

INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR  
LIGHT INFANTRY  
AND  
*RIFLEMEN*  
FOUNDED UPON  
THE REGULATIONS FOR THE EXERCISE OF INFANTRY IN CLOSE ORDER,  
AND THE REGULATIONS FOR THE EXERCISE OF RIFLEMEN AND LIGHT  
INFANTRY.

*Dedicated, by permission, to His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief*

*BY NEIL CAMPBELL*

*54<sup>TH</sup> REGIMENT, BRITISH; COLONEL COMMANDING  
16<sup>TH</sup> PORTUGUESE INFANTRY.*

LONDON

Printed for T. Egerton, Military Library, Whitehall.

1813.

TO  
FIELD MARSHAL  
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS  
THE DUKE OF YORK,  
COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES, &c. &c. &c.

Your Royal Highness was pleased to peruse the First edition of this publication with that most condescending attention which all ranks have experienced in every act connected with the military profession, and I was moreover flattered by your Royal Highness's approbation of my efforts.

To this edition I have the pride of affixing that approval, and the honour of dedicating it, with profound respect and gratitude, to a patron whose justice and incitement to zeal in the elevated situation of Commander in Chief of the British Army are fully exemplified by the improvement which has taken place in every department and rank since that epoch.

NEIL CAMPBELL,

54<sup>th</sup> Regt. British; Colonel commanding 16<sup>th</sup> Portuguese Infantry.

Camp before Badajos, Spain,

April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1812.

## INTRODUCTION

### TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THE First Edition of this publication appeared without any name; and nothing is claimed beyond the labour of writing out, selecting, and arranging the exercises, which were practised by the 95<sup>th</sup> Rifle Regiment, under Colonel Coote Manningham and the Honourable Lieutenant Colonel William Stewart; with the subsequent practice of the Light Infantry Brigade (comprising the 43<sup>rd</sup>, 52<sup>nd</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> Regiments) under Major General Sir John Moore, from the year 1800 to 1806, during which period the author served in the 95<sup>th</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> Regiments.

The same system of instructions and exercises which were established by these three distinguished officers (two of whom have since sacrificed their valuable lives for their king and country,) are still practised by these corps, and the auspicious services of the gallant light division (composed of them, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Portuguese Cacadores) in the Peninsula require no comment.

It has further been extended to all the Cacadore Battalions of the Portuguese Army by a translation, verbatim, of the First edition, which has been given to them by Marshal Sir William Carr Beresford, Commander in Chief of the Portuguese Army, approved of by His Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal.

A translation has likewise been made into the Spanish language, upon which the light corps of Major General Whittingham's legion is now forming in the island of Majorca.

## INTRODUCTION.

IN carrying into execution General Orders which were circulated by the Commander of the Forces, upon a foreign station, in the year 1807, prescribing to all the corps under his command a very extensive and constant practice of *file movements*, *changes of position in DOUBLE QUICK* time, and other *light infantry duties* adapted to an enclosed country, it became necessary, in obedience to those orders, to draw up a course of instruction for one of the regiments then stationed there. The manuscript having got into circulation the writer has been induced to print a correct copy in hopes of its assisting others, and proving useful to His Majesty's service.

In the Rules and Regulations for the Formations and Exercise of His Majesty's forces the *general attentions* of light infantry are briefly stated. There are also many other approved publications upon the *duties of light troops*, but those point out only the *general principles* upon which that service is conducted, with examples of the various *situations* in which light infantry are placed in the field; but the minute *details* which are necessary to *prepare* them, with the various *movements* and *words of command*, which are required in the *execution* of their duties, are entirely omitted, excepting in the 'Regulations for the Exercise of Riflemen and Light Infantry,' approved of by His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief. This treatise, however, does not treat of *file movements* or *changes of position in double quick time, in close order*, and enters very little into the practical detail in *extended order*.

The Following compilation is founded upon the above-mentioned works, and upon the system which has, of late years, been pursued in the British Army.

From the uncertain destinations, and the *variety* of service to which British soldiers are particularly liable, it is considered by many that *light infantry* instructions are applicable to *every* infantry regiment; and there is scarcely a foreign station where orders to that effect are not now in circulation by the officers commanding.

It is by no means presumed to inculcate an idea that *any part* of the instructions contained in the Regulations for the Formation and Exercise of His Majesty's Forces could be dispensed with, or the *smallest deviation* from them permitted, when acting in *close order in ordinary or quick time*, in any situations which admit of their application. It will be found, upon trial, that men never can attain *perfection as light infantry*, without being *thoroughly grounded*, in the first place, in *slow movements, in close order*; and it is indispensably necessary that a very frequent and regular practice of the *latter* should be resorted to, in order to continue *perfect* in the former.

Though it is an acknowledged maxim that *experience before the enemy* is required to perfect all soldiers, and particularly light troops, yet it does not follow that *theory* should be disregarded, or that *previous* instruction and practice is unnecessary.

Without a gradual systematic practice of those details by all ranks, *before* they are opposed to an enemy, it is impossible that they can act with effect in any situation, nor can they fulfil their duties with that energy and general combination which is essentially required where celerity is the soul of action. They should be prepared not only to put into immediate execution the orders of their commander, but also to seize advantages of themselves, by applying their *previous* instruction and theory to the different situations at the moment when before the enemy. But if, from want of this preparation, the leader hesitate before he can recollect the *movement* and *words of command* which are necessary to counteract a rapid and unexpected movement of the enemy- if those under him do not clearly and readily understand his commands, or are unable to execute them instantly with confidence,- it follows, assuredly, that the attention of every one

will be distracted, and talents the most shining, though combined with bravery and experience, will not avail, or supply this defect.

The want of a book of *reference* in the *minute* parts of these instructions is universally felt by officers of light infantry *companies*, though in some degree lessened by the publication already mentioned upon the exercise of riflemen and light infantry. It has been generally felt, upon assembling a number of them together as a flank *battalion*, where the *total want* of light infantry instruction in some of them, and the *various systems* of so many captains of different regiments, rendered it a work of considerable time to prepare them for acting *together* in the field.

To the *West India regiments* of blacks; to many *other corps*, which are *constantly stationed in the foreign possessions*; to the *Volunteer Corps at home*, and *Militia abroad*, (none of whom can ever have occasion to act in an *open country*, or united with *large bodies* of troops) it is generally conceived that light infantry instruction is peculiarly essential; but there exists a too prevalent, yet mistaken idea, that a permission to practise *light infantry* movements should be followed by a relaxation and neglect of those in *close order*: the compiler, however, trusts that such opinion, far from being encouraged, will be corrected by the publication of this practical detail; which as it originated from a sense of duty and zeal, so it has been prosecuted under the same feelings.

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A

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### PART 1.

#### *CLOSE ORDER.*

##### SECT. I. FILE MOVEMENTS.

#### 1. ADVANCE BY FILES FROM THE RIGHT OF COMPANIES (SUB-DIVISIONS OR SECTIONS).

##### RIGHT FACE.

THE right file stands fast, the rest face to the right. The officer commanding the company, and his covering serjeant, come out by the front; the serjeant places himself in front of the front rank man, ready to lead out, and the officer places himself on the left of the serjeant.

##### QUICK MARCH.

The whole move off, front rank men following the serjeant in succession, and rear rank men to the right of their file leaders. See Plate I.

#### 2. ADVANCE BY FILES FROM THE LEFT OF COMPANIES.

##### LEFT FACE.

The left file stands fast; the others face to the left, and proceed as before. The serjeant places himself in front of the front rank man of the left file, and the officer upon the right of the serjeant. The officer and serjeant, in changing from the right to lead the company, will shift by the rear.

##### QUICK MARCH.

#### 3. RETIRE BY FILES FROM THE RIGHT OF COMPANIES.

##### RIGHT FACE.

The whole face to the right, excepting the leading file, officer, and covering serjeant, who face to the right about, and disengage to the rear.

##### QUICK MARCH.

Move forward in the same succession as advancing.

#### 4. RETIRE BY FILES FROM THE LEFT OF COMPANIES.

##### LEFT FACE.

The whole face to the left, excepting the left file, which faces to the left about, and disengages. The officer and covering serjeant change by the rear to the left.

### QUICK MARCH.

In performing the preceding movements upon the *march*, officers commanding companies will, as soon as they hear the *caution*, give the following words of command, until the men are expert.

--- DIVISION, --- TURN ---WHEEL.

*When leading from the right.*

#### 5. TO THE FRONT FORM.

Whether advancing or retiring.

The leading front rank man halts, the rear rank man covers him: the other files half face to their left (more or less, according to the distance from the front), and form upon the left of the leading file.

#### 6. TO THE RIGHT FORM.

The right file faces to the right, and takes one pace to the front, in order to leave a clear space for the other files, which wheel round and form upon the left of the preceding files.

#### 7. TO THE RIGHT ABOUT FORM.

The leading file faces to the right about, and every other file wheels round in succession, and forms to its left.

Or the whole turn to the left, and wheel to the left.

*When leading from the left.*

#### 8. TO THE FRONT FORM.

Whether advancing or retiring, the leading front rank man halts; the other files half face to their right, and form upon his right.

#### 9. TO THE LEFT FORM.

The left file faces to the left, and takes one pace to the front; the others form upon it, coming round to the right.

#### 10. TO THE LEFT ABOUT FORM.

The left file faces to the left about; every other file follows it, and wheels round, forming upon the right of the files first formed.

Or the whole turn to the right, and wheel to the right.

*Remarks.* The first mode shewn in No.7 and No.10 is the best, as being more conformable to the other formations, and applying more literally to the word of command.

#### 11. ADVANCE BY INDIAN FILES FROM THE RIGHT OF COMPANIES.

##### RIGHT FACE.

The whole face, excepting the right file; and the officer and serjeant shift, as in No.1; the leading front rank man follows the serjeant, and each rear rank man, in succession, follows his own file leader.

Advancing by Indian files may be practiced, as above, from the halt, or on the march.

#### 12 FORM DOUBLE ORDER OF FILES.

Every rear rank man advances until he is in a line with his file leader.

When advancing from the left, the rear rank man goes to the left of his file leader; and when from the right, to the right of his file leader.

#### 13. FORM INDIAN FILES.

Each rear rank man takes one diagonal pace inwards to the rear of his file leader.

#### 14. ADVANCE BY FILES FROM THE CENTRE OF COMPANIES.

##### INWARDS FACE.

The two centre files stand fast, the rest face inwards; the officer and covering serjeant shift (by the front) to the centre, ready to lead; the officer on the right of the serjeant.

##### QUICK MARCH.

The two leading front rank men open outwards, to make room for their two rear rank men between them; the latter follow the officer and serjeant, and the rest of the men follow in succession, so that the order of march is in four lines, each line of men on the flanks, being front ranks, and the two in the centre being rear ranks. See Plate II.

#### 15. TO THE FRONT FORM.

The officer and serjeant fall into the rear; the two front rank men leading each sub-division, close inwards in front of their rear rank men and halt; the rear files of each sub-division, half face outwards, march up, and form upon the men nearest to the centre.

#### 16. RETIRE BY FILES FROM THE CENTRE OF COMPANIES.

Each sub-division faces inwards; the officer and serjeant shift to the rear of the centre.

##### QUICK MARCH.

They lead on and are followed by the front rank men of the centre, whose file leaders disengage outwards until they are in line with them. They retire in four lines- of which the two outer are the rear rank men- each file leader in a line.

#### 17. TO THE RIGHT ABOUT FORM.

The officer and covering serjeant remain in the rear, the two front rank men in the centre face inwards to the right and left about, their rear rank men wheel round and cover them- each file of the right sub-division wheels to the right about, in succession, from the centre, and each file of the left sub-division, wheels to the left about.

The centre is immediately formed and ready to fire.

The officer and serjeant come to the right of the company by the rear.

*Remarks upon the Movements from 14 to 17, inclusive.*

No.14 is a very good movement, when there is a certainty of forming to the original front, as in No.15.

No.16 is equally so, when there is a certainty of forming to the original front, as in No.17, but they should never be resorted to excepting under that certainty, as their formations in any other direction are complicated; particularly as file movements from the flanks of divisions apply to every situation, and admit of a ready and simple formation in every direction, whether advancing or retiring.

#### 18. RIGHT TURN; LEFT TURN; RIGHT ABOUT TURN; LEFT ABOUT TURN.

Each file turns to the right, left, right about, or left about.

## GENERAL REMARKS.

Indian Files	<p>Though the different divisions of a battalion or company, may file in Indian files, yet they never form line in that order, and the distances therefore, between the heads of divisions, are preserved according to the line they will occupy when two deep.</p> <p>When marching by Indian files, they can at once form line two deep from that order, but it is better always to form two deep (or a double order of files) in the first place, and afterwards to form line.</p>
Words of Command	<p>When the men are expert in their movements, the first word of command will be sufficient, without specifying how to face; each company's officer will see that his own men obey it correctly, by facing, upon the word advance, or retire, &amp;c. Upon the word Quick March, the whole step off together.</p> <p>When a change is performed during the march, the first word of command advance, or retire, &amp;c. is sufficient, and each file instantly turns.</p>
Files loosened	<p>When acting a slight infantry, files may be loosened so as to march with ease, but not more.</p>
Dressing	<p>In all formations the men must look to the files first formed, touch into them, and dress by them, as correctly as possible, bringing them and the next division into the same line.</p>
Leading files	<p>The leading files must be particularly correct, attentive and intelligent, as the formations and changes principally depend upon them. When a formation is ordered, they must halt until it is completely executed, after which the word, 'MARCH', is given by the officer commanding the battalion.</p>
Places of the officer and serjeant	<p>Though the officer commanding the company is understood in all movements to lead the front rank, yet it is the serjeant who places himself immediately before the leading front rank man; the officer places himself to the outward hand of the serjeant, where he is in a better situation for seeing his men.</p> <p>In all formations he remains in front of that flank to see his men form up, and afterwards proceeds to correct the dressing. The serjeant preserves the officer's place in the line.</p>
Distances	<p>When in column, the officer preserves the distance of his own division, from the division nearest to himself, and to the front rank.</p>

Formations	All formations from file are to be executed as rapidly as possible.
Repetition of words of command	If the words of command, of the commanding officer of the battalion, are not heard by the men, officers commanding divisions will repeat them, but not otherwise.
Changes of direction	The heads of divisions, when marching in file, may be wheeled, in all directions, or the direction may be altered by right or left shoulders forward.
Telling off the company or battalion	<p>As all the preceding movements may likewise be executed by wings, grand divisions, sub-divisions and sections, as all file movements depend so much upon them.</p> <p>The sections are numbered 1,2,3,4, from right to left of a company, which answers for skirmishing, and for re-assembling in case of being dispersed;- It also answers for forming four deep (as odd numbers are right files, and even numbers are left files,) but that is an order of march which should not be resorted to on any occasion, as it is very liable to confusion in filing or forming to a front.</p>
Inverting of company	As the speediest mode of forming and presenting a front should be the first object with light infantry, there must be no hesitation in inverting the order of companies in the battalion, or of sections in a company.
Explanation of words of command as to formations	If the battalion is retiring by divisions in file, it may frequently have occasion to form line at once to the rear, therefore it becomes necessary to fix a distinct general word of command for forming instantly, without any reference to the original front of the battalion, which, in rapid and frequent changes, cannot be recollected; therefore on all occasions, whether advancing or retiring, the formation refers to the direction of the files leading at the moment.
Front form	When it becomes necessary to form to the front upon which the leading files are then marching, the word of command will be 'Front Form'.
Right or left about form	If the front is to be formed to the rear of the direction upon which the leading files are marching, the word of command will be Right or left about Form
Numbering off anew, when the companies are changed in their order	When the companies are inverted, and likely to continue so, during any movements, the officers commanding divisions will number 1,2,&c. from right to left, as they stand at the time; but whenever the

companies resume their original order in the battalion, they will also resume their original numbers.

If a company is detached to skirmish from any part of the battalion, excepting the left, the other companies will number off anew, and should it on be called in, fall into another part of the line, the same will take place.

In a close country the attentions of officers commanding companies and subaltern officers

Should the officer commanding the battalion consider that the extent of the line, or the closeness of the country, may prevent his voice from being distinctly heard, he will give the words of command as cautions, and officers commanding companies will give the words of command necessary for executing the movements that are ordered.

If an officer perceives a movement to be made by the company next to him, he will repeat it, (unless from particular circumstances he has reason to conclude it is not meant to apply to the other companies,) as from interruptions of ground, or other obstacles, he may have been prevented from hearing the word of command; or the commanding officer may have judged it necessary to perform it in succession. The same discretionary powers apply to subaltern officers or non-commissioned officers, detached from companies, whenever they are acting as Light Infantry.

Numbering off officers and non-commissioned officers to sub-divisions and sections

As there should always be a proportion of subaltern officers and serjeants detached with every sub-division or section, each of them will be previously numbered off so that the officer commanding the company will not require to select them in the moment of emergency.

Mode of firing when no other is specified

When the battalion from line advances or retires in file, it will always be from the right of divisions (if no mode is specified at the time) in advancing, and from the left in retiring.

Points of direction

Though the centre is the directing point when marching in line, and when marching in column, that division which would be in front if halted and fronted, yet should the commanding officer place himself near any other division, and make a signal for conforming to that one, it will be immediately taken up as the new point of direction.

Diminishing the front of a column in passing a defile

When the column has to diminish its front, it is always the pivot flank which falls into the rear, whether it is by the doubling of divisions or by breaking off the files, so that the regular order of the battalion is always preserved.

Where there is a certainty of immediately resuming the original front (as in passing a bridge or short defile) it should be done by files. Such part of the reverse flank as the defile admits off, will pass it in front,

and such part of the pivot flank as is stopped, will receive from the officer commanding the division, the word of command, Inwards Face, and will follow close in file.

If it becomes wider a proportion of the files will form up,- If narrower, an additional number must break off. Whenever it is sufficient to receive the whole, the word of command, Front Form Division will be given.

Breaking off files  
when marching in line

When the battalion is marching in line, and occasional obstacles present themselves in different parts of the line, the officers commanding the divisions at those places, will file from one flank or by sub-divisions or sections, from either flank: or will face each sub-division outwards, and follow closely in file such parts of the battalion as are not broken.

Doubling in close  
column

In many situations it will be better to double into the rear, either by divisions, or sub-divisions, and follow in close column. When the ground opens, they deploy and come up into the line.

Many other changes in file might be added to the preceding; but as those form a sufficient groundwork for every possible movement of the company or battalion, it is conceived that the fewer and simpler they are the better, and it will rest with the judgement of officers to apply them according to situation and other circumstances.

The following additions, of a few common movements shewing their application, may not, however, be deemed unnecessary.

## 19. MARCHING THROUGH A DEFILE FROM THE CENTRE OF A COMPANY OR BATTALION.

When leading by double files from the centre of a company.

COMPANY, HALT.

The whole halt.

FRONT.

Each sub-division faces outwards.

When marching along a road liable to attack on both flanks, front or rear, this is a very ready order of march.

If the road narrows, each sub-division may form Indian files. When it widens, they may again form double order of files. If attacked on one side of the road only, the other sub-division is ready to face about and increase the weight of fire, or to load for the sub-division in front; or to detach to either flank.



This order of march equally applies to a battalion, or corps of several companies, which may advance by files commencing from the right and left of the two central companies, or from the right and left of any two companies opposite to which the defile presents itself.

A proportional front and rear guard may be formed for either the battalion, or company when marching according to this disposition.

Also skirmishers on the flanks if necessary.

## REFERENCE TO PLATE II.

If the line is to be prolonged in the direction of the march (fronting to A.) the files in rear of A. at B. will advance to C. by facing to the left and forming in succession. If the line is to be formed in rear of the direction of the march, at D. the division B. will face to the right about, and the files will form to the right, in succession, at D.

If the line is to be formed fronting to B. the division A. will form to the right or left of the division B. in the same manner.

### *Advancing by Alternate Companies.*

When a short defile, presenting itself in front of the centre of a battalion, is to be passed, it may be done by advancing in file by alternate companies.

In this way, the fifth company first advances from its left, then the sixth company, from its right; the fourth follows the sixth, from its left; and so in succession.

## 20. TO COVER THE ADVANCE OR RETREAT WITH FLANK FILES.

In advancing in line, or by divisions in file, any number of each may be thrown forward to skirmish. And in forming line from files, their intervals will be preserved.

In like manner, in retiring, any number of files from the flanks of each may cover the retreat.

They must conform to the movements of the battalion, attending to the general duties prescribed for skirmishers, in dividing their distances along the front, taking care that both front and rear rank men are never unloaded at the same time.

When the halt sounds they also halt and correct their distances.

If the Assembly is sounded, they run through any part of the line (the men being instructed to let them instantly pass through,) and as soon as possible afterwards, find their own vacancies in the line.

The flanks of the column may be protected in the same way when advancing in any direction.- See Plate III.

## 21. TO COUNTERMARCH A CLOSE COLUMN IN DEFILE.

A close column may be placed in a road, or in many situations, where there is no space upon either flank to lead out the alternate divisions (according to His Majesty's Regulations) in order

to countermarch.- In such situations it may be performed by each division changing its front upon its own ground, in the following manner:-

### COLUMN WILL COUNTERMARCH BY COMPANIES UPON THEIR OWN GROUND.

#### RIGHT AND LEFT FACE.

The covering serjeant faces to the right about, and advances half a pace.

The front rank of each division faces from the pivot, the rear rank faces to it.

The ranks invariably face in this way, whether the column is right or left in front, as by that means the pivot man of the front rank has his face towards the serjeant before he fronts, after countermarching.

#### QUICK MARCH.

Each rank follows the other upon its own ground, leading outside of the covering serjeant, until the right hand man of the front rank stands where the left of the rear rank stood, and vice versa.

The officer steps to one side and faces towards his men, who lead between him and the covering serjeant.

Should there be a supernumerary officer, or serjeant, he places himself upon the reverse flank, facing to the new front, between the front and rear ranks, and the men lead around him.

Halt, Front, Dress, by the officers of companies, upon which each rank fronts to the former rear. See Plate III.

### 22. TO BRING FORWARD A WING IN CLOSE GROUND.

When the ground occupied by a battalion in line is rough, or abounds with obstacles, a wing may be advanced or thrown back, by the filing of companies in place of an echelon movement.

In advancing, the companies may lead forward either by divisions, or sub-divisions, and from either flank, and form up to the front, when the leading file is in the new alignment; each covering serjeant previously running forward to take up the distance of his company. See Plate IV.

### 23. TO THROW BACK A WING IN CLOSE GROUND.

In throwing back a wing, the covering serjeants run out in the same way; each company leads out from the inner flank to the covering serjeant, and leads along the alignment; halts and fronts.

### 24. TO BREAK THROUGH A VERY THICK COPSE OR WOOD.

A corps of light infantry, when in line, may occasionally have to break through a very thick wood or copse, where it is impossible to preserve any order, and each individual following the openings which may appear best. In such situations the officers and serjeants must endeavor to be among the first who get through it, that each company may form upon them as quickly as possible, either facing to the same front, or to the rear, with companies inverted.

The serjeants (or officers, until the serjeants arrive) place themselves in line fronting whatever way the battalion is to be formed, and every man forms in the vacancy of his own company, and commences a fire if ordered. The men may afterwards correct their situations in their respective companies, or the officer will tell them off anew. If they are to form in open column, the serjeants will cover each other in the alignment, right or left in front, as may be ordered.- See Plate IV.

## PART I.

### SECT. II. TO FIRE IN A STREET OR DEFILE.

THIS mode of firing is resorted to in streets, roads, or defiles, by an open column advancing, retiring, or upon the same ground.

The column should be formed either by companies, sub-divisions, or sections, according to the breadth of the defile, leaving a space of one or two paces upon each flank.

#### *To Fire Advancing.*

Upon the caution Street Firing Advancing, by the commanding officer, the officer commanding the front division gives the words- Halt, Ready, Present, Fire. After firing, 'Recover Arms,- By Sub-divisions (or sections, if in column of sections) outwards Wheel, Quick march;' the pivot men of each sub-division after facing, take one pace to the front, and the others, after wheeling, dress forward upon them; by which means the flanks of the succeeding divisions are not obstructed.

The division which has fired, remains in this situation, fronting outwards, and proceeds to its loading.

The second division, as soon as the first has fired, is ordered- Recover Arms; upon which it cocks, and advances, until it clears the flanks of the other; then halts, presents, fires, and wheels, as the first did, so that it will be formed close to the first.

Each division of the column proceeds in the same way, and by the time the rear division passes through the first division, the officer of the latter forms his company again by wheeling backwards, and follows in column, fires again, &c. as before.

#### *To Fire Retreating.*

The commanding officer gives the word, Halt. The officer commanding the front division immediately fires, recovers arms, faces outwards, and marches in file to the rear of the column, where it forms at wheeling distance and loads.

Each division recovers arms, and cocks, whenever the one before it fires; then fires as soon as its front is clear, and proceeds in the same way to the rear.

#### *To Fire upon the same Ground.*

The officer commanding the whole gives the word Halt. The officer commanding the front division orders- Ready, Present, Fire, recover Arms, Outwards face, Quick March, and files towards the rear, as in the preceding.

As soon as the first division has cleared the front, the second division advances quickly to the spot occupied by the former (having previously made ready), fires and proceeds to the rear in the same way.

When the divisions reach the rear, they instantly form to their proper front at wheeling distance, and follow the companies in front, loading upon the march. See Plate V.

## PART I.

### SECT. III. CHANGES OF POSITION IN DOUBLE QUICK TIME.

#### *Remarks.*

THE time applicable to those changes of position is double quick, being 150 paces per minute, or twice the quickness of ordinary time. This should by no means be exceeded, which soldiers are very apt to do, and should be kept up at an equal, deliberate trot with a short pace.

Whenever the movement is to be performed in 'double quick,' it will be preceded by the word 'Trail Arms;' upon which the rear rank takes one pace to the rear, that it may move with ease.

In all changes of position the officers halt the companies four or five paces in rear of the line. The men instantly shoulder, and the rear rank closes up, without any additional word of command. The officer dresses his division, and gives the word 'March,' with the utmost expedition, otherwise the other companies will be delayed.

The two serjeants of the division first formed place themselves with one side to the front rank (upon the right and left of the company); and the serjeants of the succeeding companies cover them until the men are dressed.

Noise, over hurry, or confusion is as unnecessary as in movements executed in ordinary time.

When the battalion is marching in ordinary or quick time, and that an echelon movement is to be made, in double quick, the time should not be increased, until after the companies are in echelon. But if the battalion is already moving in double quick, the shoulders may be brought forward in the same time.

### 1. Change of Position on a Flank Division, when the Battalion in Line has been halted.

IN the commencement of instructions in double quick, a change of position may be executed in the following manner from the halt, when the battalion is in line:-

The company upon which the change is to be made is to be correctly dressed, the distant points ascertained by markers, and all the other companies wheeled into echelon.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
Trail arms,  Double quick, march	-----  _ Shoulders forward  Halt, dress----- March Halt, dress	The whole move off in double quick.  When 10 or 12 paces from the alignment.  The men halt and shoulder when four or five paces from the line. The word <i>Halt</i> must follow <i>shoulders forward</i> almost instantaneously, otherwise the mens' shoulders will be brought too much forward, which will give a false direction to the companies in rear.

### 2. Change of position on a Flank when the Battalion is in movement.

The battalion in line, whether moving in ordinary or quick time, receives the following words of command -

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
The battalion will change position to the right (left) up on the _ Division.  Trail Arms. Shoulder forwards. Double quick, march.	-----	Continuing the same time. Commence in double quick.

		When sufficiently in echelon, the officer commanding the division upon the inner flank wheels into the new alignment, according to the directions of the commanding officer, and moves a pace or two forward, which gives more ease to the next division.
	- Shoulders forward. Halt, dress, &c.	When 10 or 12 paces from the line. The men halt, and shoulder.

Remark. The change of position upon any central division may be easily understood from the preceding, with this difference, that before double quick time is ordered, it is necessary to halt the battalion, wheel the companies into echelon, and face about those which take ground to the rear.

3. To form Line to the Front upon the leading Division, marching in Column, in Ordinary or Quick Time.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
The battalion will form line on the leading division.		
Trail Arms	-----	Continue the same time.
-- Shoulders forward	-----	When the divisions are sufficiently in echelon.
Double quick march	-----	Increase the time.
		The leading division continues its march without changing direction or time and when the other divisions receive the word " <i>Forward</i> " the officer commanding this division halts and dresses it; two serjeants move out to give the line, as before explained.
		By the leading division thus continuing its march, more space is given to the second divisions to move clear of its rear with ease.
	- Shoulders forward. Halt, dress, &c.	To all divisions in succession.

Remark. In forming line on the rear division the column should be halted and faced to the right about, before double quick time is ordered.

4. To form Line on the Rear Division facing to the Rear, when marching in Column, in Ordinary or Quick Time.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
<p>The battalion will form line on the rear division facing to the rear.</p> <p>Trail arm</p> <p>-- Shoulders forward. Forward.</p> <p>Double quick, march.</p>	<p>-----</p> <p>-- Shoulders forward Halt, dress, &amp;c.</p>	<p>If the companies are to be inverted, the caution will be, "form line on the right (or left) of the rear division," &amp;c.</p> <p>The Officer of the rear division wheels his company to the right or left about, dresses, and gives his points.</p> <p>The other divisions change direction.</p> <p>After having wheeled sufficiently into echelon.</p> <p>Increase the time.</p> <p>To all divisions in succession.</p>

5. To form Column of Companies, Sub-Divisions, or Sections to Right (or Left) when marching in Line in Double Quick Time.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
<p>The battalion will form column (of -- ) to the right (or left).</p> <p>-- Shoulders forward. Forward</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>When the divisions are in column. Officers shift, if right in front.</p>



6. To form Line from Column, when moving in Double Quick Time.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
The column will form line. -- Shoulders forward. Forward.	-----	When in line. Officers shift by the rear, if the column was left in front.

7. To form Echelon of Companies, Sub-Divisions, or Sections, to either Flank upon the March, when in line.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
The battalion will form echelon of – to the right Left shoulders forward. Forward	-----	When sufficiently in echelon.

8. To form Line from Echelon.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
Wheel back into line.  Forwards	-----  -----	The men upon the inner flank mark time, and face towards the outward flank; the other wheel backward into line. When the whole are in line, facing to the original front.

9. To form Open Column in the rear of a Flank Division, when the Battalion in Line is Halted

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
<p>The battalion will form open column in the rear of the right division.  By Sections on your left backwards wheel.  Quick March.  Left shoulder forward.  Double quick march.</p>	<p>Halt, dress</p>	<p>The leading section of each division leads towards the rear at first, and afterwards towards its place in the column; each subdivision follows the leading one of its own division.  Covering serjeants run out to take up the pivots.</p>
	<p>Right shoulders forward. --  Halt. -----  Wheel into line.  Halt, dress.</p>	<p>When near to the covering serjeants.  When the division is on its ground.</p>

Remark. The forming open column from line, upon any division, is executed according to His Majesty's Regulations excepting that in place of filing, the divisions are wheeled backwards by sections. All other movements which are executed in file, in ordinary or quick time, may also be done in double quick by breaking into sections; but, excepting this deviation, the Book of Regulations for close order, may be implicitly adhered to.

10. To form Open Column in rear of the Flank Division, (after wheeling back upon its outward flank) which gives a Line facing to the Rear of the former one, when wheeled up from Column.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
<p>The battalion will change front, in succession from the right.</p> <p>The right division will wheel backwards on its right.</p> <p>Remaining divisions to the right wheel.</p> <p>Quick march.</p>	Halt, dress	The officer of the flank division shifts to the new pivot. The covering serjeant comes out in front as a second point.
<p>Form open column in rear of the right division.</p> <p>Trail arms.</p> <p>Double quick march.</p>	Halt, Right about wheel, Halt, dress.	Each company wheels to the right about, in succession, when at wheeling distance from the one in front of it. The officer instantly shifts to the left, and takes up the covering of the column, and, if necessary to fire, wheels into line.

NB: This mode of changing front has the advantage of the succeeding one, in so far, that the front of the new line is clear for the division to fire as quick as they get into column and wheel up, but it occupies different ground. This movement may be performed upon the march, when advancing in line, by first throwing the whole into open column by left shoulders forward and each division when wheeling to the right about, in succession, after proceeding to wheeling distance beyond the division in front. They then mark time, and afterwards wheel into line. If the divisions do not mark time, after wheeling into column to the rear, they will occupy nearly the same ground that they did originally.

11. Countermarch by Companies (Sub-division) upon the Centre.

See His Majesty's Regulations, Part III. Sect. 33.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
The battalion will countermarch by companies upon the centre.	-----	A central company is countermarched by word of command from its officer.
Right wing, right about face.	-----	If the left wing faces, the whole wheel to the left.
Battalion, by companies to the right wheel.		
Quick March.	Halt, dress.	A few paces.
Side step to the left.		
March.		
Halt.		
Trail Arms.		
Double quick march.	Halt, Right wheel.	By the officers of the right wing.
	Halt, front, dress.	By the officers of the left wing.
	Halt, dress.	

12. Deploy, from Column at Quarter Distance, upon a Front Division.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
The column will deploy upon the front division. Remaining divisions, by sections, on your _ _ backwards wheel. Quick march.	-----	The company upon which the deployment is to be made stands fast; all the others wheel back by section.
Trail arms. Double quick march.	-----	The companies take ground to the flank in this order.
	Halt, Wheel into Line. Halt, dress. March, &c.	When the flank of the rear section has cleared the preceding division.

13. Deploy from Column at Quarter Distance upon a Central Division.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
The column will deploy upon the third division. By sections on your right and left backwards wheel. Quick March Trail arms. Double quick march.	Halt, dress.  ----- Halt, dress.	Take ground to each flank.

NB: When the deployment is to be made on a central division, the sections will wheel so as to face outwards.

14. To form Hollow Square from Column.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
Form Square -----	----- Halt, dress.  Halt, dress  Halt, right and left wheel, Halt, dress.  Halt. Right about face.	<p>The battalion marching in open column of companies (right in front) in double quick time, receives the cation – Upon which the officer commanding the leading division gives the word <i>Halt, dress</i>.</p> <p>The officer commanding the second division gives the word <i>Halt, dress</i>, when it arrives close to the first.</p> <p>The other divisions continue to march, and each in succession (excepting the two rear ones) as it arrives at quarter distance from the division in front of it, receives the following word of command from its officer, <i>Halt, Right and Left Wheel, Dress</i>. The first and second sections wheel to the right, the third and the fourth wheel to the left, the ???????? division is in four ranks.</p> <p>The two rear divisions continue their march, and when close to the others, Halt, Right about face, in succession, by command from their officers. They form the rear face of the square.</p>

Remarks. When the sections wheel outwards, all officers and serjeants fall into the rear.

In firing, the commanding officer orders in what mode; and upon the preparative the front rank kneels, the two next recover arms, and the fourth rank port arms, or they may usefully be employed in loading the two other ranks.

15. To reduce the Square.

Commanding Officer's Words of Command:	Company Officers Words of Command:	Explanation
Prepare to form column.	-----	The two front and two rear divisions stand fast. The rear sections of the others step back to wheeling distance, and give the pivot men of the sections face.
Quick March		The sections wheel backwards upon their inward flanks.
	Halt, dress.	Officers commanding divisions take post on the pivot flanks.
	First division, march. Halt, dress.	While the other divisions are wheeling back, the front division resumes its distance, by marching forward on the commanding officers word <i>Quick march</i> , above mentioned.
	March. Halt, front, dress.	The two rear divisions at the same time take ground to the rear, and receive the word <i>Halt, Front</i> , from their own officers, when they have attained their distance.

### ***Remarks on the Square.***

A corps, when in square might advance to the front, and might take ground to the right, left or rear, in the same order, by facing each side of the square to the direction upon which it is intended to march. But as it is difficult to move in that order, even of a short distance, the square should always be thrown into column (according to No. 15) previous to any movement. When in column it can, with ease to the men and without confusion, march to the front, face to the right about, face to the right, or face to the left. When necessary to reform square, it can, in one minute, halt, front, and wheel up by sections. If the flank movement of the column is in double quick time, each company may wheel into sections. The front and rear divisions of the square or column may occasionally be employed to skirmish; of a part of each, leaving the other sections of these divisions in reserve in their places to form upon.

### ***Formations of Squares by a Brigade of Three Corps.***

The readiest way of forming a brigade to defend itself against cavalry is for each corps to form a separate square, in echelon, at a distance of fifty or sixty paces. In this situation they can support each other, without being too near to run the risk of firing into the other squares.

No 1. – Suppose the brigade to be in column of route. – If at open distance, on its own leading company. The front company of the center corps stands fast, and the other companies close up to quarter distance. The front corps faces to the right, marches fifty or sixty paces, halts, fronts and forms column at quarter distance to the left, and forms column at quarter distance. The three corps form each a square.

If marching at less than quarter distance – The front and rear corps march their distance, as before explained, to the right and left; No. 1 and 2 open out to quarter distance from the rear; and No. 3 opens out from the front. No. 1 must not halt its rear company until the front company of No. 2 has halted.

During this formation, and afterwards, a part of the flank companies of each corps may be employed to skirmish. The plate represents the brigade, first position, in column of route at wheeling distance, second position, in echelon of column and third position, in squares. In the front some skirmishers from the front company of No. 1 on the right and left skirmishers from the front and rear companies of No. 2; in the rear some skirmishers from the rear company of No. 3.

After the brigade has been formed into echelon of squares, it can advance to the front, retire, march to the right or left, (as before explained as a single corps) and must always be thrown into column before it is put in movement. The front corps should regulate distances. When again to form squares, the column halts, front, and wheel up by section.

No. 2. – Suppose the brigade in Line.

The line breaks into open column of companies either right or left in front, and each corps forms square on its own leading company. The front and rear corps previously lead out to the right and left fifty or sixty paces, and close up to quarter distance as before.

No. 3 – When brigade is in line, the echelon of squares may be formed in a different way from the preceding, as follows: Each corps forms column at quarter distance upon one of its own centre companies, right in front. The corps on the right (No. 1) advances to the front, and No.



3 retires fifty of sixty paces. If necessary, those two can also close in nearer to No. 2 on the march obliquely; then each forms its own square.

If the direction of march is to a flank or line, No. 2 is preferable, as thereby the company will march in line and not in file.

When the brigade is in echelon of squares in regiment it is more pliable, and better adapted to varieties of ground than in one square. This can readily be formed into one or more columns closed up and deployed into line, or opened and wheeled into line. If opposed to infantry or cavalry, a part can be formed into line against infantry, and the rest in one or two squares against cavalry, to protect the flanks of line.

If the brigade consists of more than three regiments, only change is that they will consist as many more echelons of columns or squares.

No. 4 – The formation of a brigade into square is by placing the whole column of companies, at half distance, upon a rectangular arrangement. When advancing to the front, the companies of the right and left faces march to the front in line, the front and rear faces march in column of companies. When necessary to oppose cavalry, every company wheels outwards by subdivisions. This may be preferable in a very open country, with a large quantity of baggage to protect.

PART II.

EXTENDED ORDER.

SECT.1.- TO LOAD AND FIRE, KNEELING,

SITTING AND LYING.

SECT.2.- TO FIRE UPON THE SPOT, TO FIRE ADVANCING,

AND TO FIRE RETREATING.

SECT.3.- TO EXTEND, TO CLOSE, AND TO SKIRMISH.

GENERAL REMARKS- POSTING OF SENTRIES AS A CHAIN,

MODE OF CHALLENGING, &c.

## PART II.

### EXTENDED ORDER.

#### SECT.1. TO LOAD AND FIRE,

##### *Kneeling, Sitting, or Lying.*

MEN who are to act in extended order, should be practiced in loading and firing in every situation, whether kneeling, sitting, or lying.

The mode for loading when kneeling is pointed out in His Majesty's Regulations for light infantry. Page 37.

To load when sitting, must be done, either as when kneeling, or by holding the butt firm between both heels and knees.

To load when lying. After having fired, the man turns upon his left side, and rests upon his left elbow, at the same time brings back his piece with both hands until the lock is opposite to his breast, resting the butt upon the ground; and half cocks. In this position, with the right hand he takes out his cartridge, primes and shuts his pan, still holding the piece in his left hand at the swell, he turns upon his back and throws it to the rear, placing the butt between his heels, with the barrel up and the muzzle raised above a horizontal position. During this time, he holds the cartridge in his right hand, and must be very careful not to lose any of the powder, puts it into the barrel, draws the ramrod and proceeds with the loading. After returning the ramrod, he resumes his former position lying on his belly, and resting upon both elbows, ready to fire in that situation.

In all firings (when in extended order,) whether upon the spot, in advancing or in retreating, the piece is cocked and brought up to the present from the trail. See Manual and Platoon Exercise, His Majesty's regulations, Pages 37 and 38.

## PART II.

### SECT. II. TO FIRE UPON THE SPOT IN SINGLE AND DOUBLE FILES.

#### TO FIRE ADVANCING AND RETIRING IN SINGLE FILES.

#### AND TO FIRE ADVANCING AND RETIRING IN DOUBLE FILES.

To fire upon the spot, whether extended in single or in double files requires no explanation, excepting that every man fires deliberately at his object, and falls into the rear of his comrade while he loads.

There are two modes of firing when extended in single files, whether advancing or retiring, viz.

*The whole together.* No.1. – By the whole line of skirmishers moving together, every front and rear rank man always keeping near each other, and the man who is loaded being in front.

*Alternate ranks.* No.2 – By alternate ranks, each file leader passing by his comrade.

There are also two modes of firing, when extended in double files, whether advancing or retiring, viz.

*The whole together.* No.3 – By the whole moving together, firing occasionally, and the man of each file who is loaded always in front, which is called chain order.

*Alternate files.* No.4 – By each file moving in turn, and passing beyond the other, both men of the file which is in front firing as soon as they see an object. Plate VI.

#### ***When extended in Single Files.***

*Advancing together.* No.1 – In advancing and firing in this order, the moment that the man in front has fired, he falls into the rear, by the left of his file leader, and loads as quickly as he can upon the march.

*Retiring together.* In retiring and firing, the man in the rear makes occasional short halts, and whenever he perceives an object, he gives a deliberate fire, then runs up in front of his file leader, who in the same way faces about, protects the other in his loading, and fires as soon thereafter as a favourable opportunity offers.

*Alternate rank advancing.* No. 2 – In advancing and firing by alternate ranks, upon the sound of the march and fire, the whole drop upon the right knee. As soon as the front rank has fired, the rear rank man pushes forward the number of paces necessary, halts and drops upon his knee. Whenever he has fired, his file leader runs forward before him, and in this manner they advance and fire alternately.

*Alternate ranks retiring.* In retiring and firing, the man who is loaded remains in front facing towards the enemy, upon his knee, while his file leader proceeds to the rear. As soon as he perceives an object, after the latter has loaded, he fires, faces to the left about, proceeds to the rear of his comrade and loads.

#### ***When extended in Double Files.***

*Advancing and retiring together.* No. 3 – In advancing or retiring, and firing in this order (which is called chain order) the two files keep together, the front and rear rank men of each acting in every respect as is prescribed in No.1.

*Alternate ranks advancing and retiring.* No. 4 – In firing or retiring by alternate files, (which are numbered off right and left,) the right file advances or retires as the front rank man does in No.2, and the files protect each other in the same way, firing and marching alternately.

Excepting in this order, it is an invariable rule with light infantry when extended, that both front and rear rank men of the same file are never unloaded at once.

#### ***REMARKS.***

*When the battalion marches too quick for the skirmishers.* Should the skirmishers find, either in advancing or retiring according to No.2, and No.4, that the battalion marches too quick for them, they will pass beyond the other rank or file, though they may not have fired.

*Skirmishers to kneel.* Whenever the fire sounds, all skirmishers drop upon the right knee, load and fire in that position, whether advancing or retiring, excepting when in order of No.1, and No.3, upon which they load and fire on the march.

*Distances advancing or retiring.* The distances to be taken by each rank and file in advancing or retiring, will depend upon the movements of the battalion, the nature of the ground and other circumstances. They will always look for some objects of shelter before they halt, if any are near them. Even furrows or slight wavings of ground may be serviceable.

*12 paces for practice.* In common practice 12 paces may be taken, when no other distance is specified; but by varying it frequently, it improves the men in a knowledge of distances.

*Mode of skirmishing.* When extending in single files, and no mode of skirmishing is specified, it will be by alternate ranks.

When extended in double files, it will be by alternate files.

It will be observed that in all firing advancing, by ranks or files, it is the front rank man (if in single files,) or the right file, (if in double files,) that fires first, commencing the instant the order is given, without making any advance.

In firing retreating, it is also the front rank man or the right file, which begins the fire, and immediately afterwards proceeds to the rear, leaving the other behind.

## PART II.

### SECT. III. TO EXTEND, CLOSE, AND

#### SKIRMISH.

*Words of command.* The words of command for extending are To the right extend, To the left extend, and From the centre extend.

*Two modes of extending.* A corps may extend its files from any part of the line, and at any distance.

*Single and double files.* Also by single files, or by double files.

*Bugle.* The extension always takes place from the spot where the bugle sounds.

*How executed.* The moment that to extend is ordered, (either by word of command or by bugle,) the men trail arms, face outwards and move off in quick time. The front rank man upon each flank immediately takes up his point, and conforms to it as far as the ground will admit.

Each file follows those in front, and halts and fronts when it has taken the necessary distance from the file in rear of it.

*Duties of front and rear rank men.* The rear rank man will attend to the distance, and tell the front rank man when to halt, as the latter is taken up in attending to the cover of the men before him.

*No dressing after being extended.* They are by no means then to attempt to correct their dressing, (as a waving, rough line of skirmishers is equally good) but immediately to seize the advantage of ground, to look out for their object of fire, and a place of security behind a rock, tree, or whatever else may be at hand.

*The close.* When the close is sounded from any part of an extended line, the files run in towards that point, in double quick time, shoulder and dress as soon as they reach the part to form upon.

*Repetition of orders.* When the commanding officer specifies the distance at which files are to extend, and whether in single or double files, each officer commanding a division repeats it, so that it may pass on in case of not being heard; but though every one should endeavor to conform to this distance as nearly as possible, yet when the files have halted, they should remain there and correct their distances afterwards upon the march.

*To cover the ground without attending to the number of paces.* If it is obvious that a certain space is intended to be extended upon, either to cover the front of the line, or for any other evident purpose, and that the number of paces ordered are insufficient, officers and men will take it upon themselves to conform to the object in view, dividing their distances accordingly.

*6 paces distance and in single files when not specified.* When no distance is specified, six paces will be left between each file, when extended in either single or double files;- and if no particular mode is specified it will be in single files, but it is useful often to vary this distance; and that in advancing, in order to teach men how to judge of distances.

*Centre the point of direction in line.* The centre will generally be the point of direction, as the commanding officer is supposed to place himself near that; but should he place himself in any other part of the line, and make a signal for conforming to that, it will be obeyed.

*Inward flank when throwing forward a wing.* In throwing forward or backward a wing, the distances of files must be preserved from the inward flank, but they must look to the outward flank for dressing, and bring forward the shoulders gradually, conformable to its progress.

*Line of skirmishers projecting in the centre.* A line of skirmishers should always extend beyond the flanks of the line they are to protect being rather retired on both flanks towards the rear, and advanced more in the centre.

There should always be a proportion in reserve in rear of the skirmishers, varying in its distribution according to circumstances- sometimes three supports in one line, and a reserve in rear of the centre support; sometimes two supports and a reserve in rear of the centre; or three supports in one line, of which the central one is the reserve.

*Patroles of communication.* A few men may be detached from each of these supports, and the reserve, as patroles, to keep up the communication between the different parties, and to skirmish or patrol upon the flanks if necessary.

*Increased in an enclosed country and at night.* If the country is very much enclosed, or if at night, those patroles must be more numerous.

*Non-commissioned officers communicate from the reserve to the skirmishers and the column.* The officer commanding the reserve may employ one or two intelligent non-commissioned officers, with a few men between the skirmishers, to give them his orders, and to receive information- also to patrol between the column and his reserve, in order to receive orders from the commanding officer of the whole, and to communicate information to him.

*Advanced guard. Plate VII. Fig. 1.* This in its complete order, (according to Figure 1, Plate VII. answers for an advanced or rear guard; and the general principles of mutual dependence, support and communication equally apply, whether acting in front, in the rear or on the flanks. There can be no established rule for distances; but generally from fifty to two hundred yards.

#### REFERENCE TO PLATE VII. FIG.1.

A. Line of skirmishers.

B. Patroles of communication, between the supports and skirmishers, who withdraw files or reinforce the latter when necessary. Each of those supports also detach files from their flanks to keep in sight the different parties by which each is regulated, increasing them according to circumstances, or decreasing them.

The flank supports are guided by the one in the centre,- and it is regulated by the reserve.

The reserve keeps up a communication with the column, and likewise sends an intelligent non-commissioned officer or file towards the centre support for the same purpose.

C.- Supports.

D.- Reserve.

One file and a non-commissioned officer may sometimes be detached in front of the centre of the skirmishers, or in rear of them, to direct the route of the advanced guard.

*Mutual dependence of skirmishers, supports, &c.* In general the skirmishers will conform to the movements of the supports, the supports to the reserve, and the reserve to the corps, from which it has been detached.

The skirmishers will also in many respects be regulated by the movements of those opposed to them; and, on some occasions, must direct the movements of those in rear of them.

*Trail arms.* All skirmishers trail arms, without bayonets.

The supports and reserve may trail, shoulder or slope arms, and occasionally fix their bayonets.

*Officer with the reserve.* The officer commanding the detachment should generally be with the reserve; and a proportion of subaltern officers and non-commissioned officers with the supports and skirmishers. They are not to attach themselves to any particular flank, but keep a constant superintendence over their respective parties and go wherever it may be most necessary.

*Whole companies detached.* As skirmishing and all duties are performed better by whole companies than y portions of several, this should be attended to as much as possible. When a company is detached from a line, it should be preferred from the flank generally.

*Skirmishers surprised by cavalry.* If a party of skirmishers is surprised by cavalry, in open ground, it must instantly be decided whether they can reach the hedges, or other cover, in time; if not, they must run from the flanks to the centre, (where the officer should sound the Assembly) to form a round mass, facing outwards; they must support and press against each other from the centre, to the circumference, without making any openings, and steadily wait for the charge, presenting their bayonets to the horses nostrils.

Whenever the cavalry retire, they will take advantage of their retreat to form in more regular order, or to proceed to the nearest cover without waiting to load again.

*Extending while advancing.* When a party is ordered forward to cover, in extended order, a space which is then pointed out, the officer commanding it should immediately select objects at the extremity of this space for the men on each flank, and one in the centre for the centre file: they should, at once, take a direction towards these objects, and the other files should take intermediate points selected by the other officers and non-commissioned officers, so that the whole will be extending gradually as they advance, and will not have occasion to shift to the right or left by the time they arrive upon the line whereon they are to act as skirmishers.

*March and extend.* The march and the extend will be the sounds for this where it becomes necessary to have recourse to the bugle.

*Retreat and extend.* If a party marching in close order, finds it necessary to retire and extend, either from being surprised by a superior force, or from any other cause, the retreat and the extend will be sounded, and it will be performed in the same way.

*Places of rendezvous.* The commander will (as laid down for a general rule) keep one or two files with himself as a reserve, and in most situations will have, previously, informed his party of one or two places of rendezvous, in succession, where they are to reassemble (either upon the assembly being sounded, or without any bugle calls) every file making the best of its way to it.



*Relieving skirmishers.* In relieving a line of skirmishers, the new line extends in the rear out of reach of the enemy's fire, -and afterwards runs up rapidly to the old line, each file of the former proceeding straight in the rear of the latter, so as to keep them between the enemy's fire.

*When halted.* If the relief is to take place when halted, each file of the old skirmishers runs straight to the rear the instant that a file of the new skirmishers reaches the line of defence; and whenever the former are out of reach of the enemy's fire, they close in upon their supports.

*When advancing.* If the relief takes place while advancing, the new skirmishers will run up in the same way, and pass briskly in front of the others. The old skirmishers lie down until they are out of the enemy's fire, after which they close in upon their supports.

*When retiring.* In relieving while retiring the new skirmishers extend a considerable distance in rear, and each man looks out for a good situation. The old skirmishers continue to retire in their usual order until within twenty or thirty paces of the former; they then run through them to the rear, until they are out of reach of the enemy's fire, after which they close.

*Supports and skirmishers to relieve each other.* Those which have been acting as supports may relieve their own skirmishers in this way, in which case the latter afterwards form in as many parties of reserve as the others consisted of, closing to the right and left accordingly, when out of reach of the enemy's fire.

*The whole relieved.* But if the reserves and skirmishers are all relieved by fresh parties, each of the supports preserve the relative position with respect to their own skirmishers until the two lines have relieved each other.

*Part of a line relieved.* Any part of a line of skirmishers may be relieved in the same manner.

*Strengthened.* It may also be strengthened by throwing forward one or more companies or sections to particular parts of the line; in that case they must mix with the others and divide their distances.

*Weakened.* If the line of skirmishers is to be diminished or weakened one or more sections will be called in from different parts of the line, and the remaining skirmishers will extend to the right and left so as to cover the vacancies.

*Distinction between the Assembly and the Close.* If the skirmishers hear the Close, they always run in upon the supports in the first place; and the Assembly afterwards will be the signal for the whole to close in upon the battalion. But if the Assembly sounds first, without any close, it is a signal for the whole to make the best of their way to the rear of the battalion, in which case, they must move as rapidly as they can, as this implies the necessity of greater expedition.

*How to run in upon the battalion according to situation.* On such occasions, it is of the utmost consequence, that the front of the battalion should be left clear; the skirmishers must therefore endeavour instantly to discover the situation of the battalion, according to which, (if halted) or the movement it is performing, (if in motion) they will decide in what direction to run in, and adopt that mode which will least impede and soonest leave it in a situation for firing or marching.

*If marching in line.* If the battalion is advancing or retiring in line, they will run towards each flank of the battalion, separating from the centre.

If in echelon, they will proceed towards the outer or reverse flank.

*If throwing a wing forward or backward.* If throwing a wing forward or backward, they will make for the outward flank. In both movements the inward flank (or that which is first formed) will thereby be left clear for firing, and in the first movement they will have less distance to run over.

*Open column to close column.* If the open column is forming a close column, they will run in towards the rear division.

*Close column to open column.* If the close column is forming open column, they may conclude that it is meant to wheel into line afterwards; and they will therefore run towards the reverse flank, proceeding round the standing division of the column, or through the divisions as they open out.

*Line countermarching.* If the battalion in line is countermarching, they must open out from the centre, and run round the flanks, forming in rear of each, and afterwards closing.

*Changes of skirmishers corresponding to the movements of the battalion.* If the skirmishers are not called in, while the battalion performs any movement, they must, with the utmost rapidity, change their situation so as to correspond with the new order of the battalion; and their attention and activity are chiefly required in protecting it during the change.

It is impossible to lay down fixed rules for every situation, and much is left to the penetration of every individual when acting as light infantry, but the following movements are selected as those which will generally occur, and which will require the following corresponding movements of skirmishers, unless impassable ditches, or other obstacles, prevent them. There are also occasional varieties of ground, the advantages of which may render it preferable for the whole or part of the line of skirmishers to adopt a different movement from what is here laid down, in order to profit by those varieties.

If the battalion in line is changing its position rapidly on a flank division, the wheel on the outer flank is so extensive that the skirmishers should be relieved during the movement by the company on the inner flank, which runs out on the commencement of the change to cover the front of the new position. The old skirmishers run through the battalion, and afterwards close to the point which was occupied by the other company.

*Line breaks into open column.* If the line breaks into open column, they must face to the right or left, and take ground to the same flank. If this movement is to continue for any time, and that no skirmishers are thrown out from the column, the support and skirmishers on the flanks of the advanced guard must incline, gradually, in either or both directions, to protect the front and rear of the column, still preserving the communication with the centre of the line of skirmishers, which then becomes a flanking party; should there have been only two supports to the chain of skirmishers, previous to this new disposition, an additional one must be formed, as a reserve for the flanking party, to march between the latter and the column.

*Bogs, &c. impassable.* Should they meet with bogs, woods, or other impassable ground of any extent, they must not leave it between themselves and the column, for fear of being cut off, or an enemy being concealed within the chain.

*Column countermarching.* If the column countermarches, the whole of the skirmishers face to the right about. The advance guard then becomes the rear guard, and vice versa.

*Form open column to line.* If the column wheels into line, the skirmishers must also change their direction, and the parties which protected the front and rear of the column must gradually incline towards the centre of the skirmishers.

*Open column to half distance.* If the column closes to half distance, the skirmishers must also decrease the distances between their files, and some of each section must be called in to the supports.

*Column changing front.* If the column changes its front by the successive march of divisions from the rear, (which will change the front of the line when wheeled up); or if from any other cause it becomes necessary to shift the skirmishers from one flank of the column to the other, - they will run through the divisions and pass to the other flank, - preserving as nearly as they can the same order of files, from right to left of each company, which should always be preserved or renewed as soon as possible.

*Line countermarching.* If the battalion in line countermarches, the skirmishers must run with the utmost expedition round the flanks, and push forward in front, those who were in the centre of the former line being now on each flank.

*To pass a defile advancing. Fig II. Plate VII.* If the battalion advancing in line has to pass a bridge or defile in front, the skirmishers gradually draw inwards as they approach it, then run forward and close up their files, followed by the reserve. As soon as they have passed it, they will extend to the right and left in their former order.

*To pass a defile retreating. Fig. III. Plate VIII.* To pass a bridge or defile retreating, the reserve and supports first pass through, and the former extends as a new line of skirmishers, while the supports in close order, form at the end of the defile ready to fire upon the enemy, and protect the skirmishers until they pass; the latter draw inwards by degrees on their retreat until they get close to the defile, when they run through, pass fifty or sixty paces to the rear of the new skirmishers, and form as a reserve for them.

*Various formations upon closing an extended line.* A line which is extended, may (upon closing,) at once form line, open column, or close column, in any direction, whatever part of the extended line it closes to.

Fig. 4.- To Close to the right flank, forming line to the rear. See Plate VIII.

Fig. 5.- The same, forming line to the right, and to the right of the flank division.

Fig. 6.- The same, and to the left of the flank division.

Fig. 7.- To close to the centre, forming line to the right. See Plate IX.

Fig. 8.- To close to the right, forming open column to the right.

Fig. 9.- The same to the right, forming open column in rear of the right.

Fig. 10.- The same to the right, forming open column in front of the right. See Plate X.

*Coverers.* The serjeants who are nearest to that part of the company which first forms, must run forward to take up the coverings in good time; and the officer commanding the company, must likewise endeavour to be up with the first files in order to direct the formation. They will at once

perceive from the formation of the preceding company, whether they are to be inverted in the battalion; but, in all these movements the company may be correct within itself.

The formations in close column are executed in the same way.

*Remarks.* The more thoroughly that officers and men are grounded in His Majesty's Regulations for the exercise and movements of troops in Close Order, the more will they be enabled to apply them to all formations and changes of position in Extended Order, either with a battalion or company.

In occupying the edges of hills, or the backs of fences, whether in close or extended order, the line will always follow their direction, provided the salient angles are not too acute- but they must be very careful to fire clear of each other.

*Plate XI.-Fig.11.-* A battalion marching in open column with oine company in front, as an advanced guard, one in rear as a rear guard, and half a company, on each flank, as flanking parties.

## PART II.

### SECT. IV.

#### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

#### POSTING OF SENTRIES AS A CHAIN,

#### MODE OF CHALLENGING, &c.

The general principles upon which light infantry act, are fully detailed, and applied to every possible situation, in which either officers or men, may be placed, in the following books.

1. 'Rules and Regulations for the Formations and Exercise of His Majesty's Forces, in Close Order.'
2. 'The Regulations for the Exercise of Riflemen, and Light Infantry, translated from the German, and approved by His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief.'
3. Instructions concerning the duties of 'Light Infantry in the Field,' by General Jarry, approved by His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief,- which is published both in French and English.
4. A small book, intitled 'Hints for Non-Commissioned Officers on actual Service,' by Colonel Sontag.

The duties which are explained in those books may be classed under the following heads, and captains may exercise their companies, and instruct them in every part of each, as a lesson.

1. The mode of posting picquets and their sentries.
2. The patrols which are sent to visit the sentries, and to preserve communication between them and the picquets by day and by night.
3. The patrols which are sent beyond the advanced sentries, for various purposes specified to them.
4. Communicating patrols between the reserves and skirmishers of the advance guard, rear guard, and flanking parties, upon the march.
5. The advanced guard.
6. Rear guard.
7. Flanking parties.
8. Posting of sentries, and challenging.

#### *Mode of Posting the Chain of Sentries.*

The chain of sentries which covers the front of the advanced picquets may be posted either by double files or by single files.

*Double Files* - If by double files, the two men of one file may sit down with their arms in their hands, but in every other respect equally prepared. One of the men of the other file walks to his right, until he approaches the adjoining files; he then returns to his own party, and his comrade, (who in the mean time has been standing up a few paces before the sitting file, vigilantly looking out in front, and on both sides) relieves him, and walks once to the right, taking care never to stop, unless for the purpose of challenging, or otherwise to ascertain anything suspicious which he may see or hear.

In this manner those two men relieve each other every turn for twenty or thirty minutes; after which they are relieved by the file which has been sitting down.

If the sentry challenges, the sitting file instantly stands up.

If the night is remarkably dark, or there is any other reason to apprehend that an enemy may pass through the chain without discovery, then, both the men of one file should walk back and forward between their own party, and the next party to the right. One or both men of the other file must then stand up to look out in front.

*Single Files* - When the chain consists of single files, neither of the men must sit down; they conduct themselves as above explained, one walking to the right, while the other looks out in front.

The picquets who are in the rear will be distributed according to circumstances, with intermediate parties between them and the skirmishers as supports.

#### *Mode of Challenging, &c.*

*Challenging* - The following instructions for challenging and receiving a relief will be sufficient also for patrols, or any other party or individual approaching a sentry or post.

The moment the sentry sees any person, he calls out-Halt, who comes there? At the same time ports his arms, fronting to the party. If a double sentry, one stands behind the other, uncovering a little to the right, and also comes to the port.

ANSWER. Relief (or patrol, &c.)

SENTRY. Advance one, give the countersign, - at the same time comes to the charge. One of the party advances to the point of his bayonet, and gives the countersign in a low tone of voice. The sentry should not consider this sufficient to let the party advance, but still keeping the point of his bayonet towards the person's belly, he will ask him several common questions, which he is certain ought to be known to the other; -for instance; what is the name of the officer, serjeant or corporal of the picquet, relief, &c.

SENTRY. Advance relief (or pass patrol, &c.) at the same time ports his arms, and if it is a person or party which he permits to pass him, he continues to front in the direction they pursue until they are clear of his post. If it is the relief,- he also continues at the port; the party approaches and is halted by the non-commissioned officer a few paces from him; the new sentry advances with the non-commissioned officer; and the orders are communicated in a low tone of voice; the old sentry then joins the relief, which proceeds.

*Receiving a party at the picquet* - Whenever a party approaches the post or picquet, the sentry calls out,- Halt, who comes there? And ports his arms, notwithstanding he is perfectly certain

that it is the relief or patrol which may have left that the moment before. He immediately follows this challenge by calling out, Turn out the picquet. He keeps his eye upon the party challenged, who of course, stand fast. The picquet stand to their arms and form. The officer commanding sends off a non-commissioned officer with one or two files to the sentry, who, when they join him, calls out, advance one, give the countersign, with the same precaution as already pointed out. The party is accompanied by those detached files to the officer of the picquet, who satisfies himself fully of the nature of their business before he dismisses his own men.

*Two parties meeting* - If two patrols, reliefs, or other parties meet, the party which is first challenged, sends forward one of his men to give the countersign, and the other party sends a non-commissioned officer, or one intelligent private, a few paces to meet him.

*Instruction* - In instructing the men in those duties they should be taught to challenge in a loud determined manner, which inspires themselves with confidence; but on service they should not challenge in too loud a voice.

Every soldier should be completely taught those before he is permitted to mount as a sentry, and then he should be posted for a few days (as an additional) in company with a steady, intelligent soldier. A non-commissioned officer, upon being promoted to that rank, should likewise for several times be posted as an additional.

The details of the other heads or lessons before mentioned cannot be well explained more minutely than they are in Part II. Of section III.- but the men will more readily comprehend their objects, general arrangement and connection as advanced guards, &c. by making the disposition at first upon a small scale in an open country.

## PART III.

### BUGLE SOUNDS,

#### WITH THE APPLICATION OF THEM TO PARTS I. AND II.

*Advantages of sounds or signals* - The advantages to be derived from the use of the bugle in a close country, or where men are in extended order, are obvious, if a word of command cannot be heard.

Signals or sounds are necessary in various situations: but particularly, where an officer of a light infantry corps finds it necessary to proceed to an eminence at some distance, in order to reconnoitre the adjacent country, and his enemy, and that advantages may be taken which depend entirely upon immediate execution, but which, by delay, would be lost, or would even afford an increased advantage to the enemy.

*Never to be used when the voice can answer* - Being intended, however, only as substitutes for the voice, where the latter cannot reach, they ought never to be resorted to excepting under such circumstances, as they are liable to be misunderstood.

*Few and simple* - For this reason, and as the same sound upon a different key or in different time, is apt to occasion mistakes, they ought to be as few and as simple as possible, and the buglers should be very perfect in those.

*Sound finished before it is extended* - No movement should be executed until the bugle sound is perfectly finished- and in the combinations of sounds with 'the fire', that sound should be last; otherwise they may immediately commence a fire upon the spot, and if the march or retreat was to follow, it would not be heard.

*Sounds which are to be repeated by all the buglers* - The March, retreat, Halt, Fire, Cease firing, Assembly and Disperse, are the only sounds which should be repeated by all the buglers upon every occasion.

*Time quicker or slower* - A few bars of a tune in ordinary time, while on the march, denote that the time is to be slower. A few bars in quick time, denote that it is to be quicker, and those may be repeated or changed from time to time as the commanding officer judges necessary.

*Time of movements* - When no particular time is specified all light infantry movements in close order, excepting formations from file, are in quick time; all formations from file, and closing, in double quick.

*To denote when contrary to the usual time* - When the battalion, or a line of skirmishers have been halted, a few bars of either of the marches, before the advance, the retreat, or the close has been sounded, will denote the time in which they are to be performed, if contrary to the above general rule.

*General Rule as to the present front* - In conformity to the principle laid down in the file movements, by word of command, 'that all formations apply to the situation in which the companies are placed at the moment, without any reference to their previous order,' so it is in the application of the bugle to all movements, whether in line or in file, because in the frequent and rapid changes to which light infantry are exposed, it may be impossible to recollect the former front, and the inversion of companies in the battalion does not signify.



Therefore, whether the battalion is advancing or retiring, they invariably halt to the front upon which they are then marching; and if in file march, they form up to that front.

*Retiring in line* - Should they be retiring in line with the rear rank in front, whenever the halt is sounded, they halt in that situation; if the retreat is to be continued, the march is sounded; and the battalion proceeds with the rear rank in front.

*Facing about to the original front* – If it is wished to face about the battalion to its former front, the retreat is sounded; and the halt immediately afterwards, if the line is to halt.

*Retiring by files* - In retiring by files, they may at any time countermarch and resume the former front by sounding the retreat, and if it is wished to form to that front (namely, what was the original front) the halt is sounded immediately afterwards.

In short, if marching in line, whether advancing or retiring, the retreat implies ‘right about face,’ and if marching in file, the leading files countermarch.

*Always counter marching round the rear rank* - They must take care always to countermarch round the rear rank, otherwise they will not be in so ready a situation to form to the front, if the Halt follows instantly.

#### *BUGLE SOUNDS.*

The following sounds appear sufficient for every situation. See Plates XII, XIII, and XIV.

1. *To Extend* - From that part of the line where the bugle sounds.
2. *To Close* - To the spot from whence it proceeds, and for skirmishers to run in to the supports.
3. *To March* - In order of the present formation.
4. *To Halt* - In the same order, excepting in advancing or retiring from line by files, in which case they form up to the front.
5. *To Fire* - If when halted, they fire upon the spot, skirmishers selecting their objects,- the battalion, if in close order, by platoons or files as may be directed by word of command.

If on the march whether advancing or retiring, it will be by alternate ranks if in single files; by alternate files, if in double files.

6. *Cease Firing* - Every man to cease firing and load.
7. *To Retreat* - To retire immediately in quick time, the line, reserves and skirmishers facing to the right about, if no other order or rate is specified.
8. *Assembly* - This sound may be used on many occasions, as explained.

To turn out a whole corps and form by companies in line or column, (according to the places of the covering serjeants, or to previous orders) at any time by day or night.

When extended as skirmishers, and surprised by cavalry in open ground, and in many other situations as a place of rendezvous, where the sound is heard.

For skirmishers with their supports and reserves to close in upon the battalion.

9. *Disperse* - The whole to disperse according to the object and orders given.

10. *Skirmish* - To send out any portion to skirmish.

11. *Incline to the Right* - Left shoulders forward.

12. *Incline to the Left* - Right shoulders forward. Whether marching in close or in extended order, this is obeyed by bringing forward the shoulder gradually.

It may be equally executed by a line, by a column filling to either flank, or by the whole of an advanced or rear guard.

In the case of a rear guard, it applies to the front which it presents retiring from the enemy, bringing forward either shoulder as it stands when faced about.

13. *Forwards* - When the direction has been sufficiently altered, the bugle will sound the 'march', which in this situation signifies, 'forwards.'

14. *Incline to the Right and Left* - These two sounds immediately following, signify that a chain or line of skirmishers, an advanced or rear guard should occupy more space to the right and left: when they have sufficiently increased their distances, the 'march' will be sounded. In increasing their distances, they are to continue their front, and other operations, should they either be firing or advancing, and extend themselves by degrees.

15. *Fire Advancing* - A combination, first the march, and then the fire,- performed as more particularly explained, in Part II. Sect. II.

16. *Fire retreating* - First the retreat and then the fire.

17. *March and Extend* - To extend while advancing, as explained in Part II. Sect. III.

18. *Retreat and Extend* - To extend while retreating.

19. *March and Close* - To advance and close towards the centre.

20. *Retreat and Close* - To retreat and close towards the centre.

21. *Sound to Annul* - Whenever the halt is sounded, it is considered annulling every previous sound, excepting the fire, therefore if men are inclining to the right or left, or extending in any direction, upon the halt being sounded, they are to sound fast; and the subsequent movements will depend upon the sounds that may be thereafter given,- without any reference to the former sounds.

*To slacken fire when the bugle sounds* - If the men are firing while they hear a sound, they should diminish the fire for a little, in order to hear it more distinctly; and in case others may not have heard it at all, that the commanding officer may repeat it.

*Detached buglers* - If the officer commanding any detached party has a bugler with him, the men under his immediate command should not pay any attention to any sounds but those which are repeated by him; for the bugler with the commanding order may sound orders which apply

to the battalion or to some other detached party, and it will sometimes rest with the judgement of the officer commanding the party to make this distinction.

*Distinguishing sounds for the centre and flanks* - The use of the bugle may be considerably increased by adopting the use of three simple G's as distinguishing sounds

One G. to denote the right of the line.

Two G's to denote the centre.

Three G's to denote the left.

This preceding any sound, denotes the part of the line to which it applies. For instance, two G's before the extend, signifies to extend from the centre. One G. followed by the close, signifies to close to the right.

If there is a sufficiency of buglers, one may be stationed in rear of each flank and one in rear of the centre, (under the immediate superintendence of three of the supernumerary officers,) who will be distinguished by each of those G's, and any sound from the commanding officer's bugle will accordingly be repeated by either of the three to whom it applies.

It may be used to advantage on many occasions, and applied to different situations and movements, taking particular care, in the first place, that it is well understood by the officers and men, otherwise it may occasion irretrievable mistakes.

*Distinguishing G, and skirmish* - A party may be sent to the front, rear or flank to skirmish, but when detached, at first it may be doubtful in which direction it may be afterwards to extend. When the commanding officer has determined upon the disposition to be made, this distinguishing sound from his bugler to that of the officer commanding the skirmishers will enable him instantly to extend from either flank or from the centre.

*Distinguishing G, and assembly* - In like manner when skirmishers are to be called in, one or more g's before the Assembly will specify in what direction they are to run in so as to leave the front of the other part of the line clear for firing.

*Distinguishing G, with a march* - As one G. is the right wing, and three G's the left wing; combining either of those sounds with a few bars of the march in ordinary time or that in quick time, will denote that either flank of a line is to quicken or slacken its pace.

*Distinguishing G, with the march, or the retreat* - It may also be combined with the march, retreat, and many other sounds, applying of course to that wing only.

But great care must be taken to increase those sounds gradually, and with caution, as troops become more perfect and intelligent.

*Cautionary sound* - Previous to the communication of the sound which is to follow the note or notes in G. the bugler to whom it is addressed may repeat it as a reply to the commanding officer's bugler, which will serve as a caution, and may frequently prevent mistakes.

*Company Sound* - If a short distinct sound is fixed for each company, exclusively applying to it, the commanding officer of the whole may thereby when at a distance direct any movement which is to be executed by particular companies only.

*Uniform sounds in the service* - It is very desirable that the same bugle sounds should be adopted by all corps. The 43<sup>rd</sup>, 52<sup>nd</sup>, and 95<sup>th</sup>, use those in the 'Regulations for Riflemen &c. translated from the German, and those selected here, are taken from that book, with the addition of No.8 and 9.

Other sounds were formerly used in the army, which are still adhered to by some regiments; but the notes for them never having been published, they are seldom sounded correctly, and frequently cannot be understood as the same sounds.

THE END.

# APPENDIX

## MANUAL EXERCISE FOR THE RIFLE

### OF CARRYING THE RIFLE

The rifle is to be carried in the right hand, at arm's length, as in advanced arms, the cock resting upon the little finger, the thumb upon the guard, and the fore finger under it, the upper part of the barrel close in the hollow of the shoulder, and the butt pressing upon the thigh.

#### *1. Present Arms.*

1<sup>st</sup> – The rifle is to be raised about two inches by the right hand, and brought forward a little from the shoulder, at the same time the left hand is brought briskly across the body, and seizes the rifle with a full grasp even with the shoulder.

2<sup>nd</sup> – The right hand bring the rifle even with the face, and opposite the left eye, grasps the small of the stock, turning the lock outwards, the left hand seizes it by the stock, so that the little finger touches the hammer spring, on a level with the chin, the left elbow close to the butt.

3<sup>rd</sup> – The rifle is brought in a straight line to the present, the lock turned inwards, and even with the bottom of the waistcoat, the right foot is place about three inches behind the left heel, the right hand holding the small of the stock between fore finger and thumb, the knuckles upwards, the three other fingers shut in the hand.

#### *2. Shoulder Arms.*

1<sup>st</sup> – The rifle is brought quickly across the body to the right side, the right hand slipping round into the original position when shouldered, the left quits its hold, and seizes the rifle again smartly even with the right shoulder, at the same time the right foot is brought up in a line with the left.

2<sup>nd</sup> – The left hand quits the rifle, and is brought as quickly as possible flat upon the left thigh.

#### *3. Order Arms.*

1<sup>st</sup> – At the word arms, the left hand seizes the rifle even with the right shoulder, the rifle, as in the first motion of the present, is raised about two inches.

2<sup>nd</sup> – The right hand quits its hold, grasps the rifle round the muzzle, an brings it gently to the ground, even with the toe of the right foot, the wrist pressing against the side and the elbow as close as possible.

3<sup>rd</sup> – The left hand is brought as before on the left thigh.

#### *4. Shoulder Arms.*

At the word arms, the rifle is thrown at once into the right shoulder by a jerk of the right hand; the left catches it till the right seizes the rifle in the proper place, and is then instantly brought to its original position on the left thigh; but this must be done with the quickness of one motion.

In performance of this, as indeed every other motion the greatest care is to be taken to prevent the rifle falling to the ground, as it is an arm easily damaged; and in the field, where time and opportunity cannot always be found to repair it, the service of a rifleman is lost by every such instance if inattention.

#### *5. Support Arms.*

The rifle is brought across the body with the guard upwards, by bending the right arm, the left hand is laid across the right.

#### *6. Carry Arms.*

The rifle is brought smartly on the right side, and the left hand on the left thigh.

#### *7. Trail Arms*

1<sup>st</sup> – The left hand seizes the rifle at the second pipe, the right close over the sight, and trails it on the right side at arm's length.

2<sup>nd</sup> – The left falls back on the left thigh.

#### *8. Shoulder Arms.*

The rifle is brought to the advance, as from the order.

### FROM THE ORDER TO TRAIL ARMS.

#### *Trail Arms.*

1<sup>st</sup> – The right hand seizes the rifle as low as possible without constraint.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Then raises and catches it just above the sight.

### FROM THE TRAIL TO ORDER ARMS.

#### *Order Arms.*

1<sup>st</sup> – The rifle slides gently through the right hand to the ground.

2<sup>nd</sup> – When even with the right toe the right hand again grasps the muzzle.

## PLATOON EXERCISE FOR THE RIFLE

*Of priming and loading* – THE words of command for firing and loading are as follows:

*Caution – Prime and Load.*

At which the flugelman steps in front.

### *1. Prepare to Load.*

1<sup>st</sup> – Is the same as the first motion in the present.

2<sup>nd</sup> – The soldier half faces to the right, and in the motion brings down the rifle to an horizontal position just above the right hip, the left hand supports it at the swell of the stock, the elbow resting against the side, the right thumb against the hammer, the knuckles upwards, and elbow pressing against the butt, the lock inclining a little to the body to prevent powder from falling out.

### *2. Load.*

1<sup>st</sup> – The pan is pushed open by the right thumb.

2<sup>nd</sup> – The right hand then seizes the cartridge with the three first fingers and draws it from the pouch.

3<sup>rd</sup> – The cartridge is brought to the mouth, and placed between the two first right double teeth, the end twisted off and brough close to the pan.

### *3. Prime.*

1<sup>st</sup> – The priming is shaken into the pan; in doing which, to see that the powder is properly lodged, the head must be bent.

2<sup>nd</sup> – The pan is shut by the third and little finger, the right hand then slides behind the cock, and holds the small part of the stock between the third and little finger and ball of the hand.

### *4. (Cast about) for brevity “Bout”.*

1<sup>st</sup> – The soldier half faces to the left; the rifle is brought to the ground with the barrel outwards, by sliding it with care through the left hand, which then seizes it near the muzzle, the thumb stretched along the stock, the butt is placed between the heels, the barrel between the knees, which must be bent for that purpose; the cartridge is put into the barrel, and the ramrod seized with the forefinger and thumb of the right.

### *5. Rod.*

The ramrod is drawn quite out by the right hand, the left quits the rifle and grasps the ramrod the breath of a hand from the bottom, which is sunk one inch into the barrel.

### *6. Home.*

The cartridge will be forced down with both hands, the left then seizes the rifle about six inches from the muzzle, the soldier stands upright again, draws out the ramrod with the right hand, and put the end into the pipe.

*7. Return.*

The ramrod will be returned by the right hand, which then seizes the rifle below the left.

*8. Shoulder.*

1<sup>st</sup> – The right hand brings the rifle to the right shoulder; turning the guard outwards.

2<sup>nd</sup> – The left seizes it above the hammer-spring till the right has its proper hold round the small of the stock.

3<sup>rd</sup> – The left is drawn quickly to the left thigh.

*Remarks* – When the recruits are sufficiently perfect in being by these distinct and separate words of command, they should be accustomed to go through the motions with the following words of command.

*Caution – Prime and Load.*

At which the flugelman steps in front.

*1. Prepare to Load.*

To this motion the flugelman gives the time.

*2. Load.*

The flugelman falls in. Every motion in loading, as described above, is to be performed; and here the officers are required to pay particular attention, that no single motion be omitted, as it is of more consequence that a rifle should be properly, than expeditiously, loaded.

*To fire by word of command* – To fire on the spot with closed ranks, the following words of command will be given:

*Caution – The Company will Fire.*

*1. Company.*

At this word, the right hand file of each platoon takes three quick paces to the front, the rear rank man steps to the right of his file leader.

*2. Ready.*

At this word, the rifle is brought by the right hand before the centre of the body, the left seizes it, so that the little finger rests upon the hammer-spring, and the thumb stretched along the stock raising it to the height of the mouth, the right thumb on the cock, and four fingers under the guard; when cocked, which must be done gently the right hand grasps the small of the stock.

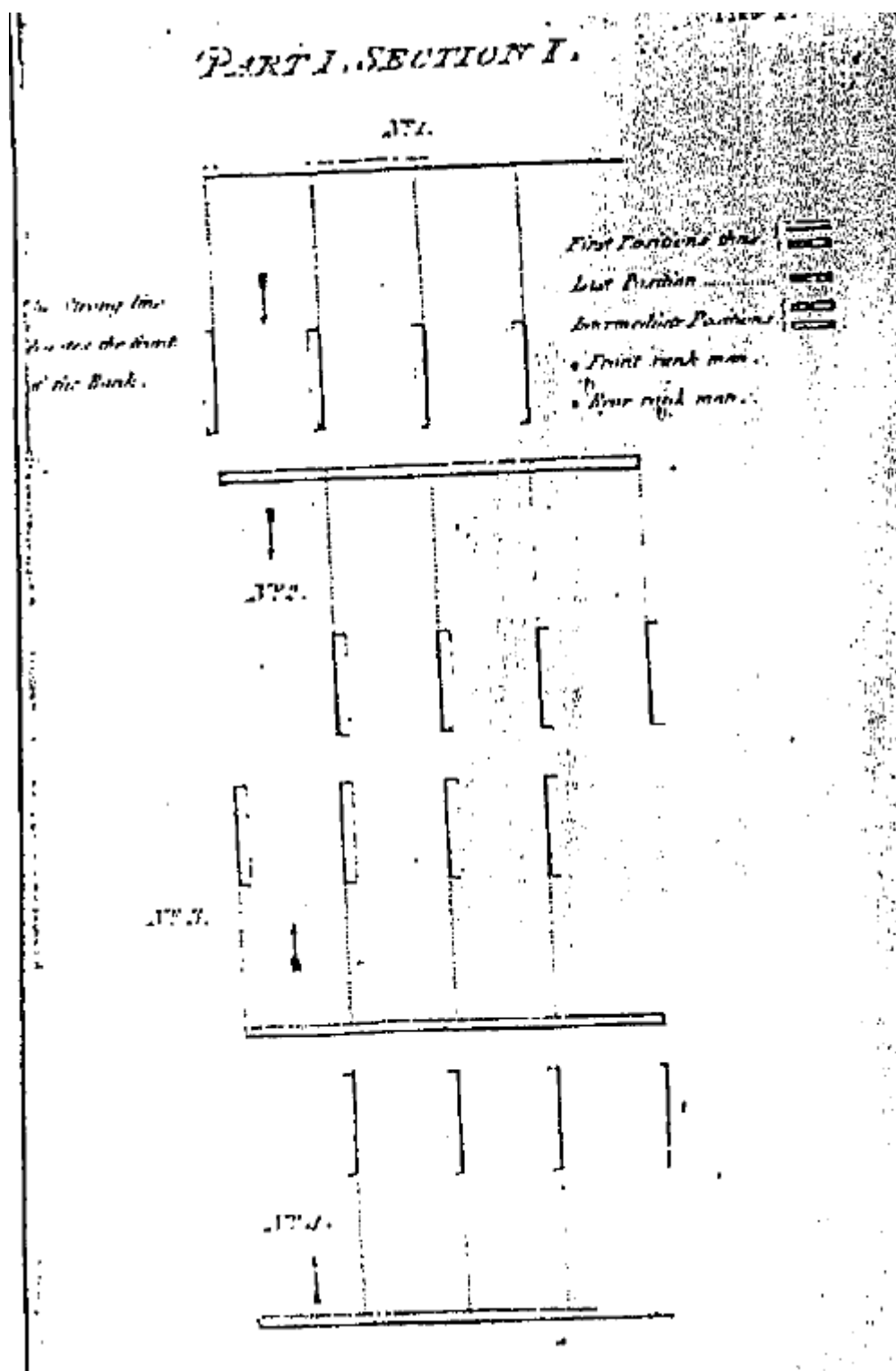


### 3. *Present.*

The soldier faces half to the right, the butt is placed in the hollow of the right shoulder, the right foot steps back about eighteen inches behind the left, the left knee is bent, the body is brought well forward, the left hand, without having quitted its hold, supports the rifle close before the stock, the right elbow raised even with the shoulder, the forefinger on the trigger, the head bent, and cheek resting on that of the rifle, the left eye shut, the right taking aim through the sight: as soon as the rifleman has fixed upon his object, he fires without waiting for any command. When he has fired, the right hand quits its hold in facing to the right about, the left swings the rifle round into a horizontal position with the barrel downwards; the rifleman resumes his post in the platoon, in fronting to the left about, brings his rifle into the position to prime and load, half cocks, and proceeds to load, going through the motions as above without any further words of command.

*To fire by bugle* – As soon as the rifleman are perfect in this, they will be instructed, that at the signal of the horn to commence firing, the two right hand files of each platoon or section, according as the company may be told off, are immediately to take three paces to the front, the rear rank men step to the right of their file leaders, present, and each fires as he gets proper aim, then resumes his place in the company as above mentioned, and loads again: when the two first files have fire the next two advance, and so on through the company.

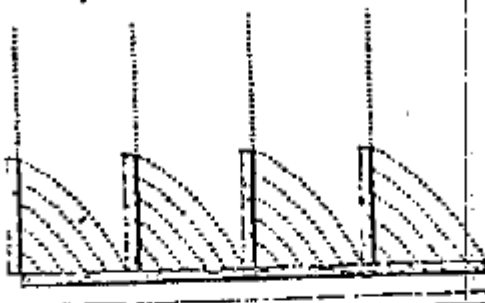
This mode of firing is necessary to prevent the whole from being unloaded at the same time; when the company therefore has fired once according to these regulations, every file on being loaded again will advance three paces and each man take his aim and fire, and then immediately resume his place in the company, load &c. When it is required that the firing should cease, the signal to cease firing will be made by the bugle, after which not a shot must be heard. The officers, who must invariably remain in line during the firing, are on no account to stir from the spot; and when the signal o cease firing is made, and every man loaded and shouldered, they will dress their platoons. Too much attention cannot be given to the above rule, for the preservation of the alignment will entirely depend upon a strict observance of it



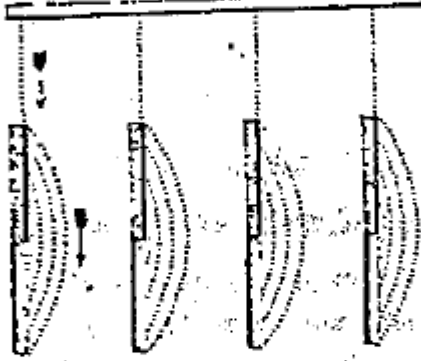
B  
Plat. I.

PART I. SECTION I.

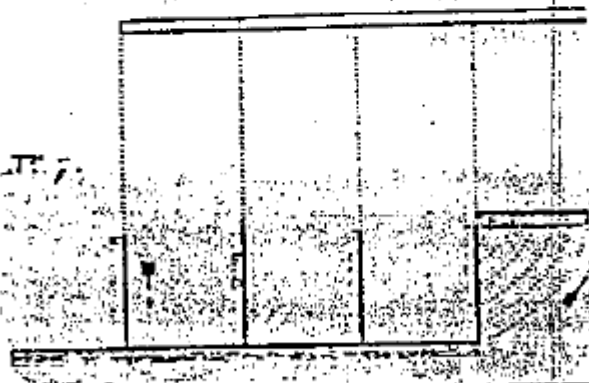
N<sup>o</sup> 5.



N<sup>o</sup> 6.



N<sup>o</sup> 7.



N<sup>o</sup> 8.



PART I. SECTION I.

Plate 1.

Fig. 9.

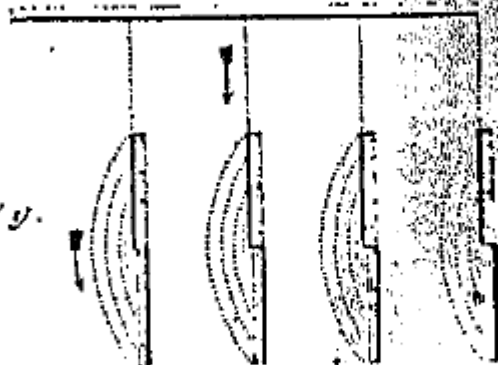


Fig. 10.

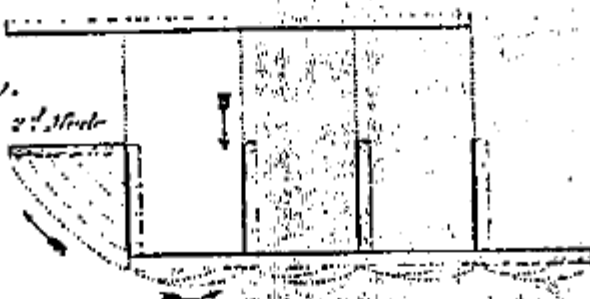


Fig. 11.

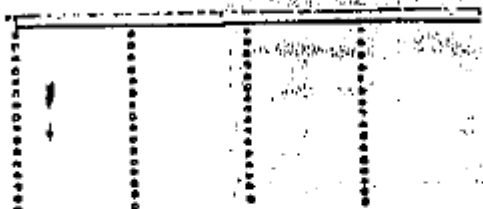


Fig. 12.



PART I. SECTION I.

D  
Plate I.

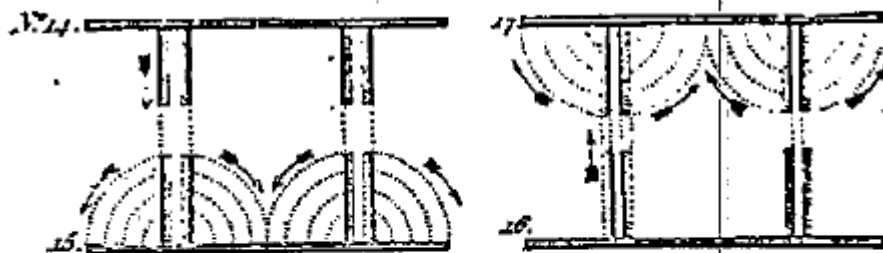
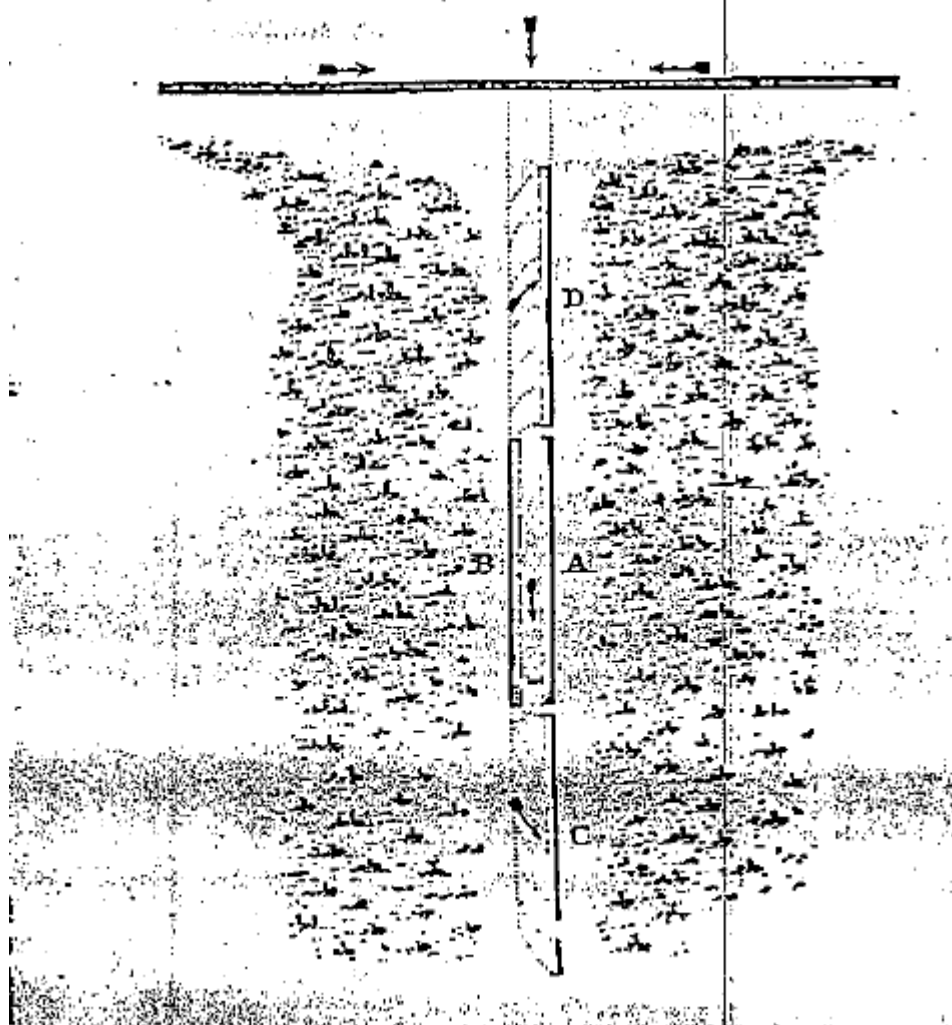


Plate II

Nº 19. A Company or Battalion advancing by files in double order from the Centre thro a Detile.



# PART II. SECTION III.

Plate VII

Fig. 1st Company formed in regular order as an  
Advanced Guard. The same covered as a Rear Guard

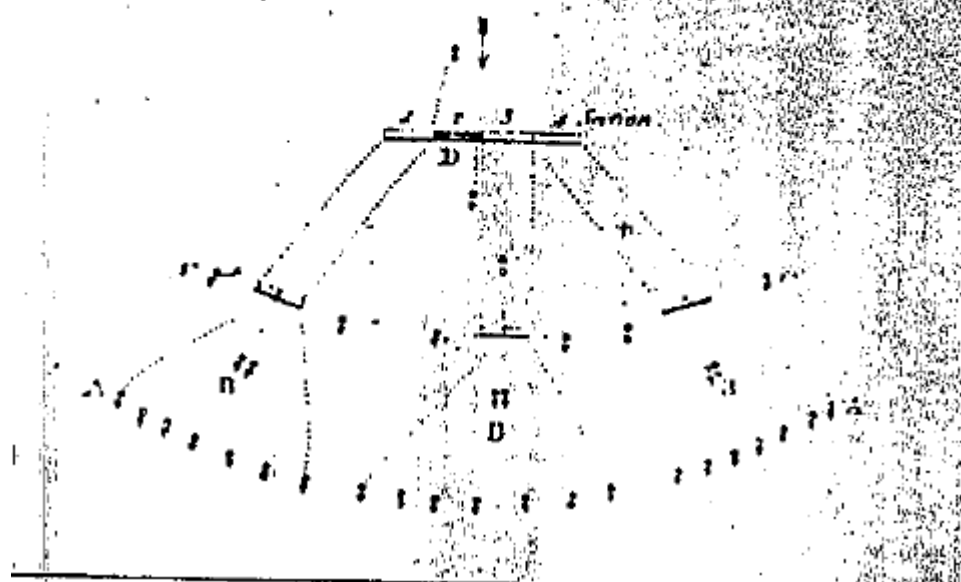
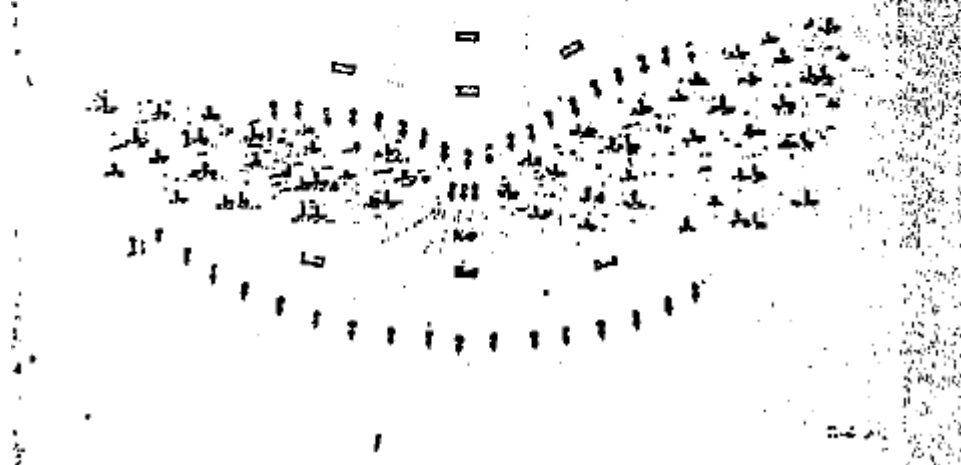


Fig. 2<sup>d</sup> To advance thro' a Drift with an Advanced Guard

The Battalion in line, skirmishers &c.  
before entering the Drift.

B. The Skirmishers &c.  
after passing the Drift.

A



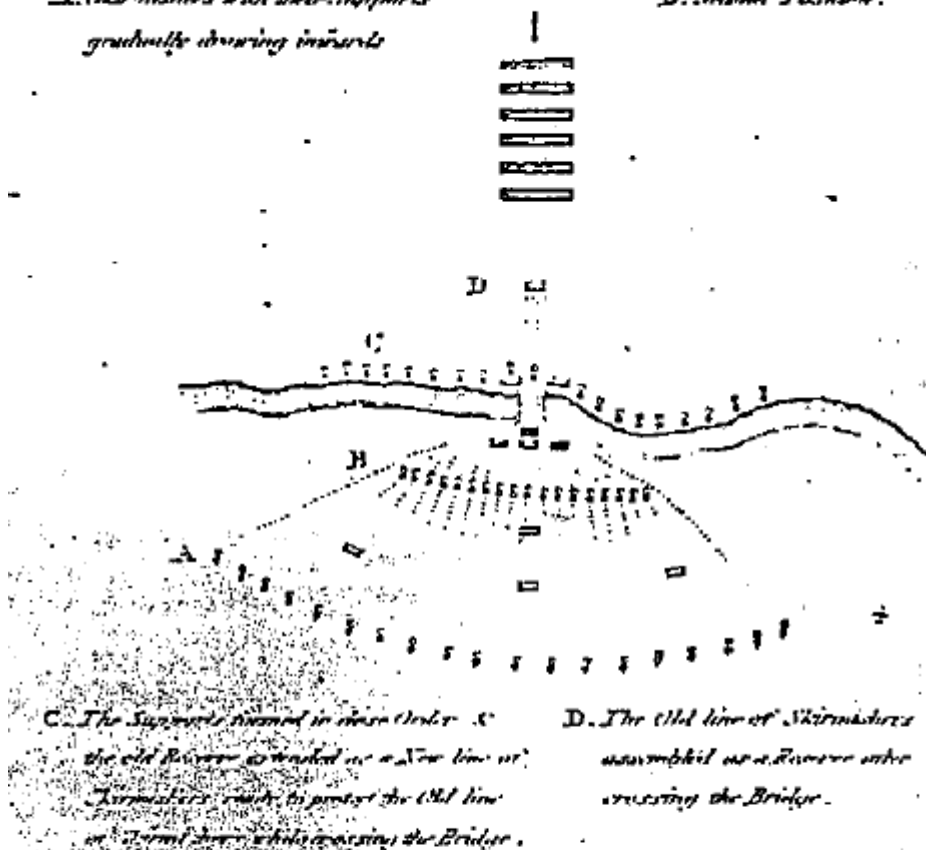
# PART II. SECTION III.

N  
Plate V

Fig. 3. To pass a Drift or Bridge crossing with a River bend.

A. Skirmishers with their Supporters  
gradually drawing inward

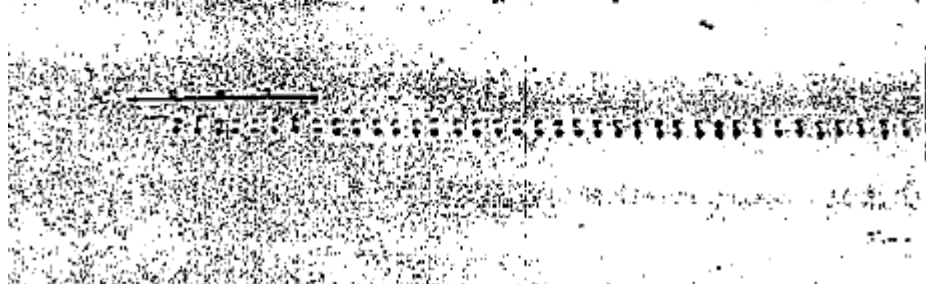
B. General Position.



C. The Skirmishers formed in these Order  
the old Reserve extended as a New line of  
Skirmishers ready to protect the Old line  
or Formed when crossing the Bridge.

D. The Old line of Skirmishers  
assembled as a Reserve when  
crossing the Bridge.

Fig. 4. To show the right turning line to the river.



PART II. SECTION III.

Line IX.

Fig. 5<sup>th</sup> To close to the right, forming line to the right, and to the right of the Flank Division.

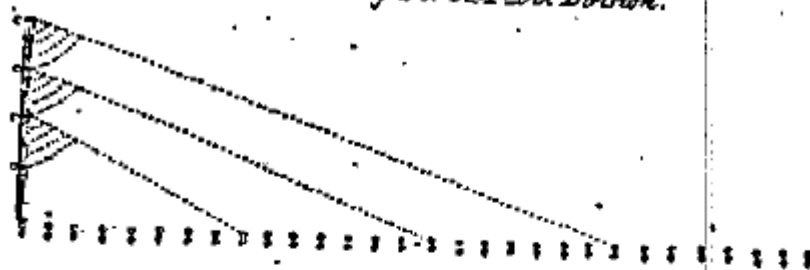


Fig. 6<sup>th</sup> To close to the right, forming line to the left of the Flank Division.

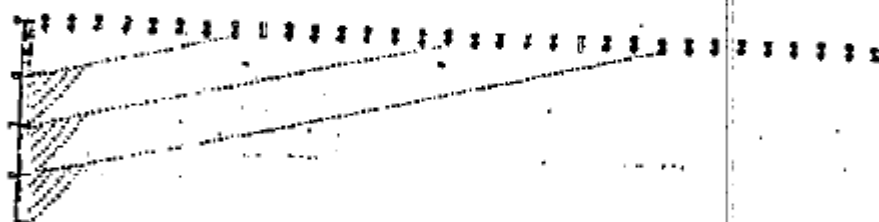
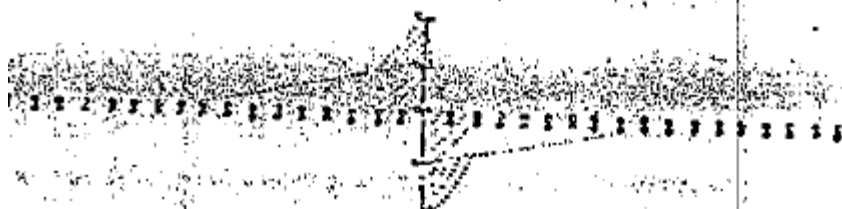


Fig. 7<sup>th</sup> To close to the right, forming line to the right.





PART II. SECTION III.

P  
Plate X

Fig. 8<sup>th</sup> To close to the right, turning open column to the right.

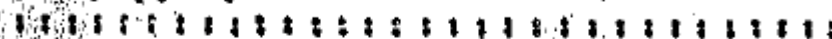


Fig. 9<sup>th</sup> To close to the right, forming open column in rear of the Right, or open column, right in Front.

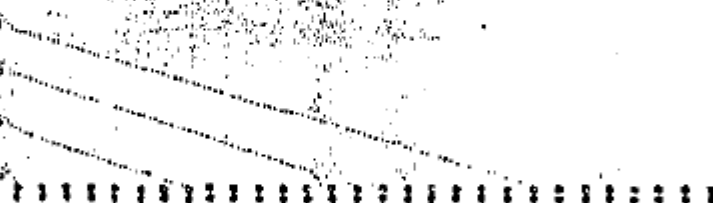
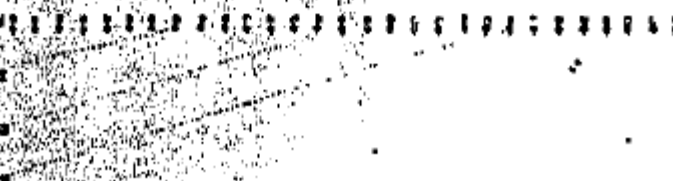


Fig. 10<sup>th</sup> To close to the right, forming open column in front of the Right, or open column, left in Front.



End of

PLATE XI. SECTION III.

Plate XI.

Fig. 1. Battalion marching in Open Column, with one Company in front as an Advanced Guard, One in rear as a Rear Guard, and two Companies on each Flank as Flanking Parties.



PLATE XII.

The following 12 Single Sounds,  
excepting Nos. 8 & 9, are selected  
from  
The Book of Regulations for Riflemen &c.

Nº 1. To Extend.



Nº 2. To Close.



Nº 3. To March; also Nº 13.  
Forwards after Obliquing.



Nº 4. To Halt; also Nº 19. To Annul;  
annuls every previous Sound, excepting Nº 5.



Nº 5. To Fire.

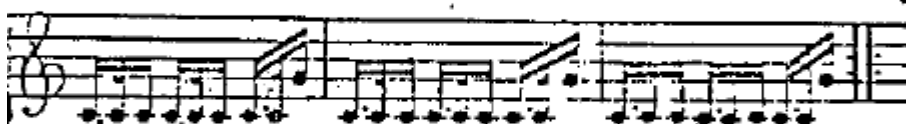


Nº 6. *To Cease Firing.*

S  
Plate XIII.



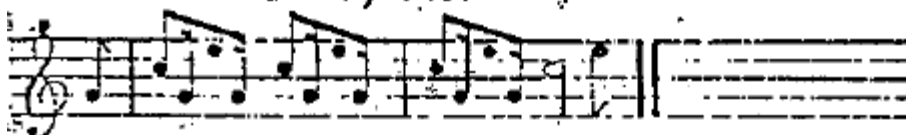
Nº 7. *To Retreat.*



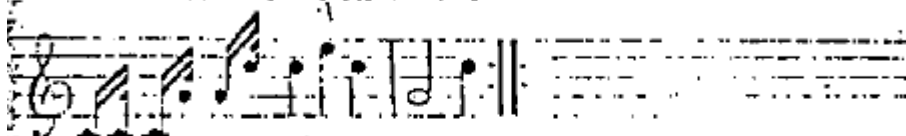
Nº 8. *To Assemble.*



Nº 9. *To Disperse.*



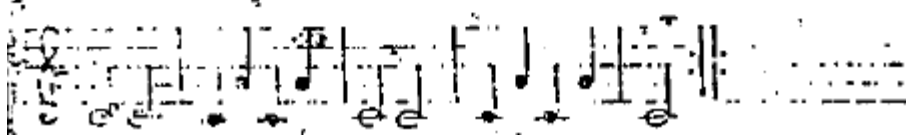
Nº 10. *To Skirmish.*




Nº 11. *To incline to the Right.*



Nº 12. *To incline to the Left.*



*A March in Ordinary Time.* Plate XIV.

*A March in Quick Time.*




Right                      Centre                      Left



Combinations of the preceding Sounds.

14. To increase the spaces between Turns 11 & 12.
15. To Fire Advancing 3 & 3.
16. To Fire Retreating 7 & 5.
17. To Extend while Advancing 3 & 1.
18. To Extend while Retreating 7 & 3.
19. To Close while Advancing 3 & 2.
20. To Close while Retreating 7 & 2.

Intentionally left blank