

Exercise  
For  
Garrison and Field Ordinance  
Together with  
Maneuvers

As Altered from  
The Manual of General Kosciusko

By An Officer  
Of the United States Artillerists

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PART I  
EXERCISE OF CANNON,  
(42, 22, 24 and 18 Pounders)  
Mounted in Garrison on Carriages of Four Truck Wheels

SECTION I.

While the troops are forming for exercise, the pent-houses will be removed from the guns by a noncommissioned officer and a competent number of men, usually six, detailed for the purpose: the battery supplied with ammunition, tubes, slow match, port fires, and other necessary articles, from the magazine, and with the necessary implements and apparatus from the arsenal. To each gun will be arranged the following articles:

On the Left: The balls, The wads, A wedge, Two handspikes, One port-fire stock, One lint-stock, A broom.

On the Right: Sponge and rammer, Ladle and worm, Two handspikes, A gunner's belt, complete. A cask or tub of water.

If the carriages be destitute of elevating screws, two elevating coins will be placed under the breech of each gun. It is advisable, in time of action, to have a double supply of implements and apparatus; one ladle and worm, however, will be sufficient for four or five guns.

The adjutant will parade the men for exercise, the matrosses formed in rank and file, the non-commissioned officers in one rank four paces in front of the privates ; the commissioned officers in a line, four paces in advance of the whole . The adjutant, when the parade is formed and dressed, will make the customary report to the commanding officer, who will direct, that the matrosses be divided into sections of four files each, and the stations of the officers and non-commissioned officers, respectively assigned. The gunners will

be designated, and the matrosses numbered alternately in both ranks (beginning on the right of the rear rank) as follows:

Front Rank	Rear Rank
No. 2	No. 1
No. 4	No. 3
Gunner of the Left	Gunner of the Right
No. 6	No. 5

Gunners are necessary in the exercise and management of artillery. If the laws do not recognize men of this grade, they must be 'selected for the occasion from among the matrosses. If there be a deficiency of non-commissioned officer, their places must be supplied by other expert and intelligent men, so as to have at least some attached to each section. On the contrary, if there be supernumeraries of this grade, they must be directed to take post on the flanks, and in the rear of the sections, and will perform such duties as may be assigned them. The commissioned officers, according to their number, will have a greater or less number of sections assigned them, consequently a greater or less number of guns.

When the sections are formed, the gunners designated, the matrosses numbered and the several posts of the officers and non commissioned officers assigned by the adjutant, the commanding officer will give the following words of command:

1. Attention

At this cautionary word, the men bring their hands briskly down to the outside of their thighs, and dress to the front; at which time also the officers draw their swords.

## 2. Officers and non-commissioned Officers—to your posts—march!

The non-commissioned officers come to the right about, march within one pace of the front, halt, face to the right and left from the centre, and take their several posts, each one leading a section, taking post on the right of it; and if there be others assigned to the same section, they will fall in on the flanks, or in the rear of it, as before directed. The officers face on their own ground to the right and left from the centre and each takes post on the right of the sections assigned him, covered by the section non-commissioned officer; except the second officer, who takes post on the left of the whole, also covered by the section non-commissioned officer.

## 3. Sections— to the right wheel—march!

They wheel as directed. Each section officer, as the section arrives at its place, gives the-words—halt! dress!—after which he takes post on the left of the section.

## 4. Forward—(quick or slow time)—march!

The commanding officer may lead the troops to the right, left, or to any intermediate point of the rampart, as he may find convenient; but, all circumstances equal, the right is to be preferred. As soon as the first section mounts the rampart, the commanding officer gives the words—

## 5. Mark your ground!

The officer leading the first section, on its arrival in the rear of the gun, on the right, or in the, rear of the one assigned to it, will give the word— halt!— and the men as they halt, will dress with the gun. The second section will move by the first to the next gun, and halt in the same manner, and so alternately of all the rest, till the left, or rear section has arrived at its place, when the

commanding officer will give the words—

6. Sections—to the right face—march!

The section non-commissioned officer will take post on the right of the gun, and opposite to the rear part of the carriage, the gunner of the right on the right, the gunner of the left, on the left, and both opposite to the vent field: 1 will move up on the right, till within one or, two feet of the parapet; No. 3 will follow him and take his station opposite to the axle-tree, and No. 5 will halt on the same side, opposite to the rear axle tree: No. 2 will move up on the left of the gun, and dress with No. 1; No. 4 will follow him, and dress with No.3; and No. 6 will halt on the same side, and dress with No. 5.

If it be found necessary to mount the left of the rampart, the sections will wheel to the right as before. On the arrival of the first section at the ramparts, the words— mark your ground!--- will be given; at which the sections alternately wheel to the right, and gradually form intervals equal to those of the guns; they march along the rampart till they arrive in the rear of the guns assigned them, where they will be halted by the section officers ; after which they must be countermarched, so as to bring the men to the places intended by their respective numbers.

When it is found expedient to mount the rampart, from some intermediate point, the sections on their arrival will wheel to the right and left; the number wheeling in either direction, will be determined by the number of guns to be exercised in that direction. In obtaining their positions at the guns, they will pursue the mode before given: Those wheeling to the right will conform to the movements prescribed for the sections mounting the left of the rampart; those wheeling to the left will be guided by the evolutions of those mounting the right of the rampart. As soon as the sections have taken their stations at the guns, the exercise will be conducted by the following words of command:

## 1. Non-Commissioned Officers—take implements!

They seize the implements, and distribute them to each section as follows:

To the gunner of the right, a gunner's belt and its implements, a priming horn, a tube box, and an elastic thumb-stall.

To the gunner of the left, a port-fire stock and a lint-stock.

To No. 1, a rammer and sponge, a ladle and worm.

To No. 2, a wedge; he will assist No. 1.

To No. 3, a handspike; he will assist No. 1.

To No. 4, a handspike,

To No. 5, a handspike.

To No. 6, a handspike.

The officers will superintend this distribution. It would be well to place a broom on the left of each gun, so as to enable No. 2 to sweep the platform immediately after loading, and before the gun is run to battery.

## 2. Prepare—.Battery.

The gunner of the left removes the apron, takes the fid from the vent, and lays them behind him; No. 1 places his sponge and rammer, and ladle and worm, under cover of the parapet; No. 1. takes the tompion from the gun, and secures it near him; No. 3, 4, 5 and 6, bring their handspikes to an order.

Each section officer will pay particular attention to the exercise of his own gun; and each commissioned officer will superintend the exercise of the several guns committed to his charge.

A port-fire stock, and a lint-stock, will be placed at a convenient distance in the rear of each gun and if possible to the leeward of the budge-barrels and charges with cartridges, which will be secured twenty yards in the rear, or at such other distance as may appear most safe and convenient. -

### 3. Handle Handspikes!

No. 3, 4, 5 and 6, turn their backs to the parapet No. 3 and 4 enter their handspikes under the ends of the front axletree; and, if necessary, No. 1 and 2 will assist them. No. 5 and 6 enter their handspikes under the ends of the rear axletree; and, if necessary, the two gunners will assist them.

### 4. From—Battery !

The men at the handspikes, by raising and lowering them alternately, move the gun by a uniform motion from the parapet, and afford room to load it with conveniency.

### 5. Adjust—Cannon!

No. 1 and 2 resume their posts. No. 5 and 4 keep their handspikes under the axle-tree till No 2 places the wedge under the wheel, when they withdraw them; No. 5 and 6 at the same time enter their handspikes under the breech: The section officer steps in the rear of the gun, and adjusts it for the charge, while No. 5 and 6 raise the breech to facilitate the moving of the coins; after which all the men with handspikes, as well as the section officer, resume their respective posts, and the handspikes are brought to an order.

### 6. Search— Cannon!

No. 1 takes the worm, searches the cannon, and returns, it to its place; and the gunner of the right, with his priming wire examines the vent.

### 7. Ground—Handspikes!

The men ground their handspikes alertly, but without noise.

#### 8. Handle— Spunge!

No. 1 puts the spunge into the muzzle and No. 2 assists him in forcing it home; the gunner of the right stops the vent closely with the thumb of his left hand.

#### 9. Spunge!

No. 1 and 2 spunge the gun by turning the spunge round four or five times at the bottom, at the same time .pressing it home; it is then withdrawn.

#### 10. Handle—Rammer!

No. 1 turns the staff, so that the rammer is presented to the muzzle.

#### 11. Load--- Cartridge!

No. 6 runs up with his charger, and gives a cartridge to No. 2, and returns immediately: No. 2 puts the cartridge into the gun, When No. 1 forces it home with the rammer; and withdrawing the rammer immediately, No. 2 puts in the wad, furnished him by No. 4, when No. 1 and 2 force it home. As soon as No. 1 forces the cartridge to the bottom the gunner of the right ascertains, with his priming wire, whether the cartridge be home. It is the duty of No. 5 to keep No. 6 furnished with cartridges, and to bring them from the budge-barrels in the rear.

#### 12. Ram—Cartridge!

No. 1 and 2 will give four equal strokes with the rammer; after which No. 1 withdraws it, and holds it ready for the next word of command; No. 4 seizes a ball and wad. Note. No. 1 sinks his body at each stroke, bends his right knee, throws back his left hand and arm, and keeps his body clear of the muzzle. No.

2 also sinks his body, bends his left knee, throws back his right hand and arm, and keeps his body clear of the muzzle, to avoid accidents.

13. Load --- Ball!

No. 2 successively receives the ball and wad from No. 4; he puts the ball into the gun, and the wad over it, when No. 1 and 2 force them home.

14. Ram--- Ball!

No 1 and 2 ram the ball and wad with two equal strokes, and then No. 1 withdraws the rammer.

15. Return--- Rammer!

No. 1 places the staff against the parapet, the rammer down, the sponge up; the gunner of the right takes his thumb from the vent; the gunner of the left replaces the apron; after which all resume their posts.

16. Take up—Handspikes!

The four men opposite to the axle trees seize their handspikes; No. 2 at the same time removes the wedge from the wheel.

17. Handle—Handspikes!

No. 3 and 4, with their faces to the parapet, enter their handspikes under the ends of the front axletree, and, if necessary, assisted by No. 1 and 2; No. 5 and 6, with their faces likewise to the parapet, enter their handspikes under the ends of the rear axletree, and, if necessary, assisted by the two gunners; the section officer places himself behind the breech of the gun.

18. To—Battery!

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The men with handspikes, by heaving together, move the gun forward. The section officer directs the gun to the middle of the embrasure, or over the parapet, in case the firing be en barbette. If it moves too fast, or too slow, it may be impeded, or accelerated by means of the handspikes. If it runs too much to the right, No. 6 with his handspike, assisted by the gunner of the left, breeches it about; on the contrary, if it runs too much to the left. No. 5 with his handspike, assisted by the gunner of the right, breeches it the opposite way; and all under the direction of the section officer. As soon as the gun is in the embrasure, or over the parapet, the gunners, and men with handspikes, resume their respective posts.

#### 19. Point—Gun!

No. 3 and 4 enter their handspikes under the breech to elevate or depress the gun, as the section officer (who has his hand on the upper coin) shall direct by the words—higher!—lower! No. 5 and 6 enter their handspikes under the trail to move it to the right or left, as maybe necessary. When the section officer (who first takes his elevation, and then his lateral direction) has properly pointed his gun, he gives the words— order handspikes! The gunner of the left at the same time removes the apron, when all the men resume their posts.

\* If the guns be furnished with elevating screws, the section officer will be able to raise or depress his piece without the assistance of the handspikes.

#### 20. Ground— Handspikes!

The men ground their handspikes accordingly, but without noise.

#### 21. Prime!

The gunner of the right clears the vent with his left hand, and with his right hand draws his priming wire, pricks the cartridge, and primes with powder, or

places a tube in the vent; No. 2 takes the wedge, the gunner of the left takes the port fire, or slow match, who (in case he makes use of the latter, strikes the stock across his left arm to quicken the fire) goes to the windward side of the gun; if on the left, he faces the parapet, if on the right, he faces the opposite way; he obtains his position by right and left side steps, and fixes himself one pace from the gun to be clear of the wheels in the recoil.

## 22. Fire!

The gunner of the left, with his port-fire, or slow match, communicates fire to the priming or tube, withdraws the stock towards the chase, and carefully carries it to its place: No. 2 checks the wheel with his wedge, and then all the men resume their posts; except the section officer, who steps forward to observe where the ball strikes.;

When the gun does not sufficiently recoil to be re-loaded, the exercise will be renewed by the following words of command:

Take up—Handspikes!

Handle—Handspikes!

From Battery—Wedge!

Ground—Handspikes!

On the contrary, if the recoil be sufficient, the exercise will be continued from the 8th command—Handle—Spunge !

At every third round, or at the discretion of the proper officer, the worm should be used as mentioned in the 6th command— Search Cannon. When the gun has been fired ten or twelve times, it becomes necessary to wash it out with the sponge dipped in water, so as to cool the metal, and thereby prevent explosion.

As soon as the exercise is over, the following words of command are given:

1. Take up—Handspikes!

2. Search—Cannon! as mentioned in the 6th command.

3. Handle—Handspikes ! as mentioned in the 17th command.;
4. To— Battery! as mentioned in the A 8th command.
5. Dress—Gun!

At the last word of command, No. 5 and 6 place their handspikes under the breech, and the section officer moves the coin forward, so as to depress the muzzle; the gunner of the left puts the fid into the vent, and ties on the apron: No 2 puts in the tompion and sweeps the battery.

#### 6. Ground—Implements.

The sections fall in as before the exercise commenced, and are marched to the parade and dismissed.

Note: In case of necessity, the exercise can be performed with a less number than one non-commissioned officer and eight men. If the section be reduced to seven men, the section officer will add to his own the duties of the gunner of the right. If it be reduced to six men, the section officer performs the duties as above mentioned. No 6 will be omitted, and No. 4 will go the whole distance for the cartridge, the gunner of the left will perform the other duties of No. 6; and No. 2 will furnish him with the port-fire. If it be reduced to five men, the duties will be performed as in the fast article; except that No. 5 and 6 will be omitted, and their duties devolve on No. 3 and 4.

In addition to those attached to the guns some men must necessarily attend the magazine and arsenal to supply the budge barrels with cartridges, and the ramparts with priming powder, tubes, port fires, slow match and other such articles as may be required.

## SECTION- II

### Exercise of a 9 or 12 Pounder.

For the exercise of guns of these calibers, mounted in garrison on carriages of four truck, wheels, one non-commissioned officer and four men are requisite. The men are numbered from 1 to 4; they are marched from the parade in the manner before directed, and take their stations at the guns as follows: No. 1 and 2 halt opposite to the front axletree, and No. 3 -and 4 opposite to the rear axletree , the section officer, who also acts as gunner of the right, places himself one step from No. 3; No. 4 adds to his own the duties of the gunner, of the left, In fine, in exercising a 9 or 12 pounder, the duties of the men are double to those of the eight men already laid down; No. 1 and 2 add to their own the duties of No. 3 and 4; and the two latter, in addition to their own, perform the duties of No. 5 and 6.



