

FIELD REGULATIONS & PRACTICES
1ST OREGON / 20TH MAINE VOLUNTEER INFANTRY



*“Composure, or presence of mind in him who commands,
and in those who obey, being the first means of order
in a body of troops.”*

Lt. Colonel William Hardee

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.DIVISION OF CAMP DUTIES	4
II.CAMP LIFE	5
III.COMPANY DRILL	8
IV.BATTLE SIMULATION DUTIES & PERFORMANCE	29
V.MILITARY CEREMONIES & LIVING HISTORY SCENARIOS	32
VI.TRAINING & CERTIFICATION OF RECRUITS & TRANSFER SOLDIERS	36
VII. REFERENCES	38

FORWARD

These Field Regulations & Practices were originally inspired by those issued from the Army of the Pacific commanded by Colonel Dominic J. Dal Bello for the 135th Antietam event in September of 1997. They are not meant to replace the comprehensive study of the tactical manuals (Hardee's, Casey's etc.) or U. S. Regulations (1861 or 1863) which are so necessary for competence with each Civil War historian. These are meant to standardize and summarize procedures used for many years with our group and to more clearly define goals that we are still working toward. It is my hope that these will be helpful for all soldiers to offer brief reminders in basic drill, combat simulations, and deployment.

A lot has changed since these were originally published in February of the year 2000. New research has come to light and different perspectives about existing knowledge cause this to be under constant re-evaluation. I would like to thank the following people for their assistance in this work. Dominic J. Dal Bello for his original evaluation, Michael Yoakum, Wayne Frye, Ken Lundburg, Mike Scott, and Daniel Gering for their help with this third edition. It is my hope that this manual will continue to aid the 1st Oregon Volunteer Infantry – Company A to maintain the highest standards in historical recreation. In the words of a former commander Lt. Colonel Andrew Reed... “Semper Ducamus”... we shall always lead. I remain, as always,

Your Obedient Servant & Friend

Bvt. Colonel Steve Betschart

Army of the Willamette (ret)

2009

I. DIVISION OF CAMP DUTIES

A. Captain

1. General supervision of all functions and duties of the Company.
2. Verification of all reports for Battalion, attends their staff meetings, and works directly with the Battalion Commander. Acts as Officer of the Day when called upon.
3. Conducts Company drills or designates subordinates to this function. Trains junior officers and noncommissioned officers in proper tactics and deportment.
4. Acts as liaison with all other Company functionaries relating to military activities (ie Medical, Chaplain, Sanitary & Christian Commissions etc.).
5. Has authority over military discipline within the Company either on his own or through tribunals conducted in accordance with *Revised Regulations of the United States Army (1861)*.
6. Supervision of Company camp set up for all events in conjunction with Battalion staff.

B. Lieutenants

1. Lieutenants will be available for “extra duties” such as the Officer of the Guard etc.
2. Assist the Captain in administrative duties, supervision of all non-commissioned officers, liaison with Battalion staff and attendance at their meetings.

C. Sergeants

1. 1st Sergeant / Orderly
 - (a) Generally the “foreman” of the Company with supervision of all non-commissioned officers.
 - (b) Conducts all Company roll calls and prepares morning reports for submission to the commanding officer.
2. Duties of subsequent sergeants are as follows and are determined by interest and abilities of each person:
 - (a) Fatigue duty... removal or concealment of all non-period items plus general camp cleanup.
 - (b) Training Supervision & Safety... conducting safety verification evaluations for all Company members and training of new recruits at Company events.
 - (c) Organization of “mess” duty assignments in conjunction with commissary staff.
 - (d) Supervision of Company “color guard” in proper procedures and protocol when such are required.

- D. Corporals... the Company will utilize four Corporals; these non-commissioned officers will assist the Sergeants with training of recruits or other duties as designated by the 1st Sergeant.

II. CAMP LIFE

- A. Reveille will be sounded at times designated by the Captain or Battalion Commander. The Company will be formed for roll call 15 minutes after reveille.
- B. Company roll call will be conducted by the Orderly Sergeant but at least one officer will be present at such times.
- C. Attendance at roll calls is mandatory since important information concerning daily schedule and various duties is disseminated. All members of the Company are encouraged to volunteer for duties such as guard, fatigue etc.
- D. Roll Call Procedures (*Kautz – Customs of Service*)
 - 1. If the Company is forming without arms, the men will fall in and take the position of parade-rest.
 - 2. The Company should form in two ranks whether with or without arms. With arms they assemble at shoulder-arms.
 - 3. Musical Call Sequence for Assembly
 - (a) 1st Call (assembly of musicians/buglers) – they gather at HQ tent.
 - (b) 2nd Call (Dan Butterfield prelude + attention call) notifies soldiers to put on the remainder of their uniform & accoutrements. This is sounded five minutes after 1st Call.
 - (c) Assembly Call... five minutes after 2nd Call. The Company is formed by the last note of this call.
 - 4. When the music has ceased, the 1st Sergeant commands “Attention” and (if the Company is with arms) then “Support – Arms.” The roll is then called. As each name is called they answer “here” and come automatically to “Shoulder-Arms” then to “Order-Arms”.
- E. The 1st Sergeant (Orderly) will then prepare the morning report and have the Captain sign it to be turned in to either the Battalion Adjutant or Sergeant Major at the time set by him.
- F. Inspection of Arms & Cartridges
 - 1. Cartridges will be inspected at least once per event either after morning roll call or at an assembly designated by the Company commander.
 - 2. Rifle muskets will be inspected after roll call each morning to verify that they are both clean and operationally safe.
 - 3. Inspection of Arms etc. will use the following procedure and be conducted by at least one Company officer:
 - (a) The assembled Company will come to “Attention” and then “Shoulder-Arms.”
 - (b) The inspecting officer will then order “Prepare to Open Ranks” where the 2nd Sergeant (left guide) will step up to the end of the front rank.
 - (c) The officer will then order “To the Rear, Open Order” where the 1st and 2nd Sergeants will take four steps to the rear.

- (d) At the command “March” the soldiers of the rear rank will align themselves with the left and right guides. File closers will position themselves two paces behind the rear rank.
- (e) At the command “Front” the 2nd Sergeant will return to his position as file closer and the 1st Sergeant returns to his position on the right side of the front rank.
- (f) Inspection – Arms will be done as described in *Casey's Infantry Tactics (1862)* paragraphs 236-240 inclusive (School of the Soldier Part II) See fig. 1.1.
“When the inspector reaches each soldier he will raise smartly the piece with his right hand., seize it with the left hand between the lower band and guide sight, the lock to the front, the left hand at the height of the chin. The inspector will take it with the right hand at the handle. After inspecting the piece it will be returned to the soldier who will receive it with the right hand.”

Fig 1.1



G. Proper Dress/ Department/ Housing

1. On all duties, except fatigues, soldiers will appear with trousers unbloused and all buttons buttoned (*U.S. Regulations – 1861*) unless directed otherwise by a Company or battalion officer. Soldiers are encouraged to stay in uniform for the entire event.
2. Uniform(s) of the day will be announced at morning roll call by the Orderly Sergeant.
3. Military courtesy will be rendered as described in *Joslyn's Notes on Military Etiquette* chapters III & IV inclusive.
4. Language and conversation subjects will be limited to the mid-19th century... especially when members of the public are present in camp. Modern language and subjects should be used only outside the camp area.
5. All military discipline will be carried out in accordance with *Revised Regulations of the Army of the United States (1861)* and *Customs of Service (Kautz)* as summarized in Chapter 1 of *Joslyn's Notes on Military Etiquette*. In addition, no discipline shall be carried out without the approval of a Company officer.
6. All Company enlisted men and non-commissioned officers will be housed in either A-tents or shelter halves. Company officers will have A-tents or may use the officer wall tent as provided. Proper tentage may vary according to the type of event and campaign status.
7. All non-period equipment will be hidden from view (especially when members of the public are present in camp); all Company soldiers should make every effort to use proper type and amount of equipage according to the campaign status of the event.
8. All 19th century courtesy will be paid to ladies in period clothing who visit the camp. Such reenactors should be escorted by a member of the police guard or other soldiers as available. Ladies should have a legitimate purpose for their

visitation during public hours. General fraternization will be conducted outside of the camp area between soldiers and civilians in period or non-period clothing.

H. Daily Schedule & General Calls

1. A daily schedule of Company and battalion activities will be posted at the Company headquarters tent and, if possible, distributed to all soldiers at each event.
2. General camp calls will be sounded on the bugle. The source of these calls is *Casey's Infantry Tactics (1862)* pages 253-265 inclusive (except the Dan Butterfield):
 - (a) The Dan Butterfield... sounded to alert Company members to prepare for response to the next call.
 - (b) Assembly of Buglers or Musicians Call... used as 1st call to summon Musicians and Attention Call to prepare for assembly by putting on their uniform and equipment.
 - (c) Assembly... signal for Company to form on their street or parade grounds.
 - (d) The Reveille... at Company level it is used to awaken the soldiers or, at battalion level, as part of the overall reveille ceremony.
 - (e) To the Colors... used at Company level for honors to the flag or, at battalion level, as part of the overall reveille or dress parade ceremony.
 - (f) Tattoo... sounded fifteen minutes before Taps to prepare the men to extinguish lights (see *Hard Tack & Coffee, Billings, 1887*).
 - (g) Taps... signal for all enlisted soldiers to be in their tents, all lights extinguished and all talking to cease.
 - (h) Officers Call... summons all officers to either the Company or battalion headquarters tent.
 - (i) Breakfast & Dinner Calls... authorizes soldiers to prepare morning or evening meals or summons members of the Company to the mess area.

I. Care & Display of Colors & the Color Line

1. Regimental and national colors will be properly displayed at Company headquarters or stacked on the "color line." These will be stored at night in the Captain's tent.
2. The Company Color Sergeant will select two corporals to assist in proper display and storage of the flags.
3. Rifles will be stacked on the "color line" which is at the opposite end of the camp from the officers tents and parallel to the end of the Company street. A police guard will be posted on this line at times designated by the Captain.

III. COMPANY DRILL

- A. The 1st Oregon/20th Maine will drill using *Casey's Infantry Tactics (1862)*, *Hardee's Rifle & Light Infantry Tactics, Vol. 1-2 (1855 & 1861)*, and *Dal Bello's Parade, Inspection and Basic Evolutions of the Infantry Battalion, 4th ed. (1997)*.
- B. The importance of drill is to enable the soldiers to work together, provide discipline and, most importantly, safety. This empowers the Company to present an accurate impression to the public of mid-19th century infantry tactics and to function effectively as part of the larger battalion force when necessary.
- C. General Information
1. All members of the Company will be familiar with School of the Soldier, School of the Company, and Skirmish Drill. All Company officers will learn School of the Battalion. Soldiers, not on excused duty, who are absent from morning parade and drill will not be allowed to participate in the first battle of the day.
 2. All rifle musket carriers will be drilled in the loading & firing procedures at every event. Powder first, then remove and replace cap.
 3. Arms will be stacked using the “Ellsworth (Kentucky) Swing” which was used by his Zouave drill unit as early as 1857 (*Dal Bello, Manual of Arms for Infantry A Reexamination Part II, 1996*). There may be times when the men will be required to know the musket stack as given in *Casey's Tactics (1862)* – School of the Soldier (paragraph 425).
 4. There will be no echoing of commands by enlisted soldiers or non-commissioned officers. In Casey's School of the Battalion it specifies that “the only commands that are repeated are those of the March and Halt by Company commanders and only in column of companies to preserve wheeling distances.
 5. Manual of Arms
 - (a) Parade Rest will be as per *Casey's Tactics* page 226 (across the body). It must be noted there is another correct form of Parade Rest as per the Revised Regulations (1861) page 50. This other form may be used in battalion formations under orders of the commander.
 - (b) In Place Rest will be per *Hardee's Tactics* page 99 paragraph 38 or *Casey's Tactics* page 108, paragraph 38. Note there is no musket position given!
 - (c) Support Arms – Rest will be as per Casey's Tactics School of the Soldier Part II page 38 paragraphs 140-144 inclusive. When not marching, the soldiers will move the right foot back six inches as in Parade Rest and will not be required to preserve silence or steadiness.
 - (d) Fixing bayonets / inspection arms / spring rammers... will be done as per *Casey's Tactics School of the Soldier* Part II pages 59-61 paragraphs 235-245 inclusive. Specifically, bayonets will be fixed and unfixed with the left hand and soldiers will automatically unfix the bayonet and return the rammer after inspection arms.
 - (e) File closers (including 1st Sergeants) need not remain constantly at Shoulder Arms but should follow the commands for movements the same as the men in the ranks.

(f) No gesturing of officer's swords is necessary or desired. Officers should put their swords at the shoulder while at drill or on march (anytime the men are under arms at any position other than Order Arms). While at route step they may place the sword in the scabbard. At Double Quick, the sword is angled to the left with the tip in front of the left shoulder. See "*Manual of the Sword for Foot Officers*", *Camp Chase Gazette Vol. 24, No. 1*.

(g) When counting off "In each rank count two's" the men do not need to shout but state their number in a firm voice.

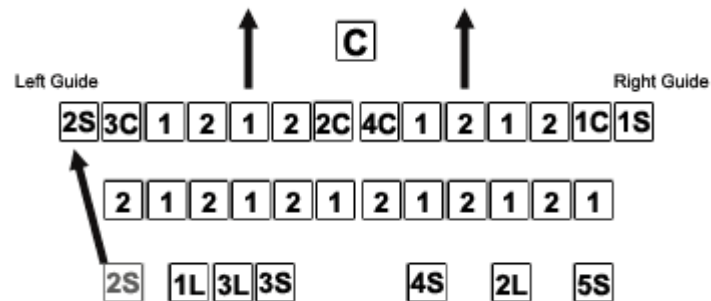
D. Basic Forms and Reminders

1. Legend for all formations diagrams:

C Captain	5S 5th Sergeant
1L 1st Lieutenant	1C 1st Corporal
2L 2nd Lieutenant	2C 2nd Corporal
3L 3rd Lieutenant	3C 3rd Corporal
1S 1st Sergeant	4C 4th Corporal
2S 2nd Sergeant	1 A Private who has counted off as a "1"
3S 3rd Sergeant	2 A Private who has counted off as a "2"
4S 4th Sergeant	

2. Company in basic two rank formation... see fig. 1.2

Fig 1.2
Company in Basic Two Rank Formation



(a) Corporals... posted at the right & left ends of the platoons (squads). Their purpose is to keep the front rank dressed by their presence. They do not repeat orders or talk but are physical examples to the privates. Posted right to left by height (Hardee's).

(b) Sergeants

- (1) File closers are responsible for the alignment of the rear rank which they will judge by squareness of shoulders, distance between ranks, foot positions, and touch of elbows.
- (2) They should help guide the line in undertones as needed.
- (3) The right guide is the 1st Sergeant and the left guide is the 2nd Sergeant (see fig 1.2 above).
- (4) At the command "Guide Right or Left" the respective sergeant steps up to the front rank; both ranks then touch elbows toward the guide. The 1st & 2nd sergeants automatically move to the front rank when the Company comes into line and dresses. They return to their original positions at the command "Guides Post".

3. Formation & Marching in Column of Fours from Right & Left Face or By the Right & Left Flanks (see fig. 1.3)

Fig. 1.3
Formation & Marching in Column of Fours
By the Right Flank

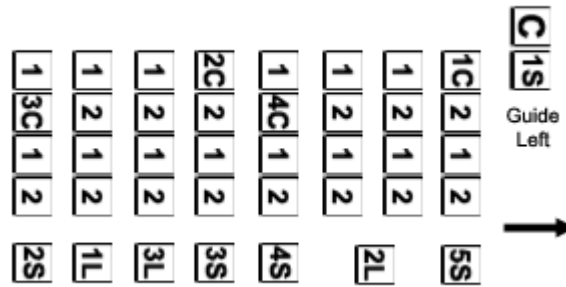
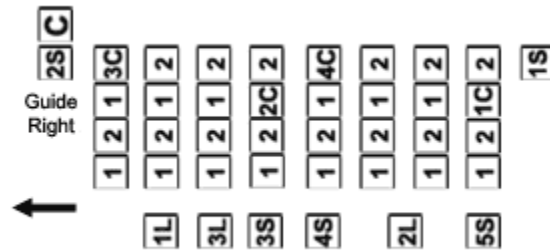


Fig. 1.3
Formation & Marching in Column of Fours
By the Left Flank

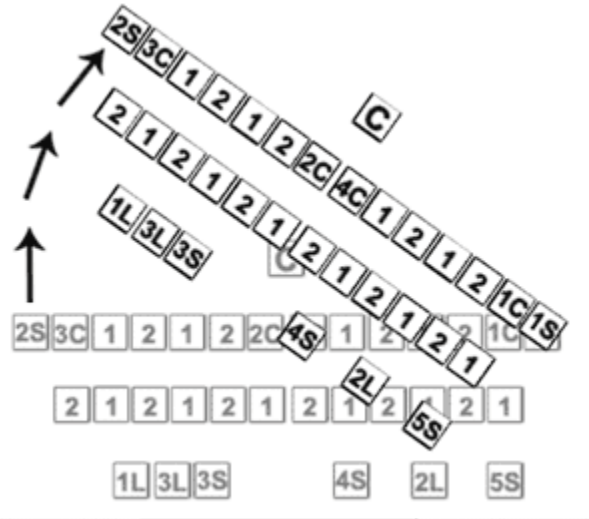


Note that the essential formation is the same whether by right – left face or right – left flank march. The only difference is that the facing is stationary and flanking is when the Company is marching. Remember also that, when marching by the flank in column of fours the guide is always opposite the direction of march (ie, when marching by right flank the guide is on the front – left side of the Company).

4. Wheeling

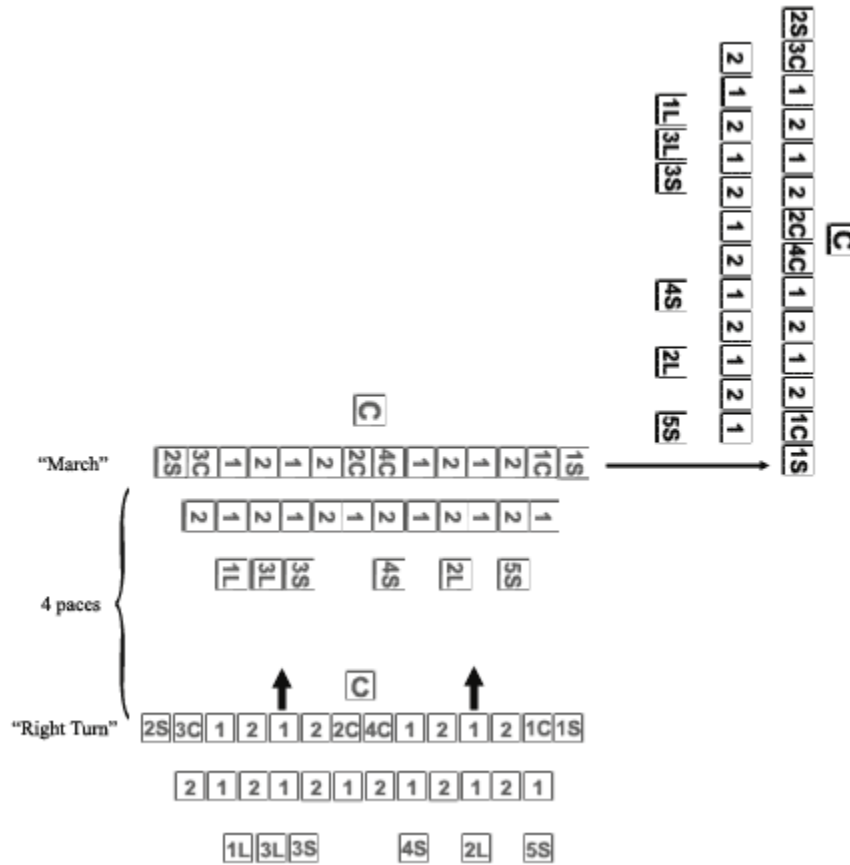
- (a) Types... whether done by files, platoon, Company or battalion there are two general forms of wheels:
 - (1) A fixed pivot wheel is done from a halted position (ie, By Platoon or Company, Right Wheel – March). The soldiers look out & touch elbows in towards the pivot.
 - (2) A moving pivot wheel is done on the march when the pivot man must clear the turning spot to make way for the next platoon, Company etc. The soldiers look out and touch elbows towards the guide.
- (b) The guide is on the side of the line opposite to the direction of the wheel (see fig. 1.4).

Fig. 1.4
Right Wheel (at the march) with Guide Left



5. Right & Left Turns – These are executed as follows: The commander orders the Company to “Left (or Right) Turn – March” The first command is given when the Company is four paces from the turning point. At the command “March” the guide will face to the left or right and move in the new direction. Each soldier will advance the shoulder opposite to the guide, take the double-quick step in the new direction turning his head and eyes to the side of the guide, retake the touch of the elbow on that side and align himself with the guide. Each soldier will then take the step and resume the position of the head. Each man will arrive on the alignment in a successive manner. See “*Guides – Posts: The Manual of Civil War Infantry Drill*” paragraphs 311-313 inclusive. See fig. 1.5 below.

**Fig 1.5
Right & Left Turns**



6. Oblique March in Line of Battle... each soldier will make a half-face ($\frac{1}{4}$ th turn) to the right or left and march straight in that direction. Each front rank soldier's shoulder shall be behind that of his neighbor (ie, in the case of the right oblique your right shoulder would line up behind the left shoulder of the man on your right side in the front rank). Casey's Tactics state that each rear rank man should "cover the opposite shoulder of the file leader." In practical terms it is easier to simply align yourself with and follow the person to the right or left of your file leader depending on the direction of the oblique. It is important to note that the guide is on the side towards which the oblique march is made then returns to the previous guide, if necessary, upon resumption of the forward direction which is done with the command "Forward – March"

7. Platoon Drill

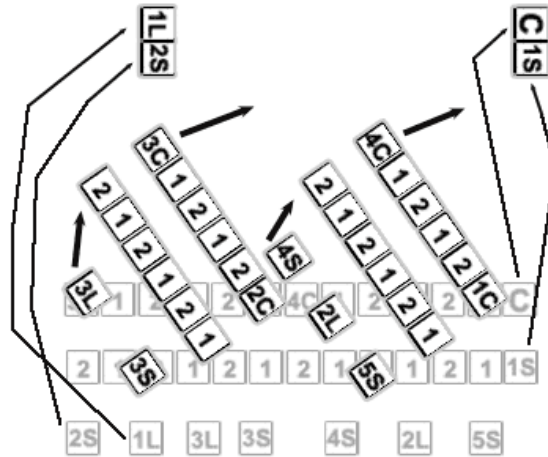
(a) Each Company is composed of two platoons. The first platoon is led by the Captain and the second platoon is lead by the 1st Lieutenant. For larger companies this often neglected aspect of the Company drill becomes important not only to increase battlefield flexibility of response but also for ceremonial purposes such as the "Honors to the Colors" (see Hardee's Rifle & Light Infantry Tactics, Vol II, pages 5-7 inclusive).

(b) Formation of Platoons from the halted lines of battle:

- (1) By Platoon, Right Wheel (see fig. 1.6)... When the Captain commands “By platoon - right wheel” then the Captain and 1st Lieutenant move two paces front and center of their respective platoons. The 1st Sergeant moves into the front rank. Upon the command “March” the right front corporals of each platoon face to the right (ie, 1st & 2nd Corporals). The Captain & 1st Lieutenant move to one space beyond where the platoon wheel will stop then turn and face the Corporals. The rightmost front rank man of each platoon stays on the original line. The order “Platoon – Halt” is given so that the wheel stops three paces from the Captain & 1st Lieutenant. The 1st & 2nd Sergeants then move so that their left arm is against the chest of the officer of their platoon. Upon the order to “Left – Dress” each platoon wheels to align itself between its respective Sergeant and Corporal. At the order to “Front” the Captain and 1st Lieutenant return to their position front & center of their platoon.

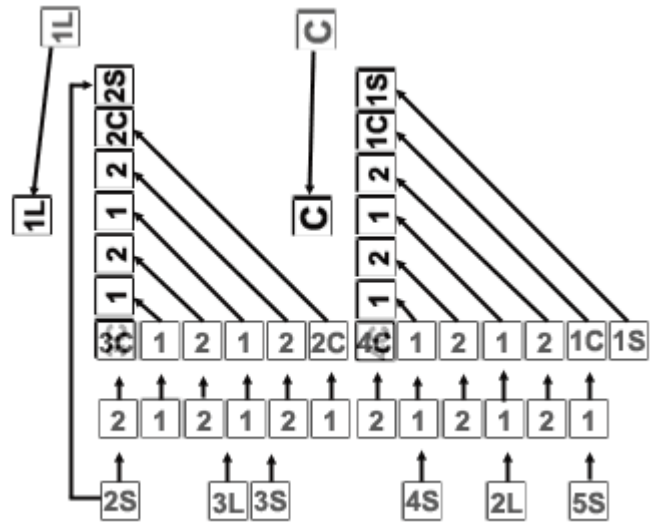
Fig. 1.6

By Platoon, Right Wheel



- (2) By Platoon, Left Wheel... In this movement the left front Corporals (4th & 3rd) become the fixed pivots. The 1st & 2nd Sergeants move to the right of their platoons and the alignment is between them and the Corporals. The guide is right (see fig. 1.7)

Fig. 1.7
By Platoon, Left Wheel



- (3) Column of Platoons Straight Ahead from Line of Battle... Upon the command to “Break into Platoons” the Captain & 1st Lieutenant take position two paces in front and center of their respective platoons. The 1st Sergeant steps up to the front rank. The Captain orders “1st Platoon – March” and the 1st Sergeant then moves to the left end of the front rank. The 1st Lieutenant then orders “2nd Platoon – Mark Time.” Once the 1st Platoon has advanced a few paces the command “2nd Platoon – Right Oblique – March” is given by the 1st Lieutenant. The 2nd Platoon shortens step and falls in behind the 1st Platoon. The Captain then commands “Company – Forward – March” The 2nd Sergeant aligns with the 1st Sergeant; the guide is left.
- (c) Marching a column of Platoons & changing directions... The guide is opposite to the direction of the column as designated by the lead unit (see fig. 1.8 & 1.9). The 1st & 2nd Sergeant are the guides for the platoons moving across the front when changing sides.

Fig 1.8
Column, Right in Front

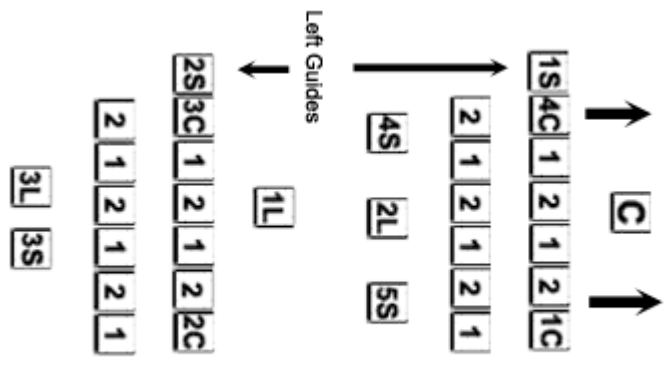
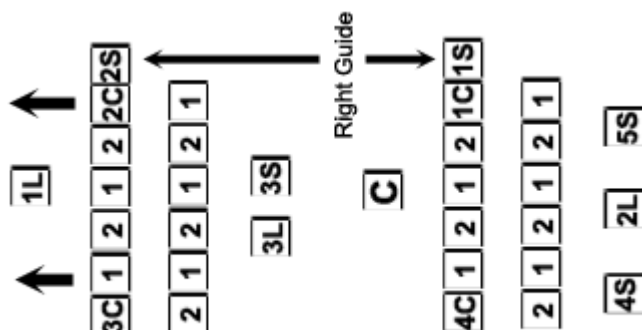


Fig. 1.9
Column, Left in Front



To change directions by platoon in the tactical manuals calls for the Captain to use one of the Sergeants as a marker. For example, to change directions in column of platoons to the right, the 4th Sergeant is placed by the Captain where he wants the wheel to begin in line with the 1st & 2nd Sergeants (see figure 1.10). The order to “1st Platoon – Right Wheel” is given by the Captain when the 1st Platoon is four paces from the marker. The command to “March” is then given when the 1st Sergeant reaches the marker. When the platoon is facing the correct direction then the order “Forward – March” is given by the Captain. The 2nd Platoon does the same procedure as above with the 1st Lieutenant giving the orders. After the 2nd Platoon has passed the 4th Sergeant returns to his position as file closer.

To change directions in column of platoons to the left the Captain first orders the Company to “Guide – Right”. This signals the 1st & 2nd Sergeants to move to the right end of the front rank of their respective platoons. The 5th Sergeant is placed forward as a marker by the Captain where the wheel is to begin in the line with the 1st & 2nd Sergeants (see fig. 1.11). The Captain and 1st Lieutenant then orders “Left Wheel – March” and “Forward – March.” After the change of directions is done the Captain commands “Guide – Left” The 1st & 2nd Sergeants then return to the left end of the front rank of their respective platoons. The guide returns to the left.

One can see that the markers are always placed on the side opposite to the direction of the wheel. Additionally, it must be noted that some companies do not have a 5th Sergeant and thus any available Sergeant can be utilized. There may also be combat situations where there may not be sufficient time to place any markers at all.

Fig. 1.10
Change Column of Platoons to the Right

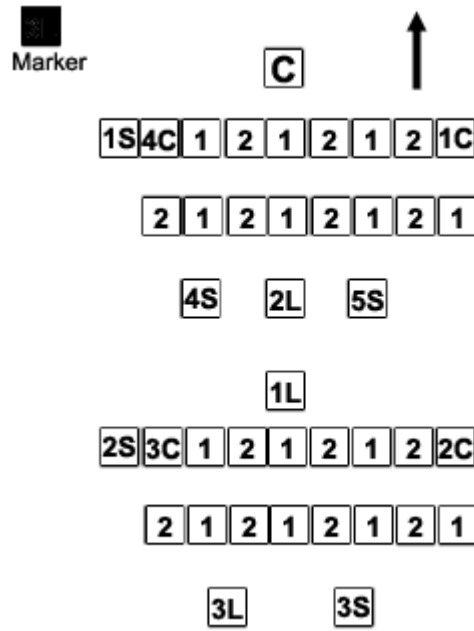
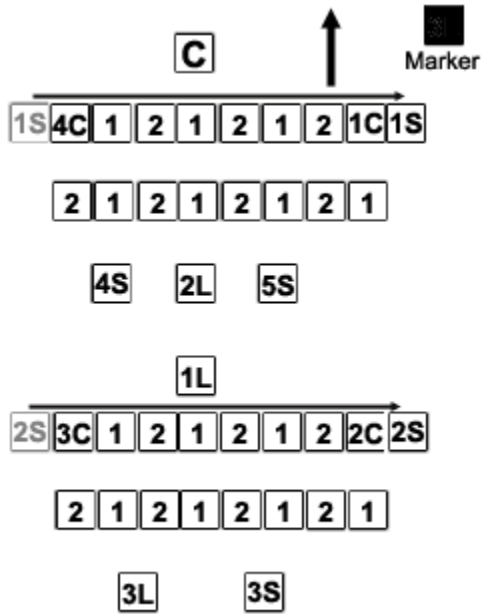


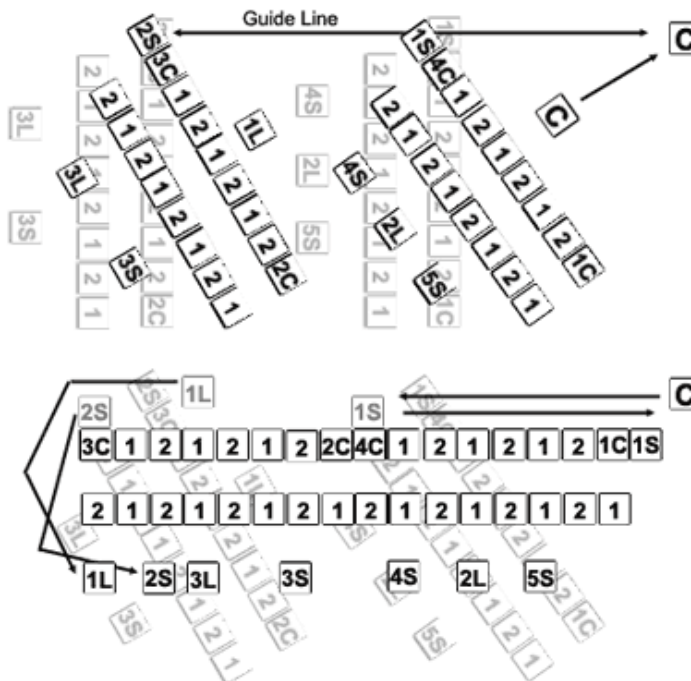
Fig. 1.11
Change Column of Platoons to the Left



(d) Formation of Platoons from Column to Line of Battle

- (1) To form a line of battle straight ahead from column of platoons: The Captain will first order “Form Company - 1st Platoon Right Oblique.” The 1st Lieutenant will remind the 2nd platoon to march straight ahead. When the order to “March” is given by the Captain the 1st platoon does a right oblique and the 1st Sergeant moves to the right end of the front rank. When the two platoons are even the Captain orders “Mark Time – March.” The 1st platoon faces front and marks time with the 2nd platoon. Upon the order to “Forward – March” both platoons march forward together in battle line. All officers and the 1st Sergeant return to battle positions in ranks. The guide is left.
- (2) To form a line of battle to the left from column: This is done from the halt. The Captain and 1st Lieutenant first move to the left end of the front rank of their platoons to check alignments. They then return front & center of their platoons. The Captain orders “Left into Line, Wheel – March.” The 1st & 2nd Sergeants stand fast and the platoons wheel on the Corporals to their immediate right (3rd and 4th). See fig. 1.12. When the platoons are three paces from alignment then the Captain and 1st Lieutenant both command “Platoon – Halt.” The Captain moves to the right end of the front rank of the 1st platoon and the 1st Lieutenant returns to the position as file closer. The Captain then commands “Right Dress” and the line will dress on the guides. Finally the command to “Front” and “Guides – Posts” where the 1st Sergeant returns to the right end of the rear rank and the 2nd Sergeant to his file closer positions.
 Note* When this is done on the march, the command is “By Platoon, Left Wheel – March.” The guides mark time during the wheel, turning in place, then automatically takes their usual posts in line of battle.

Fig. 1.12
By Platoon, Left Into Line – Wheel



(3) To form a line of battle right from column: With the column of platoons moving by the right the Captain orders “On the Right into Line – Guide Right.” the 1st and 2nd Sergeants move to the right end of their platoons (see fig. 1.11). the Captain positions himself on the spot where the right end of the Company will rest (at least ten paces from the line of march). The Captain then orders the 1st platoon to “Right Turn – March.: This signals the 1st Sergeant to pivot right and march towards the Captain followed by the platoon which makes a right turn and marches at the double quick into line (see fig. 1.13). The order is given to “Platoon – Halt” and the 1st Sergeant moves to the left side of the first platoon facing the Captain and 1st Sergeant.

The 2nd platoon continues straight ahead until it reaches the left flank of the 1st platoon. The 1st Lieutenant then orders “Right Turn – March” which signals the 2nd Sergeant to march towards the 1st Lieutenant who has positioned himself on the right end of the platoon in line with the 1st Sergeant & Captain. When the order to “Platoon – Halt” is given the 2nd Sergeant moves to the left end of his platoon facing the 1st Sergeant and Captain.

The 1st Lieutenant orders “Right – Dress” which aligns the 2nd platoon with the 1st platoon. He then returns to his file closer position. The Captain orders “Front” and “Guides – Posts” which signals the 1st & 2nd Sergeants to return to their battle positions (see fig. 1.14).

Fig. 1.13
Form Line of Battle to the Right of the Column of Platoons

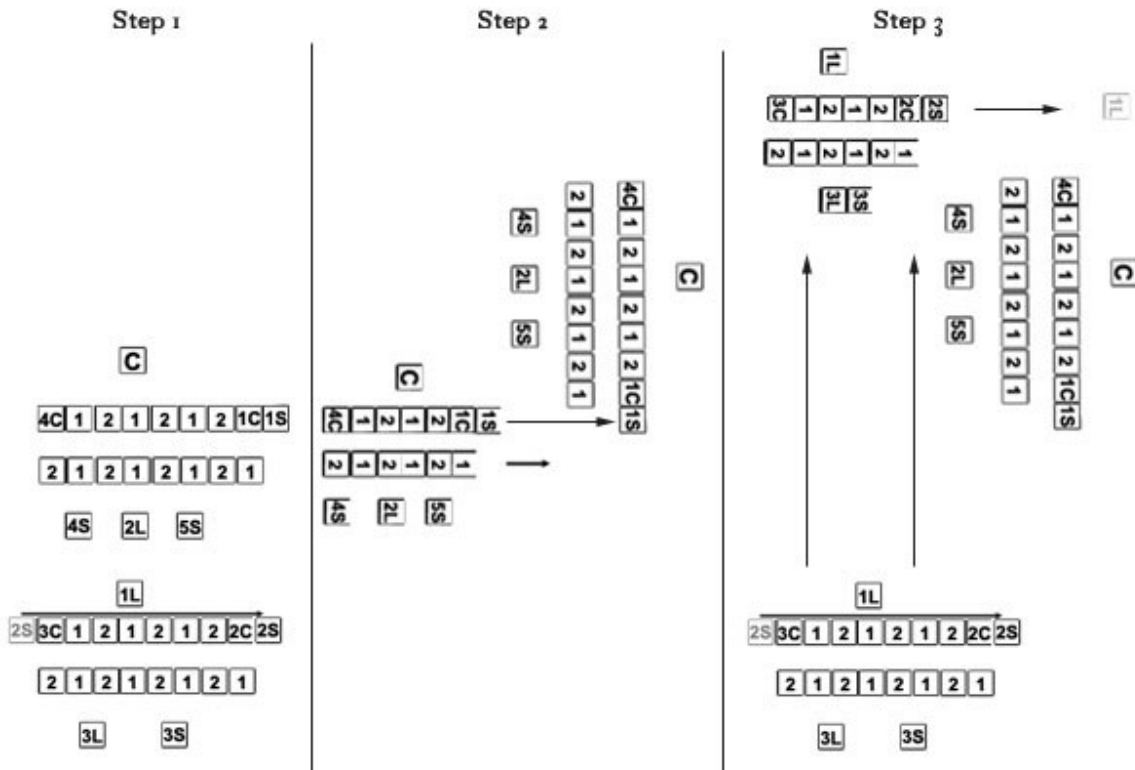


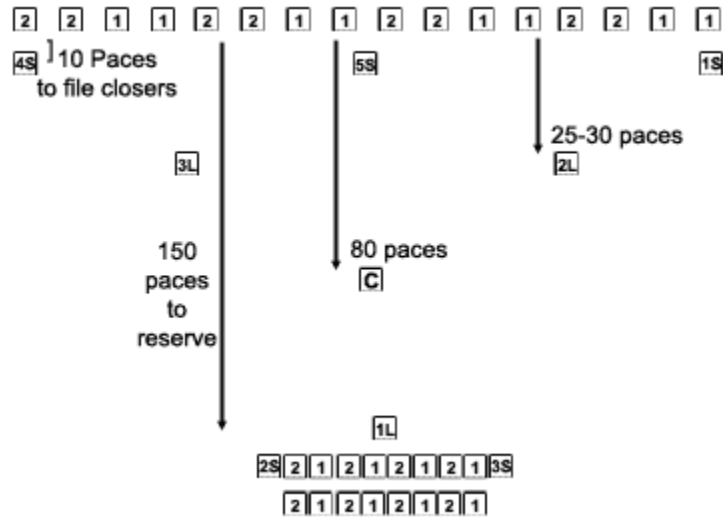
Fig. 1.14
Line of Battle to the Right of the Column of Platoons
Line Formed, Guides Return to Posts



E. Skirmish Drill

1. General Information: There are two basic purpose for skirmish drill... (a) to clear the way for the main body of troops; and, (b) to delay the enemy so that the main group can retreat. There is always a reserve which is used to fill vacancies, bring ammunition, relieve the wounded/dead, and serve as an assembly point for the rest of the skirmishers. Such skirmishers are allowed to carry their rifles in any way that is comfortable (usually without bayonets), to use any cover available and to fire from any position necessary. All movements are at the quick-time or double quick-time Officers and non-commissioned officers are allowed to repeat all orders. If bugle calls are used then the movement is not executed until the last note.
2. General Organization: Each Company has two platoons... each platoon has two sections and each section has groups of fours called "comrades in battle." Each groups of four has two files of two men (ie, a front rank 1 & 2 and a rear rank 1 & 2).
3. Positions of Sergeants in the Skirmish Line: The 1st & 4th Sergeants move to the ends of the front rank of the 1st platoon; and, the 2nd & 3rd Sergeants move tho the ends of the front rank of the 2nd platoon. The 5th Sergeant (if the Company has one) acts as a center guide for the platoon being deployed. These Sergeants guide the skirmish line then, after the soldiers take intervals, they retire to a post ten paces behind the center of their section (see fig. 1.15).

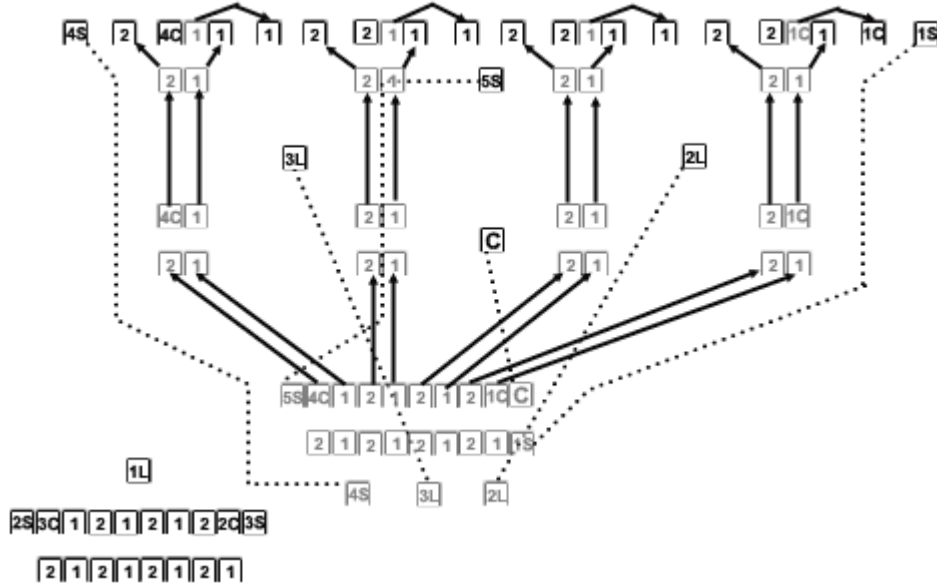
Fig. 1.15
Company in Skirmish Order
1st Platoon Deployed



4. Deployments

- (a) Forward... used when the Company is behind the line on which skirmishers are to form. The line may form by the right, center, or left files (see fig. 1.16, 1.17 & 1.18). These three illustrations deal with forward deployment of the 1st platoon and use of 2nd platoon as reserve. Upon the command “Platoon as Skirmishers – On the Right/Left/Center Files Take Intervals – March” the appropriate group of four marches straight forward. The other groups march at the oblique until each is twenty (20) paces from the others.

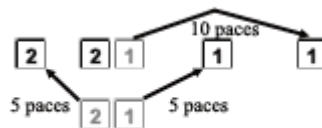
Fig. 1.18
1st Platoon as Skirmishers
On the Center File Take Intervals



It is important to note on deployment forward by the center file that the center file is the far right file of the second section of the 1st platoon (see fig. 1.18).

Upon the command to “Halt” each group of four deploy as shown in fig. 1.19. the front rank “2” soldier does not move the front rank “1” soldier moves ten paces to his right, the rear rank one fills in the gap by moving five paces to his right. Finally, the rear rank “2” soldier moves five paces to his left. This produces a single rank of skirmishers (see fig 1.15).

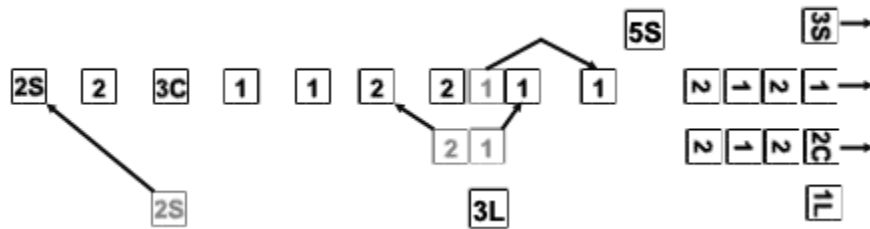
Fig. 1.19
Deployment of Comrades in Arms
Skirmish Line



(b) Flank... used when the Company is already on the line when skirmishers are to deploy. This may be done by the Right Flank, Left Flank, or Right & left Flanks simultaneously (see fig. 1.20 – 1.22). Note that these illustrations use the 2nd platoon. Here the commander of the skirmish line is the 1st Lieutenant with assistance by the 3rd Lieutenant (if the Company has one).

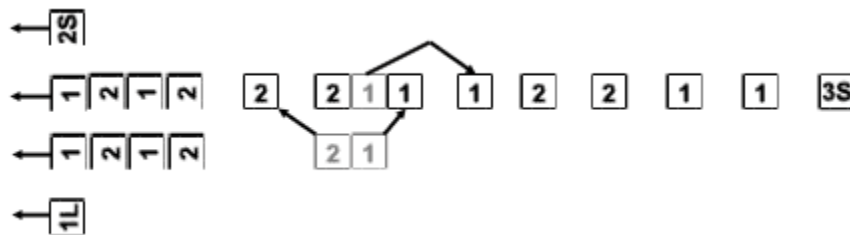
Upon the order “2nd Platoon as Skirmishers – By the Right Flank Take Intervals” the far left four stands fast and the rest of the platoon faces to the right without doubling. The 3rd Sergeant is the right guide and the 2nd Sergeant is the left guide. The far left group of four deploys when possible and each successive four as it reaches twenty paces.

Fig. 1.20
2nd Platoon As Skirmishers
By the Right Flank Take Intervals



Upon the command “2nd Platoon as Skirmishers – By the Left Flank Take Intervals” the far right four stands fast and the rest of the platoon faces left without doubling. The 2nd Sergeant moves to the right side of the far left four as a guide with the 1st Lieutenant on the left. The far right group of four deploys when possible and each successive group as it reaches twenty paces.

Fig. 1.21
2nd Platoon as Skirmishers
By the Left Flank Take Intervals



Upon the command “2nd Platoon as Skirmishers – By the Left & Right Flank Take Intervals” the far right four of the 2nd section of the 2nd platoon stands fast. The other fours of the 2nd section face left without doubling and step off guided by the 2nd Sergeant. The 1st section of the 2nd platoon faces right and steps off guided by the 3rd Sergeant.

Fig 1.22
2nd Platoon as Skirmishers
By the Left & Right Flank Take Intervals



5. Firing on the Skirmish Line

- (a) From the Halt... The skirmish line is deployed in a single rank and the order to “Commence Fire” is given or sounded. The former front rank “1” & “2” soldiers fire and automatically reload. The former rear rank soldiers fire when their front rank comrades are loaded.
- (b) Firing on the March... skirmishers can reload while moving except when charging the cartridge and priming. Generally, they should not reload from the same spot as they fire unless they take cover. The rule is to “Drop Back to Load & Step Up to Fire.”
 When the order to “Forward – March-Commence Fire” is given or sounded the front rank “1” & “2” halt, fire and reload. The rear rank “1” & “2” continue forward 10 – 12 paces and halt. When the front rank soldiers are loaded they will give some indication to the rear rank men such as “Ready etc.” and the rear rank men fire and reload. The front rank men now advance 10-12 paces... halt, wait for the rear rank men to load and then fire etc. This alternating pattern continues until the order to “Cease Fire” is given.
- (c) Cease Fire & Halt... When the order to “Cease Fire” is given the soldiers stop firing and reload but the line continues forward until the order to “Halt” is given at which time the rear rank soldiers move up and reform a single rank. If only the order to “Halt” is given and men form a single rank but continue firing in a manner given above until the order to “Cease Fire”.
- (d) Fire in Retreat... usually this begins from the “Halt” in single rank and the platoon etc. marching to the rear (i.e., “Platoon, About-Face.” “Platoon, Forward-March”). Upon the order to “Commence-Fire” the former rear rank “1” & “2” men continue 10- 12 paces to the rear, halt and face the battlefront. They then wait for the front rank men to pass 10-12 pages behind them, halt, face front, and complete their loading process. The rear rank soldiers then fire and begin to reload.

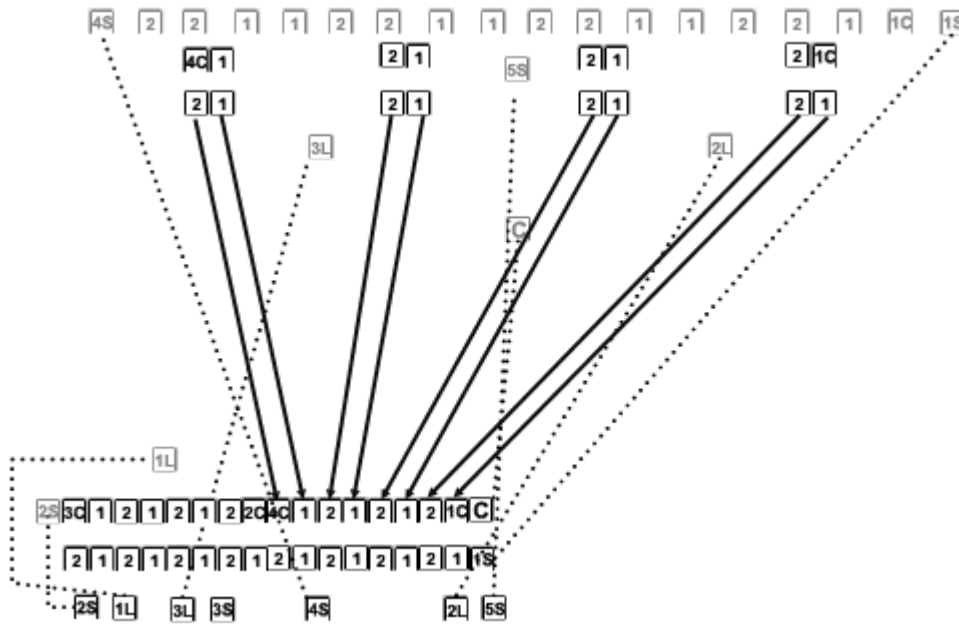
The front rank men now wait for th rear rank soldiers to pass 10-12 paces behind them, halt , face the battlefront, and complete reloading. The front rank soldiers then fire etc. Again, the soldiers say “Ready to their front or rear rank partners when it was time for them to fire. This alternating process continues until the orders to “Cease Fire” & “Halt” are given. A single rank farthest away from the enemy is formed.

6. To Assemble Skirmishers

- (a) It is most important to note that any form of assembly done with skirmishers to reform the Company etc is used ONLY when there is NO DANGER of ATTACK! If the skirmishers are under fire the signal “In Retreat” is sounded and each soldier gets back to the Company etc. in any way that they can and as fast as they can.
- (b) Since the usual purpose of skirmishers is to go in advance of the main force and find or test the strength of the enemy then the usual way to assemble will be towards the rear. There are a variety of calls that can accomplish this purpose (ie, Assemble on the Reserve, Assemble on the Battalion etc). Figure 1.23 illustrates “Assemble on the Reserve” where one platoon rejoins another to reform the Company.

The skirmish line is reformed into a single rank upon the command to “Halt” and “Cease-Fire.” When the order to “Assemble on the Reserve” is given the soldiers face to the rear and reform their original groups of fours. When facing to the rear front rank 1 & 2 men must place themselves behind the rear rank 1 & 2 men. Once formed the groups of four march back to their original position next to the other platoon... halt, about face, and dress their ranks.

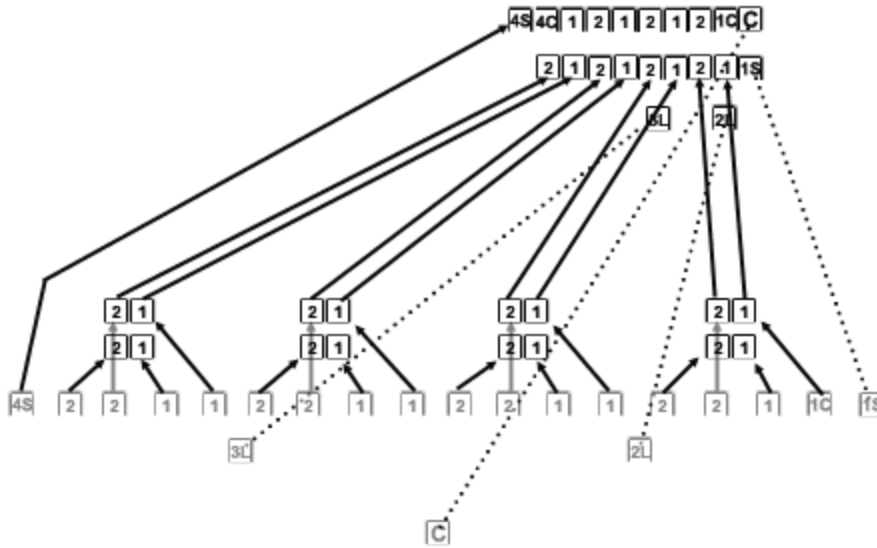
Fig. 1.23
Assemble on the Reserve



- (c) Assemble Forward... there are three basic methods to reform a line of skirmishers while marching forward... those are “Assemble on the Right, Left, or Center File” (see figures 1.24, 1.25 & 1.26).
To “Assemble on the Right File” the 1st Sergeant acts as right guide and

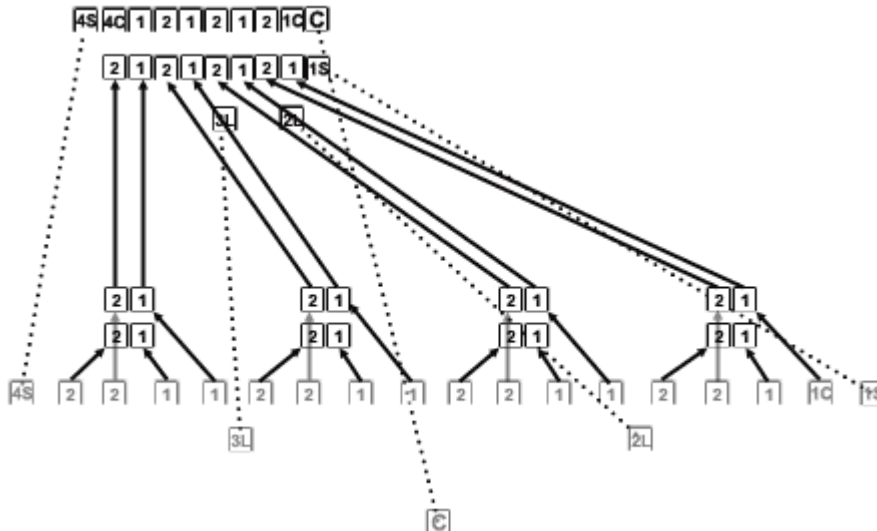
marches straight ahead. The groups of four reform and march at the right oblique. As they catch up to the right group they march front to the step (fig 1.24).

Fig. 1.24
Assemble on the Right File



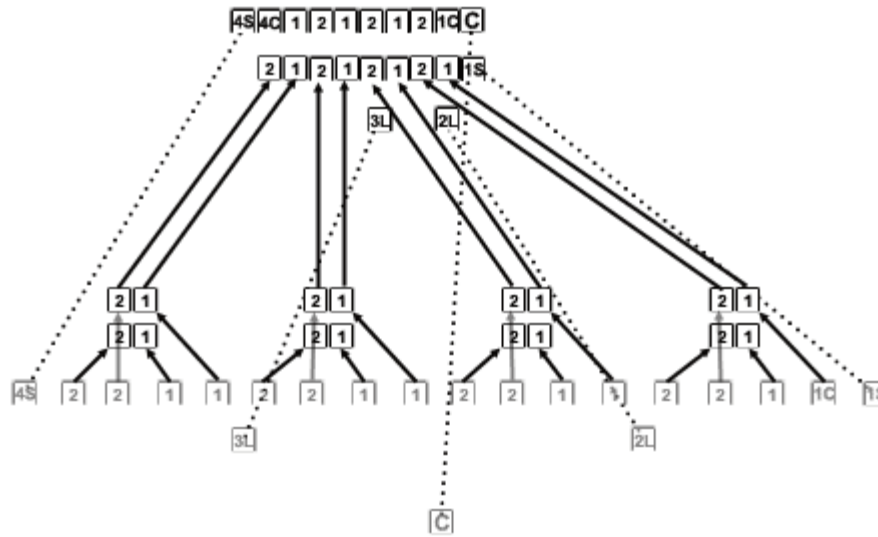
To “Assemble on the Left File” The 4th Segregant is the left guide and marches straight ahead. The groups of four reform and march at the left oblique. As they catch up to the left group they march front to the step (fig.1.25).

Fig. 1.25
Assemble on the Left File



To “Assemble on the Center File” The 5th Sergeant is the center guide and marches straight ahead. The center group is the right four of the second section of the 1st Platoon. The front rank 2 of the center four aligns himself behind the 5th Sergeant. Each group of four in the second section marches at the right oblique... each group in the first section marches at the left oblique. As each group catches up to the center four they march front to the step (fig. 1.26).

Fig. 1.26
Assemble of the Center



(d) To Assemble by the Flank (At the Halt)

- (1) On the Center... the center four (right four of the second section of the 1st Platoon) reforms on the front rank 2. All groups of four to the right of this group face left without doubling and march toward the center at quick time. Groups of four to the left face right without doubling and march towards the center.

As each group of four reaches the line it halts, faces front and comes to “Support-Arms” From this position it can be withdrawn or the remainder of the reserve can be brought up in support.

- (2) On the Right Flank (File)... the right group of four assemble on the front rank quick time. As each group reaches its position it halts, faces front and comes to “Support-Arms”
- (3) On the Left Flank (File)... the left group of four assemble on the front rank two and all other groups face left without doubling. These groups march left at the quick time until they reach proper position where they halt, face front and come to “Support-Arms”

IV. BATTLE REENACTMENT DUTIES & PERFORMANCE

A. Captain

1. Direct troop movements of the Company or authorize one or more Lieutenants to take charge of the platoons. During firing his proper position is in the rear-center of the Company four paces behind the file closers. From this place he can obtain a larger perspective and can receive orders from battalion command staff.
2. Issue firing commands or authorize others (Lieutenants) to give such orders. Whenever possible the Captain should be accompanied by the Company bugler or drummer. Such procedures not only save the Captain's voice but also allows subordinate officers the opportunity to gain valuable experience in command.
3. Receive orders from battalion staff and interpret these commands for the Company.
4. When the Company is ordered to move the Captain should retake his proper position on the flank next to the appropriate non-commissioned officer. Only in rare instances should the commander place himself in front of his Company during battle scenarios.

B. Lieutenants... will, upon proper orders, take charge of their respective platoons, take turns giving firing commands; and, relay information to the Captain from battalion staff. They also provide information to the commander concerning the "battle situation" to assist him in making decisions about tactics. They may act in the capacity as "file closers" if non-commissioned officers are unable to preform their duties.

C. Sergeants

1. Preserve alignment in the rear rank and maintain proper distance in relationship to the front rank. This includes checking foot positions during firing.
2. Keep the front rank full by moving men from the rear rank to fill in gaps during conditions of simulated casualties.
3. Take care of soldiers who have problems with their muskets (ie misfires etc) or become physically disabled for any reason.
4. Protect casualties on the ground in the rear of the Company as the battleline retreats.
5. Move to the front rank and discharge their weapons upon command of the 1st Sergeant or one of the officers should the need arise.
6. The 1st Sergeant's position during firing is in the rear aligned with the "file closers." However, when the battleline moves the 1st and 2nd Sergeants then move forward to the front rank of the Company to as as guides. They also act as markers when the Company comes on line to dress.

D. Corporals

1. Preserve alignment in the front rank and act as physical examples to the privates in their squad or platoon.

2. Protect casualties on the ground in the front of the firing line by directing privates to elevate their rifle barrels etc.
- E. All soldiers will conform to the basic rule... SAFETY FIRST & AUTHENTICITY IS SECOND! In practical terms this means that, no matter what the order, the soldier must not discharge their weapon unless it is safe to do so.
- F. Use of Bayonet & Ramrod... the bayonet will never be removed from its scabbard nor the ramrod ever employed during a battle reenactment on the field except by order of Company commanders or designated officer.
- G. Simulated Casualties. Whenever a front rank soldier falls or steps out of ranks he will be immediately replaced by a member of the rear rank. File closers will see that this is done. In addition, all soldiers must take care to discharge their weapon before "taking a hit" and becoming a simulated casualty. They must keep their muskets under control at all times and be aware of where they are falling so as not to injure anyone. It is best for those of the front rank to fall forward and those in the rear rank to fall backwards.
- H. Loading... soldiers will return to the "Shoulder-Arms" position after loading rather than remain at the "Prime" position. This will more accurately help the commander in observing if the men are done loading and are ready to fire etc.
- I. Only blackpowder will ever be inserted into the rifle musket except by order of the Company commander. Reenactment rifle cartridges will be made of plain paper (ie 30lb newsprint) and no string, staples, or glue shall ever be used in their construction. Such cartridges shall contain no more than 70 grains of 3FFF blackpowder. Cartridges will be carried only in a period authentic cartridge box... never handled loose in blouse or trouser pockets etc.
- J. Pistols will be carried only by officers unless approved by the Company commander. Pistols will use only 3FFF blackpowder and a maximum of 30 grains per round. Styrofoam wads will not be allowed... cereal such as Cream of Wheat or products such as Maxi Lube are recommended to seal each chamber.
- K. The minimum firing range for rifle-muskets at reenactments will be 30 yards; for pistols the minimum range will be 15 yards.
- L. Only period authentic three-band rifle muskets will be used. NO SOLDIER WILL EVER DISCHARGE HIS WEAPON EXCEPT BY PROPER COMMAND OF AN OFFICER OR A NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER. Weapons shall never be fired when the soldiers are moving except under special circumstances (ie Skirmish tactics).
- M. Hand to Hand Combat
 1. Hand to hand combat is permitted ONLY on the orders of the Company officer with the knowledge/approval of Battalion staff. It is usually best to have a rehearsal by the parties involved with a safety officer present.
 2. Those who find themselves in an impromptu hand to hand situation need to remember... always perform hand to hand with your musket unloaded and keep the weapon at the "Arms Port" position with the barrel pointing up.
 3. Officers need to either sheath their swords or place them point down into the ground to prevent safety problems.

N. Stop Action & Medic

1. If spectators or any unauthorized persons enter the field during a combat simulation or activity where weapons are discharged then any member may call "STOP ACTION" which will stop all firing activities until the area is cleared.
2. If a member is a witness to an unsafe action they should report this to proper Company and/or battalion staff for immediate correction. If the member deems this an emergency situation then they may call "STOP ACTION" which will stop all firing.
3. If there is a medical emergency during simulated combat any member may call "MEDIC" which will stop firing and summon appropriate medical assistance.

O. Safety Test... All new recruits are required to pass the 1st Oregon Infantry Safety Exam before participation in combat simulation. All members who participate in the military reenactment scenarios (ie soldiers and medical etc) must pass the required Safety Exam every two years. The Company safety & training officer or his assistants will administer this examination.

V. MILITARY CEREMONIES & LIVING HISTORY SCENARIOS

A. Inspection of the Troops

1. According to the Revised Regulations for the Army of the United States (1861) pages 46-49, the formal inspection of the troops was not done with less than a Company (usually a battalion) and was to be preceded by a parade of the soldiers or review. The Captain was to inspect his troops every Sunday morning and, of course, troops were always inspected before being paid.
2. Procedure
 - (a) The commanding officer will cause the Company to be formed in order of battle (two ranks).
 - (b) The commanding officer will then open the ranks with the color guard ten paces in front and field music ten paces in the rear of the column. All soldiers will be at the "Shoulder-Arms" position.
 - (c) The commanding officer will then order "Officers & Sergeants to the front of your Company – March." Field officers will form one rank eight paces in the front of the Company from right-left in order of seniority. The non-commissioned officers will form in one rank six paces in front of the Company from right-left in order of seniority.
 - (d) The inspecting officer will first inspect the field staff and then proceed with them to review the remainder of the Company. The Company commander will then give the order to "Order-Arms, Parade-Rest.." At this time the Sergeants, Color Guard and Musicians are inspected. The Sergeants and musicians should remain in front until the inspection is completed.
 - (e) The Captain will then command "Attention Company, Inspection-Arms." The inspecting officer will then proceed to inspect the weapons, accoutrements and dress of each enlisted soldier. **Note... each soldier should have all brass polished, shoes blacked and uniform brushed off in as neat a manner as possible.
 - (f) The Captain will then command "Open-Boxes" at which time cartridge boxes will then be inspected.
 - (g) The Captain will then command "Shoulder-Arms, Close-Order, March" then "Order-Arms" & "Stack-Arms" then "Prepare to Open Ranks, To the Rear, Open-Order, March." then "Front Rank, About-Face" then "Un-sling Knapsacks (or Bedrolls)" and "Open Knapsack." **Note... the Sergeants face inward and march on the center to form a separate stack of arms. They also un-sling knapsacks and open them for inspection.
 - (h) Knapsacks will be placed at the feet of the men leaning on the greatcoats (in season). The inspector will then inspect the contents at random starting with the non-commissioned officers. The regular issue items that will be under inventory are... kepi (or forage cap), four button sack coat or frock coat, trousers (1 or 2 pairs), two boiled linen or cotton/flannel shirts, drawers, two pairs of wool socks, greatcoat, wool blanket, rubber blanket or poncho, knapsack or bedroll, haversack, canteen with strap and brogans.

- (i) The Captain will then command... “Repack-Knapsacks.” Soldiers will repack their knapsacks or bedrolls but leave them on the ground while standing at “In Place Rest.”
- (j) The Captain will then command “Attention Company... Sling Knapsacks.”
- (k) The Captain will then command “Front Rank, About-Face. Close Order. March.” “Take-Arms. Shoulder-Arms.” “Officers & Sergeants to your Posts. March”
- (l) The Captain will then command... “Break Ranks. March.” and the soldiers will return to their Company street or tents. The inspecting officer will note any items missing to the Captain who will make note of such equipment so that the soldier may have the cost deducted from his next Pay Muster unless the loss can be directly attributed to campaign damage. As usual, any soldier found to be slovenly or with a dirty weapon will be noted and appropriate discipline taken by the Orderly Sergeant.

B. Pay Muster

1. General Information... Under ordinary circumstances soldiers were paid every two months “unless the circumstances of the case rendered it unavoidable.” Many soldiers were not paid for up to six months. The schedule of payments is found on pages 350-353 of the Revised Regulations for the Army of the United States (1861). The Pay Master deducted 12 & 1/2 cents per month from all enlisted men for the support of the Soldier;s Home and an additional \$2 per month was retained as clothing allowance. At the time of Pay Muster the soldiers were charged for any equipment issued over the standard amount designated for a one year period, any lost or damage equipment except that done under circumstances of campaign requirements, and any debts to sutlers or other service people (ie cooks, laundresses etc.) The Pay Master would give such civilians opportunity to collect amounts due them.
2. Procedure
 - (a) The Orderly Sergeant shall complete pay muster rolls for all enlisted men.
 - (b) The officer in command shall attend at the pay table. Usually an armed escort will accompany the Pay Master to perform his duties.
 - (c) The Company shall be paraded for payment... officers will be paid first then non-commissioned officers then enlisted men in alphabetical order.
 - (d) All enlisted men shall sign the receipt for their pay.

C. Honors to the Colors

1. In Hardee's Rifle & Light Infantry Tactics (School of the Battalion) Title IV, pages 1-13 it describes the proper way to present and honor the National colors in a field ceremony.
2. The commanding officer (probably the battalion Colonel) will designate a Company (not the color Company) to escort the colors to Battalion Parade.
3. The escort Company will march (without music) in column of platoons by the right flank... arms at “Right Shoulder Shift.” The Color Sergeant is placed between the two platoons.

4. When the escort arrives at the headquarters tent the platoons will wheel into battle line with the field music on the right... arms at "Shoulder or Carry."
5. The Color Sergeant, one Lieutenant, and another Sergeant will enter the command tent and receive the colors.
6. The Color Sergeant, with the colors, will exit the tent first followed by the officer & other Sergeant.
7. The Color Sergeant will halt at the entrance of the command tent and the Captain will order the escort Company to "Present-Arms." The field music will play "To the Color."
8. The Captain will then order the escort to "Shoulder-Arms" and form column of platoon. The Color Sergeant will again place himself between the two platoons... the Lieutenant and Sergeant will resume their proper posts in the column.
9. The escort Company will then march to rejoin the Battalion with the field music . At 150 paces from the Battalion the escort Captain will cause the Company to march parallel to the Battalion.
10. When the Color Sergeant arrives opposite the center of the Battalion the escort Captain will change direction to the left (probably "Left into line – Wheel" from the halt or "By Platoon, Left Wheel" if marching).
11. At 20 paces from the Battalion the escort will halt and the music stop playing. The Colonel will stand 6 paces front and center of the Battalion and the Color Sergeant will march the colors to the commander for presentation.
12. When the Color Sergeant arrives 10 paces from the Colonel he halts. The Colonel will then order the Battalion to "Present – Arms" and the field music will sound "To the Color."
13. The Color Sergeant will then take his place in the front rank of the Battalion Color Guard and the Colonel will order the Battalion to "Shoulder-Arms."
14. The escort Company and field music will then return to their proper position in line of battle marching by the rear of the Battalion.

D. Parade Marching Order

1. The commanding officer of the Company (Captain) will lead the formation and may be accompanied by either subordinate officers or staff officers (ie medical, battalion etc.)
2. The Company Color Guard shall be composed of the Color Sergeant who carries the National Colors and another Sergeant who carries the regimental flag. At least two other soldiers (usually non-commissioned officers) are to march on each side of the flags. All members of the color detail shall present themselves for inspection by the commanding officer or Orderly Sergeant in full dress uniform and white gloves. Bayonets are to be fixed and all weapons/brass brightly polished.
3. The Field Music (fifes, drums, & bugles) or Brass Band shall follow the Color Guard in line of march. This unit may be lead by the Company Drum Major (if one is available) or by the Chief Musician or Chief Bugler. The Chief Musician shall inspect the musicians before the parade or review and arrange them in such a manner as to him shall produce the best formation in appearance and sound.

4. The Infantry soldiers shall follow the music in line of march. These will be formed, inspected and led by the 1st (Orderly) Sergeant. Uniform of the day will be dress coat (frock) if available or sack coat that is clean and neat in appearance. No haversacks or knapsacks are to be worn but canteens are optional according to circumstances of the weather. All weapons and brass must be clean and polished. Rain ponchos may be carried and/or used in case of inclement weather. Bayonets should be fixed. In street parades alternate footwear is authorized to replace the brogans (ie, desert boots) but such footwear should be black. Hat insignias should be appropriate to the event (ie, no Maltese Cross worn at 1st Oregon functions).
5. Civilian living historians in period authentic dress may follow the infantry at certain public parade events.

VI. TRAINING & CERTIFICATION OF RECRUITS/TRANSFER SOLDIERS

- A. The primary issue or concern for the use of firearms among members of the 1st Oregon Volunteer Infantry should be competence. This relates to combat simulations, live fire events etc. Every new member (recruit or transfer from another unit) must demonstrate the following basic military skills and knowledge within the first year of service. Several aspects (indicated with ** signs) must be certified before any participation on the field with firearms. Certification must be made by the Company Safety Officer and/or one commissioned officer and two non-commissioned officers.
- B. Basic Skills & Knowledge Standards
1. School of the Soldier
 - (a) attention or ordered arms**
 - (b) shouldered arms or carry arms**
 - (c) right shoulder shift arms
 - (d) support arms & rest**
 - (e) secure arms
 - (f) trail arms
 - (g) present arms
 - (h) ground arms & raise arms
 - (i) fix and unfix bayonet
 - (j) spring rammers
 - (k) stack arms & take arms
 - (l) inspection arms**
 - (m) arms port
 2. Basic Drill Movements
 - (a) position of the soldier**
 - (b) right & left dress**
 - (c) in each rank count twos & front**
 - (d) right face/left face & about face**
 - (e) parade rest (Hardee's & Casey's), in place-rest & rest
 - (f) to the rear... open order... march
 - (g) close order... march
 - (h) break ranks... march
 3. Basic Drill Movements on the March
 - (a) right face & left face into column of fours**
 - (b) forward march & halt**
 - (c) right & left flank marching when faced by the right**
 - (d) right & left flank marching when faced by the left.

- (e) by file left or right march**
 - (f) counter-marching by files left & right**
 - (g) by Company into line when faced by the right**
 - (h) by Company into line when faced by the left
 - (i) on the right & left by file into line
 - (j) un-doubling & doubling files faced by the right & left
 - (k) left & right oblique march
 - (l) fixed & moving pivot wheels**
 - (m) left & right turn march
 - (n) general marching... keeping step & cadence**
4. Principals of Loading & Firing of the Rifle-Musket**
- (a) foot position for firing in both front and rear ranks plus proper rifle position.
 - (b) 13 inch spacing between front and rear ranks during firing.
 - (c) loading in nine times using blank cartridges or conical ball.
 - (d) procedures for firing by Company, by rank & by file.
 - (e) procedures to fire by left & right oblique.
 - (f) Recover arms & cease fire (hold fire).
 - (g) Loading & firing from the kneeling position.
5. Recognition of Basic Bugle Calls-Signals
- (a) Dan Butterfield prelude**
 - (b) attention call**
 - (c) assembly call**
 - (d) forward & halt**
 - (e) in retreat call**
 - (f) commence & cease fire**
 - (g) recall
 - (h) reveille call
 - (i) tattoo call
 - (j) taps & or extinguish lights
6. Appearance & Equipment
- At the end of one year each new recruit or transfer soldier will be inspected by the 1st Sergeant and Commanding Officer to insure that all their equipment (weapon, uniform, accouterments, and tentage etc.) are period correct.
7. Cleaning & Care of Weapons
- At the end of the year each new recruit will be inspect by the Safety Officer to insure that they have proper cleaning and maintenance equipment to care for their weapon and know how to correctly use this equipment.

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