

**THE NEW
MANUAL EXERCISE,**

by General BLAKNEY:

To which is added The

EVOLUTIONS

of the

FOOT,

by General BLAND

CORRECTED, WITH ADDITIONS.

PHILADELPHIA:

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**With modernizations in language and
punctuation to aid in comprehension**

A

LIST

Of the Words of Command, as they follow
in Order in the Manual Exercise.

TAKE CARE

1. Join your right hands
To your firelocks.
2. Poise your firelocks.
3. Cock your firelocks.
4. Present.
5. Fire.
6. Half cock your fire-
Locks.
7. Handle your cartridges.
8. Open your cartridges.
9. Prime.
10. Shut your pans.
11. Cast about to charge.
12. Charge with cartridges.
13. Draw your rammers.
14. Put them in the barrel.
15. Recover your rammers.
16. Return your rammers.
17. Shoulder.
18. Reft your firelocks.
19. Order your firelocks.
20. Ground your firelocks.
21. Take up your fire-
Locks.
22. Reft your firelocks.
23. Club your firelocks.
28. Draw your bayonets.
29. Fix your bayonets.
30. Reft your bayonets.
31. Charge your bayonets
Breast high.
32. Push your bayonets.
33. Present your bayonets.
34. Reft your bayonets on
Your left arm.
35. Shoulder.
36. To the front present
Your arms.
37. Face to the right.
- 38.)
- 39.) Face to the right.
- 40.)
41. Face to the right about.
42. To the left about as
You were.
- 43.)
- 44.)
- 45.) Face to the left.
- 46.)
47. To the left about.
48. To the right about.
49. Reft on your arms.

24. Rest your firelocks.
25. Secure your firelocks.
26. Shoulder.
27. Rest on your arms.

50. Unfix your bayonets.
51. Return your bayonets.
52. Rest your firelocks.
53. Shoulder.

THE NEW MANUAL EXERCISE, &c.

Directions for position of a soldier under arms:

I. A soldier having his firelock shouldered must stand with a straight body, holding up his head without moving, and always looking towards the commanding officer, or he who exercises the battalion; nor to use any motion but what the word of command, when given, directs.

II. His feet are to be at one step distance (from each other), the heels in a straight line, and the toes turned a little outwards.

III. The firelock must lie on the left shoulder, and the left hand on the butt end, the thumb being placed in the hollow thereof, pressing the guard against the breast, that the muzzle may be mounted; the lock must be turned a little outward till the under part of the butt is brought opposite to the middle of the body, that the firelock may be more easily borne.

"TAKE CARE"

At this word every man must be silent, stand firm, and not move hand or foot, but attend carefully to the words of command.

- I. "JOIN YOUR RIGHT HANDS TO YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 1 motion.

Turn the lock upwards with the left hand and, at the same time, take hold with your right hand close behind the lock drawing down the firelock a little. Keep the elbows square and the muzzle of the firelock at the same height as when shouldered.

The first motion of each word of command must be done instantly upon giving it; but when there are more motions than one, you are to tell, "One, Two," slowly making a small pause between the words; and on the word "Two"

the motion if performed.

2. "POISE YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 1 motion.

With the left hand, depress the butt briskly towards the body, which will make the piece fly off from your shoulder towards the front and throw it into an erect position where you must stop it by seizing it with your left hand just above the lock, the little finger touching the spring, the arms extended, the lock to the front, the left thumb lying up the piece, and the piece so high that you may look on a level line through the guard.

3. "COCK YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 2 motions.

Bring the piece to the right side of our head the lock to the right and about as high as your ear. At the same time bring up your right foot, placing the heel very near the hollow of the left foot, the toe pointing to the right. Tell "One, Two!" and seize the cock with your right thumb, bend it, and throw the piece out to the front, the barrel towards you and directly perpendicular. This is the same posture as the firelock in the recover.

4. "PRESENT!" 1 motion.

Take your thumb from the cock and step out to the right with the right foot, the toe to the right, the body to the front. Place the butt end betwixt the right shoulder and breast with the elbows square, the forefinger before the trigger, the others behind the guard, the right knee stiff, the left a little bent, the head upright, the body straight, the muzzle well leveled breast high.

5. "FIRE!" 1 motion.

Draw the trigger briskly with your forefinger, and if the cock does not go down, don't attempt it again at that time.

6. "HALF COCK YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 2 motions.

Bring down the firelock to the right side with the barrel sloping upwards. Tell "One, Two!" and with the thumb seize the cock and half bend it.

7. "HANDLE YOUR CARTRIDGES!" 2 motions.

Step back with your right foot almost behind your left. At the same time,

bring the piece up close under your arm and clap your hand to your cartridge box. Tell, "One, Two!" and draw forth your cartridge.

8. "OPEN YOUR CARTRIDGES!" 2 motions.

Bring your cartridge between your thumb and forefinger to your teeth and break open the end of it. Tell "One, Two!" and bring it down to your pan ready to prime.

9. "PRIME!" 1 motion.

Empty a little of the powder of your cartridge into your pan.

10. "SHUT YOUR PANS!" 1 motion.

Bring the smaller fingers of your right hand behind the steel (ie. Frizzen), shut the pan briskly, and let the fingers remain till the next word of command.

11. "CAST ABOUT TO CHARGE!" 1 motion.

The cartridge remaining between your thumb and forefinger and with the help of your other fingers on the back of the steel, sink the butt till the piece is almost in an upright position bringing it around to your left side. Stepping forward with your right foot, let the piece fall to a slope by your left side and flip your right hand up to the muzzle ready to charge.

12. "CHARGE WITH CARTRIDGE!" 2 motions.

Turning up the hand with the palm out, enter the cartridge into the muzzle with the open end downwards. Tell, "One, Two!" and give it a flap with your fingers to put it all the way in.

13. "DRAW YOUR RAMMERS!" 3 motions.

Place your forefinger on the top of the rammer gripping it at the same time between your thumb and middle finger. Tell "One, Two!" and draw your rammer as far as it can reach. Slip down your hand briskly taking the rammer near the muzzle, your thumb and forefinger being turned downwards. Tell "One, Two!", draw your rammer quite out, turn and shorten it to a hand's breadth on the right breast holding it in the same degree of slope with your piece.

14. "PUT THEM IN THE BARREL!" 3 motions.

Bring the rammer a little above the muzzle, place the thick end on the cartridge, and thrust it down as far as your hand will permit. Tell "One, Two!", raise your hand, and seize the rammer about the middle and thrust it down till your hand touches the muzzle. Tell "One, Two!", seize it again at the top thrusting it down as far as it will do and ram down the charge.

15. "RECOVER YOUR RAMMERS!" 2 motions.

Draw forth about half your rammer with a quick motion, give it a spring, and briskly flip down your hand, your thumb turned downwards, and take it by the middle. Tell "One, Two!", draw it quite out, turn and shorten it against your breast to nine inches, and hold it in the same slope with the piece.

16. "RETURN YOUR RAMMERS!" 3 motions.

Bring the small end of the rammer with a gentle turn under the barrel, place it in the stock, and thrust it in as far as your hand will permit. Tell "One, Two!", raise your hand, and seize the rammer in the middle, and thrust it down again till your hand touches the muzzle. Tell "One, Two!", raise your hand and place the palm of it upon the upper end of your rammer and thrust it quite down.

17. "SHOULDER!" 3 motions.

Bring the firelock upright opposite to your left shoulder near your ear, the lock in the bending of the left elbow, seizing at the same time under the lock with your right hand. Tell "One, Two!", fall back with your right foot, and at the same time let the piece fall smartly on your shoulder seizing it with your left hand on the butt. Tell "One, Two!", and quit with the right hand letting it fall to the right side.

18. "REST YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 3 motions.

Join your right hand to your firelock as (done) in explanation 1. Tell "One, Two!", and come to the poise as in explanation 2. Tell "One, Two!", and turning the barrel towards you, bring the butt end down to the inside of the right knee stepping at the same time a little back with your right foot, the toe pointing to the right, the right knee stiff, the left a little bending, keeping your body very

straight. The firelock must lean a little to the front, and both the body and face must present themselves to the front as much as possible without constraint.

19. "ORDER YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 3 motions.

Raise the muzzle of the firelock so that it is directly upright by the right side. At the same time flip up the left hand as high as the right shoulder and sink the piece with the right as low as you can without constraint or stooping. Tell "One, Two!", (then) quit (your firelock) with the right hand, sink the firelock with the left over the toe; at the same time seize with the right hand near the muzzle, the thumb upwards. Tell "One, Two!", quit the left hand letting it fall on the left side. Bring up the right foot to its line placing the firelock on the outside even with the little toe, the lock outwards. This (last motion) is to be performed in such a manner that the right foot and the butt end of the firelock come to the ground at the same time.

The heels must be in a straight line (at one step distance from each other), the toes turned outward and the right arm, from the hand to the elbow, running along the outside of the firelock, the left arm down the left side.

20. "GROUND YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 4 motions.

Turn the firelock with the right hand till the lock points to the rear and the barrel towards your right side. At the same time, quit the muzzle with the right hand, seize it with the left, and bring the right hand down to the middle of the barrel and seize it there in such a manner as that both hands join the piece at once, placing the right foot behind the butt, the toe pointing to the right. Tell "One, Two!", step a moderate pace forward with the left foot, lay down the firelock bending the right knee at the lock (with) the piece (lying) in a straight line to the front. Tell "One, Two!", rise up briskly bringing your left foot to its place. Throw off the right hand open to the front. Tell "One, Two!", turn your right foot on the heel over the butt and at the same time turn your right hand to your side, the palm inwards, your body full to the front.

21. "TAKE UP YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 4 motions.

Turn the right foot on the heel over the butt turning the toe directly to the right. At the same time throw off your right hand with an easy motion. Tell "One, Two!", step forward with the left foot, the right knee bending to the lock, taking the firelock by the middle of the barrel with your right hand. Tell "One,

Two!", raise up with the firelock bringing it up with your left hand at the muzzle, the piece close to your right shoulder, your left foot at the same time coming to its line. Tell "One, Two!" and quit (the piece) with the left hand, bringing up the right hand to the muzzle, turning the barrel towards your shoulder, the lock to the right and placing the right foot on the inside of the butt. This posture is the same as in explanation 19.

Observe that, in grounding and taking up their arms, the men are to hold up their heads.

22. "REST YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 3 motions.

Quit the muzzle with the right hand and seize it with the left. At the same time, seize it with the left. At the same time, seize the barrel with the right hand as low as the arm will extend without constraint or bending the body. Tell "One, Two!", bring the firelock directly before you, the right hand as high as the face, the lock outwards, at the same time seizing it with the left so that the little finger touches the spring. Tell "One, Two!", quit with your right hand, let fall the arms turning the lock to the right, and place the right hand behind the lock. At the same time step away with the right foot observing the position of explanation 18.

23. "CLUB YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 4 motions.

Keep the firelock firm in your left hand, cast the butt from you with the right so that the barrel passes close to your shoulder, and take hold of the firelock as low as you can reach with the right hand, the muzzle and left thumb downwards and the lock to the right as high as your cheek. Tell "One, Two!", raise the firelock with the right hand opposite to the left shoulder turning the lock to the front and bringing up the right foot. At the same time, seize it with the left hand very near the muzzle with extended arms. Tell "One, Two!", bring the firelock to the left shoulder with the lock upwards and the elbows square. Tell "One, Two!", bring your right hand briskly down to the right side at the same time let fall your left elbow. Stand in the shoulder position.

24. "REST YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 4 motions.

Turn the firelock with the left hand inwards. This brings the barrel upwards. At the same time, take hold of it with the right hand a little above the left keeping the elbows square. Tell "One, Two!", bring the firelock nimbly

before your face with outstretched arms, the barrel to the front. Tell "One, Two!", sink the firelock with the right hand opposite to the right side close to the ear, the lock to the right. At the same time, place the left hand behind the firelock, the thumb downwards and the little finger touching the spring. Tell "One, Two!", quit with your right hand bringing the butt down passing the barrel close by your right elbow. Place your right hand behind the lock, step back with the right foot, and come to your left.

25. "SECURE YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 2 motions.

Bring the piece briskly to an upright position opposite to the left shoulder turning the barrel to the front and flipping the left hand at the same time to a hand's breadth above the lock and bring up the right foot. Tell "One, Two!", quit with your right hand throwing the firelock under the left arm, the lock a little below the elbow, the barrel downwards, the muzzle within a foot of the ground.

26. "SHOULDER!" 3 motions.

Bring the firelock up nimbly to the position described in the first motion of explanation 17. Tell "One, Two!", quit with the left hand bringing it under the right placing the firelock on the left shoulder. Tell "One, Two!" and quit with your right hand bringing it down briskly to your right side.

27. "REST ON YOUR ARMS!" 4 motions.

Join your right hand to the firelock. Tell "One, Two!" and come to the poise. Tell "One, Two!" and quit the firelock with your right hand sinking it with your left as low as your arm will permit without constraint. Seize it at the same time with your right hand near the muzzle. Tell "One, Two!" and bring the butt to the ground flipping your left hand at the same time up to your right. Keep your elbows square.

28. "DRAW YOUR BAYONETS!" 2 motions.

Step back with your right foot and seize your bayonet with your right hand. Tell "One, Two!", draw it out briskly, bring it up and place it upright over the muzzle. Enter it on the barrel.

29. "FIX YOUR BAYONETS!" 3 motions.

Thrust down the socket of the bayonet as far as the notch will permit. Tell "One, Two!", turn the bayonet from you and fix it. Tell "One, Two!", quit the handle of the bayonet and seize the firelock just under it with your right hand placing the palm on the back of the left (hand).

30. "REST YOUR BAYONETS!" 3 motions.

Raise the firelock with your right hand in a perpendicular line as high as your forehead. Slipping down your left (hand) at the same time, seize the firelock a little above the lock. Tell "One, Two!", quit the firelock with your right hand and raise it with the left. At the same time, seize it with your right hand under the lock observing the same position as directed by explanation 2. Tell "One, Two!" and, turning the barrel towards you, come to your rest, as in explanation 18.

31. "CHARGE YOUR BAYONETS BREAST HIGH!" 2 motions.

Bring up the butt to your right shoulder with the piece level to the front as in presenting to give fire. Tell "One, Two!" and step back with your right foot flipping your right hand behind the butt and carrying the piece as far as you can extend your right arm, the barrel resting on the bend of your left but still level and pointing to the front, the thumb and fingers of the left hand pointing to the butt.

32. "PUSH YOUR BAYONETS!" 2 motions.

Push your firelock with both hands straight forward until your left arm is quite extended, the left knee bending a little, and the body leaning somewhat forward. Tell "One, Two!" and bring it back to its former place.

33. "PRESENT YOUR BAYONETS!" 1 motion.

Bring forward the firelock as if you were going to make a second push, but sink the butt, turning it at the same time three quarters around with the lock passing under. At the same time, kneel down on the right knee facing to the front, place the butt in the bending of the body on the left side with the lock upward, the left elbow resting on the left knee and the piece sloping upwards to the front.

34. "REST YOUR BAYONETS ON YOUR LEFT ARM!" 1 motion.

Rife up, turn the lock to the front, take hold with your right hand below the lock. Sinking the firelock, take hold of the cock and steel with the left with the cock lying on the middle finger and the steel on the lower joint of the thumb, the under part of the stock resting on the bend or middle of the left arm, the barrel upwards, the butt sloping downwards towards the middle space between your thighs, keeping both hands as low as you can without constraint. The butt and muzzle must be kept at an equal distance from your body, the firelock running in a triangular line.

35. "SHOULDER!" 3 motions.

Quit the lock with the left hand and, with a spring of your left arm, throw the piece off from your body; seize it above the lock bringing the piece up to the poise. Tell "One, Two!" and, turning the barrel outwards with your right hand, quit with the left and seize the butt, at the same time bringing down the piece to the left shoulder. Tell "One, Two!" and bring down your right hand to your side.

36. "TO THE FRONT, PRESENT YOUR ARMS!" 3 motions.

This is only coming to a rest, as in explanation 18.

37. "FACE TO THE RIGHT!" 3 motions.

Bring up the firelock with a quick motion before you placing the right heel in the hollow of the left foot, the toe (of the right foot) pointing to the right, the lock as high as your face, the barrel towards you, the arms extended. Tell "One, Two!" and face on the left heel to the right a quarter of the circle keeping the firelock recovered. Tell "One, Two!" and come nimbly to your rest stepping back a little with the right foot as in explanation 18.

In the performing of the second motion, which is the facing, the soldiers must take care not to move their left heels from the ground but only to turn them (so) that they may keep their ranks and files straight. (They must also take care) to place their right feet in a line with their left keeping their firelocks in the true position of a recover till they perform the third motion, which is the rest.

38, 39, 40. "FACE TO THE RIGHT!" 3 motions each.

Each of these words of command must be performed at 3 motions, as is above directed in explanation 37, which completes the circle in four times.

41. "FACE TO THE RIGHT ABOUT!" 3 motions.

This is to be performed at 3 motions as in the foregoing explanation only they face half the circle to the right.

42. "TO THE LEFT ABOUT AS YOU WERE!" 3 motions.

This is done on the left heel as in the above explanation 41, only they face half the circle to the left, which brings them to their proper front.

43, 44, 45, 46. "FACE TO THE LEFT!" 3 motions each.

These facings must be performed in the same manner as those to the right, on the left heel, with this difference only: that they face to the left.

47. "TO THE LEFT ABOUT!" 3 motions.

This is half the circle to the left.

48. "TO THE RIGHT ABOUT AS YOU WERE!" 3 motions.

You are to face half the circle to the right, which brings you to your proper front, and completes the facings.

49. "REST ON YOUR ARMS!" 3 motions.

Come to the poise. Tell "One, Two!" and sink the firelock with your left hand as in explanation 27.

50. "UNFIX YOUR BAYONETS!" 3 motions.

Slip the bayonet up with the right hand. Tell "One, Two!" and turn it towards you. Tell "One, Two!" and flip it quite off the barrel keeping it upright.

51. "RETURN YOUR BAYONETS!" 3 motions.

Step back a little with your right foot and, turning the point of the bayonet down, enter it in the scabbard. Tell "One, Two!" and thrust it quite in. Tell "One, Two!" and bring up your foot seizing the firelock with your right hand.

52. "REST YOUR FIRELOCKS!" 3 motions.

As before in explanation 30.

53. "SHOULDER!" 3 motions.

Bring the firelock up briskly to a poise. Tell "One, Two!" and shoulder as directed in explanation 35.

WHEN the battalion is to make ready at three words of command, it is to be performed in the following manners:

1. "MAKE READY!"

At this they are to perform all that is contained in the first three words of command of the manual exercise.

2. "PRESENT!"

At this command they are only to perform what is directed by the fourth word of command of the said exercise.

3. "GIVE FIRE!"

This is performed as in explanation 5, after which they are to go on with the exercise till they have primed and loaded, and when they come to the shouldering of the firelock, they are to finish, which contains the 17th word of command.

THIS completes the Manual Exercise