

**SINNOTT'S CATECHISM ON INFANTRY  
DRILL: ADAPTED TO THE PRESENT  
'FIELD EXERCISE & EVOLUTIONS OF  
INFANTRY" WITH THE ADDITION OF  
QUESTION ON BRIGADE MOVEMENTS**

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Sinnott's Catechism on Infantry Drill: Adapted to the Present 'Field Exercise & Evolutions of Infantry" with the Addition of Question on Brigade Movements by William D. Malton

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**WILLIAM D. MALTON**

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SINNOTT'S CATECHISM.

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CATECHISM ON INFANTRY DRILL:

ADAPTED TO THE PRESENT

“*Field Exercise & Evolutions of Infantry.*”

WITH THE ADDITION OF QUESTIONS ON

BRIGADE MOVEMENTS.

BY

CAPTAIN WILLIAM D. MALTON.

(*Author of "A KEY TO THE FIELD EXERCISE, 1870"; "ELEMENTARY DRILL ILLUSTRATED, &c.," and "BRIGADE DRILL."*)

NINETEENTH EDITION



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## NOTE.

PARTS I. and II.—The cautions and commands given by the Instructor in Company, by the Battalion-commander (or other mounted Officer) in Battalion drill, are printed in CAPITALS; the words given by Captains or Guides are printed in *Italics*.

The letters **C. G.** and **M.** in the margin are intended to assist the eye in selecting Questions on the duty of the *Captain, Guides, or Markers*. When several consecutive Questions relate to the same person, the marginal letter is not repeated.

PART III.—The Brigadier's cautions are printed in CAPITALS; Battalion-commanders' words in *Italics*.

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The cautionary word "*Company*" or "*No. —*", given to a company by its Captain before he gives a command has, in order to save space, been omitted throughout. For the same reason, troops armed with the short rifle are termed '*Riflemen*'.

The reference '*F. E.*' is to the *Field Exercise and Evolutions of Infantry*, 1870.



## INTRODUCTION.

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### GENERAL QUESTIONS ON SQUAD DRILL.

IN accordance with the original plan of this work, all except the more elementary sections of Squad drill are embraced in the Questions on Company drill. The few following Questions on the course of procedure in the instruction of the recruit, are prefixed in consequence of several suggestions that they would make the book more complete.

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Question 1.—How are recruits formed, in the first instance, for drill; and what is the formation termed?

Answer.—They fall in in line at arm's length apart; or they may be in two lines, the men in the second line covering the intervals between the men in the first. The formation is called a 'squad with intervals'.

Q. 2.—How are men, formed in single rank, brought into a squad with intervals?

A.—The odd numbers are directed to take a pace forward, the even numbers to step back one pace.

Q. 3.—In what motions, performed from the halt, is the recruit, after being taught the position of a soldier at attention, instructed?

A.—First, in standing at ease; 2ndly, in dressing; 3rdly, in the turnings; 4thly, in the extension motions; 5thly, in saluting.

Q. 4.—How are all these motions, except dressing, taught?

A.—The turnings, and extension motions, are taught by Numbers; standing at ease, and saluting, are taught first by Numbers, then with the men judging the time.

Q. 5.—How many motions are there in standing at ease, and in saluting?

A.—Two.

Q. 6.—How many motions are there in each of the turnings?

A.—In turning, or making a half turn to the right (or left), two motions; in turning, or making a three-quarters turn, to the right (or left) about, three motions.

Q. 7.—How many 'practices' are there in the extension motions; and how should the squad be turned before commencing them?

A.—Three practices. The men are turned a half turn to the right before commencing the first practice; and ordered to make a second half turn to the right before commencing the third.

Q. 8.—How is the *balance step* taught?

A.—First, without advancing; 2ndly, advancing on the word "*Forward*".

Q. 9.—At what stage of the drill are the recruits formed in single rank?

A.—When they have learned all the varieties of step in the different degrees of march, the closing step, and the turnings on the march.

Q. 10.—How is a squad with intervals, in two lines, formed in single rank?

A.—By the words "*Odd Numbers, one pace step back. Even Numbers, one pace forward. Slow March. Right dress. Eyes front*".

Q. 11.—What is the rule about the drum, in teaching recruits to march?

A.—It will first beat the time in which they are to march when the squad is halted; then, from time to time, while it is in motion.

Q. 12.—How are recruits, when formed in single rank, taught to dress?

A.—First, man by man, on points; 2ndly, together, *also on points*; 3rdly, together, without points.

Q. 13.—Marching to the front and rear, and the different varieties of step having been practised, what is the first movement taught?

A.—Changing front by wheeling, both from the halt and on the march; and changing front by file formation from the halt only.

Q. 14.—What are the movements and formations taught to a squad in single rank, in their order?

A.—The diagonal march; marching and wheeling as in file, and forming squad from file-marching; and the side or closing step.

Q. 15.—When do recruits commence drilling with arms?

A.—Having learned the preliminary drill above mentioned, they are taught the rifle drill, and practised in marching with arms.

Q. 16.—When a squad is formed in *two* ranks, do the men drill with arms?

A.—They should commence without them.

Q. 17.—What is the first thing to be practised with a squad in two ranks?

A.—Dressing.

Q. 18.—When are the rifle exercises practised?

A.—When the squad has been instructed in marching to the front and rear, and in taking open order.

Q. 19.—Are the next movements taught in the same order as when the men are drilling in single rank?

A.—Yes: changing front, the diagonal march, and file-marching, follow in their order.

Q. 20.—Having learned the formation of fours, and how to form two-deep from fours, both at the halt and on the march, in what movements done from fours are the recruits instructed?

A.—In wheeling in fours; forming squad from fours; and closing on a flank, or on the centre, and re-forming *deep*.