PRIMER OF ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR RECRUITS

This primer is selected excerpts from Warner's Regiment's *Soldier's Handbook*, and is considered the **minimum** field skills required to field safely with the Regiment. There are additional positions from the full Manual of Arms, as well as, advanced field maneuvers not detailed here.

It is assumed the reader has little or no familiarity with 18th Century military procedures. Various portions of period texts have been adapted by using less flowery and obtuse language, and re-organizing drill commands to increase the ease of training. The original texts cited in this manual may be consulted by those interested and is highly recommended.

Although this is intended to provide the most basic reference for the field skills required of an 18th Century soldier, as in the armies of any century, the bulk of the training and indoctrination falls on the non-commissioned officers; Warner's Regiment (re-created) is no exception. Nothing in the handbook is intended to be a substitute for properly supervised drill and training.

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STANDING ORDERS FOR WARNER'S REGIMENT

- I. Arms are to be kept in good working order.
- II. Arms are to be cleaned each morning and evening.
- III. Firelocks are to be cleaned after exposure to rain, fog, or snow; and as soon as practicable after being fired.
- IV. Cleaning is to be conducted by squad or platoon, so there are always weapons ready.
- V. Firelocks are to have their pan open, cock eased forward, and the hammer stalled when *not loaded*.
- VI. Immediately come to the *Recover* after muskets are primed & loaded.
- VII. Ramming cartridges is by order only.
- VIII. Elements of the Regiment assigned patrol or fatigue duty, to march, or expected to engage an enemy force, are inspected for proper equipment and fitness. Any deficiencies are corrected prior to leaving camp.
- IX. N.C.O.'s and soldiers are to carry their side arms when not in camp during public hours.
- X. Appropriate military honors and respect are to be rendered during public hours when encamped and in view of the public during parades.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS OF ENLISTED SOLDIERS

- I. Individual soldiers are expected to portray a military bearing and discipline, as well as, proficiency in basic soldierly skills detailed in this manual.
- II. Individual soldiers are responsible for maintaining a safe weapon and exercising established safety practices detailed in this manual when camped and in the field.

DRESS & APPEARANCE

The Regiment uniform is derived from period records and returns detailing colors, style, and issues. Period correct natural fabrics such as wool, linen, and cotton are generally superior to modern nylon, polyester, etc. in practical use. Accordingly, uniforms are to be constructed from period appropriate materials as practical. Linen is preferred over cotton. Members are encouraged to purchase linen over cotton items as they buy new, or replace old clothing. In order to balance the expense of 18th Century reproductions and authenticity, the Regiment follows a "10 foot rule", where non-period uniform materials, patterns, and anachronisms must not be visible or obvious during public hours at a distance greater than 10 feet.

Modern wrist watches, glasses, necklaces, and hanging earrings are not period appropriate and are not to be visible during public hours. Accurate replica pocket watches are expensive and difficult to find, so an inexpensive replica 19th Century pocket watch may be discreetly used.

Women portraying men in ranks are not to wear make up. Beards and moustaches were routinely against orders of armies in the period; the Regiment strongly discourages them. Both long and close cropped hair were common in armies of the period.

Parades and ceremonial duties are considered more formal and a more standardized appearance of the Regiment is expected. Small clothes¹ are to be washed and the Regimental coat brushed clean. Gray stockings and cocked hats are worn. At all outdoor events, canteens are required, even if not worn. Accourrements such as haversacks and knapsacks are worn at the discretion of the Officer Commanding.

Depending on the tactical nature of an event, caps or flopped hats may be worn instead of military cocked hats. Cocked hats are cumbersome in heavily wooded terrain.

For tactical field engagements, bayonets and hand axes (if possessed), and canteens are required equipment. Knapsacks and haversacks are worn at the discretion of the Officer Commanding.

I. The shirt collar is turned down evenly over the neck stock which is tied or buckled at the back of the neck. The waistcoat is buttoned to the neck. The regimental coat is worn with the facings buttoned down in the open position with the turn-backs (skirts) hooked up. The coat chest-hooks are fastened to close the coat at the center of the chest. Stockings are held by garters worn just

under the breeches knee straps².

- II. The bayonet scabbard belt (cross belt or waist belt) is put on first and placed over the right shoulder.³ Hand axes are worn in the -rear- of the two sleeves with the blade facing backwards and tucked behind or within the rear part of the shoulder belt.
- III. Haversacks and canteens are worn on the right shoulder and pushed back so when the left hand is at rest on the left side, the haversack and canteen are high above the hip bone, nearly under the arm.
- IV. The cartridge box belt is worn across the left shoulder with the box placed over the right hip. The box is to be worn just above the hip button of the coat and pushed back so that when the right hand is at rest on the side, the front corner of the box just touches the elbow.⁴
- V. The hat is worn with the cock of the hat over the left eye, placing the cock so that the barrel of the firelock will not hit the hat when shouldered.⁵
- VI. Fatigue caps, woolen toques, or flopped hats are appropriate to wear while in camp to reduce wear and damage to cocked hats,⁶ or on maneuvers in woods where cocked hats would be awkward.
- VII. Hair greater than collar length is to be tied back into a ponytail or single braid by a black ribbon or leather tie. It may also be clubbed by folding the tail onto itself in thirds and then tied with a ribbon.

MILITARY COURTESY & DISCIPLINE

In the 18th Century, military courtesy and discipline were both a necessity and the law. Demonstrating respect for the position of officers and N.C.O.'s is a pillar of discipline in any military unit and reflects the differences in 18th Century social and military status. As a re-created Regiment of the 18th Century, members of the Regiment are expected to act in a manner befitting a soldier of that period. As no clear records of specific military courtesies for Warner's Regiment have been found, the re-created Regiment has adapted courtesies from Bennett Cutherbertson¹ and are detailed below:

- I. Courtesy and respect to all Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers should become second nature and should be extended to all other regiments; British, Loyalist, American, Hessian and French.
- II. It is expected that every member will strive to uphold Regimental honor and military bearing at all times while in uniform.
- III. It is expected that Officers and N.C.O.s will enforce reasonable discipline and proper courtesy at tactical engagements, field exercises, drills, parades and other appearances of the Regiment under arms.
- IV. When spoken to, an enlisted soldier is to stand in an easy, steady position, looking at the N.C.O. or Officer with confidence.²
- V. Officers and N.C.O.s address enlisted soldiers by their surname, "Mr. _____."
- VI. Enlisted soldiers and N.C.O.s address higher ranking officers by either "Sir" or the appropriate rank title (e.g.: "Captain", "Major", etc.)
- VII. When they meet an Officer, N.C.O.s, soldiers, and musicians are to stand still at a distance of five yards, and render honors as described below.
- VIII. When in a group, the highest ranking soldier is to salute, the others to stand at attention.³
- IX. Hand salutes: with a graceful motion, bring up the back of the hand (the farthest from the officer) to the front of the hat, and keeping it in that position until the salute is returned.

¹ Shirt, waistcoat, and breeches or overalls.

² Garters with overalls are currently a matter of speculation and great debate. At this point overalls may be worn with or without garters.

³There is evidence that bayonets were worn both with the flat of the blade against the hip (turning the socket towards the body) and with the socket turned away. Some find the socket turned inward to be less cumbersome and easier to maneuver with the firelock in the left hand.

⁴This position keeps the box out of the way when moving rapidly or through underbrush. ⁵Cuthbertson recommended a small piece of black tape (ribbon) be sewn into the lining directly above the nose in order to center the hat correctly.

⁶ Cutbbertson's system for the complete interior management and occonomy of a battalion of infantry.

⁷Elastic ponytail holders or "scrunchies" are inappropriate uncovered. A ribbon can effectively cover ponytail holders. Rubbing a spot of beeswax on the middle of the ribbon provides additional grip to hold the ribbon in place.

- X. A soldier is never to take off his hat or hand salute while under arms. (See below)
- XI. Enlisted soldiers and N.C.O.s are not to pass between an officer and a wall.

Under Arms ⁴	Addressing	WITHOUT ARMS
Port Arms	Private to N.C.O.	Hand salute
Recover Arms	Private, N.C.O. to Commissioned Officer*	Hand salute
Port Arms	N.C.O. to Private	Return hand salute
Advance Arms	Commissioned Officer* to N.C.O. or Private	Return hand salute
Recover Arms	Commissioned Officer* to Major or higher	Hand salute
Raise drum sticks to eye level, holding them horizontally	Musician to N.C.O or Commissioned Officer	Hand Salute
	Passing	
UNDER ARMS Nothing	Private to N.C.O.	WITHOUT ARMS Hand salute
Advance Arms	Private, N.C.O. to Commissioned Officer*	Hand salute
Nothing	N.C.O. to Private	Return hand salute
Advance Arms	Commissioned Officer* to N.C.O. or Private	Return hand salute
Advance Arms (not mandatory)	Commissioned Officer* to Major or higher	Hand salute
Raise drum sticks to eye level, holding them	Musician to N.C.O or Commissioned Officer	Hand Salute

horizontally

A single epaulet on the *left* shoulder = Subaltern (Lieutenants and Ensigns); single epaulette on the *right* shoulder = Captain. Two epaulettes designate a field officer (Major and above).

It may also be difficult to discern the rank of NCO's and Commissioned Officers of other Regiments or armies due the wide range of insignia's used. A simple rule of thumb is if the other soldier has a rank insignia on his shoulder, hat, or gorget (especially if it is prettier or fancier than yours) – he rates a salute.

¹ Cuthbertson's system for the complete interior management and oeconomy of a hattalion of infantry. Chapter 22.

² Eighteenth century soldiers did not engage in casual conversations with their officers at any time. They would only speak with officers when spoken to first. As a recreated unit — we do not expect soldiers to avoid speaking to officers, especially in camp. However, when drilling, and on the field we strive to reflect the social differences between officers and "common" soldier by showing deference to rank and using the chain of command. * Generals, Colonel, Lt. Colonels and Majors in Camp & Garrison. The Fife Major, Drum Major, and Regimental Serjeant Major [& Ensign] are to be rendered the same courtesies as Commissioned Officers.

³ Formal military courtesies are suspended at the dining fly in re-created encampments for convenience. It would be impractical for Regiment members to come to attention every time an NCO or Officer enters the area. It is advised if a re-created General enters camp, the ranking officer provides a salute or at least formal recognition to the officer.

⁴ See Manual of Arms for descriptions.

INDIVIUDAL MOVMENTS FOR THE SOLDIER¹

"Take care" is traditionally used to alert of impending commands. Commands commonly consist of two parts, preparatory or directive words and execution words. When given, there is a slight pause between them. Soldiers begin the motion immediately following the execution words with a cadence of 1 second between each motion.

SUMMARY OF POSITIONS & MOVEMENTS:

Positions of Soldier without Arms

- 1. Take Care!
- 2. Stand at Ease! or Rest!
- 3. Dress to the Left!
- 4. Dress to the Right!
- 5. Right Face!

- 6. Left Face!
- 7. Right About Face!

Positions of Soldier under Arms

- 8. Handle Firelocks!
- 9. Ease Firelocks!

Words of Command	# of movements	
1. Take Care!	1	Stan wi To Sto Ch

EXPLANATION

POSITIONS OF SOLDIER WITHOUT ARMS²

Stand straight and firm upon your legs with:

Toes turned about 60° apart,
Stomach drawn in slightly and relaxed,
Chest projected forward slightly,
Shoulders square to the front,
Head turned to the right, the left eye
over the center of the body,³
Arms relaxed at the sides with the palms
against the thighs,
Stand still and silent (except as
ordered),
Attend carefully to commands.

WORDS of COMMAND

- 2. Stand at Ease!

 alternately

 Rest!
- 3. Dress to the Left!

2

2

2

Front!

- 1. Dress to the Right! Front!
- 5. To the Right -- Face!
- 6. To the Left -- Face!
- 7. To the Right-about--Face!

EXPLANATION

- Remain in place; Stand unless permitted otherwise; Move hands and feet as comfortable.
- Turn the head briskly to the left; Bring the right eye to the center of the body looking at the next man over your left shoulder;
- Move by small steps to even yourself with the man to your left.
- Turn head back to the right, left eye over the center of the body.

Dress as above only to the right.

Turn head back to the left, left eye over the center of the body.

THE FACINGS

- 1st Bring the hollow of the right foot to the heel of the left ,
- 2^{nd} Turn briskly on both heels 90^{0} to the right.
- 1st Bring the heel of the right foot to the hollow of the left.
- 2nd Turn briskly on both heels to the left as described above
- 1st Step back with the right foot, bringing the buckle in line with the left heel, at the same time seizing the cartridge box with the right hand.
- 2nd Turn briskly on both heels, 180⁰ to the right.
- 3rd Recover the right foot, at the same time releasing the cartridge box.

	WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	Explanation
			<u>Positions of Soldier</u> <u>under Arms</u>
8.	Handle Firelocks!	1	Stand straight and firm upon your legs with: Toes turned about 60° apart, Stomach drawn in slightly and relaxed, Chest projected forward slightly, Shoulders square to the front, Head turned to the right, the left eye over the center of the body, ³ The firelock on the right side, the heel of the butt even with the toe of the right foot; the right hand thumb along the barrel, and the muzzle kept at a little distance from the body. Stand still and silent (except as ordered), Attend carefully to commands.
9.	Ease Firelocks!	1	Note: this is the same position as Order Firelocks detailed in the Manual of Arms. Step back with the right foot; Rest the muzzle against the right shoulder; Join both hands in front of the body, left over the right.

¹ The Manual Exercise, as ordered by his Majesty, in 1764.

PLATOON & COMPANY MANEUVERS AND EVOLUTIONS

These maneuvers and evolutions detail basic information about positions and movements for individual, platoon, and Company formations, essential for maneuvering large numbers of men efficiently in combat and on parade. 1,2 Combat and parade maneuvers are adapted from the British 1764 Manual Exercise. 3 Additional movements were taken from Baron von Steuben's 1794 manual. 4,5 Movements are to be practiced until each can be completed accurately, fluidly, and without hesitation when ordered. A cadence of 1 second between each motion is to be followed when exercising.

A *Rank* is a section of soldiers arranged side by side in a line (typically from right to left).

A File is a section of soldiers arranged in an exact line one behind another from front to rear.

The <u>Common Step</u> is a pace of 2 feet and about 75 to a minute. The <u>Quick Step</u> is also about 2 feet, about 120 in a minute.

When marching in files, it is important to keep the correct spacing between the first and second ranks and ranks dressed. When wheeling in two ranks, the second rank must be careful to cover his file leader, by edging to the outside of the wheel as he marches.

Soldiers appear to have marched in-step during formal occasions on the parade ground, when relieving guards, or when passing in review, but were not required to march in step or dressed rank and file for long distances – the long march. British custom allowed for a loosening of ranks and files and carrying arms "at ease" or "at will" meaning what ever position was most comfortable frequently referred to as the *Route Step*. Columns were halted and dressed before entering a town or their camps.

Von Stuben specifically indicates after "the first twenty paces he [the Commanding Officer] should command 'Support Arms!' where the men shall march more at their ease, but keeping files close. Before the column halts, he should command 'Carry – Arms! Column! Halt! Dress to the Right!' "6

² The command *Attention!* is not found in American military manuals until von Stueben's *Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States.* Soldiers are assumed to assemble in formation at the position of a Soldier under Arms.

³ The purpose of turning the head to the right was to observe the fugleman or flank man, or posture master who demonstrates the movements and is omitted in non-training situations. *An Easy Plan of Discipline for a Militia.* Part I p 13

Summai	ry Of	MOVEMENTS:		Words of
 Assembly of Platoon & Company Oblique Step Wheeling Counter March 	mpany 6. Forming platoon by the oblique ue Step step 7. Opening the ranks			
WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	EXPLANATION	2.	To the Front {Quio March!
1. Form Platoon! Alternately Form Company!		ASSEMBLY OF THE PLATOON AND COMPANY The platoon and Company are assembled: in a single rank unless the numbers available or the route of march requires more ranks be formed.		Halt!

* at the position of a soldier under arms

(Order Arms) at loose order unless

otherwise indicated by the

Close order is 6-8 inches between

arm's length) between soldiers.

without crowding the first rank.

Loose Order is approximately 2 feet (an

In parade exercises, the second rank is 2

paces (approximately 4 feet) behind the first rank. In combat maneuvers, the

second rank is to be as close a possible

The Commanding Officer is positioned

at the right flank of the first rank. If a

commander.

soldiers.

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the Front {Quick!} -lt! To the Right Oblique --March! Front! To the Left Oblique --March!

Front!

EXPLANATION

left flank of the first and second ranks as required.

If sufficient soldiers are present, a second platoon is formed in the same manner, 2-5 paces to the left of the 1st platoon.

Step off with the left foot with a free and easy step in a common step (or quick step as ordered), careful to remain dressed to the adjacent solider.

Stop short on the advanced foot, bringing up the other foot and dressing to the right.

THE OBLIQUE STEP

The Oblique Step (also known as Incline) allows simultaneous lateral and forward movement of a formation (at roughly a 450 angle) without changing the front of the line.

Step diagonally to the right about 2 feet with the right foot. Bring up the left, placing the heel directly before the toes of the right foot; keep the shoulders square to the front. Continue.

Step diagonally to the left about 2 feet with the left foot; bring up the right and placing the heel directly before the toes of the left foot and continue as above.

Resume marching to the front.

second rank is formed, a Sit. will cover the Commander in the right flank file. Another Sit. or Cpl will be posted at the

[14]

Resume marching to the front.

	WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	EXPLANATION		WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	EXPLANATION
			WHEELING Wheeling allows a formation to change direction by using one of the flanking files as a pivot point and marching an arc changing the direction of the line.		Halt! To the Left Face!		The Company (platoon) halts and is formed with their front changed. BREAKING OFF AND FORMING BY
4.	To the Right Wheel! March! Front!	3	 1st The left most man turns his head briskly to the right (the inside of the turn). All others in the rank turn their heads to the left toward the outside of the turn. 2nd The right most man marches in place as the pivot point, the rest of the rank shortens their steps to remain dressed with the adjacent man. 3rd Each man returns his head to the Front 	6.	Take care to break off by sections of! Sections Break off! Front!		The oblique steps to the left while the left hand section oblique steps to the left while the left until the sections cover each other. The whole marches forward.
	To the Left Wheel! March! Front!	3	and marches forward. 1st The right most man turns his head briskly to the left (the inside of the turn). All others in the rank turn their heads to the right toward the outside of the turn. 2nd The left most man marches in place as the pivot point, the rest of the rank shortens their steps to remain dressed with the adjacent man. 3rd Each man returns his head to the Front and marches forward.	7.	Form platoon! March!		To form the platoon: The first section oblique steps to the right in shortened steps, the second section oblique steps to the left in lengthened steps until the sections are uncovered. Both march forward to reform a line. OPENING & CLOSING THE RANKS
5.	Take care to counter march from the right, by platoons! To the rightface! March!	3	COUNTER MARCH ⁷ The Company (platoon) faces to the right. Each platoon wheels by files to the Right-About. When the right hand file reaches the spot where the left file stood	8.	Rear rank! Take distance! March!		Rear rank completes a <i>Right-About Face</i> ; four steps to the rear, and <i>Right-About Face</i> ; At the same time, Officers advance 8 paces to the front and dress in a line; Serjeants who covered the officers, step to the front of the rank as necessary. Any non-commissioned officers who

WORDS of EXPLANATION COMMAND were in the rear, completes a Right -About Face; four steps to the rear, and Rightabout Face to remain behind the rear rank. Rear Rank! The officers face Right-About towards Close to the Front! the Company. March! The rear rank returns to within 2 paces of the first rank; officers and NCOs' return to their former posts. 1st & 2nd Come to the Poise. and wait until Take care to disperse! 3rd & 4th R*ight-about Face*, keeping the piece at the *Poise*. 5th Take two steps forward. Dis--perse!

¹Battalion and brigade level maneuvers have not been included due to the relatively small number of soldiers at re-enactments. It is not necessary for the enlisted soldier to be versed in large scale maneuvers.

MANUAL OF ARMS

The manual of arms consists of platoon exercises (the combat movements to load, aim, and fire), and parade exercises (movements used for formal reviews, rendering honors under arms, and alternate carries while marching).

Warner's Regiment (re-created) uses the Manual Exercise of the New York Militia¹ which is essentially the British 1764 Manual Exercise² with minor changes for a militia. Included in this handbook are several movements which were implied or unexplained in the New York manual or 1764 manual, but were in common practice during the 18th Century.

A careful reading of the manual will show that there are several minor movement variations between using the words of command to *prime*, *load*, and *fire* (descriptions 1-13) versus using the command *Prime and Load!* (description 18) as well as, *Fix Bayonet!* (description 14) and *Display Bayonet!* (description 33). These discrepancies reflect the differences between training, parade, and combat movements.³

The exercises are to be practiced in individual, platoon, and Company formations until each can complete the movements accurately, fluidly and without hesitation when ordered. As in the previous exercises, a cadence of 1 second between each motion is to be followed when exercising.

SUMMARY OF PLATOON EXERCISES:

- 1. Poise Firelocks!
- 2. Cock Firelocks!
- 3. Present!
- 4. Fire!
- 5. Half-cock firelocks!
- 6. Handle Cartridges!
- 7. Prime!
- 8. Shut Pans!
- 9. Charge with Cartridges!
- 10. Draw Rammers!
- 11. Ram Cartridges!
- 12. Return Rammers!
- 13. Shoulder Firelocks!

- 14. Fix Bayonets!
- 15. Shoulder Firelocks!
- 16. Charge Bayonets!
- 17. Shoulder Firelocks!
- 18. Prime & Load!
- 19. Firing from the second rank
- 20. Charge Bayonets from the second rank

Unexplained/Implied Commands

- 21. Unfix Bayonets!
- 22. As you were!
- 23. Stall your hammers!

²In Company or Brigade sized formations, preparatory commands may be echoed by platoon/company NCOs'. The brigade begins the motions *immediately following the execution words* by the brigade commander. Execution words are not echoed by company or platoon N.C.O.S'.

³The Manual Exercise, as ordered by his Majesty, in 1764. Together with plans and explanations of the method generally Practis'd at reviews and field-days, &c.

⁴ Regulations for the order and discipline of the troops of the United States

⁵ The counter march, and breaking off and forming by the oblique as described are post 1778 and not a part of the 1764 drill manual the Regiment routinely follows. However, these maneuvers are very useful while marching in parades for Hanaford's Fifes & Drums, and are therefore included in the manual.

⁶ Regulations for the order and discipline of the troops of the United States Chapter X

⁷ A counter march is not executed by sections larger than a platoon.

	WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	Explanation		WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	Explanation
1.	Poise Firelocks!	2	Being at the Shoulder: 1st Seize the firelock at the wrist with the right hand, and turn the lock outwards, keeping the piece perpendicular. 2nd Raise the firelock with a quick motion from the shoulder to in front of the waistcoat buttons with the left hand at eye height. Seize it with the left hand just above the lock so that: Pinky finger rests on the feather spring Thumb along the stock Elbows down	4.	Fire!	2	Pull the Trigger briskly, and immediately come to the Priming Position: Make a 1/4 turn to the right, so the left foot points to the front and the right foot obliquely to the right; The lock on the right side of the body, at chest height, the muzzle the height of the hat, holding piece firm and steady; At the same time, seize the cock with the fore-finger and thumb of the right hand, the back of the hand turned up.
2.	Cock Firelocks! Alternately Make Ready!	2	Being at the Poise: 1st Turn the firelock so the lock faces to the right and place your right thumb	5.	Half-Cock Firelocks!	1	Briskly draw the right elbow back, bringing it close to butt of the firelock until the sear catches at half-cock.
	Make Ready!		upon the cock, raising the elbow square. (Remove the leather hammer stall from the steel with your right hand if necessary.) 2nd Cock the firelock, by drawing your elbow down, placing your thumb upon the breech pin, and the fingers	6.	Handle Cartridges!	2	 1st Reach back with your right hand to your cartridge box, slapping it hard; 2nd Seize a cartridge, and bring it quickly to the mouth, tear off the top in your teeth, hold the cartridge at your chin, with the elbow down.
3.	Present!	1	under the guard. Step back about 6 inches with the right	7.	Prime!	1	Shake power into the pan ⁴ , placing the 3 last fingers behind the hammer, with the elbow up.
	Alternately Take Aim!		foot; at the same time, bring the butt end of the stock to your right shoulder, supporting the stock with your left hand on the swell, sink the muzzle a little. Place the forefinger of the right hand before the trigger. Note: Soldiers are initially trained to fire in single ranks. Firing position for the second rank is detailed at the end of the	8.	Shut Pans!	2	 1st Draw the right arm back to close the pan, hold the cartridge securely in your hand. 2nd Turn the piece round, with the butt end near the left foot, the lock to the front, and the muzzle at chin height; bring the right hand behind the muzzle.
			second rank is detailed at the end of the section.	9.	Charge with Cartridges!	2	1st Shake the remaining powder into the barrel and insert the cartridge into the muzzle.

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Words of Command	# of movements	EXPLANATION		Words of Command	# of movements	Explanation
10. Draw Rammers!	2	2nd Grasp the rammer just below the muzzle with the right hand.1st Quickly draw the rammer half-out of				keeping the barrel to the front, the muzzle about 5 inches in front of the hollow of the left shoulder, the heel of the butt as far back as the heels, left arm hanging straight down, left
		the pipes, seizing it back handed at the muzzle. 2 nd Draw it completely out from the pipes, turn it, and insert the button end into the muzzle.				hand grasping the piece a little above the swell; at the same time, grasp the socket of the bayonet with the right hand. 4th Draw the bayonet smoothly from its
11. Ram Down Cartridges!	1	Ram the cartridge to breech of the barrel; immediately remove the rammer, seizing it back-handed at the mid-point; turn it and return it as far as the lower pipe; place the edge of the hand on the button, with the fingers extended.				scabbard; turn the point up as it clears the scabbard, carry the bayonet to the muzzle, slide the socket over the muzzle and fix bayonets by twisting the socket and locking the bayonet lug in the socket mortise. 5th Drop the right hand quickly to the
12. Return Rammers!	1	Push the rammer home in the pipes. Bring the piece to the left shoulder with the left hand, seizing it with the right hand at the wrist, keeping the left hand at the swell. At the same time, bring the body square to the front.	15.	Shoulder Firelocks!	3	side, palm toward the thigh. 1st Raise the piece with the left hand about 4 inches in front of the left shoulder, with left hand as high as the chin, left forearm against the stock and the barrel to the front; at the same time,
13. Shoulder Firelocks!	2	 1st Release the left hand and place it on the butt. 2nd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh. 				seize the firelock at the wrist with the right hand. 2nd Release the piece with the left hand bringing it down hard on the butt
14. Fix Bayonets!	5	 1st Seize the firelock at the wrist with the right hand. 2nd Release the butt with the left hand, and seize the piece at the swell of the 				end; press the piece into the hollow of the shoulder with the right hand. 3rd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh.
		stock with the left hand, the left forearm from wrist to elbow close along the stock; push the piece from the shoulder with the left hand until the barrel is vertical without moving the butt. 3rd Release the right hand, lower the piece down the left side with the left hand,	16.	Charge Bayonets!	2	 1st Seize the firelock at the wrist with the right hand, and turn the lock outwards, keeping the piece perpendicular. 2nd Carry the piece across the body with the right hand bringing the lock to just above the right hip; bring the left hand in front of the right hip as high

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WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	Explanation	WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	Explanation
		as the waist, palm up. Let the swell of the stock fall into the left hand with the firelock level with the muzzle forward. Note: Soldiers are initially trained in single ranks. <i>Charge Bayonets</i> from the second rank is detailed at the end of the section.			6th Shut Pans! 7th Cast about! 8th & 9th Load! 10th &11th Draw Rammers 12th Ram down Cartridge! 13th Return Rammers! 14th & 15th Shoulder or alternately come to the Recover position.
17. Shoulder Firelocks!	2	 1st Release the piece with the left hand at the same time, bring the firelock to your left shoulder; seize the butt-end with the left hand. 2nd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh. 			Note: The motions of Recover, coming to the Priming Position, and opening the pan are to be done to the usual cadence. The motions of handle cartridges through shut pans are to be done as quickly as possible; when the pans are shut, a small
18. Prime & Load	15	1st Come to the Recover by springing the firelock straight up with the left hand; at the same time seize the piece at the wrist with the right hand, the left hand comes with a quick motion from the butt, to seize the piece above the lock, at an equal height with the face, the butt close to the body, the piece perpendicular opposite the left side of the face. 2nd Bring the Firelock down with a brisk motion to the Priming Position, the			pause is made in order to cast about together; then the loading motions are to be done as quickly as possible; with another small pause made before the rammer is returned. An alternate to ramming with a ram-rod is to strike the butt of the firelock on the ground to seat the ball and come to the Recover This is especially useful when loading and firing with fixed bayonets. ⁷
		left hand holding the firelock and the body turned a ½ turn, as in <i>Prime!</i> (7), the thumb of the right hand placed against the face of the steel, the	40 . W / P. //	2	EXPLANATIONS FOR THE SECOND RANK
		fingers clenched, and the elbow a little turned out. 3rd Open the pan by pushing up the steel with the right arm, turning the elbow in and keeping the firelock steady in the left hand. 4th Handle Cartridge! 5th Prime!	19. Make Ready!	2	1st The second rank comes to the Recover as previously described. 2nd Come the Poise and full cock the piece as previously described; (Remove the leather hammer stall from the steel with your right hand if necessary.)

	WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	Explanation		Words of Command	# of movements	Explanation
	Present!	1	As the firelock is recovered and cocked, step a full pace to the right with the Right foot. Bring the butt end of the stock to the right shoulder, supporting the stock with your left hand on the swell, and resting the left forearm on the right shoulder of the file leader. Place the forefinger of the				piece down the left side with the left hand, barrel to the front, muzzle about 5 inches in front of the hollow of the left shoulder, heel of the butt as far back as the heels, left arm hanging straight down, left hand grasping the piece a little above the swell. At the same time, grasp the socket
	Fire!	2	right hand before the trigger. Pull the trigger briskly, and immediately come to the <u>Priming Position</u> as previously described.				of the bayonet with the right hand. Lift the bayonet off the muzzle by rotating and unlocking the lug. Return the bayonet, look up with left eye over the center of the body;
20.	Charge Bayonets!	2	1st Seize the firelock at the wrist with the right hand, and turn the lock				press the piece to the hollow of the left shoulder with the right hand.
			outwards, keeping the piece perpendicular. 2 nd Carry the piece across the body with the right hand, bringing the lock to				Note: Motions 1 & 2 are to be done in the usual time. Motion 3 is to be done as quickly as possible.
			just above the right hip. Let the swell of the stock fall strong into the left hand so the muzzle clears the hat of the file leader.		Shoulder Firelocks!	2	1st Release the piece with the left hand at the same time, bring the firelock to your left shoulder; seize the butt-end with the left hand. 2nd Drop the right hand quickly to the
			<u>Unexplained/Implied</u> <u>Commands</u>	22.	As You Were!		side, palm toward the thigh. This command is to interrupt motions
21.	Unfix Bayonets!	3	1st Seize the firelock at the wrist with the right hand. 2nd Release the butt with the left hand, seize the piece with the left hand at				and return to the immediately previous position in case of an emergency or delay. It most often is used from an aimed position or the <u>Poise</u> .
			the swell of the stock, the left forearm from wrist to elbow close along the outside of the stock for swell to stock, push the piece from the shoulder with the left hand until the barrel is vertical, without moving the butt. 3rd Release the piece with right hand returning it to the right side, lower the			2	To interrupt firing from <i>Present</i> : 1st Withdraw the finger from the trigger and place it behind the guard. Turn the left toe slightly out to the left.

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Words of Command	# of movements	EXPLANATION	SUMMARY OF PARADE EXERCISES:					
		Recover the right foot alongside and about two inches from the left foot, the toe turned out slightly from the right; (The second rank returns the right foot, covering the file leader.); At the same time, raise the piece with the left hand before the left side of the chest, barrel perpendicular and to the rear, elbows down. 2nd Place right thumb over the top jaw of	25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31.	Present Arms! Shoulder Firelocks! Advance Firelocks! Shoulder Firelocks!		Unexplained/implied Commands 33. Display Bayonets! 34. Trail Firelocks! 35. Slope Firelocks! 36. Carry Firelocks! 37. Support Firelocks! 38. Ease Firelocks! 39. Carry Firelocks! 40. Port Firelocks!		
		the cock and in front of the pin, right finger on the trigger; Pull down the cock with the thumb and release the sear from the full-cock notch by pressing the trigger; Continue pressing the trigger to		Words of Command	# of movements	EXPLANATION		
	2	prevent the sear from engaging the half-cock notch; Lower the cock until the flint nearly touches the hammer face Release the trigger and pull down the cock until the sear engages the half cock notch. Return the trigger finger below the guard Stand fast. From the Poise! to Shoulder.	24.	Secure Firelocks!	3	 1st Bring the right hand briskly up, and place it under the cock, keeping the firelock steady. 2nd Release the butt-end and seize the piece at the swell with the left hand, bringing the elbow close down upon the lock; the piece still upright. 3rd Rotate the left arm down, lowering the muzzle to the front and the butt behind the left shoulder; at the same time drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh. 		
		 1st Bring the firelock to the left shoulder, and seize the butt-end with the left hand, keeping the barrel perpendicular. 2nd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh. 	25.	Shoulder Firelocks!	3	1st Bring the firelock up perpendicular, seizing it with the right hand at the wrist. 2nd Drop the left hand and place it strong upon the butt.		
. Stall your Hammers!	1	Quickly slip the leather hammer stall over the steel in the most convenient fashion with the right hand.				3 rd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh.		

23.

	WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	EXPLANATION		Words of Command	# of movements	EXPLANATION
26.	Present Arms! Alternately, Rest Firelocks!	3	1st & 2nd Come to the Poise 3rd Step back with the right foot, placing it a hand's breadth distant from the left heel, at the same time, sink the piece as far down before the left knee as the right hand will comfortably permit; your left hand at the feather spring, and your right with fingers extended held under the guard, taking care to draw the muzzle well towards your body, and to dress in a line the butt end.	30.	Order Firelocks!	6	 1st & 2nd Come to the Poise. 3rd Come to the Rest. 4th Carry the firelock with the left hand to the right side. 5th Release the right hand, and re-grasp the piece at the muzzle, at chin height. 6th Return the left hand to the left side – at the same time lower the piece with the right arm at the elbow, setting butt end on the ground, even with the right toe and recover the right foot.
			Note: Present Arms is most often ordered with bayonets fixed as a military courtesy. Arms may also be presented without fixed bayonets.	31.	Ground Firelocks!	4	1st Half-face to the right upon the heels, at the same time turn the lock to the rear, slipping the right foot behind the butt of the firelock, the right toe pointing to the right and the left to the front.
27.	Shoulder Arms!	2	 1st Recover the right foot by the left; at the same time bring the piece to the hollow of the left shoulder, and seize the buttend with the left hand, keeping it in the same position as previously explained. 2nd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh. 				 2nd Step directly forward with the left foot, about as far as the swell of the firelock, and lay it upon the ground, the left hand hanging down by your left leg, and the right kept fast with the buttend against it. 3rd Raise up again, bringing back the left foot to its former position, keeping the
28.	Advance Firelocks!	4	 1st, 2nd Come to the Poise as previously explained. 3rd Bring the firelock down to the right side with the left hand as low as it will comfortably allow, the guard between the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand, the 3 last fingers under the cock with the barrel to the rear. 4th Return the left hand quickly to the side, 	32.	Take up Firelocks!	4	body faced to the right. 4th Face again to the left upon the heels, and come to proper front, letting your hands hang down without motion. 1st Face to the right upon both heels. 2nd Sink the body down, and come to the position described in the 2nd motion of grounding.
29.	Shoulder Firelocks!	4	palm toward the thigh. 1st Seize the piece at the swell with the left hand. 2nd Come smartly up to the Poise. 3rd & 4th Shoulder.				or grounding. 3rd Raise yourself and the firelock, bringing it close to the right side. 4th Come to the front, seizing the firelock at the muzzle, as in Explanation 7.

	WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	EXPLANATION		WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	EXPLANATION
33. D	Display Bayonets!	4	UNEXPLAINED/IMPLIED COMMANDS 1st Seize the firelock at the wrist with the right hand. 2nd Release the butt with the left hand, and seize the piece at the swell of the stock with the left hand, the left forearm from wrist to elbow close along the stock; push the piece from the shoulder with the left hand until the barrel is vertical without moving the butt. 3rd Release the right hand returning it to the		Shoulder Firelocks!	3	comfortably allowed, the barrel at a approximately a 45° angle, muzzle to the front. 1st Bring the piece to your left shoulder, right arm horizontal. 2nd Toss the piece up with the right hand at the same time seize the butt-end with the left hand, keeping the barrel perpendicular. 3rd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh.
			right thigh, lower the piece down the left side with the left hand, keeping the barrel to the front, the muzzle about 5 inches in front of the hollow of the left shoulder, the heel of the butt as far back as the heels, left arm hanging straight down, left hand grasping the piece a little above the swell; at the	35.	Slope Firelocks!	1	From Shoulder Firelocks: Raise the butt upward and forward with the left hand, sliding the piece up on the shoulder, the piece held obliquely to the left, muzzle to the rear of the right shoulder.
			same time, grasp the socket of the bayonet with the right hand. 4th Draw the bayonet smoothly from its scabbard; turn the point up as it clears the scabbard and display the bayonet by extending the right arm to the front	36.	Carry Firelocks	2	 1st Pull the butt down and to the rear with the left hand, sliding the piece off the shoulder; at the same time bring up the right hand to the wrist of the stock to steady the piece. 2nd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh.
	Fix Bayonets!	2	 1st Carry the bayonet to the muzzle, slide the socket over the muzzle and fix bayonets by twisting the socket, locking the bayonet lug in the socket mortise. 2nd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh. 	37.	Support Firelocks!	2	From Shoulder Firelocks: 1st Grasp the wrist of the stock with the right hand. 2nd Release the butt with the left hand and bring the left arm horizontal across the body, the cock resting on the left arm;
34.	Trail Firelocks!	1	From Shoulder Firelocks: Grasp the piece about shoulder height with the right hand. Bring it to the right side extending the right arm down as far as				the left hand resting on the right forearm.

	WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	EXPLANATION
38.	Ease Firelocks!	1	Release the right hand from the wrist of the stock, drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh.
39.	Camp Eineleskal	2	From Support Firelocks.
39.	Carry Firelocks!	2	 1st Drop the left hand, grasping the butt end of the piece. 2nd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh.
40.	Port Firelocks!	1	From Shoulder Firelocks: Seize the firelock at the wrist with the right hand, turn the lock outwards, and carry the right hand to the right hip. Let the swell of the stock fall strongly into the left hand so the barrel is diagonal from the right hip to the left shoulder.
	Shoulder Firelocks!	3	 1st Bring the piece perpendicular in front of the waistcoat buttons. 2nd Release the piece with the left hand, bring the piece to the hollow of the left shoulder, and seize the butt-end with the left hand. 3rd Drop the right hand quickly to the side, palm toward the thigh.

¹ Manual Exercise, Evolutions, Manouervres &c. to be Observed and Followed by the Militia of New York:

⁴ Be careful not to over-fill the pan. Only a small amount is necessary in the center of the pan for the lock to fire. Excessive powder acts as a fuse resulting in hang fires or misfires. It will also keep the hammer from correctly seating on the pan allowing the priming charge to leak out of the pan.

⁵ During parades, loading is conducted on the march. The piece is to be lowered in the left hand as far as convenient without dragging on the ground.

² The Manual Exercise, as ordered by his Majesty, in 1764. Together with plans and explanations of the method generally Practis'd at reviews and field-days, &c.

³ Loading was never ordered step-by-step in combat situations. Rather, the command *Prime and Load* was given and the 15 steps were completed successively and uninterrupted. *Display bayonet* was superfluous in combat situations and bayonets were fixed immediately.

⁶ During blank firing, cartridges are not placed in the barrel, and ramming cartridges (motions 10-13) are omitted from the drill *unless specifically ordered*.

⁷ Travels Through the Interior Parts of America in a Series of Letters by an Officer.

MANUAL OF INSPECTION

The inspection is an essential aspect of safely fielding a re-created unit. Warner's Regiment (re-created) follows the Ethan Allen Long Rifles and Continental Line safety regulations.¹ Below are abbreviated points for fielding with a safe weapon:

- * The stock must be free of splits, cracks, splinters, and rough edges.
- The furniture and butt plate must fit tightly and have no burrs which would catch clothing.
- * Pin fastened barrels must be tight with no missing pins.
- Band fastened barrels must have smoothly working springs and not be bound by wood.
- * The lock action is smooth and the half-cock position is secure.
- * The lock fits snugly against the stock and barrel.
- * The pan is clean and fits in relation to the touch hole.
- * The hammer (steel) fits tightly against the pan when closed.
- The lock is securely fitted with a metal flash guard and leather hammer stall.
- * The touch hole is clear and has no signs of corrosion.
- * The flint does not strike the barrel.
- ❖ The bayonet lug is securely welded to the barrel and the bayonet locks with a positive twist lock.

Cartridges are constructed from paper and do not exceed 100 grains FFg or FFFg black powder.² Cartridges are carried in leather cartridge boxes with wooden blocks or tin tubes covered with a leather flap, or sealed tin canisters.

Individual soldiers field at the discretion of the platoon and Regimental Commander.

Although the Manual Exercise of clearly requires inspections for arms and ammunition, it does not clearly describes a procedure. Pickering,³ however, does provide clear instructions and movements and is the basis for Warner's manual of inspection. Inspection is conducted in company formation, from closed ranks at Loose Order interval and *shouldered firelocks* by the commands below:

As in the previous exercises, a cadence of 1 second between each motion is to be followed when exercising.

SUMMARY OF MOVEMENTS:

- 1. Take Care for Inspection! Rear rank, take distance!
- 2. Secure your Firelocks!
- 3. Shoulder your Firelocks!
- 4. Half-cock your Firelocks!
- 5. Search your Firelocks!

- 6. Return your Rammers!
- 7. Shoulder Firelocks!
- 8. Poise your Firelocks!
- 9. Open Boxes!
- 10. Secure Boxes!

WORDS of
COMMAND

- . Take Care for Inspection! Rear rank, take distance!
- 2. Secure your Firelocks!
- 3. Shoulder your Firelocks
- 4. Half-cock your Firelocks!

5. Search your Firelocks!

EXPLANATION

- Rear rank completes a *Right-about Face*; four steps to the rear, and *Right-about Face*; providing sufficient distance between ranks for Officers to conduct inspection.
- Secure firelock! as previously explained.
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd *Shoulder* as previously explained.
- 1st & 2nd Come to the Priming Position as previously explained.

TO SEARCH THE CHAMBER

- 1st <u>Cast about</u> the piece as previously described.
- 2nd & 3rd Draw rammer from the pipes as in *Draw Rammers* previously explained. Remain in this position until inspecting Officer approaches.
- 4th When the inspecting Officer completes inspection of adjacent man, sound rammer by dropping it against the face

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	WORDS of COMMAND	# of movements	Explanation
			of the breech pin. A clean, empty chamber will sound a clear ring. 5th Recover the rammer as in <i>Ram your Cartridge</i> , previously explained. Remain in this position until ordered
6.	Return your Rammers!	1	Return the rammer home in the pipes as in Return Rammer, previously explained.
7.	Shoulder your Firelocks!	2	1 st & 2 nd Come to the <i>Shoulder</i> as previously explained.
			To inspect the Lock
8.	Poise your Firelocks!	2	1st & 2 nd <i>Poise Firelocks</i> as previously explained.
			Officer inspects the condition and security of flints (or wooden drivers), the security of flash guards, function of the hammer and sear.
			The Inspecting Officer may order the men to Fix Bayonets and Unfix Bayonets as previously described to ensure they are well fitted to their pieces, and are clean and bright.
			Additionally, the Inspecting Officer may order the inspection of cartridges for damage as follows:
9.	Open Boxes!	2	 1st Bring your Right hand with a short round to your pouch, slapping it hard. 2nd Unbutton the flap and raise it with your right hand to expose your cartridges. Remain in this position until ordered:

Words of Command	# of movements	EXPLANATION
10. Secure Boxes!	1	Release the flap with your right hand. Button the flap of your cartridge box with your right hand.

¹ The complete regulations are available on the Regiment's web site (www.warnersregiment.com).

² Pyrodex is discouraged as it is does not easily flash in the pan under a spark. Additives such as magnesium or wheat flour are not to be used. Under no circumstances is smokeless powder to be used.

³ An Easy Plan of Discipline for a Militia. Chapter IV, pp 77-78.

FIGURES OF SELECTED MOTIONS FROM THE MANUAL OF ARMS¹



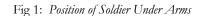




Fig. 2: Shoulder Firelock!

Poise Firelocks!



Fig. 3: Poise Firelock! 1st



Fig. 4: Poise Firelock! 2nd

Firing Sequence







Fig. 7: Priming Position!



Fig. 6: Present! & Fire!



Fig. 8: Charge with Cartridge!

Fix Bayonets!



Fig. 9: Draw Rammer!



Fig. 10: Ram down Cartridge!



Fig. 11: Return Rammer! also Recover!



Fig. 12: Fix Bayonet! 1st



Fig. 14: Fix Bayonet! 3rd



Fig. 13: Fix Bayonet! 2nd



Fig. 15: Fix Bayonet! 4th

Secure Firelock!



Fig. 16: Secure Firelock! 1st



Fig. 17: Secure Firelock! 2nd



Fig. 18: Secure Firelock! 3rd

Present Arms!



Fig. 19: Present Arms! 1st



Fig. 20: Present Arms! 2nd



Fig. 21: Present Arms! 3rd

Advance Firelock!



Fig. 22: Advance Firelock! 1st



Fig. 24: Advance Firelock! 3rd



Fig. 23: Advance Firelock! 2nd



Fig. 25: Advance Firelock! 4th

Order Firelocks!



Fig. 26: Order Firelock! 1st



Fig. 28: Order Firelock! 3rd



Fig. 27: Order Firelock! 2nd



Fig. 29: Order Firelock! 4th



Fig. 30: Order Firelock! 5th & 6th



Fig. 31: Ground Firelock! 2nd

An Easy Plan of Discipline for a Militia by Timothy Pickering Jr. Samuel & Ebenezer Hall, Salem. 1775. Re-printed by The King's Press, Oldwick, NJ.

A Plan of Discipline and Use of the Norfolk Militia 2nd Ed. by William Windham and Lord George Townshend. J. Millan, Whitehall, London. 1763

Cuthbertson's system for the complete interior management and oeconomy of a battalion of infantry by Bennett Cuthbertson. Bristol, 1776. Re-published by The King's Press, Oldwick, NJ.

Manual Exercise, Evolutions, Manouvers &c. to be Observed and Followed by the Militia of New York: With some rules and regulations for their improvement; &c. and an explanatory Plate by Col. Guy Johnson. Alexander and James Robertson, Albany. 1772.

The Manual Exercise, as ordered by his Majesty, in 1764. Together with plans and explanations of the method generally Practis'd at reviews and field-days, &c. by Adj. General Edward Harvey. New York, 1775. Re-printed by The King's Press, Oldwick, NJ.

Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States, by Baron de Stueben. Boston, 1794. Reprinted by Dover Publications, New York, 1985.

¹ Figures are adapted from A Plan of Discipline and Use of the Norfolk Militia.