



C H A P. XXI.

Exercise of the Dragoons.

With the necessary alterations explained in the points where they differ from the horse and foot; all the rest of the exercise and motions being the same with those of the horse and foot, as explained by them.

Words of command.



RETURN your swords! 3 motions.

II. *Files, to the right double!*

III. *March!*

The men pull off their gloves.

IV. *Make ready your firelocks! 4 motions.*

1. Raise your right hand as high as your shoulder. Tell 1, 2, and seize your firelock briskly about eight inches above the lock. Tell 1, 2, and clear it off the bucket with a lively motion. Tell 1, 2, and extend your arm downwards.

V. *Advance your firelocks! 4 motions.*

1. Pull up your firelock, keeping the butt forwards, and, at the same time, seize it with your left hand a little above the lock. Tell 1, 2, and bring your firelock before you with the left hand, and, at the same time, seize it with the right hand below the lock, keeping the firelock straight up and down, almost at a recover. Tell 1, 2, and extend both arms briskly. Tell 1, 2, and, quitting the firelock with your left
F f hand,

hand, bring down the butt on your right thigh, the muzzle sloping a little forwards.

VI. *Poise your firelocks!* 1 Motion.

Bring up your firelock to a poise, turning the lock outwards.

VII. *Handle your slings.* 2 motions.

Seize your sling with the left hand, four inches above the lock. Tell 1, 2, and extend your sling to the left, keeping it in a line with the firelock.

VIII. *Sling your firelocks!* 3 motions.

Bring the sling with the left hand opposite to the right shoulder, and the firelock with the left hand opposite to the left shoulder, by crossing of both hands; at the same time, bring the left hand within the right, keeping the muzzle directly up, the barrel to the left, and the right hand just under the left elbow. Tell 1, 2, bend the firelock back, and bring the sling over your head, placing it just above your right shoulder, and the firelock opposite to the point of the left. Tell 1, 2, draw the sling with your left hand, and let go the firelock with the right at the same time, that it may hang by the sling on the right shoulder, the muzzle upwards, and dropping both hands down by your sides at the same time.

IX. *Make ready your links!*

X. *Quit your right stirrup!* 5 motions.

XI. *Dismount!*

XII. *To the left!*

Note. The Officers perform the motions of the above three words of command, and their servants take away their horses.

XIII. *Files that doubled, as you were!*

XIV. *March!*

XV.

XV. *To the right-about!*

XVI. *Link your horses!*

XVII. *To the right-about!*

XVIII. *Move clear of your horses!*

XIX. *March!*

XX. *Halt!*

XXI. *Handle your slings!* 3 motions.

1. Seize the sling with both hands at the same time, taking hold of it with the right hand about the middle, and as low as you can reach, without bending your body, with the left. Tell 1, 2, and; with the left hand, bring the butt forward, slipping your left elbow under the firelock, by bringing of it between the firelock and the sling; take hold of the firelock at the same time with the left hand, letting the stock lie between the thumb and fore-finger, the butt-end pointing a little to the left, with the barrel upwards. Tell 1, 2, bring the firelock to lie on the left shoulder, and the sling on the right, the barrel upwards, and the butt-end pointing directly to the front, keeping the firelock to a true level.

XXII. *Poise your firelocks!* 3 motions.

1. Bring the sling over your head with the right hand, and the firelock straight before you with the left, the muzzle upright, and the barrel to the front. Tell 1, 2, and cast the sling briskly with your right hand towards the left, between the firelock and your body, turning the lock outwards, and at the same time seize it with your right hand below the cock, the thumb upwards. Tell 1, 2, and thrust the firelock from you to your poise, letting the left hand fall down to your side.

XXIII. *Shoulder!*

XXIV. *Squadrons, face to the right and left inwards!*

The right hand Squadron faces to the left, the left hand Squadron to the right, and half the center

Squadron to the right, and half to the left; and, in marching, join the other two Squadrons in the right and left intervals.

XXV. *March!*

XXVI. *Halt!*

XXVII. *Center and rear ranks, close to your proper distance!*

XXVIII. *March!*

The center and rear ranks of each Squadron march forward, till they come within six paces of each other, and then halt. After this, the files are to be completed, the ranks dressed, and the Battalion told-off. Then the Major proceeds.

XXIX. *Squadrons, have a care to march forward!*

At this the Cornets advance the standards.

XXX. *March!*

The three Squadrons march straight forward, keeping in a line, taking care not to open or close their ranks and files, and covering their file-leaders; and when they are advanced to a proper distance from their horses, the following word of command is to be given:

XXXI. *Halt!*

At this they all stand, and immediately straighten their ranks and files. The Cornets plant their standards on their right, as the Ensigns do the Colours.

XXXII. *Squadrons, from the right and left face inwards, and form the Battalion!*

XXXIII. *March!*

XXXIV. *Halt!*

XXXV. *Officers, take your posts in Battalion!*

Until this word of command is given, the Officers are to remain with their respective Squadrons; but then they are to take their posts on the head of the Battalion by seniority of commission, as they do in the Foot, the eldest

eldest on the right, the next on the left, and so on till the Cornets with the Standards come in the center.

They are then to divide the ground equally between them, and to dress in one rank.

The Quarter-Masters are to take their posts in the rear, in the same manner.

The Drums are to be divided on the right and left.

XXXVI. *Rear half files, to the right form six deep!*

The rear half files face to the right, at two motions.

XXXVII. *March!*

They step off with the right feet, and make eighteen paces to the rear, halting with the left foot foremost at the last.

XXXVIII. *Halt!*

They come to the left-about in three motions, and instantly cover their leaders.

XXXIX. *Officers, recover your arms!*

All the Officers and Quarter-Masters recover their firelocks in two motions; and the Cornets advance the Standards.

XL. *To the right-about!*

The Officers face to the right-about in three motions. Half the Quarter-Masters on the right, face to the right, and the other half face to the left, in two motions, and all remain in this position till the next word of command.

Note. The Colonel, or Officer commanding the Regiment in his absence, is not to face with the Officers, but remain facing to the front.

XL. *March!*

The Colonel, or Commanding Officer, marches straight forward, and places himself by the General during the Exercise; the other Officers march through the ranks, beginning with the left feet, and keeping in a line, till they get nine paces beyond the rear rank, and then stand; but the Lieutenant-Colonel is to march two paces beyond the Officers.

The Quarter-Masters are to march pretty quick, and place themselves on the right and left of each rank, The Drums are to march straight forward, and place themselves in the rear of the Major, or Officer that exercises the Regiment.

The Troop beats, while the Officers are thus marching to their posts of exercise.

XLII. *Halt!*

The Lieutenant-Colonel, and the rest of the Officers in the rear, face to the left-about.

XLIII. *Order your arms!*

The Officers order their firelocks in three motions, and remain in that position, the Cornets planting the Standards on the right.

Take care to perform the Manual Exercise!

Note, The Foot Exercise being already explained, it will be unnecessary to insert it here; I therefore refer you to the account of it, both for the manner of performing each motion; and the proper time between them.

44. *Rest your firelocks!* 3 motions.
45. *Order your firelocks!* 3 motions.
46. *Ground your firelocks!* 4 motions.
47. *Take up your firelocks!* 4 motions.
48. *Rest your firelocks!* 3 motions.
49. *Club your firelocks!* 3 motions.
50. *Rest your firelocks.* 3 motions.

51. *Secure your firelocks!* 3 motions.
52. *Shoulder your firelocks!* 3 motions.
53. *Poise your firelocks!* 2 motions.
54. *Rest upon your arms!* 3 motions.
55. *Draw your bayonets!* 2 motions.
56. *Fix your bayonets!* 3 motions.
57. *Poise your bayonets!* 3 motions.
58. *Shoulder!* 2 motions.
59. *Present your arms!* 3 motions.
60. *To the right!* 3 motions.
61. *To the right!* 3 motions.
62. *To the right-about!* 3 motions.
63. *To the left!* 3 motions.
64. *To the left!* 3 motions.
65. *To the left-about!* 3 motions.
66. *Charge your bayonets!* 1 motion.
67. *Rest your bayonets on the left arm!* 3 motions.
68. *Rest your bayonets!* 3 motions.
69. *Shoulder!* 2 motions.
70. *Rear half files, to the left double
your front! March!* } 18 motions.
71. *Prime and load!* 21 motions.
72. *As front rank, make ready!* 3 motions.
73. *Present!* 1 motion.
74. *Fire!* 19 motions.
75. *As center rank, make ready!* 3 motions.
76. *Present!* 1 motion.
77. *Fire!* 19 motions.
78. *As rear rank, make ready!* 3 motions.
79. *Present!* 1 motion.
80. *Fire!* 19 motions.
81. *Rear ranks, close to the front! March!* 16 motions.
82. *Make ready!* 3 motions.
83. *Present!* 1 motion.
84. *Fire!* 1 motion.
85. *Charge your bayonets!* 1 motion.
86. *Recover your arms!* 1 motion.
87. *Rear ranks to your proper distance!* 3 motions.
88. *March!* 10 motions.

89. *Halt!* 3 motions.
90. *Shut your pans!* 6 motions.
91. *Clean your bayonets!* 2 motions.
92. *Shoulder!* 2 motions.
93. *Rear half files, as you were!* 2 motions.
94. *March!* 18 motions.
95. *Halt!* 3 motions.
96. *Front half files, to the right double } 3 motions.
your rear!*
97. *March!* 18 motions.
98. *Halt!* 2 motions.
99. *Front half files, as you were! March* 18 motions.
100. *Officers, recover your arms!* 2 motions.
101. *March!* The Troop beats.
102. *Halt!* 2 motions.
103. *Rear half files, to the left double } 18 motions.
your front! March!*
104. *Left hand divisions, by the side } 4 motions.
step double your files to the right!*
105. *March!*
106. *Halt!* 1 motion.
107. *Divisions, to the left as you were!* 1 motion.
108. *March!*
109. *Halt!* 4 motions.
110. *Right hand divisions, by the side } 4 motions.
step double your files to the left!*
111. *March!*
112. *Halt!* 1 motion.
113. *Divisions, to the right as you were!* 1 motion.
114. *March!*
115. *Halt!* 4 motions.
116. *Rear ranks, close to the front!*
117. *March!* 10 motions.
118. *Upon the center, wheel to the right about!* 3 motions.
119. *March!*
120. *Halt!* 3 motions.
121. *Upon the center, wheel to the left-about!* 3 motions.
122. *March!*
123. *Halt!* 3 motions.

- 124. *Rear ranks, gain your former distance!* 3 motions.
- 125. *March!* 10 motions.
- 126. *Halt!* 3 motions.
- 127. *Poise your firelocks!* 2 motions.
- 128. *Rest on your arms!* 3 motions.
- 129. *Unfix your bayonets!* 3 motions.
- 130. *Return your bayonets!* 2 motions.
- 131. *Poise your firelocks!* 3 motions.
- 132. *Shoulder!* 2 motions.
- 133. *Officers, to your Squadrons!*

The commissioned Officers and Quarter-Masters, face to the right and left, as the Squadrons they belong to are posted, and remain so, till the following word of command. The Cornets are to advance the standards.

CXXXIV. *March!*

The commissioned Officers and Quarter-Masters march to their several Squadrons, and post themselves on the front and rear, as before, by seniority.

The Drummers also march to their respective Squadrons; those of the right Squadron post themselves on the right of it, in a line with the front rank; those of the left Squadron, on the left; and those of the center Squadron, are to post themselves in the rear of the Cornet with the Standard.

- 135. *Halt!*
- 136. *From the center face outwards!*
- 137. *March!*
- 138. *Halt!*
- 139. *Dragoons, face to the right-about!*
- 140. *March!*
- 141. *Halt!*
- 142. *To the left-about!*
- 143. *Dragoons face to your horses!*
- 144. *March!*
- 145. *Halt!*
- 146. *Poise your firelocks!*
- 147. *Handle your fings!*

- 148. *Sling your firelocks !*
- 149. *To the right-about !*
- 150. *Move to your horses !*
- 151. *March !*
- 152. *Unlink your horses !*
- 153. *Files, to the right double !*
- 154. *March !*
- 155. *Fix your links !*
- 156. *Make ready to mount !*
- 157. *Take your left stirrup !*
- 158. *Mount !*

Note. The Officers perform the above three words of command with the men.

- 159. *Handle your slings !*
- 160. *Poise your firelocks !*
- 161. *Advance your firelocks !*

Bring down your butt to your right thigh, the barrel towards you, the muzzle sloping a little forwards.

- 162. *Return your firelocks !*

Throw back your firelock to your right side, seizing it at the same time with your left hand a little above the lock. Tell 1, 2, and bring your right hand between your body and the firelock, and seize it immediately above the left hand. Tell 1, 2, quit your firelock with the left hand, thrusting it down briskly by your right side with the right hand, and put it in the bucket.

