

Continue Chapter 5 - part VI

THE BRIGADE

103. General instructions.

1. Mounted rifles are required to know sufficient brigade drill to conform generally to the movements of cavalry should they be working with that arm, and to be capable of being moved as a brigade under the control of their brigadier.

2. In brigade movements, commanders should attach importance to moving their regiments in to the required position with rapidity, and should not devote their attention to details of regimental drill.

3. When regiments have to move independently, the commanders must name their regiments before giving the executive word of command.

4. Regimental commanders will repeat the brigadier's field calls only when absolutely necessary to show that they have been understood, and will, as a rule, give the orders for the movement of their own regiments either by word of command or by signal.

When the brigadier's order is given by signal only, regimental commanders will give the executive signal for their squadrons to get into the new formation.

When the order of the brigadier is not distinctly heard, or is not understood, each regimental commander, when the intention is obvious, will conform as quickly as possible to the movement executed by the other regiment or regiments.

5. The exact movement to be performed by each regiment in brigade drill must often be decided by the features of the ground, and much latitude must be given to regimental commanders in this request.

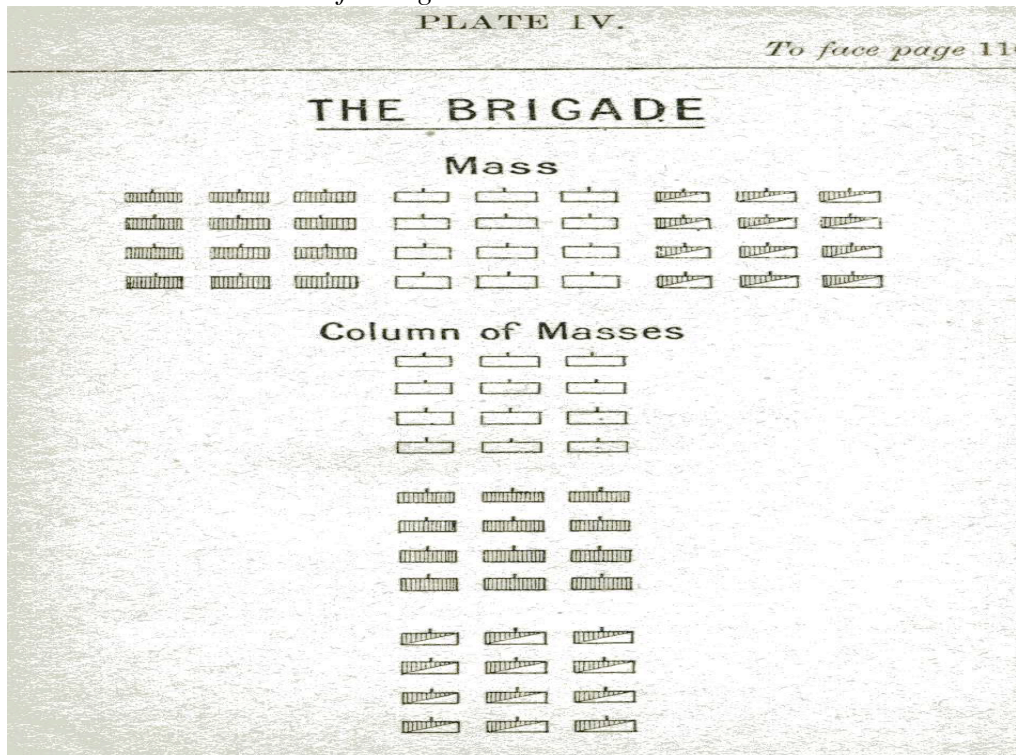
104. Posts and duties of officers.

1. The brigadier will ride whenever he can best superintend and direct the movements of his command. When the brigade is halted on parade, his post in all orders of formation is ten horse-lengths in front of the leading officer or officers, and opposite the centre of the brigade; his staff officers are two horse-lengths in rear of him, and at one horse-length interval from each other.

2. The brigade major assists the brigadier. He may act as directing guide to the brigade, or he may detail another officer of the staff to act as guide.

The guide may carry a small guide flag to enable him to be readily distinguished.

105. *Formations of a brigade.*



1. The following are the formations of a brigade:
 - i. Brigade mass.
 - ii. Brigade close mass (To be used only when there is not sufficient space for the formation of *brigade mass*.)
 - iii. Column of masses.
 - iv. Column of troops.
 - v. Column of sections.
 2. In *brigade mass* the regiments, each in *mass*, are side by side at 16 yards interval.
 3. In *brigade close mass* the regiments, each in *close mass*, are side by side at 16 yards interval.
- Plate IV.
4. In *column of masses* the regiments, each in *mass*, are in *column* one behind the other at such distances that *brigade mass* can be formed to a flank by *shouldering*.
 5. In *column of troops* the regiments, each in *column of troops*, are in *column* one behind the other at such distances that, if troops were wheeled to the flank, the whole brigade would be in line with an interval of 16 yards between regiments.
 6. In *column of sections* the regiments, each in *column of sections*, are in *column* at 16 yards distance.

106. *Brigade mass; change of direction and formation.*

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1. *Change of direction.* The direction may be changed by instructing the directing guide or directing regiment to alter the direction gradually. It may also be changed by *shouldering*. Ground can be taken to a flank by wheeling troops or sections to the right or left.

2. *Formation of column of masses.*

i. To the front.

“FORM COLUMN OF MASSES.” The directing regiment advances; the left regiment *right shoulders* and then *left shoulders* to place itself in rear of the directing regiment. The right regiment in a similar manner places itself in rear of the second regiment.

ii. To the flank.

“COLUMN OF MASSES TO THE RIGHT (LEFT)” Each regiment first receives the command “RIGHT (LEFT) SHOULDERS” then

“FORWARD” as soon as it is in its place in column.

3. *Formation of column of troops.*

“FORM COLUMN OF TROOP.” The centre regiment advances in column of troops (Sec. 101), followed by the left and then the right regiment.

Column of troops may be formed from a flank by the command “COLUMN OF TROOPS FROM THE RIGHT (or LEFT)”.

It may be formed to a flank by the command “COLUMN OF TROOPS FROM THE RIGHT (LEFT) - HEAD RIGHT (LEFT) WHEEL.”

107. *Column of masses; change of direction and formation.*

1. Direction is changed as in Sec. 106, 1.

2. *Formation of brigade mass.*

i. To the front.

“FORM BRIDGE MASS.” The second regiment *shoulders* to the left, the third to the right; as each comes almost opposite its place in *brigade mass* it *shoulders* to the front and moves up in line with the leading brigade.

ii. To the flank.

“BRIGADE MASS TO THE RIGHT (LEFT)” Regimental commanders give the command “RIGHT (LEFT) SHOULDERS” and “FORWARD” as soon as the regiments are in *brigade mass*.

3. *Formation of column of troops.* In forming *column of troops* to the front or flanks the leading regiment forms column of troops, the others as it comes to their turn do the same and follow in succession.