



**Casey's School of the Soldier:  
Inspection Arms,  
By The Motion.  
An Illustration.**

by

Stephen Giovannini

Version 1.0

30 January 2016

# INSPECTION ARMS

## **Editor's Notes:**

**The instructions for Inspection Arms are taught in the School of the Soldier *after* the soldiers have been taught to load and fire. The instructions for Inspection Arms reference the instructions learned during Loading and Firing. The relevant referenced instructions have been copied here into the appropriate sections.**

**Since the 7<sup>th</sup> MD uses the rifled musket, these instructions have been rewritten to incorporate the rifle musket instructions.**



**The soldier being at  
Order Arms and  
having the bayonet in the scabbard  
to cause pieces to be brought to  
*Inspection - ARMS.***

***Inspection - ARMS.  
One time and two motions.***

***Instructions  
235 - 237***



# **Preparing for Inspection**

***Instructions***  
***235 - 237***

From **Order Arms** to *Inspection* - **ARMS.**  
**Mechanisms of the First Motion.**

**236. (First motion.)**

1. Seize the piece with the left hand below and near the upper band,
2. carry it with both hands opposite the middle of the body, the butt between the feet, the rammer to the rear, the barrel vertical, the muzzle about eight inches from the body;
3. carry the left hand reversed to the bayonet,
4. draw it from the scabbard and fix it on the barrel;
5. grasp the piece with the left hand below and near the upper band,
6. seize the rammer with the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand bent, the other fingers closed.

**ARMS**

**1**

**2**

**3**

**4**



**4**

**5**

**6**

**6**



From **Order Arms** to *Inspection - ARMS.*  
**Mechanisms of the Second Motion.**

**237. (Second motion.)**

Draw the rammer as has been explained in loading,

1. ~~167. (First motion.)~~
2. Half draw the rammer by extending the right arm;
3. steady it in this position with the left thumb;
4. grasp the rammer near the muzzle with the right hand, the little finger uppermost, the nails to the front, the thumb extended along the rammer.
5. ~~168. (Second motion.)~~
6. Clear the rammer from the pipes by again extending the arm; the rammer in the prolongation of the pipes.
7. ~~169. (Third motion.)~~
8. Turn the rammer, the little end of the rammer passing near the left shoulder;
9. place the head of the rammer on the ball {in the muzzle},
10. the back of the hand to the front.
11. And let it glide to the bottom of the bore,
12. replace the piece with the left hand opposite the right shoulder, and
13. retake the position of ordered arms.

**TWO**

**2, 3**

**3**

**4**

**4**

**6**

**8**



**9**

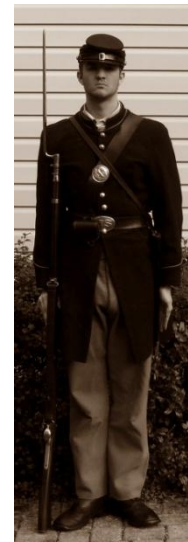
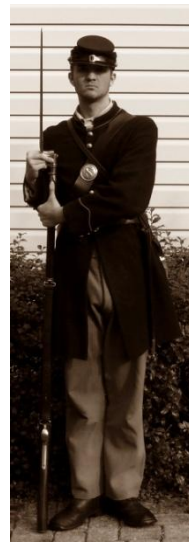
**10**

**11**

**12**

**13**

**13**



# The soldier being at Order Arms

*Inspection - ARMS.*  
*One time and two motions.*  
*Instructions*  
*235 - 237*

*Support –*

**ARMS**

**TWO**



Starting Position



End of 1<sup>st</sup> Motion



End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion



# **Presenting the Musket for Inspection**

***Instruction***  
**238**



**The soldier being at Order Arms**  
**Presenting the Musket to the Inspector.**  
*Mechanisms of the Motion.*

**238.** The instructor will then inspect in succession the piece of each recruit, in passing along the front of the rank.

1. Each, {soldier} as the instructor reaches him, will
2. raise smartly his piece with his right hand,
3. seize it with the left between the lower band and guide sight, the lock to the front,
4. the left hand at the height of the chin,
5. the piece opposite to the left eye;

**1**



**2**



**3**



**4, 5**





# Inspecting the Musket

*Instruction*

**238**

## Inspecting the Musket

238. ...

the instructor will take it {the musket} with the right hand at the handle and, after inspecting it, will return it to the recruit,



### Editor's Notes for the Soldier:

- The soldier does not push the musket to the Inspector.
  - Keep the elbow against the body.
  - Let the Inspector take the musket.
- Should the Inspector desire to inspect the musket,
  - the inspector will take the musket from the soldier as described in the instruction
  - the soldier resumes the Position of the Soldier while the Inspector inspects the musket.



### Editor's Notes for the Inspector:

The manual does not describe what the inspector should be looking for. These are the items to check:

- Ensure the barrel is clean. If it isn't fail the musket.
  - gently drop the ramrod onto the bottom of the chamber. You should hear a metal on metal 'ping'.
- Ensure the hammer and trigger function properly. If they don't, fail the musket.
  - Take the hammer to half-cock. If it fails to stay at half-cock, fail the musket.
  - Ensure the cone is in place. If it is loose or not present, fail the musket.
  - Gently, pull the trigger. The hammer should not fall. If it falls, fail the musket.
    - NEVER force the hammer to fail by pulling hard on the trigger.
      - Doing so will damage the tumbler and/or the sear spring.
    - NEVER push or hit the hammer with your hand or palm.
      - Doing so will damage the tumbler and/or the sear spring.
  - Take the hammer to full-cock. If it fails to stay at full-cock, fail the musket.
  - Ease the hammer back onto the cone by holding the hammer and simultaneously pulling the trigger.
- If the musket has one, ensure the cleanout screw is in place and secure. If loose or not present, fail the musket.
- Ensure the lockplate screws are in place. If loose or not present, fail the musket.
- Ensure the barrel bands are in place. If loose or not present, fail the musket.



# **Receiving the Musket from the Inspector**

***Instruction***  
**238**

## Inspecting the Musket

238. ...

the instructor will take it {the musket} with the right hand at the handle and, after inspecting it, will return it to the recruit,

1. who will receive it back with the right hand, and
2. replace it in the position of ordered arms.

1



2



2





**Retake the position  
of  
Order Arms**

***Instruction***  
**239**

**239. When the instructor shall have passed him, each recruit will retake the position prescribed at the command inspection,**

- 1. the butt between the feet,**
- 2. the rammer to the rear, the barrel vertical, the muzzle about eight inches from the body;**

**3. return the rammer, {SotS: 171-173}**

- a. 171. Draw the rammer
- b. half-way out, and
- c. steady it in this position with the left thumb;
- d. grasp it near the muzzle with the right hand,
- e. the little finger uppermost, the nails to the front, the thumb along the rammer:
- f. clear the rammer from the bore by extending the arm,
- g. the nails to the front, the rammer in the prolongation of the bore.
- h. 172. Turn the rammer,
- i. the head of the rammer passing near the left shoulder, and
- j. insert it in the pipes until the right hand reaches the muzzle,
- k. the nails to the front.
- l. 173. Force the rammer home
- m. by placing the little finger of the right hand on the head of the rammer;
- ~~n. pass the left hand down the barrel to the extent of the arm, with out depressing the shoulder.~~

**4. unfix the bayonet,**

- a. 209. (excerpt) the muzzle eight inches from the body; seize it with the right hand at the upper band, and-
- b. turn the clasp of the bayonet by pressing against it with the thumb of the left hand, and
- c. then grasp the socket of the bayonet with the left hand,
- d. the shank resting between the thumb and fore-finger, the, thumb pointed up.
- e. 210. Wrest off the bayonet,
- f. turn it to the right, bringing the point of the bayonet down;
- g. change the position of the hand without quitting hold of the shank of the socket,
- h. return the bayonet to the scabbard, and
- i. seize the piece with the left hand, the arm extended.

**5. And resume the position of ordered arms.**

retake the position prescribed at the command inspection  
*Mechanisms of the Motion*

239



1



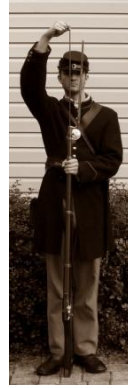
2



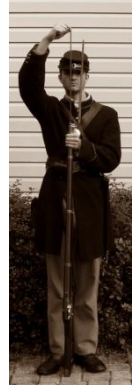
3a



3b



3c



3d, 3e



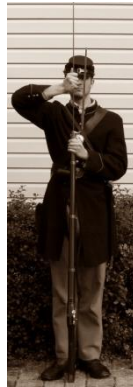
3f, 3g



3h, 3i



3j



3j, 3k



3l, 3m



3l, 3m



4a



4b



4c



4d, 4e



4f



4g



4h



4h



4i



5



5



5







**The soldier being at  
Order Arms and  
having the bayonet in the scabbard  
to  
*Fix* - BAYONET.**

***Fix* - BAYONET.**

***Instructions*  
240 - 241**

The soldier being at Order Arms  
To Fix Bayonet.  
*Mechanisms of the Motion.*

240. If, instead of inspection of arms, the instructor should merely wish to cause bayonets to be fixed, he will command:

*Fix-BAYONET.*

241. Take the position indicated No. 236, fix bayonets as has been explained, 236.

1. Seize the piece with the left hand below and near the upper band,
2. carry it with both hands opposite the middle of the body,
3. the butt between the feet,
4. the rammer to the rear, the barrel vertical, the muzzle about eight inches from the body;
5. carry the left hand reversed to the bayonet,
6. draw it from the scabbard and fix it on the barrel;
7. grasp the piece with the left hand below and near the upper band,
8. and immediately resume the position of ordered arms.

1



2



3, 4



5



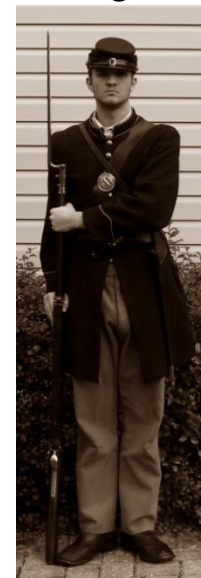
6



7



8



8





**The soldier being at  
Order Arms and  
having the bayonet in the scabbard  
to  
*Spring* - RAMMERS.**

***Spring* - RAMMERS.**

***Instructions*  
242 - 244**

**The soldier being at Order Arms  
to ascertain whether the pieces have been discharged  
*Mechanisms of the Motion***

242. If it be the wish of the instructor, after firing, to ascertain whether the pieces have been discharged, he will command:

*Spring-RAMMERS.*

**243.**

**1. Put the rammer in the barrel, as has been explained above,**

**A. 236. {Position the piece}**

1. Seize the piece with the left hand below and near the upper band,
2. carry it with both hands opposite the middle of the body, the butt between the feet, the rammer to the rear, the barrel vertical, the muzzle about eight inches from the body;
- ~~3. carry the left hand reversed to the bayonet,~~
- ~~4. draw it from the scabbard and fix it on the barrel;~~
5. grasp the piece with the left hand below and near the upper band,
6. seize the rammer with the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand bent, the other fingers closed.

**B. 237. Draw the rammer as has been explained in loading,**

1. 167. Half draw the rammer by extending the right arm;
2. steady it in this position with the left thumb;
3. grasp the rammer near the muzzle with the right hand,
4. the little finger uppermost, the nails to the front, the thumb extended along the rammer.
5. 168. Clear the rammer from the pipes by again extending the arm; the rammer in the prolongation of the pipes.
6. 169. Turn the rammer, the little end of the rammer passing near the left shoulder;
7. place the head of the rammer ~~on the ball~~ {in the muzzle}, the back of the hand to the front.

**C. and let it glide to the bottom of the bore,**

**D. replace the piece with the left hand opposite the right shoulder, and**

~~**E. retake the position of ordered arms.**~~

**2. and immediately retake the position of ordered arms.**

244. The instructor, for the purpose stated, can take the rammer by the small end, and spring it in the barrel, or cause each recruit to make it ring in the barrel.

The soldier being at Order Arms  
to ascertain whether the pieces have been discharged  
*Mechanisms of the Motion*

243



1.A.1



1.A.2



1.A.5



1.B.1, 1B.2



1.B.3, 1.B.4



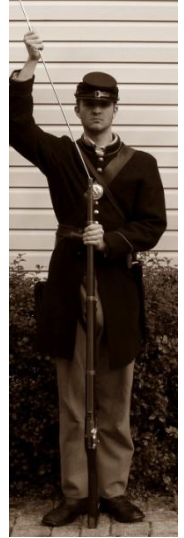
1.B.5



1.B.6



1.B.7



1.C



1.C



1.D



2



2



2





**The soldier being at  
Shoulder Arms and  
having the bayonet in the scabbard  
to  
*Spring* - RAMMERS.**

***Spring* - RAMMERS.**

***Instructions*  
242 - 244**

**The soldier being at Shoulder Arms  
to ascertain whether the pieces have been discharged  
*Mechanisms of the Motion***

242. If it be the wish of the instructor, after firing, to ascertain whether the pieces have been discharged, he will command:

*Spring-RAMMERS.*

**243.**

**1. Put the rammer in the barrel, as has been explained above,**

**A. 163. {Position the piece}**

1. Grasp the piece with the left hand as high as the right elbow, and
2. bring it vertically opposite the middle of the body,
3. shift the right hand to just below the upper band,
4. place the butt between the feet, the barrel to the front;
5. seize it with the left hand near the muzzle, which should be eight inches from the body;
- ~~6. carry the right hand to the cartridge box.~~
7. ~~166. Empty the powder into the barrel: disengage the ball from the paper with the right hand and the thumb and first two fingers of the left; insert it into the bore, the pointed end uppermost, and press it down with the right thumb; seize the head of the rammer with the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand, the other fingers closed, the elbows near the body.~~

**B. 237. Draw the rammer as has been explained in loading,**

1. 167. Half draw the rammer by extending the right arm;
2. steady it in this position with the left thumb;
3. grasp the rammer near the muzzle with the right hand,
4. the little finger uppermost, the nails to the front, the thumb extended along the rammer.
5. 168. Clear the rammer from the pipes by again extending the arm; the rammer in the prolongation of the pipes.
6. 169. Turn the rammer, the little end of the rammer passing near the left shoulder;
7. place the head of the rammer ~~on the ball~~ {in the muzzle}, the back of the hand to the front.

**C. and let it glide to the bottom of the bore,**

**D. replace the piece with the left hand opposite the right shoulder, and**

~~**E. retake the position of ordered arms.**~~

**2. and immediately retake the position of ordered arms.**

244. The instructor, for the purpose stated, can take the rammer by the small end, and spring it in the barrel, or cause each recruit to make it ring in the barrel.

The soldier being at Shoulder Arms  
to ascertain whether the pieces have been discharged  
*Mechanisms of the Motion*

243

1.A.1

1.A.2

1.A.3

1.A.4

1.A.5

1.A.7



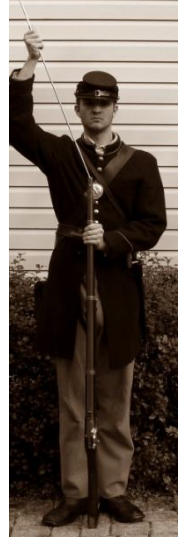
1.B.1, 1B.2

1.B.3, 1.B.4

1.B.5

1.B.6

1.B.7



1.C

1.C

1.D

2

2

2







**The soldier being at  
*Spring* RAMMERS  
to  
*Return* - RAMMERS.**

***Instruction*  
245**

**The soldier being at Order Arms  
and having the ramrod in the barrel  
*Mechanisms of the Motion***

**245. Each recruit, after the instructor passes him,**

**1. will return rammer,**

**A. 236. {Position the piece}**

1. Seize the piece with the left hand below and near the upper band,
2. carry it with both hands opposite the middle of the body, the butt between the feet, the rammer to the rear, the barrel vertical, the muzzle about eight inches from the body;
- ~~3. carry the left hand reversed to the bayonet,~~
- ~~4. draw it from the scabbard and fix it on the barrel;~~
5. grasp the piece with the left hand below and near the upper band,
6. seize the rammer with the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand bent, the other fingers closed.

B. 171. Draw the rammer half-way out, and

C. steady it in this position with the left thumb;

D. grasp it near the muzzle with the right hand, the little finger uppermost, the nails to the front, the thumb along the rammer:

E. clear the rammer from the bore by extending the arm, the nails to the front, the rammer in the prolongation of the bore.

F. 172. Turn the rammer, the head of the rammer passing near the left shoulder, and

G. insert it in the pipes until the right hand reaches the muzzle, the nails to the front.

H. 173. Force the rammer home by placing the little finger of the right hand on the head of the rammer;

I. pass the left hand down the barrel to the extent of the arm, with-out depressing the shoulder.

**2. and resume the position of ordered arms.**

The soldier being at Order Arms  
and having the ramrod in the barrel  
*Mechanisms of the Motion*

245



1.A.1



1.A.2



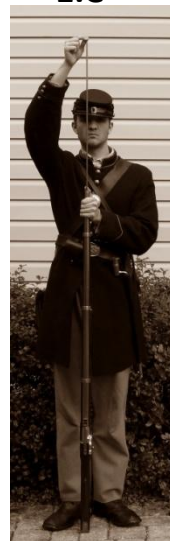
1.A.5, 1.A.6



1.B



1.C



1.D



1.E



1.F



1.G



1.G



1.H



1.H



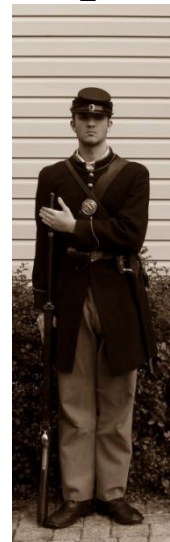
1.I



2



2



2

