



C H A P. IV.

General rules for wheeling.



THE circle is divided into four equal parts,

Wheeling to the right or left, is only a quarter of the circle.

Wheeling to the right or left-about, is one half of the circle.

When you wheel to the right, you are to close to the right so near, as to touch your right hand man, but without pressing him, and to look to the left in order to bring the rank about even.

When you wheel to the left, you are to close to the left and look to the right, as above directed.

This rule will serve for all wheeling by ranks ; as when a Battalion is marching by sub-divisions with their ranks open, then each rank wheels distinctly by itself when it comes to the ground on which the rank before it wheeled, but not before.

It will likewise serve as a rule for the front rank in all wheelings, whether that of the whole Battalion, or grand, or sub-divisions ; but the rear ranks, when they are closed forward, being to wheel directly in the rear of, and at the same time with, the front rank, must incline a little to the left when they wheel to the right, in order to keep directly in a line with their file-leaders. The same rule must be observed by the rear ranks when they wheel to the left, by inclining a little to the right, for the reason above-mentioned, that of keeping in a line with their file-leaders.

In wheeling, the men are to take particular care neither to open nor close their ranks, and to carry their firelocks high and firm on their shoulders.

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In wheeling, the motion of each man is quicker or slower according to the distance he is from the right or left, thus; when you wheel to the right, each man moves quicker than his right hand man; and, in wheeling to the left, each moves quicker than his left hand man; the circle that every man wheels being larger, according to the distance he is from the hand he wheels to, as may be seen by describing of several circles within one another at two feet distance from each, which is about the space every man is supposed to take up.

I. To the right wheel by division! March!

At this command, they all step forward with their left feet, and wheel to the right a quarter of the circle,

The right hand man of the front rank of every division must turn on his right heel, without taking it out of its place; and, casting his eye to the left, bring his body and left foot about with the rank, according as it moves quicker or slower. All the men in the front rank are to cast their eyes to the left in the same manner, that they may neither advance before, nor keep behind their left hand men; but to govern their steps in such a manner, that by adding to, or abating from them, they may keep their bodies in a direct line with the left hand man of their division; by the due observance of which rule, the front rank will be always kept straight in wheeling, and, consequently, contribute a great deal towards the rear ranks doing the same; but unless the front rank wheels straight, it is impossible that the rear ranks should.

Let them observe further, as is directed by the general rules for wheeling.

All wheelings are to be done slow; and even those

those men on the extreme part of the ranks, are not to exceed a moderate pace.

The Officers are to wheel on the head of their several divisions, and the Serjeants on the flanks, and in the rear.

As soon as the divisions have wheeled a quarter of the circle, the Major is to proceed to the next word of command,

II. *Halt!*

At this they are to stand, and immediately dress their ranks and files.

III. *To the right, wheel! March!*

All the divisions wheel a quarter of the circle again to the right, which brings the Battalion to face to the rear. The directions in explanation one, must be punctually observed.

IV. *Halt!* As in explanation the second,

V. *To the right, wheel! March!*

As in explanation the first and third, by which they face to the left of the Battalion.

VI. *Halt!* As in explanation the second and fourth.

VII. *To the right, wheel! March!*

This wheel completes the circle at four times, and brings them to their proper front.

VIII. *Halt!* As in explanation the second is directed;

IX. *Wheel to the right about ! March !*

By this word of command, all the divisions are to wheel one half of the circle to the right.

X. *Halt ! As in explanation the second.*XI. *Wheel to the right about ! March !*

This wheel completes the circle at twice, and brings them to their proper front.

XII. *Halt ! As in explanation the second.*XIII. *To the left, wheel ! March !*

The divisions are to wheel to the left a quarter of the circle, as they did before to the right ; with this difference, that the left hand man of the front rank of each division must keep his left heel in its place, as the right hand men did their right heels when they wheeled to the right, and, by casting his eye to the right, bring his body and right foot about with the rank, according as it shall move quick or slow.

All the men of the front rank are to cast their eyes to the right, as they did before to the left, and for the same reason to keep their bodies in a straight line with the right hand man, that the rank may be kept even in wheeling.

The rear ranks are to incline a little to the right when they wheel to the left ; as they did to the left when they wheeled to the right, observing further, as in explanation the first is directed, as also the general rules for wheeling.

XIV. *Halt ! As in explanation the second.*

XV. *To the left, wheel! March!* As in explanation the thirteenth is directed.

XVI. *Halt!* As in explanation the second.

XVII. *To the left, wheel! March!* As in explanation the thirteenth.

XVIII. *Halt!* As in explanation the second.

XIX. *To the left, wheel! March!*

As in explanation the thirteenth, which completes the circle at four times.

XX. *Halt!* As in explanation the second.

XXI. *Wheel to the left about! March!*

This wheel is one half of the circle to the left.

XXII. *Halt!* As in explanation the second.

XXIII. *Wheel to the left about! March!*

This wheel brings the divisions to their proper front.

When you would shorten them, it may be done by wheeling only twice to the right, and then to the right about, and the same to the left.

XXIV. *Halt!* As in explanation the second.

XXV. *Rear ranks, take your proper distance!*

The Serjeants, and the rear ranks, face to the right about, as in explanation the forty-sixth.

XXVI.

XXVI. *March* !

The Serjeants in the rear, and the rear rank, march ten paces; and the center rank, five paces, to the rear, as in explanation the forty-seventh.

XXVII. *Halt* !

They come to the left about in 3 motions, the Officers and Serjeants ordering their arms at the same time.

