

skirmishers, when halting *on the line established by the company officers*, will be in a position that allows an effective fire.

The distance between halts now conforms to the ground.

The number of men firing, and of cartridges fired at the various halts, is fixed by the captain according to the circumstances of the action.

The Company Acting Alone.

240. *The company acting alone* is in three echelons; *firing line, support and reserve.*

One platoon habitually forms the firing line; one section, the support; one section, the reserve.

This division of the company is varied according to circumstances.

The captain, accompanied by the first sergeant and musicians, takes post at such central point as best enables him to supervise and control the action of the entire company.

The support and reserve follow the firing line at about three hundred and six hundred yards respectively, in the early stages of the attack.

The firing line attacks as described for the company. The reserve is habitually used to deliver a flank attack in conjunction with the direct attack of the firing line. The support follows the firing line at such distance as allows it to protect the flanks of the same and to pursue the enemy when the latter has been thrust out of his position.

If the reserve is not used for a flank attack, the support gradually approaches the firing line and joins the same on one flank at about six hundred yards from the enemy. The reserve, in this case, follows as described above for the support.

The Defense.

241. The principles governing a company acting on the defensive as an integral part of a larger organization, are the same as laid down in the School of the Squad.

The captain causes the company to occupy that portion of the position assigned him and superintends the construction of the necessary artificial cover.

The distances to all prominent objects in front are measured and a record of such measurements is furnished the platoon commanders.

Certain subdivisions may be designated to fire upon the enemy's supports and reserves. Otherwise, all fire is habitually directed upon the nearest enemy presenting a favorable target.

SCHOOL OF THE BATTALION.

CLOSE ORDER.

242. In this school the senior officer present is the instructor; in the text, he is designated as major.

243. Captains repeat such preparatory commands as are to be immediately executed by their companies; as, *forward, squads, right, etc.*; the men execute the commands *march, and halt*, if applying to their companies, when given by the major; captains do not repeat the major's commands in executing the manual, nor those commands which are not essential to the execution of a movement by their companies, as, *close in mass, etc.*

Each captain gives his commands so as to insure their execution by his company at the proper time, and in a tone loud enough to be readily heard by the men of his company, but avoids unnecessary loudness.

In changes from line into column of squads and the reverse, and in facing or marching the column of squads to the rear, each captain moves to his proper place at double time, as soon as practicable after the preparatory command indicates to him his new position. In other movements requiring change of position, he moves in the most convenient way as soon as practicable after the command *march or dress*.

244. When the formation admits of the simultaneous execution by companies, of movements in the School of the Company, the major may cause such movements to be executed by prefixing, when necessary, *Companies*, to the commands therein prescribed; as, 1. *Companies*, 2. *Right front into line*, 3. **MARCH**; 1. *Companies*, 2. *Column right*, 3. **MARCH**; etc.

When line, line of columns, or column of subdivisions is formed, the major announces the guide if the march is to be continued.

245. By the designation *line of columns* is meant a line in which each company is in column of squads.

246. The major is responsible for the instruction of his battalion.

When their instruction is not otherwise provided for by Army

Regulations and General Orders, the officers are assembled by the major for theoretical and practical instruction.

The major requires each captain to drill the battalion.

247. The movements explained herein are on the basis of a battalion of four companies; they may be executed by a battalion consisting of two or more companies, not exceeding six.

Companies may be equalized by transferring men from the larger to the smaller.

The companies are generally arranged from right to left according to the rank of the captains present at the formation.

When a battalion is composed of fractions of several regiments, the companies of each regiment are arranged as already explained; the fractions are then arranged in line from right to left according to the rank of the senior officer present in each, the senior on the right.

The arrangement of companies may be varied by the major or higher commander.

After the battalion is formed no cognizance is taken of the relative order of the companies.

In whatever direction the battalion faces, the companies are designated numerically from right to left in line and from head to rear in column, *first company, second company, etc.*

Changes in the numerical designation of companies, necessitated by a new formation, take place upon the completion of the movement; each captain announces the change to his company as follows: "*A*" company, *fourth company*; "*B*" company, *third company*; etc.

In giving commands or cautions, captains may prefix the proper letter designations of their companies; as, "*A*" company, *HALT*; "*B*" company, *squads right, etc.*

The terms *right* and *left* apply to actual right or left, as the line faces; if the about by squads be executed in line formations, the right company becomes the left company, the right center becomes the left center company, and the right wing becomes the left wing.

Those companies to the right of the center in line, are, for reference designated the *right wing*; those to the left, the *left wing*; when the number of companies is odd, the center company is part of the original right wing; when the number of companies is even, the left company of the right wing and the right company of the left wing are designated respectively *right center* and *left center companies*.

The designation *center company*, indicates the right center or

the actual center company according as the number of companies is even or odd.

Color Guard.

248. The color guard consists of the two color sergeants who are the color bearers, and two experienced men selected by the colonel. The senior color sergeant carries the National Color; the junior color sergeant carries the Regimental Color. The Regimental Color, when paraded, is always on the left of the National Color, in whatever direction the battalion faces.

The colors are kept at the office or quarters of the colonel, and are escorted thereto and therefrom by the color guard, which is formed and marched in one rank, the color bearers in the center.

249. The color guard, by command of the senior color sergeant, presents arms on receiving and parting with the colors. After parting with the colors, the color guard is brought to order arms by command of the senior member, placed as the right man of the guard.

250. At drills and ceremonies, excepting Escort of the Color, the color, if present, is received by the color company after its formation. The word *color* implies the National Color and includes the Regimental Color when both are present.

The formation of the color company completed, the captain faces to the front; the color guard, conducted by the senior sergeant, approaches from the front and halts at a distance of ten paces from the captain, who then faces about, brings the company to the present, faces to the front, salutes, again faces about and brings the company to the order. The color guard comes to the present and order at the command of the captain, and is then marched by the color sergeant directly to its post on the left of the color company.

251. The color company is the left company of the right wing; the color guard remains with it unless otherwise directed. In line, the color is between the inner guides of the right and left wings; the other members of the guard are in the line of file closers in rear of the color.

In line of columns, the color guard, in one rank, is midway between the wings and on line with the captains.

In column of companies, platoons, or sections, the color guard, in one rank, is midway between the wings and equidistant from the flanks of the column.

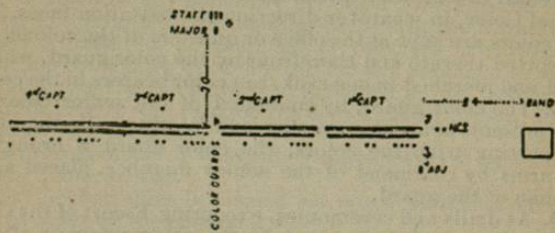
In column of squads, the color is between the wings, abreast of the guide of the color company, in front or in rear of the file

or files next the file closers; the other members of the guard retain their places in the line of file closers.

If by movements of the battalion, the color guard finds itself not between the wings, it takes post there as soon as practicable.

Posts of Major and Staff.

252. Except when otherwise specified, the posts of major and staff are as follows:



Pl. 54, Par. 252.

The staff officers, except the adjutant, in order of rank from right to left, take post in all formations three paces in rear of the major; if but one staff officer is present he takes post three paces to the rear and one pace to the right of the major.

In line, the major is posted twenty paces in front of the center of the battalion; the adjutant and sergeant major are opposite the right and left of the battalion, six paces in rear of the file closers; the noncommissioned staff officers except the sergeant major, in the order of rank from right to left take post one pace apart, the junior three paces to the right of and all in line with the front rank of the battalion.

If the line faces to the rear, the noncommissioned staff officers face about individually and move up abreast of the front rank, keeping their relative positions; the adjutant and sergeant major, each in his own wing, move to their relative positions in rear of the line.

In line of columns, the major is twenty paces in front of the center; the adjutant and sergeant major are abreast of the leading guides and six paces outside of the file closers or leading guide, each in his own wing; the other noncommissioned staff officers, in the same relative order as in line, are six paces in rear of the adjutant.

If the line of columns faces to the rear, the adjutant, sergeant major and other noncommissioned staff officers face about and place themselves in the same relative position as when facing to the former front, the adjutant and sergeant major abreast of the leading guides.

In columns, the major is on the side of the guide, twenty paces from and opposite the center; the adjutant and sergeant major, each in his own wing, are on the side of the guide opposite and six paces from the head or rear of the column. The other noncommissioned staff officers, in order of rank from right to left, take post on a line equal to the front of the column, six paces in front of the captain of the leading company.

When the column faces to the rear the noncommissioned staff officers face about individually and maintain their relative positions.

The major and staff officers are mounted.

In making the about, a mounted officer habitually turns to the left.

Post of the Band and Field Music.

253. The band is posted with the left of its front rank twenty-four paces to the right of the front rank of the battalion.

In column, it marches with its rear rank twenty-four paces in front of the leading company, or its front rank twenty-four paces in rear of the rear company, according to the direction in which the battalion is facing. In the line of columns, the band retains its line position, marching abreast of the leading guides.

The field music, if present with the band, forms in rear of it. When united and the band is not present, it takes post and moves as prescribed for the band.

To Form the Battalion.

254. The companies having been formed on their parade grounds, *adjutant's call* is sounded, the adjutant proceeds to the point where the base company is to form; the sergeant major reports to him and is posted on the line facing the adjutant at a little more than company distance; the adjutant and sergeant major then draw saber.

If dismounted, the adjutant, accompanied by the sergeant major on his left, marches to the point described and posts the sergeant major.

The center company is conducted by its captain so as to arrive from the rear, parallel to the line; its right and left guides precede it on the line by about twenty paces, taking post facing to

the left (point of rest) at order arms, so that their elbows are against the breasts of the right and left files of the base company when it is dressed; they are posted under the direction of the adjutant and sergeant major.

The line of guides is prolonged to the right by the right and left guides of companies of the right wing, who precede their companies on the line by about twenty paces, and establish themselves facing toward the point of rest so that each is opposite the proper flank of his company when it is on the line; the left guide places himself about five paces from the right guide of the preceding company. The adjutant aligns the guides, placing himself in rear of the right guides of companies as they successively arrive.

The line of guides is similarly prolonged to the left by the guides of companies of the left wing, the sergeant major aligning them in their positions, placing himself successively in rear of the left guides.

When about one pace from the line, the center company is halted by the captain, who places himself facing to the front, so that when dressing he is on the left of the left file of the company at the post of the left guide in line; he then dresses the company to the left; the breasts of the men opposite the right and left guides rest against their left arms. The other companies of the left wing successively form from left to right so that there is an interval of three paces between guides when they are in line, each company being halted and dressed to the left, as explained for the center company. Similarly, the companies of the left wing successively form from right to left and are dressed to the right.

255. When approaching a line, a company is halted by its captain when it is about one pace in rear of the line of guides. Guides in front marking the line, in alignments and in successive formations including the formation of the battalion, stand at the order.

When companies are to be aligned, captains place themselves on that flank toward which the dress is to be made as follows:

In line, at the post of the guide and facing to the front.

In column, two paces from the guide, in prolongation of and facing toward the line.

Each captain, after dressing his company, commands: **FRONT** and takes post.

These rules are general.

256. At all formations of the battalion except for ceremonies,

a noncommissioned officer in command of his company takes the positions prescribed for the captain.

257. Before *adjutant's call* is sounded the band takes a position designated by the adjutant and marches at the same time as the companies to its position in line.

258. The major places himself facing the line, at a distance in front of the center of the battalion about equal to half its front.

259. The adjutant, having assured the positions of the guides of the right company, places himself three paces from its right flank and three paces to the front, facing to the left, and when all the companies are dressed, commands: 1. *Guides*, 2. **POSTS**,

At the command *posts*, the sergeant major and guides take their posts in line; the noncommissioned staff officers take their posts and draw saber.

The adjutant moves at a trot (if dismounted, in quick time) parallel to and three paces in front of the line of captains to the center, turns to the right, halts midway between the major and the line and faces the latter; he then brings the battalion to the present, turns about, salutes the major, and reports: *Sir, the battalion is formed*; the major returns the salute with the right hand, directs the adjutant: *Take your post, sir*; draws saber, and brings the battalion to the order.

The adjutant turns about and takes his post by the same gait and path as described above, provided the battalion is not placed in march; if placed in march, he moves on the shortest line.

260. The battalion may be formed in line on the right or left company on the same principles, the guides being posted facing the point of rest.

The battalion may also be assembled in column of squads.

In both cases the companies are arranged in the same relative order as when the formation is on the center company. When assembled in column the adjutant reports to the major as soon as the last company has taken its place.

To Open Ranks.

261. Being at a halt: 1. *Open ranks*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. **FRONT**.

At the first command, the adjutant places himself facing to the left, three paces to the right and three paces to the rear of the front rank.

The lieutenants, right and left guides, and the file closers, of each company, take posts as at the command *open ranks* in the School of the Company.

The adjutant aligns the right and left guides, and then places himself facing to the left, in line with the captains, three paces from the right flank.

At the command *march*, the captains carry saber and dress to the right; lieutenants of companies place themselves on the line of captains opposite their posts in line and dress to the right; all officers turn heads and eyes to the front as soon as their alignment is verified; they bring their sabers to the order at the command *front*. The noncommissioned staff, if present, and the front rank dress to the right; the men in the rear rank step back a few inches in rear of the line marked by the guides, halt, and dress on the right guides, who align the men in their respective companies.

The guides who mark the line of the rear rank remain in their positions, after the alignment by the adjutant, until the command *front*.

The color bearers remain in place; the other members of the color guard step back with the file closers.

The sergeant major takes post three paces to the left of and in line with the front rank.

The band takes three paces between ranks, the alignment being verified by the drum major from the right.

The adjutant verifies the alignment of the officers, both ranks and file closers; the last are aligned on the left file closer who posts himself accurately three paces in rear of the line of guides; the adjutant then takes post, facing to the front, three paces to the right of the front rank, in line with the officers.

The command *front* is given by the major when the adjutant takes his post; the guides and drum major then return to their posts in line.

To Close Ranks.

262. 1. *Close ranks*, 2. **MARCH.**

Each company closes ranks as prescribed in the School of the Company; the two members of the color guard close with the file closers; the band closes ranks.

Manual of Arms, etc.

263. The battalion executes the *halt, rests, steps, manual of arms* with closed or open ranks, *loadings and firings*, resumes *attention, kneels, lies down, rises, stacks and takes arms*, as explained in the Schools of the Soldier and Squad, substituting in the commands *battalion* for *squad*.

264. The color guard executes neither the loadings nor firings; in rendering honors it executes all movements in the manual; on drill, all movements unless specially excused.

In the loadings and firings, the post of the major is twenty paces in the rear of the center of the battalion.

At the first command for loading or firing, the captains take post three paces in rear of the file closers, opposite the centers of their companies. After firing ceases, the major commands: **POSTS**; the major and captains return to their posts in line.

These rules are general.

To Fire by Company.

265. The major designates the objective and commands: 1. *Fire by company*, 2. *One (two or three) volley(s)*, 3. **COMMENCE FIRING.**

At the third command, the captains of the odd-numbered companies command: 1. *"A" (B or such) company*, 2. *At (so many) yards*, 3. *At (such object)*, 4. **READY**, 5. **AIM**, 6. *Company*, 7. **FIRE**, 8. **LOAD.**

When the captain of each even-numbered company sees the pieces in the company on his right in the position of load, he gives the same commands. The captains of the odd-numbered companies conform to the same rule with regard to the even-numbered companies on their left.

To Dismiss the Battalion.

266. DISMISS YOUR COMPANIES.

The color guard escorts the color to the office or quarters of the colonel.

Each captain marches his company to its parade ground and dismisses it.

To March in Line.

267. Being at a halt: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Guide center (right or left)*, 3. **MARCH.**

The left guide of the center (right guide of right, left guide of left) company is the guide and regulates the step and direction, the other guides maintain the interval of three paces between companies; the captains, in front of the center of their companies, see that the guides preserve a general alignment without abruptly shortening or lengthening the step.

268. At the command *guide center* (right or left) captains caution: *Guide right or left*, according to the position of their companies.

This rule is general.

269. To make a slight change of direction while marching, the major commands: *Incline to the right (left)*, and indicates the new line of direction. The guide gradually advances his left shoulder, giving time for the alignment to conform to his movement.

270. If the battalion loses step, the major commands: *STEP*: captains and their companies immediately take the proper step. In line, or in column of squads, if each captain is careful to keep step with the base or leading company and then requires his company to keep in step with him, the battalion will easily retain the step.

271. Marching considerable distances, the line formation that the battalion habitually takes, is the line of columns.

Being in Line, to Face or March to the Rear.

272. 1. *Squads right (left) about*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *Battalion*, 4. *HALT*; or, 3. *Full step*, 4. *MARCH*, 5. *Guide center* (right or left).

Each squad executes the about; the color turns about and takes position in the front rank; the other members of the color guard and the file closers dart through to their new positions; the adjutant and sergeant major pass around the flanks.

The fourth command is given as the squads unite in line.

In facing the line to the rear, as in forming line to the right or left from column of squads, if the squads turn accurately, no dressing is needed; the major directs a captain to dress his company when necessary.

273. The battalion at a halt may be marched a few paces to the rear by the commands: 1. *About*, 2. *FACE*, 3. *Forward*, 4. *Guide center*, 5. *MARCH*.

The officers, sergeant major and file closers, upon facing about, remain in their positions; the color bearer and guides step into the rear, now become the front rank; no other movement is executed until the battalion is again faced to the original front.

To Oblique in Line.

274. 1. *Right (left) oblique*, 2. *MARCH*.

The major sees that the battalion continues parallel to its original line.

To resume the direct march: 1. *Forward*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *Guide center* (right or left).

Alignments.

275. Being at a halt, to rectify the alignment: *Captains rectify the alignment.*

The captains in the right wing dress their companies successively to the left, each as soon as the captain next on his left commands *front*; the captains in the left wing dress their companies similarly to the right. The captains of the center companies dress them without waiting for each other, being careful to preserve the interval of three paces.

When both colors are present, the adjutant guides step back to the line of the rear rank; at the command *front*, they resume their positions in the front rank.

276. To give the battalion a general alignment: 1. *Guides center* (right or left) *company on the line*, 2. *Guides on the line*, 3. *Center* (right or left), 4. *DRESS*, 5. *Guides*, 6. *POSTS*.

At the first command, the designated guides place themselves on the line facing the center (right or left); the major establishes them in the direction he wishes to give the battalion.

At the second command, the guides of the other companies take the same posts as in forming the battalion.

At the command *dress*, each captain dresses his company to the flank toward which the guides face.

At the command *posts*, the guides return to their posts.

If the new direction of the line be such that one or more companies find themselves in advance of it, the major, before establishing the guides, causes such companies to be moved to the rear.

If the new line be oblique to or at a considerable distance from the battalion, the captains conduct their companies so as to arrive parallel to the line, halt, and dress them as explained.

To Pass Obstacles.

277. When marching in line or in column, captains without command of the major, conduct their companies so as to pass obstacles with the greatest facility, and then resume the original formation.

Being in Line, to March in Line of Columns.

278. 1. *Squads right (left)*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *Full step*, *companies column left (right)*, 4. *MARCH*, 5. *Guide* (right, left or center).

279. The line of columns is put in march, halted, faced or

marched to the rear and at the oblique by the same commands and means as the battalion in line.

Being in Line, to Form or March in Column of Squads to the Right or Left.

280. 1. *Squads right (left)*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Battalion*, 4. **HALT**; or, 3. *Full step*, 4. **MARCH**.

The adjutant and sergeant major pass around the flanks to their posts in column.

In column of squads, the leading guide of each company, except the first, covers the rear guide of the preceding company at a distance of seventy-four inches.

281. The battalion at a halt may be marched a short distance to the right or left in column of files by the commands: 1. *Right (Left)*, 2. **FACE**, 3. *Forward*, 4. **MARCH**.

All face and maintain their relative positions.

To halt the battalion and face it to the front: 1. *Battalion*, 2. **HALT**, 3. *Left (Right)*, 4. **FACE**.

282. Being in column of squads, at the commands: 1. *File closers on left (right) flank*, 2. **MARCH**; the captains, guides, adjutant, sergeant major, color guard and file closers change to the opposite flank.

283. The battalion being in column of squads, halts, advances, obliques, changes direction, marches to the rear, forms column of twos and files, and re-forms column of twos and squads, the same as a company substituting in the commands battalion for company.

Being in Column, of Squads, to Form or March in Line to the Right or Left.

284. 1. *Squads right (left)*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Battalion*, 4. **HALT**; or, 3. *Full step*, 4. **MARCH**, 5. *Guide center (right or left)*.

The fourth command is given as the squads unite in line.

General Rules for Successive Formations.

285. Successive formations include formations, either into line or column, in which the several subdivisions arrive in their places successively.

(a) In all successive formations into line, the guides of the company first to arrive are posted on the line, opposite the right and left files of the company and facing toward the point of rest. These guides are posted by either the adjutant or sergeant

major according to which is nearest the head of the column or the point of rest.

(b) In formations from a halt, the guides are posted at the preparatory command indicating the direction in which the line is to extend; if marching, they hasten toward their positions at the preparatory command, and are posted at the command *march*.

(c) In the formations on right (left) into line from column of companies, the first guide is posted eight paces to the right (left) of the leading company. When executed from column of squads, the guides are posted eight paces from the right (left) flank of the leading company excluding the file closers; the guide at the point of rest being posted opposite the front rank of the rear squad. This distance of eight paces may be increased when desired.

(d) In the formations front into line from column of companies, the guides are posted against the leading company. When executed from column of squads, the guide at the point of rest is posted five paces to the front and five paces to the right or left of the front rank of the leading squad of the leading company. This distance of five paces may be increased when desired.

(e) In the deployments, the guides are posted against the leading company.

(f) The line is prolonged as in forming the battalion; the guides are assured by the adjutant or sergeant major nearest the point of rest, or by both if the formation be central.

(g) Companies are halted one pace from the line of guides, and immediately dressed up to them toward the point of rest.

(h) When the principles of successive formations are well understood by the guides, they may be required to post themselves.

(i) The major commands: 1. *Guides*, 2. **POSTS**, at the completion of all successive formations into line.

(k) In successive formations, should the major desire to commence firing pending the completion of the movement, he instructs the captains as to the kind of fire; the adjutant or sergeant major at the head of the column cautions the guides not to take post marking the line.

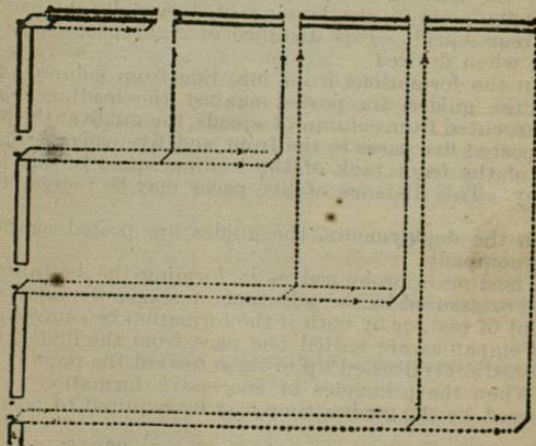
(l) After a company has moved up to its guides at the command *dress*, the file opposite the guide nearest the point of rest stands fast and the company is not moved to the right or left for the correction of an error in interval unless the major so directs.

(m) When a company in line is advancing toward the line of guides, the front rank man on the indicated flank acts as guide and directs his march on the guide of his company posted nearest the point of rest.

Being in Column of Squads, to Form Front into Line.

286. Being at a halt: 1. *Right (Left) front into line*, 2. *MARCH.*

At the first command, each captain commands *forward column right.*



Pl. 55, Par. 286.

At the command *march*, each company executes *column right*. Each captain halts when opposite the point where the left of his company will rest on the line. The captain of the first company, when the front rank of the rear squad of his company is abreast of him, forms line to the left. Each of the other captains, when the front rank of the rear squad of his company is abreast of him, marches his company in line to the left and conducts it to the line with guide left.

If in march, the captains omit the command *forward*,

Being in Column of Squad to Form on Right or Left into Line.

287. Being at a halt: 1. *On right (left) into line*, 2. *MARCH.*

At the first command, the captain of the leading company commands: *Squads right*; repeats the command *march*, and marches his company to the line with the *guide right*. Each captain of the following companies commands *forward* at the preparatory command of the major, halts when opposite the point where the right of his company will rest in line; when the front rank of the rear squad is abreast of him, he marches his company in line to the right, and conducts it to the line with the *guide right*.

If in march, the captains of companies in rear of the first omit the command *forward*.

288. When necessary to uncover the head of the following company, file closers close on the rear rank and retake distance after their company has marched a few paces in the new direction.

This rule is general.

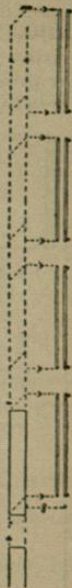
Being in Line, to Form or March in Column of Companies to the Right or Left.

289. 1. *Companies right (left)*, 2. *MARCH*, 3. *Battalion*, 4. *HALT*; or, 3. *Full step*, 4. *MARCH, Guide (right or left)*.

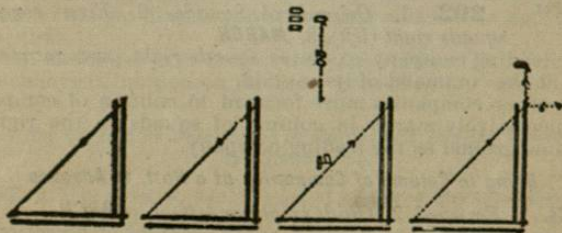
Each company executes the *turn on fixed pivot*.

The fourth command is given when all the companies have completed the turn.

The command *halt* may be given before the completion of the movement as in the School of the Company.



Pl. 56, Par. 287.



Pl. 57, Par. 289.

Full distance in column of subdivisions, is such that in forming line to the right or left the subdivisions will have their proper intervals.

290. In column of subdivisions the guide of the leading subdivision is charged with the step and direction; the guides in rear preserve the trace, step and distance.

Whenever the leading guide is forced out of the direction, he recovers it gradually; the guides in rear conform successively to his movements.



Whenever the guide in column is changed, the adjutant and sergeant major, unless

otherwise directed, pass by the most convenient line to the opposite flank.

These rules are general.

Being in Column of Squads, to March the Companies Successively to the Right or Left in Column at Full Distance.

291. 1. Column of companies, 2. First company, squads right (left), 3. **MARCH**, 4. Guide (right or left).

The leading company executes squads right and moves forward at the command of its captain.

The other companies move forward in column of squads and successively march in line to the right on the same ground as the leading company.

Being in Column of Companies at Full Distance, to March the Companies Successively to the Right or Left in Column of Squads.

Pl. 58, Par. 291.

292. 1. Column of Squads, 2. First company, squads right (left), 3. **MARCH**.

The leading company executes squads right, and moves forward at the command of its captain.

The other companies move forward in column of companies and successively march in column of squads to the right on the same ground as the leading company.

Being in Column of Companies at a Halt, to Advance.

293. 1. Forward, 2. Guide (right or left), 3. **MARCH**.

While marching, to make a slight change of direction the

major commands: *Incline to the right (left)*, and indicates the new line of direction; the leading guide gradually advances the left shoulder, his company conforming to his movements. The rear companies execute the change of direction on the same ground and in the same manner as the leading one.

To Halt the Column.

294. 1. Battalion, 2. **HALT**.

The column halts and the guides stand fast although they may have lost distance and be out of the trace of the guides in front.

To Face or March the Column to the Rear.

295. Executed by the same commands and means as prescribed for the battalion in line, substituting for *Guide center (right or left)*, *Guide (right or left)*; the color guard turns about, the adjutant and sergeant major face about and all maintain their relative positions.

If the companies are unequal in size, each captain assists his guide to gain the trace and distance by obliquing his company, causing it to lengthen or shorten the step when necessary.

Being in Column of Companies at Full Distance, to Change Direction.

296. Being in march; 1. Column right (left); or, 1. Column half right (left), 2. **MARCH**.

The captain of the first company commands: *Right turn (Right half turn)*.

The leading company turns to the right on moving pivot, the captain adding: 1. *Full step*, 2. **MARCH**, upon its completion.

The other companies march squarely up to the turning point and each changes direction by the same commands and means as the first.

When the band is at the head of the column, the first company changes direction on the same ground as the band.

To Put the Column of Companies in March, and Change Direction at the Same Time.

297. 1. Forward, 2. Guide right (left), 3. Column right (left); or, 3. Column half right (left), 4. **MARCH**.

Being in Column of Full Distance, to Form or March in Line to the Right or Left.

298. The guides on the side toward which the movement is to be made covering: 1. *Companies right (left)*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Battalion*, 4. **HALT**; or, 3. *Full step*, 4. **MARCH**, 5. *Guide center (right or left)*.

At the second command, each company turns to the right on a fixed pivot; the color guard, adjutant and sergeant major take their posts in line. The fourth command is given when all the companies have completed the turn.

The command *halt* may be given before the completion of the movement as in the School of the Company.

299. Being in column of companies at full distance at a halt, if the guides do not cover or have not their proper distances, to correct them, the major establishes the guide of the leading company and the guide next in rear in the desired direction, and commands: 1. *Right (Left) guides*, 2. **COVER**. The right guides place themselves covering the first two, each at full distance from the guide next in front; the adjutant or sergeant major assures their positions; the major then commands: 1. *Right (Left)*, 2. **DRESS**.

Each captain aligns his company on the guide and commands: **FRONT**.

Should any company be at a considerable distance from its guide, the captain gives the preparatory commands for moving it into place, adding: **MARCH**, at the command *dress* from the major.

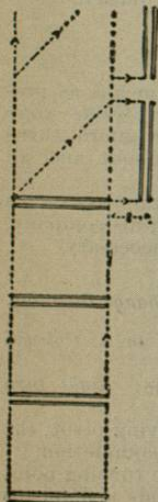
Being in Column of Companies at Full Distance, to Form on Right or Left into Line.

300. Being in march: 1. *On right (left) into line*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the first command, the captain of the first company commands: *Right turn*.

The other companies continue the march, each captain giving the command: 1. *Right turn*, in time to add, 2. **MARCH**, when his company arrives opposite the right of its place in line.

Being at a halt, at the first command, captains of companies in rear of the first command: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Guide right*.



Pl. 59, Par. 300.

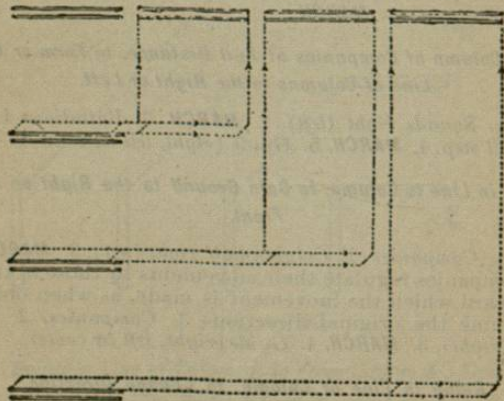
At the captain's command *halt*, those men who have completed the turn halt; the other men complete the turn, halt, and dress.

Being in Column of Companies at Full Distance, to Form Front into Line.

301. Being at a halt: 1. *Right (Left) front into line*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the first command, the captain of the first company commands *stand fast*; each of the other captains commands *squads right*.

At the command *march*, each company, except the first, marches in column of squads to the right; each captain halts when opposite the point where the left of his company will rest



Pl. 60, Par. 301.

on the line, and when the front rank of the rear squad of his company is abreast of him, marches his company in line to the left and conducts it to the line with guide left.

Being in march, the movement is similarly executed; the captain of the first company commands *company* at the first command, and adds *halt* at the command *march*.

To March in Route Step and at Ease.

302. The battalion marches in route step and at ease as prescribed in the School of the Company. When marching in column of companies, the guides maintain the trace and distance.