

Notes

ⁱ The Reglement designates the support arms position to be done in 3 motions. The third motion is to move the right arm back to the right side. However, this requires great skill in balancing the fusil. Many illustrations from the period show it being used in two motions. Its therefore recommended that it be done as indicated above.

Sélections du

REGLEMENT

CONCERNANT

L'EXERCICE ET LES MANŒUVRES

DE L'INFANTERIE.

Du 1er. Août 1791.

Un Guide Pratique por reenactors

Table

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Table | 2 |
| Forward | 5 |
| Basic Positions Under Armes | 7 |
| Pelaton, Garde; À VOUS! | 7 |
| Portez, VOS ARMES! | 8 |
| À droite, ALIGNEMENT! | 9 |
| FIXE! | 9 |
| L'arme au bras! | 9 |
| Portez, VOS Armes! | 10 |
| Presentez VOS ARMES! | 11 |
| Portez, VOS Armes! | 11 |
| Reposez - VOS ARMES! | 11 |
| Repos! | 12 |
| Facings | 14 |
| Garde; À VOUS | 14 |
| Portez, VOS Armes! | 14 |
| Par le flanc droite, À DROITE! | 14 |
| Par le flanc gauche À GAUCHE! | 14 |
| Pelaton, demi-tour... à droite! | 15 |
| Marching | 16 |
| Dressing the line. | 16 |

Pelaton, Charge PRECIPITÉE!

Prepare to load in quick time. This is a preparatory command.

Chargez VOS ARMES

Take the cartridge, bite and prime (commands 2-6 of the "Charge en Douze Temps").

DEUX!

Place fusil into loading position and empty the cartridge into barrel (7-8).

TROIS!

Draw ramrods, ram (9-10).

QUATRE!

Return ramrod and shoulder arms (11-12).

Fire will then be directed as necessary.

Come to the position of recovered arms, as described under the second motion of "appretez vos armes".

Chargez!



Prepare to load. One motion

(1) Bring the fusil to the position for opening the pan.

Le chien AU REPOS!

Half-cock the fusil. One motion.

With the thumb and forfinger, pull the hammer back to the half-cock position.

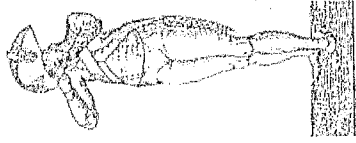
| | |
|---|-----------|
| Guide À Droite..... | 16 |
| A Droite ALIGNEMENT!... FIXE!..... | 16 |
| March de Front..... | 17 |
| Pas Ordinaire..... | 17 |
| Pas Ordinaire, Guide a droit, En avant...MARCHE!..... | 17 |
| Pelaton, HALT..... | 18 |
| A Droite ALIGNEMENT!...FIXE!..... | 18 |
| Pas accéléré. MARCHE!..... | 18 |
| Marquez le pas. MARCHE!..... | 18 |
| En arrière. MARCHE!..... | 19 |
| Conversions..... | 20 |
| Wheeling from a halted position..... | 20 |
| Par pelaton à droite. MARCHE!..... | 20 |
| Pelaton, HALTE!..... | 20 |
| Wheeling while marching..... | 21 |
| Par pelaton, À DROITE!..... | 21 |
| FRONT!..... | 21 |
| Marche de flanc..... | 22 |
| Pelaton par le flanc droite. À DROITE! MARCHE!..... | 22 |
| Par file À DROITE! FRONT!..... | 22 |
| Loading..... | 23 |
| Chargez vos armes!..... | 23 |
| Ouvrez le bassin!..... | 25 |
| Prenez la cartouche!..... | 26 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Déchirez la cartouche!..... | 26 |
| Amorcez!..... | 27 |
| Fermez le bassin!..... | 28 |
| L'arme à gauche!..... | 29 |
| Cartouche dans LE CANON!..... | 30 |
| Tirez la bague!..... | 30 |
| Bourrez!..... | 31 |
| Remettez la bague!..... | 32 |
| Portez VOS ARMES!..... | 33 |
| Firing | 35 |
| Apprenez VOS ARMES..... | 35 |
| JOUE!..... | 37 |
| FEU!..... | 37 |
| Redressez VOS ARMES!..... | 37 |
| Chargez!..... | 38 |
| Le chien AU REPOS!..... | 38 |
| Pelaton, Charge PRECIPITÉE!..... | 39 |
| Chargez VOS ARMES..... | 39 |
| DEUX!..... | 39 |
| TROIS!..... | 39 |
| QUATRE!..... | 39 |
| Notes | 40 |

JOUE!

Present. One motion.

(1) Sink down, smartly, the muzzle of the piece, slipping the left hand back along the stock, as far as the first band; apply the butt to the right shoulder; let the muzzle be below the level of the eyes a little, and the right elbow kept lowered, without being pressed against the body and place the forefinger on the trigger.



FEU!

Fire. One motion.

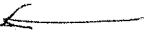
Apply, with force, the first finger on the trigger, without lowering or turning the head more, and remain in that position.

Redressez VOS ARMES!

Recover your weapon. One Motion.



fusil at the small stock



Forward

The infantry regiments of Le Grand Armee, especially during the period portraid by Le 3eme (1808-1812), were highly disciplined, highly trained formations. New recruits received many months of training before being deployed to line battalions. One only need recall the many references to the Camp de Bologne. *Le Reglement Concernement L'exercice et les Maneuvres De L'Infantie* was written specifically to train new recruits. Its organization and structure were designed to facilitate this mission.

The modern day reenactor is faced with something of a dilemma when it comes to recreating the drill, formations, marching. First of all, we do not have the many months that the recruits had to learn the drill. If we are lucky, we may meet two or three times a year. *Les Selections* is designed to provide a more simplified way of learning and executing *Le Reglement* while ensuring historical accuracy. To do this, several of the more complex evolutions and formations have

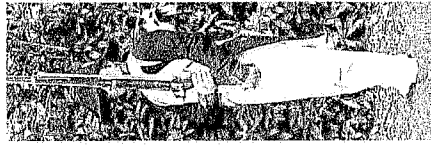
been dropped. The English translations have been simplified. The organization of the manual is very different, eliminating the "lessons". A table of contents has been provided to simplify lookup of the instructions. Most importantly, plates and photographs have been inserted in-line with the commands.

Firing

Note: This part assumes the peleton is in a one or two ranks.

Appretez VOS ARMES.

Make Ready. This command is executed in three motions:



- (1) As in the first motion of loading.
- (2) Bring the fusil with the right hand before the middle of the body; place the left hand with the little finger touching the feather-spring, and the thumb, as high as the chin, pointing upwards along the wood of the stock, the pan being turned almost towards the body, and the ramrod towards the front of the battalion; and apply, at the same time, the thumb of the right hand to the head of the cock.



- (3) Sink down, smartly, the right elbow, cocking, at the same time, and seize the

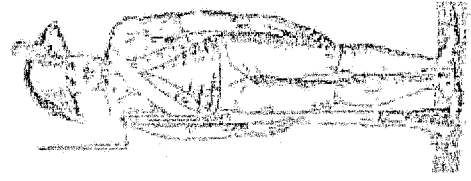
in describing shouldered arms; and let the right hand touch the small stock at me breech, without pressing against it.

(3) Let the right hand fall to the right thigh, hanging there, as already indicated.

Basic Positions Under Armes

There are two parts to most orders. The first part is the instruction to be performed; the second is the command to execute the instruction. At the instructive order the soldat prepares himself, and at the executive order the instruction is carried out. The executive order will be called out louder than the instructive order. For purposes of clarity, whenever possible, the first part of the order will appear in lower case brown. The executive part of the order will appear in upper case brown.

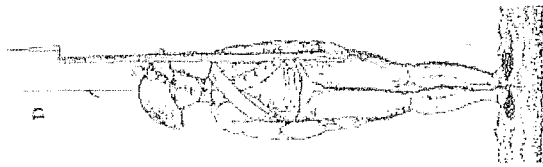
Pelaton, Garde; À VOUS!



Come to attention. The heels on the same line, close together but comfortable; toes angled out, approximately 30° from center; knees straight but not locked; body perpendicular to the hips, leaning slightly forward; shoulders back; arms hanging naturally; elbows touching the body; head up without strain; eyes fixed on the ground 15 paces (30') to the fore. The fusil with

the butt on the ground against the right foot, ramrod pointing out; right arm nearly vertical; right hand along the stock, thumb and index finger slightly in front of the stock;

Portez, VOS ARMES!



Done in two motions: (1) Bring the fusil to the left shoulder, throwing it up a little And catching it with the left hand just below the last ramrod ring. At the same time seize the fusil with the left hand at the butt.

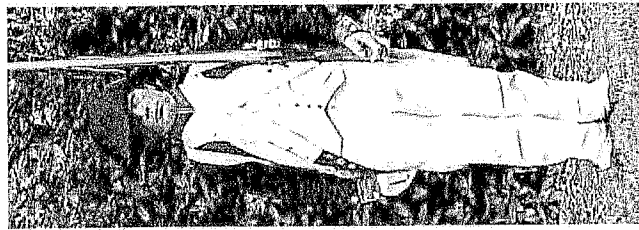
(2) With a quick motion Bring the right hand down by your side.

somewhat on the upper end of the ramrod.

Portez VOS ARMES!

Shoulder arms. From this position, "Portez" is completed in 3 motions;

(1) Raise the fusil with the left hand, along the left side, the left hand as high as the shoulder, and the left elbow not parted from the body, keeping the barrel outward; and sink down the right hand in order to seize the fusil at the small stock.

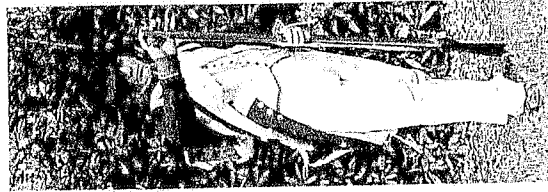


(2) Raise the fusil with the right hand; let the left hand fall to seize and support the butt, carrying back, at the same Time, the right heel to the side of the left and in the same alignment, support the fusil against, and at the left shoulder, with the right hand, in the position pointed out

(1) Run up the right hand to the full extent of the arm, to the top of the ramrod, without letting it fall into the barrel, seize it with the thumb opened along it and the fore-finger bent, the other fingers being shut, drive it force-fully into the barrel, ramming home twice, seize it again by the small end, between the thumb and fore-finger, both bent, the others being shut. and let the right elbow be close to the body.

Remettez la baguette!

Replace ramrod. Two motions;



(1). As in the first motion of drawing ramrod, bring the small end of it opposite to the upper band groove (or ramrod-pipe), and hold it there without entering it

(2). Introduce the small end into the upper band groove (ramrod pipe) and slide it into its place; raise the right hand quickly, and place it

À droite, ALIGNEMENT!

By the right dress. At the command, the whole rank, will dress to the right by slightly moving the feet as necessary while looking to the right and touching the man to your left with your left elbow. Ensure a perfect line is formed on the NCO or officer on the far right of the line. The second rank does not dress per se, but rather covers the man to his front ensuring perfect alignment of the file. When this is accomplished, stop moving.

FIXE!

Head to the front.

L'arme au bras!

Support arms done in 2 motions;



(1) With the right hand grab the fusil on the small of the stock hold the fusil against the left shoulder.

(2) Bring the left forearm up and pin the musket against the left breast, the butt slightly in front of the left leg with the small of the butt resting in the crook of the arm and the hammer resting on top of the left fore arm.

Portez, VOS Armes!

Shoulder Arms done in 2 motions;

- (1) Grab the butt of the fusil with the left hand.
- (2) With a quick motion, bring the right hand down by your right side.



Draw ramrod. Executed in two motions;

- (1) Lower smartly the right elbow, and seize ramrod between the thumb and fore-finger keeping the other fingers shut; draw the ramrod smartly by extending the arm, with the whole of the fingers opened out seize it back-handed, at the middle, with the fore-finger and thumb, the palm of the hand outward; turn it quickly between the bayonet and the body, at the time closing the fingers upon it, the ramrods of the men in the center and rear ranks, in turning, will graze the right shoulder of the rank before them in the same file; the ramrod forming no angle with the line of the barrel, and parallel to the bayonet; the arm extended; the eyes looking upwards; and the thick end of the ramrod must thus be opposite to the mouth of the barrel, without being entered into it

- (2). Enter the thick end of the ramrod into the barrel, and insert as far as the hand.

Bourrez!



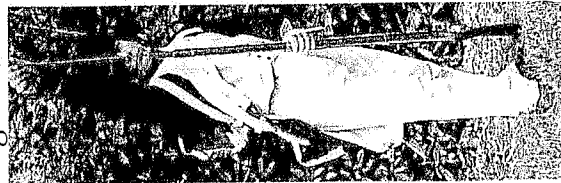
Ram. One motion

time raise the right hand two inches above the barrel: the left hand, holding the fusil, below the level of the waistcoat button, the fusil in contact with left thigh, the sight on the barrel, in front of the middle line of the body.

Cartouche dans LE CANON!

Cartridge in the barrel. One motion

Glance to the upper end of the barrel; smartly tip the right hand towards the body, in order to discharge the powder in the barrel-mouth, for this purpose, raising the elbow as high as the wrist, shake the cartridge, while turning it, into the barrel, leave the hand thumb down, relax the fingers when the cartridge is empty.



Tirez la bague!

Presentez VOS ARMES!

Present Arms. Done in two motions:

- (1) Rotate the fusil 90 degrees so that the fire lock faces away from you; bring the right hand up and grasp the fusil at the small stock. The weight of the fusil is now held by the right hand.
- (2) Rotate the fusil another 90 degrees and bring it down directly in front of you

Portez, VOS Armes!

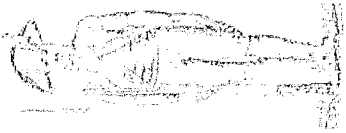


Shoulder Arms done in 2 motions;

- (1) Using your right hand, rotate the fusil 180 degrees as you move the fusil to your right shoulder. While this is happening, release the left hand and grasp the fusil by the butt.
- (2) With a quick motion, bring the right hand down by your right side.

Reposez - VOS ARMES!

Return to ordered arms. Done in two motions:



(1) Straighten the left arm, which is holding the fusil, while reaching across the chest and grasping the fusil at the first band above the firelock.

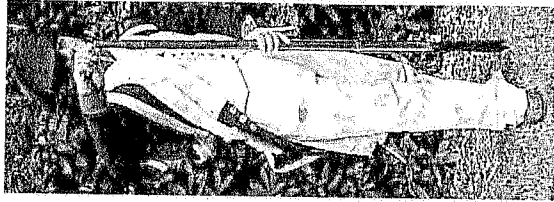
(2) Bring the fusil to a point even with the right shoulder, ramrod side facing away from the body, then lower the right arm from the fusil perpendicular to the ground. When the right arm is straight down, let the fusil slip gently the remaining few inches to the ground. The fusil with the butt on the ground against the right foot, ramrod pointing out; right arm nearly vertical; right hand along the stock, thumb and index finger slightly in front of the stock.

Repos!

Soldiers stand relaxed. The soldat may now lean on the fusil grasping it with the right hand at the top of the stock, on the upper portion of the barrel

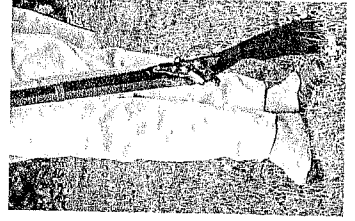
L'arme à gauche!

Weapon to the left. This command is executed in two motions:

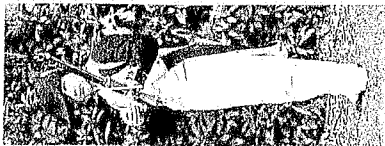


(1) With the right arm smartly stretched, without lowering the right shoulder, swing round the fusil to the left thigh, against the whole length of which the butt must bear strongly, turning, at the same time, the ram-rod towards the body, opening and letting the piece slip through the left hand, as far as the middle band, the ring-lock resting on the thumb of the right hand; face, at the same time turning to the front on the left heel, carrying the right foot forward, the heel resting against the buckle of the left.

(2) Quit the fusil with the right hand, sinking it with the left along and near the body, and the butt fall to the ground without striking it with any degree of shock; at the same



Fermez le bassin!



Shut, the pan. One motion.

(1) Hold the fusil firm with the left hand; shut the pan close and firmly with the two left fingers, holding always the cartridge between the thumb and the two fore-fingers; seize immediately the small stock with the first two fingers, and the palm of the right hand; keep the right wrist close to the body, and the elbow pointing to the rear, and a little detached from the body.

or lying against the right shoulder with the hands clasped in front. Its important that the legs are relaxed with the knees bent.

Facings

In the French army, quarter facings are done in one motion and about face is done in two. The left heel is always the pivot point. This requires practice in balancing your body on your left heel.

Garde; À VOUS.
Portez, VOS Armes!

Par le flanc droite, À DROITE!

Platoon to the right face. Done in one motion; Bring the right foot back close to the left heel. At the same time pivot to the right on your left heel.

Par le flanc gauche À GAUCHE!

Bite off the top, exposing the powder, holding the cartridge firm where the powder has been uncovered, between the thumb and the two forefingers; lower the cartridge, holding it perpendicularly against the pan, the palm of the right hand turned towards the body, and the right elbow supported or leaning on, and against the butt. (Without looking down lower the cartridge to the pan. Keep your right elbow in contact with the butt as this will help you guide your hand straight down toward the pan).

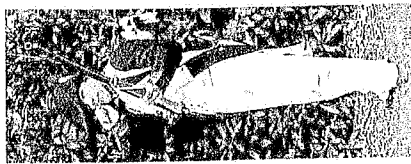
Amorcez!



Prime. One motion.

Tilt the head down, and look down to the pan fill it with powder; press close the top of the cartridge at the opening, between the thumb and fore-finger; raise the hand, placing the right hand behind the pan and hold the little finger, and the third finger firm against the frizzen.

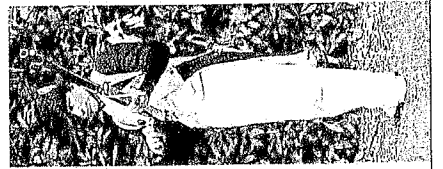
fusilier next to you. Once your hand is past the butt of the fusil you can swing it down and back to the cartridge box.



Prenez la cartouche!

Take the cartridge. One Motion.

Take the cartridge between the two forefingers and thumb, and carry it to the mouth, ready for the teeth to act, and the right hand passing between the body and the butt. [You have to reach inside the giberne to grab the cartouche. Again, you must keep that elbow in close to the body as you bring the cartridge up to your mouth.]



Déchirez la cartouche!

Bite the cartridge. One motion.

26

Platoon, to the left face. Done in one motion; Move the right foot forward to the instep of the left foot, at the same time, pivot to the left on your left heel.

Pelaton, demi-tour. . . à droite! *OPS*

Platoon, to the right about face. Turning about face is done to the right in two motions:

(1) At the instructive order "Demi-Tour" bring the right foot back such that the instep is about 3 inches in back of the left heel. (This will cause the body to twist about 45 degrees to the right. Keep your eyes to the front). At the same time reach back with the right hand and secure the giberne against the body so that it does not swing out when turning.

(2) At the command, "A Droite", turn 180 degrees to the right on the left heel, sliding the right foot back in line with the left foot while turning. While finishing the turn, release the giberne, sliding the right hand back to the side.

15

Marching

Dressing the line.

Its important to ensure the line is always dressed. Before and during the march. The officer/NCO in command should always prepare the line to dress to the right. (on rare occasions, dressing can be called to the left but, as a practical matter and to simplify things, dressing to the right is ~~highly~~ recommended).

Guide À Droite

Dress to the right while marching. This command can be given just prior to marching as cautionary command; and during the march when the line is not properly dressed. Soldats on the march will glance to the right while maintaining contact with the elbow to the man on the left.

A Droite ALIGNEMENT!... FIXE!

Dress to the right while halted. typically given after the marching Platoon is ordered to Halt. This command is executed in two steps. (1) Turn the

the right arm, from the elbow to the wrist lying along the butt. This sounds a bit awkward but, the weight of the fusil and the position of your hands should cause the butt to swing naturally as it tries to balance on the pivot point (your left hand which holds it from below at the first band).

Ouvrez le bassin!



Open the pan. One motion.

(1) Throw open the pan with the thumb of the right hand, the left hand holding the piece firmly;

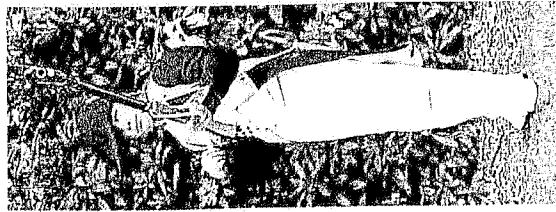
apply the right hand to the giberne, by retiring the right elbow, and passing the hand between the butt and the body; and open the giberne. [You

lead by pulling your right elbow straight back, as tight to the body as possible, so you do not disturb the



2

of the right shoe touches the left heel; at the same time rotate the fusil (which is already resting in your left hand) so that the fire lock faces away from you; bring the right hand up and grasp the fusil at the small stock. The weight of the fusil is now held by the right hand.



(2). With the butt of the fusil still in contact with the left hand, slant the fusil down; as the fusil pivots, bring your left hand up and grasp the fusil from underneath at the first band. The weight of the fusil is now supported by the left hand, the butt under the fore part of the right arm, the small-stock resting against the body, two inches nearly under the right nipple or breast; the top of the barrel as high as the eye; the guard turned a little outward; the left elbow

supported on the side at the hip; the thumb of the right hand against the top of the frizzen, above the level of the flint; Simultaneously the butt end should swing around so that it points to the right hip; the four fingers of the right hand shut; and

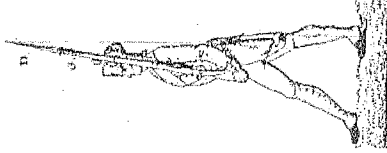
head to the right and move the feet as appropriate to dress with the right of the line while maintaining contact with the elbow to the man on the left. (2) On the command **FIXE!** The head faces to the front.

March de Front

Pas Ordinaire

Principles of the ordinary step, at 76 paces to the minute, at two feet distance between each step, measured from heel to heel. Carry the foot along near to the ground, bending the knee only slightly. The foot should be planted flat without stomping. The head held erect and directed to the front.

To begin marching from the standing position:



Pas Ordinaire, Guide a droit, En avant...MARCHÉ!

At ordinary time, dressing to the right, to the front...**MARCHÉ!**

COMMANDER (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100)

To the front, march. Step off with the left foot

Pelaton, HALT

Platoon halt. Executed in two motions; The soldiers will take one additional step. The platoon will stop by bringing the opposite foot on line.

A Droite ALIGNEMENT!...FIXE!

Pas accélère. MARCHÉ!

March in quick time. Accélère is two steps per minute(?). This command can be given from either a marching or halted formation. If halted, the command is as noted above. If from a marching formation, the command is "Pas ACCÉLÈRE".

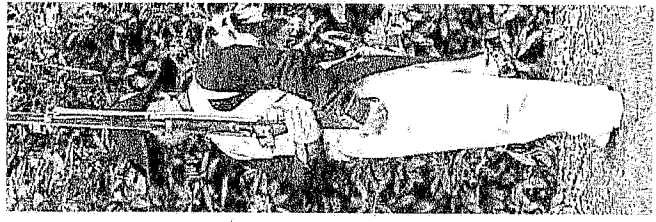
Marquez le pas. MARCHÉ!

Mark time. March in place. This command can be given from either a marching or halted formation. If halted, the command is as noted above. If from a marching formation, the command is "Marquez PAS".

Loading

Loading from the "Portez" position is accomplished in 12 Orders

Chargez vos armes!



Chargez vos armes is done in two motions.

(1). From the position of "Portez" half face to the right, on the left heel; place the right foot directly behind the left so that the buckle

Marche de flanc.

Pelaton par le flanc droite. À DROITE!
MARCHE!

Platoon march to the left flank. At the second word of command [à gauche or à droite] the soldiers will face appropriately. At the executive command, Marche, they shall step off with the left foot at pas ordinaire.

Par file À DROITE! FRONT!

By file to the right wheel.

At the executive command, "A droite", the leading soldier on the right of the file or files (if formerly in a two rank formation) shall wheel. Each soldier will advance to the same ground as the lead soldier(s), wheeling successively.

En arrière. MARCHE!

Step back to the rear starting with the left foot.

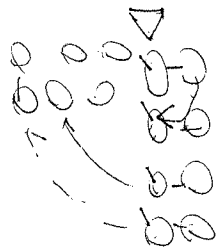
Conversions

Wheeling from a halted position.

Par pelaton à droite. MARCHÉ!

By platoon to the right wheel. This is the wheeling command from the halted position. At the executive command, the soldiers shall step off with the left foot, and turn, at the same time, the head a little to the left, eyes fixed in the direction of those of the men who are on their left. The man on the pivot shall mark time, turning gradually and conforming himself to the movements of the wheeling flank; the man on the outer, or wheeling flank shall step the pace of two feet and he shall always feel the elbow of the man next to him.

Pelaton, HALTE!



20

Platoon, halt.

Wheeling while marching.

Par pelaton, À DROITE!

By platoon to the right wheel. This is the wheeling command while the formation is marching.

FRONT!

Resume marching to the front.

21