

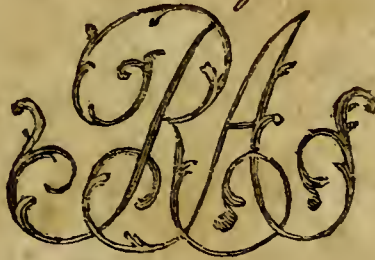
A
NEW SYSTEM
OF
MILITARY
DISCIPLINE,

FOUNDED UPON PRINCIPLE.

Rich. Baskett 15th July 1776

BY A GENERAL OFFICER.

Col. of the P. Regt.

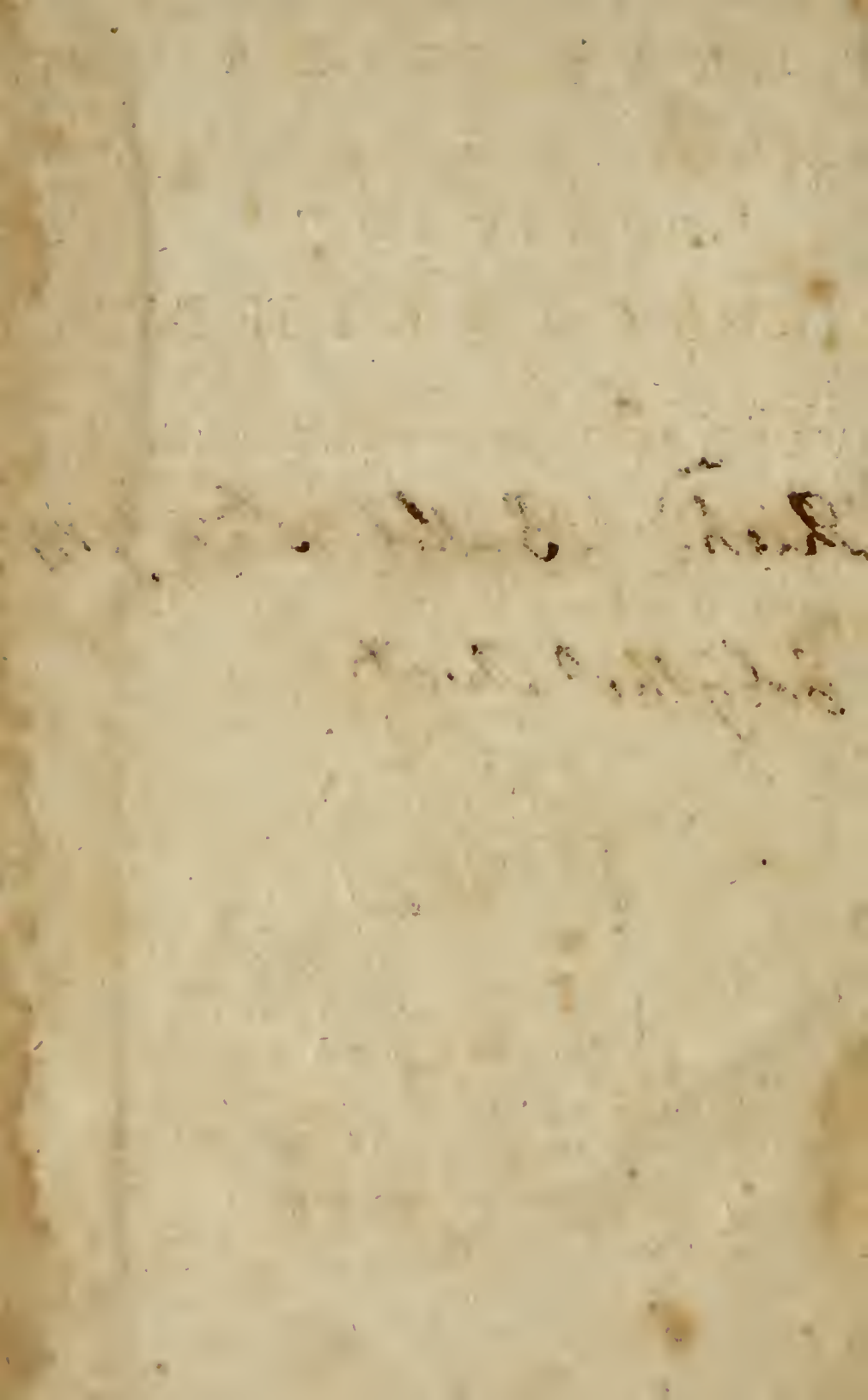


PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY R. AITKEN, PRINTER AND BOOKSELLER,
OPPOSITE THE LONDON COFFEE-HOUSE, FRONT-STREET.

M.DCC.LXXVI.

Price, in Boards, One Dollar,—Bound, Ten Shillings.



P R E F A C E.

IT being an observation, that the more confident a man is of his own capacity, with so much the greater resolution he will act; and, on the other hand, it being also observed, that nothing discourages a man more, or intimidates him sooner, than a knowledge, or supposition, of his not being upon equal terms with his adversary: Hence then it is that discipline becomes necessary; in order to instruct soldiers in such a manner, that the knowledge which they acquire in a dexterous use and management of their arms, and in a skilful arrangement of themselves, may serve, as well to encourage them to a due discharge of their duty, as to prevent their being intimidated, by considering themselves inferior to those with whom they are to contend.

To frame a system for these important purposes, it will be indispensably necessary to keep *three objects* constantly in view. The first is, that it be founded upon principle, in order to give it weight and stability. The next is, that nothing whimsical, hypothetical, or trifling appear in it; which may prompt a man to receive it with contempt or indifference, and thence to disregard it. And the last is, that it be calculated for the emotions of the human heart, or for what the generality of men are most capable of effecting in time of action; and how far this last alone is truly necessary, let us, but for a moment, only suppose ourselves in that situation, where every scene, that can dethrone

our fortitude, or can sink us into timid apprehensions, presents itself; and, where nothing is left but proud reflection to invigorate and keep us up; we shall then quickly perceive the necessity for that simplicity of discipline, which is most practical in itself, and best adapted to those trying circumstances.

Upon the above plan then I have founded the following system, being persuaded, that if an exercise is not calculated for, and suited to these important purposes, it will never produce the effect required. But, as every system should be supported and governed in itself, by particular laws or principles, that it may shun the appellation of a whimsical or speculative performance, I have therefore observed that rule, hoping it may serve, as well to recommend, as to give weight to the plan I have chosen. And as this performance, which I now take the liberty of offering, is but an attempt calculated to point out how the military; like all other sciences, may be rescued from caprice, and established upon principle; and as I am led to believe, that it is the first of its kind that has ever been written, I therefore hope for the greater indulgence, and that it will to the candid suggest an apology for any defects or inaccuracies it may contain; there being throughout the whole a great deal of new matter.

And as all sciences have their peculiar graduates, as well to instruct pupils in their rudiments, as to bring them on to the higher elements of their profession; I have therefore allotted to the corporal, to the serjeant, and to the adjutant, their different degrees of instruction, the better, that each may be responsible for those committed to his charge; and by that means, that the exercise may be more correctly and expeditiously learned. The corporal, for instance, is, on his part, to teach

T H E P R E F A C E.

teach his men, to *stand*, to *face*, to *march*, and to *wheel*. The serjeant is to instruct his men in the *use* and *management* of their arms. And the adjutant is to inform those intrusted to his care in the different arrangements of the *line*, the *column*, and the *square*.

By thus assigning to the corporal, to the serjeant, and to the adjutant, the rudimental parts of the *exercise*, the time of exercise will, by that means, be considerably shortened; as there will then be no occasion for a repetition of those initiating forms, when the men come to be exercised by a commissioned officer, they being already grounded in those points by the proper people. In deed, where such minutie are dwelt upon by an officer, I cannot help thinking that such a conduct is, not only acting out of *character*, by serving to level and confound distinctions; but, in itself, carries much the same kind of propriety with it, as to tell a man, "You once had occasion in your childhood for leading strings, and therefore you should never appear without them." But however, though I have known many an officer acquire a considerable reputation by that means, he ought nevertheless to preserve a suitable dignity for himself, and accordingly, he should leave those littleneesses to those below him, it being sufficient that where he finds any of his men aukward or defective in their exercise, to remand them at once to the proper drill, whether of the corporal, the serjeant, or the adjutant, for better instruction.

After the different exercises, of the corporal, the serjeant, and the adjutant, are gone through, I then introduce the whole *exercise* complete, as it is to be performed by word of command from the *major*, or any other commissioned officer, annexing, for brevity sake,

fake, a reference of explanation to each word of command; in order, as well to avoid a repetition of the same thing, as to indicate in the proper place, the number of motions belonging to each word of command, describing with it the use and intent of the operation itself.

The following exercise I have divided into two parts, distinguishing the one by the appellation of *The Parade Exercise*; and the other by that of *The Field Exercise*. The Parade Exercise is then to consist of the ceremonial parts of the service; and of such other introductory parts, as of necessity lead to, and are blended with, the *Field Exercise*. And the Field Exercise is to comprehend such operations, as are necessary to be performed against the enemy, as different exigencies may there require. Why I have adopted the terms, *Parade* and *Field* exercise, is for this reason; as being words in themselves, which are not only infinitely more significant and comprehensive, but convey by far a clearer idea of the operations suitable to those places, than the old terms, *Manual* and *Platoon* exercise; which are, at the best, but terms only reconcilable by use, but not by sense.

In our present exercise there are many things, which, I confess, I cannot approve, as being in themselves either impracticable, or extremely inconvenient. Some of which I have altered, and others I have rejected; and, as to what I have substituted, to *such* I have subjoined my reasons.

In this work I have introduced a new method of *Locking-up*, finding, in my opinion, our present form extremely defective, and liable to great disorder and inconvenience.

In the different arrangement of the *Line*, the *Column*, and the *Square*, I have likewise introduced some amendments and alterations. In the *Line*, I have kept one object constantly in view, namely, to post the officers where they can be most serviceable; by which means the battalion will at all times be kept up in a close, compact, and good order, whether in standing, advancing, or retreating; and, at the same time, free of all incumbrance.

In treating of the *Column*, I have endeavoured to point out the various uses and purposes of it; shewing how and on what occasion it is to be formed, whether it is then to consist of ranks, of files, or compounded of both.

And in respect to the *Square*, I have touched upon some capital defects, not only in our present method of forming it, but in making the platoons or divisions, which are appointed to cover or protect the angles, to *retire* on firing into the square itself. To obviate these matters, I have offered an amendment, by which I think the square will be rendered both formidable and secure. I have also directed, how and in what situation it is to be formed, and how to reduce it when the occasion ceases. And in pointing out the uses of it, I have explained the different capacities of squares to each other, according to the number of battalions of which each is composed; there being but very few, who can otherwise comprehend this necessary piece of knowledge, that are not possessed of some small degree of mathematical learning.

In the different operations of the above arrangements, I have shewn how the several movements are to be effected, by suitable and distinct signals of the drum; being well satisfied of no better method, by which
troops

troops can more effectually be directed in time of action. A due observance of which is, I may venture to pronounce, one of the most principal excellencies in discipline, and I could therefore wish to see it more attended to; for certain it is, that the monotony, which will do for a cool and calm parade, will by no means be proper for the hot and turbulent element of boisterous action; consequently, a suitable variety of signals is necessary to observe and adopt.

I have concluded this treatise with an appendix, containing rules; maxims, and observations for the government, conduct and discipline of an army. They are undoubtedly, for so comprehensive a purpose, very defective in themselves. I lament that my experience had not enabled me to render them more complete; but I offer them with a good intent, submitting and referring the whole to the judgment of my brother officers.

OBSERVATIONS

July 15th 1776

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

DRESS, ARMS, AND ACCOUTREMENTS,

Rich OF A *Butler Major*
S O L D I E R.

C H A P. I.

SECT. I. *Of Dress.*

IT is with the military, as with all other professions, if the individuals of which are not properly appointed, and a suitable provision made for them, they will never be able to acquit themselves, or to give the satisfaction which may be required of them. And as this position is universally admitted, I conclude it will not be improper in this place to make some observations on the Dress, Arms, and Accoutrements, of our Soldiers; and to offer some amendments and alterations in those articles, where I shall judge them to be defective.

The Dress then of a Soldier should serve in the first place, to preserve health. Next, to give sprightliness and appearance to the man, and to characterize him in his profession. And lastly, to give reputation to

the service, in which he is engaged. Nor ought it to be less calculated for the purpose of Convenience, having it so contrived, as neither to obstruct or impede him in his motions; nor to occasion trouble and delay, where equipment is required in the easiest manner, and in the shortest time. The above being the chief ends of a military *Dress*, what I shall offer concerning them, I propose to deliver under the following articles; namely, *Cloathing, Convenience, and Appearance.*

ART. I. *Of Cloathing.*

The several articles of cloathing ought, in themselves, to be substantial, strong, and good; and adapted to the country or climate in which the soldier is to serve: since the preservation of health, which is the chief intent of cloathing, will every where be found the greatest *Economy*. His cloaths, therefore, ought to be well made and put together; and sufficient to last, by ordinary repairs, the intended time. Nor should they be incumbered with any frivolous and finical ornaments, which are soon worn out, and easily defaced; especially, where suitable materials cannot conveniently be had to mend or reinstate them.

ART. II. *Of Convenience.*

It is an established maxim, that *nothing is military which is in itself either tedious or inconvenient*; consequently, the best materials for dress, if not well calculated for that end, lose of their estimation; and, instead of their being convenient and satisfactory, become troublesome and disgustful. Now, to apply this observation,

observation, I shall bring it home to ourselves; our materials then, are in general tolerably good, but the purposes to which they are converted will admit of some principal exceptions, and those are as follow.

The first thing, then, which I shall touch upon, is our *Grenadier-cap*, which is so badly contrived, as neither to be fit for *use* or *service*. The height of it above the head is so enormous, that any inclination or agile motion of the body, will cause it immediately to tumble off. If the country, through which the man is ordered to proceed, happens to be either bushy or woody, off goes the cap at every branch, briar, or twig, which comes in its way; and the same inconvenience he meets with from every other object that it strikes against. If the weather be windy, the cap is every now and then blown off; or it be dusty and scorching, it affords no sort of shelter whatever to the face and eyes; or if the weather be rainy, it yields as little covering to the neck and shoulders. In short, it is so awkward a piece of apparel, as to have nothing whatever to recommend or reconcile it to us, but our being accustomed to it; except, like the whiskers of old, it may be deemed necessary to frighten an enemy, which I believe is a circumstance now-a-days, upon which no soldier will place the slightest dependance.

The *Hat* is another article of dress, which, though infinitely preferable to the cap, yet is not without some weighty objections; for by its projection over the shoulders, it is extremely incommodious to the man, when in the ranks or under arms, it being then liable, either by his own motions or by those of others, to be easily thrown off, which frequently happens. Nor is it much less troublesome than the cap, in a bushy or woody country, or in windy weather; as those incidents

do ever occasion it, only to fall off, but to tease and incommode the man; besides its being of that sort of apparel, which is easily disfigured by the cocks losing their set and form, and then nothing is more unbecoming.

These being some of the principal objections to the Cap and Hat, the remedy which I would offer in order to remove them, is to substitute in their room, the small tight close leather Helmet, made not only sufficiently strong to resist the blow of a sword, but to have a curtain appending to it, which may be occasionally used, either to roll up in dry weather, or in wet to let down for the purpose of preserving the neck and shoulders from the rain. Besides the addition of the Curtain, I would also have that of a Flap or Frontispiece to let likewise down before, for the convenience of saving the eyes from dust, and from the heat and rays of the sun, which are circumstances, if not guarded against, that must ever be affecting to the sight of the man.

The *Roler* about the neck is another part of dress to which I very much object: because the man alone cannot, in that particular, dress himself, but must have the assistance of another to help him, which must be allowed a very inconvenient circumstance. And, by having his neck so swathed about with so long a bandage, the circulation of the blood is consequently obstructed; by which means, it is no uncommon thing to observe, when men are under arms, but more especially upon a march, that they frequently drop down into fits, and often expire.

To prevent circumstances so bad in themselves, I would recommend, instead of the *Roler*, a Stock with clasps, which the man can, of himself, immediately

diately put on or take off, and loosen or tighten at pleasure.

The *make of the Coat* is another article to which I have much dislike, on account of the great heap and load of skirts appending to it, which are neither long enough to keep the men warm in cold weather, nor short enough to render him active and cool where agility and labour is required of him, and serving only to fatigue and encumber him in all his operations, and to be of no use or service whatever to him on any occasion; besides the injury those skirts do to his health, should he happen to lie down when they are wet, either upon his guard-bed or in his tent. In short, the inconvenience of the coat in this particular, is so well known to all those who follow any active laborious way of life, that they are seldom or never seen, while at work, with their coats on. To pursue then an example so well founded, both upon reason and experience, and to avoid the inconveniencies above mentioned, I would substitute instead of the coat, the common tight light Jacket.

Our *Spatterdashies*, are another part of dress, to which I have likewise great objections. The *Spatterdashies* I mean, are those made of canvass, to button tight, and to come half way up the thigh, with upwards of two dozen of buttons to each. I need not represent how long a time it will take up to put on a pair of those *Spatterdashies*, as it will easily be conceived. But besides the trouble of this tedious operation, there is the well known perplexity of every now and then tearing open a button-hole, and the pulling off a button; and by the delay thus accidentally occasioned in the mending of which, I have
known

known many a good soldier punished for the not appearing at the time appointed. But, besides this great inconvenience in putting them on, there is another very strong objection to them; for by the leg and part of the thigh being thus buttoned and braced up, the agility at the knee is of course obstructed. And as the legs of most men will, on or after long walking, swell a little, the pain then arising becomes quite intollerable, by the want of room in the Spatterdash for the limb to ease itself. And next, by their being made of canvass, they are but very ill calculated to defend the legs against briars and thorns; besides their being soon worn out about the ankles and knees, by the continual stress and friction which they are exposed to in those parts.

Now what I would offer to obviate those several inconveniences, is to substitute the sort of Spatterdashes commonly worn by gentlemen in riding. They are made of supple leather, and topped with a piece of what is strong and stiff. They come so high as to cover the caps of the knees, and there fit as close and tight as light boots commonly do; but I would have them to come rather higher, the better to defend the knees, and to preserve the breeches, when the men come to kneel, either at their exercise, or on any other occasion. Each of these sort of Spatterdashes has but two buttons, one just below the knee, and the other close to the foot. Those buttons are made of a bit of flat iron, so as to turn and make fast after they have entered a small iron button-hole. And in order to keep them close to the legs, there is also added to each edge of the Spatterdash, a piece of strong flated wire, fastened at each end to the buttons and button holes. The advantages of those

those Spatterdashies are, that they are so soon put on, as scarce to exceed the time of half a minute, and are so pliant to the legs, as to give way to them occasionally. But it may be objected, that the expence of them will be too great for Soldiers. I answer not, for as they will last considerably longer than those made of canvass, they will in the end be found to be much cheaper.

The *Dress of the Hair* is another very essential article in point of convenience and cleanliness, of which we seem altogether unmindful; having at present no other form, but either the Tuck, the Cue, or the Club. The time of adjusting either is evidently so very tedious and troublesome, of which the men themselves are so sensible, that in order to avoid that inconvenience, and to have more time for other purposes, they frequently let their hair remain in one or other of those forms for some days together, giving it occasionally, without opening and combing it, a sort of outward slight dressing, by way of concealing their neglect from their officers; the ill consequence of which is, that the man by not daily combing his head, the skin contracts, in a small space of time, not only stagnated humours, which break out into scabs and ulcers, but an accumulated mixture of filth, dirt, and vermin, which proves as pernicious to the man himself, as it becomes infectious to others.

To prevent on one hand so great an inconvenience, and on the other to guard against the bad consequence attending it, I would have the hair cut short and tapering, and to come no lower than the upper edge of the Stock, by which means the head will easily be kept clean and cool, and the inconvenience of a tedious dress will be as much avoided.

ART. III. Of *Appearance.*

The Appearance of a Soldier consists in being always dressed in character, and conformable to the rules of his corps. He ought therefore to appear clean and neat in his person: his hair well combed; his hat well brushed and cocked; his cloaths in good order, having neither dirt, dust or spots upon them; and his linen, stockings, shoes and buckles, clean and in repair. In short, every thing about him should appear good calculated for decency and use, and adapted to the times, whether upon or off Duty; or whether in the condition of the private or the public man.

The advantages of this Appearance are many: It gives a reputation to the service and corps in which he is, and is a strong inducement to others to enter into it; and, above all, it naturally inspires a man with a pride of spirit, which is the greatest preservative against mean and unbecoming actions.

There is another article in the Dress of a Soldier, which, above all others, contributes the most to a stately carriage of his person, and which I think is not in general sufficiently attended to; I mean, the wearing well of the Hat. I have often lamented an oversight of such consequence, there being no one part of Dress which makes a man appear to greater advantage than that alone; it is a circumstance so striking in itself, that it commonly conveys a characteristical idea of the man; and according to the impression his appearance so makes, a conclusion is often formed of him. The rule therefore I shall give is as follows:

That the Hat do sit horizontally upon the head, and that it be worn so low on the forehead as to press a little down

down upon the eyebrows, letting the forecock be turned withal a little to the left, by way of an air.

In wearing the hat as thus directed, there is an advantage as well as an ornament in it. It may be observed, that when a man stoops or holds down his head with his hat off, the very decline of his face will prevent, in a great measure, his having an elevated or horizontal view; and should he, in that attitude, wear his hat according to the above rule, it is as evident that his view will be the more obstructed by the intervention of the cock of the hat. This being the case, and he finding the inconvenience of it, he will naturally, in order to avoid it, hold up his head that he may have the advantage of a better view; and by so holding up his head the consequence will as naturally lead him to carry his body erect, which becomes an ornament to his person. Hence then it is, that there is no instance where a man wears his hat pressed well down upon his eyebrows whose carriage has been otherwise than constantly erect.

Indeed there is, besides the above, another very considerable advantage in this wear of the hat; it may likewise be observed that the forehead is the only inexpressive part of the whole face, every other feature having both action and significance in it. Hence it is, that by the forehead being thus hid by the hat and nothing presented to view but the animated parts of the face, the man appears no less considerable in his aspect than elevated in his person.

As to the form of cocking the hat, I acknowledge myself a little timorous about prescribing a rule for it, there being so great a variety of opinions on that head; but were I to choose I should prefer that cock which would keep its form best and longest, and at the same time cause a man to look sprightly in his appearance.

SECT. II. *Of Arms.*

THE Arms of a Foot-Soldier consist of a firelock and bayonet, which, when fixed or joined together, become the most formidable weapon that we know of, being capable of vast execution either at a great or at a small distance, and when thus united answer all the purposes of a missile or hand weapon ; but, however, as an active use of any weapon will chiefly depend upon a proper construction of it, it therefore follows, that arms in themselves will be more or less serviceable, and that soldiers will have the power of managing them in a better or worse manner in proportion to the degree of the make, whether that consists in length, weight, or convenience ; and for this reason I shall venture to point out some capital defects in the constructions of our firelock and bayonet, with a view of offering a remedy, and with the hopes it will merit some attention.

ART. I. *Of the Bayonet.*

We have for the make of the Bayonet no other rule or gage than to fit it to a particular firelock to which it of course belongs : Now as the barrels of different firelocks vary in thickness, and as the *Sights* placed upon them at the muzzle by which the bayonets fix, vary no less in size and position, so the bore of the sockets of the bayonets, and the fixing grooves made in them, must vary accordingly in all or any of these particulars ; therefore it is that scarce any bayonet can be found that will fit any other firelock than that for which it was made ; the disadvantage of which

is this, that as soldiers are obliged in camp, on guard, or on out-posts, to keep their bayonets constantly by them while their firelocks are frequently laid promiscuously together in a bell-tent, or in some other appointed place; I say then, that should the men have an immediate occasion for their firelocks, they could not so circumstanced, have sufficient time to receive or take those respectively belonging to themselves, nor indeed would it be proper to wait, lest, before such a distribution could be effected, an opportunity might be lost, or the consequence prove fatal; therefore as each man must in prudence take the first that comes to hand, the odds will then be very great, that the firelock which he takes does not belong to himself, and of course that the bayonet which he has by him does not fit it, and should that be the case, the misfortune arising may prove irreparable.

To remedy then so great a defect I would propose, that as there is an established caliber for all firelocks in the service, and as no reason can be assigned why one firelock should be made thicker or thinner in metal at the muzzle than another; I would therefore have all firelocks made alike in that particular: And next, as every bayonet fixes by means of the sight upon the barrel, I would also have all those sights made of equal sizes, and placed at equal distances from their respective muzzles; by which means, as there would then be of course an established gage for the sockets and fixtures of all bayonets, every bayonet would consequently fit every firelock in the service, which would remedy the above defect, and prevent any ill consequence that may arise from it.

My next objection is to the great disadvantage arising from the unnecessary weight of the Bayonet and

Rammer ; I mean only to show when the bayonet is *fixed*, the rammer *in the stock*, and the firelock *presented*, how the firelock then operates upon the strength of the arm, which is to support it, and the effect it has. This article may, at first view, seem inconsiderable to those who are not conversant in mechanics ; but however that may be, we all know by experience that the lighter any weapon can well be made at the extremity from us, the more manageable it becomes ; and on the contrary, that the heavier it is there, the greater degree of strength it requires to use it.

Now in order to shew how the weight of the firelock in the above position operates on the strength of the arm which supports it, I shall endeavour to demonstrate by the property of the lever ; and for which purpose I shall consider the firelock, at whose extremity the bayonet is fixed, as a lever, whose length, exclusive of the bayonet, is five feet two inches ; and I shall consider the left hand that supports it, when *presented*, as the fulcrum of the lever, placed at the distance of one foot ten inches from the but-end, or three feet four inches from the muzzle, and I shall suppose the weight of the bayonet to be seventeen ounces.

Then I say as one foot ten inches the distance from the left hand to the but-end is to three feet four inches the distance from that hand to the muzzle, so is seventeen ounces the weight of the bayonet at the muzzle to almost thirty-one ounces, the balancing or counteracting weight at the but ; now as the fulcrum of every lever, like the counterpoint part of the beam of a pair of scales, sustains as well the whole force of power, as the weight of that which counteracts it, therefore, the left hand being here the fulcrum, will
be

be burdened with twice thirty one ounces, making together sixty-two ounces: and if to which, be added the force of that part of the bayonet extending beyond the muzzle, then that likewise will be found to produce better than six ounces more, and then the whole burden resting upon the left hand and arm, which in general is the weakest, will be about sixty-eight ounces, occasioned only by the fixing of the bayonet.

And again, to account for the iron rammer, whose weight is better than ten ounces, but as the rammer is lodged in pipes, lying parallel to the barrel, and extending to the end of it; and as the rammer is made tapering, and not truly a cylinder, its power will be best and easiest determined experimentally; and as such it will occasion a counteracting weight of eleven ounces, which being also doubled, is twenty-two ounces more, and that being added to the above sixty-eight ounces, make together ninety ounces, which added again to the weight of the firelock, which is about ten pounds thirteen ounces, exclusive the rammer and sling, will about make in all sixteen pounds seven ounces, the full weight which the left hand is to support when the firelock is *presented*.

Hence the cause of that great languor so evident, when soldiers come to *recover* their firelocks from the *present*, and of the violent pain they suffer in their left arms at the time of *presenting*, by being thus overburdened and unable to bear that weight, which must of course affect the steadiness requisite in taking a proper aim, and consequently render the fire uncertain or ineffectual.

To remedy as much as possible so great a disadvantage as the above, I would propose to have, in
the

the Bayonets made much lighter, and of the same length and substance with those of the dragoons; and in the next, I would have wooden rammers as formerly, instead of the present heavy iron ones, which would cause in this last article alone, exclusive of the bayonet, a difference in pressure at the time of *presenting*, of at least nineteen ounces; in short, the best recommendation which I can offer for an alteration, is to desire any one to take a firelock in his hand, and make a trial himself, and I am persuaded he will be immediately convinced, how necessary it is to remove those inconveniencies.

ART. II. *Of the Firelock.*

What I shall offer in the first place concerning the firelock, is relative to its weight; in the adjusting of which, it ought to be an established rule, "that the weight of all be proportioned to the general strength of all those who are to make use of them, or rather made lighter;" consequently, should that weight be too great, the arms will then become burdensome and unweildy, and only serve to oppress the man, and overpower his strength in the discharge of his duty. Now, as our arms are confessedly under this disadvantage, I am therefore for diminishing such articles as may be judged superfluous in themselves, and those which I shall point out, are as follows:

First, I would have the barrel made on the outside, like that of the fusée, with two reinforced rings placed at proper distances from the breech, which improvement would occasion it to be much lighter by making the barrel so much the thinner
from

from those rings towards the muzzle, and yet equally serviceable, and still more useful, since it would then feel lighter at the muzzle, and consequently more manageable: Next, I would have all that part of the mounting, which is not much exposed to violence, to be made considerably lighter than it is; such as the rammer-pipes, the guard, and the upper part of the cap of the butt; and likewise all the pins, with whatever else will admit of being reduced: And lastly, I would have the fusee lock introduced, instead of the present large heavy one. And besides these alterations, there is another improvement which I much wish for, and that is, to have at the breech a small *sight-channel* made, for the advantage and convenience of occasionally taking better aim.

The next article which I shall touch upon is the wretched *temper* given to some of the principal parts of the firelock. The vile practice of which is in nothing more notorious than in the two following instances. I have frequently observed, that our barrels are in general so shamefully soft, that by only the exercise of a few field days, they were so blown at the *touch-hole*, as to be totally unfit for service. And I have likewise found the faces of *hammers* so superficially hardened, that in as short a space of time, the hardening was quite worn off, so as to cause little or no fire at the snap of the flint, and this in so great a degree, that I have often seen better than half the firelocks of a company, in that terrible condition.

SECT. III. *Of Accoutrements.*

THE Accoutrements of a soldier, consist of a shoulder-belt, to which his pouch is fastened or buckled, and of a waist or sword-belt, carrying his bayonet, the leather of all which is called buff, being the skin of the buffalo, and therefore strong, thick, heavy, and spongy. The shoulder and waist belt are each much of the same breadth, being about three inches and a half broad. The leathers of the pouch, such as the buckle-straps, flap and pocket, are commonly made of another sort of dressed leather, but equally thick and heavy as that of the buff. And as to the cartridge box of the pouch, it is made of wood or tin, and so contrived, as commonly to contain thirty-six cartridges, the whole weighing about five pounds eight ounces; and if to that, be added three pounds twelve ounces more, the weight of the cartridges made up, with only single balls, together with the weight of the bayonet, and also of the flints and other convenient articles for keeping the fire-lock clean and in good order, the whole weight then taken together, will be very little short of eleven pounds eight ounces, hanging on the man's body.

But the incumbrance of this weight, though great in it itself, is not so intolerable, especially on a march or for any length of time, as the enormous breadth of the belts, which compresses the body to such a degree, and excludes so effectually every cooling breeze from it, that the man in a short space of time, is so overheated, as to become quite languid and fatigued, and incapable of every vigorous effort. When
this

this is the case, he naturally lays himself regardlessly down to rest, and in that oppressed condition, seldom escapes contracting some disorder or other, such as rheums, agues, fevers, &c. which commonly terminate either in the loss of his life, or the loss of his service for a considerable time. To remove then, as far as convenience will admit, a cause productive of such bad effects, I would have those belts made considerably narrower, and that at the least a third more than what they are at present: The advantages of which alteration would be, first the man would feel himself more easy, cool, and light; next, it would give him a sprightly and active appearance, instead of being like an unwieldy champion trussed up in a coat of mail; and, lastly, by thus diminishing the breadth of the belts, the expence in the purchase of new Accoutrements would consequently be proportionably lessened, and that obtained without shortening in the least, the duration of the wear.

But before I conclude this article, I shall touch upon another point, relative to the preservation of our Accoutrements, of which we seem to be totally ignorant; what I mean, is our pernicious method of cleaning them. The rule we follow is this: when the Accoutrements want cleaning, the soldiers set the several articles to soak in water, after which they scrape them with a sharp knife, wash them afresh, and colour them with a stuff prepared for the purpose. The consequence of which is, that by thus scraping them, they frequently, if not always, cut and mangle them; and not only this, but the substance of the leather is so wasted and impaired, that they soon become quite thin and jagged at the edges; besides the coat or nap of the buff being entirely shaved

off, which makes the surface appear black and horny, so that in a short space of time the accoutrements are neither fit for service or appearance, and seldom last a third of the time they otherways would. To avoid this bad effect, others have substituted another method, which is, that instead of scraping them, as before described, they cause the several pieces of the leather to be rubbed or daubed over with a kind of putty, made of pipe-maker's clay and size mixed together, which when dry, sticks so close, as not easily to be rubbed off; but to this method, there are two objections; the first is, that when the accoutrements come to be worn in wet weather, the rain softens the coat of colouring upon them, as to make it run off, which spoils the cloaths, and disfigures their appearance. The other objection is, that as the colour is a pure white, and not resembling the natural colour of the leather, it makes the cloaths and trimmings, after they are about half worn, to appear very shabby, and to great disadvantage, the colour being then too lively a contrast to the soil upon the lace and cloth.

Now what I would recommend, instead of either of the above methods, is, first to set the accoutrements to soak in water, and then to take out a piece at a time, and lay it flat upon a board, with the right side uppermost; this being done, let it be rubbed over with some hard soap, and upon which sprinkle a little fine sand; then take a hard brush dipped in water, and with it rub sufficiently the piece to be cleaned; this method will not only take off all dirty and greasy spots, much quicker than by scraping the parts with a knife, but it will preserve the

the

the coat of the leather, and prevent the injurious and bad consequences already described.

The several parts of the Accoutrements being thus prepared and handled, they are next to be well washed and hung up; and after they are about half dry, let them be dipped in the colouring tub and set to dry thoroughly; then they are to be well dusted and brushed, the buckles well cleaned and brightened, and the several parts put together, and fixed in their proper places.

The colouring made use of on this occasion, is a composition of whiting and ochre; the proportion of each is commonly adjusted by the fancy of the commanding officer; but the composition which I think the most proper, is that which approaches the nearest to the natural colour of the leather, or rather a degree brighter, which will be suitable to all stages of wear, which the clothes may have.

C H A P. II.

*The Duty of the Corporal.*S E C T. I. *Instructions.*

I. **T**HAT a convenient place or piece of ground be assigned to the Corporal for the exercise and instruction of such recruits as are committed to his charge, and that he do there proceed with them at appointed times, in the following manner.

Note. The place where recruits are taught their exercise, is called the *Dril*.

II. That he do first teach them separately, or one by one, and afterwards, according to their different degrees of proficiencie, or the progress which each makes, class, or put them into distinct Squads, that those who are most forward, may not be retarded, and have unnecessary trouble given them by the indocility, or awkwardness of the backward, and with a view that they may be the sooner dismissed from him, and placed under the care of the Serjeant.

III. That he be careful to teach them but one distinct motion at a time, and that he never offer at running from one thing to another, before they are truly perfect in that which was first taught them; for accuracy and expertness in any science can only be acquired by gradual instruction and practice; just as a drummer is taught to beat, first by distinct taps, and then as he becomes more expert, he quickens his beats, till at last, each tap or beat is lost or unobserved, in one continued roll on his drum.

IV. That

IV. That he do always cause a profound silence to be observed, it being otherwise impossible to attend to what is in hand.

V. That he do previously prepare their minds for whatever they are to do, and that he do patiently explain the intent of things, in order that the business they are upon may be the better comprehended, and that his instructions may have the fuller effect, for all men are but too apt to despise or neglect the thing which they do not understand.

VI. That he do never overlook any remissness or inattention, without a proper admonition or rebuke; for now is the season to sow the seeds of subordination.

VII. That no pique or prejudice appear in his censures, in order that justice and duty may approve his proceedings, and prevent his recruits from early imbibing any malignant spirit of murmur and discontent.

VIII. That he do upon all occasions make himself an example of order and punctuality to them.

IX. That he admit of no freedom or intimacy between him and any one subordinate to him.

X. That he never do admit the least encroachment of those subordinate to him upon his authority.

SECT. II. *Of Respect to Superiors.*

A due deference to our Superiors may justly be esteemed and termed the first principle of discipline; it being a certainty, that where that is not observed, no authority can possibly exist: We are therefore, on every occasion, not only to testify our attention, submission,

miffion, and refpect to all thofe whom his Majesty fhall think fit to place above us; but we are, by our example, to induce others to do the fame, and to fee it impreffed by times on the juvenile part of the army.

On this principle then, the corporal is firft of all to proceed with the recruits under his care, by duly inftructing them in an humble, decent, and proper mode of behaviour to their fuperiors; and, in order to ground them the better in fo becoming a demeanour, he is each morning to make them praftice his rules, and to fee that they do obferve them, and according to the following direftions.

ART. I. *Of Deportment.*

The Corporal is firft to direft and inform his recruits that whenever they are fpoke to, either by himfelf or by any other their fuperior, they never offer or prefume on the occafion, to fit, lean, or appear in any carelefs or indifferent pofture, but at once to raife themfelves up, and to ftand erect, and with a gradual motion of the right hand to take off their hats, letting the hat with both hands fall and hang eafily down by their fides. That their countenance be open, calm, and attentive; and that they give mild and fubmiffive answers to all queftions as may be asked them.

After which inftruction, he is to take occafion to fpeak to them himfelf, and to ask them queftions, in order to obferve their behaviour, and to perfect them in it.

ART.

ART. II. *Of the Standing Salute.*

Before I proceed to lay down rules for the Salute, I beg leave to explain what I comprehend of it, in order that I may be the better understood. A Salute then conveys to me an idea of gentleness and calmness, in opposition to whatever is hasty, stiff, and pert; than which nothing can be, in my opinion, more disgusting and forbidding; and therefore, I take it, that whatever part of the salute is performed with a snatch or a bounce, as is by some thought military, is repugnant to my idea of a salute; and according to this my notion, I shall frame my instructions.

The standing or front salute, then, is given either upon addressing or receiving a superior. In the performance of which the recruit is, at about the distance of six paces from the person to be saluted, to raise his right hand with a gentle motion to his hat, and in such a manner that he may easily take hold of the front cock, without the least inclination of his head, and without drawing up his shoulders at the same time. The hat is to be held between the thumb and fingers, and lifted perpendicularly off the head, moving it then so far horizontally to the right that no part of the bole may be over the head; when he is to let it and the hand fall gradually down by his side, turning the bole inwards to his thigh, and letting it there remain during the time of the address; after which let him place it again upon his head with the like gradual motion, as when it was first taken off. In raising the arm to take off or put on the hat, let the elbow be square, and the lower part of the arm kept level, which will give a graceful angle at the wrist, when

when the hand has hold of the hat. During the time of address his countenance is to be preserved open and serene, with a steady and manly aspect, taking care that his eyes be not then so clownishly contracted, as if he were looking at an object that dazzled him; nor his looks so confused, as if there were a conflict in them between bashfulness and assurance; and, lastly, that his body be kept erect, and void of all seeming stiffness.

ART. III. *Of the passing Salute.*

The passing or side salute is given on passing by a superior, and is performed thus: The hat is to be taken off and let fall down by the side, in the same manner as was shewn in the last article, but with this difference, that it be now taken off with the hand the most distant from the person to be saluted; turning the head at the same time, and looking at him with a cool and respectful countenance; but never with a smile, as that carries with it too great an air of freedom, which must never be taken or admitted with a superior.

SECT. III. *To Stand.*

THE recruits being made perfect in the foregoing points, they are next to be drawn up in a single rank, and sized; that is, the tallest are to be on the right, and the shortest on the left, decreasing gradually in height from right to left. The space which each man is to occupy, is to be one pace, or two feet and an half; that is, the distance from the centre of one man's body, to that of the next to him, is to measure so

so much. This point being settled, which will be better explained farther on, the Corporal is then to proceed according to the following directions.

ART. I. *Of standing erect.*

The keeping of the body erect is acquired by a knowledge of particular principles, contributing to the appearance, ease, and strength of the man; and for which purposes the following rules are to be observed.

The body of the man is to be kept firm and upright, but not in a stiff or constrained posture. His face is to be truly erect, so as neither to recline backward, or to incline forward; there being in either position an equal awkwardness, and that which will affect the due ballance of the body. His view, or visual direction, is to be horizontal, except when he shall have occasion to look sideways, or at an object below him; and even then without altering the erection of his face. His shoulders are to fall easy from his neck; and to be pressed or thrown a little back, in order to bring his breast or chest the more forward. Each arm is to hang easy down by his side, with the palm of each hand turned inwards, and placed on the outside half-front of his thigh. And his knees are to be kept stiff and firm under him, in order to support the better the weight of his body, and to prevent any inclination of it. —

Note, This attitude is called *standing in proper order*; either when a Soldier is with or without his arms, the small difference between either being the position of the hands.

ART. II. *Of planting the Feet.*

The planting of the feet consists in placing them at a proper distance from each other, and in such a manner as can best sustain the weight of the body and keep it erect. To effect which this maxim is to be observed: That “*every object stands the weaker by how much its base is less than its greatest diameter.*” Now, the base of a man is his feet, and his greatest diameter the breadth of his shoulders; therefore should his feet be placed so near to each other, as to occupy a less space than the breadth of his shoulders, he must consequently stand so much the weaker, or not so firm as if they had been placed at a more convenient distance.

Now, in order to ascertain that point of distance, I shall shew on what principle I limit the space of ground upon which a man is to stand; and for which purpose let it be first observed, that the weight of a man’s body, when he stands, rests upon an arch which is called his fork; and that the piers of that arch, if I may so call them, are his thighs and legs. Now, as “*no independent object can sustain itself out of the line of gravity,*” it therefore follows, that every independent object is best supported by a perpendicular bearing; therefore as a man’s thighs and legs are the piers, or columns, which support the arch that sustains the weight of his body, consequently those columns ought to stand perpendicular, and be parallel to each other. Hence it is, that when a man happens to stand out of this direction, by having his feet placed either too near or too far asunder, he will quickly find himself to stand uneasy and infirm; because

cause the weight of his body has not then a perpendicular bearing, which strains the parts when out of that direction; therefore, as a perpendicular bearing is of course the firmest posture, let the distance then be measured from the centre of one thigh bone to that of the other, just below the fork of a middle sized man, which will be found to be about ten inches; and let that distance be laid from the centre of one ankle to that of the other, holding the feet parallel to each other at the same time, and then the heels will be found to be placed by that means at the distance of about seven inches asunder; and on the toes being again properly turned out, as will be shown farther on, the distance then, from out to out of the toes, will likewise be found to be nearly equal to the breadth of his shoulders, or the greatest diameter of his body. And hence I deduce this general rule, viz. *That the heels be placed, when a man stands erect, at the distance of seven inches asunder.*

S E C T. IV. *To Face.*

To Face, means no more but to turn the body from its original position, either to the right or to the left, as occasion may require. But in order to have a clear idea of this operation, and to comprehend the better how it is to be performed, I shall suppose a man, *standing in proper order*, to be placed continually within a circle; and the centre of that circle to be the heel or point upon which he faces, turns, or revolves. Again, I shall suppose this circle, or whole revolution, to be divided into four equal parts; each part making a quadrant, or a fourth part

of a circle; and that two of those quadrants make a semicircle, or the half of the whole circle.

Now when a man is ordered to face, or to turn to the right or to the left, this word of command means no more, but that he should perform only the revolution of a quadrant from the place where he last stood; but when he is ordered to face to the right, or to the left about, the addition of the word about, signifies, that he is then to perform the revolution of a semicircle, as will be exemplified, in the following words of command.

I. *Face to the right.* One Motion.

Direction.

At which he is, with a spring, to fall back briskly with his right foot, making his left heel the centre point upon which his body is to turn, and to come so far to the right as to describe a quadrant, or to make a full face to the place where his right hand had been, before he faced. In this operation, he is to preserve entire the true attitude of his body. His arms are to have no swing with them; his body is to be kept upright; his heels at their proper distance; his toes to be well turned out; and the whole is to be formed with such immediate exactness and dexterity, as to have no seeming amendment on coming to his new station.

II. *Face to the right.* One Motion.

Direction.

This operation is performed in the same manner, and with the same address and attention as the last;
which

which both together will constitute the revolution of a semicircle, and will then cause a full face to the rear, his back being now to the front.

III. *Face to the right about.* One Motion.

Direction.

This operation is to be performed in the same way as the other two, but with this difference, that as the turn of the body is now to describe a semicircle, the greater spring and agility is of course required to effect it.

IV. *Face to the left.* One Motion.

Direction.

Note, In all facings to the left, their operations are just performed in the same manner as those to the right, with difference only of situation, still making the left heel the centre of motion; and therefore this word of command requires no more action but to make a full face to the left, so as to describe a quadrant with the turn of the body, bringing up the right foot at the same time.

V. *Face to the left.* One Motion.

Direction.

Make also another revolution of a quadrant, which will occasion a full face to the rear.

VI. *Face to the left about.* One Motion.*Direction.*

Now perform the revolution of a semicircle, which will cause a full face to the front.

Why I make the left heel in all the above facings, and in all facings whatever, the centre of motion, preferable to the right, is for this reason; that, as the generality of men are right-handed, greater strength and agility lie of course in the right side than in the left: And as all the above facings require agility, and consequently strength to perform them, therefore the necessity for having the force of motion to come from the strongest side, in order to bring the body the better about; but were the right heel to be made the centre of motion instead of the left, the right side would by that means be then confined, and consequently the force of motion would be the more feeble, it coming from the left, which is the weaker side of the two; for in all the above revolutions, the stronger the motion or spring, the firmer the body will turn. There is indeed another reason, and, in my opinion, a weighty one, for making the left heel, on all Facings, the centre of motion; it serves to prevent the mistakes, that always happen, when different heels are used for the same purpose. And why I make each facing to be performed at *one single motion* on one heel, instead of *three* motions on two heels, is for this obvious reason; that it saves so much the more time, and withal the operation being in itself to the full as well performed, as there are now no swords worn, which frequently caused an interruption, and made it necessary

cessary to perform a single Facing at three motions instead of one.

S E C T. V. *To March.*

Marching consists in teaching a Soldier, first, how to *balance* his body in the carriage of his person; next, how to *ground* well his foot; and, lastly, how to *limit* his step. It likewise teaches him an equality of pace, or a *fameness* of motion with others in the same rank with himself; and to *time* and *measure* his pace with those who either lead or go before him, in order to preserve a proper distance and a straight rank.

These are the several requisites which constitute good *marching*; and to acquire which, is, I may venture to say, one of the most difficult parts of the *exercise*, the best precepts availing but little without constant practice. But as skill and expertness in every science must first be obtained by instruction, I shall therefore give the following directions.

ART. I. *To Balance the Body.*

The Balance of the Body depends intirely upon a proper position of the knee and foot. With respect to the first, let it be observed, that as in *standing* both feet support the body at once, so in *marching* only one foot can at a time perform that office, each foot being alternately upon the ground. Now as the keeping of the knee stiff and firm, in order to strengthen the limb for the better support of the body, was shewn to be necessary in the first instance, it follows, that it must be to the full, if not more so, in the present, as each knee is now burdened with double the weight that it sustained when *standing*. Therefore the rule which I shall offer for this purpose, is,

That

That the knee of each foot as it steps, as well as that of each foot which is grounded, be kept stiff and firm.

The necessity for the knee to be kept thus stiff is evident from observation; that when a man walks with bended knees he always walks feeble and uneven, and, consequently, ungraceful and hobbling, and more liable to be thrown down at every stumble or jostle.

Thus much then concerning the *knee*, and now with respect to the proper position of the *foot*. To settle this point, the first thing to be considered is the office of the foot when grounded; which, upon a little reflection, will be found to consist in affording an outside, as well as a front aid to the body, by keeping it erect, and by preventing it from falling sideways or forward. Hence then that position of the foot, which equally participates of both aids, is undoubtedly the most proper, as any defect in either must evidently affect a due Balance of the Body. To find out then that point at which to place the foot, let it be observed, that the angle contained in the sweep made by the toe from side to front, making the heel the centre, is equal to ninety degrees, and the half of that angle is forty-five, or the half of a quadrant. Now let the toe be turned out to that middle point, and then the foot will have its true position for supporting the body, either in *standing* or *marching*. It will be further necessary to make the recruit practice for some time to stand alternately upon each foot, which will give him a better command of his Balance, and will cause him to walk more even and steady.

ART. II. *To Ground the Foot.*

In regard to the Grounding of the Foot, which is another material point, care must be taken that it always

ways moves parallel to the surface of the ground over which it steps, which will occasion it to ground all at once, and be the means of making the body to move firm and even in walking, otherwise should either the heel or the toe be first grounded, it will cause an hobling and infirm movement, because the Foot, by being so grounded, acquires two motions instead of one, and, consequently, such motions can neither be so strong and smooth, as if only one was made by the foot being at once placed upon the ground.

ART. III. *To Limit the Step.*

As to the length, or measure of each step, no rule can well be laid down for it, because men of different sizes necessarily and commonly step different lengths, and because the slower a man walks the shorter will be his step, and the quicker the longer; therefore the length of the step must be adjusted to the occasion, and to the make and size of the man; but however, this may be recommended, that it be not so short as to make him appear fribblish, nor so long as to appear clownish; since, in the first instance it will cause an ugly wriggling effeminate motion, and, in the latter, an aukward projection of the body.

Note, A common pace is two feet and a half; though a sized man seldom gains that distance at each step in moderate walking.

ART. IV. *To preserve Equality of Pace.*

Equality of Pace consists not only in preserving an even motion and rate of marching with all those in the same rank, but in keeping at a proper distance

from all those who lead or go before; and in order to arrive at a proper degree of perfection in these points, the four following propositions with their explanations are strictly to be attended to.

P R O P. I.

If all the men in the same rank do not step together with a like foot, they will continually jostle and incommode each other.

Explanation.

To demonstrate the necessity for all the men in the same rank to step together with a like foot, that is, with the right or with the left at the same time, it will be proper first to shew the natural affection and bearing of the body in walking.

It may be observed, that as each foot is alternately upon the ground, the body will always incline to that side on which the foot is grounded, in order to have a perpendicular bearing on that foot for its support. Hence the motion of the body from side to side as a man walks, and hence the necessity that when two or more men stand close to each other in the same rank, and are to march or walk at an equal rate or pace, they do step with a like foot, in order that their bodies may all at once incline to the right or to the left, or move parallel with each other; and that each man may, by that means, have the more room for his bearing and marching uninterrupted; but were they to step with different feet, the case would be otherwise; they would then, by the opposite inclination of their bodies, and by the want of sufficient room to maintain a proper bearing, be continually jostling and incommoding each other.

Besides

Besides the advantage resulting from this method of marching with a like foot, there are two others no less momentary, which consist not only in the beauty and gracefulness of a rank, or division of men observing that movement, but in accustoming them betimes to a *unity of action*; a principle which ought ever to be maintained and inculcated, and never departed from.

Note, All marches, whether to the front or to the rear, are to be begun with the *left foot*. Whence the reason I know not; though most men, especially the right-handed, were they not informed of the contrary, would first step off with the right foot; but as it is a matter very immaterial in itself, whether a man begins his march with his right or his left foot, provided all the men in the same rank step together with a like foot; and as it has been a long established rule to begin always the march with the left foot, an alteration is of little consequence, and therefore I shall leave the point as I find it: but all marches by *files*, whether to the right or to the left, are to be begun with the foot next the *front*, because it is the most conspicuous, and nearest to view.

P R O P. II.

If one man's step is longer or shorter than another's, in the same rank with himself, it will occasion him to be either too far advanced, or too much retired, and consequently will make the rank to appear uneven in that part.

Explanation.

As among a number of men some will naturally step

longer or shorter than others, this inequality can no otherwise be remedied, or made less discernible, than by a strict attention of the men themselves to each other, and that of those who are to superintend them: but in order that each man may the sooner discover whether his steps differ from others, or others from himself, the application of the following maxim will immediately inform him.

If an object is so placed as to be in a line with two others, the whole will then be in one and the same direction.

Now, if a man is placed in a direction or line with two or more men, whether they be on his right or on his left, and all do stand alike erect, it is evident that the man next him will obstruct his view of him who is more remote; and this being reciprocally the case with respect to others, the rule then will be,

That as soon as ever a man shall discover by his own movement but just the beginning appearance of the second or third man from him, whether in rank or in file, he do instantly regulate his motions, so as to deprive himself of that view.

The application of the above maxim is extremely useful and requisite in the adjusting of all arrangements and directions of whatever extent, whether of files, tracing out an encampment, or forming a line of battle, &c. for if two objects are erected or given, a third can easily be placed in a line with them.

P R O P. III.

If all the men in the same rank do not march in a parallel direction with each other, they will occasion the rank, when it comes to halt, to be either too open or too much closed.

Expla-

Explanation.

This proposition is made evident by this maxim; “*That if right lines are not parallel, they will either converge or diverge.*” But to prevent the irregularity here pointed at, requires the greatest nicety and judgment; because a man must keep, not only in a parallel direction with those on his right and on his left, but he must keep the line, or direction of his march perpendicular to the line of his rank, that he may the better preserve, in this last instance, the ground of his division or battalion, and prevent its inclining too much to the right, or too much to the left. Now a single man may, with tolerable exactness, effect this by fixing his eye upon two objects in his front, which are in a line with himself, and perpendicular or nearly so to his rank; and then to keep them, as he marches towards them, constantly shut, or seemingly united, so as to prevent their opening to his view. But for a number of men, in the same rank, to do this is next to an impossibility; because of the vast improbability that the different objects, which each man pitches upon for his own direction, are parallel with those of other men, or are perpendicular to the line of his rank; and should those different directions be not parallel to each other, they must of course either converge or diverge.

Hence the cause of the frequent openings and closings of a division or battalion, when it marches from its ground. But as this irregularity will be less conspicuous by the error of one man, than that of many, I would therefore rather have a rank, division, or battalion, to be conducted by one careful man only,

only, than permit each man to be his own guide; and for which purpose, I would have such man or guide, to be placed at the centre of the front rank; in order, that all those on his right and left, by his being not more remote from them, may the easier dress and move with him; and then all, but the guide himself, will have nothing more to attend to, but to preserve a strait rank, and to keep at a due distance from each other.

P R O P. IV.

If the several succeeding divisions are too near, or too far asunder, this irregularity will cause the battalion, when it is formed, to appear in those parts, too open, or too much closed.

Explanation.

To prevent the several divisions from being too near, or too far asunder, will chiefly depend upon the judgment of the *flank men* of each division, in determining by observation the distance which their respective divisions should be at from the leading division to them: To effect which, I shall give the following rule:

That the distance from the front rank of the leading division, to that of the next succeeding division, be equal to the extent of the front rank of that succeeding division.

Why I give the preference to the flank men in determining the distance of the divisions from each other, is, because they can better judge of the extent of their
respective

respective rank, than those who are at or near the centre of it.

It may now be asked, first, Whether a body of men can all step together, with *like feet*, upon service, or in time of action? And next, if they cannot, wherefore then the necessity for that infinite pain and trouble, in making them practice so difficult a point?

To the first question I answer, that they cannot well observe it, on account of the great variety of ground they always must meet with, which frequently obstructs and obliges them to change their steps; and above all, on account of the various incidents and circumstances of time and place, which must divert their attention to more active and serious matters; and therefore, the points only fought after, on this occasion, are, the preservation of strait ranks, and due distances in them.

And to the next question, I likewise answer, that the advantages resulting from the practice of the foregoing rules, more than repays the pain and trouble of obliging men to step together, as it not only accustoms them to a *unity of action*, but it gives to the man himself, whether alone, or in a rank with others, not only a *graceful and manly appearance*, from which he can never after thoroughly depart, but it gives a reputation to the service, by shewing the degree of attention given to the discipline of it.

ART. V. *Of marching by Files.*

The word File, is an unlimited term, comprehending *any number* of men drawn up in a direct line behind

behind each other; as a *rank*, on the other hand, includes any number drawn up beside each other; whether, in either respect, they be at close or at open order. And he, who is placed in the front of any File, is called the *File-leader*, or the man who is to cover all those directly in the rear of him, and by whom they are to be guided in their movements.

Having thus defined the point on which I am to proceed, and as I shall take occasion farther on to make some observations on this article, and on the application of it, I shall here only touch upon the manner of its operation, and the necessary steps preparatory to it.

Let the rank then of recruits be told off or divided, for the first time, into three parts or divisions. The first, or right-hand division, is to form the front rank; the second, or centre division, is to make the rear rank; and the third, or left-hand division, is to be the centre rank.

Each rank is to be drawn up at four paces, or ten feet distance from the other; that is, the centre rank is to be four paces distant from the front rank; and the rear rank, to be the same distance from the centre; and this I call *whole distance*.

Each front rank man now becomes the *File-leader* to those men of the other two ranks, directly in his rear, whom he is to *cover*; and in such a manner, that the line of the File may stand at right angles with the line of the rank, or so, that if an indifferent person was placed in the front in the same File line of direction continued, he could not possibly see the men of the rear ranks, his view being interrupted by him of the front rank. To effect which, the Corporal is to begin on the right, making the right-hand man of each

each

each rank to compose the first or right File, or so as to make those men of the centre and rear ranks to stand directly behind him of the front rank: then the second man of each rank is likewise to make the second File; and so on from right to left till all the Files are completed.

But as it often happens, that out of the number of men present three equal ranks or divisions cannot be truly formed, but that there will remain, after such division is made, one or two odd men; then such odd men are to be distributed in the following manner: If only one man, the front rank in preference is to have him; but should there be two odd men, then the front rank is to have one, and the rear rank the other. The intent of which is, that no opening may appear in those places; especially in the front rank, as that is ever, and on all occasions, to be kept intire and compact.

The Files being thus completed, and the odd men so disposed of, the Corporal is then to proceed and give the following words of command.

I. *By Files, Face to the Right.* One Motion.

Direction.

See Chap. II. Sect. IV. *Word of Command I.*

Note; Now it is to be observed, that before the men had faced, that which was then a Rank is now become an intire File; as each man stands behind, or is in the rear of him who leads or is before him. And on the other hand, that that which was at first a File is now a Rank, as such men now stand beside

each other, and according to the depth they had been originally drawn up at; and in this light, the whole is now to consider themselves.

II. *March.*

Direction.

The whole is to step off together, and to begin the March with the foot next the front. In marching, each man is carefully to maintain his limited distance from those who go before and are beside him; and in order that he may the better preserve a straight line both in his *rank* and *file*, he is never to let himself see the second or third man from him.

III. *Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast, placing their feet square and in proper order.

IV. *Front.*

Direction.

The whole is to face to the Front upon the left heel, bringing up the right foot to proper order.

V. *By Files Face to the Left. One Motion.*

Direction.

See Chap. II. Sect. IV. *Word of Command IV.*

VI. *March.**Direction.*

See the second *Word of Command* of this article.

VII. *Halt.**Direction.*

See the third *Word of Command* of this article.

VIII. *Front.* One Motion.*Direction.*

The whole is to face to the Front upon the left heel, falling back with the right foot to proper order.

ART. VI. *Of Oblique Marching.*

When a place or station to which your division is to march stands not directly before you, but obliquely from you, in front, either towards your right or towards your left; then, instead of approaching it by the tedious and square method of right-angled marching, and the wheelings suitable to that form, you are, by a shorter way and in a more expeditious manner, to advance to it in the oblique direction it happens to bear from you; and this is called *oblique marching*. To accomplish which, there are two ways to perform it; and either is chosen, as the place happens to be nearer or farther from you; and for instance,

Suppose you are to draw up in Line, on the right of a division or body of men just directly before you. To effect which, instead of stepping directly forward with the right foot, the man is to step obliquely forward to the right; and on his stepping next with his left foot, he is to ground it directly before his right heel; and so on alternately, till the distance required is obtained. And on the other hand, should the division be directed to march obliquely to the left; then the left foot is likewise to step forward to the left, placing at the next step the right foot directly before the left heel, and so on in reciprocal succession. As to the degree of obliquity of each step, there can be no fixed rule laid down for it, since that must be determined according as the place you are to move to stands more or less obliquely from you; but a little practice will soon bring men to regulate their steps suitable to the occasion.

But when the place to which you are to go happens to be at some considerable distance from you, then you are to make at first so much of a *wheel* as will bring the front of your division to stand at right angles with the direction of the object to which you are to advance; and afterwards nothing more will remain, but for the division to make again just so much of another short wheel the contrary way when it arrives at the place of its destination, which will bring it parallel to the *line* it is to join or fall into.

S E C T. VI. *To Wheel.*

Wheeling is a species of *Facing*; the latter respecting individuals; the former a body of men drawn up, either in a single rank, or in a division composed of several

veral ranks ; each having for its revolution the same divisions of the circle as the other, and consequently the same number of words of command ; but instead of saying, as in the *Facings*, face to the right, &c. you are to say in the *Wheelings*, Division, wheel to the right, &c. See Sect. IV. of this Chapter.

ART. I. To *Wheel by single Rank.*

In Wheeling by single rank, the whole rank revolves on the flank point it wheels on, like the sweep of a pair of compasses with one leg fixed, or like a door or a gate turning upon its hinge ; that is, if the rank wheels to the right, it revolves on the right heel of the man who is on the right of the same rank, and likewise the contrary. Hence it is evident, that the nearer any man is to the heel on which the rank wheels, the less will be the space which he describes in his revolution ; and of course his steps must accordingly be longer or shorter, as that space is nearer or farther from the heel or point on which he wheels ; in order that he may by that means make the requisite revolution at the same juncture with all those in the same rank with him. This being understood, no other intimation will then be necessary, but to preserve a straight rank, and to oblige the men to step together, and to keep at a due distance, so as only just to touch or feel each other with their right hands, which will be sufficient to prevent their flying out or closing too near to each other.

This rule differs a little from the present practice, by which the men are directed to incline to the flank they wheel on, or to keep *close* shoulder to shoulder, in order to bring each other the better about. But
this

this method I disapprove, having observed, that it not only always occasions a crowded rank, by making the men to close too much, but it besides causes the intervals between the divisions to be too open when the line comes to be formed.

ART. II. *To wheel by ranks in Division.*

As the men have been in the last article formed into a single rank, they are now to be formed into a body consisting of three ranks; and in order to which, the single rank, in which they are at present, is to be told off in three divisions, as is directed in Sect. V. Art. V. of this chapter. But that this operation may be performed in a more methodical or military way, the centre and left divisions, are first to countermarch, or to change ground with each other; and then the whole is to be formed into three ranks, according to the following words of command.

I. *Left and centre Divisions, face to the Right and Left.*

Direction.

The centre division is to face to the left upon the left heel, bringing up the right foot; and the left division is to face to the right upon the same heel, falling back with the right foot.

II. *March.*

II. *March.**Direction.*

Each division is to step off with the foot next to the front, and to march strait forward; the centre division marching in the front of that on the left.

III. *Halt.**Direction.*

This word of command is to be given on the divisions having arrived at each others former ground; and in order that each man may then place himself at his due distance from him who leads or goes before.

IV. *Front.**Direction.*

The new centre division, as it now stands, is to face to the Left on the left heel, bringing up the right foot; and the new left division is to face to the right on the left heel, falling back with the right foot; and then the whole is to dress as a rank-intire.

V. *To the right wheel, and form your Ranks.*
*March.**Direction.*

Each of the three divisions is as they now stand, in single rank, to wheel a quadrant, which will bring them

them parallel to each other; beyond which ground, the men are not to advance, though they are to continue the step motion with their feet, till they are ordered to halt.

VI. *Halt.*

Direction.

The whole three ranks, viz. the Front, Centre, and Rear, are to stand fast; planting their feet at proper distances, and in a line with each other.

VII. *Rear ranks, take whole distance. March.*

Direction.

The distance that the ranks are to be from each other, being previously marked out; as is directed in Sect. V. Art. V. of this chapter; the men of the rear ranks are to march to that ground, or rather to be formed upon it. Then the files are to be completed, and the ranks dressed, directing each man to observe and remember well his file leader, and his right and left hand men; that in case they should afterwards be broke or dispersed, they might the more readily form of themselves, by each man knowing his station, and falling at once into his proper place.

VIII. *Rear ranks close to half distance. March.*

Direction.

The centre rank is to march two paces, and the rear rank four; each rank stepping off at the same time with the left feet.

IX. *Rear*

IX. *Rear ranks close to quarter distance.
March.*

Direction.

The centre rank is to march one pace, and the rear rank two; which is called *close order*.

The men being thus formed into *close order*, and made to wheel, the whole body may then be compared to a solid parallelogram, or to a book, revolving upon one of its front angles, which by its solidity, brings round with it all its sides and angles, according to the figure it is in. Now, as the wheeling of a division or a body of men, consisting of two or more ranks, differs in nothing from the wheeling of a single rank, but in the bringing round of its rear ranks with it; and as the rear ranks cannot revolve on a point, as the front rank does, consequently the men of those ranks must occasionally incline to the right or to the left, in order to preserve their figure, and to maintain the true direction of their respective files; that is, if the division wheel to the right, the men of the rear ranks incline to the left; and if it should wheel to the left, they likewise incline to the right, in order to come about, in either instance, with the men of the front rank; and according to their figure, in a close and compact form and order: but as a division has often occasion to wheel as well upon one of its rear angles as its front, the corporal is for that purpose, and after he has made his men perfect in wheeling upon each of the front angles, to order the division to the right about, and then perfect it likewise in wheeling upon each of the rear angles, or he may perfect the whole as well or

rather better, by making each rear rank alternately, a front rank.

ART. III. *To wheel in time.*

When a battalion is marching by divisions in column, and there should be occasion to form the *line* at once, nothing is then more unfightly, or proclaims more the want of proper instruction, than to see the several divisions wheel so irregular, as not to shut in, or come up all at once to their ground.

To avoid so unbecoming an appearance, no other rule is requisite, but a strict attention in each succeeding division to its leading division, so as to keep at a due distance from it, and to time well its wheel with it.

C H A P. III.

*The Duty of the Serjeant.*S E C T. I. *Instructions.*

I. **T**HE same caution which I have given the Corporal, I shall here again repeat to the Serjeant, viz. *That he make perfect as he proceeds*; and in order to which he must not only dwell long on the same thing, but make it his constant business to recur frequently to it.

II. Upon having the recruits delivered over to him from the corporal, should he, on examination, find any of them imperfect in those points of the exercise which the corporal had charge to instruct them in, he is then not only to remand such recruit to the corporal for the better information, but he is to make a report of that defect to his commanding officer; and this he is to do in his own defence, for should he connive at such a proceeding, the discovery of the fault, and the censure arising from it, will not then be levied at the corporal, but at himself, it being his duty to superintend and report such matters.

III. He is to have a corporal under him as an assistant, who is, according to the different words of command, to perform the several motions of the exercise for the better direction and imitation of the recruits.

IV. He is to divide the time of exercise into such portions as will not over-fatigue the recruits by their being kept too long under arms.

V. He is to be very strict in having himself punctually obeyed, and upon all occasions to appear so jealous of his own consequence, as not to suffer the least

freedom to be taken with him by those under his command.

VI. He is to draw up his recruits in a single rank, placing them according to their different heights in succession from right to left : viz. the tallest on the right, the shortest on the left. See Chap. II. Sect. III. And when they come afterwards to be drawn up *three deep*, the same rule for sizing the men in the different ranks is likewise to be observed, viz. the tallest men in the front rank ; the next tallest in the rear rank ; and the shortest in the centre. See Chap. II. Sect. IV. Art. II.

There are three essential reasons for thus sizing the men in the different ranks. The first is, for appearance sake, as it makes the men of each rank to seem all of an equal height. The next is, that by placing the tallest men in the front rank, those in the rear, being of a less height, may the better be covered from the fire of the enemy. And the last is, that by having those of the next greater size in the rear rank, they may there, with more convenience and less obstruction, deliver their fire over those of a less height in the centre rank, as these last do over the front rank when it kneels.

This method of sizing the men in the different ranks is certainly the best for the good appearance of a *single company*, when not joined or connected with other companies ; but it evidently makes a *battalion* appear to great disadvantage, for as the shortest man of each rank is by this means placed on the left of the same, and there joined to the tallest in that of the next company to him, the difference of height then between those two men is frequently so great, as to make a very visible and disagreeable appearance. To prevent

prevent which, I would recommend to have the tallest man of each rank in every company placed on the right of its *centre*; the next tallest to him on his left; and the next in turn on his right; and so on alternately from right to left, till the rank be completed: by which means, no striking difference of height will then appear between the right-hand man of one company, and the left-hand man in the same rank of the adjoining company to him; and consequently as the different heights of the men are thus concealed, *each rank* of the battalion will then appear as if all the men were of an equal height.

VII. In drawing up the Recruits, he is to give or allow to each man the space or room of two feet and an half, or one pace; that is, that the distance from the centre of one man's body to that of the next to him may measure so much.

Why I make choice of this distance, preferable to any other, is for the following reasons; first, because the generality of men do measure about two feet from outside to outside of both arms, when the hands hang easy down by the body; and next to make an allowance for the projection of the pouch, and for the sweep or circle which the body will describe, when it has occasion to turn to the right or to the left, which will require at least six inches more room, otherwise the men will, for want of it, eternally jostle and incommode each other in their revolutions.

VIII. In drawing up the Recruits, he is, if he can contrive it, to place them in such a situation, that the sun or wind may be upon either flank; by which means, they, as well as himself, will be the better enabled to observe each other.

IX. He is every morning, previous to the time of exercise, to examine well the state and condition of the arms and accoutrements of each Recruit ; to the intent, that whatever is out of order may be immediately repaired and adjusted, and that nothing may impede the exercise, or obstruct the business of the day ; and this examination is the more requisite, as it accustoms young Soldiers *betimes* to a proper care and attention of those articles.

X. He is likewise to see that each Recruit be properly and well dressed, that the several species of his cloathing be clean and well put on, and that nothing is wanting and out of repair.

XI. He is to see that the Accoutrements be properly put on and worn ; that is, that each pouch do hang on the right side of the body, and placed so convenient, that whatever is wanted out of it may be easily come at, otherwise should the pouch hang too high, too low, or too far behind, it will occasion an awkward twisting or motion of the body to come at the contents : and he is withal to take particular care that all the pouches of the same rank do hang at equal heights, and in like places, which will give a pleasing appearance of uniformity to the whole Rank.

XII. He is also to observe that the Bayonet-belt be well wore ; that is, that it be buckled round the waist, and above the hips, and, in particular, that the Bayonet does hang well and convenient, and nearly perpendicular, so that the handle may be placed between the left hip and centre of the body ; and in such a manner that the point of it may just appear without the left thigh, by which means the Recruit will neither be obstructed by the handle when he stoops or leans forward, nor will he be interrupted by
the

the sticking out of the point when he comes occasionally to turn himself.

XIII. He is next to make the Recruits to stand in *proper order*, as is shewn in Chap. II. Sect. III. Art. I.

XIV. He is then to show them how to *shoulder* their Firelocks, or to *carry well their arms*, and in order to which, the Firelock is to be placed upon the left shoulder, and held at the extremity of the but in the palm of the left hand; so that the hand may be under the but, and the tops of the fingers appear on the inside, while the thumb remains on the outside, extended in a line with the edge of the but-plate: the upper part of the guard is to come so low as to be placed a little under the left breast: the firelock is to rest upon that part of the hollow of the shoulder, between the tip and the upper part of the breast, where it is to be held very firm against the body, and so as not to cross the direction of it; the right arm is to hang at the same time in an easy and natural posture down by the side, so that if it was put in motion like a pendulum, it would seek rest in no other position.

Why I prefer this position of the Firelock to any other is for the following reasons. First, that it affords to the Soldier a greater degree of ease, because it leaves the upper part of the left arm in a state of rest by its hanging perpendicular, and by that means it is better enabled to support the weight of the Firelock, and to keep it more steady upon the shoulder than it could possibly do were it to hang in any other direction. Next, that by the Firelock being held as above, it not only acquires a good rest upon the shoulder, which of course supports it the firmer; but the barrel receives by it such a sufficient slope, as not only to prevent it
from

from easily falling off, which it would be apt to do were it held more perpendicular, but from annoying those in the rear were it more sloped.

XV. He is next to take his *post of Exercise*, at a convenient distance in the front of his recruits, and opposite to their centre, placing himself in such a situation, that his distance from either flank may be equal to the extent of the rank of recruits, which will describe an equilateral triangle.

Why I pitch upon this distance for the *post of Exercise*, is for this reason. It is observed, that the greatest distinct view, which we can have of any extensive object, parallel to our own position, is comprehended under an angle of sixty degrees, therefore, if the post of Exercise, was nearer than the above distance, the angle of observation must be so much the greater, which would prevent both flanks from being conveniently embraced at one view: and if the distance was greater, though it would more facilitate and perfect the view, by the angle being less, yet it would cause a greater exertion of the voice, which may not be so convenient, besides the awkwardness of being at a greater distance than necessary. On these considerations, I have limited the post of Exercise, which will be sufficient for any front, not exceeding the extent of a battalion, either for observation, or for the advantage of a tolerable good voice.

XVI. He is next to settle and limit the duration of time to be observed between each motion of the exercise; in the doing of which, two points must be guarded against, which are extremes in themselves, the one is, that the time be not so short, as to occasion confusion and inaccuracy in the motions by too
great

great a hurry; and the other is, that it be not so long as to cause irregularity by a miscomputation of it in different minds.

From a consideration of those two extremes, will arise the necessity for that rule or medium which may prevent the first, and correct the last: The rule then, which I shall offer, is no other, but that already prescribed by General Bland, viz. *That the space between each motion, be about a second of time, or while a man can distinctly count to himself, one, two.*

This time will be found to be a sufficient pause to distinguish well each motion and its performance, which is all that is wanted in the first instance, and by its being so short, it will so effectually lessen and conceal any irregularity in the last, arising from a misjudgement of time, as to give the appearance of unanimity to each motion, and not only this, but a still greater advantage will accrue, which is, that it will help to accustom the men betimes to briskness and dispatch, *the soul of action*, and consequently it will teach them to explode whatever is tedious, dilatory and unnecessary.

XVII. The Serjeant having prescribed the time which is to be observed between each motion, he is then to give directions, that each motion be performed with vivacity and correctness, but in such a manner as to be void of every buffoonish flourish and gesticulation, which may render it to common sense, or to a judicious eye, a matter of ridicule.

XVIII. He is next to appoint a post or station for his corporal; for which purpose, he is to place him occasionally opposite to the extreme of either flank, and in that point of view where each recruit may easi-

ly observe and see him, and where he himself may have an eye upon him in order to direct him as he shall think fit.

XIX. He is to provide himself with a cane or stick, which he is to carry in his hand as an emblem of his authority; and in order that it may serve to assist him in shewing his men by it, how to perform the several motions of the exercise.

XX. Matters being thus prepared, he is then to order a profound silence and attention, and to give the following words of command in a deliberate and distinct tone of voice, laying the emphasis as much as possible, upon the last word, and withal he is to let his instructions be clear and articulate, and delivered according to the directions annexed to each word of command.

S E C T. II. *The Parade Exercise.*

I. *Take Care.*

Direction.

At this precaution the Serjeant is to see, that a profound silence be instantly observed by all the recruits, that their attention be fixed, which they are to signify by immediately turning their faces to the corporal, whose motions and attitudes are to serve them for their guide and imitation.

II, *Recover*

II. *Recover your Firelocks.* Two Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Seize the Firelock with the right hand just under the guard, so as that the fore-finger does touch it, and turn up the lock briskly at the same time with the left hand, without altering the direction of the barrel.

Second Motion.

Raise the firelock off the left shoulder with the right hand, and, without inclining or moving the head, quit the but-end with the left hand, and bring the firelock round to the right side with a rapid motion, turning the barrel inwards to the body, and then seize it instantly with the left hand above the lock, so that the little finger may nearly touch the hammer spring, letting the thumb lie pointed upwards, close to the barrel along the stock; the barrel is to be held perpendicular, and so high, that the lower part of the left arm may be kept level and parallel to the body, and of an equal height with the neck, and in such a manner, that the chin may just appear above it; the upper part of the right arm is also to be kept level, and no part of the firelock is to touch the body.

By the recover being thus made on the right side, it affords a considerable advantage to the man, and

in so much, that it enables him to see clearly whatever is before him, which could not possibly be the case were the recover to be made in a direct opposition to his face.

III. *Rest your Firelocks.* One Motion.

Direction.

Bring the firelock briskly down with both hands, sinking it so low, that the cock might be a little higher than the right hip, or that it may be held in such a position, as will admit the lower part of the left arm to remain level: On bringing the firelock down, the right toe is to be turned out at the same time, an half more than it was before, and without altering the due front of the body, placing withal, the right thumb upon the cock, and the fore-finger upon the trigger. From the cock downwards, the firelock is to be held firm against the body and right thigh, which will give the barrel a small outward slope. The muzzle is to be held directly to the front, and without inclining either to the right or to the left; and the left thumb is to be held firm against the stock, as directed in the second motion of the last word of command, pointing upwards, and in a line with it.

This attitude is intended for a posture of defence, and differs but little from that of presented arms, as will be shewn farther on.

IV. *Order*

IV. *Order your Firelocks.* Three Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Bring the firelock to the right side of the body with a brisk motion, and without sinking it; let the upper part of the barrel come against the hollow of the shoulder, flipping up the left hand at the same time along the stock, as high as the tip of the shoulder, and then seize the firelock with it, and hold the barrel in that position firm and perpendicular.

Second Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand, and sink it with the left, as far as it will go on the right side, without bringing it in on the body, seizing the firelock at the same time with the right hand near the muzzle, so that the top of the thumb, may be as high as the end of the stock, and extended along the outside of it, close to the barrel.

Third Motion.

Quit the firelock with the left hand, letting that hand fall easily down by the left side, and at the same time turn in the right toe to its former place, and plant the butt with a brisk motion upon the ground, close on the outside of the right foot, and in a line with both toes, holding the barrel perpendicular, and the stock to the front.

V. *Ground*

V. *Ground your Firelocks.* Four Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Turn first the barrel briskly to you with the right hand, and at the same time turn the right toe so as to place it behind the butt and close to it, letting the body withal make an half-face to the right.

Second Motion.

Slip down the right hand along the firelock as far as it will go without inclining the body, and step out at the same time a moderate pace with the left foot; bend the left knee, and lay the firelock with the lock uppermost upon the ground, placing the inside of the right knee upon the lock, and the barrel pointing directly to the front; in doing of which the face is to be kept erect, in order the better to observe the motion of the guide or the corporal, letting withal the left hand hang easy down by the left thigh.

Third Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand; bring up the left foot to its former ground and stand upright, making an half-face with the body to the right; both hands are to hang easy down, only that the right is to be kept open with the fingers distended, and the palm to the front.

Fourth

Fourth Motion.

Turn in the right toe over the butt to its former position; and turn in also, at the same time, the palm of the right hand to the thigh, and make withal a full front with the body.

The *grounding* of arms is an operation, to which, in one instance, I am by no means reconciled; I mean the use it is applied to on guard; for if the weather is dry, it cracks and spoils the stocks, and if it be damp it rusts the barrels and locks; and what is still of greater consequence, if a guard happens to be kept in a disaffected place, the arms being thus imprudently laid out and exposed, afford the most convenient opportunity that can be wished for to a few men properly armed, to seize upon the whole, and convert them to whatever uses they shall think fit; and hence my reason for wishing that the practice of *grounding the firelocks* upon guard was totally rejected and abolished.

VI. *Take up your Firelocks.* Four Motions.

Note, As the performance of this operation, with that of the two following words of command, is only the reverse of what went before, but the motions the same, I shall therefore be the less particular in my directions, a reference being duly sufficient for the purpose.

Direction.

First Motion.

Place the right toe, as before, close behind the butt, and turn out also the palm of the right hand, making

making withal an half-face to the right at the same time.

Second Motion.

Step out with the left foot, bend the left knee, and let the left hand hang easy down by the left thigh; lay the right knee upon the lock, and take hold of the firelock with the right hand a little above the last rammer pipe.

Third Motion.

Rise briskly with the firelock, step back with the left foot to its former position, stand erect, and make an half-face to the right at the same time.

Fourth Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand, and with a quick motion seize it again with the same hand near the muzzle; turn in the right toe to the inside of the butt, make a full front with your body, and hold the barrel perpendicular.

VII. *Rest your Firelocks.* Three Motions.

Direction.

First Motion.

Slip down the right hand along the barrel, as far as it will go, without inclining your body, and there hold the firelock between the thumb and fore-finger, the thumb being inwards, and each pointing downwards along the stock.

Second

Second Motion.

Raise the firelock with the right hand so high, that the cock may be a little higher than the hip, and seize the firelock with the left at the same time, a little above the hammer spring.

Third Motion,

Quit the firelock with the right hand, and seize it with the same close under the guard, placing the thumb upon the cock, and the forefinger upon the trigger.

VIII. *Shoulder your Firelocks.* Two Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Quit the firelock with the left hand, and with the right bring it round to the left side, with a rapid motion, placing the butt-end at the same instant, in the palm of the left hand, with the firelock upon the left shoulder, in a proper position. (See Sect. I. Instruction XIV of this Chapter.) In bringing the firelock round to the left, the right toe is to be turned into its proper position, the right thumb and forefinger are to be taken off the cock and trigger, giving the firelock at the same time, such a turn in the right hand, as that the barrel may be brought to the front, letting the thumb be pointed upwards upon the screw plate opposite the lock.

Second Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand, and let it fall easily down by the right side.

IX. *Secure your Firelocks.* Three Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Seize the firelock with the right hand at the scutcheon plate; so that the fore finger may touch the lower part of the guard, letting the nuckles be to the front, with the thumb placed upright on the inside of the stock. The firelock is in that manner to be held firm to the body, and without altering in the least the position of it.

Second Motion.

Quit the butt with the left hand, and seize the firelock at the same time, with the same hand, at the tip of the left shoulder, so as that the little finger may just touch the top of the shoulder; the nuckles are to be placed in the front, and the thumb extended on the outside along the stock, and close to the barrel.

Third Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand, and turn the butt, at the same instant, with a quick motion of the left hand under the left arm, letting the muzzle drop forward

forward, which will occasion the barrel to be underneath, or the rammer to be uppermost: the right hand is to hang easy down by the right side; the upper part of the left arm, is to be kept in a perpendicular direction; and the firelock is to rest a little upon the left hip, where it is to be pressed close to the side by the arm, and held firm to the body.

X. *Shoulder your Firelocks.* Three Motions,

Note. This operation being exactly the same in all its motions, as that of the last word of command, only being reversely performed, I shall therefore be the less precise in my direction, as a reference will be sufficient for the purpose.

Direction.

First Motion.

Bring up the firelock with the left hand, and place it as before upon the left shoulder; and at the same time seize it with the right hand at the scutcheon plate.

Second Motion.

Quit the firelock with the left hand, and instantly after seize it with the same hand under the butt.

Third Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand, letting it fall briskly down by the right side.

XI. *Fix your Bayonets.* Seven Motions.*Direction.*

First and Second Motions,

Handle the firelock as is directed in the first and second motions of the ninth word of command.

Third Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand, and let it fall down in the left hand as far as it will go on the left side, turning the thumb inwards, and the barrel downwards, at the same time; make withal an half face to the left, on the left heel, and seize the firelock at that instant with the right hand at the end of the stock near the muzzle, so as that the thumb may bear against the end of the stock at the inside, while the fingers are placed on the outside; the left arm is to hang perpendicular; the barrel is to be held firm against the left thigh; and without letting it incline either to the right or to the left, the lower part of the right arm is to be kept level, so as to make a right angle with the upper part, which will determine the slope of the barrel, and the distance of the muzzle from the face: and in order to make the requisite half face to the left, the left toe is to be turned about an half more to the left; bringing up at the same time the right foot and to place it so as to make it stand at right angles with the left, letting the right heel be opposite to the centre of the left foot; and at the distance of about seven inches from it.

Fourth

Fourth Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand, and with it feize the handle of the bayonet, so that the thumb may be placed upon the shank of it.

Fifth Motion.

Draw the bayonet with a quick motion, and place the socket of it, directly over the muzzle of the firelock, holding the blade in a direction with the barrel.

Sixth Motion.

Enter the muzzle into the socket of the bayonet, so that the sight upon the end of the barrel, may freely enter the groove of the socket; then thrust down the bayonet upon it, and turn the blade to the left, and afterwards give the bayonet another thrust downwards to fix it.

Seventh Motion.

Quit the handle of the bayonet with the right hand, and feize the firelock with it, as above directed in the third motion, at the end of the stock near the muzzle.

XII. *Shoulder your Firelocks.* Three Motions.

Direction.

First Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand ; fall back with the right foot to a full front, and turn the left toe to its former position. Place the firelock at the same time upon the left shoulder with the left hand, and seize the firelock with the right hand at the scutcheon plate, as is directed in the first motion of the tenth word of command.

Second and Third Motions.

See the second and third motions of the tenth word of command.

XIII. *Present your Arms.* Three Motions.

Direction.

Note, The performance of this operation, is exactly the same as that directed in the second and third words of command, but with this small difference, that the right thumb is not to be placed upon the cock, nor the fore-finger upon the trigger ; this attitude being intended for nothing more than the ceremony or form of a salute.

XIV. *Face*

XIV. *Face to the Right.* Three Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Bring up the firelock to the position of a *recover*, as is directed in the second motion of the second word of command, turning in the right toe to its former position at the same time.

Second Motion.

Turn to the right upon the left heel, with a spring or brisk motion of the body, so as to make a full face to the right, placing the right foot as before at its proper distance from the left.

Third Motion.

Bring down the firelock with both hands to the attitude of *present your arms*, as is directed in the last word of command.

XV. *Face to the Right.* Three Motions.*Direction.*

Note, This operation is performed in the same way as that of the last word of command.

XVI. *Face*

XVI. *Face to the Right about.* Three Motions.*Direction.*

Note, This operation is exactly the same as that of the last, but with this small difference, that as a femicircle is now to be described, a greater spring of the body, is the more requisite to perform it.

XVII. *Face to the Left.* Three Motions.*Direction.*

Note, This with the two following words of command, differ no ways in their operations from the three preceding ones, but in this, that the right foot is now to be brought up, instead of falling back with it as before; the revolution to the left, upon the left heel, and the divisions of the circle being equally the same, and therefore require no further directions.

XVIII. *Face to the Left.* Three Motions.XIX. *Face to the Left about.* Three Motions.

Why I prefer the above method of *Facing* upon one heel, to that of performing it upon both heels, as is now practised, is for this reason; that when swords were in use with the infantry, the obstructions which they always occasioned in the above revolutions, by the points sticking out from the mens sides, frequently incommoded the men of the same rank so
much

much, as to cause them to jostle and interrupt each other, which often removed them from the centre point of their revolution, and of course altered their due distances from one another; and therefore it was then held necessary, in order to remedy and avoid those inconveniencies, to oblige each man to perform his revolutions upon both heels at once, as being a more firm position, though in the doing of which, a greater number of motions should be necessary, and consequently would take up more time, than if the revolutions were simply to be performed upon one heel; but swords being now laid aside, and as a man can turn sufficiently firm and steady upon one heel, by the spring or velocity of his revolution, I therefore choose, as well for the sake of saving time, as to avoid every unnecessary motion, to adopt the former method of turning or facing upon one heel, instead of performing it now upon both, as is now practised.

XX. *Shoulder your Firelocks.* Two Motions.

Direction.

See the eighth word of command.

XXI. *Charge your Bayonets.* Three Motions.

Direction.

First and Second Motions.

Come to a *recover* as is directed in the second word of command.

L

Third

Third Motion.

Spring back with the right foot, placing the centre of it close behind the heel of the left; turn the left toe at the same time directly to the front, so that each foot may, in that position, stand at right angles with the other, or formed like the letter T; quit the firelock with the right hand at the same instant, giving it such a turn in the left without sinking it, that the muzzle may fall directly forward, and that the firelock may then rest upon the left elbow, and be in a line with the lower part of that arm, and withal seize the end of the butt in the palm of the right hand, so that the tops of the fingers may appear on the outside, while the thumb is placed on the inside and pointed upwards; the man is to look forwards, and to keep his face full to the front; the barrel is to lie level, and the firelock is to be held breast high, and supported between the forefinger and thumb of the left hand, which are to be pointed towards the butt, along each side of the stock, so that the end of the fore finger may come almost close to the hammer spring.

XXII. *Push your Bayonets.* Two Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Look well to the front, push briskly forward the firelock with both hands, stepping out with the left foot,

foot, and placing at the same time the end of the butt against the left breast; the barrel is to be kept level in the push, and the step is to be the length of a pace, or two feet and a half, that the Soldier may afterwards the more easily, and with greater command recover himself. In this position, the left knee is to be a little bent, in order to bring the body more forward, and that the push may annoy at a greater distance, keeping withal the right knee firm and straight, to the intent of fortifying the body against any repulsive force the bayonet may meet with.

Second Motion.

Bring home the firelock to a *charge*, stepping back with the left foot to its former position.

Note, This last motion does more properly belong to the following word of command, but it is here introduced in order to prevent a violence of pain to the left arm, which it would otherwise occasion, were it for so long a while distended, as the space of time common between two words of command.

XXIII. Recover your Bayonets. One Motion.

Direction.

Quit the butt-end with the right hand, and at that instant seize the firelock with the same hand at the scutcheon plate, bring up the right foot, and coming to a *recover* as before.

XXIV. *Shoulder your Firelocks.* Two Motions.*Direction.*

See the eighth word of command.

XXV. *Advance your Firelocks.* Three Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Seize the firelock with the right hand, as is directed in the first motion of the ninth word of command.

Second Motion.

Quit the butt end with the left hand, and at that instant lay hold of the cock with the same hand, in such a manner, that the little finger may be placed under it, and close to the breech, letting the cock be held fast in the hand.

Third Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand, and then let the firelock fall directly down by the left side, as far as it will go in the left hand.

The advantage of this position is in my opinion, considerably preferable to our present method of holding the firelock in the right hand, and for the following reasons. First, that by its being held in the
left

left hand, the right, which in general, is the most active, is left at liberty, and must therefore be more graceful, as well as more advantageous to the man himself. Next, it gives no sort of uneasiness in carrying it, because the man's arm hang straight and perpendicular, and therefore more capable of bearing the weight of the firelock; nor are his fingers in this position so much cramped as in the other, by the constrained awkwardness of holding it. And lastly, I prefer this position for a particular use and convenience, when the line is ordered to advance and charge, which I shall explain farther on.

XXVI. *Shoulder your Firelocks.* Three Motions.

Direction.

First Motion.

Raise the firelock with the left hand, so high upon the left shoulder, as to place the upper part of the guard under the left breast, and then seize it with the right hand, as is directed in the first motion of the ninth word of command.

Second and Third Motions.

See the second and third motions of the tenth word of command.

XXVII. *Return*

XXVII. *Return your Bayonets.* Six Motions.*Direction.*

First, Second, and Third Motions.

See the first, second, and third motions of the eleventh word of command.

Fourth Motion.

Strike up the bayonet under the shank with a quick motion of the right hand, so as to clear the sight from the groove it lies in; then turn the bayonet to the right, and flip it off the muzzle, holding the blade perpendicular, and letting the upper part of the handle be as high as the muzzle, and a little to the right of it, and in a line with it.

Fifth Motion.

Enter the point of the bayonet into the scabbard, and thrust it home.

Sixth Motion.

Quit the handle of the bayonet, and then seize the firelock at the end of the stock near the muzzle, as is directed in the seventh motion of the eleventh word of command.

XXVIII. *Shoulder*

XXVIII. *Shoulder your Firelocks.* Three
Motions.

Direction.

See the twelfth word of command.

XXIX. *Support your Firelocks.* Three
Motions.

Direction.

First Motion.

Seize the firelock with the right hand, as is directed in the first motion of the ninth word of command.

Second Motion.

Quit the butt end with the left hand, and place the centre of the lower part of the left arm directly under the cock, so that the cock may rest upon it; in this position the firelock is to be held firm to the body by the left arm, and without altering the slope of the barrel.

Third Motion.

Quit the firelock with the right hand, letting the hand fall down by the right side.

XXX. *Handle*

XXX. *Handle your Firelocks.* Three Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Seize the firelock with the right hand, as is directed in the first motion of the ninth word of command.

Second, and Third Motions.

Handle the firelock as is directed in the second and third motions of the tenth word of command.

S E C T. III. *The Field Exercise.**Take Care to Prime and Load.*

AT this Precaution, the Serjeant is to see that his men, who are still to remain drawn up in a *single rank*, do carry well their arms, that they stand in proper order, and at equal distances from each other; and that their bodies be kept upright, their faces erect, and their attention well fixed.

As there is no one part of the exercise of greater moment than that of properly *priming and loading*, so there is none that requires more true care and exactness; and though this is universally admitted, yet it too often happens, that through too great a solicitude of making soldiers appear expert and quick in this performance, they are rather taught to represent the thing than to do it well. This being but too much the practice, it is therefore no uncommon circumstance to observe when soldiers are loading, that by the
hurry

hurry and inaccuracy of their motions, a considerable part of the powder is either spilt, or so badly emptied out of the cartridge, as either to weaken the proper force of the charge, or to prevent it from taking fire : besides which, there is that of ramming down the cartridge, which is too frequently performed in so slight a manner, that the cartridge is either left to stick in the barrel at some distance from the chamber, or to lie so loose and unsettled at the bottom of it, that the resistance given to the explosion of the first powder that takes fire is so very small, that a great part of the remaining powder is blown out of the barrel, before it can be consumed in fire. The ill consequence of which need not be pointed out, it being so evident in itself, and so easily comprehended ; but the advantage arising from the cartridge being well rammed home is in nothing so demonstrable, as in that of a screw-barrel gun, when the ball being well confined, or similarly well rammed home, though its charge of powder is not in quantity the tenth of what is contained in a common cartridge, yet it shall throw its ball to the full as far as any firelock can with a full charge, and for no other reason, but that the whole of the powder in the screw barrel gun is consumed in flame before the delivery of the ball ; consequently as the flight or force of a ball will always be proportioned to the circumstance of emptying well the cartridge, and of ramming it well down, I shall therefore direct, that each motion in *priming and loading* be performed with the greatest accuracy and distinctness, and without the least slight, being satisfied that one *fire*, well prepared and coolly delivered, will do more execution than ten that are given in hurry and confusion.

I. *Advance your Firelocks.* Three Motions.

See the twenty fifth word of command of the last Section, and the observation.

The *Field Exercise* being a representation of what soldiers are to do in time of action, the above position of the firelock I introduce here as preparatory to it, and for this reason. It has hitherto been a custom, when soldiers come to advance against the enemy, to carry their firelocks *shouldered*, with their bayonets fixed; by carrying the arms thus elevated, they become of course the more exposed, and more liable to be damaged by the fire of the enemy. And therefore it is no uncommon thing to observe, that what with the shot of artillery, and that of small arms, the part of our arms which is so elevated and exposed is frequently either broke, or the barrels so dented in, as to be unfit for use, which to prevent as much as can be, is the design of the above position: and besides, there is not only that advantage accruing from it, but it is a position from which a soldier can more conveniently *make ready* than from the *shoulder*, there being only one motion, instead of three, to effect it.

II. *Open your Pans.* Three Motions,

Direction.

First Motion.

Bring the firelock with the left hand round to the right side, to the position of a *rest*, seizing it at the scutcheon plate with the right hand, then quit the lock with the left hand, and with the same hand seize the firelock at that instant, just above the hammer spring.

This

This position differs only in these particulars from the true *rest*, that neither the right thumb is to be upon the cock, nor the fore finger upon the trigger, nor the right toe turned out.

Second Motion.

Bring the firelock up to a *recover*, and then turn the butt with a quick motion, close up under the right arm; quit the firelock with the right hand, and place at that instant the thumb against the face of the hammer: in turning the butt under the arm, the left wrist is not to be sunk or raised, which will determine the elevation of the muzzle. The left elbow is now to be kept close to the body, in order to hold the firelock the firmer, and to support the weight of it the better; and the upper part of the right arm is to be pressed well against the butt to keep it also the more firm and steady in its place.

Third Motion.

Throw back the hammer with the right thumb, which will open the pan, letting the thumb lie on the outside edge of the hammer, and in the same direction with it.

III. *Prepare your Cartridges.* Three Motions.

Direction.

First Motion.

Slap down the right hand upon the pouch with a quick motion, and take out a cartridge, holding the top of it between the thumb and forefinger.

Second Motion.

Bring the cartridge with a quick motion up to your mouth, and bite off the top of it almost close to the powder.

Third Motion.

Bring the cartridge from the mouth to the outside of the pan, holding the top of the cartridge well secured between the thumb and fore finger, and of an equal height with the pan.

IV. *Prime.* Two Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Turn up the right hand, and shake or empty as much powder out of the cartridge into the pan as will little better than half fill it, or as much as will let the hammer shut close down upon it, always remembering that should there be more powder in the pan than it will contain, it will hinder the hammer from shutting down close upon it, which will expose the priming to any damp or wet that may come near it: and by that means prevent it from taking fire.

Second Motion.

Secure well the mouth of the cartridge by closing it with the thumb and fore-finger, and placing, at the same time, the three remaining fingers behind the hammer.

V, *Shut*

V. *Shut your Pans.* Two Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Pull down the hammer close upon the pan.

Second Motion.

Seize the firelock at the scutcheon plate with the right hand, holding it between the ball of the thumb and the three disengaged fingers.

VI. *Cast about, to load.* First Motion.*Direction.*

Fall back with the right foot, and make a full and proper face to the right; quit the firelock with the right hand, and turn the muzzle to the rear, letting the firelock at the same time fall down before in the left hand as far as it can go; and then seize it with the right hand close to the muzzle, holding the barrel between the middle and fore finger. In this position the firelock is to be held very firm by the left hand against the front of the left thigh, in order to keep the muzzle steady, and by that means to expedite the loading.

VII, *Load with Cartridges,* Two Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Turn up the right hand, and empty well the powder out of the cartridge into the barrel.

Second

Second Motion.

Thrust the cartridge case after the powder with the forefinger into the barrel, holding the barrel at the same time between the thumb and middle finger, and letting the top of the forefinger remain in the muzzle.

VIII. *Ram down your Cartridges.* Seven Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Seize the rammer with the right hand, holding it between the thumb and the middle bone of the middle finger, so that the top of that finger may point downwards with the rammer; and place at the same time the end of the forefinger upon the top of the rammer.

Second Motion.

Draw out the rammer as far as the arm will admit, throwing back the firelock at the same time with the left hand, in order that a greater length of the rammer may then be drawn out, which will facilitate at the next motion, the drawing it clear out of the pipes.

Third Motion.

Bring back the firelock to its former place with the left hand, and quit the rammer at the same time
with

with the right; and seize it with the same hand a little above the muzzle, holding it as a pen is held, between the thumb and the two fingers pointing upwards.

Fourth Motion.

Dart out the rammer from the pipes, giving it at the same time such a turn in the hand, as to place the top of it against your waist; slip down the hand along the rammer, so low as to be within four inches of its top, and there hold it firm and parallel to the barrel, the thumb pointing upwards.

Fifth Motion.

Put the top of the rammer into the barrel, and thrust it down as far as the hand will let it go.

Sixth Motion.

Quit the rammer, and seize it again towards the middle of it, thrusting it then down the barrel, as far as the hand will admit, the thumb still pointing upwards.

Seventh Motion.

Quit the rammer, and seize it at the end, holding it between the thumb and fore finger, and thrust it down as far as it can go, and afterwards knock it hard twice or thrice against the end of the cartridge, by way of settling it in the chamber.

IX. *Return your Rammers.* Five Motions.*Direction.*

First and Second Motions,

Perform these motions as directed in the second and third motions of the last word of command.

Third Motion.

Draw the rammer out of the barrel, and turn it so in the hand at the same time, as to place the end of it against your waist, and then hold it parallel to the barrel; flip down the hand along the rammer, within twelve inches of the end, or within the distance, that will leave sufficient length for the end of the rammer to enter the second pipe at the next motion.

Fourth Motion.

Enter the end of the rammer into the first or muzzle pipe, and thrust it down as far as the forefinger and thumb will admit, but in such a manner, that the palm of the hand may rest in the motion upon the muzzle, with the fingers and thumb pointing downwards with the rammer.

Fifth Motion.

Quit the rammer, and place the end of the forefinger upon the top of it, holding it underneath, between the thumb and middle finger, and then thrust it home.

X. *Advance*

X. *Advance your Firelocks.* Two Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Face to the left, or bring up the right foot, so as to make a full front, and at the same instant quit the firelock with the right hand, and with the same hand seize it at the scutcheon plate, holding then the firelock in the position of a *rest*, as directed in the first motion of the second word of command of this section.

Second Motion.

Quit the firelock with the left hand, and at the same time bring it briskly round to the left side with the right hand, and then seize it by the cock with the left, and quit it with the right, as directed in the third motion of the twenty-fifth word of command of the last section.

XI. *As front rank make ready.* Three Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Bring the firelock with the left hand round to the right side, to the position of a *rest*, seizing it at the scutchon-plate with the right hand; then quit the cock with the left, and with the same hand, seize the firelock at that instant, just above the hammer spring,

N

placing

placing the right thumb upon the cock, and the forefinger upon the trigger. As to what is farther relative to this position of the *rest*, see the third word of command of the last section.

Why I prefer the *rest* to the *recover*, in point of making *ready*, is for the following reasons. First, because the firelock in that position, is more sheltered from the fire of the enemy than at the *recover*. Next, the weight of it being not so burdensome and painful to the arms, as it is at the *recover*. And lastly, because a soldier can *cock* or *half cock* his firelock with far greater ease at the *rest*, he having then the whole force of his right hand and arm to effect it, with the help of having the butt in some measure fixed or held firm against his right thigh, but at the *recover*, he can have no such advantage, because the butt has then no resting place to resist the force of pulling back the cock, and because the man's whole purchase is then confined to the strength only of his thumb, which is rendered more feeble and ineffectual by the length of the span from the lower part of the guard to the top of the cock; and hence, it is no uncommon thing to observe, that when it is required of a soldier to *cock* or *half cock* at the *recover*, to see him perform it with great seeming pain and difficulty.

Second Motion.

Hold the firelock firm against the right thigh with the left hand; raise the right elbow a little, in order to have the greater purchase in pulling back the cock, then cock or draw back the cock to the catch with the

the right thumb; bringing the elbow close down to the side at the same time.

Third Motion.

Step so far back with the right foot, that the right knee, on bringing it down to the ground, may be placed in a line with the left heel, planting the butt end of the firelock, at the same time upon the ground, directly opposite to the right thigh, and in a line with the left toe. The right thumb and fore finger are still to remain upon the cock and trigger. The barrel is to be held perpendicular by the left hand, which is also to continue placed a little above the hammer-spring, and the body is likewise to be kept upright.

XII. *Present.* One Motion.

Direction.

Take the thumb from off the cock, raise the firelock with both hands, dropping the muzzle to the front, and placing at the same time the butt-end firm against the hollow space between the breast and right shoulder. In bringing the firelock thus to a *present*, the left knee is to be turned a little out, in order to let the body incline forward with more ease; which is intended as well for the convenience of bringing the right eye to the barrel for taking aim, as for that of fortifying the body against the recoil of the firelock at firing. In *presenting*, the object to be fired at, is to be brought with the eye, in a direct line with the

upper surface of the breech, and with the top of the sight at the muzzle; nor is the point to be aimed at to exceed the height of three feet, or the centre height of a man, in order to make an allowance for the rise or depression of the ball in its flight; and withal, the left elbow is to be turned down that the hand may the better support the weight of the firelock, and of course keep it more steady.

XIII. *Fire.* Two Motions.

Direction.

First Motion.

Pull the trigger hard with the fore finger, but not with a jerk or sudden motion, as that will be apt to alter the direction of the barrel; the centre bone of that finger is to be placed against the extremity of the trigger, in order to obtain greater strength and purchase, in raising the catch or dog from off the tumbler, and that the cock in consequence, may come the more suddenly down.

Second Motion,

Raise the muzzle, bring up the right foot to its former position, stand erect, and bring the firelock to a *rest*.

XIV. *Half cock your Firelocks.* Two Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Take the forefinger from off the trigger, raise the right elbow, and place the right thumb, at the same time, upon the upper jaw of the cock.

Second Motion.

Pull back the cock to the first notch or catch of the tumbler, as directed in the second motion of the eleventh word of command, viz. *Make ready.*

XV. *Prime and load.* Twenty-five Motions.*Direction.*

First Motion.

Take the thumb from off the cock, holding the firelock in the right hand at the scutcheon plate; bring up the firelock with both hands at the same time, and place the butt-end close under the right arm, as directed in the second motion of the second word of command of this section.

Note, The remaining twenty-four motions of *priming, loading,* and of coming to *advanced firelocks,* are performed in exactly the same manner as directed in the foregoing words of command of this section, viz.

Words

Words of command.	Motions,
3. <i>Prepare your Cartridges,</i>	3.
4. <i>Prime,</i>	2.
5. <i>Shut your Pans,</i>	2.
6. <i>Cast about to Load,</i>	1.
7. <i>Load with Cartridge,</i>	2.
8. <i>Ram down your Cartridges,</i>	7.
9. <i>Return your Rammers,</i>	5.
10. <i>Advance your Firelocks,</i>	2.
Total	24.

XVI. *As Centre Rank make ready.* Two
Motions.

Direction.

First and Second Motions.

These motions are to be performed in the same manner as directed in the first and second motions of the eleventh word of command of this section.

XVII. *Present.* One Motion.

Direction.

Take your thumb from off the cock, step forward one pace with the left foot, but a little obliquely to the left, and at the same time drop the barrel to a *present*, placing the butt-end firm against the hollow between the breast and right shoulder; bend a little
the

the left knee, which will occasion the body to incline forward, and by that means, the eye will come more conveniently to the sights upon the barrel, for the purpose of taking aim; and lastly, keep the right knee firm and stiff in order to fortify the body against the recoil of the firelock at firing. As to the other requisites in *presenting*, see the twelfth word of command of this section.

Note, This being a new attitude or method of presenting, the reason of which will be omitted here, and explained farther on, at a more convenient place.

XVIII. *Fire*. Twenty-nine Motions.

Direction.

First Motion.

Perform this operation, as directed in the first motion of the thirteenth word of command of this section.

Second Motion.

Raise the muzzle, and come down to a *rest*, bringing back at the same time the left foot to its former position.

Note, The remaining twenty-seven motions of *half cocking*, *priming*, *loading*, and of coming to *advanced firelocks*, are to be performed on *this*, and all future *firings*, without any word of command, (except when ordered to the contrary) as directed in the fourteenth and fifteenth words of command of this section,

section, taking care withal, that each motion be performed by all the men together, at one and the same time.

XIX. *As Rear Rank make ready.* Two
Motions.

Direction.

First and Second Motions.

This operation is to be performed in exactly the same manner as directed in the sixteenth word of command of this section.

XX. *Present.* One Motion.

Direction.

This operation is performed in much the same manner as that directed in the preceding seventeenth word of command, but with this small difference, that instead of stepping obliquely forward to the left with the left foot, as there mentioned, on dropping to the *present*, you are here to step about *twelve inches* obliquely back to the right with the right foot, bending the left knee, and keeping stiff the right, for the same reasons as there given.

XXI. *Fire*

XXI. *Fire.* Twenty-nine Motions.*Direction.*

These motions are performed in the same manner as directed in the eighteenth word of command of this section, except, that instead of bringing back the left foot, as there prescribed in the second motion, the right foot is here to be brought up to its former position on coming down to the *rest*, in order to proceed to *half cock, prime, &c.*

The recruits being made perfect in all the foregoing *firings* of the different ranks, they are now to be told off and formed into three ranks, in order that the whole may then *fire* together, and according to the respective ranks they shall stand in; for which purpose the Serjeant is to proceed as directed in Chap. II. Sect. VI. Art. II. word of command, first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth.-----

Note, When soldiers are thus drawn up in *close order*, in order to *fire* all together, the method of placing the feet of the centre and rear rank men for that purpose, as directed at the *present* in the seventeenth and twentieth words of command of this section, is called *locking up*.

Caution.

Take care the whole to *make ready* according to your respective ranks, viz. *front* as front, *centre* as centre, *rear* as rear.

O

XXII. *Make*

XXII. *Make ready.**Direction.*

This operation is performed in the same manner as directed in the eleventh, sixteenth, and nineteenth words of command of this section.

XXIII. *Present.**Direction.*

See the twelfth, seventeenth, and twentieth words of command of this section.

XXIV. *Fire.**Direction.*

See the thirteenth, eighteenth, and twenty-first word of command of this section.

When men are thus drawn up in two or more ranks in order to fire, there are in the execution of which, two very essential points, which require the nicest attention, and are of the utmost consequence in themselves; namely, that the men neither *annoy* one another by their fire, nor *obstruct* each other in taking proper aim: For these important purposes there have been various schemes proposed; but I confess, of all I have as yet seen or heard of, there are none with which I could be satisfied. And to support my opinion,

nion. I shall first describe our present method of *locking up*, and observe, as I proceed, the disadvantage and inconveniencies of that operation, to the end, that the plan, which I shall afterwards offer for a remedy, may the better be comprehended and received.

Our method then is, supposing the front rank man kneeling, in order to *present*, he of the centre rank in the same file is directed, first to place his left foot close to the inside of the former's right foot, and then to step obliquely back to the right with his right foot.

By this disposition it is evident, that the body of the centre rank man must be full an half, if not more, to the right of him who is kneeling, consequently, when he comes to drop his firelock directly before him to a *present*, the firelock must be as much to the right also of him his file leader; now should that place where the firelock is so presented, be the interval where the platoon officer is posted, it is likewise as evident; that he the officer must be deprived half his room by the position of the firelock, which must of course straiten him in his interval, and render him less active in it.---Here then lies one objection to this method.---And with respect to the soldier himself, he is no less incommoded, but in another manner; for being obliged to place his left foot in the above position, he cannot, as his left leg will then bear against the rump of his file leader, bend his left knee, in order to let his body incline forward for the purpose, either of fortifying himself against the recoil of his firelock at firing, or for the convenience of bringing his eye with ease to the barrel for taking aim. And hence the reason of that extreme awkwardness

among the generality of soldiers, when they come to take aim, by inclining their heads close down to the tip of their right shoulders, which would otherwise be avoided, and the thing better done, were the left knee to be bent at the time. See the seventeenth word of command of this section. Here is also another objection:

As to the rear rank man of the same file, his situation is to the full as inconvenient as that of him of the centre rank, if not more so; for being, by this means, obliged to place also his left foot on the inside of the right foot of him before him, and to step obliquely back with his right foot also, his body must of course be likewise an half, if not more, to the right of him before him, so that when he also comes to *present*, the whole space or interval of the platoon officer is evidently occupied, or taken up, by the firelocks of the centre and rear rank men, therefore, as the platoon officer is, by this means, totally excluded the room of his interval, he finds himself obliged, in order to avoid the annoyance of the fire, either to direct the rear rank man on his left, not to fire at all or to fall back on the platoon on his right, to shelter himself; either then of these circumstances must be allowed to be very improper, and yet by our method there is no remedy for it; and as this is always the case, even at exercise, how much greater must the embarrassment be in time of action, by having added to it the hurry and confusion which men are then frequently in; or should soldiers happen to engage the enemy by night, or in a thick fog, the danger will be greater of their not seeing their officer, and of course the consequence may be fatal to him, and of which I have heard

heard of some melancholy instances. Here again is another weighty objection to our present method.---- And with regard to the rear rank man himself, he also finds when he comes to *present*, his left arm, which supports and holds steady his firelock, so much incommoded by the right elbow of the man before him, as to prevent him from taking any fixed or certain aim; besides the further obstruction he receives from the same man, who hinders him from leaning his body forward for the purpose of taking an easy and ready aim. Here then is likewise another great objection.

And to add still more to the impropriety of this our present method, there is that of the rear ranks being obliged at *locking up*, to quit the ground of their respective files, by each man placing himself to the right of his immediate file leader, as above shewn, by which means, when they have fired, they must either shuffle back again to their former ground, or remain exposed to the fire of the enemy, while they are going on with their priming and loading. As to the operation of shuffling back again to their former ground, it is truly ridiculous and unsightly. And as to that of their remaining unnecessarily exposed to the fire of the enemy, while they are thus priming and loading, it is absolutely erroneous, and contrary to principle, because no man ought to be exposed, where there is no occasion. Here is also another striking objection.

To obviate then and remove these several objections, is the intent of my present scheme, which is as follows: First, the ranks are to be closed to *quarter distance*, as is directed in Chap. II. Sect. VI.

Art II. word of command IX. Then the whole is to *make ready, present, and fire*, as directed in the three last words of command of this section. By that method it may be observed, that the man of the centre rank receives no obstructions whatever from him of the front, as he steps with his left foot a little obliquely forward to the left of him, nor can he in the least incommode the platoon officer with his firelock at the *present*, because it is directly over the right side of his file leaders head, who is kneeling. And with regard to the rear rank man of the same file, *he* can never clash or interfere with him of the centre rank, because they present in opposite inclinations of their bodies; that is, he of the centre steps forward a little obliquely to the left with his left foot, while he of the rear steps still a little more obliquely backward to the right, with his right foot, by which means they stand quite clear of each other; nor can this same man incommode, in the least, the platoon officer; with his firelock at the *present*, because it is placed almost over the outside of the right shoulder of his file leader, who is kneeling in the front rank.

And lastly, it may be observed, that by this disposition made of the centre and rear rank men in *locking up*, they never quit the ground of their respective file, as they do by our present method, because each man always keeps one foot fixed, which enables those men, on having fired, to bring the oblique feet the more readily to their former ground; and by that means to place themselves at once in the due direction of their respective files; and of course under the immediate cover of their file leader, while they are going on with their *priming and loading*. But to return,

After

After the recruits have been instructed, as above directed, to fire *standing*, they are next to be taught how to fire *advancing* and *retreating*; and in order to which, they are to be divided into two or more platoons, as their number will admit, and then each platoon made to fire separately, and distinctly from the other, and according to the following directions.

Caution.

Take care to fire *advancing*.

XXV. *March.*

Direction.

The whole are to step off, beginning the march with the left feet.

XXVI. *Right Hand Platoon make ready.*

Direction.

This operation is to be performed by each rank of the platoon, as directed in the eleventh, sixteenth, and nineteenth words of command of this section, but with this small difference, that upon *cocking*, the platoon to fire is to advance beyond the other, by taking three large steps, and with a quicker movement than ordinary, beginning with the left foot; and then the front rank is to kneel, and the other two ranks
are

are to *lock up*, observing their proper distances from each other.

The intent of making the firing platoon to advance thus before the sustaining platoon, is for the following reasons. First, that it may the better deliver its fire clear of any obstructions which it might receive from the other: and before it comes up to join it in the line. Next, that the sustaining platoon may not, by being too far advanced before the other, be exposed to its fire. And lastly, that the same platoon may not, by any oblique inclination which it might take when too much advanced, shut out or prevent the other from conveniently coming in again to its former place after firing. But besides the above precautions, there is another considerable advantage resulting from making the firing platoon thus to advance before the other, which is, that this movement carries on the line much better, and gives a more intrepid appearance to the whole in advancing.

XXVII. *Present.*

See the twenty-third word of command of this section.

XXVIII. *Fire.*

See the twenty-fourth word of command of this section.

XXIX. *Left*

XXIX. *Left-hand Platoon make ready.*

Note, This operation, together with the *presenting* and *firing*, are performed in the same manner as that of the right-hand platoon, to which I refer,

Caution.

Take care to fire *retreating*.

XXX. *To the Right about. March.*

Direction.

The whole is then to go to the right about on the left heel, stepping off with the left foot.

XXXI. *Right hand Platoon, make ready.*

Direction.

Note, This operation is performed in the same manner as that of the twenty-sixth word of command of this section, but with this difference, that the platoon is first to come to the right about, and then *cock, lock up, present,* and *fire*, as before directed; and on *firing*, it is again to go to the right about, *march*, and join the *line* or the other platoon, who is still to continue moving on, as it did in advancing; and then to *half-cock, prime and load,* &c.

P

XXXII. *Left*

XXXII. *Left hand Platoon make ready.**Direction.*

Note, This operation is performed in the same manner as the last word of command.

XXXIII. *Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast.

XXXIV. *Front.**Direction.*

The whole is to come to the right about, and to stand in proper order.

XXXV. *Shoulder your Firelocks.**Direction.*

See the twenty-sixth word of command of the last section.

XXXVI. *Rear ranks open to whole distance.**Direction.*

The centre and rear ranks are to go to the right about, upon their left heels.

XXXVII. *March*

XXXVII. *March.**Direction.*

The centre rank is to march three paces, and the rear rank six, each rank stepping off at the same time with the left feet; and when they arrive at their ground, they are to stand square and in proper order.

XXXVIII. *Front.**Direction.*

The two rear ranks are to come to the right about upon their left heels, and to stand in proper order.

XXXIX. *Support your Arms.**Direction.*

Perform this operation as directed in the first, second, and third motions of the twenty-ninth word of command of the last section.

The recruits having been taught the use and management of their arms, according to the foregoing directions, they are next to be taken to a butt, where each man is to practise firing with a single ball at a mark. The mark to be shot at is to be placed at the distance of about sixty yards, and at the height of three feet; and when the men become thus good marksmen, they are then to be again formed as before into three ranks, and to fire together or in platoon. The mark they are now to fire at, is to be a chalk line drawn upon a wall, a little longer than the extent of the rank

intire, and of the same height with that of the butt, and the men placed at the same distance from it, and when they have become expert in this *firing* also, they are then to be shewn the effect of this fire, with a view, that by knowing their own capacity, they may afterwards have such a dependance upon themselves; as to inspire them with more intrepidity and resolution, whenever they shall have occasion to face the enemy.

The recruits being thus instructed and made perfect in each of the above points, the Serjeant is then to *dismiss* them; and afterwards to report their condition and capacity to his commanding officer, in order that they may be re-examined by the Adjutant, and delivered over to him.

C H A P. IV.

*The Duty of the Adjutant.**Of Arrangements.*

AN Arrangement is that disposition made of a body of men as can best answer the purpose of attack or defence; and is comprehended under the figure or form of either the *line*, the *column*, or the *square*. But previous to those operations, I shall give the following Instructions.

S E C T. I. *Instructions.*

I. The recruits or soldiers being formed into battalion, or line drawn up in three ranks, or three deep, the Adjutant is to see that the ranks be at open order or at whole distance, and well dressed, that the files be completed, the men do cover well, and that each man does stand in his proper order.

II. He is to tell off the battalion into ten platoons or divisions, and to be numbered from right to left. No. I. is to represent the division of grenadiers on the right, No. II. and III. are to compose the first grand division, No. IV. and V. are to make the second grand division, No. VI. and VII. the third grand division, No. VIII. and IX. the fourth grand division, and No. X. the division of grenadiers on the left of the battalion. The five divisions on the right of the centre of the battalion, compose the right wing; and the five the left make the left wing of the battalion.

III.

III. He is to appoint a Serjeant to command each division, besides other Serjeants to attend and inspect the rear

IV. He is also to appoint a guide, to time and direct the several motions of the different words of command.

V. He is to direct the men to observe attentively the division and rank they belong to; and also their right and left hand men, and their file leaders, to the intent that they may, whenever they are ordered, or should at any time be broke, the more readily fall in of themselves, and draw up in their proper places; and in order to perfect them in so indispensable a point of knowledge and discipline, he is to take frequent occasion to disperse and assemble them again.

VI. The above points being settled, he is then to make the recruits perform that part of the *parade* and *field exercise*, which were taught them by the Serjeant; that he may either report the state he finds them in to the commanding officer, or remand them himself in case of deficiency to the Serjeant again for better instruction. And on the above exercises being gone through, and no objection to the performance, he is then to begin with instructing them himself in the following arrangements, and according to the directions laid down for that purpose.

S E C T. II. *Of the Line.*

The *line* is an uniform rank of men, extending in length according to their number, or to the ground they are to occupy; and this rank either remains single, or is strengthened or supported as occasion requires, by the addition of one or more ranks drawn up parallel to the first, and a limited distance from it. And the *line* being thus formed, the principal operations of which are as follow.

1st Rear Ranks close to Half Distance.

Direction.

This operation is performed as directed in Chap. II. Sect. VI. Art. II. word of command VIII.

2d Battalion by Files, prepare to take other Ground.

Direction.

The whole is to be in readiness to face.

Note, The word *Battalion* signifies any number of companies or divisions formed and joined together in a line.

3d Battalion by Files, take Ground to the Right.

Direction.

The whole is to make a full face to the right on the left heel, falling back with the right foot.

4th Bat-

*4th Battalion, March.**Direction.*

The whole is to step off with the left foot, being that next the front, and to march by files; always observing that if a man can see the second or third from him, the file or rank in which he is cannot be straight, which he must endeavour instantly to rectify.

*5th Battalion, Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast and in proper order.

*6th Battalion, Front.**Direction.*

The whole is to make a full face to the front on the left heel, bringing up the right foot.

7th Bat-

7th Battalion by Files, take Ground to the Left.

Direction.

The whole is to make a full face to the left, on the left, bringing up the right foot.

8th Battalion, March.

Direction.

The whole is to step off with the right foot, or with that next the front.

9th Battalion, Halt.

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast, and in proper order.

10th Battalion, Front.

Direction.

The whole is to make a full face to the front on the left heel, falling back with the right foot.

Q

This

This method of marching by *files* either to the right or to the left, as occasion requires, is useful in many cases, but more particularly in the three following instances. First, it instructs us how we may gain, before we come to a close engagement with the enemy, either his flank, or prevent his taking that advantage of us, or at the least, how we may bring ourselves into an opposite direction with him. Next, this method enables us, without the least inconvenience, to give or take ground in the *line*, either for the purpose of making room for others, or of accommodating ourselves. And, lastly, it is no less useful in preventing the bad consequence of having the intervals between the several battalions of the line too open or too much closed.

But as to the application of the above method of marching by files on the *long March*, I cannot by any means approve or recommend it, because a battalion or body of men unavoidably occupies by that order of march, much more than double the extent of ground it ought to cover, and that arising from the following circumstances: First, when soldiers are on a march, they are frequently obliged to carry their tent poles, and several other articles of their camp equipage with them; and then they find themselves under a necessity, for the convenience of carriage, to sling some of those materials upon the ends of those poles, which sticking out behind, oblige the men immediately following to keep at a distance, in order to avoid running their faces against them. Next, there is the like inconvenience occasioned from the firelocks, which the men often find necessary to carry level upon their shoulders, as well for the ease of carriage in that respect, as to relieve now and then the hand that supports the firelock. And, lastly, there is besides, the natural projection of
the

the body, which every man must have more or less in proportion to the degree of his movement, whether he walks or runs, which will likewise, of itself, cause the files to open. And hence, upon the whole, the reason why a body of infantry, marching by files, cannot preserve their primitive distances, and must therefore occupy an improper extent of ground, and of course lengthen the line of march.

Now, should the enemy suddenly appear upon either flank, and as rapidly make his push or attack upon troops in such *open order*, he would find but little difficulty or obstruction to penetrate and put them all to the rout, since before sufficient time could be had to close the files, and to make a proper disposition, all would be over. And hence arises a material piece of intelligence, necessary for a partizan to be made acquainted with, viz. whether the order of march of the enemy is by *files*, or by *ranks*.

But admitting that no such attack was to be apprehended, there is still another disadvantage arising from too open and extensive a line of march, very affecting to those who are in the rear, which is this: that as they are ever urged by their officers, as often as they open, to regain their proper distance from the front; the hurry and fatigue they suffer in endeavouring to effect it, so weakens and dispirits them, that it is no uncommon thing to observe, that the rear only of a single battalion under this order of march is frequently tired and knocked up, while the van is scarcely made warm by the march; but as I am soon to treat of the column, I will defer enlarging more on the disadvantage of marching by files, as I shall there have occasion to renew this subject again, and offer a remedy for the inconveniencies resulting from it.

11th *Battalion, prepare to advance.*

Direction.

At this precaution the men are to appear steady, and to hold themselves in readiness to march.

12th *Battalion, March.*

Direction.

The men are to step off together with their left feet, taking the utmost care to preserve a straight line as they advance.

13th *Battalion, Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast, bringing up the hind foot.

14th Battalion, prepare to retreat.

Direction.

The whole is to go to the right-about upon the left heel, and then to stand square.

15th Battalion, March.

Direction.

The whole is to step off, beginning the march with the left foot, and to move slow or quick, as shall be directed.

16th Battalion, Halt.

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast, bringing up the hind foot.

17th Battalion, Front.

Direction.

The whole is to come to the right-about upon the left heel, and to stand in proper order.

There is no one part of the exercise in which greater nicety and more exactness is required, than in the article of *marching*, whether advancing or retreating, nor yet more necessary to observe; for it is not sufficient that a single battalion marches straight and even in all its parts, with relation to itself alone, but it must preserve the same order with respect to all other battalions, advancing together in the same line with it; the reason of which is, that by thus observing an entire straight line, each part can on any emergence not only more immediately sustain the other, but be in a readiness to attack and cut off that part of the enemy's line, which may be imprudent enough to be too far advanced before the rest can well move up to support it. And the same reason holds good in retreating, as the part nearest the enemy must be more exposed, since those who are more remote cannot be in a condition to afford the necessary succour; in short, the advantage is so great in preserving a proper order in marching, that but little more is besides wanting to render those troops *invincible* who observe it; and as this is so well known, I would therefore recommend, in order to have soldiers expert and perfect in so essential an operation, that the battalion be well exercised in marching by distinct and separate divisions, so that each division may represent a battalion, and to be
drawn

drawn up at the distance of thirty yards from each other, which is the ordinary interval between battalions in the line, it being the allowance of room requisite for the working of two field pieces.

18th *Battalion, by Division, half wheel to the Right, March.*

Direction.

Each division is to wheel the half of a quadrant upon the right heel of the right hand man of the front rank.

19th *Divisions, Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast, and in proper order.

XX. *Divisions, as you were, March.*

Direction.

All the divisions are to wheel back together, upon the same heel, to their former ground.

XXI.

XXI. *Battalion, by Division, half-wheel to the Left, March.*

Direction.

Each division is to wheel the half of a quadrant upon the left heel of the left-hand man of the front rank.

XXII. *Divisions, Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

XXIII. *Divisions, as you were, March.*

Direction.

All the divisions are to wheel back together, upon the same left heel, to their former ground.

The intent of the above operations is to instruct a platoon officer how he is occasionally to give a *flanking-fire*; that is, should he find that he out-flanks the enemy; or that he has no enemy directly to oppose him, or, should he observe the enemy advancing, in order to penetrate or force some contiguous part of his own line or battalion; he is then, on any of those occasions or such like instances, to wheel his division or platoon accordingly, and throw in his *flanking-fire*. But the officer in wheeling his division must attend minutely to one essential circumstance, which

is, that he wheels just so much as to bring the object at which he is to fire to be directly opposite to himself; or that it may stand at right angles with the front of his platoon; by which means he will obtain the advantage of a *direct* fire, which is by much of greater weight and more certain than any that be given in an *oblique* direction; for let it be observed, that men in general will naturally, on any sudden occasion, fire directly before them; nor can they well be brought to fire obliquely, except they are, with great care, previously prepared for it; and even then, none but those who are drawn up in a single rank can conveniently do it with any tolerable effect; but at exercise or on service, the divisions then are not to wheel all at once to the right or to the left, as above directed, but each is to wheel and fire in an alternate succession, lest the external flank of one division should by chance be placed in the line of the other's fire, which is a point that troops must always be instructed to avoid and to guard against, and therefore the preparative for this arrangement is only to say, *battalion, take care to perform your flank-firing*; and on the signal or word of command being in consequence given, each division is to wheel and fire alternately as above directed.

XXIV. *Battalion, prepare to open at the Centre.*

Direction.

The four centre divisions, viz. fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh, or the second and third grand divisions

R

(see

(see the annexed figure) are to go to the right about; by which means their rear that was will now become their present front.

XXV. *Battalion, open at the Centre, March.*

Direction.

The two second grand divisions on the right of the centre of the battalion, and now faced to the right about, is to wheel to the left, upon the left heel of the left hand man of their present front rank, and the third grand division, which is on the left of the centre, is to wheel also to the right, upon the right heel of the right hand man of the same rank.

XXVI. *Divisions, Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

XXVII. *Divisions, cover your Flanks by the Battalion, March.*

Direction.

The two centre grand divisions that wheeled, viz. the second and third, are to march forward four paces, which will bring the original front or the present rear of each, in a line with the inward three files of the contiguous grand divisions of the battalion that stand fast.

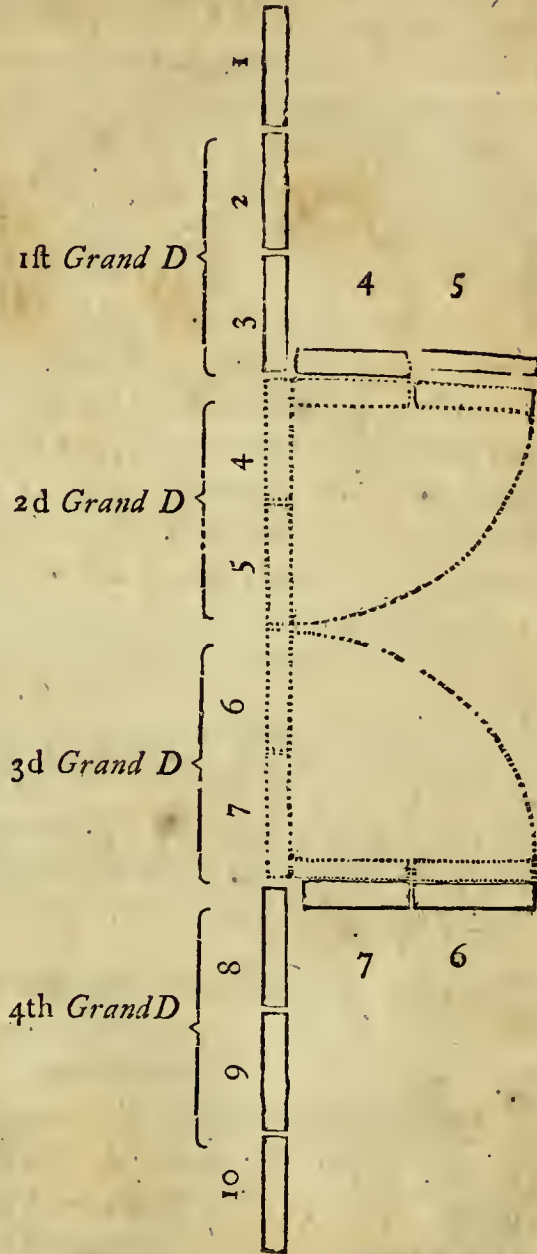
XXVIII.

XXVIII. Divisions to the Right About.

Direction.

Each of these two grand divisions is to come to the right-about, and stand in proper order, in which position they will front each other. See the Figure; the dotted lines, representing the former positions; the whole lines, the present; and the figures shewing the number and place of each grand division, division or company, that compose the battalion.

Front.



The

The above arrangement is in a great measure intended for those battalions which compose the *second line*, and is calculated for the following purposes: Either that it may afford a commodious interval for cavalry occasionally to pass through: Or, that it may serve as a safe retreat, on any pressing emergence, for the opposite battalion of the *first line*; for which last purpose it effectually provides, since those who are appointed to defend that pass or interval are drawn up with a full front on each side, to restrain and stop the pursuit of the enemy. And here it may be observed, that those principal points are obtained without suffering the least inconvenience, as this disposition neither incumbers the battalion, nor in any wise affects the activity of it; which I much doubt could not be so well accomplished, were the divisions to be doubled according to the present method. There is besides another very considerable use which may be made of this arrangement, and of which the great Marshal *Turenne* had availed himself on various occasions. I mean the advantage it affords in making a commodious and secure retreat; by the opposite battalions in the first and second lines alternately retreating through and protecting each other.

XXIX. *Battalion, prepare to advance in your open Order.*

Direction.

Those grand divisions which opened the battalion are to face thus: That of the right wing is to face to the right upon the left heel; and that of the left is to face to the left upon the right heel; after which they are, when ordered, to march by files, stepping off with the feet next the interval,

XXX. *Battalion, March.**Direction.*

The whole is to step off together.

XXXI. *Battalion, Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast, and in proper order.

XXXII. *Battalion, prepare to close at the Centre.**Direction.*

The grand division of the right wing is to face to the left upon the left heel ; and the grand division of the left wing is to face to the right upon the right heel.

XXXIII. *Battalion, close at the Centre, March.**Direction.*

The grand division on the right is to wheel to the right, on the right heel of the front rank man, and that on the left is at the same time to wheel to the left, on the left heel of him of the same rank, like two folding doors, shutting in and closing each other at the centre.

XXXIV. *Grand Divisions that closed, dress.**Direction.*

These grand divisions that wheeled in are to march forward four paces, which will bring them to their former ground in a line with the rest of the battalion, and then halt.

Of Hedge Firing.

As this firing is an operation which cannot be well introduced into the ordinary exercise, on account of the length of time necessary to make the proper disposition; I therefore imagine that a description alone of the nature of it, with a direction how to perform and practice it at other times, will of itself prove a sufficient instruction.

Hedge-firing then is only applicable when troops happen to be drawn up opposite to one another, and behind parallel fences, such as low walls, banks, hedges, &c. where, by the interruption of which they cannot approach nearer to each other; now when troops are so posted, it is evident that the fire from the front rank which kneels cannot have a proper effect, because the fence before them obstructs their view of the enemy. This being the case, the men are therefore to be drawn up two deep, which will of course either make their ranks more extensive, or will procure them a reserve occasionally to sustain them. In order then to the first, let an interval be made between each division or company of the battalion equal to half the extent of that division, taking care, at the same time, to make a sufficient allowance for the interval of the platoon officer; then subdivide the rear rank, and face it to the left, ordering the left half to march and join the left of the front rank, and the right half that of the centre rank.

By this disposition the battalion will be extended a third more, and the whole will be drawn up two deep; and in that order both ranks are to fire *standing*; the front rank to fire as centre rank, and the old centre as rear rank.

Of Parapet Firing.

This firing, like that of hedge firing, cannot be introduced conveniently at the time of the common exercise, as well on account of the length of time necessary to be taken up in the performance of it, as the
want

want of exhibiting the different sort of works it is calculated to defend; and therefore I shall here, as in the last arrangement, only give a description of it, with a direction how it is to be performed.

This arrangement is one of those operations which is intended only for *defence*; and therefore the method requisite for that disposition depends as well upon the nature of the parapet over which the men are to fire, as upon that of the *attack* made to possess it.

There are commonly two sorts of parapets or breast-works erected; one with, and the other without a *ditch*. The first is that which is erected upon the ramparts of a fortified place, or that which forms *lines* to an army, thrown up in the field, &c. The last is that which constitutes the *covert-way* of a fortress, made to slope gradually from the top of it into the field, to the distance of twenty or thirty yards, called the *glacis*. The height of most parapets is between six and seven feet; and to them is added at the foot, or bottom of each, another work, which is called a *banquette* or foot-bank, whose height is about two feet, and whose breadth is about three. The design of which is evidently for a *rank only* of soldiers to mount and stand upon, in order to fire over the top of the parapet. As to the parapet made with or covered by a ditch, that work is not so liable to immediate assault; and therefore the troops, which are appointed to defend it, have the more time to make their dispositions, and to perform their operations; whereas the parapet of a covert-way, as having no ditch, is ever exposed to immediate assault, and therefore requires a different method of defence.

Now

Now in order to have a clearer idea of the *defence* requisite to make in either instance, it will be necessary to represent the different mode of attack on each, and to subjoin respectively a scheme of defence, meaning only such as relates to the musketry.

First then of the parapet with a ditch, which I suppose is attacked, either by making a breach in it, by filling up the ditch with fascines, or with some other materials, or by planting scaling ladders to get over it. Hence it is evident in either instance, that which ever of these methods the troops take which are to make the attack, they cannot proceed so expeditiously and uniformly, as if no such impediment had at all been in their way, therefore whatever difficulty or delay which that interruption occasions, must of course be of service to those who are to defend, as well in point of time, as in the opportunity it gives them to dispose of themselves to the best advantage, and to establish regularity in their proceedings. The *defence* then necessary to make against such an attack, and the operations proper to observe, are as follow: The battalion, in the first place, is to be drawn up on the rampart, or upon the terre-plain of the place attacked, and faced to the parapet, and each rank directed to fire only as rear rank men. This being premised, the front rank is ordered to *make ready*, and to mount the banquette, and to direct their fire to such place or quarter as is pointed out to them by their officer; and to fire not by word of command, but as each man shall of himself take his aim: the front rank having in consequence fired, the men of which are to step down immediately off the banquette, bringing their firelocks to the position of a *recover*, and then to face to the right,

and to march quickly off, through their officer's interval, and draw up in their proper order in the rear of the rear rank of their respective division, where they are to half cock, prime, and load. On the front rank having fired, the centre rank is to *make ready*, and to move up and take the place of the former as soon as it has marched clear off; and so on in rotation with respect to each rank, the succeeding rank always moving up and supplying the place of the preceding one.

With respect to the attack of the covert way, there are two ways of making it, the one by regular approaches, and the other by immediate assault. As to the first, it is effected at the time when the besiegers have finished their last parallel, which always runs close to the foot of the glacis, or at the distance of about twenty yards from the salient angles. Then when matters are all prepared and ready, they first begin by throwing a shower of live shells into the place they intend to attack, in order to discompose and terrify those who are to defend it; and after those shells have bursted, they then throw another flight, and perhaps of dead shells, having only burning furzes in them, of which the men in the covert way being ignorant, and believing they will also burst like the former, they of course lie down to shelter themselves from the splinters; and then the besiegers, under favour of which device, rush out of their works at the same time; hoping to find those who are to defend, either so intimidated by the shells as to be off their guard, or in their fire so precipitate, as ineffectually to throw it away at too great a distance on the first appearance of those who begin the attack; and on this presumption,

tion, they build their hopes of making an easy and safe lodgement. Indeed it must be acknowledged, that their confidence is seldom destitute of success, except the greatest firmness and alertness is preserved by those who are to defend; and where that can be observed and maintained, then on the other hand, a most dreadful carnage ensues, with a certain repulse.

As to the other method of attacking the covert way by immediate assault, it is undertaken without any visible preparation, or rather by surprize; and this attack is commonly conducted under favour of the night or of a thick fog; and the success of which is likewise founded on a presumption of remissness, or precipitation in those who are to defend.

Having now shown the different methods which are practised in the attack of the covert way, that of its *defence* will be founded upon duly considering the principles of the attack, and thence to deduce the means to defeat and counteract it. In order to which, it will be necessary to recapitulate the former principles, that a more distinct view may be had of them, and that the scheme which I shall offer may be the better comprehended and explained.

First, The probability of remissness or precipitation in those who are to defend.

Secondly, The distance from the place of attack being very small, renders it impossible for those who are to defend to have time sufficient, after having once fired, to load again, before the enemy will come up and make a close attack.

And lastly, as the front rank of him who defends can only fire at the same time, the difficulty, or almost the impossibility, for the centre rank, or a fresh body of men, to supply betimes its place and fire in turn, before the enemy will be up and ready to charge.

The above being the principal points upon which the enemy depend for success, the method which I shall offer to frustrate such their views will be as follows :

1st. That cartridges be provided for the occasion, making each cartridge to contain eight quarter ounce balls, with the usual quantity of powder.

This hint I have taken from the French themselves, whose cartridges I observed were made up with one musket ball and two pistol balls in each. To try the efficacy of which, I made just such another cartridge myself, and fired it at a mark about sixty yards distance, which I found had sufficient force with it, but as the shot were unequal, they spread themselves too much, which I disliked ; I therefore made up another cartridge of nearly the same weight of shot as the other, which consisted of the number and species of ball as I above recommend, and also fired it ; and I saw it had not only a proper force, but they spread themselves into the compass of about three feet and an half diameter, being considerably less than the former and more certain, therefore I preferred it, as well on that account, as for its containing a greater number of shot. Now as the object intended to be fired at should not be at half the above distance, and as the time of advancing will be in proportion to the length of the way,

way, therefore the necessity in this particular, to increase the quantity of shot, in order to compensate for the want of time to load again, or to change situation with those who are loaded, since nothing else can be found more effectual to stop the progress of the enemy than so great a weight of fire.

2dly, That the most cool, resolute, and best marksmen be picked out to compose the front rank, who are to be posted upon the banquette. That no fire whatever be given before the enemy is within the distance of ten or twelve yards of the top of the parapet. And in order to render the fire more certain and effectual, that the front rank be ordered to lay their firelocks upon the top of the parapet, that it may serve as a resting place to take a more sure and steady aim : that the men be directed not to take aim above knee high, and for the two following reasons : first, because those who lead the attack have their bodies commonly covered by cuirasses ; and lastly, that the shot which miss disabling those in front, may take the thighs or bodies of those in the rear, since the slope of the glacis will of course place them lower than those before them.

3dly, That if there be sufficient spare firelocks in the place, that one of which be given loaded to each front rank man, and placed close by him, to use instantly upon any rapid push of the enemy, after he has fired his own firelock. But should there be no such spare arms, then the fire is to be kept up as follows :

When the man of the front rank has fired, he is instantly to hand his firelock to him of the centre rank in
the

the same file, and take his back in the room of it ; and then he of the centre rank is likewise to give that empty firelock which he received to him in the rear to load, and take back his in return, ready to give upon occasion to him in the front rank, by which means the front rank man can fire, at the least, three rounds in a shorter space of time than the enemy can advance ; but if the two first fires are well timed and given, there will probably be time enough afterwards for him of the rear rank to load the empty firelocks, before there will be occasion for a third fire, as the confusion and carnage among the enemy will prove so dreadful and distracting, as to prevent for some time their acting with order and spirit, or their returning soon after to the charge. But should the enemy, nevertheless, press vigorously on over their dead and wounded, and before the empty firelocks are loaded ; the front ranks are then to rely on their bayonets, which will be found very powerful when the enemy shall appear upon the top of the parapet, while the rear rank goes on with the loading, and fires over the heads of those in the front to sustain them. In short, were those who are to defend but to understand their own advantage, and to act with temper on the occasion, they would find themselves able to baffle almost any attack that should be made on them.

4thly, That as the salient angle is the most exposed and nearest to the enemy, it is therefore not only the soonest but the most successfully attacked, by the great facility there is of embracing the angle on each side. To prevent the enemy then from availing himself of that advantage, those posted there, must first be informed, by whom and how they are to be sustained
and

and defended, that they may on occasion behave with greater vigour and resolution ; and that those who are appointed to sustain them, be posted on each side of the re-entering angle, in order to scour the faces of the angle attacked ; which disposition will expose the enemy to the fury of a front and flank fire, and if well conducted will make a repulse a matter of little difficulty.

5thly, That as soon as the battalion is posted in the works, the whole be immediately exercised in the foregoing points. That their different defences be carefully explained to them ; and that they be informed at the same time, how they are reciprocally to sustain each other, and how much their honour and safety will depend upon their coolness and resolution. In short, nothing must be omitted which can instruct and invigorate the men.

6thly, and lastly, That careful and intelligent videts be appointed and posted at proper distances and places upon the glacis, in order to give timely notice of the approaches of the enemy. That those videts be instructed to watch particularly the motions of the enemy after their flight of shells, taking it as a certain indication, that should they then appear, the shells which had been last fired, were not live ones, but dead ones, and from which there is nothing to apprehend, and in consequence, notice accordingly is instantly to be given ; for were the shells live ones the enemy would not appear, lest they should themselves be exposed to the splinters of them ; and therefore they would for their own sakes keep close in their trenches and avoid that danger.

In the above article of parapet-firing, I have been the more distinct and explicit, it being so essential a part of discipline for a soldier to be well instructed in, seeing, that most if not all of the rules, which have been delivered on that head, were rather speculative than practical, and calculated more for parade forms than different exigencies.

Of the rejoicing Fire.

The rejoicing fire is used on obtaining a victory, or on celebrating some public festival. The performance of which is very simple in itself and easily learned; it is therefore seldom practised but on such like occasions a direction alone being thought sufficient for the purpose.

There are, however, two sorts of rejoicing fires; the one by a volley, and the other by a running fire from right to left of the battalion. On the battalion being informed what sort of rejoicing fire is to be performed, the ranks are first to be closed to *half distance*; the men are then to prime and load; the front rank is not to kneel; each rank is to fire as rear rank men only; and the whole is to present in the air. Then, if a volley is to be fired, the whole battalion is to fire together, either by signal or by word of command. But should a running fire be made, it is to be performed from right to left in the succession of files; that is, the men of the first file on the right of the battalion are, on the word, *begin*, to pull their triggers; and then, as soon as those of the second file observe the flash in the pans of the first, they are also

also to pull their triggers ; and so on from one file to another, till the fire ends with the left hand file of the battalion.

S E C T. III. *Of the Column.*

The Column is a solid figure, comprehending four right angles, and whose opposite sides are equal to each other. This figure represents a parallelogram, the two shortest sides are termed, one the head, and the other the foot of the Column, or the front and rear of it ; and the longest sides are called the flanks. But this form is not always observed or regarded, for sometimes the Column is broader than it is deep or long, and sometimes approaching to a square, just as the person in command will judge necessary to determine ; but in which ever of the above forms the Column is constructed, the terms of its sides are immutable ; for the side which leads is called the front, its opposite the rear, and its other sides the flanks.

The use of the Column is, either to form a line of march, to attack a pass, retrenchment, or a breach made in the works of a fortified place ; and therefore the head, front or breadth of the Column is made more or less extensive in proportion to the service for which it is designed.

There are two sorts of columns, one is composed of *files*, and the other of *ranks*. That which is formed of *files*, is nothing more but a battalion or a body of men drawn up three deep ; and then faced either to the right or left, and marched in that order ; but should this breadth be deemed not sufficiently extensive, then to it is added more troops formed in the same manner, to make out the breadth or front

T

required.

required. With respect to the Column made up of *ranks*, it is formed from a battalion or a body of men drawn up also three deep; and then that body of men is told off into divisions, each division being of the same extent of the intended head or front of the Column; and those divisions are afterwards wheeled or placed in the succession of each other from front to rear.

Each of these two sorts of columns has its particular advocates in point of choice; some preferring that composed of *files*, while others esteem that which is formed of *ranks*. Were these different opinions limited to particular and not general uses, each might occasionally be adopted, and an advantage be obtained from it; but to say that either Column is fit for all purposes, I must condemn the assertion; since it will appear, upon a little reflection, that the sort of Column, which is necessary for one kind of service, will be found inconvenient or improper on a different occasion; and by the want of making this just distinction, and by the parties confining themselves to general and not to particular points, each becomes a bigot to his own opinion, and in consequence irreconcilable to any other. To remove then a prejudice so ill founded, I shall first endeavour to shew the power and force of the Column itself, that a just idea may be had of its importance; and next, how in consequence to apply it, under either form, suitable to the occasion, that it may in its operation produce the better effect.

The Column then, besides the definition already given of it, is a large, close, heavy, compacted body. Its success chiefly depends upon the impetuosity of its progress in its solid form; the weight and force of which being so great, when thus put in motion, that

no accessible line of men, retrenchment or barricade, of equal extent to its breadth can resist it, but like a torrent bears down all before it. And though the head of it may suffer much from the fire of such line, retrenchment or barricade, yet by its continually advancing and pressing on, and fresh men still presenting themselves to supply the places of the dead and wounded, it must at length arrive at the point of attack, before those who defend can possibly be prepared and ready to receive it afresh; and then of course a rout ensues, through a sense that the means of a repulse is no longer in their power.

On the other hand, the Column is also to be considered from the nature of its construction, as a body extremely unwieldy in itself, not only requiring much time and space for the operation of its evolutions, either to reduce or to alter its form, but liable besides from the least violent impression made upon it, to be involved in great disorder and confusion, by the parts being then broke and disjointed, and not so easily again put into order. It is a body that likewise requires the greatest equability and regularity in its movement and progress, otherwise it will unavoidably open, which must of course extend its rear beyond a proper distance, and by that means enfeeble its flanks, and expose it to total destruction from any sudden attack made at the time upon it. And though it is a body irresistible in itself by any line of equal extent to its front, yet it must ever be remembered how much that advantage diminishes in proportion as that line increases, or is more extensive than the front of the Column. And for instance,

Suppose two battalions of an equal force, and of a like establishment, oppose each other. The one forms

the *Line* and the other the *Column*. That of the line is told off into eight divisions or platoons; and that of the other into four divisions, formed into a Column either of ranks or of files; and that the attack of which is made on the centre of the opposite battalion, whose two centre divisions are, I shall suppose, of equal extent to the head of the Column. Now it is evident that this Column will not only be exposed in its progress to a *direct* fire from the two centre divisions, but also to the *flanking cross fire* of the three other divisions belonging to each wing of the *line*; and as those, who give these three flanking fires on each side, will have nothing to apprehend from the immediate attack of the Column to flurry or discompose them, therefore their fire will have the most certain effect, being delivered both with coolness and regularity; and though the surviving part of the Column should nevertheless still press on, the line will then have nothing more to do, but to open to the right and left at the centre, and to suffer the head of the Column just to pass through, and then for each wing to close in immediately upon it, and to charge it in flank with fixed bayonets before it can have time to recover itself from the disordered condition it must have consequently been thrown into by such a powerful weight of fire upon it, and then inevitable destruction will as quickly follow.

Hence appears the necessity for examining, and weighing well beforehand, what flanking force there is to oppose the Column in its progress; and where that is found to be too great for an open attack, then recourse must be had to stratagem; that is, where a real attack can be concealed and made by surprise, or where a variety of feints can be introduced remote from the true attack, which may divert the attention of those

those who defend such feints, then the Column will have its due weight, and will seldom or never miscarry.

Having thus shewn the power and force of the Column, I shall next represent what sort of Column will be necessary to apply under different circumstances, which I shall endeavour to exemplify by the following cases.

Case I. Suppose a retrenchment is to be attacked, and that from a neglect, or from the nature of the ground on the other side of it, no reserve of troops are there posted to meet and attack the head of the column on its forcing that retrenchment; and consequently all that is to be apprehended, is the attack of those on each side to take the Column in flank.

Conformable to this case, I would make choice of the Column composed of *files*, because, after it has penetrated, it can, on facing to the right and left outwards from the centre, instantly move forwards, either to charge those in flank, who may have still remained behind their works, and disperse them, or to oppose a front to those who, more remote, may there have formed a line parallel to the shaft of the Column.

Case II. Suppose a barricade or retrenchment is to be attacked, and that the enemy forms his line behind it at some convenient distance, in order to sustain that work, and to attack the head of the Column as it advances; and that the Column on its part has nothing to apprehend for its flanks, knowing the nature and situation of such works, which cannot admit of a flanking force sufficient to annoy or impede it in its progress,

Under

Under the circumstances of this case, I should prefer the Column composed of *ranks*, because the rear divisions of which can by facing to the right and left outwards, easily after join the leading division of the Column, and so form the *line*; which a Column of *files* cannot conveniently, or so expeditiously do, on account of the large sweep which the several parts must take in wheeling to accomplish that operation, besides the risk of being thrown into disorder by such an attempt.

Note, This Column I would likewise prefer for the purpose of forming the line on coming out of a pass or strait, where no flanking force is apprehended to oppose me,

Case III. Suppose a retrenchment is to be attacked, and that it is foreseen the enemy will, in order to support it, not only form a line to attack the head of the Column, but will likewise form a line on each side to attack the Column in flank.

In this situation I should make choice of what I call *the mixed Column*; that is, I would have the centre part of the Column formed of *ranks*, and each flank of *files*, in order that such Column may answer the united purposes of the two last cases, both for front and flank attacks as is here required.

Case IV. Suppose you are to meet the enemy in a street, road, or such like situation, where you and he are equally alike inclosed in such pass, and that neither of you can attack each other's flank.

In this case I should prefer the Column formed of *ranks*; because, as most, if not all roads, streets, &c. are

are seldom of an equal breadth in all parts, this Column can, from its construction, easily contract itself by doubling its ranks, or again unfold itself to its former breadth, as the occasion requires, which operation a Column of *files* cannot effect. And as to the method of attack, which I would venture to direct in this situation, it should be, instead of making use of that absurd form of *street fire* which is now practised, to have the ranks to extend to the full breadth of such pass, with directions, on no account to fire before ordered, but to make use of the bayonet, and decide the affair by manly vigour. The advantages of which method are these, first, the enemy cannot get in upon either of your flanks to disorder you, the whole space being filled up. And next, as the enemy will be ignorant of your design to reserve your fire, and to depend solely upon your bayonet, he will most probably give his fire on your advancing, which as surely as he does, he is inevitably lost; there being, I may venture to affirm, not an instance to be produced, where soldiers have imprudently thrown away their fire, and not finding the effect which they hoped to receive from it, did not, on being instantly after close pushed, think themselves incapable of all further resistance, and in consequence turn round on those in their rear to seek flight that way; and by the panic they communicate, throw all into confusion and disorder. The only danger attending an attack of this sort is, the risk you run of your men giving their fire first, and then the tables may be easily turned upon yourself, which to guard against, I would recommend that the front ranks be not permitted to load, which, instead of lessening their courage, will serve to increase their vigour in the attack, knowing their bayonet is to be their

their only dependance, together with the certain spirit that an advancing motion will ever excite ; but this disposition is a circumstance which must be, to the moment it is carried into execution, kept a profound secret from the enemy, lest his knowledge of it should serve to invigorate his defence, and make your own efforts the weaker. And besides the above direction, that those immediately in the rear of the front ranks be ordered on receiving the enemy's fire, to rush instantly on over the dead and wounded, and charge the enemy alone with their bayonets, and not to fire but where personal resistance is offered, and then to pursue the blow, and conquest will as rapidly follow.

I have said above, " That absurd form of *street fire* ;" and absurd I must beg leave to call it, and for the following reasons. In our present discipline we practise two methods of *street firing* ;" the one is, by making the division that has fired, to *wheel* afterwards by half ranks to the right and left outwards from the centre, and to march in that order by half-divisions down the flanks on each side of the Column, and to draw up in the rear, and there go on with their priming and loading. The other method is, to make the division, on having fired, to *face* to the right and left outwards from the centre, and one half rank to follow the other ; and in that order to march in one entire file down on each side of the Column into the rear, and there draw up as before.

Now by the first method it is evident, that you must, at the very least, have a front of ground double the extent of your rank ; otherwise, the division that fires cannot wheel out and march into the rear, in the order prescribed ; consequently, by the advantage the enemy will possess in having a front double in extent

to your's, it will enable him, not only to return your attack with a front of *equal force*, but to attack you at the same time on each flank with a *quarter force* more, besides the further advantage you necessarily give him by the time which you must unavoidably spend in the wheeling out of your half ranks, in order to clear your front for the succeeding division to come up and fire in turn, which are circumstances in themselves sufficient to afford an opportunity to an enemy to destroy any column that will make use of such a firing.

And as to the other method of street firing, though you increase by it the extent of your ranks, and consequently the weight of your fire; yet it is no less certain, that what is thus gained in rank or front is more than lost in time, by still the more tedious form of making the half ranks to face to the right and left outwards, and to follow each other into the rear, which is an opportunity that a sagacious spirited enemy will not fail to improve, and take advantage of to your total destruction.

Hence it appears, how necessary it is to discover the sort of discipline practised by the enemy, and by knowing its defects you will be enabled to make a provision accordingly, and to turn them to your future advantage.

The above being my reasons for condemning the *street-fire*, I shall take no further notice of it in the following work, but proceed to those points which I judge to be more essential in themselves.

I. *Battalion, advance your Firelocks.**Direction.*

See word of command I. Sect. III. Chap. III.

II. *Battalion, by Files, prepare to form the Column at the Centre.**Direction.*

The battalion having been told off into ten divisions, and numbered from right to left, and nominated as directed in Sect. I. Instruction II. of this Chapter; then all those divisions of the right wing are to face inwards to the left, as are those of the left wing to the right, excepting the three inward files of the second and third grand divisions on each side of the centre of the battalion, which are to stand fast, and be the leading files of their respective grand divisions.

III. *Battalion, form the Column. March.**Direction.*

The whole battalion is to step off together. The leading files at the centre of the battalion are to march straight forward, and as soon as the other files of the same grand divisions come up to the ground from whence the leading files had marched, they are successively to wheel and follow their leaders in a direct line. The inward single files of the first and fourth grand divisions are, at the same time, to make an half wheel to the front, and to march out, and lead in an oblique direction

direction their respective grand divisions, to join the two centre grand divisions, so as that the whole may form in an even and parallel direction with each other. And as to the first and tenth divisions, representing the grenadiers on the flanks of the battalion, their inward single files are likewise to make an half wheel to the front, and to lead their respective divisions to the head of the Column where they are to join each other in the front, not by *files*, as the other parts of the battalion have done, but by *ranks*, and at the distance of about twenty paces advanced.

The reason for making the grenadiers form by *ranks* at the head of the column is this; that by their making a greater front than the column itself, they may so much the more cover the flanks of it from the opposite fire of the enemy, and that by their embracing a greater extent of the enemy's front, they may the better divert his fire from the column; by which means when the column comes to arrive at the point of attack, as it will suffer less to weaken and disorder it, it must of course be more vigorous and regular in its assault.

IV. Column. Halt.

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

The reason of this halt is to see that the whole is completely formed, and in proper order to advance.

V. *Column, advance to the Charge.*

Direction.

The whole is to step off together, beginning the march with the left foot, and to preserve throughout an equal measure and the same pace, otherwise the column will unavoidably open, and the rear will of course extend itself beyond its proper distance from the front, and consequently will diminish its weight and weaken its efforts, and therefore as there is no one operation in discipline which requires more a greater equability of motion in its progress than this one, I would have the column always to advance or retreat, either by music or by some other sound, which can minutely point out the time of the step.

The column having pierced the enemy's line or works, the following words of command are to be given, in order to maintain the ground so acquired, and to disperse afterwards such of the enemy as may attempt to attack the column.

VI. *Column: Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast, and instantly to close up to proper distance.

VII. *Column,*

VII. *Column, face to Flank Attack.**Direction.*

The two grand divisions on the right of the centre are to face to the right, as are those on the left to the left, and the grenadiers are to remain, as before, faced to the front.

VIII. *Flank Divisions, March and Charge.**Direction.*

The two flank grand divisions are to march straight forward, but the two centre grand divisions are to stand fast back to back, in order to advance occasionally to sustain the others.

Note. This operation will be explained better farther on.

IX. *Flank Divisions. Halt.**Direction.*

They are to stand fast,

X. *Battalion, prepare to retreat by Columns.**Direction.*

The two flank divisions are to go to the right about, and to march, and join, as before, the two centre divisions; which being effected, the whole with the grenadiers are then to face to the rear.

XI. *Column.*

XI. *Column. Retreat.**Direction.*

The whole is to step off, beginning the march with the left foot.

Note, For as much as it was indispensably necessary for the Column to observe great order in *advancing*, so much is it more incumbent now in *retreating*; this being the only critical moment for the enemy, if he has any cavalry at all, to attack the column in flank, and therefore the greatest and nicest regularity is to be maintained in its present movement. And under this order of march, should it be attacked, it will then have nothing more to do, but to halt and face outward from the centre, and keep close back to back, but the rear files, which now lead the retreat of the column, are not, so far as three deep, to face outward with the rest, but to remain faced to the rear; by which means the column will then, on the grenadiers closing in at the same time to the column, and coming to the right about, form a perfect front to each of its four sides. Why I would thus have the grenadiers still to remain at the head of the column, instead of letting one division of them to lead the retreat is, that by their conjoint weight they may the better repel the enemy, who will not fail on this occasion to make a vigorous sally and push in pursuit of the column.

XII. *Column. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast, and close up.

XIII. *Column, prepare to form the Line.**Direction.*

The division of grenadiers on the right wing is to face outward to the left, as is that of the left wing to the right. The files which lead the retreat of the several grand divisions are to wheel to the right and left outwards from the centre of the column; that is, those leading files of the first and second grand divisions are to wheel to the left, as are those of the third and fourth grand divisions to the right, in order to lead their respective grand divisions to their proper ground in the line.

XIV. *Column, form the Line. March.**Direction.*

The whole is to step off. The grenadiers of each wing are to follow their file leaders, and to march in an oblique direction to the ground, which they are to occupy in the line. The file leaders of the first and fourth grand divisions are to march straight forward to their ground, making the line of their direction to stand at right angles with the shaft of the column; and as soon as the last file of each of the above grand divisions

divisions has wheeled, in order to follow in line their respective file leaders, then the file leaders of the second and third grand divisions, are likewise to fall in and follow, leading also their respective divisions, excepting those files which had led the *advance*; these are not now to wheel and follow, as the others did, but only to move up to their ground in the line, and stand fast.

XV. Battalion. Halt.

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

XVI. Battalion, face to the Front.

Direction.

The whole is to face accordingly, and dress.

XVII. Battalion, by Ranks, prepare to form the Column at the Centre.

Direction.

The whole Battalion is to face inwards, as directed in the second word of Command, excepting the divisions numbered 5 and 6 at the centre, which are to stand fast, and to be the leading divisions of those of their respective wings.

XVIII. Battalion, form the Column. March.

Direction.

The leading divisions of the column, number 5 and 6,

6, are to march straight forward; then number 4 and 7 are to move on till they come to join each other, when they are to face to the front and follow their leaders; and so on for number 3 and 8, and number 2 and 9; and on the Column being thus formed, which will, in appearance, make four grand divisions following each other, then those several divisions are to move up to each other, and march in a close and compact order; but number 1 and 10, the grenadiers, are to march in an oblique direction, and join one another at the head of the Column, as directed in the third word of command.

XIX. *Column. Halt.*

Direction.

See the fourth word of command.

XX. *Column, advance to the Charge.*

Direction.

See the fifth word of command.

XXI. *Column. Halt.*

Direction.

See the sixth word of command.

XXII. *Column; form to Front-attack.*

Direction.

The divisions, numbered 4 and 7, are to face to the right and left outwards from their point of junction

tion, and march directly forward; and when they have gained a distance, equal to the extent of their respective divisions, then they are to face to the front, and join number 5 and 6, on each side, as before in the line. On number 4 and 7 having marched clear from the rear of number 5 and 6, then number 3 and 8 are to move up to that ground, and likewise face to the right and left outwards, and march and draw up in the line, as number 4 and 7 had just done before them; and so on with respect to number 2 and 9, till the line is formed as at first. The grenadiers, number 1 and 10, are at the same time to face outwards from their centre, and draw up on the flanks of the battalion.

XXIII. *Battalion, make ready and fire.*

Direction.

The firing to be observed on this occasion is to be the *alternate fire*, from centre to flanks, and performed as follows. The grenadiers, who cover the Column, are first to fire alternately, and then to face, as above, to the right and left outwards, and on their march to cover the flanks of the Battalion; they are to go on with their priming and loading, and as soon as they have fired, and in consequence moved off, then the firing of the Battalion is to begin from centre to flanks, each division firing in succession as it draws up.

XXIV. *Battalion, retreat by Column.*

Direction.

The grenadiers on the right and left are to face outwards, and reserve their fire, which is not to be given

given but on the most pressing occasion; then the other divisions are to fire alternately from flanks to centre, and on each having fired, it is immediately to go to the right about, and march forward three paces, and then to face inwards to the centre of the Battalion, and march close in the rear of it, till it comes to join at the centre its correspondent division of the other wing, when both are together to face to the rear, and march straight forward, and then go on with their priming and loading; and when the two centre divisions have likewise fired, they are to go to the right about, and march after the other leading divisions in Column. On each division having fired and retreated as above directed, the grenadiers on each flank are to occupy successively the ground so vacated by the divisions till they themselves come to meet at the centre, when they also are to face to the rear and follow the Column, still not offering to fire, but where the most absolute necessity requires, and then only one division at a time, in order that each may the better sustain the other.

Note, In retreating, the Column is to march in a very close compact body, for the reason given in the eleventh word of command, and should it be then attacked the Column is then to halt, and the divisions are to face outwards from the centre, and keep close back to back, excepting the division which leads the retreat, which is to remain faced to the rear; and as for the rest, see the eleventh word of command,

XXV. *Column. Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

XXVI. *Column, prepare to form the Line.**Direction.*

Number 2 and 9 being now both together, and constituting the leading division of the Column are each to face to the left and right outwards, and the grenadiers are to do the same.

XXVII. *Column, form the Line. March.**Direction.*

The grenadiers are to march as directed in the fourteenth word of command. The 2d and 9th divisions are to march straight forward, at right angles with the shaft of the Column, to their proper ground in the line. When the 2d and 9th divisions have marched clear off the ground, upon which they stood, the 3d and 8th are to move up to that place, and then to face likewise outwards from each other, as the leading divisions had just done before them, and follow. The same evolution is to be performed by the 4th and 7th divisions, but when the 5th and 6th divisions move up to the above ground, they are only to stand fast, and not to face outwards.

XXVIII. *Battalion. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast.

XXIX. *Battalion, face to the Front.**Direction.*

The 5th and 6th divisions are to come to the right about, and all the other divisions are to face to the front, and then dress.

XXX. *Battalion, by Files and Ranks, prepare to form the Column at the Centre.**Direction.*

Previous to this operation, the divisions numbered 4, 5, 6, and 7, are to be subdivided; and then the inward subdivisions of number 5 and 6, on each side of the centre, are to be appointed to lead the other subdivisions of their respective wings, which are to compose that part of the mixed column formed of *Ranks*. The above matters being adjusted, then the whole Battalion is, on the above word of command being given, to face inwards to the centre, as directed in the second word of command, excepting the leading subdivisions of number 5 and 6, which are to stand fast.

XXXI. *Battalion, form the Column. March.**Direction.*

The inward subdivisions of number 5 and 6 are to march directly forwards, and the other subdivisions are to join each other, as the whole divisions are directed

to do in the eighteenth word of command. The grand divisions, number 1 and 4, are to march by *files*, and to place themselves in that order close on the outward flanks of the above subdivisions forming by *ranks* into column, as directed in word of command III, and the divisions of grenadiers are to march and post themselves at the head of the column, as directed in the same word of command.

XXXII. Column. Halt.

Direction.

See word of command IV.

XXXIII. Column, advance to the Charge.

Direction.

See word of command V.

XXIX. Column. Halt.

Direction.

See word of command VI.

XXXV. Column, form to Front and flank Attacks.

Direction.

Those that formed the flank part of the column by *files*, viz. the first and fourth grand divisions, are to
face

face outwards, as directed in word of command VII. and then to march straight forwards, as directed in word of command VIII. The subdivisions that formed the centre part of the column by *ranks*, are to proceed at the same time as the whole divisions are directed in word of command XXII. The grenadiers are likewise to face to the right and left outwards from their centre, and to march straight forward and post themselves on the two angles, made by the junction of the front face with the two flank faces, for the purposes, either to cover those angles, or to prolong occasionally either face.

XXXVI. *Battalion, make ready and Fire.*

Direction.

The whole is to fire as one intire line, by *firings* as will be shown farther on.

XXXVII. *Battalion, cease Firing.*

Direction.

The whole is to cease.

XXXVIII. *Battalion, prepare to retreat by Column.*

Direction.

The grenadiers and that part of the battalion which had before formed the column by *ranks*, are to proceed as directed in word of command XXIII. And the
two

two flank faces, or that part which before formed the Column by *files*, are to go to the right about and close into the shaft of the column, as directed in word of command X, taking care at the same time, gradually to close in as the subdivisions come to fall in and form the centre part of the column; and on the column being thus formed and in compact order, the whole is to stand fast.

XXXIX. Column. Retreat.

Direction.

See word of command XXIII. and word of command XI.

XL. Column. Halt.

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

XLI. Column, prepare to form the Line.

Direction.

The grenadiers and the two flank divisions in *files*, viz. the first and fourth grand divisions, are to proceed as directed in word of command XIII, and the two rear subdivisions which led those of the column in *ranks*, are to face outwards to their respective wings, as the whole divisions are directed in word of command XXV.

XLII. Column,

XLII. *Column, form the Line.**Direction.*

The grenadiers and the first and fourth grand divisions are to march and fall in, as directed in word of command XIV, and all the sub divisions at the centre are likewise to fall in to the line, as the divisions are directed in word of command XXVI.

XLIII. *Battalion. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast.

XLIV. *Battalion, face to the Front.**Direction.*

The two sub-divisions on each side of the centre of the battalion, are to come to the right-about; and all the rest of the battalion is to face to the front, and then dress.

XLV. *Battalion, by Division, prepare to form the Column to the Right.**Direction.*

The several divisions are to hold themselves in readiness to wheel.

XLVI. *Battalion, form the Column. March.**Direction.*

Each division is to wheel a quadrant.

XLVII. *Column. Halt.**Direction.*

See word of command IV.

XLVIII. *Column. March.**Direction.*The whole is to step off. See Chap. II. Sect. VI.
Art. III.XLIX. *Column. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast; and then each rear division is to dress to its proper distance from that which immediately precedes it.

L. *Column, by Division, prepare to form the Line to the Right.**Direction.*

Each division is to hold itself in readiness.

LI. *Column, form the Line. March.**Direction.*

Each division is to wheel a quadrant upon the right heel of the front rank man.

The intent of this disposition is, that should the enemy be discovered on the right flank of the Column; that then by wheeling the several divisions to the right, the line may at once be formed, in order to oppose a front to his attack. The only inconvenience attending this operation is, that it reverses the order in which the divisions had before stood in the former line, by making that flank, which was then the interior, to become now the exterior; but this inconvenience is easily obviated, by directing the officers commanding divisions to change their situation at the time of wheeling, and to post themselves on the present exterior flanks of their respective divisions, and then the difference upon the whole will be very immaterial.

LII. *Battalion. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast and dress.

LIII. *Battalion, by Division, prepare to wheel backwards to the Right, and form the Column.**Direction.*

The several divisions are to hold themselves in readiness to wheel.

LIV. *Battalion, form the Column. March.**Direction.*

Each division is to wheel backward a quadrant upon the right heel of the front rank man; and while that operation is performing the officers are to return to their former posts.

Note; This operation can be otherwise performed by first making the whole to go to the right about, and then each division to wheel to the left upon the left heel of the rear rank man; and afterwards to come to the right about, but as this operation requires more words of command; and consequently more time in the performance, I have therefore made choice of the former method in preference to the latter, especially where the divisions are not too extensive, as in the present case. But where a battalion is to wheel back by wings, or grand divisions, then this latter method will be found more convenient, and in so much as an extensive rank of men can wheel with greater ease and exactness forward than backward.

LV. *Column. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast and dress.

LVI. *Column. March.**Direction.*

See word of command XLIV.

LVII.

LVII. *Column. Halt.*

Direction.

See word of command XLV.

LVIII. *Column, by Division, prepare to form the Line to the Left.*

Direction.

The several divisions are to hold themselves in readiness to wheel.

LIX. *Column, form the Line. March.*

Direction.

Each division is to wheel a quadrant upon the left heel of the front rank man.

The intent of this disposition is likewise to oppose a front to the enemy, should he appear upon the left flank of the column.

LX. *Battalion. Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast and dress.

LXI. *Battalion by division, prepare to wheel backwards to the Left, and form the Column.*

Direction.

The several divisions are to hold themselves in readiness to wheel.

LXII. *Bat-*

LXII. *Battalion, form the Column. March.**Direction.*

Each division is to wheel back on the left heel of the front rank man.

LXIII. *Column. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast and dress.

LXIV. *Column. March.**Direction.*

The whole is to step off.

LXV. *Column. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast and dress.

LXVI *Column, by Division, prepare to form the Line to your Van.**Direction.*

The several divisions are to hold themselves in readiness to form.

LXVII. *Column, form the Line. March.*

Note, Previous to this operation, I shall here suppose your column to be on its march, through a road; pass,

pass, or defile, and now to be upon the point of just entering into a plain, or open piece of ground, where the enemy is discovered ready drawn up in order to receive you; on notice of which, you are first to halt and put yourself in order; and then you are carefully to observe what sort of disposition he has made, to the intent of your planning some scheme yourself, which may either counteract him, or at least procure you an advantage over him. To obtain which, one circumstance you will always have in your favour, which is, that he is confined, and you are at liberty to act, for a disposition once made by the enemy, cannot, on any pressing occasion, be soon altered without some difficulty and great hazard, of which a sagacious officer will never lose sight, but endeavour, as opportunity offers, to avail himself.

According then to the above premises, suppose the enemy should be drawn up close to the outlet of the pass at which you are arrived. Now, in this case, it will be best to line that part of the boundary of the plain next you, and from that cover to drive him off with your fire, or oblige him to retire at a greater distance, or you may, by an unexpected sally and rapid push with your column, pierce at once his line, and then take him in flank on both sides, and either disperse or cut him to pieces.

Or suppose you should find him drawn up in a crescent, in order that he may with more advantage throw in his fire from all parts of his line, on the point of the outlet of the pass. On this occasion you are to look for a convenient situation from which you may command him, and take the horns of his crescent in flank; and on your having found a proper place for the purpose, and posted your men, you are then to observe the effect

effect of your fire; and where you find it makes an impression, and throws the enemy into confusion, then is your moment to avail yourself of that happy circumstance, by making a sudden vigorous sally upon him, before he can have time to recollect himself, or to remedy his present disorder. Of all the affairs that occur in the service, attacks of this sort are those only by which an officer can have a fortunate opportunity to signalize himself, and advance his reputation, there being nothing more wanting, but a little presence of mind and vigour to follow his blow, and then he will have better than a thousand to one in his favour that he succeeds, for the repulse of those who are near him will ever communicate a panic, and magnify the danger of those who are more remote, and then a handful of men will drive thousands before them---so lost are men when once they come to be disordered.

Or suppose you should observe the enemy to be drawn up in a line at some distance from the outlet of the pass, and there waiting to receive you. You are then first to take notice how his left flank, which will always be opposed to your right, bears from you in front; that is, whether it inclines to your right, to your left, or is directly opposite to you; and as that will appear, you are to give, besides the suitable, the following general instructions to your leading division, which is to serve as a guide to the other succeeding divisions how to proceed, and when to draw up. First, that it endeavours, before it wheels in order to draw up, to gain as much as it can on the opposite flank of the enemy, so as to out-flank him, to the intent of procuring by that means a superior weight of fire upon him; next, that if this advantage cannot be obtained, that it does at the least draw up opposite to, but never within him, except
covered

covered from his fire. And lastly, that it be careful not to draw up so near to the enemy, as to risk its being cut off, before the other divisions can come up to join and sustain it.

These matters I have premised in order to explain the intent of the following operation, and to shew how to proceed on a similar occasion, I shall now return to the point of exercise, and go on with it.

Direction.

The first or leading division is to stand fast, and all the other succeeding divisions are to keep marching on. As soon as the second division has closed within two paces of the first, it is to face to the left, and march directly forward, and when it has gained a distance equal to its own extent, it is then to face to the front, and join the first division. On the second division having marched clear from the rear of the first, then the third division is to move up to that ground, and likewise face to the left, and draw up on the left of the second, and so on with respect to all the other divisions till the line is formed.

Note, The above operation points out only the method of forming the line, when the left of the enemy's line is either opposite to you or inclines towards your left; but when his left stands obliquely to your right, then there are two other methods for forming your line, and your choice of either will depend upon his situation from you. See Chap. II. Sect. V. Art. VI. Suppose for instance that he is drawn up about two hundred yards distant from the outlet of your pass, then in this case, it would be best, without approaching him, to make your divisions wheel to the

Z right,

right, and march in Column along his front, and parallel to him, till your leading division has gained, at the least, an opposite direction to his left; when you are to form your line by making all your divisions to wheel at once to the left, and after which, to advance upon him; or next, should he be drawn up at a greater distance from the outlet of the pass than the above, then you are, in order to save ground and time, to march in Column in an oblique or diagonal direction towards his left; and when your leading division has obtained the length and distance you require, then halt your Column, and order the whole to make so much of a wheel to the left, as to bring the front of each division to be parallel to the line of the enemy, directing withal the succeeding divisions, after they have thus wheeled, to march forward and join each other in line.

LXVIII. *Battalion. Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

LXIX. *Battalion, by Division, prepare to retreat by Column.*

Direction.

The several divisions are to hold themselves in readiness.

LXX. *Battalion, Retreat. March.**Direction.*

This operation is nothing more but the reverse of the former : in that, the line was formed from right to left ; but in this, the line is reduced to Column from left to right ; which to effect, all that is requisite is, that the several divisions do successively go to the right about, and march four paces forward ; then face to the left, and march on in the rear of the line till it comes directly into the rear of the first division, when it is to face to the right and march on.

Note. When a Retreat of this kind is to be made on service, it will be more expedited and much better done, by observing the method prescribed in the twenty-third word of command ; and in order to make the retreat still more secure, it will be expedient for the two rear divisions, which lead the retreat, to possess themselves immediately of such covers as border on the inlet of the pass, through which the column is to retreat.

LXXI. *Column. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast, and dress.

LXXII. *Column, to the Right About.**Direction.*

The whole is to come to the right about.

LXXIII. *Column. March.**Direction.*

The whole is to step off.

LXXIV. *Column. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast.

LXXV. *Column, by Division, prepare to form the Line to the Left.**Direction.*

The several divisions are to hold themselves in readiness.

LXXVI. *Column, form the Line. March.**Direction.*

Each division is to wheel a quadrant.

LXXVII. *Battalion. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast, and dress.

Of passing a Bridge.

A bridge may, in a great measure, be considered as a defile or pass, through which the column is to march, the near end being the inlet, and the farther end the outlet of that pass; when the near end is fortified, it is with a view as well to prevent a surprize of those posted on the other side, as to keep open a communication with that side of the country upon which such works are erected; but when the farther end is fortified; it is only for the purpose of opposing a passage over the Bridge. Hence it appears, that the methods of attack must be as different as the defences are various, comprehending withal the nature of the ground, and the disposition of the enemy; and as there is in either instances a vast variety, therefore it is, that no one method of attack which can be laid down or practised at exercise will prove a sufficient instruction; for this reason then I shall only offer some general rules, which will be found, not only more comprehensive of this branch of discipline, but will serve to enlarge the ideas, and to give a greater scope to the imagination than can be acquired by any contracted system or set form, which seldom answers any other end but to limit the resources, and to impoverish the genius of an officer.

First then, previous to the passing of the bridge, if good intelligence has not been already procured, the ground adjoining to the place must be well reconnoitred; that is, you are to see under what cover you can to approach; what high or commanding spots there are near it; what is the breadth of the river; what is the nature of the works erected
by

by the enemy; and what is the disposition he has made.

After these observations have been made, and conformable to them you are to frame or plan your own disposition of attack, and to provide yourself with the necessary materials for it. With regard to the disposition which you are to make, you are carefully to allot to each division its separate and distinct service, in order as well to prevent confusion, as that the several divisions may not clash or interfere with each other, and that more men may not occupy any particular place than what are necessary. You are likewise to appoint some parties to annoy and keep the enemy in play, while the others are in the mean time employed in making preparations for the assault. And lastly, you are to assign to other divisions proper posts, from whence they can conveniently and easily sustain and relieve the different attacks, and likewise to cover your retreat in case of necessity.

These points being regulated and settled, I shall now suppose, that the near end of the bridge is covered or defended by either a wall or a retrenchment of any particular form; and that from the bank of the river, as is commonly the case, there is a rising ground up from it; then the first post which you are to occupy, is to be that directly opposite to the passage of the bridge, where you are to cover yourself, either by a trench or some other means, which you may find most convenient for your purpose. This post is so much the more essential, as it not only gives you a command of the enemy's works, but as it enables you to scour the bridge, and to prevent the approach of succours from the opposite side; which last you will better accomplish,

as

as most bridges do rise at the centre, and of course fall off to each end, consequently the whole of the troops that come over it, will, from the centre, be exposed all the way to your fire, and in so much as one man in the rear must appear above him in his front, and that in proportion as the slope or spring of the bridge happens to be greater or less.

Next you are, in order to expedite the attack, and to distract and strike terror into the enemy, to make two or more assaults at the same time, or to embrace all at once his works on each side, so as to oppose a front to each face of his defences; and for which purpose, you are first to detach to those places small parties to begin the attack, consisting each of a single rank, in order as well to draw off the fire of the enemy, as that the several divisions behind may, in the mean time, come up intire to join them, before those who defend can have time again to load. The intent of detaching single ranks for the above purpose, preferable to two or more ranks drawn up in the rear of each other, is to render the fire of the enemy upon those parties the more uncertain and ineffectual, by having a more open and a less compact body to fire at. On the arrival of your divisions, the men must be directed to behave with great coolness and deliberation, and to fire at none but those immediately opposite to themselves; and if this regulation is well observed, neither great guns or small arms will be able much to annoy them, since the first cannot be worked without the men belonging to them being exposed to your fire through the embrasures, nor can the last have effect, since those who defend must appear above the parapet in order to give their fire over it, and then they can be instantly picked off
or

or beat down again under that cover before they can have time to present, or take any fixed aim. Matters being thus disposed, the pioneers are next to follow, being furnished with the proper materials suitable to the nature of the enemy's works; such as scaling ladders, fascines to fill the ditch, hooks or other implements for pulling down and destroying the works, &c. Where scaling ladders are requisite, the application of them will be found most successful under cover of the night or a thick fog, as the obscurity under which the attack is then made, not only magnifies the danger, but diffuses terror and confusion among those who defend; but the case is otherwise in clear day light, as then the place where those ladders are planted can be easily seen, to which parties may be sent to oppose the attack; and besides, as the tops of those ladders must necessarily reach higher than the enemy's work's, they likewise can be seen, and can without any difficulty be easily shoved off or overturned with forks, and without those who do it being exposed, at the time, to any considerable degree of danger; but in all those attacks a great deal will depend upon circumstances which must ever govern the conduct of him in command. But as to square or triangular redoubts, having no bastions, and formed only by retrenchments, in the attack of such like works scaling ladders are useless at all times, the other requisites being sufficient; only observing, that if there be attillery in the place which you are to attack, that you advance, if you can, in the direction of the *capital line* of such works; and then the guns being in the embrasures, made in the sides of the redoubt, and you of course in an oblique direction to them, they cannot therefore be well traversed or brought to bear upon

upon you with any degree of effect, so as either to retard or disable you.

This outwork of the Bridge being thus attacked and carried, the next step is to prepare for the passage of the Bridge itself. To oppose which, I shall again suppose the enemy to have thrown up another work at the farther end, in the form of a crescent or semi-polygon, in order that he may the more conveniently increase his weight of fire upon the point of passage or outlet of the Bridge.

The preparations then necessary for this attack are; first, you are carefully to observe what part, and how much of the enemy's works lie open, or exposed to your view, from your side of the river, and then mark that place from whence you can enfilade or take him in flank across the river, directing those, whom you intend to post there, not to appear, nor to begin their fire till the column is on the point of attack; in order that the enemy may be the less prepared at that juncture to guard against so unexpected a blow, of being taken both in front and flank at the same time.

The disposition which you are further to make, and the materials which you are to provide requisite for this assault, are much the same as those of the last attack, but if high mantelets can be procured, to roll on and cover the men in front as they advance, they will be of infinite service, and will favour much the attack.

Note, I could wish to have mantelets made of a particular construction, such as have not only small holes made in them for the men behind occasionally to fire through, but to have hinges at the bottom, that when the braces or arms that keep them upright are let loose, they may fall forward, for the purposes as well of

clearing all obstructions to those behind, as of making a convenient bridge to pass over narrow trenches.

But if mantelets cannot be provided, then I would have the leading divisions to sling their muskets over one shoulder, and to carry fascines in their hands advanced before them, and those of such sufficient length as will not only cover effectually the line of life, but will appear at least a foot above their heads, in order to afford those in the rear so much a better shelter; and when those in front come to arrive at the point of attack, they are then to throw down at once their fascines, and handle their arms; and while they are thus severally employed in attacking their respective parts of the defence, the pioneers are to move up and proceed as before directed.

In advancing to this or any other attack, the men are to march briskly on, and for these essential purposes. First, that it serves to animate them the more; and next, that it proves the only means to strike dismay and confusion into the enemy, and to induce him in consequence to throw away his fire, either precipitately or at too great a distance.

Having thus conducted yourself and driven off the enemy, you are instantly to detach parties in pursuit of him, in order to avail yourself of his present disorder, and to prevent his re-assembling again to dislodge you, and could you have prosecuted the same scheme at the other end of the bridge, in consequence of your first attack, it would prove the most sure means of facilitating likewise the success of this last enterprize, and with little or no loss on your side; it being a matter to be depended upon, that those who fly from you will not only effectually cover you from the opposite fire, but will ever excite terror, confusion and disorder,

der, among those to whom they have recourse for protection. This is then the critical moment for which you are to lie in wait, and at which you are as eagerly to grasp, it being from such lucky opportunities as these, that an active sagacious officer can never fail to establish his reputation, and to give credit and honour to himself and to the troops of his prince.

The enemy being dispersed, and proper precautions in consequence taken to maintain the posts so acquired, then the parties which had been left on the other side of the river to favour the passage of the bridge are to be called in, and afterwards dismissed to their respective corps or stations.

But as any attack, however well planned and conducted, is nevertheless liable, from some accident or unforeseen circumstance, to be rendered abortive, prudence then should direct him in command, previously to make a provision for such an event, so as to hinder a repulse from becoming as far as can be a fatal misfortune. To this end, there are two things which he must studiously endeavour to prevent and to guard against. The one is, the *disorder and confusion* incident to a repulse; and the other is, *the pursuit of the enemy*, which is seldom or never neglected on the occasion. As to the first, the whole command is previously to be informed, to what *place* and by what *pass* the retreat is to be made, and how the several divisions are successively to fall in; but as the order of succession here mentioned is more a form of exercise, than a rule of service, the divisions in this last case are to follow each other, as they shall happen occasionally to be drawn off, and on their arrival at their place of destination or rendezvous, then, and not before, they are to return if need be, to their former order or sta-

tion. And as to the last, namely, the *pursuit of the enemy*, care is to be taken that a reserve or sufficient body of men be posted in such advantageous places as may not only command the pass through which the retreat is to be made, but may serve to check and oppose the progress of the enemy, directing such party not upon any account to abandon or give up such posts, before the command is either formed to receive the enemy, or has gained a sufficient distance to secure the retreat.

Now it may be observed, from all the foregoing circumstances, and by a vast variety of others occasioned by the difference of ground or disposition of the enemy, that no one method which can be practised or introduced at exercise for passing a bridge, will prove a sufficient instruction, or even will convey a tolerable idea of this part of the service; and therefore, I am of opinion, that a prescription of some general rules, similar to what I have touched upon, will be found more comprehensive and far better to be depended upon, submitting afterwards all other occurrences and casualties to the genius and judgment of him in command.

S E C T. IV. *Of the Square.*

The Square is a regular hollow figure, having four equal sides and angles: the sides are all called *faces*, which are termed and distinguished by their situation, as front face, rear face, right face, left face; but those sides or faces do not, as in a geometrical square, meet or terminate in a point at the angle, but they are so contrived to lock, or shut in, as that the right of each face may cover the left flank of the contiguous face.

Now as those faces stand of course at right angles with each other, they are therefore capable to oppose an attack made in their respective directions; but as the direction of the angles stand oblique to that of the faces, therefore the faces cannot so effectually sustain and defend the angles as they can themselves, by which means the angles lie open and exposed to any attack made directly upon them. To remedy then this defect, platoons or divisions are posted on those angles to cover them as will be shown further on.

The intent of the square is solely calculated to defend *infantry* against *cavalry*. There are two ways for forming the square, one from the *line* and the other from the *column*. For each of these purposes, there have been various schemes and methods proposed, but I own, that of all I have yet seen or heard of, there were none with which I could be pleased, because that from the *line* is founded upon wrong principles, being not practicable upon service, or at best excessively dangerous; and that from the *column* is partial and not general, showing us only how to form the square out of a single battalion, but not out of a greater number. Nor am I more reconciled to our management of the platoons which cover the angles, that method being also erroneous, it being impossible to obtain sufficient time for the requisite operations, or if attempted, it must be at the risk of total destruction.

Now, in order to support these my assertions, I shall begin with each method in the order it stands, and first with respect to that of forming the square from the *line*. In this particular let it be observed, that it is, in the first place, an established maxim, "That no officer commanding infantry ought to form his *line* against

against cavalry, where he cannot with safety secure his flanks and rear ;” because, should he neglect this precaution, the motion of cavalry being so rapid, that before he could have time to alter his disposition, or to change his situation, he must inevitably be surrounded and cut to pieces ; and, in the next place, it is no less a maxim, “ That no officer should form the square against infantry ;” because he must, by so doing, present and expose to the enemy two of his flanks from any direct view of either face. Hence then, in both these instances, the absurdity of any scheme to form the *line*, in order to form from thence the *square* ; and therefore I must condemn any method whatever of forming the square from the line, being totally repugnant to reason.

Next with respect to our method of forming the square from the column, consisting of a single battalion. This I also object to, because the rule is *partial* and not *general* ; that is, it informs us very well how the square is to be formed out of a single battalion, and there it rests, but it furnishes us with no sort of direction or assistance how that is to be effected out of a greater number. I am therefore for having some general rule to guide an officer, by which he can with equal ease and regularity form his square, whether it is to consist of one or of ever so great a number of battalions, since it must be confessed, that there are circumstances, which I shall relate farther on, that require occasionally squares of different magnitudes and capacities ; and where no rule is prescribed for that purpose, the want of it must be productive of great confusion, irregularity, and loss of time ; and, in the run of events, may prove fatal to the service, as well as detrimental to the reputation of him in command.

And

And lastly, with respect to the management of the platoons which cover the angles of the square: Our method is, that when each of those platoons has fired, the adjacent angle, or the angle it covers, then opens, in order to admit it into the square by way of retreat, where it remains till such time as it is loaded again when it is to return.

Now, in order to point out the impropriety of this method, it will be necessary to consider, whether there is sufficient time for the above operations. To this end, then, I shall suppose a body of cavalry making a direct charge upon one of the angles, and that this attack is made with a velocity equal to the rate of only *eight miles* an hour, and that the platoon which covers that angle fires at so great a distance as *forty yards*.

Now there are 1760 yards in a mile, which multiplied by 8, the velocity of attack, give 14080, the number of yards in eight miles, and this number, 14080, being divided by 60', the number of minutes in an hour,, the quotient will be 234.66 yards, the space of ground over which the attack will move in a single minute. Again, let 234.66 be divided by 60'', the number of seconds in a minute, the quotient of which division will be 3.91, the number of yards the attack will also pass over in a second of time. Then let 40, the distance in yards the cavalry is first fired at, be divided by 3.91, the quotient will be 10''.20 or little better than the sixth of a minute, the time in which the platoon, after firing, is to face and march by files into the square; and also for the division of the angle which had wheeled out to admit that platoon to wheel back again to its former ground, and settle itself to receive the attack continued.

Now the point under consideration will be, whether the

the time of about the sixth of a minute, and regarding it withal as too favourable a computation, will be sufficient to effect the above retreat, according to our present method, besides considering that the larger the platoon is which covers the angle, the longer time it will of course require to retreat, or to get into the square. The answer, in my opinion, requires not the least degree of hesitation, even were the time double or treble, seeing that the smallest stop or failure, occasioned by any means at so critical a juncture, must be attended with inevitable destruction to the whole. Besides, if it be held necessary for this platoon to cover the angle of the square, as certainly it is, then why is not that coverture continued, since it must be as useful at one time as at an other? and more especially at a time when it is most wanted, for common sense will inform us, that it is equally as well sustained on the outside of the square, after it has fired, as any other part of the square can be under the like circumstance, after its having also fired, as will be demonstrated farther on. And hence my reason for rejecting this method.

Having now represented the impropriety and disadvantage attending our present methods of forming the square, as well from the *line* as from the *column*, and also the mismanagement of the *platoons* which cover the angles, it now remains for me to offer a scheme, in order to remedy those defects. I have already condemned every attempt to form the square from the line, and therefore I shall discard that point, and will confine myself only to the forming of it from the column, and in which plan I shall give the necessary directions for the management of the platoons which are to cover the angles. But previous to this design,

It will be convenient to give the following *instructions* to the Adjutant or Major of each Battalion.

I. That he do carefully inform himself of what number of battalions the whole *column* doth consist, with the *order of march*, or the succession of the several battalions as they march in column.

II. That each battalion be divided into ten divisions or rather companies, and numbered from right to left. The reasons for which will be hereafter given.

III. That the first and tenth divisions, whether of grenadiers or of battalion-men, be each subdivided and appointed to cover the angles of the square; and in such a manner that the first division may cover the angles of the front face, while the tenth do likewise cover those of the rear; but when two or more battalions are conjointly to form a square, then the number of those subdivisions appointed for covering the angles in each battalion is collectively to be divided into four equal parts, always contriving to let those which compose any angle division be as near as possible to their respective battalions, in order that they may the more conveniently fall in and join, when the square comes to be reduced again to column.

IV. That the eight other divisions of the battalion, viz. the 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th be told off into four grand divisions, as before directed, and appointed to compose the faces of the Square, giving one grand division to each face, in the following order, viz. The 1st grand division, or the 2d and 3d divisions to make the front face. The 2d grand division, or the 4th and 5th divisions, to make the right face. The 3d grand division, or the 6th and 7th divisions, to make the left face. And the 4th grand division, or the 8th and 9th divisions, to form the rear face.

Now, by this disposition of the divisions it may be observed, that a single battalion thus told off, gives one grand division to each face of its Square; consequently, if there were two battalions joined together to form a Square, there would then be two grand divisions to each face. Hence then the following Rule, viz.

That each face of every Square do consist of as many grand divisions as there are battalions to compose the Square.

V. That the face divisions of the whole Column from front to rear, or as many battalions as are intended to form a Square be told off into four equal parts; letting those of each part know the face to which they belong, that each part may in succession draw up, as is directed in the last instruction, that is, the first part is to make the front face, the second the right face, the third the left face, and the 4th the rear face.

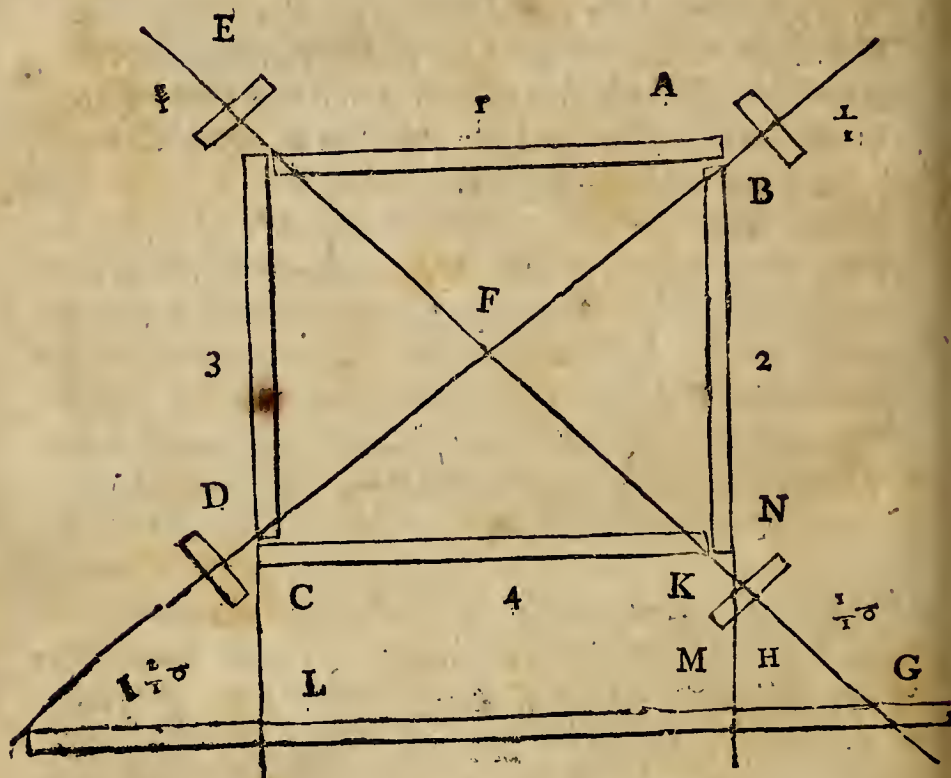
VI. That the distance of each angle division or platoon, from the angular point of the Square it is to cover, be equal to half the extent of that platoon, taking the measurement from that point, to the centre of the rear rank of that platoon.

VII. That those platoons which cover the angles be posted not in the direction of the diagonal of the Square, as our present method directs, but in the direction of and at right-angles with a line supposed to be drawn from the left-hand man of the front rank of one face to the left-hand man of the like rank in the opposite face, placing the centre of each platoon upon that line.

The reason of the above disposition is this, that as the faces are not in contact with each other at the angular point, as in a geometrical Square, but are so placed to shut in, as that the left flank of each face may be covered by the right of that adjoining to it; then as the right flank of every face will by that means lie open and exposed, therefore, were the platoon to be placed on the diagonal of the Square, as our present method directs, it could not well cover that flank: and for this reason I have, in order to remedy that defect, posted the platoons as above directed. See the annexed Figure.

The Square formed out of one Battalion,
consisting of four grand Divisions.

Front Face.



Explanation.

Let A B C D represent the different faces of the Square, B the left flank of the right face, covered by A the right flank of the front face.; and so of all the left flanks of the other faces. E F G the supposed line,

line, passing through the left shoulders of the opposite faces. H the platoon to cover the angle of the Square, standing at right angles with the line E F G. H the right of the platoon, covering the right flank N of the right face; which otherwise, by our present method, would lie open and exposed. The 1st and 10th divisions, or those appointed to cover the angles of the Square, are each subdivided into two platoons, and denoted by the fractional figures in their due places, $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{2}{1}$, $\frac{1}{10}$, $\frac{2}{10}$; that is, $\frac{1}{1}$ signifies the 1st subdivision or platoon of the 1st division, covering the right angle of the front face, $\frac{2}{1}$ the second subdivision of the first division, posted on the left angle of the front face. $\frac{1}{10}$ the first subdivision of the 10th division. And $\frac{2}{10}$ the second subdivision of the 10th division. And the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, shew the situation of the four grand divisions or face divisions, which compose the Square; and likewise the order of succession, in which they are to draw up and post themselves to each face.

VIII. That the angle-platoons be directed not to retire into the Square on firing, but to remain at their ground. The reason for which is founded upon the two following propositions.

P R O P. I.

That every line of infantry, opposed to any other line of Infantry or Cavalry of equal extent, is capable to defend itself under similar circumstances.

Consequently, each angle-platoon of a Square must be held capable to maintain its ground against a front or rank no greater extent than itself. PROP.

P R O P. II.

That the nearer the side is of any Figure to the centre, the lesser will that side be.

Suppose then GI, of the last Figure, to be the side of an external square, or to be a line of cavalry, opposed to the side CK of the internal square. Now were GI to move directly inwards, so as to place itself at CK; then, by the figure, as the part LM of the line GI will be only equal in extent to CK; therefore, by Prop. I. CK is capable to defend itself against LM.

Hence it is evident, that no square can be attacked by cavalry, but by a front, at most, equal to the part attacked; and that only, with this certain disadvantage, as 15 is to 19; that is, 15 of cavalry in rank will occupy just as much ground as 19 of infantry will do, allowing three feet two inches to each horseman, and two feet six inches to each soldier. And besides the above advantage, which infantry have over cavalry, there is one still greater, which is, that only the front rank of cavalry can immediately attack, because it serves as a barrier to keep back the other rear ranks; whereas the whole three ranks of infantry can at once engage, and be mutually assisting to each other.

Hence the advantage which infantry have over cavalry; and that all squares, however small in themselves, are equally formidable against cavalry.

But it may now be asked, that if I will not allow the platoon on the angle to retire into the square after it has fired, how then are its flanks to be secured? I answer, that the two contiguous faces are, either to give a flanking fire on those who must wheel in to attack,

tack the flanks of that platoon, or at once to move out and join those flanks. And were different attacks to be likewise made, at the same time, upon the other angles, then the other faces are also to move out and sustain their platoons; by which disposition the square will assume the figure of an octagon, still more formidable than that of the square, as the angle of the polygon in one is 135 deg. and in the other but 90 deg. And this new figure of the octagon is so much the more preferable to the orb of the ancients, so much spoken of, as regular files can be had in the one, but not in the other; and as a straight line is more manageable than a curve, the fire in the former being parallel, but that in the latter diverging, and consequently not of equal weight.

Having already shewn how a square can, with equal ease and regularity, be formed, whether it is to consist of one or of any number of battalions, I am now to represent the different *capacities of squares*, according to the number of battalions of which each is composed, knowing that no officer can well comprehend this essential article, except he is endowed with some small degree of mathematical learning; and to those chiefly, who may be deficient in that respect, I take the liberty to address this point.

It often happens that an officer is appointed to conduct the march of a number of battalions, with the necessary baggage; and to have besides under his care a quantity of ammunition and stores; and that his route lies over open plains where he may be attacked by cavalry.

Now an officer who is ignorant of the different *capacities of squares*, will most probably argue thus with himself: "If I form a square consisting of two, three

or four battalions, that square will contain no more than twice, thrice or four times as much as the square of a single battalion; and as that space will not be sufficient to hold the quantity of baggage or stores under my convoy, I must therefore make some other disposition."

Here then lies the mistake, since the capacity of squares is to each other as the *square number* of the battalions which compose them; that is, a square composed of two battalions will contain four times the space which a single battalion gives, as the *square number* of two is four. If of three battalions, nine times the space, the *square number* of three being nine. And if of four battalions, sixteen times the space, and so on, as will be seen in the following table calculated for any number of battalions under eleven.

Number of Battalions.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Capacity of different Squar.	1	4	9	16	25	36	49	64	81	100	&c.

By the above table it appears, that were a square to consist of ten battalions, the capacity of it would then be an hundred times as great as one composed of a single battalion; which may be easily demonstrated by giving a grand division, the fourth part of a battalion, to each face of the square; and then by drawing as many lines as there are grand divisions, from any one face to its opposite both ways; then the number of small squares so described and contained within the great square, will explain and solve the proposition, for each small square is precisely equal to the space comprehended in a square composed of a single battalion.

An officer then thus knowing the capacity of different squares, has nothing more to do but to adapt his

his square to whatever he intends to lodge within it, and afterwards to prosecute his march through any open country in that order.

But where he happens to be neither incumbered with baggage or ammunition, I am in that case against his forming a greater square than that, at most, of a single battalion, and for the following reason. Admit that an officer is charged with the conduct of three or four battalions, and on entering a plain, he forms them into one entire square. Now should he be attacked by cavalry, and that from some unlucky accident, or the misconduct of others, the enemy should find means to pierce any part of his square, then total destruction must inevitably follow: But on the other hand, were there, instead of this great square, as many small squares formed as there are battalions, each being equally as formidable in itself as one of a greater capacity, and those several squares directed to pursue their march at about an hundred paces distant from each other, then no such disaster could well happen, for if any one of those small squares is attacked, the other squares being at hand could not only easily move up and sustain it, but could afford that which might perhaps be broke, a safe and convenient retreat.

But admitting that an officer has not under his command so considerable a body of men as the above, and that he is only marching with a detachment consisting of about sixty men: Now in this case, as he cannot so well form so small a body into a square, he must therefore have recourse to some other expedient. The one then which I would recommend is, to march his party by files doubled in column; that is, let him first draw up his men three deep, and subdivide them, and then face them to the right or to the left, as his

rout directs, making his rear subdivisions to march up and join his front, and in that order he is to pursue his march: Now, should he find himself on the point of being attacked, he is then to halt, close up his files, face outwards from the centre, and stand close back to back, giving directions to those files, as far as three deep, in the front and rear of his column, to face occasionally to the attack, and receive it; and thus, by a judicious management of those files, he will find himself capable to baffle the efforts of a considerable body of cavalry; or at the worst, to make them pay far dearer for their defeat of him, then it will prove of account to them.

And now having offered my scheme how the square is to be formed occasionally out of any number of battalions, I shall, in pursuance of that plan, go on with the exercise.

I. *Battalion, by Division, to the right wheel and form the Column. March.*

Direction.

Each division is to wheel a quadrant,

II. *Column. Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

III. *Column. March.*

Direction.

The whole is to step off, beginning the march with the left foot.

IV. *Column,*

IV. *Column, form Division, prepare to form Grand Division.*

Direction.

Each division is to hold itself in readiness.

V. *Column, from Division, form Grand Division.*

Direction.

The first or leading division is to keep moving on. The even-numbered divisions, viz. the second, fourth, sixth, and eighth, are on their march to incline to the right, to the length of the breadth of a subdivision, or to half the breadth of their present rank; while the odd-numbered divisions, viz. the third, fifth, seventh, and ninth, incline likewise to their left; and on having obtained a sufficient inclination, then each of those divisions to march directly forward with a quick pace, and join its immediate leading division on the left. And as to the tenth division, it is, as the first division had done, to keep marching on in the line of its first direction.

VI. *Column. Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

VII. *Column, prepare to form the Square.*

Direction.

The whole is to be in readiness.

VIII. *Column,*

VIII. *Column, form the Square.**Direction.*

The first or leading division is to subdivide, and face to the right and left outwards from the centre, the right subdivision of which is to march and cover the right angle of the front face, while the left subdivision marches likewise to cover the left angle of the same face. The first or leading grand division is to halt, and make the front face. The second grand division is to halt with the first, and then wheel to the right, and form the right face, letting its left flank be just covered by the right flank of the front face. The third grand division is to keep moving on, and when it arrives at the ground from whence the second had wheeled, it is then to wheel to the left, and make the left face; and afterwards to incline a little to the right, so as to cause its right flank just to cover the left flank of the front face. The fourth and last grand division, which is to make the rear face, is to continue marching on, till it comes to join the flanks of the second and third grand divisions, inclining then so much to the left, as to bring its right flank to be just covered by the right flank of the right face, and its left to cover likewise the left flank of the left face. And lastly, the tenth, or rear division is, as the first had done, to subdivide and likewise cover the angles of the rear face.

IX. *Square, face outwards,**Direction.*

The rear face, with the two platoons or subdivisions of the tenth division, are to go to the right about, making

making their rear their present front; and the officers commanding these several divisions are likewise to change their situation, going from their former to their present front.

The square being thus formed, it will be necessary, before I proceed further, to offer a few precautions, proper to be attended to in the conduct of the square upon service. First, let it be observed, that the square is only calculated to defend infantry against the attack of cavalry; and that cavalry can no where act but in an open place or country, consequently, as the square is only useful in that situation, it is therefore to be no where formed but on entering a plain.

Next, that the square be so contrived, as not to be an unnecessary incumbrance to itself; that is, should the square consist of so great a body of men, as to make the front face so over extensive as to render the march extremely troublesome, either by the interruption of ground, or by the difficulty of preserving a straight compacted front; in this case then, it will be best, if what is contained within the square will admit, to reduce the square to a parallelogram, by taking as many divisions from the front and rear faces as may be thought needful; which divisions may afterwards be either added to the right and left faces, or formed into a reserve to use occasionally.

And lastly, let it ever be remembered, that if cavalry can but penetrate any part of the square, total destruction must inevitably follow; therefore, as no disposition whatever requires greater precaution to guard against so fatal an event, a *reserve* must ever be appointed; and that reserve is, as above, to be taken from the front and rear faces, and to be posted as follows within the square, viz. to appoint a platoon to

to each angle, and as many to each face, as may be judged sufficient for its length; and as these platoons cannot fire three deep, they are to be drawn up in two ranks, and placed at six or eight yards distance from the face or angle they are intended to sustain, in order that they may the more conveniently fire over the heads of those who are attacked.

X. Square, by your front Face, prepare to advance.

Direction.

The right face is to face to the left; as is the left face to the right. The rear face, with the two platoons which cover the angles of that face, are to come to the right about; and then those angle-platoons, with those of the front face, are to bring their inside flanks to join the flanks of their respective faces which either lead or follow, and to range themselves in the same line with them.

XI. Square. March.

Direction.

The whole is to step off together.

XII. Square. Halt.

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

XIII. Square,

XIII. *Square, face outwards.**Direction.*

The right face is to face to the right, as is the left face to the left. The rear face, with the two angle-platoons of that face, are to go to the right about; and then the four angle-platoons are to post themselves on their respective angles, as before directed.

XIV. *Square, by your rear Face, prepare to retreat.**Direction.*

The right face is to face to the right, as is the left face to the left. The front face, with the two angle-platoons of that face, are, at the same time, to go to the right about; and then the four angle-platoons are to join their respective faces, as before directed in the tenth word of command, and to dress in a line with them.

XV. *Square. Retreat.**Direction.*

The whole is to step off together.

XVI. *Square: Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast.

XVII. *Square,*

XVII. *Square, face outwards.**Direction.*

The front face, with the two angle platoons of that face, are to come to the right about. The right face is to face to the left, as is the left face to the right; and then the four angle platoons are to post themselves on their respective angles.

Note, In the same manner as the front and rear faces have advanced and retreated, so are the right and left faces occasionally to perform, having a regard to the different positions of the men.

As the Square is altogether calculated, as has been before said, for defence against cavalry, therefore the *advancing* of the Square, either by one face or another, is not to be considered in any other respect than as the means of prosecuting the intended march or route, but never with a view to attack. And on the other hand, the *retreating* of the Square, either by this or that face, is undertaken for no other purpose but to gain some wood, inclosure, or defile, where cavalry cannot act; and even this is only done, on discovering that infantry as well as cavalry are advancing to attack it, or on seeing that part of the cavalry are dismounting to supply the place of infantry, then it will be best to retreat betimes to some place of cover nearest at hand, because no Square can possibly resist the united attacks of infantry and cavalry.

XVIII. *Square, by grand Division, prepare to reduce to Column.*

Direction.

The rear face and the two angle-platoons of that face, with the right and left faces, are all to go to the right about, and the two angle-platoons of the front face, with those of the rear face, are to face inwards to each other.

XIX. *Square, form the Column. March.*

Direction.

The two angle-platoons of the front face, and those of the rear face, are to march and join each other, opposite the centre of their respective faces, and then face to the front. The second grand division is to wheel to the left inwards, and then come to the right about. The first or now the leading division, is to march slowly forward, followed by the first and second grand divisions. When the second grand division has just marched clear from the third, the third is then to wheel to the right inwards, and afterwards come to the right about, and march after the second: And as soon as the third grand division begins to march, the fourth grand division, with the tenth division in its rear, are to step off and follow.

Note, When the Square is composed of two or more battalions, the right and left faces are, at the same time, to wheel together inwards, either by division or grand division, as the commanding officer will choose

to direct, and then come to the right about. The divisions of the front face, except that on the right, are to wheel to the right. Those of the rear face, except that on the right, are likewise to wheel to the right, as soon as those which composed the left face have given sufficient room for that performance, and then those divisions of the several faces are, in the succession of front, right, left, and rear faces, to fall in one after another and form the Column. And with respect to the first and tenth divisions of each battalion, they are to fall in at the front and rear of their respective battalions; and then the whole is to prosecute the intended march in that order, observing their due distances from each other, both in division and battalion.

As the Square is to be only formed upon service on entering a plain, so it is to be reduced on going out of it. When nothing is to be apprehended from the enemy, the Square is then to be reduced in the foregoing manner. But should the enemy still persevere in his views of making an impression, then the rear part of the Square is to face outwards, and gradually diminish itself, till the whole has entered the road or defile, through which the Column is to march. But, previous to this operation, sufficient parties are to be detached from the front face, and posted on each shoulder of the defile, to protect the rear of the Square, when it shall begin in Column to enter; and in order to secure still more the rear, those detached parties are afterwards to march on each flank of the rear division, that together, they may give a triple fire on any party of the enemy, who may be rash enough to venture an attack.

But should there be contained within the Square any particular quantity of ammunition, stores, &c. then
previous

previous to the reduction of it, the front face is first to open, in order to let the contents pass through and go on before; and afterwards the Square is to break into Column, as already directed, and follow.

XX. *Column. Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

XXI. *Column to the right About.*

Direction.

The whole is to face accordingly.

Note, The intent of going to the right about in this place; is only to regain the former ground of exercise.

XXII. *Column. Retreat.*

Direction.

The whole is to step off.

XXIII. *Column, face to the right About.*

Direction.

The whole is to face accordingly, continuing their march.

XXIV. *Column, from grand Division, reduce to Division.*

Direction.

The first and tenth divisions are to keep moving on in their present direction, all the even numbered divisions are to advance and incline half the breadth of a division to the left, or so much as just to be covered by the first or leading division, while all the odd numbered divisions do at the same time recede and incline likewise to the right, each division of the whole taking care to obtain its due distance, from that which precedes it.

XXV. *Column. Halt.*

Direction.

The whole is to stand fast.

XXVI. *Column, by Division, to the Left, wheel and form the Line. March.*

Direction.

All the divisions are to wheel accordingly, and to come up at once to their ground in the line.

XXVII. *Line. Halt.**Direction.*

The whole is to stand fast.

The *Adjutant* having thus perfected the men committed to his charge in the different arrangements of the *Line*, the *Column* and the *Square*, he is next to report their condition to his commanding officer, informing him, at the same time, of the state under which he received them from the Serjeant, that they may afterwards be occasionally exercised by their commissioned officers, and kept perfect in those points already taught them.

C H A P. V.

The Exercife, as it is to be performed by Signal or Word of Command from the Major, or from any other Officer.

S E C T. I. *Of Signals and Operations.**Signals by the Drum.**Operations.*

A Short Roll - - -	To caution
Flam - - -	To perform any distinct Thing.
To Arms - - - -	To form the Line or Battalion.
The March - - -	To advance, except when intended for a Salute.
The quick March - - -	To advance quick.
The Point of War - - -	To March and Charge.
The Retreat - - -	To retire.
The Drum ceasing - - -	To halt.
Two fhort Rolls - - -	To perform the Flank firing.
The Dragoon March - - -	To open the Battalion.
The Grenadier March - - -	To form the Column.
The Troop - - -	To double Divifions.
The long Roll - - -	To form the Square.
The Grenadier March - - -	To reduce the Square to Column.
The Preparative - - -	To make ready and fire.
The General - - -	To cease firing.
Two long Rolls - - -	To bring or to lodge the Colours.

SECT:

S E C T. II. *Rules for forming the Battalion.*

Note, The following Plan is calculated for a Battalion, consisting of ten Companies.

I. The several companies are to repair at an appointed time to the place of exercise, or to the rendezvous of the battalion, each company is there to have a particular place allotted to it, for the assembling of itself alone, in order as well to avoid confusion and disturbance by mixing with others, as that the state of the arms, ammunition, accoutrements, clothing, and every other necessary, may there be the more conveniently examined and taken an account of.

II. The eldest Serjeant present is to order the men to fall in, forming them three deep, according to their respective ranks, and at open order; and to call them over by his size-roll, taking an account of all those who are absent. Next, he is to complete the files, in which he is to include the Corporals, so as that the eldest Corporal may be posted on the right of the front rank, the next junior on the right of the rear rank; and the third Corporal, on the left of the front rank. Then he is to see that the ranks are well sized and dressed, that the men appear decent and clean, and provided with all due necessaries, that the hats or caps are well worn or put on; that the pouches are properly placed, and hang at equal heights, and that the men do stand proper, erect, and steady, and carry well their arms. He is next, with the assistance of the other Serjeants, to examine well the condition of the arms, accoutrements, &c. which being effected, then the Serjeants are themselves to fall in, and take their
posts

posts on the flanks, according to seniority as the Corporals had done, and on the outside of them, and to plant their halberds, but when the battalion is formed, then the Serjeants are to be posted in another manner, as will then be shown. And as to the Drummers, they are to be posted on the right flank of the company, and on the outside of the eldest Serjeant, in a line with the front rank, having their drums braced and slung, but they are otherwise to be posted when the company is drawn up in battalion, which will then be directed. The inspection of the company being thus finished, and all other matters being carefully adjusted, then the Serjeant is to make a true report in writing of all deficiencies and irregularities to the Lieutenant or Ensign, who is to make the review, after which, he is to conduct and attend him to the company.

III. The Lieutenant or Ensign who is to make this review, is, on his approach to the company, first to salute his men by taking off his hat to them, that they may on their part, by seeing in what degree of respect they are held, conceive the higher opinion of themselves, and thence be induced to behave, on all occasions, with a becoming propriety. Such like ceremonies as these never fail of a due return, for men will always reverence the man the more, who does not overlook them, on account of their misfortune or low condition of life; as they will, on the other hand, secretly resent an haughty neglect of them, and will long for an opportunity to gratify their pique and disgust at such treatment. This compliment being paid, he is next to proceed to an examination of the several particulars of this review, ordering a Serjeant with pen, ink, and paper to attend him, in order to take an account of whatever he shall observe is amiss or out
of

of order. He is, at the same time, to carry with him in his hand, his Serjeant's report, that he may, by referring to it, see the more readily, whether it tallies with his own observations, and how far his Serjeant has acquitted himself; and should he, on inspection, find it erroneous, and either the effect of neglect, or calculated to screen a delinquent, (as is too often the case, and make his officer the detector of faults, and by that means fling the odium of severity upon him,) then he is, on any discovery of that kind, or the least appearance of such misconduct, to have the Serjeant tried and punished with severity for his offence. For as a corps of good Serjeants may, with great justice and propriety, be termed the very soul of a regiment, it is the more to be lamented, that the above rule is not better observed, since it would infallibly prove the most effectual means to make them diligent and alert in acquitting themselves. I recommend this method the more strenuously, having myself tried the effect of it, and found it to surpass my highest expectations.

IV. The reviewing officer having finished his own inspections, and made a report to his Captain, then the Captain is, with his Lieutenant and Ensign, to post themselves at the head of the company in the following order, holding their spontoons planted. The Captain is to be on the right, the Lieutenant on the left, and the Ensign in the centre. They are to stand on the same line, and at three paces advanced before the front rank, the Captain and Lieutenant placing themselves opposite to the third file of their respective flanks. The company is to be told off into two divisions; and on the signal being given by the Major for forming the battalion, which is by beating, *To Arms*, the Captain is to order his company to march, himself leading the first division, the Ensign the second, and

the Lieutenant bringing up the rear, carrying their spontoons *underhand*. The Drummers are then to fall in between the front and centre ranks of the first or leading division, and to beat the *march*. The Serjeants are, on marching off, to *shoulder* their halberds, letting the ferril-end be uppermost; and as they proceed on their march, they are to attend their respective divisions, by taking care that the men carry well their arms, that they step together and carry their bodies upright, and that the ranks do march even and straight, and at proper distances from each other. On the arrival of the company at the ground upon which the battalion is to be formed, the Captain is to draw up so as that the right file of his company may be a full pace distant from the left-hand file of the company on his right; and as soon as the first division has halted, the Drummers are to go into the front, and there beat *to arms* during the time the battalion is forming. The Ensign is to bring up the second division, drawing it up close on the left of the first, and the Lieutenant is to march up, and take his post in the front, as before directed. The Captain, Lieutenant and Ensign, are, on drawing up, to face their men, in order to see that they come properly up to their ground, and that the Serjeants do then proceed to dress the ranks and also the files; and on thus seeing all matters properly adjusted, the Captain is to order his men to *support their arms*, by way of easing their hands; and then the officers are, either by word of command from the Captain himself, or by signal from the Major, to come to the right about, standing in proper order and holding their spontoons planted. The ranks and files, being dressed, the Serjeants are to fall in and form a rank or line of themselves in the rear of the company, at three paces distance from the rear rank, opposite to their officers

officers in front, and then to plant their halberds. The Drummers are, on being ordered to cease beating in the front to go into the rear and to form a rank in the rear of their Serjeants, six paces distant from them, each Drummer placing himself opposite to the centre space between each Serjeant, where they are to repeat occasionally the different signals (excepting the *flam*) given by the Major or the commanding officer of the battalion.

V. In forming the battalion, the several companies are to be drawn up according to seniority, alternately from right to left, that is, the eldest company is to be on the right, the next senior on the left, and so on till the two youngest companies are posted on each side of the centre. The reason of which is, that as the defence and preservation of any body of men drawn up, greatly depend upon the skill and address of the officers commanding on the flanks; and as it must be presumed that a senior officer is possessed of a greater degree of knowledge and experience than his junior, therefore the necessity for posting the officers by seniority from right to left, with their companies according to the above method; besides which, there is this farther advantage, that as both officers and men of each company are thus distinct in themselves, and of course acquainted with each other, the men therefore are more cautious of behaving amiss before one that knows and can easily detect them, than they would were they commanded by a person who is a stranger to, and not so capable to recollect them, by which means they become not only more subordinate, but they act with more unanimity and resolution, there being withal, among all distinct bodies of men, a spirit of emulation which continually spurs them on to vie with each other, which they seldom are inspired with when they become a mixed body. For

For the foregoing reasons then, I shall consider every company not having an acting Captain, whether by establishment or absence, as a junior company; and therefore those companies, whose Captains are present, are to be posted by seniority from right to left alternately of the battalion, especially on service. But as the two centre companies have more immediately the charge of the colours, and as that situation is esteemed another post of honour; the Colonel's company is therefore in preference to be posted on the right, and the Lieutenant-Colonel's on the left of the centre where the colours are stationed.

By the above disposition it appears that I do not subdivide the grenadiers according to custom, in order to cover the flanks of the battalion; and my reason for which is, that it is in my opinion a very bad practice, for it is evident, that a division or separation of the officers and men must not only weaken the whole as well as the parts, but be of insufficient weight for the places at which they are posted; ---always preferring service to parade.

VI. The companies being thus drawn up, and the Captains, Lieutenants and Ensigns posted in the front of the battallion, or at the head of their respective companies, as before directed, the Colonel is then to take his post at the head of the battalion, and opposite to the centre of it, at the distance of five paces advanced before the line of officers. The Lieutenant-Colonel is likewise to post himself three paces to the right of the Colonel, and two retired from him, or three advanced before the line of officers, each holding his spontoon planted. The Major is to be mounted on horseback, for the more expeditious means of executing or dispatching the orders of the Colonel, and for correcting the more readily whatever he may himself

self see amifs. He is to poft himfelf oppofite to the Colonel in the front, and to face the battalion, with his fword drawn: his diftance from the battalion is to be fuch, as that his fituation from either flank may be equal to the extent of the battalion; he is there to exercife the battalion, having the Drum Major to attend him, to make the neceffary fignals. But when the battalion is to be reviewed by a general officer, he is, on having given the word of command to the battalion, viz. *prefent your arms*, the ufual falute on receiving fuch General, to take his poft then at the head of the battalion, three paces to the left of the Colonel, and in a line with the Lieutenant Colonel; and after he has made his perfonal falute with his fword, he is to return to his former poft in the front. The Adjutant is alfo to be on horfeback for the purpofe likewife of difpatch, in the duties I fhall hereafter point out. He is alfo to have his fword drawn, and to poft himfelf in the rear of the battalion, and oppofite to the Major in front, where he is to fee good order preferved, and to give timely intimations to the men of whatever is intended to be done, having the Serjeant Major to attend and affift him. See the annexed figure.

But when the battalion is only formed for exercife, and not for review, the Colonel is then not to poft himfelf as above directed, but to place himfelf without his fpontoon, clofe to the Major in front, that he may there the more conveniently direct him as he fhall find occafion; then the Lieutenant Colonel is to fupply his place. by pofting himfelf in his room, at the head of the battalion.

VII. Matters being thus far regulated and fettled, the colours are next to be fent for, which are to be brought to the battalion by the Enfigns of the Colonel's and Lieutenant Colonel's companies, or by fuch other

other Ensigns as shall be appointed in their room. For this purpose, the Major is to make the necessary signal, being two *short rolls* of the drum, on which the Ensigns for the colours are, first, to *recover* their spontoons, face to the right, and march. They are to repair to the grenadier company, and to march in the rear of the line of officers, or between them and the front rank of the battalion. On their arrival at the grenadier company, they are to post themselves in the line of officers, at the head of the *escort*, or of the left hand division of the Grenadiers; and then to face to the front and plant their spontoons.

This *escort* is to be commanded by the first Lieutenant of Grenadiers, with the appointment of two Serjeants and one Drummer. One Serjeant is to be posted on the right of the front rank; and the other on the left of the rear rank, and the Drummer between the front and centre ranks, who is to beat the Grenadier march. The Lieutenant is to post himself three paces advanced before the Ensigns; and on having received his orders from his Captain, and being made acquainted by his Serjeant that the *escort* is ready, he is to face about, and to give the following words of command, viz. *Escort; handle your arms, March.*

Note, The Lieutenant is, as before, to carry his fuzee *advanced* in his left hand, and in the same manner as the Soldiers do their firelocks, when they are so ordered. The Ensigns are to carry their spontoons *underhand* or trailed; and the Serjeants their halberds *shouldered*.

When the Lieutenant arrives at the place where he is to receive the colours, he is then to give the following words of command, viz. *Escort, halt;* at which the drum ceases, the Ensigns plant their spontoons, and the Serjeants their halberds, *Fix your bayonets; Shoulder:*

Shoulder ; and then the Lieutenant is to fix likewise his bayonet. On the colours being brought out and delivered to the Ensign, he is again to say, by way of saluting the colours, *present your arms*, at which the Drummer is to beat a march, and himself to take off his hat or to put his hand to his cap. The colours being thus received and held *advanced* by the Ensigns, he is to order the drum to cease, and then to give the following words of command, viz. *Escort, shoulder. Advance your arms. March.* On which the Drummer is again to beat the march.

On the arrival of the colours within forty or fifty paces of the battalion, the Major is, by way of caution, or of fixing the attention of the battalion to his orders, to cause a short roll of his drum, which is to be answered by all the other Drummers, after which he is to give the following words of command, *Battalion handle your arms. Present your arms.* After which his own Drummer is to beat the march, which is the signal for all the other Drummers drawn up, as before directed in the rear of the battalion, to begin also to beat.

The Lieutenant commanding the *escort* is to shape his march so, as to bring his right flank almost to join the left of the battalion, and in the same direction with it. On his approach to which, the Major is again to say, *Battalion, face to the left* ; and then the Lieutenant is to say, on bringing up his men to the flank of the battalion, *Escort halt. Face to the right. March.* On which the Major is again to say, *Battalion, face to the right*, or to the front. The *escort* having faced and marched, the men are to march by files, each rank marching in the middle space between those of the battalion, in order that they may the more conveniently join those of their respective company, that is,
the

the Lieutenant is himself to march between the line of officers and the front rank of the battalion, his front rank is to march between the front and centre ranks, the Drummer following and beating, his centre rank is also to pass between the centre and rear ranks, and his rear rank between the rear rank of the battalion and the line of Serjeants. The Ensigns with the colours are to march after each other in the front of the line of officers, keeping at four paces distant from that line, and as many asunder. Each officer is to salute them as they pass by him, by taking off his hat, which is to be done in consideration of the high honour and trust they are invested with, in carrying the colours of their country, and they are, on their part, to acknowledge the attention given them, by taking off their hats in return.

On their approach to the centre of the battalion, they are to incline inwards, so as to fall into the line of officers, where they are to post themselves four paces from each other, and in the rear of the Colonel, and then to face to the front, and to stand in proper order, holding the colours advanced, at which the Major is to order the battalion to *shoulder*.

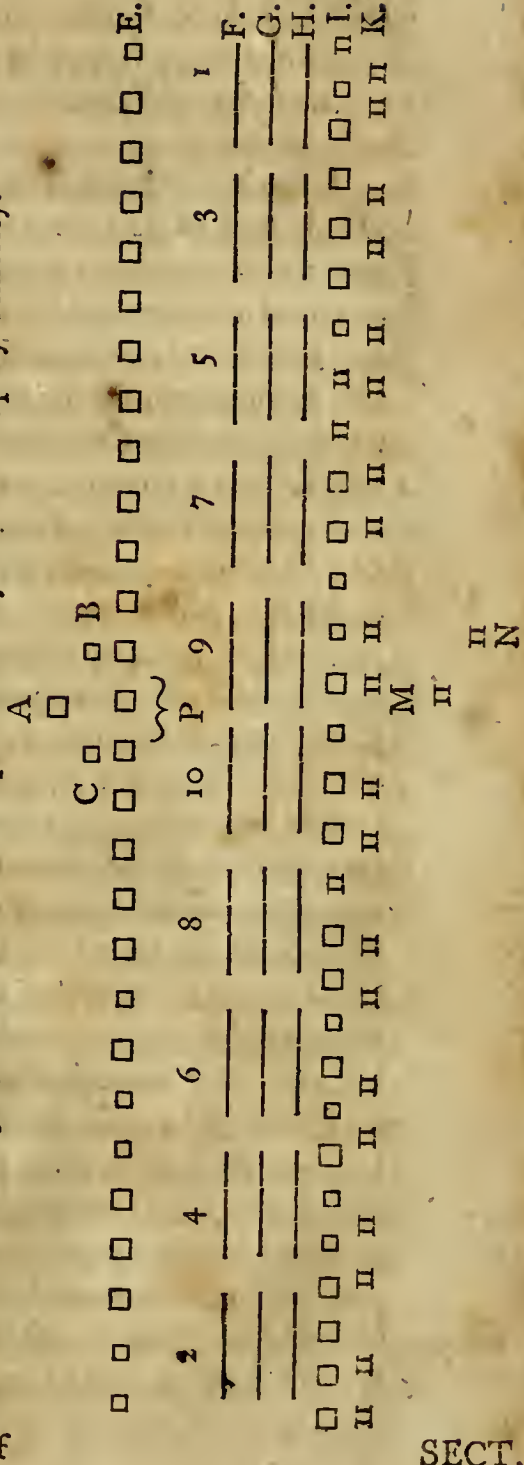
The Lieutenant of the escort is, on having returned and joined his company, to give the following words of command, *Serjeants and Drummer, to your former posts. Escort, front. Shoulder. Return your bayonets. Shoulder.* After which he is to return his own bayonet, and face to the front; and then to go up and make his report to his Captain, and return to his former post.

Note, Whenever the Grenadiers or any party of them are ordered to fix their bayonets, the officers are also to fix theirs at the same time, and likewise to unfix with them.

A Sketch of a Battalion, consisting of ten companies, in each sixty nine private and three corporals, making in the whole 720 men rank and file, drawn up in reviewing order, and according to seniority.
The Front of the Battalion.

Reference.
 O □ □ D

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| A. The Colonel | F. The Front Rank | M. The Adjutant |
| B. The Lieutenant Colonel | G. The Centre Rank | N. The Serjeant Major |
| C. The Major in Battalion | H. The Rear Rank | O. The Signal Drummer |
| D. ditto at Exercise | I. The Line of Serjeants | P. The Colours |
| E. The Line of Officers | K. The Line of Drummers | |
- I, 2, 3, 4, &c. Shew the Companies as they are drawn up by Seniority.



SECT. III. *Rules for telling off the Battalion, and for posting the Officers, both at Exercise and for Action.*

I. Each company is to be kept separate and undivided, and to be held a distinct division in itself; and therefore, the word *division*, and the word *company*, are here to be regarded as synonymous terms; and as the battalion is to consist of ten companies, including the grenadiers, each company is to be told off and considered as a distinct platoon in itself, which will of course make ten in the whole.

In the telling off a battalion into platoons for *firing*, two extremes ought carefully to be avoided, viz. that it be not into so great a number as will cause a suspension of fire, nor into so few as will create hurry, confusion, and inaccuracy. When the number of platoons are too many, that which had at first began the fire will be for some considerable time loaded and ready, before it will come to its turn to fire again in succession. Here then lies a manifest error, since the oftener a platoon can conveniently fire in any given period or order of time, the greater execution it will consequently occasion; and on the other hand, should the number of platoons be too few, there will not then be sufficient time for each to load and fire again in due rotation; and by thus flinting men in point of time, it will only serve to hurry and confound them, and to render their fire ineffectual. Hence then, upon a view of both extremes, a medium becomes evidently necessary; that is, to find out a method that will avoid either extreme, and be sufficient in itself. For this reason I have made choice of the above number of platoons

platoons preferable to any other, having constantly observed, that the time which each will take up in priming, loading, and making ready after it has fired, will be nearly equal to the time that the other remaining nine platoons will spend in firing in their due order of succession, or before it will come to the turn of him who had at first fired to fire again.

Next, let the platoons or companies be numbered in succession, from the right to the left of the battalion. The grenadier company is to be No. 1, the next 2; and so on to that on the left of all, which is, of course, to be No. 10, carefully informing each company with its respective number. Then all the *odd numbers* are to make the *first firing*, and are to answer each other alternately from right to left; as thus, 1, 9 --- 3, 7 --- 5; and then the *even numbers*, which are to constitute the *second firing*, are to begin and answer one another likewise from left to right; as thus, 10, 2 --- 8, 4 --- 6; and so on in succession, round after round, as long as the firing shall be thought fit to continue.

The reason for thus telling off the battalion into two *firings*, and for making the several platoons to answer each other alternately, is, that each part of the battalion may by that means the better sustain the other, that is, that the part which is loading, and of course defenceless, may, in the mean time, be protected by that which is loaded or ready to fire.

But as the above method, however simple in itself, cannot in *action* be perfectly well observed, on account of the great variety of incidents which frequently occur to prevent it; and as one of my principal views in writing this treatise, was to endeavour at finding out such rules as could be rendered most practical on service,

vice,

vice, I shall therefore require no longer an observance of the above method, even at *exercise*, than only for the first round, after which, each platoon officer is, on having fired, to go on as usual with his priming and loading, and to fire again as soon as he is ready, regarding nothing more in the mean time, but the good order of his men, the situation of the enemy, and the signal of the drum. For as the time of firing one round is calculated for the time of priming, loading and making ready; and as each platoon will, with one another, prime and load in equal times, therefore there can never happen that irregularity with which any *soldier* will be displeas'd; for though it should fall out, that two platoons may, from some interruption or other, fire together, it matters but little, it being in itself so much the more like *action*, and of course the fitter to convey an idea of service, and to habituate men to it betimes; yet even this small incorrectness is infinitely preferable to our present abominable and unfoldier-like practice, viz. of an officer's peeping, watching, and hurrying his men, that he may fire again in his precise turn. By this means his attention is diverted from his platoon, the most material consideration; he becomes perplexed himself, and his men, by the want of due inspection, fall into irregularity and confusion; and to this I chiefly attribute the cause of that immense disorder to which a battalion is ever subject in action, for the officer in endeavouring to observe the forms he has ever been instructed in and accustomed to, and finding them impracticable, and having then no other resource or guide to conduct him, confusion of course must ever be the consequence. In short, the only beauty and good order which I shall esteem in *firing*, are to *lock well up*, to come to a cool *present*, and to wait with *patience* for the word of command.

II. The battalion being thus told off, and each platoon informed with its due order of firing, the Major is then to give the following words of command.

Officers, take your Posts of Action.

Direction.

Each officer is to *recover* his spontoon, and the whole to go to the right about.

Officers, March.

Direction.

The whole line of officers, excepting those who are to command platoons, are to march through the intervals of the platoons into the rear, to the distance of three paces beyond the line of sergeants, or between them and the line of drummers. Those officers are to place themselves opposite to the middle space between each serjeant, or directly before the drummers, that they may the more conveniently direct and observe the behaviour of their men. The Lieutenant Colonel is to march through the centre interval of the battalion into the rear, and to the distance of twenty paces beyond the line of drummers; the major is to follow him, and to post himself on his right hand, and the adjutant on his left, each a little retired from him, where they are to be assistants to him in regulating any disorders which may happen in the rear, and also in keeping up the battalion close and compact. The colonel is to post himself in the centre interval of the battalion, and in a line with the front rank, having behind him an aid-de-camp to dispatch his orders; and

and behind him is to be the drum-major, to make the necessary signals. The captains, or officers commanding platoons of the right wing, are to post themselves in the intervals on the right of their platoons, and in a line with the front rank, and those of the left wing are to do the same, but with this difference, that they fall in on the left of their respective platoons. The reason of which is this, that the officers of both wings may the more conveniently, when they come to turn to their men to command them, have a reciprocal view how matters go towards the centre, and on the flanks of each other, to the end that they may direct their fire accordingly, and sustain the better that part which may be pushed or most attacked.

By this disposition of the officers, it may be observed, that they are all in general posted where they can possibly be the most serviceable, either to command, to controul, or to assist, by which means the battalion will be kept close and compact, and the men to their duty. The colours, which before had fettered and weakened the battalion, now add strength and freedom to it, being placed in the rear in the line of officers, where they are not only sufficiently conspicuous, and equally or more secure, but the officers who carry them are left in a condition to be occasionally assisting, in keeping up the battalion, and in preserving good order in the rear of it; and with this further advantage, that as there is now no *reserve* as before for the colours, the whole of course engages, and by that means the *centre* of the battalion becomes so much the stronger, and of course the post of commanding officer rendered more secure and unmolested.

But as the above disposition is calculated for *service*, and for posting the officers where they can best superintend

intend and direct their men, and as the battalion is now at exercise, the Major is therefore to remain at his former post of *exercise* in the front, with the commanding officer near him, to direct him as he shall think fit and see occasion.

Officers, front.

Direction.

The officers are all to come to the right about, and to *plant* their spontoons, excepting the officers commanding platoons, who are to carry their spontoons *advanced*, and instead of coming to the right about, are only to turn to their men, that they may the better direct and observe their behaviour.

But when the line is ordered to *advance*, those officers commanding the platoons are then to *head* their platoons, by advancing four paces before them, and to carry their spontoons trailed or under hand. And in order to keep their intervals open at the same time ready for them to fall in again when they come to engage, each officer is to call up a serjeant out of the rear to preserve that interval till he returns, and then those serjeants are to fall back to their former posts.

My reason for the above disposition is this: In the first place it serves to animate the men, by seeing their officers advancing before them, and leading them on intrepidly to *action*. Next, it serves to keep the men in order, and restrain them to the proper moment. And lastly, it is the only expedient to make the line advance even and in good order. The signal for this operation is, the drum's beating a *march*, and on the drum's ceasing, and beating a *preparative*, the officers are to fall in as above directed. A sketch

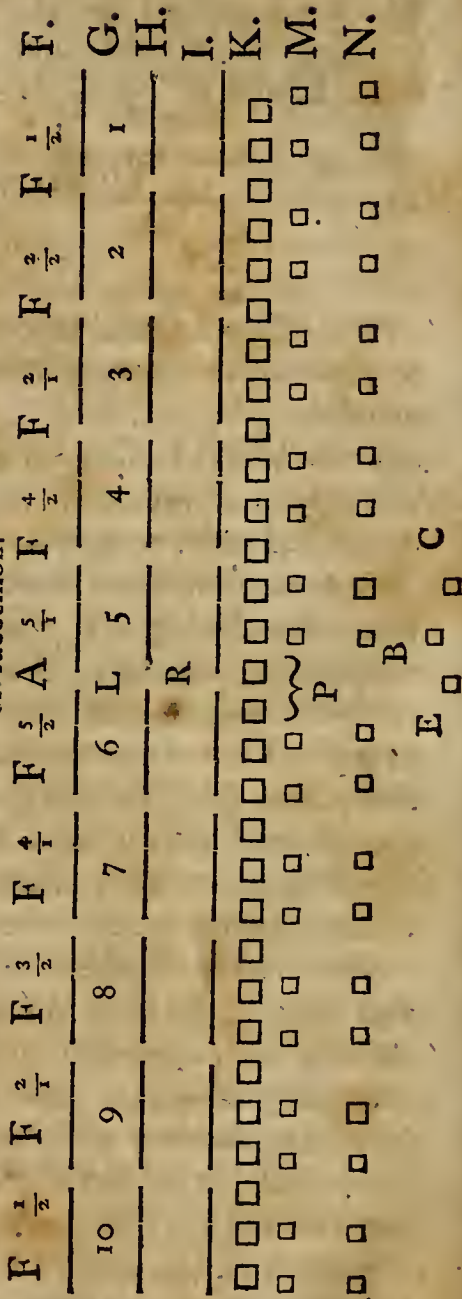
A Sketch of a Battalion formed for *action* or *exercise*, with the ranks at whole distance or open order.

Reference.



- A. The Colonel.
- B. The Lieutenant Colonel.
- C. The Major in Action.
- D. Ditto and Exercise.
- E. The Adjutant.
- F. *Éc.* Platoon Officers.
- G. The Front Rank.
- H. The Centre Rank.
- I. The Rear Rank.
- K. The Line of Sergeants.
- L. An Aid-de-camp.
- M. The Line of Officers.
- N. The Line of Drummers.
- O. The Drum-Major at Exercise.
- P. The Colours.
- R. The Drum-Major, Signal Drummer.

1, 2, 3, *Éc.* Platoons numbered. The fractional figures indicate the different fringes, and their order of succession.



Signals.

Words of Command.

References.

Sort Roll. 1. *Battalion, take care to perform your parade exercise.* c. iii. s. 2.
w. c. I.

Note. Though all soldiers must at first learn their exercise in small squads by *word of command*, yet when they afterwards come to form in battalion or to join in larger corps, it will be found a very difficult matter to exercise them in that manner, because there are but very few voices which are so clear and strong in themselves as to be distinctly heard, even at a distance, necessary to exercise a single battalion; and besides which, the very difference of voice in different people will frequently cause no less a difference in the performance of the exercise. To obviate then these impediments, it would be best to exercise the men by beat of drum, since the sound is more uniform, and can be heard at a much greater distance; and besides this advantage, there is one still more weighty, and that is, it will naturally oblige soldiers to reflect more on what they are to do, in order that they may not be detected in a neglect of their duty, by mistaking or doing one thing for another, and punished afterwards for that offence, by which means they will in the end come to acquire such an habit of ruminating on what they have to do, and of carrying their ideas beyond the present moment, as will of course cause them to be altogether attentive, silent and steady in all their operations. And for these

*Signals.**Words of Command.**Reference.*

reasons I shall prefer signals by the drum, after troops are properly grounded and well instructed, to any oral delivery whatever, since no voice, however good, can be near so efficacious, and more especially in time of action, to which great end all soldiers should be carefully and judiciously trained.

Note, Between each signal, there is to be a pause or cessation, in order that the men may the better distinguish the different beatings, and have the more time to recollect themselves.

Note, In all operations, the officers and serjeants are constantly to proceed and keep with their respective divisions, as are the drummers, except otherwise disposed.

Note, The following letters are characters of abbreviation, which are to be remembered, viz. c. stands for *chapter*, s. for *section*, w. c. for *word of command*, a. for *article*, and r. for *rule*.

Flam	2 Recover your muskets	2d
Flam	3 Rest your muskets	3d
Flam	4 Order your muskets	4th
Flam	5 Ground your muskets	5th
Flam	6 Take up your muskets	6th
Flam	7 Rest your muskets	7th
Flam	8 Shoulder your muskets	8th
Flam	9 Secure your muskets	9th
Flam	10 Shoulder your muskets	10th

11. Fix

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
Flam	11 <i>Fix your bayonets</i>	11th
Flam	12 <i>Shoulder your muskets</i>	12th
Flam	13 <i>Present your arms</i>	13th
Flam	14 <i>Face to the right</i>	14th
Flam	15 <i>Face to the right</i>	15th
Flam	16 <i>Face to the right-about</i>	16th
Flam	17 <i>Face to the left</i>	17th
Flam	18 <i>Face to the left</i>	18th
Flam	19 <i>Face to the left-about</i>	19th
Flam	20 <i>Shoulder your muskets</i>	20th
Flam	21 <i>Charge your bayonets</i>	21st
Flam	22 <i>Push your bayonets</i>	22d
Flam	23 <i>Recover your bayonets</i>	23d
Flam	24 <i>Shoulder your muskets</i>	24th
Flam	25 <i>Advance your muskets</i>	25th
Flam	26 <i>Shoulder your muskets</i>	26th
Flam	27 <i>Return your bayonets</i>	27th
Flam	28 <i>Shoulder your muskets</i>	28th
Flam	29 <i>Support your muskets</i>	29th
	<i>The Field Exercise.</i>	
Short Roll	30 <i>Battalion take care to per- from your field exercise</i>	
Flam	31 <i>Handle your muskets</i>	30th
Flam	32 <i>Fix your bayonets</i>	11th
Flam	33 <i>Shoulder your muskets</i>	11th
Flam	34 <i>Advance your muskets</i>	c. ii. s. 3. w. c. i. &c.
Flam	35 <i>Rear Ranks close to quarter distance.</i>	c. ii. s. 6. a. 2. w. c. 8 and 9.
	<i>Note, The officers, serjeants and drummers in the rear are likewise to move up at the same time, taking care to preserve their former distance from the rear rank.</i>	
Short Roll	36 <i>Take care to prime and load</i>	c. iii. s. iii. &c. w. c. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
Flam	37 <i>Prime and load</i>	}
	38 <i>Bat-</i>	

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
Short Roll.	38 <i>Battalion, by files, prepare to take other ground</i>	C. IV. S. 2. W. C. 2.
Flam	39 <i>Battalion. Take ground to the right</i>	3d
Flam	40 <i>Battalion. March.</i>	4th
Flam	41 <i>Battalion. Halt.</i>	5th
Flam	42 <i>Battalion. Front.</i>	6th
Flam	43 <i>Battalion. Take Ground to the left.</i>	7th
Flam	44 <i>Battalion. March.</i>	
Flam	45 <i>Battalion. Halt.</i>	
Flam	46 <i>Battalion. Front.</i>	10th, &c.
Short Roll.	47 <i>Battalion. Prepare to advance.</i>	
The March.	48 <i>Battalion. Advance to the Charge.</i>	
	<i>Note, The Colonel and officers commanding platoons or divisions, are to head their platoons and lead on the battalion, as directed in Chap. V. S. 3. R. 2. W. C. the last, &c.</i>	
Drum ceases.	49 <i>Battalion. Halt,—ibid.</i>	
Preparative.	50 <i>Battalion. Make ready and fire.</i>	C.iii.f.3.w.c.II, 16, 19, 23, 24.

Note, No. 1. or the first platoon or division is to begin the firing, and to be followed by the other platoons in succession, as directed in Chap. V. S. R. 1; and after each has fired, it is to go on with its priming and loading, except ordered to the contrary. And the firing is to continue till the General beats, whether, standing, advancing, or retreating.

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
The March.	51 Battalion. <i>Advance on.</i>	
The quick March.	52 Battalion. <i>Advance quicker.</i>	
The Point of War.	53 Battalion. <i>Charge with Bayonet.</i>	

Note, At this signal the battalion is to rush out with impetuosity, the *firing* being suspended for the time; and as the rear ranks cannot then likewise charge with bayonet, without annoying the leading rank, the front rank only is therefore to use the bayonet, the other two ranks remaining a *reserve*, to sustain occasionally the first, either with their bayonets or their fire.

Drum ceases.	54 Battalion. <i>Halt.</i>
The Retreat.	55 Battalion. <i>Retreat.</i>

C. III. f. 3. w.
c. 30, & 31.

Note, As every *retreat* does convey no less an idea of defeat, than it magnifies the the superiority and rage of the enemy, the best troops therefore will naturally, under these surmises and apprehensions, seek safety by flight, except restrained by the greatest care and most animating conduct of their officers. This task then is, in a great measure, the province of those who are posted in the rear, they being by their situation the most capable of that service; but much will nevertheless depend upon the

judgment

*Signals.**Words of Command.**Reference.*

judgment of the commanding officer, in adjusting the order and time of retreat. For this last purpose, the movement of the Battalion, ought never to be performed with a quicker pace, than what will preserve regularity and good order, and withal such as may serve by the formality of it, as well to dispel the dread arising from the operation, as to compel the enemy to observe in his measures both reserve and caution, lest a too forward presumption might snatch from him the advantage he had just before gained.

Drum ceases.	56	<i>Battalion. Halt.</i>	
The March.	57	<i>Battalion. Advance.</i>	25th
Drum ceases.	58	<i>Battalion. Halt.</i>	
The General.	59	<i>Battalion. Cease firing.</i>	
Short Roll.	60	<i>Battalion. Prepare to give your Flank-Firing.</i>	
Two short Rolls.	61	<i>Battalion, by Division, } half wheel to the right. } March.</i>	C. IV. S. 2. W. C. 18, and 19.
Preparative.	62	<i>Battalion. Make ready and Fire.</i>	
<p><i>Note, Each Platoon is, on having fired, to wheel back to its former ground, and on being loaded, it is again to wheel out as before.</i></p>			
The General.	63	<i>Battalion. Cease firing.</i>	
Two short Rolls.	64	<i>Battalion, by Division, } half wheel to the left. } March.</i>	21st and 22d. Preparative

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
Preparative.	65 <i>Battalion. Make ready and Fire.</i>	
	<i>Note, During the continuance of this firing, both to the right and left as above, the Officers, Serjeants, and Drummers in the Rear, are to remain in their respective lines.</i>	
The General.	66 <i>Battalion. Cease firing.</i>	23d, &c.
Short Roll.	67 <i>Battalion. Prepare to open at the Centre.</i>	24th
Dragoon March.	68 <i>Battalion, open at the Centre. March.</i>	25, 26, 27, and 28.
Short Roll.	69 <i>Battalion. Prepare to advance in your open Order.</i>	29th
The March.	70 <i>Battalion. Advance.</i>	
	<i>Note, The Ensigns with the Colours, are to wheel, &c. with their respective Divisions; the one to the right, the other to the left. And the Colonel is to remain upon his present ground in the centre of the great interval or opening, the better to observe what passes, and to give in consequence, the necessary orders and directions.</i>	
Drum ceases.	71 <i>Battalion. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	72 <i>Battalion. Prepare to close at the Centre.</i>	32d
To Arms.	73 <i>Battalion, close at the Centre. March.</i>	33d
Drum ceases.	74 <i>Divisions, that closed, dress.</i>	34th
Short Roll.	75 <i>Battalion, by Files, } prepare to form the Co- } lumn at the Centre.</i>	C. IV. S. 3. W. C. 2.
		Grenadier

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
Grenadier March.	76 <i>Battalion, form the Column. March.</i> <i>Note, As the Column is to be a solid compact body, and consequently unweildly in itself, it ought therefore to have as few encumbrances, and interstices left in it as possible. For which reason the Drummers are now to be posted in the rear, or opposite to the side attacking or attacked, and drawn up in ranks by themselves, excepting the Signal Drummer, who is always to attend the Colonel or commanding officer. The Officers and Sergeants who were posted in the rear of the Line, are now to make a File of themselves, between each division of the Column. The right Ensign with the colours is to be posted in the interval between the 1st and 2d Grand-divisions; as is likewise the left Ensign, between the 3d and 4th Grand-divisions, and in a line with the Colonel; who is posted, as before, between the 2d and 3d Grand-divisions, and to head the Column whenever it advances. The Major is to head the grenadiers in all sort of columns, and to lead the attack, and the Lieutenant Colonel and Adjutant to bring up the Rear.</i>	3d
		Drum

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
Drum ceases.	77 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	4th
The March.	78 <i>Column. Advance to the Charge.</i>	5th
Drum ceases.	79 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
Flam	80 <i>Column. Face to Flank-Attack.</i>	7th
	<i>Note, The Ensigns with the Colours, are not to face, but are to remain with the two Center-grand-divisions.</i>	
The Point of War.	81 <i>Flank-divisions. March and Charge.</i>	8th
	<i>Note, This Charge is to be made with the Bayonet only, as before directed in the Line. The right Charge is to be conducted by the Lieutenant Colonel; as is the left, by the Major; and the Adjutant is to remain as before.</i>	
Drum ceases.	82 <i>Flank divisions. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	83 <i>Battalion. Prepare to retreat by Column.</i>	10th
The Retreat.	84 <i>Column. Retreat.</i>	11th
	<i>Note, The Colonel and Major are to remain in their present stations; and the Lieutenant Colonel is to lead the Retreat.</i>	
Drum ceases.	85 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	86 <i>Column. Prepare to form the Line.</i>	13th
To Arms.	87 <i>Column. Form the Line.</i>	14th
	<i>Note, The Officers, Sergeants, and Drummers, are now to return to their former posts in the line.</i>	
Drum ceases.	88 <i>Battalion. Halt.</i>	

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference</i>
Flam	89 <i>Battalion. Face to the Front.</i>	
Short Roll,	90 <i>Battalion, by Ranks, } prepare to form the Co- } lumn at the Centre. . }</i>	17th
Grenadier March.	91 <i>Battalion, form the Co- lumn. March.</i>	18th
	<i>Note, The Ensigns with the colours do not on this occasion alter their situation; but are to march close in the rear of their own divisions: as are also the subaltern Officers and Serjeants in the rear of theirs, formed into one rank, and the Lieutenant Colonel, Major, and Adjutant with the Drummers, are to be posted as directed in the last column.</i>	
Drum ceases.	92 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
To Arms.	93 <i>Column. Form to front Attack.</i>	22d.
Preparative.	94 <i>Battalion. Make ready and fire.</i>	23d.
The Retreat.	95 <i>Battalion. Retreat by Column.</i>	24th, &c.
Drum ceases.	96 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	97 <i>Column. Prepare to form the Line.</i>	26th
To Arms.	98 <i>Column. Form the Line.</i>	27th
Drum ceases.	99 <i>Battalion. Halt.</i>	
Flam	100 <i>Battalion. Face to the Front.</i>	29th
Short Roll.	101 <i>Battalion, by Files } and Ranks, prepare to } form the Column at the } Centre. . }</i>	30th
Grenadier March.	102 <i>Battalion. Form the Co- lumn.</i>	31st <i>Note,</i>

Signals. *Words of Command.* *Reference.*

Note, The Ensigns with the colours are to march together close in the rear of their own inward subdivisions, or of that of No. 5. and 6; the other Subaltern Officers and Serjeants are, to divide themselves, so as that an half of them may likewise be posted to each subdivision of their respective divisions. All the other officers are to be posted as directed in the first column.

- | | | | | |
|--|-----|------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Drum ceases. | 103 | Column. | Halt. | |
| The March. | 104 | Column. | Advance to
the Charge. | |
| Drum ceases. | 105 | Column. | Halt. | |
| To Arms. | 106 | Column. | Form to front
and flank Attacks. | 35th |
| Preparative. | 107 | Battalion. | Make ready
and Fire. | 36th |
| <i>Note,</i> As the battalion now forms three sides of a square, the charge is to be made, as directed in the two last columns, with respect to front and flank attacks. | | | | |
| The General. | 108 | Battalion. | Cease Firing. | |
| Short Roll. | 109 | Battalion. | Prepare to
retreat by Column. | 38th |
| The Retreat. | 110 | Column. | Retreat. | |
| Drum ceases. | 111 | Column. | Halt. | |
| Short Roll. | 112 | Column. | Prepare to
form the Line. | 41st |
| To Arms. | 113 | Column. | Form the Line. | 42d |
| Drum ceases. | 114 | Battalion. | Halt. | |
| Flam | 115 | Battalion. | Face to the
Front. | 44th
Short |

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
Short Roll.	116 <i>Battalion, by Division,</i> <i>prepare to form the Column</i> <i>to the right.</i>	45th
Grenadier March.	117 <i>Battalion. Form the Co-</i> <i>lumn.</i>	46th
	<p><i>Note,</i> The Ensigns with the colours are to post themselves between the 5th and 6th divisions. The Major is to lead the column, posting himself as directed in the other columns. The Colonel is now to place himself between the 1st and 2d divisions. The Lieutenant Colonel is to bring up the rear, having the Adjutant with him; and the Subaltern Officers and Drummers are to march in the rear of their respective divisions: the Sergeants being now posted on the flanks, the better to attend to the order of march.</p>	
Drum ceases.	118 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
The March.	119 <i>Column. March.</i>	48th
Drum ceases.	120 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	49th
Short Roll.	121 <i>Column, by Division,</i> <i>prepare to form the Line</i> <i>to the right.</i>	50th

Note, To whatever flank of the column the line is to form, the signal-drummer is to beat on that flank. And on the divisions wheeling up, all the officers, &c. are to fall out and return to their respective posts in the line, paying a regard to their present front.

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
To Arms.	122 <i>Column. Form the Line.</i>	51st, &c.
Drum ceases.	123 <i>Battalion Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	124 <i>Battalion, by Division,</i> prepare to wheel back- wards to the right and form the Column. }	53d
Grenadier March.	125 <i>Battalion, form the Co- lumn.</i> <i>Note, All the officers, &c. are now to return to their former posts in column.</i>	54th, &c.
Drum ceases.	126 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
The March.	127 <i>Column March.</i>	
Drum ceases.	128 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	129 <i>Column, by Division,</i> prepare to form the Line to the Left. }	58th
To Arms.	130 <i>Column. Form the Line.</i>	59th, &c.
Drum ceases.	131 <i>Battalion. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	132 <i>Battalion, by Division,</i> prepare to wheel back- wards to the left, and form the Column. }	61st
Grenadier March.	133 <i>Battalion. Form the Co- lumn.</i>	62d
Drum ceases.	134 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
The March.	135 <i>Column. March.</i>	
Drum ceases.	136 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	137 <i>Column. by Division,</i> prepare to form the Line to your Van. }	66th
To Arms.	138 <i>Column. Form the Line.</i>	67th, &c.
Drum ceases.	139 <i>Battalion. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	140 <i>Battalion, by Division,</i> prepare to retreat by Co- lumn. }	69th
The Retreat.	141 <i>Battalion. Retreat.</i>	70th, &c.
Drum ceases.	142 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
Flam	143 <i>Column. Face to the right-about.</i>	The

<i>Signals.</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
The March.	144 <i>Column. March.</i>	
Drum ceases.	145 <i>Column. Halt,</i>	
Short Roll.	146 <i>Column, from Division,</i> <i>prepace to form Grand-</i> <i>Division.</i>	} C.IV.S4..wc.4.
The Troop.	147 <i>Column. Form into</i> <i>Grand-division.</i>	
Drum ceases.	148 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	149 <i>Column. Prepare to</i> <i>form the Square.</i>	7th
Long Roll.	150 <i>Column. Form the Square.</i>	8th
Flam	151 <i>Square. Face outward.</i>	9th, &c.
Short Roll.	152 <i>Square, by your Front</i> <i>Face, prepare to advance.</i>	10th
<p><i>Note,</i> The Ensigns with the colours are on this occasion to be in the rear of that face to which the square advances, placing themselves opposite to the centre of it. The Field-officers and Adjutant are to be within the square; the Colonel to lead the advance, the Lieutenant Colonel the retreat: and all the other officers, &c. are to be with their respective divisions.</p>		
The March.	153 <i>Square. March.</i>	
Drum ceases.	154 <i>Square. Halt.</i>	
Flam	155 <i>Square. Face outward.</i>	13th
Short Roll.	156 <i>Square, by your rear</i> <i>Face, prepare to retreat.</i>	14th
The Retreat.	157 <i>Square. Retreat.</i>	15th
Drum ceases.	158 <i>Square. Halt.</i>	
Flam	159 <i>Square. Face outward.</i>	17th, &c.
Short Roll.	160 <i>Square, by Grand-di-</i> <i>vision, prepare to reduce</i> <i>to Column.</i>	} 18th

<i>Signals:</i>	<i>Words of Command.</i>	<i>Reference.</i>
Grenadier March.	161 <i>Square. Form the Co- lumn.</i>	19th, &c.
Drum ceases.	162 <i>Column. Halt.</i>	
To Arms.	163 <i>Column, by Grand-di- vision, to the left wheel and form the Line.</i>	
Drum ceases.	164 <i>Line. Halt.</i>	
Short Roll.	165 <i>Rear Ranks, prepare to open to whole distance.</i>	

Direction.

The rear ranks, with all the officers, &c. in the rear, are to go to the right-about.

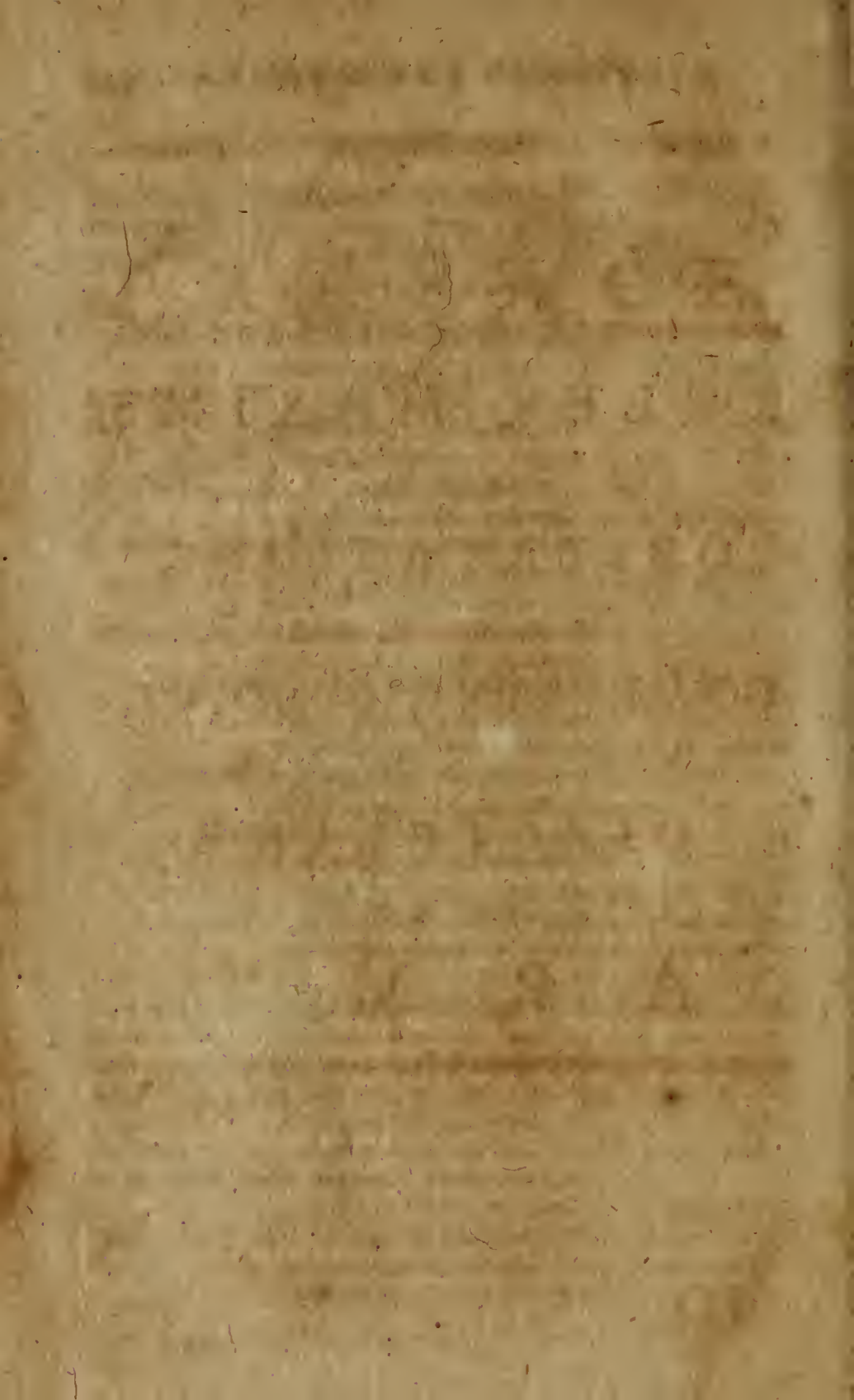
Dragoon March.	166 <i>Ranks, open to whole distance. March.</i>
-------------------	--

Direction.

The rear rank is to march six paces, and the centre rank three; and the officers, &c. are likewise to march six paces, which will bring them to their former distances.

Flam	167 <i>Face to the Front.</i>
Flam	168 <i>Shoulder your Firelocks.</i>
Flam	169 <i>Officers, take your posts in Front. March.</i>
Flam	170 <i>Battalion, support your arms.</i>

F I N I S.





RULES, MAXIMS,
AND
OBSERVATIONS,
FOR THE
GOVERNMENT, CONDUCT,
AND
DISCIPLINE
OF AN
ARMY.



P R E F A C E.

AS a system of propriety in every branch of a man's profession, is nothing more than the result of regulated and established principles, laid down either by himself or by others, it then invariably follows, that where such a guide is wanting, and men are left to impose the dictates of their own caprice, disorder, confusion, ruin, or disgust, must ever ensue.

This consideration, has led me to offer the following rules, maxims, and observations; and though I am confident, how much more complete a treatise of this kind could be rendered by many other officers; yet, when I reflected upon the necessity of such a work, and on the advantages which might from thence accrue to the army, I concluded, that the motive, which influenced me to the attempt, however inadequate the task should prove to my capacity, would, to the candid, suggest an apology in my favour.

The following tract is, in a great measure, calculated, First, to enforce obedience, and to preserve good order. Next, to point out improprieties, that they may be rejected and avoided. And, lastly, to instruct some few officers in a better and more punctual discharge of their duty. And, if what I have so penned, can contribute to these great ends, I shall account my time not fruitlessly employed, but well spent, and sufficiently recompensed in the satisfaction it will afford me.

M O R A L O B S E R V A T I O N S.

- N** O T H I N G but principle, can conduct a man through life.
- 2 Bad habits are more difficult to correct than to prevent.
- 3 Bad conduct will ever produce destructive consequences.
- 4 One absurdity or bad action, will ever beget another to support it.
- 5 Though you err to oblige, yet the person you so oblige, will secretly despise you.
- 6 Nothing can justify the doing a bad or an ungenerous action.
- 7 A man gains more enemies by partiality, than he make friends.
- 8 He who is unjust to others, can never be served with fidelity and affection.
- 9 For as much as you will be to others, so much will they be to you.
- 10 Men will always act according to the idea they conceive of their own interest, or of what they owe to themselves.
- 11 The ungenerous can have no claim to friendship, nor have they a right to murmur at retaliation.
- 12 Where a desire of pleasing, supplants a regard for justice, disgrace is ever a consequence.
- 13 He who is conscious of his own misconduct, hates all those who know it.
- 14 Too strict an attention to ourselves, often induces us to forget others.
- 15 A sordid penury, creates more enemies, than generosity makes friends.
- 16 He, who is vainly profuse in himself, will ever be rapacious on others.
- 17 Oeconomy is the parent of greatness.
- 18 He cannot be called avaritious or selfish, who is disinterested.
- 19 He who is the most frugal, will always be the best accommodated.
- 20 He is the most just to others, who is just to himself.
- 21 He who can gratify most, will always be the most carested.
- 22 He establishes a friendship, who grants willingly, and refuses with concern.
- 23 There is nothing that deceives people more frequently than their own imaginations.
- 24 It argues great weakness to place a confidence in a bad man.
- 25 It is prudent and just to discredit the man who has once deceived you.
- 26 He who has been misted to betray a weakness, will never pardon the person who has imposed upon him.
- 27 He can have no claim to confidence, who betrays a just trust.
- 28 Nothing places any transaction in a more unfavourable point of view, or is more odious in itself, than treachery.
- 29 Those must be suspected, whose misconduct gives room for suspicion.
- 30 A declared mistrust, only serves to provoke, but never to reclaim.
- 31 There is nothing more necessary to inspire fidelity, than a show of confidence.
- 32 He is the most dangerous enemy who acts under the appearance of friendship.

33 He who can prostitute himself to injure one man in complaisance to another, is qualified to serve the vilest purposes.

34 Nothing sooner betrays an odious disposition than to insult the weak and defenceless.

35 There is nothing more incompatible than spite and bravery.

36 Private conduct shows the internal man.

37 Nothing sooner discovers the disposition of a man, than the conduct of his dependents.

38 He who makes no allowance for the defects of others, must be esteemed a weak as well as a bad man.

39 The countenance or applause of a bad man is ever a disadvantage to him it is given.

40 The friendship of a dishonest man is not to be acquired by honest means.

41 A bad man covets no other principle in another but the gratification of himself.

42 A tyrant admits of no other rule or precedent but his own will.

43 All tyrants covet to be thought good, and will therefore seek to ruin the man who will not applaud even their blackest crimes.

44 Tyrants have no principle; that which is matter of disgrace at one time is matter of applause at another.

45 Tyrants find a pretext for their oppression, in the resentment of those they have injured. A tyrant will always justify the doing of one injury, by the committing of another.

46 Nothing is more dreadful than tyranny and power united.

47 Whoever is terrible to others, will ever be afraid of himself.

48 Reluctance never accompanies an injurious design.

49 He who openly wrongs you, will never be your friend.

50 Vengeance never loses sight of injustice.

51 He who is always feared, must be ever hated.

52 A continued dread, provokes men to desperate measures.

53 Injuries stimulate men to do those things, which otherwise they would not attempt.

54 The more patient a man bears an injury, the more violent he becomes when he repents.

55 He who provokes, does ever instigate.

56 The tongue may sometimes be bridled, but the mind can suffer no restraint.

57 He who countenances or connives at an injury, tolerates the extension of it to himself and others.

58 Calumny is the weapon of a coward, and his shield the secrecy of others.

59 Truth can be no defamation, it being the instrument of justice.

60 False informers should be branded with the same disgrace which they intended for those they sought to injure.

61 Silence in consequence of censure, implies guilt, not contempt.

62 He is little less than abandoned, who is regardless of fame.

63 He is the most contemptible of beings, who has not spirit to support the justice of his own cause.

64 The good conduct of a man is ever a disgrace to his enemies.

65 Nothing affords a truer satisfaction than the reflection of having done a laudable action.

66 The first estimation of a man arises from himself.

67 Merit is the greatest ornament of dignity.

68 No man can be degraded but by himself.

69 The

- 69 The conduct of one man is a lesson of instruction to another.
- 70 He who boasts his own merit, pays himself, and acquits others of their obligations to him.
- 71 He who associates with another, participates of his character.
- 72 Those will ever combine, whose condition and circumstances are similar.
- 73 The individuals of every minority will always league and combine for their mutual support.
- 74 He who screens a delinquent, is an accomplice of his crimes.
- 75 He insults justice who countenances a delinquent.
- 76 Ingratitude is the filth of a base mind.
- 77 There can be no ingratitude in refusing to do a bad or a dishonourable action.
- 78 No gratitude can be due upon the reward of having done a bad action.
- 79 An obligation is hateful when inattention is a consequence.
- 80 A greater acknowledgement cannot be made to a generous friend, than to appear deserving of his friendship.
- 81 The more eminent a man is, the more is expected from him.
- 82 The more conspicuous the man, the greater the object of envy and detraction.
- 83 No one will admire that virtue in another, who is incapable of enjoying it himself.
- 84 No minds are more susceptible of envy than those whose merit is below their birth and dignity.
- 85 Nothing exposes a man more to ridicule and insult than a supercilious air of superiority.
- 86 Dignity can never be supported by insolence.
- 87 He deceives himself, who fancies a kindness is due to him on account only of his superior condition.
- 88 Pride and meanness are ever inseparable.
- 89 A supercilious man is ever his own companion.
- 90 He courts contempt, who lays himself open to indignity and insult.
- 91 No resentment makes a more durable impression than that of contempt.
- 92 A liberty to offend is the privilege of no man.
- 93 The greatest test of true bravery is a fear to offend.
- 94 He who offers an insult bargains for a return.
- 95 Where the injured has spirit to demand satisfaction, ruin or disgrace must attend the aggressor.
- 96 An injury is ever new while the effect is felt, or till reparation be made.
- 97 Every concession is due to the injured.
- 98 He renders himself odious, who quarrels with another for resenting an injury done him.
- 99 In all quarrels only one party can be culpable, and that is the aggressor.
- 100 Nothing indicates magnanimity more than generosity to acknowledge an error.
- 101 Civility is the cheapest, and yet the most profitable traffic.
- 102 There is no character more amiable than that of a mediator.
- 103 Servility to a superior is ever accompanied with the like insolence to an inferior.
- 104 The opposite to ostentation is ever the true character.

105 Nothing argues or proclaims a greater consciousness of insignificance, than servility.

106 Servility and magnanimity are ever incompatible.

107 Pride and insolence admit of no distinction between servility and respect.

108 Nothing can be distinguished less by a weak understanding, or can operate more powerfully upon it than servility.

109 When the intellects are weak and the passions strong, nothing is more pernicious than servile adulation.

S E C T. II.

of COURAGE *and* TIMIDITY.

COURAGE is the happy result of constitution and reflection.

2 No qualification whatever can supply the want of courage in a military person.

3 He is the greatest hero who triumphs over himself.

4 Spirit and zeal give life to the service.

5 There can be no true valour, where there is not public spirit.

6 The more confident a man is of his own power and capacity, with so much the greater resolution he will act.

7 Confidence of success begets resolution.

8 The more that private men can be brought to hold their enemy in contempt, the more resolute they become.

9 Knowledge of support re-animates the man.

10 Nothing is to be omitted which can invigorate men to a discharge of their duty.

11 No difficulty seems invincible to the resolute.

12 Motion gives spirit as well as force.

13 That which serves to encourage one man; will serve to intimidate his opponent at the same time.

14 Nothing makes a man more vigilant than the apprehension of danger.

15 All men will shun danger where there is no incentive.

16 Nothing propagates fear more than darkness and surprize.

17 Of all the senses, none more effectually disturbs the mind, agitates the passions, and subverts the understanding, than that of the hearing.

18 The best troops, if not properly prepared and disposed, are liable to panics.

19 Nothing can dishearten a man more, than a knowledge or supposition of his not being upon equal terms with his adversary.

S E C T. III.

of SUBORDINATION.

THERE cannot be a greater recommendation to any employment, than a disposition devoted to obedience.

2 No authority can exist, where there is not a proper submission.

3 He cannot command whose consequences is violated.

4 The private and the public man must ever be distinguished.

5 No Officer can well be obeyed who is not well respected.

6 The

- 6 The merit of all actions is ever to be given to him in command.
- 7 No inferior must affect an independance of his superior.
- 8 Obédience is ever recommended by zeal and attention.
- 9 Where there is zeal; there can scidom rest any imputation to a man's disadvantage.
- 10 Never consult with another in point of obedience.
- 11 No inferior must alter what his superior directs to be observed.
- 12 Obedience suffers no reflection.
- 13 Orders must be obeyed, though they may be remonstrated against in a proper way if time will admit.
- 14 Ignorance of an order is no excuse.
- 15 A subsequent order supersedes a former.
- 16 The senior present is the man in immediate command.
- 17 Command can never expire, while seniority exists.
- 18 Every inferior must govern himself by the orders or example of him in command.
- 19 Every inferior must be an assistant to his superior.
- 20 Every inferior must give immediate information to his superior, of whatever he hears or esteems is essential to the service.
- 21 No report can be too satisfactory; where a report is made to an officer of a different corps, the signature must have the addition of rank and regiment annexed to it.
- 22 Never enter into any combination against him in command.
- 23 In all conspiracies, he is ever held to be a principal, who is of the greatest rank or consequence.
- 24 There is no danger so great as that of not acquitting yourself.

S E C T. IV.

Of the PRINCIPLES of DISCIPLINE.

- I** THE mind must be prepared before it can receive.
- 2 The mind acts with the greatest vigour, when confined to a particular object.
- 3 Every officer must have his post assigned or declared.
- 4 Every officer must be posted where he can be most serviceable.
- 5 Every confinement is a restriction.
- 6 Every officer is to be in a capacity to inspect, direct, and see things done.
- 7 Where things are not distinct in themselves, there will always be confusion.
- 8 Nothing is military which is in itself either tedious or inconvenient.
- 9 Every object operates best, which is least obstructed or incommoded.
- 10 Whatever is constrained is irksome and ungraceful.
- 11 Strength suffers by constraint.
- 12 That position is best in which a man can most conveniently defend himself and annoy his enemy.
- 13 That disposition is best, where each part sustains the other.
- 14 He suffers most, who is most exposed.
- 15 The more compact any body is in itself, the more impenetrable it becomes.
- 16 The more simple and comprehensive any operation is, the better effect it will produce.
- 17 The

17 The less complex any operation is, the sooner it will be learned and the more accurate will be the performance of it.

18 Every operation receives a merit from its conciseness; every action should have a motive, and none to precede command.

19 The less the space, whether of time or distance, the more accurate will be the judgment of it.

20 Every object stands the weaker, by how much its base is less than its greatest diameter.

21 The more any object is supported, the firmer it rests.

22 No independent object can sustain itself out of the line of gravity.

23 No dependent object can sustain itself.

24 All objects tend to a perpendicular bearing.

25 Whatever is perpendicular can only rest upon its own base.

26 The nearer any object approaches to a perpendicular, the more it rests upon its own base.

27 All objects placed in the same line of direction from the point of view, hide or cover each other.

28 If an object is so placed as to be in a line with two others, the whole will then be in one and the same direction.

29 The nearer that the side of any polygon is to the centre of that figure, the less will that side be.

30 Every figure which carries in its lines its own measurement with it, will be soonest described, and least liable to error.

31 The sooner any figure can be described, the more convenient it becomes.

32 Figures are only useful by their application.

33 If right lines are not parallel, they will either converge or diverge.

34 The shorter any radius is, the sooner its circle will be described.

35 There can be no balance where there is not a counteracting power.

36 The longer any lever is, the greater its power.

37 The nearer any power approaches the fulcrum of a lever, the more is its force diminished.

38 Every fulcrum sustains the whole force of motion contained in each arm of its lever.

39 The force of motion in the arm of any lever is compounded of its length and the quantity of matter acting upon it.

40 The force of motion is proportioned to its velocity in the same body.

S E C T. V

of C O M M A N D.

1 **T**HERE is no knowledge so useful as that of the human heart:

2 There is nothing more necessary for the support of subordination than a perfect knowledge of what is pleasing or disgustful.

3 Whatever is ridiculous or absurd forfeits its importance.

4 Nothing renders things sooner disgustful, than an unnecessary use and application of them.

5 Those, who want capacity for essentials, will ever adopt trifles.

6 Affability alone contributes more to the advantage of the service, than even judgment without it.

7 All officers are to make themselves an example of good order and discipline to all those subordinate to them.

8 All officers should study to acquire the affection, confidence, and esteem of those subordinate to them.

9 It is an unhappy circumstance to be feared for being just, and beloved for being good.

- 10 All officers are mutually to support the consequence of each other.
- 11 There is nothing more necessary to observe, and yet more difficult to effect, than an equal degree of authority and indulgence.
- 12 Indulgence should be cautiously granted, lest it be made a precedent, and afterwards claimed as a privilege.
- 13 There is nothing more pernicious in its consequence, than an injudicious concession.
- 14 He, who properly divides his cares and functions, makes his authority more active, extensive, and decisive.
- 15 All events, whether good or bad, generally depend upon the degree of understanding in the commanding officer.
- 16 No officer can well acquit himself, who is ignorant of the duty of those subordinate to him.
- 17 No proficiencie can be acquired, where application is wanting.
- 18 He, who is ignorant himself, can never instruct others.
- 19 Every man is ignorant before he is instructed.
- 20 Those men acquit themselves best, who are most instructed.
- 21 The less complex any operation is, the sooner it will be learned, and the more accurate will be the performance of it.
- 22 That discipline is best, which is most calculated for times and circumstances.
- 23 The more simple and comprehensive any discipline is, the better effect it will produce.
- 24 Where the principles are not good, the system must be bad.
- 25 A proficiencie in any science depends upon a perfect knowledge of its rudiments.
- 26 The sooner any operation is performed, the more time is acquired for other purposes.
- 27 Dispatch is the soul of action.
- 28 That theory is best which approaches the nearest to practice.
- 29 Where there is not method, there must always be confusion.
- 30 Where things are distinct in themselves, there can be no confusion.
- 31 Whatever is regular is always best.
- 32 The character of the officer is often described in the conduct of the soldier.
- 33 Very little more is requisite to be known of an officer's capacity, than to be informed how he has employed his time.
- 34 Avoid whatever may reduce those subordinate to you to acts of disobedience or disrespect.
- 35 There is nothing more difficult, than to respect the man who renders himself an object of contempt.
- 36 The more an officer's conduct borders on good sense, the greater deference will be paid to his commands.
- 37 No government can be supported by caprice.
- 38 He forfeits his authority who does not support with spirit his own consequence.
- 39 There is nothing more hurtful to authority than too intimate an intercourse with inferiors.
- 40 Justice and power can only support each other.
- 41 Nothing is to discourage a man in the discharge of whatever is necessary and proper.
- 42 He who is brave and generous will suffer nothing to come in competition with his duty, or with what he owes to himself.

43 Whatever you determine upon that is just, let it be prosecuted with vigour and resolution.

44 There is nothing so difficult to reclaim, as authority once parted with.

45 Command admits of no equality.

46 No officer can surrender the privilege of his rank.

47 No man can have any other authority than what is prescribed by law.

48 He that does what he will, frequently does what he ought not,

49 All power is calculated for public good.

50 No authority can extend to the doing an injustice.

51 Nothing renders authority more odious than spite and malice.

53 There cannot be a greater reflection upon the conduct of an officer, than when good men dread to be under his command.

54 Authority is an index of the man.

55 He is the best officer who is the most serviceable.

56 Every officer is to inspect, direct, and see things done.

57 Superiority in office is only the superintendance of it.

58 Nothing is beneath an officer to know or to do, which can contribute to the good of the service.

59 Nothing is inconsiderable which is necessary to be done.

60 The good of the service is to have the preference of all other considerations.

61 Cases of necessity have rules peculiar to themselves, though opposite at other times to the discipline of the service.

62 Let no jealousy or disgust induce you to hurt the service.

63 In matters of moment never rely on your own opinion, but seek the advice of others.

64 It is no reflection upon the understanding of a superior to be informed by his inferior, but it is a very great one, should he discourage such information.

65 Let advice be estimated as it is, but not as from whence it comes.

66 No man will advise where he does not regard.

67 He acts with the greatest caution, who thinks his conduct is exposed to view.

68 Never delay the doing of that which the present time requires to be done. No work is finished while something remains to be done.

69 He can never be much burdened with business, who transacts it as it occurs.

70 He who is the most expeditious, acquires time for other purposes.

71 Revolve well on whatever you have to do.

72 He repents most, who deliberates least.

73 He, who can temporise most, accomplishes his purposes with the surer success.

74 He who is too deliberate frequently loses the opportunity, which he that is too hasty never waits to gain.

75 He who is prepared can never be distressed.

76 Resolution and perseverance conquer most difficulties.

77 He, who accustoms himself to overlook small affairs, will in time habituate himself to neglect matters of the greatest importance.

78 Punctuality is the offspring of habit.

79 Appearance is that index which conveys an idea of what men are in themselves best calculated for.

80 That which constitutes the great character, is an happy union of genius and profession.

81 Nothing cramps more the genius, or contracts more the ideas, than too minute an attention to small objects.

82 Issue no order before there is a necessity, nor before its consequence is well weighed.

83 An order is a law which must not be violated, even by him that makes it.

84 Nothing is more hurtful to the importance of authority, than the necessity of repealing what imprudence has effected.

85 He aggravates an offence, who perseveres in an error.

86 Every order must signify the authority by which it is given, otherwise it is no order, but a recommendation or a desire,

87 Whatever order you shall have occasion to issue, let it be always delivered in the stile and language of a gentleman and a soldier.

88 That rule or order is best, which is the most simple and comprehensive in itself.

89 No man can obey before he can comprehend.

90 Whoever is appointed for any duty or service, let him be amply provided with all necessary instructions.

91 Never suffer any order you shall issue to be treated with the least inattention.

92 The most judicious order will lose its efficacy, where all alike will not support and enforce it.

93 Avoid the discovery of an offence, where authority can have no effect.

94 Justice is the parent of good order.

95 A man renders that submission to justice and moderation, which force or violence could never extort from him.

96 Actions founded upon pique or prejudice too often become pernicious precedents.

97 No precedent can justify an improper conduct. All customs which are unjust in themselves, however made venerable by time, should never be suffered to continue.

98 Where reason does not justify, custom is a poor pretence.

99 Remove all causes of murmur and discontent.

100 He excites mutiny, whose misconduct provokes men to reject all order and obedience.

101 No disrespect or breach of discipline can be comprehended in a desire of justice.

102 No man is to be treated with particularity.

103 Never seem to censure or to find fault with an officer in the presence or hearing of one subordinate to him.

104 The greater the respect shown to an inferior officer, the greater deference will be paid to his authority.

105 Never countenance an inferior in a disrespectful behaviour to his superior.

106 He, who does not discountenance, doth always encourage.

107 He promotes discord, who countenances party.

108 Whatever complaint or dispute comes before you, which you cannot redress, or examine well into yourself, let the consideration of it be referred to a board of enquiry.

109 That duty is the best performed, which is the most controlled.

110 Nothing can justify a neglect of duty.

111 No superior must do the duty of his inferior.

112 All men must be countenanced and supported in the execution of their duty.

113 He who insults another upon his duty, insults the office, but not the man.

114 Where different corps continue in the same place, all to have equal duty and like usage.

115 Wilful misconduct, not errors in judgment, can only be construed a crime.

116 Censure no man before you shall hear his defence.

117 He who is not willing to hear a justification, will ever be desirous to condemn.

118 In all controversies, whatever makes for one party makes against the other at the same time.

119 Let punishment or resentment be like the law; not to gratify revenge, but to deter offenders.

120 Let punishment be as much as possible the effect of a judicial process.

121 The greater the example, the more powerful the influence.

122 It is a barbarity to punish others, for those crimes which we ourselves exemplify.

123 Let crimes be considered as they are, but not according to the rank of the criminal.

124 Let no misconduct escape with impunity, nor any merit go unrewarded.

125 An injudicious lenity is the greatest cruelty.

126 The putting up with one offence, is the granting a licence for another.

127 Like causes will ever produce like effects.

128 Men are sooner reclaimed by lenity than severity.

129 There can be no faithful soldiers who are too much accustomed to tortures and punishments.

130 Omit nothing to preserve a soldier's spirit, but use all means to restrain his licentiousness.

131 Where reason has not time to exert herself, the passions will ever predominate.

132 There is nothing more essential than a minute attention to the abilities and capacities of men, and to employ them according to their several talents.

133 The more experienced the inferior, the greater advantage will result to the superior.

134 No commander can be too nice in his choice of men, since his own reputation depends so much upon their conduct.

135 Nothing sooner qualifies an inferior, than the understanding of his superior.

136 When a worthless person is advanced, it is ever to the disgrace of him who recommends or appoints him.

137 He who is not worthy of preferment, is not fit to serve.

138 Take all opportunities to inculcate and excite emulation.

139 It argues depravity, where officers are not jealous of the dignity of their respective corps.

140 Be always an advocate for those under your command.

141 Let nothing tempt you to conceal the merit of another.

142 The merit of an action, is not to be considered by the degree of the person who performs it.

143 Where praise is due, let it be ever given.

144 He

144 He wings his fame, who shares his glory with those concerned.

145 Great minds are ever pleased with the excellencies of others, but barren faculties are ever provoked at them. Merit gives birth to envy, but it is merit alone that must overcome and destroy it.

146 He is a foe to merit, who arrogates to himself the genius of another.

147 All men are pleased with regulation and instruction, but no man can endure the disgrace of being the instrument of another's caprice.

148. Nothing should be introduced without the sanction of authority.

149 Every establishment merits the highest deference.

150 Every improvement must be held presumptive, till approved by proper authority.

151 Every alteration should carry with it a testimony of improvement.

152 Never change one insignificant form for another.

153 That cannot be called an improvement which is not worthy of the alteration.

154 Let that which is most commodious be always preferred.

155 Observe form, where it does not clash with essentials.

156 Nothing engages the attention more than formality.

157 No officer can be in command, who is not at his post.

158 It is a greater honour to command, than to be commanded:

159 When different corps meet, the senior officer commands the whole.

S E C T. VI.

of INTELLIGENCE.

I **A**T all times endeavour to employ the man who can give you the best information.

2 Nothing contributes more to the success of an enterprise, than good intelligence.

3 It is next to conquest to know the designs and disposition of the enemy.

4 Neglect no opportunity to acquire a competent knowledge of the country wherein you are to serve, and of the force that is to oppose you.

5 There can be no greater misconduct than parsimony to those who can promote your designs, or can furnish you with good intelligence.

6 There are no transactions more successful and advantageous, than those brought about by pecuniary applications.

7 Never discover the man you employ to procure you information.

8 No information can equal observation.

S E C T. VII.

of P O S T S.

1 **W**HEN you are to advance through a defile, occupy by times its outlet.

2 Never attempt to pass a river, before the country on the opposite side is well reconnoitred.

3 When

3 When a river is to be passed in the presence of the enemy, let it be at the point of that elbow the nearest to you.

4 Shun the place where you cannot be fully and conveniently supplied with every necessary.

5 Never post yourself within the reach of the enemy, but with the utmost precaution.

6 Never post yourself near a place where you may be overlooked or held in subjection.

7 Never expose your flank, but always endeavour to gain that of the enemy.

8 Never post yourself in such a situation as will permit the enemy to act on your flank, or in your rear.

9 Never post yourself with a superior force, where there are any means which confine or obstruct your operations.

10 Always adapt your situation to your force.

11 There is no situation but what may be improved.

12 That part is weakest which is most commanded, or easiest of access.

13 He is well posted, whose approaches are less than the ground he occupies himself.

14 He is well posted, who reduces the enemy to a particular attack.

15 Let no detachments be posted beyond the distance of their being timely and conveniently supported.

16 Let all detachments have a free communication with those who are to sustain them.

17 Never let your detachments remain ignorant of those who are to sustain them, or how they are to join you upon occasion.

18 Ever encamp with your face to the enemy, except at a siege, and then to the place from whence succours may arrive.

19 That disposition is best, where each part sustains the other.

20 Never appear in an open place or country with an inferior force.

21 The less obstructed your prospect, the better your view.

22 He who opens a prospect, grants a view.

S E C T. VIII.

Of A T T A C K.

1 **N**OTHING great was ever accomplished, where secrecy, dispatch, and resolution were wanting.

2 There is no such being as an inconsiderable enemy.

3 Where your enemies are superior to you, wait for an opportunity to attack them separately or detached.

4 Never make known your designs before the instant you are ready to carry them into execution.

5 Nothing distracts or disunites a confederate enemy more than a show of regard and affection for some of its members.

6 Though it is in no man's power to command success, yet his good conduct will greatly contribute to it.

7 Nothing encourages an enemy more than your own imprudence.

8 Never regulate your conduct by any desire or intimation of the enemy.

9 Nothing makes an enemy more presumptuous, or puts him sooner off his guard, than a seeming inattention to his conduct.

10 Let nothing that is little or inconsiderable divert you, but be always spacious and grand in your views and designs.

11 No medium will ever excite esteem or admiration.

12 Omit no means to acquire a competent knowledge of the situation and disposition of the enemy, and of the approaches to him.

13 The more offensive your measures, the safer you are, and the more considerable you become.

14 He acquires an advantage who deprives his enemy of one.

15 Where the enemy cannot be attacked with any prospect of success let your operations be such as will either greatly distress him, or oblige him to alter his situation.

16 Avoid making an attack where the danger is considerable, and the success uncertain.

17 Dependence upon chance is only justifiable where a delay will make matters worse.

18 Never risk an acquisition in pursuit of an object of less value.

19 Risk nothing except your prospect of advantage is considerably greater than what you may lose.

20 That service will be the best executed which has been the most consulted.

21 There is nothing more difficult to obtain, than the concurrence of those who have different views.

22 Where different interests clash, there can never be a zealous co-operation.

23 Never undertake an enterprize without being sufficiently provided with every convenience.

24 Ever provide yourself with a reserve of whatever is necessary.

25 That service will be most successful which is the best appointed.

26 On all enterprizes, carefully allot to each division its particular service.

27 Make no attack without a plan, nor before the enemy is well reconnoitered.

28 He who makes an attack, should ever remember, that he is to defend at the same time.

29 In case of a repulse, make no attack before a method and place of retreat are determined upon.

30 There can be no greater misconduct, than a neglect to prepare men for what they have to do, and also for that which may happen to them.

31 Every inscribed figure is less than that which circumscribes it.

32 The longer the sides of an isosceles triangle, the greater the extent of its base.

33 All objects of an equal height, placed behind each other upon a declivity, will appear in front of different heights.

34 All objects of an equal height, placed behind each other upon an acclivity, will be concealed by those in their front.

35 The more commanding your situation, the better effect your attack will have.

36 That attack will have the best effect, which is the most powerful and best sustained.

37 The weaker your opposition, the surer your success.

38 Any active force will sooner and more easily overcome a lesser resistance than a greater.

39 The success of a sudden attack chiefly depends upon its vigour and rapidity.

40 Never let slip the opportunity of attacking your enemy, while he is unprepared or in the least disorder.

41 Where you make an impression, rapidly pursue your advantage.

42 Never give the enemy time to recover from any sudden surprize or disorder into which you shall throw him.

43 Never pursue the enemy beyond the distance of your being conveniently supported, or to a place where an ambuscade may be formed.

44 Possess the capital, and the dependencies will fall of course.

45 A victory obtained by generosity and justice, is infinitely more glorious than one acquired by force. Where you are to choose, prefer what is solid to what is superficial or splendid.

46 There is more judgment in improving a victory, than in gaining it. An action is to be valued more for its consequence, than for itself.

47 A victory obtained by temerity is often admired, though never worthy of praise.

48 Success, however obtained, generally meets with applause.

49 Success too often occasions a destructive confidence.

50 Ever guard against making an enemy desperate.

51 Never publicly censure the misconduct of the enemy, lest you should provoke him to revenge, or excite him to behave better on a future occasion.

52 There is nothing more pernicious and disgraceful, than a spirit of rapine in an army.

53 Nothing more effectually prevents a revolt, than justice and humanity.

54 " Brave minds, how'er at war, are secret friends,
" Their gen'rous discord with the battle ends."

S E C T. IX.

Of D E F E N C E.

1 **T**H E principles of defence are founded upon those of attack.

2 He can best defend, who can best attack.

3 Defence attend to the whole, attack to a part.

4 Without attention to the parts, the whole can never be preserved.

5 He who examines well his own condition, contributes the more to his defence and preservation.

6 He who would make a good defence, must provide himself by times with every necessary.

7 It is a bad situation which yields no resource.

8 The contempt of a subtle enemy is one of the greatest advantages you can give him.

9 Omit nothing to obstruct the progress and designs of the enemy.

10 Whatever distresses, do always obstruct.

11. Never suffer the enemy to have any access to you, which is not either defended or obstructed. Never leave a pass unguarded, or unattended, by which the enemy can approach.

12 That attack has least effect, which is most obstructed.

13 Never suffer the enemy, if you can prevent him, to reconnoitre your situation, or the ground between you and him.

14 Never be intimidated, or drawn from your duty, by any threats or allurements of the enemy.

15 A generous enemy, like the prince you serve, will applaud and admire a noble defence.

16 He

- 16 He is the most secure, who is the most on his guard.
- 17 Never be confident of safety, while there is a possibility of danger.
- 18 That which is strong in itself, becomes weak by separation.
- 19 The more compact any body is in itself, the more impregnable it becomes.
- 20 Common danger begets common interest.
- 21 There is no position so defensible as a direct opposition.
- 22 The greater distance at which you can annoy the enemy, the better defence you will be able to make.
- 23 The more extensive your front, the more defensible you become.
- 24 He defends best who covers most.
- 25 Never attempt to defend what cannot be defended.
- 26 Never expose yourself where there is no occasion.
- 27 Nothing guards more effectually against a surprize, than detached parties on all quarters.
- 28 Upon an alarm, first put yourself in order, and then detach parties to reconnoitre.
- 29 Where there is not too great a superiority, it is better to meet an attack than to receive it.
- 30 Cavalry are of little consequence against infantry that is well disposed or under cover.
- 31 Regard no treaty, while hostilities continue.
- 32 Where you have a defile to retreat through, possess by times its inlet.
- 33 Nothing proclaims more the reputation of an officer, than a judicious retreat.
- 34 He who violates his parole, not only renders himself infamous, but injures others.

C O N T E N T S.

C H A P. I.

	Page
SECT. I O F dress	9
Art. 1 Of cloathing	10
— 2 Of convenience	ib
— 3 Of appearance	16
SECT. II Of arms	18
Art. 1 Of the bayonet	ib
— 2 Of the firelock	22
SECT. III Of accoutrements	24

C H A P. II.

The duty of the Corporal	28
SECT. I Instructions	ib
SECT. II Of respect to superiors	29
Art. 1 Of deportment	30
— 2 Of the standing salute	31
— 3 Of the passing salute	32
SECT. III To stand	ib
Art. 1 Of standing erect	33
— 2 Of planting the feet	34
SECT. IV The facings	35
SECT. V To march	39
Art. 1 To balance the body	ib
— 2 To ground the foot	40
— 3 To limit the step	41
— 4 To preserve equality of pace	ib
Four propositions on the regularity of stepping and forming the ranks	42
Art. 5 Of marching by files, wheel- ing, &c.	47

C H A P. III.

Duty of the Serjeant.	
SECT. I Instructions in twenty particulars	59
SECT. II The parade exercise, with useful observations thereon	66

C H A P. IV.

Duty and instructions of the Ad- jutant	117
The method of performing the dif- ferent kinds of parapet and re- joicing fires	144
SECT. III Of the column, exemplifi- ed in a variety of cases	145
Of passing a bridge	183
SECT. IV Of the square	190
The square formed out of one bat- talion, consisting of four grand divisions exemplified, in twenty- seven particulars	198

C H A P. V.

The exercise as it is to be per- formed by signal or word of com- mand from the major or from any other officer	216
A Sketch of a battalion consisting of ten companies, in each sixty- nine privates and three corpo- rals, making in the whole seven hundred and twenty men rank and file, drawn up in reviewing order and according to seniori- ty	227
Rules for telling off the battalion and for posting the officers both at exercise and for action	228
A Sketch of a battalion formed for <i>action</i> or <i>exercise</i> , with the ranks at whole distance or open or- der	234
Signals, words of command, and particular references	235
Rules, maxims, and observations, for the government, conduct, and discipline of an army	151

F I N I S.

A NEW SYSTEM OF MILITARY DISCIPLINE,
FOUNDED UPON PRINCIPLE.

by a General Officer
Philadelphia, 1776

Bound in full brown leather
with five raised bands.

When received the leather was rotten, both boards were detached, and the headcaps were missing. The original plain endpapers were badly stained and torn. The sewing was loose but sound.

Treatment

The sewing was reinforced with new, stabjoint endsheets of Fabriano Ingres. The spine was reglued with a 50/50 mixture of methylcellulose and Jade 403. A hollow tube of Permalife Text was molded over the raised cords.

Ellen Owings, 1985
