

THE BATTALION.

EXTRACT FROM MANUAL OF GUARD DUTY OF THE U. S. ARMY.

To post a relief its corporal forms it by the commands :

1. (*Such*) relief, 2. FALL IN; The relief is formed in double rank facing to the front, with arms at an order; the men place themselves according to the numbers of their respective posts, viz: two, four, six and so on, in the front rank, one, three, five and so on, in the rear rank. The corporal standing about two paces in front of the center of his relief, then commands: *Call off*.

Commencing on the right, the men call off alternately, rear and front rank, "one," "two," "three," "four," and so on. The corporal then commands :

1. *Port*, 2. ARMS 3. *Open*, 4. CHAMBER, 5. *Close*, 6. CHAMBER, 7. *order*, 8. ARMS; faces the commander of the guard, executes the rifle salute, reports, *Sir, the relief is present*, and then takes his place on the right at order arms.

Having inspected the relief, the commander of the guard directs the corporal, *Post your relief*. The corporal salutes and commands:

1. *Right*, 2. FACE, 3. *Forward*, 4. MARCH.

In wet weather the relief may be marched at *secure arms*.

The corporal marches on the left, and near the rear file, in order to observe the march.

When the relief arrives at six paces from a sentinel, the corporal halts it and commands, according to the number of the post: 1. *No*. (—).

The new sentinel comes to a carry, approaches the old, halts at about one pace from him, and both execute *port arms*.

The corporal advances and places himself a little in advance of the new sentinel, at a carry or order, and observes that the old sentinel transmits correctly his instructions.

The instruction relative to the post having been communicated, the corporal commands: *Post*, then steps back about two paces and commands:

1. *Forward*, 2. MARCH.

To dismiss the old relief, it is halted and faced, to the front at the guardhouse by the corporal of the new relief, who then falls out; the corporal of the relief steps in front of the relief, and commands:

1. *Port*, 2. ARMS, 3. *Open*, 4. CHAMBER, 5. *Close*, 6. CHAMBER, 7. DISMISSED.

When challenged by a sentinel while posting his relief, the corporal commands: 1. *Relief*, 2. HALT; to the sentinel's challenge he answers "*Relief*," and at the order of the sentinel, he advances alone to give the countersign, or to be recognized. When the sentinel says "*Advance Relief*," the corporal commands: 1. *Forward*, 2. MARCH.

If to be relieved, the sentinel is then relieved as prescribed.

As a general rule he will advance parties approaching the guard at night in the same manner that sentinels on post advance like parties. Thus: The sentinel at the guardhouse challenges and reports the answer to the corporal as prescribed hereafter; the corporal advancing at port arms, says: "*Advance (so and so) with the countersign*," or "*to be recognized*" if there is no countersign used; the countersign being correctly given, or the party being duly recognized, the corporal says: "*Advance (so and so)*;" repeating the answer to the challenge of the sentinel.

When officers of different rank approach the guardhouse from different directions at same time, the senior will be advanced first, and will not be made to wait for his junior.

Out of ranks and under arms, the corporal salutes with the *rifle salute*. He will salute all officers, whether by day or night. If marching his relief he will have the relief at a carry before saluting.

When calling for any purpose, challenging, or in communication with any person, an infantry sentinel will take the position of *port arms*.

Between retreat (or the hour designated by the commandant) and broad day-