn again upon his left side, remove the old cap and prime, then raise the piece vertically, rise, turn about, and resume his position in the ranks.

The second man will be taught what has just been prescribed for the first, and so on throughout the squad.

To Load on the March or Running.



Ellsworth 57, 240. From the position of *aim* after firing, carry the piece across the body to the left side and seize it at the middle band with the left hand.

Holding the piece in this position, take out a cartridge, tear it with the teeth, and halt a moment to pour the powder in the barrel ; draw rammer and ram cartridge, if necessary, halting a moment to insert rammer ; return the rammer and bring up the piece with the left hand to position of *arms port* and prime ; come to the *ready*, and fire when occasion offers.

Bayonet Exercise.

197. The bayonet exercise in this book will be confined to two movements, the *guard against infantry*, and the *guard against cavalry*. The men will be placed in one rank, with two paces interval, and being at shoulder arms, the instructor will command:



Guard against infantry. Right foot goes rearward, not left foot forward.

1. *Guard against Infantry.*
 2. GUARD.
- One time and two motions.*

First Motion. Make a half face to the right, turning on both heels, the feet square to each other ; at the same time raise the piece slightly, and seize it with the left hand above and near the lower band.

Second Motion. Carry the right foot twenty inches perpendicularly to the rear, the right heel on the prolongation of

the left, the knees slightly bent, the weight of the body resting equally on both legs ; lower the piece with both hands, the barrel uppermost, the left elbow against the body ; seize the piece at the same time with the right hand at the small of the stock, the arms falling naturally, the point of the bayonet slightly elevated. (Fig. 44.)

Shoulder—ARMS.
One time and one motion.

Throw up the piece with the left hand, and place it against the right shoulder, at the same time bring the right heel by the side of the left and face to the front.

1. *Guard against Cavalry.*
2. GUARD.

One time and two motions.

Both motions the same as for *guard against infantry*, except that the right hand will be supported against the hip, and the bayonet held at height of the eye, as in *charge bayonet*.



Guard against Cavalry.

Shoulder—ARMS.
One time and one motion.

Spring up the piece with the left hand and place it against the right shoulder, at the same time bring the right heel by the side of the left, and face to the front.

To Stack Arms.

222. The men being at order arms, the instructor will command :

Stack—ARMS.

At this command, the front rank man of every even numbered file will pass his piece before him, seizing it with the left hand above the middle band, and place the butt behind and near the right foot of the man next on the left, the barrel turned to the front. At the same time the front rank man of every odd numbered file will pass his piece before him, seizing it with the left hand below the middle band, and hand it to the man next on the left ; the latter will receive it with the right hand two inches above the middle band, throw the butt about thirty-two inches to the front, opposite to his right shoulder, incline the muzzle towards him, and lock the shanks of the two bayonets ; the lock of this second piece towards

the right, and its shank above that of the first piece.

The rear rank man of every even file will project his bayonet forward, and introduce it (using both hands) between and under the shanks of the two other bayonets. He will then abandon the piece to his file leader, who will receive it with the right hand under the middle band, bring the butt to the front, holding up his own piece and the stack with the left hand, and place the butt of this third piece between the feet of the man next on the right, the S plate to the rear. The stack thus formed, the rear rank man of every odd file will pass his piece into his left hand, the barrel turned to the front, and, sloping the bayonet forward, rest it on the stack.

223. [Excluded. Pertains to rifles, not muskets.]

224. The men of both ranks having taken the position of the soldier without arms, the instructor will command :

1. *Break ranks.* 2. MARCH.

To Resume Arms.

Both ranks being re-formed in rear of their stacks, the instructor will command :

Take—ARMS.

At this command, the rear rank man of every odd numbered file will withdraw his piece from the stack ; the front rank man of every even file will seize his own piece with the left hand, and that of the man on his right with his right hand, both above the lower band ; the rear rank man of the even file will seize his piece with the right hand below the lower band ; these two men will raise up the stock to loosen the rammers or bayonets ; the front rank man of every odd file will facilitate the disengagement of the rammers, if necessary, by drawing them out slightly with the left hand, and will receive his piece from the hand of the man next on his left ; the four men will retake the position of the soldier at order arms.



The carry.

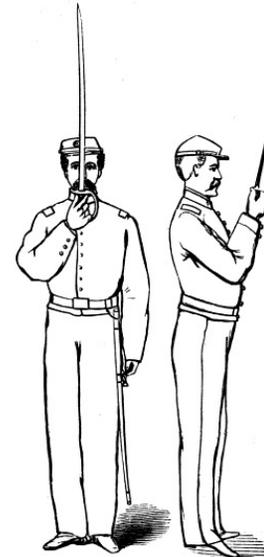
MANUAL OF THE SWORD OR SABRE,
FOR OFFICERS.

Position of the Sword or Sabre, Under Arms.

198. *The carry.* The gripe in the right hand, which will be supported against the right hip, the back of the blade against the shoulder.

To Salute With The Sword or Sabre.

Three times (or pauses).



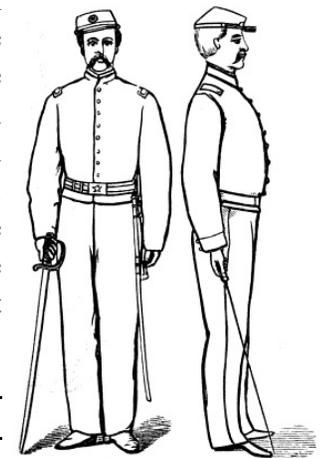
The Recover.

One. At the distance of six paces from the person to be saluted, raise the sword or sabre perpendicularly, the point up, the flat of the blade opposite to the right eye, the guard at the height of the shoulder, the elbow supported on the body.

Two. Drop the point of the sword or sabre by extending the arm, so that the right hand may be brought to the side of the right thigh, and remain in that position until the person to whom the salute is rendered shall be passed, or shall have passed, six paces.

Three. Raise the sword or sabre smartly, and resume the position first prescribed.

Color-Salute.



The Salute.

199. In the ranks, the color-bearer,

whether at a halt or in march, will always carry the heel of the color-lance supported at the right hip, the right hand generally placed on the lance at the height of the shoulder, to hold it steady. When the color has to render honors, the color-bearer will salute as follows :

At the distance of six paces slip the right hand along the lance to the height of the eye ; lower the lance by straightening the arm to its fullest extent, the heel of the lance remaining at the hip, and bring back the lance to the habitual position when the person saluted shall be passed, or shall have passed, six paces.

Compliments When the Piece Is Held by the Right Hand.

Ellsworth 292. Salute by touching the piece at the height of the shoulder with the forefinger of the left hand ; palm of the hand downward, fingers extended and joined. After saluting in this manner, drop the hand quietly to the side.

Compliments When the Right Hand Is at Liberty.

Ellsworth 293. Salute by touching the back of the hand to the visor of the cap, throwing it easily and gracefully to the front, until the arm is nearly extended, and drop the hand to the side.

294. To deliver a package, paper, or anything of a like nature, when the piece is carried. Halt one pace from the person to be saluted, bring the piece to the position of *arms port* holding it in this position with the left hand ; salute with the right, deliver the package, *shoulder arms*, salute with the left hand, and return.

295. If a message is simply to be delivered, if at *support arms*, salute with the right hand ; if at *shoulder*, salute with the left.

Compliments by Sentinels.

C.S. Regulations, 407. Sentinels will *present arms* to general and field officers, to the officer of the day, and to the

commanding officer of the post. To all other officers they will *carry arms*.

408. When a sentinel in his sentry-box sees an officer approaching, he will stand at *attention*, and as the officer passes will salute him, by bringing the left hand briskly to the musket, as high as the right shoulder.

409. The sentinel at any post of the guard, when he sees any body of troops, or an officer entitled to compliment, approach, must call : "*Turn out the guard !*" and announce who approaches.

410. Guards do not turn out as a matter of compliment after sunset ; but, sentinels will, when officers in uniform approach, pay them proper attention, by facing to the proper front, and standing steady at *shouldered arms*. This will be observed until the evening is so far advanced that the sentinels begin challenging.

Form for Parade.

737. On all parades of ceremony, such as Reviews, Guard-mounting, at *Troop* or *Retreat* parades, instead of the word, *rest*, which allows the men to move or change the position of their bodies, the command will be :

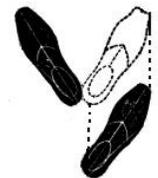
Parade—REST.

At the last word of this command, the soldier will carry the right foot six inches in rear of the left heel, the left knee slightly bent, the body upright upon the right leg ; the musket resting against the hollow of the right shoulder, the hands crossed in front, the backs of them outward, and the left hand uppermost. At the word, *attention*, the soldier will resume the correct position at ordered arms. In the



Parade rest

positions here indicated, the soldier will remain silent and motionless ; and it is particularly enjoined upon



all officers to cause the commands above given, on the part of the soldier, to be executed with great briskness and spirit.

Officers on all duties under arms are to have their swords drawn, without waiting for any words of command for that purpose.

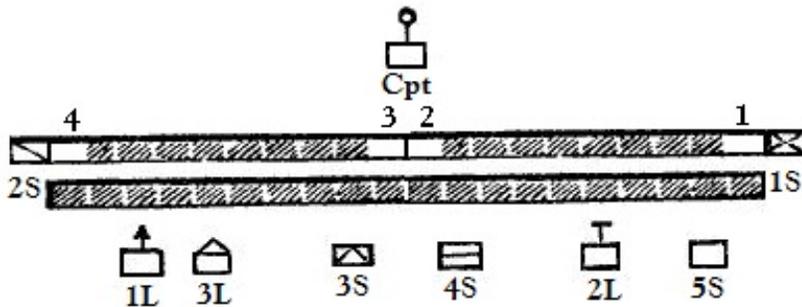
ORGANIZATION OF INFANTRY.

7. The company is divided into two equal parts, which are designated as the first and second *platoon*, counting from the right; and each platoon is, in like manner, divided into two *sections*.

The company is formed into two ranks in the following manner : the corporals on the right and left of platoons, according to height ; the tallest corporal and the tallest man from the first file on the right, the next two tallest men from the second file, and so on to the last file, which is composed of the shortest corporal and the shortest man.

The odd and even files, numbered as *one, two*, in the company, from the right to left, form groups of four men, who, when they act as light troops, are designated *comrades in battle*.

Posts of Company Officers, Sergeants and Corporals.



8. The company officers and sergeants are nine in number, and will be posted in the following manner :

The *captain* on the right of the company touching with the left elbow.

The *first sergeant* in the rear rank, touching with the left

elbow and covering the captain. In the manoeuvres he will be denominated *covering sergeant*, or *right guide* of the company.

The remaining officers and sergeants will be posted as file-closers, and two paces behind the rear rank.

The *first lieutenant*, opposite the centre of the fourth section.

The *second lieutenant*, opposite the centre of the first platoon.

The *third lieutenant*, opposite the centre of the second platoon.

The *second sergeant*, opposite the second file from the left of the company. In the manoeuvres he will be designated *left guide* of the company.

The *third sergeant*, opposite the second file from the right of the second platoon.

The *fourth sergeant*, opposite the second file from the left of the first platoon.

The *fifth sergeant*, opposite the second file from the right of the first platoon.

In the left or tenth company of the battalion, the *second sergeant* will be posted in the front rank and on the left of the battalion.

The *corporals* will be posted in the front rank, as prescribed in No. 7.

Manner of Forming the Company.

Gilham, 216. THE whole company being assembled on its parade ground, or in the rendezvous, the *first*, or orderly sergeant, will command :

Fall in—COMPANY.

At this command, the corporals and privates will form in one rank, faced to the right, and in the order of height from right to left, the tallest man on the right (now head of the company), the

next tallest man immediately covering the first, and so on to the left or rear of the rank, in which position will be placed the shortest man.

Baxter. The height of shoulders will be the point to measure by. Where the shoulders are of equal height, the tallest man, measuring from heels to head, will take precedence ; and where there is an equality in both these points, the senior member will take the right.

Root. It is customary, before forming company in two ranks, for the *First Corporal* to take the right of the line, although he may not be taller than the tallest private ; and the *Fourth Corporal* to take left, although he may not be shorter than the shortest private.

Gilham, 216. The other sergeants will take post in the rank of file-closers, two paces to the right of the company, and assist the first sergeant in forming the company. The first sergeant takes his place six or eight paces in front of and opposite the centre of his company, facing towards it.

When the men have their places, the first sergeant will command :

FRONT.

The second sergeant, who is the left guide of the company, will now place himself on the left of the company.



As the company will always be formed in two ranks, the orderly sergeant will promptly command :

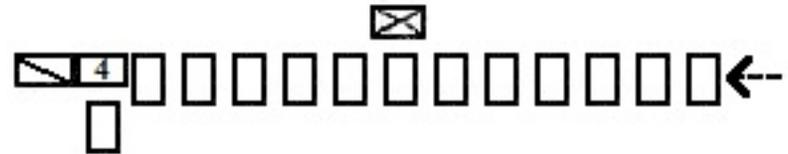
1. *In two ranks, form company.*
2. *Left—FACE.* 3. *MARCH.*

At the command, *left face*, the whole company will face to

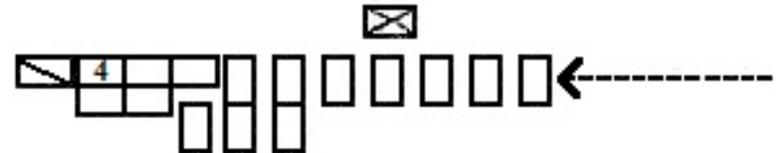
the left, except the guide and man (fourth corporal) on the left, who stand fast.



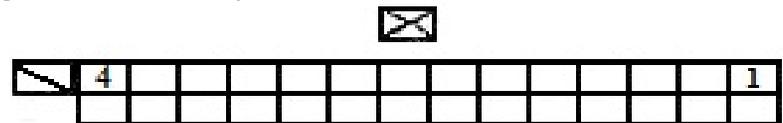
At the command, *march*, the whole of the men who have faced to the left, will step off together ; the second man, counting from the left, will place himself in the rear rank, behind the man next to the guide, and face to the front ; the two following men will, in like manner, on closing up, form the next file, the third man in



the front, and the fourth in the rear rank behind him, and all the other men will come successively to form files, two deep, to the



right of those already formed.



When the company is in good discipline, the files may be formed in *two* at once, each man having his proper number in the company depending upon his height, and being able to take his appropriate place without creating confusion.

The officers will now take their posts as prescribed in No.

8 ; if the captain has to discharge the duties of instructor, the first lieutenant will take his place on the right of the front rank, the second lieutenant replacing the first behind the fourth section.

The instructor will then cause the files to be numbered, and for this purpose will command :

In each rank—count TWOS.

At this command, the men count in each rank, from right to left, pronouncing in a loud and distinct voice, in the same tone, without hurry and without turning the head, *one, two*, according to the place which each one occupies. He will also cause the company divided into platoons and sections, taking care that the first platoon is always composed of an even number of files.

Root. The Orderly will now command :

Corporals to the Front.

At this order, every *Corporal*, who finds himself in the rear rank, will slightly touch the back of the man in front of him, and the two will exchange places, quietly.

Assured that the *First* and *Fourth Corporals* are in their proper posts, the Orderly will pass to the left of the first section, and call out,

Corporal on the left of the first section.

Corporal on the right of the second.

These two Corporals will promptly present themselves to be posted.

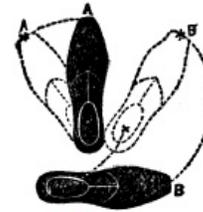
It may be necessary, for the front rank to take a side-step to the left or right, leaving space for the Corporal on the Left of the First Section. The Orderly will command to the front rank,

"Take to the right (or left),"

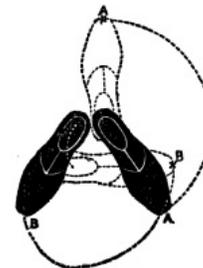
as he sees need. By taking ground to the left or right, the vacancy made by the Corporal's stepping out will be filled up.

The same will be done for the Right Corporal of the Second Section.

FACINGS



About



FACE.

86. The full face to the rear is always to the *right*, and is executed in *two times*, or pauses. The instructor commands :

- 1. *Squad.* 2. *About — FACE.*

First motion. At the word, *about*, the soldier will turn far enough on the left heel to bring the left toe directly to the front, at the same time carrying his right foot to the rear, the hollow opposite to, and full three inches from the left heel, the feet square to each other. The back of the right hand is placed a little above the right hip, and the body is turned to the right sufficiently to give ease to the position.

Second motion. At the word, *face*, the soldier raises his toes a little, turns upon both heels, faces to the rear, keeping his legs straight, and draws back the right heel by the side of the left, at the same time dropping his right hand by the side.



About -- FACE

To Face About in Marching.

207. If the squad be marching in quick, or double quick time, and the instructor should wish to march in retreat,

he will command :

1. *Squad right about.* 2. MARCH.

At the command, *march*, which should be given at the instant the *right foot touches the ground*, the soldier will complete the next pace with the *left foot*, then turning to the right about on both heels, will step off with the left foot.

To March by the Flank in Two Ranks

237. [] The instructor will sometimes exercise the company in facing without doubling, for this purpose he will command :

1. *Company, in two ranks, right*—2. FACE.

The double quick, however, will never be executed without the ranks being doubled.

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