

SYLLABUS FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE TORONTO
MILITARY TRAINING ASSOCIATION.

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PREFACE.

This Manual is issued by the Toronto Military Training Association for the use of instructors and members.

It is based on the Infantry Training, 1914, and Rifle and Musketry Exercises for the Ross Rifle of 1914, and is to be strictly adhered to.

By order,

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Toronto Military Training Association.

PORTION I.

Squad Drill Without Arms (Reference to Infantry Training, 1914).

CHAPTER II.

SQUAD DRILL.

10. *Method of Instructing Recruits.*

1. The instructor should be clear, firm, concise, and patient; he must make allowance for the different capacities of the men, and avoid discouraging nervous recruits; he must remember that much may be taught by personal example, and that careful individual instruction is the best means of developing the intelligence.

2. The instructor will teach as much as possible by demonstration, performing the movements himself or making a smart recruit perform them. The detail for each movement as given in this manual is for the information of instructors, who must avoid repeating it word for word, because such a method is wearisome and monotonous and would not be understood by some recruits.

The instructor will explain the reason for every movement and formation, and its application in the field.

3. Drills will be short and frequent to avoid the exhaustion of the instructor and recruits.

4. Recruits will be advanced progressively from one exercise to another, men of inferior capacity being put back to a less advanced squad.

5. When the various motions have been learnt, instruction "by numbers" will cease.

11. Words of Command.

1. Commands will be pronounced distinctly, and sufficiently loud to be heard by all concerned.

2. Commands which consist of one word will be preceded by a caution. The caution, or cautionary part of a command, will be given deliberately and distinctly; the last or executive part, which, as a rule, should consist of only one word or syllable, will be given sharply: as **Battalion—Halt; Right—Form; Right Hand—Salute.** A pause will be made between the caution and the executive word. Men will be taught to act upon the last sound of the executive word of command.

3. When the formation is moving, executive words will be completed as the men begin the pace which will bring them to the spot on which the command is to be executed. The caution must be commenced accordingly. (See also Sec. 26, 1, note).

4. Indistinct and slovenly words of command beget slovenly movements and must be avoided.

SQUAD DRILL WITHOUT ARMS.

SQUAD DRILL WITH INTERVALS.

12. Formation of Squads with Intervals.

1. A few men will be placed in single rank at arm's length apart; while so formed, they will be termed a *squad with intervals*.

2. Instruction can best be imparted to a squad in single rank, but, if want of space makes it necessary, the squad may consist of two ranks, in which case the men of the rear rank will cover the intervals between the men in the front rank, so that in marching they may take their own points, as directed in Sec. 21, 4.

3. When recruits have learned to dress as described in Sec. 16, they will be taught to fall in as above described, and then to dress and correct their intervals. After they have been instructed as far as Sec. 26, they may fall in as directed in Sec. 27.

4. Recruits formed into a squad will be directed to observe the relative places they hold with each other; while resting between the exercises they may be permitted to fall out and move about; they will be instructed on the command *Fall in*, to fall in as they stood at first.

13. Attention.*

Squad—Attention.

Spring up to the following position:—

Heels together and in line. Feet turned out at an angle of about 45 degrees. Knees straight. Body erect and carried evenly over the thighs, with the shoulders (which should be level and square to the front) down and moderately back—this should bring the chest into its natural forward position without any straining or stiffening. Arms hanging easily from the shoulders as straight as the natural bend of the arm, when the muscles are relaxed, will allow, but with the thumbs immediately behind the seams of the trousers. Wrists straight. Palms of the hands turned towards the thighs, hands partially closed, backs of fingers touching the thigh lightly, thumb close to forefinger. Neck erect. Head balanced evenly on the neck, and not poked forward, eyes looking their own height and straight to the front.

The weight of the body should be balanced on both feet, and evenly distributed between the fore part of the feet and the heels.

The breathing must not in any way be restricted, and no part of the body should be either drawn in or pushed out.

The position is one of readiness, but there should be no stiffness or unnatural straining to maintain it.

Particular attention should be paid to the heels being in line, as otherwise the man cannot stand square in the ranks.

14. *Standing at Ease.*

Stand at—Ease.

Keeping the legs straight, carry the left foot about twelve inches to the left, so that the weight of the body rests equally on both feet; at the same time carry the hands behind the back and place the back of one hand in the palm of the other, grasping it lightly with the fingers and thumb, and allowing the arms to hang easily at their full extent. (It is immaterial which hand grasps the other).

Notes.—*i.* In marching order without the rifle the arms will be retained as in the position of *attention*.

ii. When a recruit falls in for instruction he will *stand at ease* after he has got his dressing.

15. *Standing Easy.*

Stand—Easy.

The limbs, head, and body may be moved, but the man will not move from the ground on which he is standing, so that on coming to *attention* there will be no loss of dressing. Slouching attitudes are not permitted.

16. *Dressing a Squad with Intervals.*

Right—Dress.

Each recruit, except the right-hand man, will turn his head and eyes to the right and will then extend his right arm, back

*In this and the following sections the title of the section or of the movement is shown in italics, and is followed in the next line by the caution or executive word of command in **thick type**. The body of the section contains the detail. Cautions or words of command referred to in the detail are in italics.

of the hand upwards, finger tips touching the shoulder of the man on his right. At the same time he will take up his dressing in line by moving, with short, quick steps, till he is just able to distinguish the lower part of the face of the second man beyond him. Care must be taken to carry the body backward or forward with the feet, the shoulders being kept perfectly square in their original position.

Eyes—Front.

The head and eyes will be turned smartly to the front, the arm dropped, and the position of *attention* resumed.

17. *Turning by Numbers.*

1. Turning to the Right—One.

Keeping both knees straight and the body erect, turn to the right on the right heel and left toe, raising the left heel and right toe in doing so.

On the completion of this preliminary movement, the right foot must be flat on the ground and the left heel raised; both knees straight, and the weight of the body, which must be erect, on the right foot.

Two.

Bring the left heel smartly up to the right without stamping the foot on the ground.

2. Turning to the Left—One.

Turn to the left, as described above, on the left heel and right toe, the weight of the body being on the left foot on the completion of the movement.

Two.

Bring the right heel smartly up to the left without stamping the foot on the ground.

3. Turning About—One.

Keeping both knees straight and the body erect, turn to the right-about on the right heel and left toe, raising the left heel and right toe in doing so.

On the completion of this preliminary movement, the right foot must be flat on the ground and the left heel raised; both knees straight, and the weight of the body, which must be erect, on the right foot.

Two.

Bring the left heel smartly up to the right without stamping the foot on the ground.

4. Inclining to the Right—One.

As described for turning to the right, but turning only half right.

Two.

As described for turning to the right.

5. Inclining to the Left—One.

As described for turning to the left, but turning only half left.

Two.

As described for turning to the left.

Note.—In turning "judging the time" commands are *Right* (or *Left* or *About*) *Turn*, *Right* (or *Left*) *Incline*; the movements described above will be carried out on the word *Turn* or *Incline*, observing the two distinct motions.

18. Saluting to the Front.

1. By numbers.

Salute by Numbers—One.

Bring the right hand smartly, with a circular motion, to

the head, palm to the front, fingers extended and close together, point of the forefinger 1 inch above the right eye, or touching edge of peak of cap just above right eyebrow as in illustration, thumb close to the forefinger; elbow in line, and nearly square, with the shoulder.

Two.

Cut away the arm smartly to the side.

2. Judging the time.

Salute, Judging the Time—Salute.

Go through the motions as in Paragraph 1, and, after a pause equal to two paces in quick time, cut away the arm.

Notes.—i. Saluting to the side is carried out as in Sec. 18, on the command *Right* (or *Left*) *Hand Salute*, except that, as the hand is brought to the salute, the head will be turned towards the person saluted. The salute will be made with the hand further from the person saluted.

ii. Recruits will be practised in marching two or three together, saluting points being placed on either side. When several men are together, the man nearest to the point will give the time.

iii. When a soldier passes an officer he will salute on the third pace before reaching him, and lower the hand on the third pace after passing him; if carrying a cane he will place it smartly under the disengaged arm, cutting away the hand before saluting.

iv. A soldier, if sitting when an officer approaches, will stand at attention, facing the officer, and salute with the right hand; if two or more men are sitting or standing about, the senior non-commissioned officer or oldest soldier will face the officer, call the whole to attention, and alone will salute (as above).

v. When a soldier addresses an officer he will halt two paces from him, and salute with the right hand. He will also salute before withdrawing.

vi. When appearing before an officer in a room, he will salute without removing his cap.

vii. A soldier without his cap, or when carrying anything other than his arms, will, if standing still, come to attention as an officer passes; if walking, he will turn his head smartly towards the officer in passing him.

viii. A soldier, when riding a bicycle or driving a motor vehicle, will turn his head smartly towards an officer in passing him, and will not move his hands from the handle bar or steering wheel.

ix. Officers† or soldiers passing troops with uncased standards or colours will salute the standard or colours and the commanding officer (if senior).

x. Officers and soldiers passing a military funeral will salute the body.

xi. When in command of unarmed parties, officers, and warrant and non-commissioned officers wearing a sword, will, in paying or returning a compliment, give the command *Eyes Right* (or *Left*) and at the same time salute with the right hand. Ranks other than officers, when not wearing a sword, will similarly give the command *Eyes Right* (or *Left*), but will salute with the hand farthest away from the person saluted.

19. Length of Pace, and Time in Marching.

1. *Length of Pace*.—In *slow* and in *quick time* the length of a pace is 30 inches. In *stepping out*, it is 33 inches, in *double*

†Instructions for saluting with the sword for officers are contained in "Ceremonial."

time, 40, in *stepping short*, 21, and in the *side pace*, 14 inches.

When a soldier takes a side pace to clear or cover another, as in forming fours, Sec. 43, the pace will be 27 inches.

2. *Time*.—In *slow time*, 75 paces are taken in a minute. In *quick time*, 120 paces, equal to 100 yards in a minute, or 3 miles 720 yards in an hour, are taken. Except during the first weeks of recruit training, recruits, when not in marching order, will take 140 paces per minute in *quick time* at drill. In *double time*, 180 paces, equal to 200 yards a minute, are taken. The time of the *side pace* is the same as for the *quick step*.

22. Marching in Quick Time.

1. *The quick march*.

Quick—March.

The squad will step off together with the left foot, in quick time.

Note.—For the first week of recruit training it is recommended that all squad drill should be with intervals and in slow time only. The executive word of command will be *Slow—March*. The men will step off and march as described for *Quick—March*, but in slow time, and keeping the arms and hands steady at the sides, pointing the toes downward and placing them on the ground before the heel, each leg being straightened smartly as it comes to the front before the foot is placed on the ground.

2. *The halt*.

Squad—Halt.

The moving foot will complete its pace, and the other will be brought smartly up in line with it, without stamping.

3. *Marking time.***Mark—Time.**

The foot then advancing will complete its pace, after which the time will be continued, without advancing, by raising each foot alternately about 6 inches, keeping the feet almost parallel with the ground, the knees raised to the front, the arms steady at the sides, and the body steady. On the command *Forward*, the pace at which the men were moving will be resumed.

4. *Stepping back from the halt.***— Paces Step Back—March.**

Step back the named number of paces of 30 inches straight to the rear, commencing with the left foot, observing the rules in Sec. 21.

Note.—Stepping back should not exceed four paces.

23. *Changing Step.*1. *When on the march.***Change—Step.**

The advancing foot will complete its pace, and the ball of the rear foot will be brought up to the heel of the advanced one, which will make another step forward, so that the time will not be lost, two successive steps being taken with the same foot.

2. *When marking time.***Change—Step.**

Make two successive beats with the same foot.

24. *Marching in Double Time.*1. *The double march.***Double—March.**

Step off with the left foot and double on the toes with easy swinging strides, inclining the body slightly forward, but maintaining its correct carriage.

25. *The Side Step.*1. **Right (or Left) Close—March, or—Paces Right (or Left) Close—March.**

Each man will carry his right foot 14 inches direct to the right, and instantly close his left foot to it, thus completing the pace.

26. *Turning When on the March.*1. **Right—Turn.**

Each man will turn in the named direction, and move on at once without checking his pace.

Note.—A soldier will always turn to the right on the left foot; and to the left on the right foot. The word *turn* will be given as the foot on which the turn is to be made is coming to the ground; if it is not so given, the soldier will move on one pace and then turn.

2. **About—Turn.**

The soldier will turn right-about on his own ground in three beats of the time in which he is marching. Having completed the turn about the soldier will at once move forward, the fourth pace being a full pace.

3. **Right—Incline.**

On the word *Incline*, make a half-turn in the required direction.

SQUAD DRILL IN SINGLE RANK.

27. *Formation of Squads in Single Rank.*

Recruits will at this stage be formed in single rank without intervals, each man occupying a lateral space of 27 inches. Thus ten men occupy nine paces. The accuracy of the spaces should be frequently tested. Squads will fall in and dress by the right unless otherwise ordered.

28. *Dressing in Single Rank.***Right—Dress** (after the word *Halt* only).

In all cases, except after the word *Halt* and at ceremonial drill, a soldier will take up his own dressing without orders. After the word *Halt*, a soldier will stand steady. If it be necessary to correct the dressing, the command *Right* (or *Left*)—*Dress* will be given. Each man, except the man on the named flank, will then look towards the flank by which he is to dress with a smart turn of the head and, commencing with the man nearest the flank by which the dressing is made, will move up or back to his place successively. Each man will look to his front as soon as he has got his dressing. (See Sec. 16).

Men will only be dressed after the word *Halt* when a correction of the alignment is necessary.

29. *Numbering a Squad.***Squad—Number.**

The squad will number off from the right, the right-hand man calling out “*One*,” the next on his left “*Two*,” and so on.

30. *Opening and Closing a Squad.***1. Open Ranks—March.**

The odd numbers will take two paces forward; when the paces are completed the men who have moved (except the right-hand man of each rank) will look to the right and correct the dressing quickly, looking to the front as soon as the dressing is correct.

2. Re-form Ranks—March.

The odd numbers will step back two paces; when the paces are completed the squad will dress without orders, as in Sec. 28.

33. *The Diagonal March.***Right—Incline.**

Each man will make a half turn in the required direction and, if on the march, will move diagonally in that direction.

34. *Changing Direction.***Right—Form.**

The right-hand man will make a full turn in the required direction, and the remainder a half turn.

Quick—March.

The right-hand man will mark time and the remainder will mark time when they come up into the new alignment.

Note.—Should the squad be required to halt on reaching the new alignment, the command will be preceded by the caution *At the Halt*; each man will then halt and take up his dressing on reaching the new alignment. If the squad is on the move the command *Quick March* is omitted.

Forward.

The squad will move forward in the new direction.

Note.—Forming at any angle will be practised. If necessary, the first three men may be dressed at the required angle and the remainder be ordered to form upon them.

35. *Marching as in File.***1. From the halt.****Right—Turn.**

As in Sec. 17. The men will now cover each other exactly. The head of the man immediately in front of each soldier, when he is correctly covered, will conceal the heads of all the others in front of him.

Quick—March.

The whole will step off, without increasing or diminishing the distance between each other.

Note.—This will also be practised on the move, the words *Quick March* being omitted.

2. Changing direction.**Right—Wheel.**

The leading man will move round a quarter of the circumference of a circle having a radius of 4 feet. The other men, in succession, will follow in his footsteps without increasing or diminishing their distances from each other or altering the time, but shortening the pace a little with the inner foot.

3. Rear Files—Cover.

If the squad is halted or ordered to *Mark Time* when only a part of the men have wheeled into the new direction, the men who have not yet wheeled will cover off on those who have, moving to their places by the shortest route.

4. Forming squad on the move (Plate III, Fig. 3).**On the Left, Form—Squad.**

The leading man will mark time, the remainder will make a partial turn in the named direction and form upon him, marking time as they come into the line.

Forward.

The squad will move on in line in the direction in which it was originally marching in file.

Note.—After forming squad on the right, the left will normally be ordered to direct.

5. Forming squad at the halt.**At the Halt, on the Left, Form—Squad.**

The leading man will halt, the remainder will make a par-

tial turn in the named direction and form upon him, halting and dressing as they come into the line.

SQUAD DRILL IN TWO RANKS.**36. Formation of a Squad in Two Ranks.**

The squad will now be formed for drill in two ranks. The men will take their places in succession, commencing from the right unless they are ordered to form on the other flank, each occupying a lateral space of 27 inches. Each man of the rear rank will be placed 60 inches from the man in front of him, measuring from heel to heel, and will cover him correctly, the two men thus placed forming a *file*. When the squad consists of an uneven number of men the third man from the left of the front rank will be a *blank* (or incomplete) *file*; that is, he will have no rear rank man. Squads will dress by the right unless otherwise ordered. The instructions for dressing by the right in the following sections may be varied so as to apply to dressing by the left.

37. Dressing.**Right—Dress (after the word Halt only).**

In all cases, except after the word *Halt* and at ceremonial drill, a soldier will take up his own dressing without orders. After the word *Halt* a soldier will stand steady. If it is necessary to correct the dressing, the command *Right* (or *Left*)—*Dress* will be given. Each man of both the front and rear ranks, except the right (or left) file, will look towards the right (or left) with a smart turn of the head, and will move up or back to his place successively commencing with the file nearest the right (or left) file. Rear rank men must also correctly cover their front rank men. Each man will look to his front as soon as he has got his dressing.

38. *Numbering a Squad.***Squad—Number.**

The men of the front rank will number off smartly as in Sec. 29. Each rear rank man will listen to the number given by his front rank man, which number will also be his own.

39. *Opening and Closing a Squad.***Open Ranks—March.**

The odd numbers of the front rank will step forward two paces, the even numbers of the rear rank will step back two paces; as soon as the paces are completed, the men who have moved (except the right-hand man of each of the four ranks) will look to the right and correct the dressing quickly, looking to the front as soon as the dressing is correct.

Re-form Ranks—March.

The odd numbers of the front rank will step back two paces, the even numbers of the rear rank will step forward two paces, and, as soon as the paces are completed, the squad will dress by the right, without word of command.

40. *Marching in Line.***By the Right (or Left), Quick (or Double)—March.**

The whole will step off, the front rank man of the file on the named flank taking a point to march on. The men of each rank, except the directing file, will glance occasionally to the named flank to maintain their dressing. The men of the rear rank will also preserve their covering and distance from the front rank.

If there is a blank file, he will always be with the front rank; when the squad is turned about on the march he will step out to gain his place in the new front rank; if the squad is turned about at the halt he will take two paces forward after turning about.

Note.—When a squad turns about the ranks are thereby changed, and the former rear rank becomes the front rank; the former front rank the rear rank.

When, however, the squad is required to fall back for a short distance only before resuming the original direction, ranks will not be changed. In this case the command will be *The Squad will Retire, About—Turn*, and on completion, *The Squad will Advance, About—Turn*.

2. *The diagonal march.***Right—Incline.**

As in Sec. 33. The men of the rear rank will preserve their relative positions with the men of the front rank, in order that they may cover correctly when they are again turned into line.

3. *Changing direction.***Right—Form.**

The right-hand man of the front rank will make a full turn in the required direction and the remainder of the front rank a partial turn. The rear rank will stand fast.

Quick—March.

The right-hand man of the front rank will mark time; the remainder will step off, the men of the rear rank conforming to the movements of their front rank men. The whole will mark time when they come into their places in the new alignment.

Forward.

The whole will move off in the new direction.

Notes.—1. If the squad is on the march the command *Quick—March* is omitted.

2. If required to halt after forming, the command will be *At the Halt—Right Form*. The right-hand man, after turning

to the right, will stand fast instead of marking time and the remainder will halt and dress as they come up.

3. Squads may be formed half or quarter right or left, on the command *Half* (or *Quarter*) *Right* (or *Left*)—*Form*.

41. *Marching in File.*

1. *Turning into file.*

Right—Turn.

The whole will turn to the right (or left), and lead on in that direction without checking the pace. The men of the rear rank will dress by their front rank men.

2. *Changing direction.*

Right—Wheel.

The inner man of the leading file will move round a quarter of the circumference of a circle having a radius of 4 feet, stepping short to enable the outer man of the file to wheel with him. When the quarter circle is completed, the file leads on in the new direction. The other files in succession will follow in the footsteps of the leading file without increasing or diminishing their distances from each other or altering the time.

Note.—If the squad is halted, or ordered to mark time, when only a part of it has wheeled into the new direction, the remainder will cover off as directed in Sec. 35, 3, on the command *Rear Files—Cover*.

3. *Forming squad.*

On the Left (or Right) Form—Squad.

The left-hand man of the leading file, if the formation is on the left (or the right-hand man of the leading file, if the formation is on the right), will mark time.

The remainder will make a partial turn in the named direction and form upon him, marking time as they come into the alignment.

Forward.

The squad will move on in line in the direction in which it was originally marching in file.

Notes.—i. After forming squad on the right, the left will normally be ordered to direct.

ii. If desired to halt on completion, the command will be *At the Halt, on the Left* (or *Right*), *Form—Squad*. The left- or right-hand man of the leading file will halt and the remainder will halt and dress as they reach their places.

iii. The squad may be formed obliquely to the line of march by the command *Half* (or *Quarter*) *Left* (or *Right*) *Form—Squad*.

4. *Forming single file and two deep.*

Advance in Single File from the Right. Quick—March.

The front rank man of the right file will march off, followed by his rear rank man, who will be followed by the front rank man of the second file, and so on.

Notes.—i. If the squad is halted in file, the command will be *Advance in Single File, Quick—March*. If the squad is marching in file the command will be *Form—Single File*. The front rank man of the leading file will then lead on, the remainder marking time to get into their places, and following on as described above.

ii. A squad may similarly advance in single file from fours.

Form—Two-deep.

The leading man will mark time, the remainder of the squad will regain their positions in file, marking time as they reach their places.

Forward.

The squad will move forward in file.

Note.—If it is desired to halt on completion of the move-

ment, the command will be *At the Halt Form Two—Deep*, when the leading man will halt, the remainder halting as they reach their places in file.

42. *The Formation of Fours and Elementary Training in March Discipline.*

1. Column of fours is the ordinary marching formation of infantry on a road, and is then known as column of route. The greatest attention should be paid to training the recruit to keep the prescribed distance from, and to cover exactly, the man in front. Order, comfort, and the reduction of fatigue depend on the maintenance of exact distance by each four. Exact covering and dressing when moving in fours is to be kept even when marching at ease, unless orders to the contrary are issued.

Odd numbers are right files, and even numbers left files.

2. In order that the left four may always be complete, the file on the left of a squad will always act as a left file, and the second file from the left as a right file in forming fours.

3. A test of good marching in fours is the position of the men when they turn into line. If there are no gaps or irregularities in the line, and the squad occupies the same frontage as before it formed fours, the marching is good. This test should be frequently applied during the instruction of recruits, and the slightest carelessness as regards the maintenance of the exact distance should be checked at once.

43. *Forming Fours.*

1. *In line in two ranks at the halt.*

Form—Fours.

The left files will take a pace of 30 inches back with the left foot, and then a side pace of 27 inches with the right, so as to cover their right files. In this formation the squad will stand in fours.

Form—Two-deep.

The left files will move to their original position in line by taking a side pace of 27 inches with the left foot and a pace forward of 30 inches with the right; or if the squad has been turned about while in fours, a side pace with the right foot and a pace back with the left.

Note.—In forming fours after changing ranks, left files will take a pace of 30 inches to their front with the right foot, and one of 27 inches to the left with the left, thus bringing them into the same relative position as regards right files as they occupy after forming fours in the usual way.

They will form two-deep by taking a side pace with the right foot and a pace back with the left.

2. *To the right or left.*

Form—Fours.

As above.

Right.

Each man of the squad will turn in the named direction.

Note.—Except during the elementary training of recruits, the command *Form—Fours, Right (or Left)* will, in cases where no other caution is indicated in this manual, be preceded by the caution *Move to the Right (or Left) in Fours*, whether troops are halted or on the march.

3. *To re-form line.*

Left (or Right)—Turn.

Each man of the squad will turn in the direction named, and then form two-deep, as described above.

Note.—If it is required to remain in fours, the word of command will be *In Fours, Left (or Right)—Turn.*

4. *When on the march in line.*

Form—Fours, Right.

As in 2 and 3, but the right files will mark time two paces, while the left files are moving to their places.

Note.—Should the command *Right* (or *Left*)—*Incline* be given instead of *Right* (or *Left*) the squad will incline instead of turning in the required direction.

When inclining the squad will remain in fours.

5. *When in file, at the halt or on the march.*

Form—Fours.

The left files will move forward into their position in fours if a right file is leading, or back if a left file is leading.

If on the move, the right files will mark time two paces.

Form—Two-deep.

The left files will move up or fall back into their places in file. If on the move, the right files will mark time two paces.

Note.—When a squad is moving in fours it will always march and dress by the left.

44. *Movements in Fours.*

1. *Changing direction.*

Right (or Left)—Wheel.

The inner man of the leading four will move round a quarter of the circumference of a circle having a radius of 4 feet, stepping short to enable the other men of the four to wheel with him. When the quarter circle is completed the four leads on in the new direction. The other fours in succession will follow in the footsteps of the leading four without increasing or diminishing their distances from each other or altering the time.

2. **Rear Fours—Cover.**

If the squad is halted or ordered to mark time before the whole squad has wheeled into the new direction, the fours which have not yet wheeled will cover off on those which have, moving to their places by the shortest route.

3. *Forming squad when moving to a flank.*

On the Left (or Right), Form—Squad.

The squad will first form two deep, and will then act as a squad marching in file. (See Sec. 41, 3).

Forward.

The squad will move on in line in the direction in which it was originally marching in fours.

See notes to Sec. 41, 3, which apply equally.

46. *Dismissing With or Without Arms.*

Squad—Dismiss.

The squad will turn to the right, and, after a pause, break off quietly and leave the parade ground.

Notes.—i. If the squad is under arms, arms will be sloped before the squad is dismissed (except in Rifle regiments). But on wet days, to avoid damaging the uniform with wet rifles, troops may be dismissed at the order.

ii. If an officer is on parade the men will salute together before they break off.

PORTION II.

Squad Drill with Arms (Reference to Rifle and Musketry Exercises for the Ross Rifle, 1914).

CHAPTER I.

RIFLE EXERCISES.

1. General Rules.

1. The rifle exercises will not be performed at inspections and will only be practised by units larger than a squad for purposes of ceremonial.

2. Drilling by numbers should be carried out at intervals and restricted to the instruction of recruits, and should, in the case of the Active Militia, be curtailed as far as possible.

3. The recruit having been thoroughly instructed in the rifle exercise by numbers, will be taught to perform them in quick time, the words of command being given without the numbers, and executed as detailed in the following sections, with a pause of one beat of quick time between each motion.

4. Instruction in the rifle exercises should be combined with firing instruction; the recruit should be accustomed to regard his rifle from the first as his chief means of destroying the enemy, and not merely as an implement to be carried at drill or manoeuvres.

Squad drill with arms should be practised occasionally in extended order to accustom men to handle their rifles steadily and correctly when separated from their comrades.

5. In performing the various motions of rifle exercise the hand should be carried the shortest way to the rifle.

6. Arms may if desired be sloped from the *Stand-Easy* on the command *Slope-Arms*. When the squad is at the slope it will be taught to go through the motions of the order, *Stand-at-Ease*, and *Stand-Easy*, on the command *Stand-Easy*.

7. Squads with arms will be practised in the different marches and variations of step, described in "Infantry Training."

The disengaged arm will be allowed to swing naturally as described for marching in quick or double time without arms respectively.

11. Fixing Bayonets.*

Fix—Bayonets—One.

Seize the handle of the bayonet with the left hand, knuckles to the front, thumb and fingers to the rear, at the same time push the muzzle of the rifle sharply forward and turn the head and eyes to the right, the right-hand man looking to the left.

Two.

Taking the time from the right-hand man, draw the bayonet, turning the point upwards and keeping the elbow down. Place the handle on the bayonet stud, with the ring over the muzzle, pressing it home to the catch. Body and head to be erect.

Three.

Taking the time from the right-hand man (who will raise his disengaged hand to the full extent and in line with the shoulder), bring the rifle to the *Order*, at the same time cut away the left hand to the side, turning the head and eyes to the front.

*On the word *Fix*, the right hand man will take three paces forward, resuming his place in the line when the third motion is completed.

12. *Unfixing Bayonets.****Unfix—Bayonets—One.**

Keeping the heels closed, place the rifle between the knees, guard to the front, and grasp the handle of the bayonet with the right hand, knuckles to the front, thumb of left hand on the bayonet bolt spring, draw the rifle into the body with the knees, and press the spring. Raise the bayonet about one inch, and at the same time turn the head and eyes to the left.

Two.

Taking the time from the left-hand man, raise the bayonet off the stud, drop the point to the left side, arm in front of the rifle, bayonet ring to the rear and at the same time seize the scabbard with the left hand and place the point of the bayonet into it.

Three.

Taking the time from the left-hand man (who will look inwards and raise his right arm), force the bayonet home, and bring the right hand to the lower band.

Four.

Taking the time from the left-hand man, cut away the left hand to the side and return to the *Order*, turning the head and eyes to the front at the same time.

13. *Inspecting Arms on Parade.*

1. The men will stand at the *Order*.

For Inspection. Port—Arms.

Cant the rifle, muzzle leading, with the right hand smartly across the body, trigger guard to the left and downwards, the

*On the word *Unfix*, the left hand man will take three paces forward, resuming his place in line when the fourth motion is completed.

barrel crossing opposite the point of the left shoulder, and meet it at the same time with the left hand at the guard swivel, thumb and fingers around the rifle, the left wrist to be opposite the left breast, both elbows close to the body.

Disengage the safety catch, open the breech and grasp the butt with the right hand immediately behind the bolt, thumb pointing to the muzzle.

Ease—Springs.

Close the breech, press the trigger, engage the safety catch and return the hand to the small.

Order—Arms—One.

Holding the rifle firmly in the left hand, seize it with the right hand at the lower band. (For .22 calibre rifle well above the left).

Two.

As in second motion of *Order* from *Slope*.

Three.

As in the third motion of *Order* from *Slope*.

2. When arms are inspected, the officer will see that the sight is at zero both for deflection and elevation, and that the magazine platform works freely. Each soldier, when the officer has passed the file next to him, will, without further word of command, close the breech, press the trigger, engage the safety catch, order arms, and stand at ease.

3. If it be necessary to examine arms, the men will be cautioned to remain at the *Port*.

On the command *Examine—Arms*, both ranks will come to the position for loading, with the muzzle of the rifle so inclined as to enable the officer to look through the barrel, the thumb nail of the right hand being placed in front of the bolt to reflect light into the barrel.

The officer will look through each barrel to see that it is

clean and free from rust. The soldier, when the officer has passed the file next to him, will close the breech, press the trigger, engage the safety catch, order arms and stand at ease.

Note.—A squad when falling in for inspection in two ranks, the rear rank will be three paces from the front rank.

14. *The Trail from the Order.*

Trail.

By a bend of the right arm give the rifle a cant forward and seize it at the point of balance, bringing it at once to a horizontal position at the right side at the full extent of the arm, fingers and thumb around the rifle.

15. *The Order from the Trail.*

Order—Arms.

Raising the muzzle, catch the rifle at the lower band, and come to the *Order*.

Note.—The *Trail* is not to be used in close order drill except by rifle regiments. It will be used when required for movements in the field in both close and extended order.

20. *Short Trail from the Order.*

Short—Trail.

Raise the rifle about three inches from the ground, keeping it otherwise in the position of the *Order*.

21. *Use of the Short Trail.*

No word of command is given to Short-Trail.

If standing with arms at the *Order*, and directed to form fours, to close to the right or left, to step back, or to take any named number of paces forward, men will move at the *Short Trail*.

23. *To Change When at the Slope.*

Change—Arms—One.

Seize the butt of the rifle with the right hand back of the hand up and slip the left hand to the small.

Two.

Carry the rifle, turning the trigger guard outwards, on to the right shoulder, bringing it well to the front so as to clear the head.

Three.

Cut the left hand to the side.

Note.—To change arms from the right to the left shoulder act as above, reading left for right, and right for left.

26. *The Change When at the Trail.*

Change—Arms—One.

Bring the rifle to a perpendicular position in front of the right shoulder, trigger guard to the front, upper arm close to the side, forearm horizontal, hand in line with the waist belt.

Two.

Pass the rifle across the front of the body, catching it with the left hand at the point of balance, at the same time cutting the right hand smartly to the side. In this position the rifle is to be held perpendicular and opposite the left shoulder, trigger guard to the front, upper part of the left arm close to the side, left forearm horizontal, hand in line with the waist belt.

Three.

Lower the rifle to the full extent of the left arm as at the *Trail*.

30. *Slinging Arms.*

The sling of the rifle having been loosened to the full extent, the soldier will pass the head and right arm between the sling and rifle, muzzle upwards, rifle hanging diagonally across the back.

31. *Grounding and Taking up Arms.*

On the command *Ground Arms*, the rifle will be placed gently on the ground at the right side, trigger guard to the right. The right hand will be in line with the toe as the rifle is placed on the ground, then return smartly to attention.

On the command *Take up Arms*, the men will take up arms and come to the *Order*.

34. *Guards—Sentries.*

Guards, including reliefs, rounds and patrols, will march with sloped arms and bayonets fixed (those belonging to Rifle Regiments with *Trailed Arms*). In wet weather, arms will be carried at the *Secure*. Bayonets will not be fixed when arms are carried at the *Secure* or *Trail*.

Sentries are to walk with their arms at the *Slope*, except those of Rifle Regiments, who will carry their arms at the *Trail*.

Further instructions concerning guards and sentries are given in "Ceremonial."

35. *Paying Compliments with Arms.*

When a soldier, other than a rifleman, carrying a rifle, passes or addresses an officer, he will do so at the *Slope*, and will salute by carrying the right hand smartly to the small of the butt, forearm horizontal, back of the hand to the front, fingers extended, saluting at the same number of paces before reaching the officer, and cutting the hand away, as directed when saluting without arms, "Infantry Training," Sec. 21, Note 3.

A rifleman when passing an officer will do so at the *Shoulder*; when addressing an officer he will do so at the *Order*. In passing an officer the soldier will always turn his head towards him in the same manner as when unarmed.

MUSKETRY EXERCISES.

The foundation of rifle shooting is skill at short ranges, to obtain which the man must in addition to possessing a knowledge of his rifle, be accurate in aiming, and have overcome the difficulties of pressing the trigger without disturbing the aim; due regard must also be paid to proficiency in handling the rifle in the various firing positions.

AIMING INSTRUCTITON.

36. *Stages of Instruction.*

Aiming will be taught as follows:—

Object of Sights.

Adjustment of Sights; for elevation.

Proper use of the sights in aiming.

Aiming with accuracy from a rest.

Demonstration of results of inaccuracy of aim.

Aim combined with trigger pressure.

USE OF WINDGAUGE.

Aiming off for movement.

Aiming at figures and ground from a rest.

Setting of wind-gauge and fine adjustment as ordered.

Judging deflection allowance for wind and movement.

Aiming up and down.

Rapid adjustment of sights.

Aiming and snapping without rests; Target-Index—Practice Rods to be employed.

Although the above headings are given with a view to progressive steps, it is immaterial whether the instruction is given

in this order, but further training should be deferred until the eye is shown to be accurate in aiming. Particular attention must be given to trigger pressure; and declaring the point of aim on discharge. This instruction may be conveniently given indoors in which Sub-Target-Guns and Target-Index-Practice Rods should be employed.

Aiming and firing instruction should be carried out simultaneously, together with such explanations of elementary theory as will ensure the instruction being intelligently understood, short lectures and questions being included during periods of rest.

37. Adjustment of Sights.

Screw Elevating Sight.—To adjust in yards, turn the screw until the top of the slide is brought even with the line opposite the required distance.

For Minutes of Elevation.—Turn the rifle until the scale on the right side of the sight can be seen, move the elevating screw until the index line on the slide is opposite the elevation required.

Mark I Sutherland Sight.—Release the clamp screw; to adjust in yards, move the slide forward until the top is even with the line giving the required elevation, engage the clamp.

To Use in Vernier Scale.—Each mark on the leaf is equal to ten minutes of elevation and, used in conjunction with those on the slide, minutes of angle are obtained. Move the slide until the zero mark is even with the required line on the leaf, engage the clamp.

Example.—If sixty-three minutes of elevation is required move the zero mark even with sixty, then with the sight clamped turn the screw until the third line on the slide above the zero line is brought up to the next line on the leaf.

Mark II Sutherland Sight.—To adjust in yards, release the clutch and move the slide until the index mark is even with the line giving the required elevation.

Note.—On the right of the opening in the slide there are two index marks, the upper one to give elevation when using the "U" sight, the lower mark when using the peep. To adjust in minutes, move the slide until the zero line is even with the elevation required. As the lines on the leaf are equal to five minutes of elevation, fine adjustment may be obtained as follows:—

Example.—If 67 minutes are required—move the slide until 65 minutes are obtained, then turn the screw until the second line above the zero on the slide is brought up to the next line on the leaf.

.22 Cadet rifle each mark on the left side of the sight is equal to twenty-five yards; to adjust the sight, turn the screw until the elevation required is even with the top of the sight chamber.

38. Accuracy in Aiming.

1. Especial care will be taken that the sights of any rifle used in aiming instruction are in perfect order.

2. The aiming mark in the earlier stages will be a target placed at a convenient distance so as to be easily seen, but when the habit of accuracy has been acquired, service targets should be used and care will be taken that there is no falling off in accuracy owing to the shape and comparative invisibility of these targets.

3. The instructor must inspect the sights frequently to ensure that they are correctly adjusted in accordance with his order. He will explain the following rules, and demonstrate the results to be anticipated from common errors in aiming:—

- i. The backsight must be kept upright.
- ii. The left or right eye, according to the shoulder from which the man shoots, must be closed.
- iii. Aim must be taken by aligning the sights on the centre of the lowest part of the mark, the top of the foresight being

in the centre of, and in line with, the shoulders of the "U" or "V" of the backsight.

iv. When using the aperture sight, the eye should be close to the aperture (about one inch), the top of the foresight brought in line with the centre of the lowest part of the mark.

Note.—It should be explained to recruits, that, the nearer the eye is to the aperture, the greater will be the field of view.

4. When these principles have been mastered, the instructor will loosen the sling, adjust the sights for any given range, and aim from the rest at the target, taking care that uniformity is observed in the distance of the eye from the backsight. It will be convenient to use sand bag aiming rests to steady the recruits during this practice. Having aimed, he will call on each individual to observe the correct method of aligning the sights on the mark. Each recruit will then act similarly, when the instructor will verify the aim, point out errors, and explain how they would have affected the accuracy of the shot, and how they are to be avoided. He should occasionally call on a man to point out any errors which may have been made by his comrades.

5. Extreme accuracy of aim must be insisted on even during the first lesson.

39. Common Faults in Aiming.

The most common faults in aiming with open sights are:—

i. Taking too much or too little foresight into the "U" or "V" of the backsight.

It should be explained that a fine or half sight will cause the bullet to strike with Mark VI ammunition about 5 inches and 3 inches lower, respectively, and, with Mark VII, 7 inches and 4 inches lower, respectively, per 100 yards of range, than when the correct sight is taken.

The following method will be found useful to guide a recruit in taking the correct amount of foresight: Lay the edge of a piece of paper on the upper edge of the backsight cap. A piece of cardboard laid on the cap and held in place by an elastic band will answer the same purpose.

ii. Inaccurate centering of the foresight in the notch of the backsight.

The recruit should understand that this inaccuracy will deflect the muzzle of the rifle to the side on which the line of aim is taken, e.g., if aim be taken over the right edge of the notch, the direction of the line of fire will be to the right of the line of sight.

iii. Fixing the eyes on the foresight, and not on the object. If the eye is accommodated for the foresight, the firer will retain only a blurred image of the target. This may not affect the result of his shooting at stationary vertical targets, but when firing at service targets which appear and disappear, or at areas of ground, it will be necessary for him to watch the target closely.

iv. Inclining the backsight to one side.

In this case the bullet will strike low, and to the side on which the sights are inclined. The resulting error will be considerable at long ranges.

40. Triangle of Error.

1. To test proficiency in aiming and to demonstrate the errors which will arise from inaccuracy, the following method of recording a "triangle of error" will be employed.

The rifle will be placed on an aiming rest, and directed at a sheet of blank white paper, affixed to any convenient object at a distance of about 10 yards from the rifle; a second aiming rest should be used to steady the recruit in aiming. A marker will stand at one side at the target with a small rod bearing an aiming disc of metal or cardboard, painted white, about

1½ inches in diameter; on this is a black bulls-eye, ½ inch in diameter, in the centre of which is pierced a hole just large enough to admit the point of a pencil. The disc will be held on the paper, the instructor will align the sights on it, as laid down in Section 38, Paragraph iii, and its position will be marked with a pencil.

Each man in succession will be called up and ordered to look along the sights, but without touching the rifle, and when he has satisfied himself as to the correctness of the aim, the disc will be removed. It will then be replaced on the paper and moved at his direction until the lower edge of the bulls-eye is brought into the line of sight, when its position will be marked. The operation will be repeated three times, and the points thus fixed will be joined in such a way as to form a triangle. The position of the points in relation to the instructor's aim* will expose any constant error in aiming. Their position in regard to one another will show any inconsistency.

2. If the triangle is formed so that its greatest side lies vertically on the paper, it proves that the soldier's principal fault is inconsistency in respect of the amount of foresight taken up into the line of sight; if horizontally, that his principal error is inaccurate centering on the foresight.

When any one of the sides of the triangle exceeds one-third of an inch, or if the centre of the triangle is more than one-third of an inch from the instructor's aim, the recruit will be noted for further instruction.

41. *Aiming off for Wind.*

1. The use of the windgauge will be explained, but it is not to be regarded as the normal means of making allowance for

*If the recruit's aim is below that of the instructor, it shows that he has taken too full a sight; if above, that his sighting has been too fine; if to the right, that the foresight was on the left of a perpendicular drawn through the centre of the notch; if to the left, vice versa.

wind under service conditions. The instructor, having explained that a variation of one division on the windgauge scale is equivalent to 5 inches on the target per 100 yards of range, will tell the soldier how many feet of deflection allowance would be required for the wind which is blowing, and then direct him to set his sights for the range, adjust the windgauge, and aim from an aiming rest.

2. To adjust the windgauge (screw elevating sight). Turn the screw until the centre line is even with the mark on the scale required. Each mark on the scale is equal to five minutes; to obtain less, use the scale on the plate in conjunction with the scale on the sight as a vernier.

Mark I and Mark II Sutherland Sight.—Each click of the windgauge screw is equal to one minute of deflection.

3. The recruit should be taught to discriminate between mild, fresh, and strong winds, by the effect which they exercise on natural objects, and to note the direction of the wind as front, rear, right angle, or oblique, by turning his face full towards the wind.

4. The approximate allowances in elevation or deflection for these winds at decisive range will be taught. Practice will be afforded in aiming off a full-length figure target according to the range, and the strength and direction of the wind, actual or supposed.

5. The recruit should be accustomed to make deflection allowance with reference to the breadth of the target, the full length figure target being rather less than 2 feet wide. Such practices should be limited to 600 yards, but in addition there must be practice in aiming off at all ranges according to orders, the allowance being indicated if possible by reference to the breadth of the target, or intervals in a formation, or by selection of an auxiliary aiming point. If this is not possible, it must be expressed in feet or yards.

6. In such exercises it is necessary to employ a fatigue man

at the target to indicate the correct point of aim with a marking disc after each aim taken by the recruit. The amount of allowance made will be observed by the instructor from the aiming rest.

42. *Aiming off for Movement.*

1. The instructions for aiming at moving targets in the following paragraphs will be given during the latter portion of preliminary training, practice in this form of shooting being carried out on 30 yards, or miniature ranges, where the pace of movement may be regulated in strict accordance with that of the targets.

2. When firing at crossing targets, aim will first be taken on the object, then following it sideways, the aim will be carried in advance and kept in front of the object until the rifle has been fired. The distance to which the aim should be carried in advance of the target will vary according to the range, rate of movement, and direction of movement.

3. Up to 500 yards' range, aim should be taken:—

About 1 foot in front per 100 yards, at a man walking.

About 2 feet in front per 100 yards, at a man doubling.

About 3 feet in front per 100 yards, at a horseman trotting.

About 4 feet in front per 100 yards, at a horseman galloping.

4. Thus, at 100 yards, a soldier should aim about the breadth of a man in front of an individual walking, and at 200 yards about a horse-length in front of a single horseman trotting. Fire will rarely be effective at a single man moving across the front at more than 300 yards range, or at a single horseman above 500 yards. At effective and long ranges, aim should be taken at the head of a body of troops moving to a flank.

5. In aiming at an object moving directly or obliquely towards or away from the firer, allowance for elevation must usually be made by aiming lower or higher.

43. *Aiming at the Ground, and Marking Down an Enemy.*

The eyesight must be gradually trained in aiming at figures or other service targets and at ground which might conceal an enemy. For this latter purpose a fatigue man will be directed to show himself for a few seconds at different ranges. The squad will then aim from rests at the ground which they believe to be occupied. After a short interval the fatigue man will stand up, when errors will be corrected and criticized.

44. *Aiming Up and Down.*

In aiming up and down the aim should be directed at a point not more than three feet above or below the six o'clock line, according to the position of the target beyond or short of the zone for which the sights are set, but if the difference between the range and the sighting exceeds 200 yards, it will be better to alter the sighting.

To practice aiming up and down, fatigue men or disappearing targets should be brought into view for short periods of time at various ranges, the sights being fixed as may be ordered.

45. *Rapid Adjustment of Sights.*

1. Instructors will frequently test their squads in setting their sights rapidly and accurately. They will give orders for aiming or firing at definite targets, but without naming the range, and require their squads to adjust their sights before they bring the rifle to the shoulder. The careful adjustment of sights will thus become instinctive.

2. Adjustment of sights will also be practised in connection with movement of the firer or the target.

3. When there is time, the sights will be adjusted for every alteration in the range, and aim will be taken at the lowest part of the mark, but frequent small changes of sighting lead, as a rule, to loss of fire effect, and may be avoided by aiming up or down. (Section 44).

FIRING INSTRUCTIONS.

46. *Instructors.*

1. Instructors will teach by force of example, rather than by word of mouth, and be careful to refrain from any form of comment which may discourage young soldiers. Words of command are seldom required except in collective firing instruction, all motions of firing being performed independently and each man being required to use his own judgment as much as possible. Faults must not, however, be overlooked or allowed to become formed habits; the essential points of the firing positions are to be insisted upon from the beginning, as the foundation of fire discipline.

2. In the early part of training, squads will not as a rule, consist of more than seven men, who will be assembled around the instructor in a semi-circle. The instructor will explain the uses of the different firing positions and illustrate them to the squad. Recruits will practise the motions separately until able to combine them, and assume each position rapidly and without constraint.

3. The position of each individual will be corrected in turn; the regulation positions may be varied if physical characteristics render them unsuitable in any case, but awkwardness in the first stages of instruction will not be accepted as an indication that the regulation position requires modification.

4. The instructor should stand about 5 paces from the recruit and to his right front while correcting his faults.

47. *Firing Rest.*

The firing rest will be frequently employed in early instruction to enable the recruit to support the rifle and rest his muscles, whilst the instructor modifies, or corrects, his position. An incorrect position, however, usually arises from want of accuracy in the preliminary actions which lead to it, and it is

to these that attention must be given, for a faulty position once acquired cannot easily be corrected.

48. *Trigger Pressing.*

1. Before he is permitted to practice snapping, the recruit will be given several lessons in the correct method of pressing the trigger. The rifle will be rested on sand bags or in an aiming rest, and the recruit will be seated with his elbows rested on a table or other support. The instructor will first take steps to ensure that the recruit can move his trigger finger independently of the remainder of the hand and arm.

2. The instructor will explain, for the Long Ross Mark II and Mark III (i) that, as the trigger has a double pull-off, two distinct pressures are necessary to fire the rifle (the strength of the first pull is 3 to 4 lbs.; that of the second, 5 to 6 lbs.). The first pull should be taken when the rifle has been brought into the position for aiming; the second, when the sights are aligned on the mark. (N.B.—The Short Ross and Cadet Rifles have single pull-off). (ii) That the direction of the pull-off is diagonally across the small of the butt. (iii) That the first joint of the forefinger should be placed around the trigger; and (iv) that in order not to disturb the aim, breathing must be restrained when pressing the trigger.

3. In order that he may learn from experience the pressure required to release the cocking-piece, the soldier will also be directed to place his forefinger under that of the instructor, but without exercising pressure, whilst the instructor carries out the motion. Then, to enable the instructor to ascertain whether the method is understood, the soldier will place his finger over that of the instructor, and exert the pressure. Finally, the soldier will himself press the trigger, while the instructor uses the aim corrector. The main object is to release the cocking-piece without disturbing the aim.

4. Special care will be taken that the breathing is restrained

while pressing the trigger and the recruit is always to say after the spring is released whether the aim was maintained truly at the moment of snapping. If not, he must state definitely the direction in which the rifle was pointed at the moment of discharge.

5. From time to time the instructor will test the aim and steadiness of each recruit with an aim corrector, and, if necessary, further lessons in trigger pressing will be given. Practice with the sub-target rifle machine, target index practice rod, or with miniature cartridge, may advantageously be given, to develop steadiness until range practice is begun.

6. Trigger pressing requires most careful individual instruction, during which the necessity for determination and strong personal effort will be impressed on the mind of every recruit.

7. Daily practice in snapping is required by trained soldiers as well as recruits. Progress should be tested by grouping practice on the 30 yards', the miniature cartridge range, or with a sub-target rifle machine.

49. Firing Standing.

1. The standing position will as a rule be used on service to fire from breastworks, high walls, and cover, such as long grass or standing corn, or to take a snap shot, when advancing, so that the pace of the advance is not materially checked.

2. It is a convenient position for elementary instruction, but when recruits have acquired facility in handling the rifle, they will be practised for the most part in the prone position in the open, and occasionally in the kneeling position, or lying behind cover.

3. *To Load.*—Turn half right and carry the left foot to the left and slightly forward so that the body is equally balanced on both feet. Bring the rifle to the right side just above the hip (above the pouch, if worn), with the muzzle pointing upwards, small of the butt just in front of the hip, grasping the

stock with the left hand at the point of balance, disengage the safety catch. Seize the bolt with the right hand and draw it back to its full extent; place a cartridge in front of the bolt (Mark III, beneath retainer springs), force the bolt sharply home, engage the safety catch, seize the rifle with the right hand in front of the left, bring the left foot back to the right and return to the *Order*.

To Engage the Safety Catch.

Long Rifle.—Turn the safety catch over to the front as far as it will go.

Short Rifle.—Force the safety catch to the left.

Ross .22.—Force the safety catch to the right.

To Disengage the Safety Catch.

Reverse the above operation in all cases.

To Engage the Cut-off.

Mark III.—With the right thumb, turn the cut-off down as far as it will go.

Short Rifle.—With the right thumb press the cut-off down and forward.

To Disengage the Cut-off.

Reverse the above operation.

Points to Emphasize in the Loading Position—Standing.

- i. Body erect and well balanced.
- ii. Left elbow close to the body.
- iii. Firm grip with left hand at point of balance.
- iv. Muzzle pointing upwards.
- v. Butt well forward.
- vi. Fingers clear of the trigger.
- vii. Eyes on the mark.

4. *To Unload (whether magazine is charged or otherwise).*—Come to the loading position, disengage the cut-off, move the bolt quickly backward and forward until the magazine and chamber are empty, press the trigger, engage the safety catch, lower the backsight, if raised, and *Order Arms*.

To Unload the .22 Cadet Rifle when Cocked.—Press back the locking lever just in front of the trigger guard, close the breech, press the trigger, engage the safety catch, and *Order Arms*.

5. *To Charge the Magazine.*—Bring the rifle to the loading position, disengage the cut-off, disengage the safety catch, open the breech, press down the lifter fingerpiece, pour five cartridges into the magazine, move lifter fingerpiece until they drop into position (Mark III, force each cartridge well into the magazine under the retainer springs), close the breech, engage the safety catch.

6. *With a Charger.*—Come to the loading position, raise the cut-off, disengage the safety catch, draw back the bolt to the full extent, place a charger in the guide, then place the thumb of the right hand on the top cartridge with fingers extended down the right side of the rifle, the first joint gripping the magazine, and with a continuous pressure of the thumb force all the cartridges into the magazine, force the bolt sharply home, engage the safety catch.

7. *To Adjust the Backsight (Screw elevating sight).*—Hold the rifle in such a position so that the sight can be easily seen and with the forefinger and thumb of the right hand turn the screw until the top of the slide is even with the line opposite the elevation required.

8. *Other Sights.*—Move the slide with the forefinger and thumb of the right hand until the necessary elevation has been obtained.

9. *To Aim and Fire.*—Load, and direct the eyes on the mark. Then bring the rifle into the hollow of the right shoulder, press it in with the left hand, grasp the small firmly with the thumb

and three fingers of the right hand, place the forefinger around the lower part of the trigger. (Long Ross Rifle, exert sufficient pressure to take the first pull); the backsight to be upright, left elbow well under the rifle, right elbow a little lower than, and well to the front of, the right shoulder; as the rifle touches the shoulder bring the cheek down on the butt, keeping the face well back from the right hand and cocking-piece, close the left eye, align the sights on the mark, restrain the breathing, and press the trigger. After a pause bring the rifle to the loading position and repeat the practice, or apply the safety catch and *Order Arms*.

10. Points to emphasize when firing-standing.

- (1) Body well balanced.
- (2) Left elbow well under the rifle.
- (3) Good bed for the butt.
- (4) Firm grip with both hands.
- (5) Eye well back from cocking-piece.
- (6) Sights perfectly upright.

Great care must be exercised to ensure that the forefinger is not placed on the trigger before the rifle is in contact with the shoulder, and that a firm grip is maintained with both hands while firing.

11. During this exercise the instructor will explain to the recruits that uniformly accurate shooting cannot be obtained unless the butt rests firmly in the hollow of the shoulder, and that the eye must be in a proper position so that the sights may be clearly defined, and that the less strained the position of the head and neck, the less the effect of recoil.

12. The firer should always declare the direction of his aim at the moment of discharge before removing the rifle from the shoulder.

50. Firing Prone.

1. The prone position will generally be adopted by troops on open ground, or when firing from continuous low cover, or from

behind small rocks, trees, ant-heaps, etc. Preliminary instruction in firing, and firing exercises, will as a rule be carried out in the prone position.

2. i. *To Lie Down*.—Turn half right, bring the rifle to the right side as when standing. Place the right hand on the ground and lie down on the stomach obliquely to the line of fire, with the legs separated, left shoulder well forward, left arm extended to the front, and rifle resting on the ground in a convenient position, muzzle pointing to the front.

ii. *To Load*.—As when standing.

iii. *To Unload*.—As when standing.

iv. *To Adjust Sights*.—Draw the rifle back through the left hand until the lines on the backsight can be clearly seen, and proceed as when standing.

v. *To Aim and Fire*.—Proceed as when standing.

3. Recruits will be trained to assume the prone position rapidly, and to perform the loading and aiming motions with as little movement as possible. The oblique angle is not to be unnecessarily exaggerated. Behind objects affording a restricted amount of cover, the body and legs will be parallel to the line of fire if the oblique position would increase vulnerability.

4. *Points to Emphasize in the Prone Position.*

- (1) Body oblique to line of fire.
- (2) Legs separated.
- (3) Heels on the ground.
- (4) Good bed for butt.
- (5) Firm grip with both hands.
- (6) Eye well back from cocking-piece.
- (7) Sights perfectly upright.
- (8) Elbows closed slightly inwards.

51. *Firing in Other Positions.*

The recruit will also be instructed to fire:—

- i. Sitting, which is most suitable when on ground falling at

a steep slope. In this position the right shoulder should be kept well back, and the left forearm supported by the thigh, the right elbow resting against the right knee, or unsupported, as desired.

ii. *Kneeling* used mainly when firing from continuous cover, such as a low wall, bank, or hedge, or in long grass crops, etc., which would obstruct the line of sight if the prone position were adopted.

The soldier may kneel on either or on both knees. In the former case the body may be supported on the heel or not, as desired; the left knee will be in advance of the left heel, and the left elbow rest on or over the left knee; the left leg, hand, and arm, and the right shoulder, should be in the same vertical plane.

Points to emphasize when firing-kneeling:—

- (1) No undue exposure.
- (2) Body well balanced.
- (3) Left elbow well under rifle.
- (4) Good bed for butt.
- (5) Firm grip with both hands.
- (6) Eye well back from cocking-piece.
- (7) Sights upright.

Note.—During target practice, whether on the miniature or service range, instructors will be held responsible that all precautions are taken to avoid accidents. Rifles and pouches should be inspected before the men leave the firing point, and all unexpended ammunition collected.

PORTION III.

Section and Platoon Drill (Reference, Infantry Training, 1914, Chap. III).

CHAPTER III.

SECTION AND PLATOON DRILL.

75. *Section Drill.*

The section will be exercised in all the movements of squad drill. the word *section* being substituted for *squad*.

PLATOON DRILL.

76. *Object of Platoon Drill.*

1. The object of platoon drill is to enable the platoon, when it takes its place in the company, to carry out both by day and night any movement or formation the company commander may direct, whether laid down in this manual or improvised to meet the circumstances of the moment.

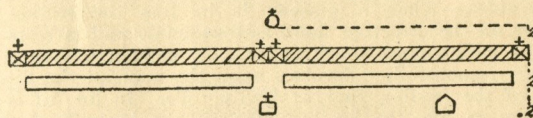
77. *General Rules.*

1. The platoon may be formed as follows:—
 - i. In line (as in squad drill).
 - ii. In column of fours, or in file (as in squad drill).
 - iii. In line of sections in fours or file (see Secs. 79, 80).
2. The platoon commander and platoon sergeant, when the platoon is acting alone or at a distance from other platoons, will place themselves where they can best exercise supervision. The normal position of commanders and supernumeraries is shown on Plates XII and XIV.
3. Plate XIV refers to column of route only. In all other movements in fours, except as noted in Secs. 79, 80, 86, 4, and

PLATE XII.

POSITION OF COMMANDERS, ETC., IN A PLATOON.

A platoon in line.



— Key —

⊕ = Platoon Comdr.

⊞ = Platoon Serj.

⊞⊕ = Section Comdr.

⊞ = Drummer.

87, 5, commanders and supernumeraries retain the relative positions they occupied before fours were formed.

4. The left will be named as the directing flank when increasing frontage on the right, or when the left is the pivot flank.

The left will always direct in column of route.

With the above exceptions the right will always direct unless otherwise ordered.

5. *Guides.*—When a platoon is in line the section commander on the directing flank acts as guide and is responsible for the maintenance of direction. In column of fours or in file this responsibility devolves upon the man on the directing flank of the leading four or leading file. In line of sections in fours or file, the leading man on the inner flank of the directing section will be responsible for direction, and the leading man on the inner flank of each of the other units for the correct interval.

6. Supernumeraries will conform to all orders given to the platoon as regards the carrying of their arms.

7. Before a movement in close order is made, arms will be sloped.

8. Units will frequently be practised in reassembling when dispersed.

9. When an officer requires to pass through the ranks the two files immediately opposite to him will make way on the command *Make Way* by taking a pace to the rear and a side pace outwards, so as to cover the files on their flanks. They will resume their position as soon as the officer has passed through.

10. When a unit in close order is on the move and is required to halt as soon as a change of formation has been completed, the command will be preceded by the caution *At the Halt*.

78. *Inspecting and Telling Off a Platoon.*

Unless otherwise ordered, the platoon will fall in for inspection by its commander in line. The inspection will usually be carried out as follows:—

Platoon—Attention. Fix—Bayonets.

Rear Rank, One Pace Step Back—March.

The appointments, clothing, etc., will then be inspected.

Unfix Bayonets, For Inspection, Port—Arms.

Examine Arms (if required).

Arms will then be inspected as in Secs. 59-61.

Platoon—Attention. Close Ranks—March.

By Sections—Number. Form—Fours. Form—Two-deep.

To avoid unnecessary loss of road space in column of route it is advisable, when sections are weak, that two or more sections should be numbered off and proved together for the purpose of forming fours. This numbering must not preclude sections from being separated under their own leaders for movements in line of sections in file or single file, or for any individual action required.

79. *A Platoon in Line Forming a Line of Sections in Fours or File Moving in the Same Direction.*

Advance in Fours (or File) from the Right of Sections.

Form—Fours, Right (or Right—Turn). Sections, Left—Wheel, Quick—March.

The platoon will move as directed, section commanders placing themselves two paces in front of the leading four or file of their respective sections.

Notes.—i. In order to re-form line the command will be *On the Left, Form Sections*, on which the men will act as in squad drill. Formation will be made on the leading guides.

ii. If on the march, the words *Quick March* are omitted.

iii. When a line of sections in fours or file is on the march the interval may be increased or diminished on the command *From (or On) No. . . , Open (or Close) to — Paces Interval, Remainder, Double—March.*

80. *A Platoon in Column or Fours Forming a Line of Sections in Fours or File, Moving in the Same Direction.*

On the Left, Form Line of Sections in Fours (or File) at— Paces Interval; Remainder, Double—March.

If file has been ordered, the whole will first form two deep. The leading section will then move forward in quick time, and the remainder will be led by the shortest route to the positions at the named interval, where their commanders will give *Quick—March*, taking post two paces in front of their leading four or file.

Note.—i. This movement can also be performed at the halt.

ii. The movements in Secs. 79 and 80 can also be carried out in single file.

PORTION IV.

CHAPTER IV.

COMPANY DRILL.

81. *Object of Company Drill.*

The object of company drill is to train the four platoons to work together as parts of the same tactical unit, and to acquire flexibility and the power of rapid manoeuvre within the company.

82. *General Rules.*

1. The company may be formed as follows:—

- i. In line.
- ii. In close column of platoons.
- iii. In column of platoons.
- iv. In column of fours or in file.
- v. In line of platoons or sections in fours or file.

2. The positions of all commanders and supernumeraries in the various formations are shown in Plates XIII and XIV, but during drill and manoeuvre the company commander and second in command will place themselves where they can best exercise supervision.

The positions of the company second in command, the company sergeant-major, and the company quartermaster-sergeant, as shown in Plate XIII, remain the same, whether the company is by the right or by the left.

PLATE XIII.

POSITIONS OF COMMANDERS, ETC., IN A COMPANY.

FIG. 1.

A company in line.

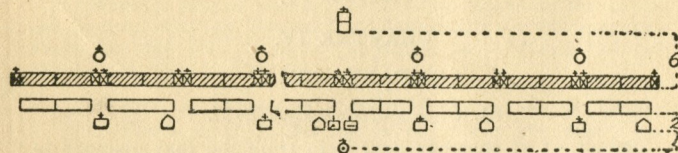
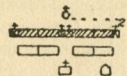
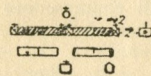
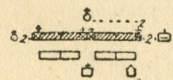
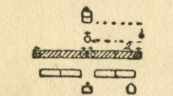


FIG. 2.

A company in column of platoons.

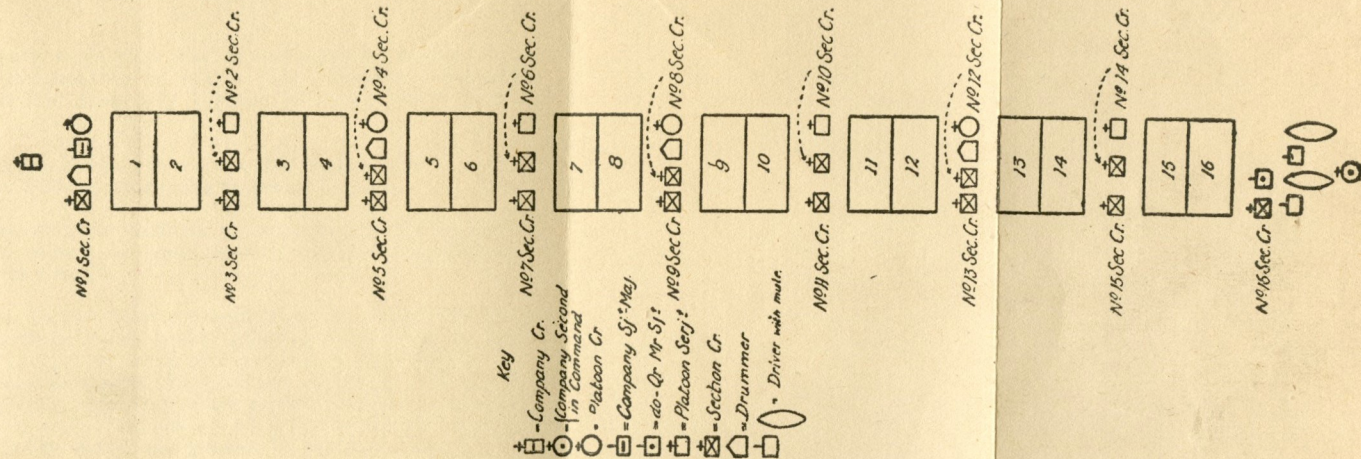
Note.—In line, column, or close column of platoons, platoon commanders are two paces in front of the centre of their commands.



- Key —
- ⊠ = Company Comdr.
 - ⊙ = do. Second in Comd.
 - ⊕ = Platoon Comdr.
 - ⊞ = Company Serjt. Maj.
 - ⊡ = do. Q. M. Serjt.
 - ⊟ = Platoon Serjt.
 - ⊠ = Section Comdr.
 - ⊞ = Drummer.

PLATE XIV.

POSITIONS OF COMMANDERS, ETC., IN A COMPANY IN COLUMN OF ROUTE.



3. *Guides*.—In line, and in column of platoons, the section commander, or commanders, on the directing flank, will act as guide or guides and be responsible for the maintenance of direction and distance. In lines of platoons or sections in fours or file the leading man on the inner flank of the directing unit will be responsible for direction, the leading man on the inner flank of each of the other units for maintaining the correct interval.

4. In action or in high wind it will often be impossible for words of command to be heard. The company commander should therefore frequently practise his command in working by signal.

5. The general rules for platoon drill enumerated in Sec. 77, Paragraphs 3-10, apply equally to company drill.

6. Unless otherwise ordered, a company will fall in for inspection in column of platoons, and will be inspected and proved as in Sec. 78.

Notes.—i. In the following detail the title of the drill movement is shown in *italics*, and is followed by the company commander's caution or word of command in **thick type**. The detail of the movement then follows, in which orders to be given by platoon commanders are printed in *italics*. The company commander's cautions or words of command, when referred to in the detail, are printed in SMALL CAPITALS.

ii. When cautions and commands are given for formations to or from one flank only, the same rule applies when forming to or from the other flank.

iii. Movements and formations for which detail is given in fours can also be made in file or single file.

83. *A Company Changing Ranks When Halted.***About—Turn.**

The whole will turn about except officers and supernumeraries, who will regain their positions by passing round the flanks or through the ranks of the company, section commanders making way for them on the command *Make Way* by placing themselves between the files on their right or left, and afterwards aligning themselves with the front rank.

Note.—If ranks are changed on the march, section commanders will make way by checking the pace slightly and inclining outwards.

84. *Close Column Movements.*1. *A close column changing direction.***Change Direction Right. Right—Wheel.**

The company, except the leading platoon, will make a partial turn to the left; the leading platoon will not turn, but will look to the right.

Each man will move round on the circumference of a circle of which the right of the leading platoon is the centre. The outer flank will direct, but when platoons are of unequal strength they will maintain the same relative positions as they held before the wheel. The second in command will superintend the wheel on the left flank, the company sergeant-major on the right, and the former must, in regulating the pace, watch the left guide of the rear platoon, who will continue to march at a full pace throughout, and on whose movement the march of every man in the company should be made to depend.

When the company has circled round to the required angle, the command FORWARD, MARK TIME, or HALT will be given, on which all will at once turn in the required direction.

Notes.—i. When wheeling to the left, it will be the duty of the company sergeant-major to watch the right guide of the rear platoon as above.

ii. A close column moving in fours will wheel as above, the leading four of each platoon wheeling in the same manner as the leading platoon above, the fours in rear making a partial turn outwards and following round after the leading fours.

2. *A close column forming column of fours.***Advance (or Retire) in Fours from the Right. Form Fours—Right.**

The commander of the leading (or rear) platoon will give: *Left (or Right) Wheel, Quick—March*, and each platoon commander will act similarly in time to gain his place in column of fours.

3. *A close column forming line facing in the same direction.***(i) On the Left, Form—Line. Remainder, Left—Turn, Quick—March.**

The leading platoon will stand fast. The remainder will be led by their guides by the shortest route to the spot where their inner flank will rest. Each platoon will then wheel parallel to the alignment and when opposite to its place in line will be halted and turned to the right by its commander.

Note.—When companies are strong, the command, REMAINDER, FORM—FOURS, LEFT, will be given instead of REMAINDER, LEFT—TURN.

(ii) Line—Outwards, One (or Two) Platoons to the Right. Remainder, Form—Fours, Outwards, Quick—March.

The movement will be made on the above principle. The platoon or platoons next in succession from the front will move to the named flank.

When line has been formed the company commander will name a flank of direction.

4. *A close column on the march forming line facing a flank.*
At the Halt, Facing Left, Form—Line.

The commander of the rear platoon will at once give *At the Halt, Left—Form*. Each of the other commanders will form his platoon into line in like manner when it arrives at column distance from the platoon next in rear.

5. *Advancing in column from close column.*

Advance in—Column.

The commander of the leading platoon will give *By the Right, Quick—March*, and the remaining platoons will be similarly marched off when the platoon next in front has reached column distance.

6. *A column on the march closing to close column.*

At the Halt, Form Close—Column (or Close Column at—Paces).

The leading platoon will at once be halted by its commander. The remainder will be halted successively on reaching their positions in close column.

Note.—If it is required to continue moving after closing, the command will be **FORM CLOSE COLUMN. REMAINDER, DOUBLE—MARCH**, on which the leading platoon will continue to advance in quick time, the remainder taking up the quick time as they gain the correct distance.

85. *Column Movements.*

1. *A column on the march changing direction.*

Change Direction—Right.

The commander of the leading platoon will give the command *Right—Form*, and, when the platoon is formed in the new direction, *Forward*. The remaining platoons, on arriving at the same point, will be formed successively in a similar manner.

Notes.—i. Before changing direction *Left* a column should normally be ordered to march by the left.

ii. A column can similarly change direction half (or quarter) right.

2. *A column forming column of fours.*

Advance (or Retire) in Fours from the Right. Form Fours—Right. Platoons Left (or Right) Wheel, Quick—March.

Each platoon will move in the required direction, forming column of fours.

Note.—When a column is on the march, platoons may, if desired, advance in fours in succession. On the caution **IN SUCCESSION ADVANCE IN FOURS FROM THE RIGHT** the commander of the leading platoon will form fours right and wheel to the left. On arriving at the same point the commander of each succeeding platoon will act in a similar manner.

3. *A column forming line facing in the same direction.*

On the Left, Form—Line, Remainder Left—Incline, Quick—March.

The leading platoon will stand fast. The remainder will act as in squad drill. When each platoon is immediately in rear of its position in line, it will receive from its commander *Right—Incline*, and when on the alignment *Halt*.

Notes.—i. If the column is marching, the command **DOUBLE MARCH** instead of **QUICK MARCH**, will be given, and on reaching the alignment *Quick March* instead of *Halt*.

ii. When companies are strong, the command **FORM FOURS—LEFT** instead of **LEFT INCLINE**, will be given, and the movement will be carried out as described in Sec. 84, Paragraph 3 (i). *Note.* Line may similarly be formed outwards, the words of command being as in Sec. 84, Paragraph 3 (ii). In both these cases the movement will be carried out at the halt.

4. *A column forming line facing a flank and moving forward.*
Into Line, Left—Form. Quick—March.

The men will act as in squad drill, the left guide of each platoon acting, on the word **FORM**, as the pivot man of a squad.

When line is formed the company commander will give **FORWARD, BY THE LEFT**.

86. *Line Movements.*

1. *A line forming column (or close column) facing in the same direction.*

On the Right, Form Column (or Close Column) of Platoons. Remainder, Right—Turn. Quick—March.

The platoon on the right will stand fast. The remainder will be led by their guides by the shortest route to their positions in column (or close column), where they will receive from their commanders **Halt, Left—Turn**. On the word **Halt**, the right guides will at once turn to their left and take up their covering and distance from the right guide of the platoon in front.

Note.—When the companies are strong, the command **REMAINDER FORM FOURS—RIGHT** will be given instead of **REMAINDER RIGHT—TURN**.

2. *A line advancing in column of platoons.*

Advance in Column of Platoons from the Right. Remainder, Right—Turn. Quick—March.

The right platoon will advance. The remainder will act as in squad drill, mark time two paces, and then lead on. When the guide of each platoon is in rear of the centre of the preceding platoon, the commander will give **Left—Incline**, and on arriving in column of platoons, again **Left—Incline**.

Notes.—i. If on the march, the words **QUICK MARCH** are omitted.

ii. When companies are strong the command **REMAINDER FORM FOURS—RIGHT** will be given instead of **REMAINDER, RIGHT—TURN**.

3. *A line forming column facing a flank.*

At the Halt, into Column, Platoons, Right—Form. Quick—March.

The men will act as in squad drill, the right guide of each platoon acting as the pivot man of a squad.

4. *A line forming a line of platoons in fours facing in the same direction.*

Advance in Fours from the Right of Platoons. Form—Fours, Right. Platoons, Left—Wheel, Quick—March.

The movement will be made as directed, platoon commanders placing themselves two paces in front of the leading four of their respective platoons; section commanders maintaining the relative positions they occupied before fours were formed. . .

Note.—A line of sections in fours or files can also be formed, as in Sec. 79.

87. *Movements from Column of Fours.*

1. *A column of fours forming forward into column of platoons.*

On the Left, Form—Platoons.

The men will act as in squad drill. Formation will be made on the leading guide of each platoon. When column has been formed the company commander will give **FORWARD, BY THE RIGHT**.

2. *A column of fours forming forward into close column of platoons at the halt.*

At the Halt, on the Left, Form Close Column of—Platoons.

The commander of the leading platoon will at once give **At the Halt, On the Left, Form—Platoon**. The commanders of the remaining platoons on arriving at close column distance will act in a similar manner.

3. *A column of fours forming a line of platoons in fours, moving in the same direction.*

On the Left, Form Line of Platoons in Fours at—Paces Interval. Remainder, Double—March.

The leading platoon will continue to move forward in quick time. The remainder will be led by their guides by the shortest route to their positions in the alignment at the named interval, where platoon commanders will give the command *Quick—March*, taking post 2 paces in front of the leading four of their platoons.

Notes.—i. When companies are strong, it will be found more convenient to perform this movement at the halt, the advance being continued after the line of platoons has been formed.

ii. A line of sections in fours or file can similarly be formed, section commanders taking post two paces in front of their leading four or file.

89. *Dismissing.*

The officers will first be ordered to fall out, when they will move in quick time to the commander of the parade, salute, and await his orders.

The company will then be dismissed as in Sec. 46.

PORTION V.

Lectures will be Delivered on the Following Subjects:—

Organization of a Company.
Duties of Officers and N.C.O.'s.
Entrenching.
Elementary Map Reading.
The Rifle, and its Care.

H. C. B.

Note.—These lectures may run concurrently with Portions I, II, III and IV.