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231 . c . 204

CONTENTS.

	Page
Introductory Remarks - - - -	3
Section I. Extension Motions and Positions -	3
„ II. Preparatory Instruction with the Sword -	7
„ III. Review or Inspection Exercise - -	14
„ IV. Attack and Defence - - - -	14
„ V. Stick Drill - - - -	16
„ VI. Officers' Salute - - - -	21
Concluding Observations - - - -	21
Words of Command - - - -	24

INFANTRY SWORD EXERCISE.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

The object of the "Sword Exercise" is to give quickness and dexterity in the use of that weapon, and this can easily be acquired by practising the movements described.

These movements consist of four cuts and four guards, so arranged for the sake of clearness, though practically there are only two cuts, from right to left, and from left to right, high and low, and two guards, one a variation of the "hanging" or "engaging guard," formed high or low, right or left, according to the part attacked; and the other the "second guard," where the point of the sword is necessarily directed upwards to guard the right cheek and shoulder.

SECTION I.

EXTENSION MOTIONS.

These motions tend to expand the chest, raise the head, throw back the shoulders, and strengthen the muscles of the back.

The squad with intervals being at "Attention" the caution is given.

"First Extension Motions."

One.—Bring the hands, arms, and shoulders to the front, the fingers lightly touching at the points, nails downwards; then raise them in a circular direction well above the head, the ends of the fingers still touching, the

thumbs pointing to the rear, the elbows pressed back and shoulders kept down.

Two.—Separate and extend the arms and fingers upwards, forcing them obliquely back until they are extended on a line with the shoulders, and as they fall gradually from thence to the original position of “Attention” endeavour as much as possible to elevate the neck and chest.

Three.—Turn the palms of the hands to the front, and press back the thumbs with the arms extended, and raise them to the rear until they meet above the head, the fingers pointing upwards and the thumbs locked, with the left thumb in front.

Four.—Keep the knees and arms straight, and bend over until the hands touch the feet, the head being brought down in the same direction, and resume the “Third Motion” slowly by raising the arms to the front.

Five.—Resume the position of “Attention,” as directed in “Second Motion.”

The whole of these motions should be done very slowly, so as to feel the exertion of the muscles throughout.

First Position in three Motions.

One.—Move the hands smartly to the rear, the left grasping the right arm just above the elbow, and the right supporting the left arm under the elbow.

Two.—Half turn to the left, turning on the heels, so that the back of the left touches the inside of the right heel, the head retaining its position to the front.

Three.—Bring the right heel before the left, the feet at right angles, the right foot pointing to the front.

Second Position in two Motions.

One.—Bend the knees gradually, keeping them as much apart as possible without raising the heels, or changing the erect position of the body.

Two.—Step out smartly with the right foot about 18 inches in line with the left heel, bringing the fore leg to the perpendicular, and retaining the left as in preceding motion, the weight of the body resting equally upon both legs.

Third Position in one Motion.

One.—Step forward to about 36 inches, the right knee remaining perpendicular to the instep, the left knee straight and firm, and foot flat upon the ground, the body upright, and the shoulders square to the left.

Second Extension Motions.

One.—Bring the arms to the front of the body, with the hands closed and the knuckles uppermost touching each other below the waist, raise them gradually until the wrists, by bearing inwards, touch the breast, the elbows being kept up; then by forcing back the shoulders, the hands will be drawn apart, and the motion is completed by sinking the elbows, and smartly extending the arms and fingers in a diagonal line, the right to the front, with the wrist as high as the forehead, the left to the rear, shoulders kept down and the thumbs inclined to the right.

Two.—Raise the body by straightening the right leg.

Three.—Bend the right knee, and resume the “First Motion.”

First Position.—Spring up with the arms to the rear, and the right heel close to the left, which forms the “First Position,” as before described.

Front.—Come smartly to the position of “Attention,” bringing the hands and feet at the same instant to their proper places.

In the foregoing instructions, the positions and movements preparatory to using the sword have been explained,

giving a separate word of command for each motion respectively. The same should now be gone through, naming only (in the word of command) the position required, in order to practise the recruit in changing the positions readily, without losing his balance, and in quick time, distinguishing them by the words of command, "First," "Second," and "Third."

Positions by Numbers.

First.—Raising the arms to the rear and bringing the right heel in front of the left, come at once to the "First Position."

Second.—Come to the second position.

First.—Come to the first position.

Second.—Come to the second position.

Third.—Come to the third position.

Second.—Come to the second position.

Single attack.—Raise the right foot, and beat it smartly on the ground.

Double attack.—Raise the right foot as before, and beat it twice on the ground, first with the heel, then with the flat of the foot.

Advance.—Make a short step to the front with the right foot close to the surface of the ground, then bring up the left the same distance.

Single attack.—As before.

Retire.—Make a short step to the rear with the left foot, bring back the right the same distance, and plant it firmly on the ground.

Double attack.—As before.

The movements of "Advancing" and "Retiring" should be repeated several times either in alternate steps or with several in succession to front or rear, taking care not to allow the body to sink or rise.

Front.—Resume the position of “Attention.”

The object of the preceding positions and movements is to give a free and active use of the limbs preparatory to using the sword, and they should be practised with the left shoulder and foot to the front, as well as the right.

Notes.—It should be recollected that in all the three positions, however widely the feet may be separated, they still relatively retain the same position, *i.e.*, at right angles to each other, the left pointing to the left, and the right directed straight to the front.

No precise length can be assigned in moving the right leg to the front in the “Third Position,” as it depends upon the length and stride of the recruit, but it should not be beyond what may allow of his returning to the “Second Position” with quickness and perfect facility to himself.

SECTION II.

PREPARATORY INSTRUCTIONS WITH THE SWORD.

The recruit being perfectly instructed in the preparatory movements should now be given a sword, and made acquainted with the strong and weak parts of it; the “Forte” (strong) being the half of the blade nearest the hilt; the “Feeble” (weak) the half nearest the point; indeed a knowledge of these distinctions is very material either in giving or guarding a cut, as much depends upon their proper application. From the hilt upwards, in opposing the blade of an adversary, the strength of the defence decreases in proportion as the cut is received towards the point, and vice versâ, it increases from the point downwards.

Except at the "Carry" and "Slope," when the fingers may be slightly relaxed, the same grasp of the sword is to be retained throughout the exercise, the middle knuckles in the line of the edge, and the thumb and fingers clasped round the handle.

Draw Swords.—Take hold of the scabbard of the sword with the left hand just below the hilt, which should be raised as high as the hip, then bring the right hand smartly across the body, grasping the hilt and turning it at the same time to the rear, raise the hand the height of the elbow, the arm being close to the body. By a second motion draw the sword from the scabbard, the edge being to the rear, and lower the hand until the upper part of the hilt is opposite the mouth, the blade perpendicular, edge to the left, elbow close to the body, which forms the position of "Recover Swords." By a third motion lower the wrist below, and in line with the right hip, the elbow being drawn back, and the arm extended as much as it can be with ease, the hand slightly grasping the hilt, but ready, by a contraction of the fingers, to resume a firm hold; the upper part of the sword will then rest against the hollow of the right shoulder, with the edge to the front, which brings it to the position of "Carry Swords;" the left hand resumes the position of "Attention" directly the sword is drawn.

Slope Swords.—Move the hand to the front in line with the elbow, which is brought close to the body, with the sword resting against the shoulder, edge to the front.

Return Swords.—Carry the hilt to the hollow of the left shoulder (the left hand as before raising the scabbard), with the blade perpendicular, and the back of the hand to the front; then by a quick turn of the wrist, drop the point into the scabbard, turning the edge to

the rear until the hand and elbow are in line with each other, square across the body. By a second motion, replace the sword in the scabbard, keeping the hand upon the hilt; by a third motion the hands are brought back to the position of "Attention."

Draw Swords.—As before.

Slope Swords.—As before.

Stand at Ease.—Lower the sword, and place the point of it on the ground between the feet, edge to the right, both hands resting upon the hilt, left uppermost; draw back the right foot 6 inches, and slightly bend the left knee.

Attention.—Come to the position of "Slope Swords."

Prepare for Sword Exercise.—Turning on the heels, come to the "First Position," with the left fore-arm behind the back, hand closed.

Right Prove Distance.—Bring the sword to the "Recover." By a second motion extend the arm to the right and lower the sword in a horizontal direction from the shoulder with the edge to the rear, shoulders square to the front.

Slope Swords.—As before.

Front Prove Distance.—"Recover Swords" as before. By a second motion extend the arm to the front, and lower the sword in a horizontal direction, edge to the right.

Slope Swords.—As before.

Engage.—Step out to the "Second Position," at the same time carry the sword to the front, edge outwards, point inclining downwards towards the left, arm slightly bent, but level with the shoulder; this forms the "Engaging Guard," being a low hanging guard, the "Forte" of the sword covering the centre of the body.

Assault.—Raise the hand and sword to the right rear, arm bent, wrist rounded, the back of the sword resting upon the shoulder, with the edge inclined to the right.



One.—Extend the arm, and direct the cut diagonally downwards from right to left, and continuing the sweep of the sword prepare for cut “Two,” the back of the sword resting upon the left shoulder, edge inclined to the left.

Two.—Cut diagonally downwards from left to right, and turning the wrist let the sword continue its motion until it rests upon the right shoulder edge to the right.

Three.—Cut horizontally from right to left, and prepare for cut “Four,” the flat of the sword resting upon the left shoulder.

Four.—Cut horizontally from left to right, and come to the engaging guard.

After the recruit can deliver the cuts by word of command he should be ordered to deliver them in succession at the word “Assault,” judging his own time, and without any material pause between each, as by a proper and timely turn of the wrist the cuts will lead into each other. They should be given strong with the edge leading forwards, the wrist retaining its direction to the front as much as possible; and in returning to prepare for another cut the edge should be drawn back nearly in the same line, the arm being a little bent so as to allow a free play of the wrist, elbow, and shoulder, in giving effective force to the cut, and then extended to the utmost in the delivery of it.

The instructor can easily tell by the sound when the recruit fails to carry the edge well in making the assault, the sharp whistling sound made when the edge leads truly being very different from that made by the flat of the sword.

A good way of testing the force and efficiency of a sword cut, is by striking at a bar of lead, either suspended, or placed standing on one end. The bar should be triangular, about 8 inches long, and from 1½ to

3 inches thick, according to the strength and dexterity of the striker, and a naval cutlass is the best weapon to use for the purpose.

Defend.—A caution.

First Guard.—Raise the hand smartly above the head, and a little in advance of it, the point of the sword lowered to the left front, edge upwards.

Second.—Draw back the elbow to the right, and bring the sword to a diagonal position covering the right cheek and shoulder, point upwards, inclining to the left, edge to the right.

Third.—Bring the hand across the body towards the left shoulder, edge of the sword to the left, point down, and inclining to the front.

Fourth.—Square the upper arm with the shoulder, the fore-arm to be in front line with the elbow, and wrist slightly below it, point of the sword inclined to the front, edge to the right.

Engage.—As before.

Slope Swords.—As before.

When the recruit understands the guards he should be ordered to form them in succession, judging his own time at the word "Defend."

After the recruit has practised the cuts and guards thoroughly with the right hand the sword should be taken in the left at the word "Change Arms" and the exercise repeated.

Points.

Too much attention cannot be paid by the instructor in teaching the points, as they can always if properly directed be delivered with effect at close quarters, where the cut cannot, and at all times much quicker.

The point can be delivered instantly and direct from any of the guards without shifting the grasp, drawing

back or lowering the arm, and they are all delivered with the edge inclining to the right.

Either of the guards is a parry or defence (up or down, right or left, according to the attack) against the point of sword or bayonet, and from which an instantaneous return either with cut or thrust can be made.

Engage.—As before.

Points.—A caution.

First.—With a quick motion direct the point to the front by extending the arm, the arm moving in a straight line to the front of the “First Guard” position, and without altering the direction of the edge.

Parry.—Brace up the arm quickly and parry upwards by forming “First Guard.”

Second.—Deliver the point quickly by extending the arm and sword to the front.

Parry.—Draw back the arm and parry to the right by forming “Second Guard.”

Third.—Lowering the point extend the arm.

Parry.—Draw back the arm and parry to the left by forming “Third Guard.”

Fourth.—Raise the point and deliver the thrust.

Parry.—Parry downwards to the right by forming fourth guard.

Engage.—As before.

Slope Swords.—As before.

Note.—Points one and two should be delivered high at the face or neck, three and four at the waist. “Change Arms” and repeat. Thus far may be considered as merely drill practice, and the recruit need not be required to remember the precise order, after it is ascertained that he understands the object of it, and can go through it correctly; and consequently is qualified to perform the “Review Exercise” as in the following section.

SECTION III.

REVIEW OR INSPECTION EXERCISE.

The squad is formed in two ranks, at the "Slope Swords" the rear rank covering the front rank files with an interval of four paces between ranks and files, and in this formation the whole of the drill, as shown in Section II., may be gone through, either by separate words of command, or by a fogleman; the former is the best mode, as the swordsman is then enabled to keep his view fixed in the direction he is supposed to act.

Prepare for Sword Exercise.—As before.

Engage.—As before.

Review Exercise, Outs, Guards, and Points.—A caution.

Assault.—Prepare for "Cut One."

The cuts and points are delivered in the "Third Position," guards shown in the Second.

One.—Cut One, Form First Guard, Point, and recovering to the second position, Prepare for "Cut Two."

Two.—Cut Two, Form Second Guard, Point, and prepare for "Cut Three."

Three.—Cut Three, Form Third Guard, Point, and prepare for "Cut Four."

Four.—Cut Four, Form Fourth Guard, Point, and come to the "Engaging Guard."

Slope Swords.—As before.

SECTION IV.

ATTACK AND DEFENCE.

The squad being formed up in two ranks at extended order, as in "Review Exercise," the front rank is faced to the right about.

Prepare for Attack and Defence.—Files opposite each other in the “First Position.”

Prove Distance.—Files prove distance by extending the sword and arm as before directed, and letting the swords overlap one another, until the point of one touches the hilt of the other, remaining in the “First Position.”

In proving distance, the front rank should have the sword uppermost, and the rear rank must give way, or move up according to the required measure.

Slope Swords.—As before.

Engage.—Come to the “Engaging Guard,” blades joining.

The cuts are delivered in the “Third Position,” guards formed in the “Second.”

The front rank always commence unless ordered to ~~the~~ contrary.

Front Rank.

One.—Cut One.

Two.—Form Second Guard.

Three.—Cut Three.

Four.—Form Fourth Guard.

Engage.—As before.

Repeat.—Rear rank commencing.

Engage.—As before.

Cuts, Guards, and Points.—A caution.

Front Rank.

One.—Cut One.

Form First Guard.

Point.

Parry by First Guard.

Rear Rank.

Form First Guard.

Cut One.

Parry by First Guard.

Point.

Engage.—Both ranks come to “Engaging Guard.”

Two.—Cut Two.

Form Second Guard.

Point.

Form Second Guard.

Cut Two.

Parry by Second Guard.

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Front Rank.	Rear Rank.
Parry by Second Guard.	Point.
<i>Engage.</i> —As before.	
<i>Three.</i> —Cut Three.	Form Third Guard.
Form Third Guard.	Cut Three.
Point.	Parry by Third Guard.
Parry by Third Guard.	Point.
<i>Engage.</i> —As before.	
<i>Four.</i> —Cut Four.	Form Fourth Guard.
Form Fourth Guard.	Cut Four.
Point.	Parry by Fourth Guard.
Parry by Fourth Guard.	Point.
<i>Engage.</i> —As before.	
<i>Slope Swords.</i> —As before.	
<i>Repeat.</i> —Rear rank commencing.	

SECTION V. STICK DRILL.

As no exercise with the sword can be attained without some mode of loose or independent practice, sticks should be substituted for swords, as in fencing foils are used for the acquirement of that art; but before such practice is allowed, the following combinations of attack and defence should be well practised and executed in addition to the exercises in Section IV.

The sticks are to be about 40 inches long, and not so weak as to bend, with leather hilts large enough to cover the hand without confining it, and on no account are masks to be omitted, as they enable those who practice to cut or thrust with more confidence. It must be remembered, however, in giving the thrust, that the grasp should be loosened on the point touching the adversary's body.

The same formation is continued as for the "Attack and Defence," also the proving distance.

In the stick practices the attacking file delivers the first cut in the "Third Position," receiving the return of the opposing file, and delivering the second cut in the same position. The defending file remains in the "Second Position" throughout. All cuts at head are defended by first guard, unless otherwise ordered. After the exchange of cuts both come to the "Engaging Guard."

Engage.—As before.

First Practice.

Front Rank.

Head.—Lunge and Cut One.

Head.—Defend by First Guard.

One.—Return with Cut One.

Engage.—As before.

Head.—Lunge and Cut One.

Head.—Defend by First Guard.

Two.—Return with Cut Two.

Engage.—As before.

Head.—Lunge and Cut One.

Head.—Defend by First Guard.

Three.—Return with Cut Three.

Engage.—As before.

Head.—Lunge and Cut One.

Head.—Defend by First Guard.

Four.—Return with Cut Four.

Engage.—As before.

Repeat.—The rear rank commencing.

Rear Rank.

Defend by First Guard.

Return with Cut One.

Defend by First Guard.

Defend by First Guard.

Return with Cut One.

Defend by Second Guard.

Defend by First Guard.

Return with Cut One.

Defend by Third Guard.

Defend by First Guard.

Return with Cut One.

Defend by Fourth Guard.

The first practice is given in full, but as the remaining practices are somewhat similar, to avoid repetition they are shown as concisely as possible in the following table:—

TABLE OF PRACTICES.
ATTACK AND DEFENCE.

Words of Command.		Attacking File.			Defending File.		
Cautionary.	Executive.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	
<i>First Practice.</i>		<i>Engage.</i>					
Cuts and Guards.							
Head. One	One	One	One	One	One	First.	
Head. Two	Two	One	Two	Two	One	Second.	
Head. Three	Three	One	Three	Three	One	Third.	
Head. Four	Four	One	Four	Four	One	Fourth.	
Slope Swords.							
<i>Second Practice.</i>		<i>Engage.</i>					
Head. One	One	One	One	One	One	First.	
Head. Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	One	First.	
Head. Three	Three	Three	Three	Three	One	First.	
Head. Four	Four	Four	Four	Four	One	First.	
Slope Swords.							

TABLE OF PRACTICES :—Attack and Defence—cont.

Words of Command.		Attacking File.			Defending File.		
Cautionary.	Execu- tive.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	Cut, Guard, or Point.	Cut, Guard, or Point.
<i>Third Practice.</i>							
Head. One.	Head -	One	First	One	First	One	First.
Head. Two.	Head -	One	Second	One	First	Two	First.
Head. Three.	Head -	One	Third	One	First	Three	First.
Head. Four.	Head -	One	Fourth	One	First	Four.	First.
Slope Swords.							
<i>Engage.</i>							
Head. One.	One	One	First	One	First and Se- cond Guards.	One	First.
Head. Two.	Two	One	Second	One	Third and	One	First.
Head. Three.	Three	One	Third	One	Fourth Gds.	One	First.
Head. Four.	Four	One	Fourth	One	First and Fourth Guards.	One	First.
Slope Swords.							
<i>Engage.</i>							
Feint One.	One	Feint One	First	One	First and Se- cond Guards.	One	First.
Head. Two.	Two	Cut Two.	Second	One	Third and	One	First.
Feint Three.	Three	Feint Three	Third	One	Fourth Gds.	One	First.
Head. Four.	Four	Cut Four.	Fourth	One	First and Fourth Guards.	One	First.
Feint One and Point	One	Feint One and Point	First	One	Fourth and First Guards.	One	First.
Head. Four.	Four	underhand. Feint Four and Point overhand.	First	One	Fourth and First Guards.	One	First.
Slope Swords.							

Note.—A feint is a half cut or thrust menacing an attack at one point whilst the intention is to direct it at another, and the true cut or thrust should be given as the opponent answers to the feint.

The above arrangement shows at a glance the practices of attack and defence, but they may be varied to any extent at the option of the Instructor.

During the practices, whenever any explanation, or correction of errors is necessary, if the squad is in the "Engaging" position, the word "Rest" should be given, when the sword-arm should be lowered, and keeping the feet steady, "Stand Easy," raising the sword-arm again at the word "Engage."

When perfectly exercised and complete in the above drill, the independent practice may be tried (under proper control), by the files attacking each other, as in single combat with swords, and delivering such cuts or thrusts as their judgment directs, but paying strict attention to the following rules for their guidance:—

Rules for Independent Practice (Loose Play), with Sticks.

1. The cuts and thrusts must be given with life, but as lightly as possible consistent with rapidity.

2. On a hit being given the man receiving it must be careful, first to recover to a defensive position, and then acknowledge by lowering his sword.

3. At the moment of engaging, each man should particularly remember to be "On Guard," so as not to be taken by surprise, and should avoid as much as possible attacking at the same moment as his opponent.

4. Each man should endeavour on meeting the attack to acquire the habit of *returning instantly*, to prevent an opponent from making false attacks, or repeating a cut \surd point twice with impunity, or closing; but he must

be ever "On Guard" to meet the hits of such as cannot help returning, whether hit or not.

5. No practice should be allowed without masks, and as the stick represents the sword, the cuts can only be considered fair and effective when given with that part which corresponds with the edge, nor should any movement of attack or defence be attempted with the stick, which could not be performed or would not be risked in a combat with swords.

SECTION VI.

OFFICERS' SALUTE.

At open order officers will salute as follows:—

On the word "Present Arms" they will bring the sword to the "Recover" at the second motion of the rifle, and at the third motion the sword will be smartly lowered to the "Salute" (the point of the sword to be 12 inches from the ground in the direction of the right foot), right arm straight, hand just below the thigh, thumb flat on handle of sword. On the word "Shoulder Arms" the sword will be brought to the "Recover" at the first motion, and to the "Carry" at the second.

The above is the mode to be observed in saluting, both in marching past, and at the halt, or when addressed by a superior officer, on occasions when swords are drawn and a salute is necessary.

On the march or when manœuvring, the sword may be carried at the full extent of the arm, the guard of the hilt resting upon the inside of the fingers, the back of the blade being against the hollow of the shoulder.

CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS.

The exercise of the sword consists of four directions of the edge, the same number of guards or defensive

positions, and the point (or thrust); whatever therefore may be the attack or defence, it can only be formed by having recourse to some of the above movements, or a combination of them.

In engaging, which is generally the action of joining swords with an opponent, previous to the attack there should only be a slight pressure on his blade, so that the hand or wrist may be more susceptible of any motion, and though the "Engaging Guard" affords protection at the moment, it is merely considered preparatory to any offensive or defensive movements, varying the latter according to the points threatened with attack.

The "Line of Direction" is in a general sense the position of the feet, body, and arms, kept invariably in a straight line on the proper position of "Guard;" if you form your guards too wide you are said to deviate from the "Line of Direction," and consequently leave some part of your body unguarded; if you make a thrust at an adversary without covering yourself, and resisting his blade, you are also said to deviate from the "Line of Direction;" your point too deviates from the line of direction when not steadily directed at your adversary's body.

"Lunge" is the act of extending yourself on the "Line of Direction" the full distance of your stride, in order to make your approaches to an adversary's body in delivering a cut or thrust.

"Recovering" is the act of resuming the position of "Guard" after having made a lunge at your adversary; a quick and easy recovery to "Guard" is very essential to your own safety.

In all attacks, whether cuts or thrusts, the motion ought to increase in velocity, the greatest force being given at the last; the same rule should be observed in

stepping out to the "Third Position," but in recovering, the reverse is to be attended to, as the first part should be quickest.

If opposed to the small sword, your attack should be principally directed at the arm, as it must always come within reach of the edge before the point can be sufficiently advanced to reach your body. Should your opponent appear to be the quickest and most skilful in his movements, it is best to retire while giving the cuts, cautiously preserving the proper distance, so that each cut may just reach the fore part of his arm.

If opposed to the bayonet or pike, your adversary, from the length of those weapons, can keep you at a distance, so as to be out of your reach, whilst you are within his; you must therefore endeavour to assail his advanced wrist, or close upon him by forcing his weapon aside by the "Fourth Guard."

The "Third Guard" is, however, more effective, as he has less power of resistance or of clearing his weapon, which may be thrown out of his hand, or you may seize it with your left hand, which is not so easily done when warded off to the right.

Against a mounted opponent you should endeavour to gain his left side, where he has less power of defending himself or his horse, and cannot reach so far in attacking as on the right. In assailing the horse also, you may make him unruly and less under command of his rider, upon which his safety very materially depends; bearing in mind the advantage you have in the power of being in and out of reach nearly at the same instant, whilst the motions of the horse being too slow and cumbersome for that purpose, affords the dismounted swordsman (if he possesses proper nerve) a decided advantage over his mounted opponent.

Many similar remarks will naturally occur to those who have practical experience, and the instructors should endeavour as much as possible, in their directions to the recruit, to impress them upon his mind by such occasional observations as appear applicable. Opportunities of thus explaining may often be taken during the pauses of rest, as no squad should be kept too long either in the positions or movements; and where some recruits are more deficient than others, the whole should be made to cease whilst those who have gone wrong are being corrected.

WORDS OF COMMAND

THROUGH THE

PROGRESSIVE INSTRUCTION OF THE DRILL.

The words printed in italics are to serve as a caution only.

Section I.

“Attention.”

First Extension Motions.

“One.” Two. “Three.” Four. “Five.”

First position in three motions.

“One.” “Two.” “Three.”

Second position in two motions.

“One.” “Two.”

Third position in one motion.

“One.”

Second Extension Motions.

“One.” “Two.” “Three.”

“ First position.”

“ Front.”

“ Stand at Ease.”

“ Attention.”

Positions by Numbers.

“ First.”

“ Second.”

“ First,” “ Second.”

“ Third,” “ Second.”

“ Single attack.”

“ Double attack.”

“ Advance.”

“ Single attack.”

“ Retire.”

“ Double attack.”

“ Front.”

“ Stand at Ease.”

Section II.

PREPARATORY INSTRUCTION WITH THE SWORD.

“ Attention.”

“ Draw swords.” “ Slope swords.” “ Return swords.”

“ Draw swords.” “ Slope swords.”

“ Stand at Ease.”

“ Attention.”

“ Prepare for Sword Exercise.”

“ Right prove distance.”

“ Slope Swords.”

“ Front prove distance.”

“ Slope Swords.”

“ Engage.”

“ Assault.”

“ One.” “ Two.” “ Three.” “ Four.”

Defend.

“ First.” “ Second.” “ Third.” “ Fourth.”

Engage.

Points.

“First.”

“Parry.”

“Second.”

“Parry.”

“Third.”

“Parry.”

“Fourth.”

“Parry.”

“Slope Swords.”

“Stand at Ease.”

*Section III.**Review or Inspection Exercise.*

“Attention.”

“Prepare for Sword Exercise.”

“Engage.”

“Review Exercise.”

“Assault.”

“One.” “Two.” “Three.” “Four.”

“Slope Swords.”

“Stand at Ease.”

Section IV.

ATTACK AND DEFENCE.

“Attention.”

“Front Rank.”

“Right about turn.”

“Prepare for attack and defence.”

“Prove distance.”

“Slope swords.”

“Engage.”

“One.” “Two.” “Three.” “Four.”

“Engage.”

Cuts, Guards, and Points.

“One.” “Two.” “Three.” “Four”

“Engage.”

“Slope Swords.”

“Stand at Ease.”

Section V.

STICK DRILL.

“Attention.”

“Prepare for attack and defence.”

“Prove distance.” “Slope swords.”

First Practice.

“Engage.”

“One.” “Two.” “Three.” “Four.”

“Slope Swords.”

Second Practice.

“Engage.”

“One.” “Two.” “Three.” “Four.”

“Slope Swords.”

Third Practice.

“Engage.”

“One.” “Two.” “Three.” “Four.”

“Slope Swords.”

Fourth Practice.

“Engage.”

“One.” “Three.” “One.” “Four.”

“Slope Swords.”

“Stand at Ease.”

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