

18. REST your - FIRELOCKS

1. Slip your right hand down the barrel as far as the swell.
2. Raise the firelock high up in a perpendicular line from the ground with your right hand, using the lower part of the arm only (elbow stays in place) and seize the firelock with the left hand above the spring, the cock the height of the waist-belt.
3. Step back with your right foot, placing it behind the left heel, while bringing the firelock across to the rest position and dropping the right hand to below the trigger guard and grasping the small in the proper manner.

19. SHOULDER your - FIRELOCKS

1. Release with the left hand and place it strongly upon the musket butt while turning the firelock with the right hand, as you sink the piece to the proper position.
2. Release with the right hand, and throw it down to the right side.

20. SECURE your - FIRELOCKS (Only done in single or open ranks.)

1. Bring your right hand up, and place it under the cock; keep the firelock steady.
2. Release the left hand from the butt of the musket, and seize it at the swell, bringing the elbow close down upon the lock; the right hand kept fast in this motion, and the piece upright.
3. Bring the firelock carefully and briskly down to Secure; left hand below the level of waist belt.
4. Release with the right hand, and bring it down to the right side.

(Ed. Note: These movements should be timed according to the individuals to your right.)

21. SHOULDER your - FIRELOCKS

1. Bring the firelock briskly up to a straight line, seizing it (on 2) with the right hand under the cock.
2. Release the left hand and grip the butt of the firelock strongly.
3. Release the right hand, and bring it smartly down to the right side.

22. FIX your - BAYONETS (A most important movement!!)

1. Bring the right hand briskly up, and place it under the cock, keeping the firelock steady.

2. Release the left hand, and seize the firelock with it above the swell, bringing the elbow close upon the lock.
3. Release the right hand, and bring the firelock smartly down to the left side with the left hand, as far as it go comfortably; seize the bayonet at the same time with the right hand.
4. Withdraw the bayonet with some flair.(See note)
5. Fix it quickly upon the barrel.

(Ed. Note: We try to draw the bayonet smartly, extending the right arm fully to the front and elevated to flourish the bayonet. If drawn properly and held with the blade down, it may be drawn and fixed in five crisp motions. If not done correctly, as with drawing rammers, this movement involves grotesque fumbling.)

6. Place the right hand below the bayonet sleeve, with the right fore-finger up to it, bringing the muzzle close to the hollow of the shoulder and the right elbow even with the hand; the palm flat towards the barrel.

23. SHOULDER your - FIRELOCKS

1. Raise the firelock to the Shoulder position while the right hand grasps the small.
2. Release the left hand and firmly grip the musket butt.
3. Release the right hand and drop it smartly to the right side.

24. PRESENT your - ARMS

Same as Rest your Firelocks (Movement #14)



(Ed. Note: On ALL facing movements, the left foot should remain in place. Pivot on the HEELS not the toes. This is different from modern drills. At the end of the exercise, if on grass, you should have dug a neat hole under your left heel.)

25. TO THE RIGHT FACE (from the REST!)

1. Bring up the firelock to the position of Poise your - FIRELOCK!
2. Pivoting on your heels, face 90⁰ to the right, taking care in facing to hold the firelock straight up and down and steady in your hands.

3. Step back with your right foot and come down to your Present.

26. TO THE RIGHT FACE

Same as above

27. TO THE RIGHT ABOUT FACE (from the REST!)

As in the foregoing explanation, coming to the right about, instead of to the right. (This is a complete 180⁰ turn to the rear.)

28. TO THE LEFT FACE

1. Bring the right foot briskly to the hollow of your left, with the firelock in the same position as in the first motion of facing to the right.
2. Face to the left.
3. Come down to your Present.

29. TO THE LEFT - FACE

As before

30. TO THE LEFT ABOUT - FACE

As before, coming to the left about, instead of to the left.

31. SHOULDER your - FIRELOCKS

1. Release with the left hand and place it strongly on the musket butt while turning the firelock with the right hand, as you sink the piece to the proper position.
2. Release the right hand, and bring it smartly down to the right side

32. CHARGE your - BAYONETS

1. Same as in the first position of POISE.
2. (Front Rank) With a loud HUZDAH! - bring the swell of the firelock down upon the palm of the left hand, the right foot at the same time being smartly placed behind the left as in Rest, the right hand grasping the piece at the small behind the lock, and as high as and touching the last rib; the firelock held level with the barrel upwards, LEVEL AND EVEN with those to your right.

(Rear rank[s]) With a loud HUZDAH! bring your firelock briskly to the position of RECOVER!

(Ed. Note: There is no documentation for shouting when charging bayonets - - in fact, the documentation argues against it. It is, however, a long-standing practice so is included.)

33. SHOULDER your - FIRELOCKS

1. Smartly bring the firelock up to the shoulder with the right hand as the left releases the piece and grasps the butt, right foot returns forward.
2. Release the firelock with the right hand and drop the hand quickly to the right side as the left arm extends to lower the firelock into position.

34. ADVANCE your - ARMS

1. Same as the first motion of POISE.
2. Same as second motion of POISE.
3. Bring the firelock down the right side, with the right hand as low as possible "without constraint, " slipping the left hand up the barrel to the swell, turning the right hand so as to have the trigger guard between the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand with the three last fingers under the cock, with the barrel to the rear.
4. Release with the left hand and let it smartly drop to the left side.

35. SHOULDER your - FIRELOCKS

1. Reach with the left hand across the body to grip the firelock at the swell.
2. Same as second motion of POISE.
3. Smartly bring the firelock to the shoulder with the right hand as the left releases the piece and grasps the butt of the firelock.
4. Release the firelock with the right hand and drop it quickly to the right side as the left arm extends to lower the firelock into position.

(Ed. Note: This ends the "35 Count Manual Exercise" There are a number of additional necessary movements which follow.)



"Hat" Soldier at FIX-BAYONET.
Drawing by John Wright