NEW MANUAL
OF
Bayonet Training
AND
Practical Bayonet Fighting
FROM THE OFFICIAL REGULATIONS IN FORCE
IN THE NEW ALLIED ARMIES

Latest Edition

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PRACTICAL BAYONET FIGHTING

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TRAVEL

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(PROVISIONAL)

SECTION 1.

SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE BAYONET.

Essential Points of the Bayonet.

1. To attack with the bayonet effectively requires Good Direction, Strength and Quickness, during a state of wild excitement and probably physical exhaustion. The limit of the range of a bayonet is about 5 feet (measured from the opponent's eyes), but more often the killing is at close quarters, at a range of 2 feet or less, when troops are struggling corps a corps in trenches or darkness.

The bayonet is essentially an offensive weapon—go straight at an opponent with the point threatening his throat and deliver the point wherever an opening presents itself. If no opening is obvious, one must be created by beating off the opponent's weapon or making
a "feint point" in order to make him uncover himself.

Hand-to-Hand Fighting.

2. Hand-to-hand fighting with the bayonet is individual, which means that a man must think and act for himself and rely on his own resource and skill; but, as in games, he must play for his side and not only for himself. In a bayonet assault all ranks go forward to kill or be killed, and only those who have developed skill and strength by constant training will be able to kill.

The Spirit of the Bayonet.

3. The spirit of the bayonet must be inculcated into all ranks so that they go forward with that aggressive determination and confidence of superiority born of continual practice, without which a bayonet assault will not be effective.

Continuity of Training.

4. The technical points of bayonet fighting are extremely few and simple. The essence of bayonet training—continuity.
SECTION 2.

Method of Carrying out Bayonet Training and Hints to Instructors.

Development of the Individual.

5. An important point to be kept in mind in bayonet training is the development of the individual by teaching him to think and act for himself. The simplest means of attaining this is to make men use their brains and eyes to the fullest extent by carrying out the practices, so far as possible, without words of command, i.e., point at a shifting target as soon as it is stationary, parry sticks, etc. The class should, whenever possible, work in pairs and act on the principle of "Master and Pupil." This, in itself, develops individuality and confidence. Sharp jerky words of command which tend to make men act mechanically, should be omitted. Teach rapidity of movement and alertness by competition in fixing and unfixing the bayonet and by other such "quickening movements."
Duration of Lessons and Practices.

6. As the technique of bayonet fighting is so simple, long detail is quite unnecessary and makes the work monotonous. All instructions should be carried out on common sense lines. It should seldom be necessary to give the detail of a "point" or "parry" more than two or three times, after which the classes should acquire the correct positions by practice. For this reason a lesson or daily practice should rarely last more than half-an-hour. Remember nothing kills interest so easily as monotony.

Spirit of the Bayonet.

7. Arouse the spirit of the bayonet by describing the special features of bayonet and hand-to-hand fighting. Endeavor to make the men practice bayonet fighting in the same spirit and with the same enthusiasm which animate them when training for their games and look upon their instructor as a trainer and helper.

Work Made Interesting.

8. Create an interest in the work by explaining the reason for the various positions,
the method of handling the rifle and bayonet and the uses of the "points." Question the men to find out whether they understand these reasons. When men realize the object of their work they naturally take a greater interest in it.

**Progression.**

9. Progression in the training is regulated first by obtaining correct positions and good direction, then quickness. Strength is the outcome of continual practice.

**Cultivate Dash and Vigor.**

10. In order to encourage dash and gradually strengthen the leg muscles from the commencement of their training, classes should be frequently practiced in charging short distances.

**Officers' and N.C.Os.' Classes.**

11. All company officers and N.C.Os. should be taught how to instruct in bayonet fighting in order that they may be able to teach their platoons, etc., this very important part of a soldier's training, which must be regularly practiced during the whole of his service at
home, and during his periods of rest behind the firing line.

Sacks.

12. Sacks for dummies should be filled with tightly packed straw, sods, leaves, mill shavings, leather scrapings, etc., in such a way as to give the greatest resistance without injury to the bayonet. A realistic effect, necessitating a strong withdrawal as if gripped by a bone, is obtained by inserting pieces of hard wood \( \frac{3}{4} \)-inch thick (old cheese cases, lathes, stays, etc.), between the stuffing and the sack—broadside on facing the attacker with grain vertical.

These sack dummies can be made to stand on end by fixing a wooden cross or star (two or three pieces of wood about 2 inches broad and \( \frac{3}{4} \)-inch thick nailed across one another) in the base of the sack before filling it. They can also be placed with good effect on rough tripods, or tied to improvised stools. Dummy sacks should be hung from gallows by a double suspension from the cross-bar to the top corners and tethered to the ground from the bottom corners.
Care of Weapons.

13. The greatest care should be taken that the object representing the opponent and its support should be incapable of injuring the bayonet or butt, and only light sticks must be used for parrying practice.

The chief causes of injury to the bayonet are insufficient instruction in the bayonet fighting lessons, the bayonet not being withdrawn clear of the dummy before advancing and the dummies being placed on hard unprepared ground.

Care of Apparatus.

14. The upkeep and proper filling of dummies, the repair of assault practice courses, etc., form part of the duties of Staff and Assistant Instructors.

Marks.

15. For practicing direction there must always be a mark to aim at on the dummy. Old playing cards or pieces of stout paper pinned on the sacks make good marks. By continually changing the position of the mark the "life" of the dummies is considerably
prolonged. Should the supply of cards and pins fail, five or six numbers can be painted on the dummies as marks.

SECTION 3.

PRELIMINARY BAYONET LESSONS.

Class Arrangements.

16. Open ranks for bayonet practice as follows:—"Rear Rank—About turn"; "Odd numbers of the front rank and even numbers of the rear rank—Six paces forward—March," "About turn"; "The whole one pace right close—March."

Small classes should be opened out from single rank.

Classes should always work with bayonet fixed.

When teaching a new position, face the class to a flank and let them "rest." First show them the position explaining essential points, and giving the reasons for them. Then show the position a second time, making the class observe each movement, so that, from
the very commencement of the bayonet training, a man is taught to use his eyes and brain. Face the ranks and order them to assume the position explained and shown. Pick out the man who shows the best position and let the class look at and copy him. Remember, his may not be an ideal position, but it is more than those shown by the remainder who, being beginners, cannot distinguish the difference between a good position and an ideal one. Many instructors err by trying to get a class of beginners to idealise at once.

*Recruit’s Course.*

17. The Recruit’s Course consists of five lessons. Each lesson takes about half-an-hour, and the course, with daily instruction, should last from five to six weeks. The training should be carried out chiefly in a “free and easy” kit, but men should be accustomed to use their bayonets when wearing belt and pouches, and packs may be worn when required to carry out an efficiency test. For the “pointing” and “parrying” practices a light stick 5 feet to 5 feet 6 inches long and between
1¾ inches and 3 inches in circumference must be provided for every two men.

**Daily Practice.**

18. Half-an-hour a day, at least five days a week, should be devoted to the Daily Practice in bayonet fighting for trained soldiers. In the practice, good direction, quickness, and strength are developed, and a soldier is accustomed to using the bayonet under conditions which approximate to actual fighting. This half-hour should be apportioned to (1) Pointing at the body; (2) Pointing at paper balls on light sticks at varying distances and directions; (3) Parrying light sticks; (4) Dummy work and, when sufficiently proficient (5) The Final Assault Practice.

**Lesson 1.**

"On Guard."

19. Point of the bayonet directed at the base of the opponent's throat, the rifle held easily and naturally with both hands, the barrel inclined slightly (about 30°) to the left, the right hand over the navel grasping the
small of the butt, the left hand holding the rifle at the most convenient position in front of the backsight so that the left arm is only slightly bent, i.e., making an angle of about 150°. The legs well separated in a natural position such as a man walking might adopt on meeting with resistance, i.e., left knee slightly bent, right foot flat on the ground with toe inclined to the right front.

The position should not be constrained in any way but be one of aggression, alertness, and readiness to go forward for immediate attack.

Common Faults.

1. Leaning body back.
2. Left arm too much bent.
3. Right hand held too low and too far back.
4. Rifle grasped too rigidly, restraining all freedom of movement.

"Rest."

Assume a position of "rest" in the easiest way without moving the feet.
20. Grasping the rifle firmly, vigorously deliver the point from the "on guard" position to the full extent of the left arm, butt running alongside and kept close to the right forearm. Body inclined forward; left knee well bent; right leg braced, and weight of the body pressed well forward on the fore part of the right foot with heel raised.

The chief power in a point is derived from the right arm with the weight of the body behind it, the left arm being used more to direct the point of the bayonet. The eyes must be fixed on the object pointed at. In making points other than straight to the front, the left foot should move in the same direction as that in which the point is made.

During the latter stages of this lesson the men should be practiced in stepping forward with the right foot when delivering the point.

*Common Faults.*

1. Rifle drawn back before delivering the point.
2. Butt of the rifle held as high as or against the right shoulder.
3. The eyes not directed on the object aimed at.
4. Left knee not sufficiently bent.
5. Body not thrust sufficiently forward.

The long point is made against an opponent at a range of about four or five feet from the attacker's eye.

The Withdrawal.

21. To withdraw the bayonet after a "long point" has been delivered, draw the rifle straight back until the right hand is well behind the hip, and immediately resume the "on guard" position. If the leverage or proximity to the object transfixed renders it necessary, the left hand must first be slipped up close to the muzzle and when a pupil has reached that stage of the lesson when he delivers a point advancing on a dummy, he will adopt this method.
Progression.

1st Practice.

22. Men should always be made to point at a target—e.g., at a named part of the body of the opposite man: “At the right eye” (long pause to commence with), “point” (a pause), “withdraw.” Oblique “points” should be practiced by pointing at the men to the right and left fronts.

As progress is attained, the pause between the “point” and the “withdraw” should be shortened until the men reach a stage when they “withdraw” and come “on guard” directly after making a “point,” judging their own time. They should be taught to point at two or more parts of the body as “First at the nose, then at the right thigh—point.”

To practice action against a retreating foe, turn the inside ranks about and let them “rest.” Show the position of the kidneys (small of the back, either side of the spine), and make the outside ranks point at those of the inside ranks, and vice versa.
Vulnerable Parts of the Body.

23. If possible, the point of the bayonet should be directed against an opponent's throat, especially in corps a corps fighting, as the point will enter easily and make a fatal wound on penetrating a few inches and, being near the eyes, makes an opponent "funk." Other vulnerable and usually exposed parts are the face, chest, lower abdomen and thighs, and the region of the kidneys when the back is turned. Four to six inches penetration is sufficient to incapacitate and allow for a quick withdrawal, whereas, if a bayonet is driven home too far it is often impossible to withdraw it. In such cases a round should be fired to break up the obstruction.

2nd Practice. Pointing at Changing Targets.

24. The class, working in pairs, with the Instructor supervising, should be practiced in pointing in various directions—(1) at the opposite man's hand, which he places in various positions on and off his body; (2) at balls of paper tied or rings fixed with wire on the ends of sticks.
This practice should be done without word of command, so that the eye and brain may be trained.

3rd Practice. Pointing at Discs on Dummies.

25. First teach the men to transfix a disc or number painted on a dummy, at a distance of about five feet (i.e., the extreme range of the bayonet), then advancing from three or more paces from the dummy. The advance must be made in the most practical and natural way, and should be practiced with either foot to the front when the point is delivered.

The rifle must never be drawn back when making a “long point” in a forward movement. The impetus of the body and the forward stretching of the arms supply sufficient force.

The bayonet must be withdrawn immediately after the “point” has been delivered and a forward threatening attitude assumed to the side of or beyond the dummy.

Unless the rifle is firmly gripped it is liable to injure the hand.
To guard against accidents the men must be at least five feet apart when the practice is carried out collectively.

The principles of this practice should be applied when pointing at dummies in trenches, standing upright on the ground, suspended on gallows, etc., at first slowly and deliberately, for no attempt must be made to carry out the Final Assault Practice before the men have been carefully instructed in, and have thoroughly mastered, the preliminary lessons.

Lesson 2.

The Right and Left Parry.

26. From the "on guard" position force the rifle forward far enough to the right (left) to beat off the adversary's weapon, straightening the left arm without bending the wrist or twisting the rifle in the hand.

In making a low parry, care should be taken that the point of the bayonet is sufficiently deflected to ensure the opponent's weapon being beaten off and not missed altogether.
The eyes must be kept on the weapon which is being parried.

"Parries should be practiced with either foot forward: Preparatory practice for parrying when advancing."

**Common Faults.**

1. Wide sweeping parry with no forward movement in it.
2. Eyes taken off the weapon to be parried.

N.B.—Men should be taught to regard the parry as part of an offensive as well as defensive movement, and that it is really part of the "point" which should immediately follow it.

1st Practice. Parries by Word of Command.

27. The class forming the parries should be made to observe carefully the movements of the rifle and should not be kept longer at this practice than is necessary for the men to grasp the controlled vigorous action required.
2nd Practice. Parrying Light Sticks with Padded Ends.

Working in pairs with scabbards on bayonets one man pointing with the stick and the other parrying the “on-guard” position being resumed after each parry. At first this practice must be slow and deliberate, but never allowed to become mechanical, and progressively increased in rapidity and vigor. Later a “point” at that part of the body indicated by the opposite man’s hand should immediately follow the parry, and finally, sticks long enough to represent the opponent’s weapon in the “on-guard” position should be attached to the dummies and parried before delivering the point.”

The men must also be taught to parry points made at them (1) by an “enemy” in a trench when they are themselves on the parapet; (2) by an “enemy” on the parapet when they are in the trench, and (3) when both are on the same level fighting at close quarters in a deep trench.
Lesson 3.

The Short Point.

28. Shift the left hand quickly towards the muzzle and draw the rifle back to the full extent of the right arm,* the butt either above or below according to whether a low or a high point is to be made, and deliver the "point" vigorously to the full extent of the left arm.

N.B.—The "short point" is used at a range of about three feet and in close fighting is the natural point to make when the bayonet has just been withdrawn after a "long point." If a strong "withdrawal" is necessary the right hand should be slipped above the back-sight after the "short point" has been made.

Practice.

29. The principles of the three practices of Lesson 1 should be observed so far as they apply. By placing two marks on a dummy the "short point" should be taught in conjunction with the "long point," the first mark being transfixed with the latter, the second

*Or as far as the left arm will allow.
with the former. On delivery of the "long point" if the left foot is forward, the "short point" would take place with the right foot forward, and vice versa.

"Parries from the position of the short should be practiced."

LESSON 4.

Jab or Upward Point.

30. From the position of the "short point" shift the right hand up the rifle and grasp it above the back sight at the same time bringing the rifle to an almost vertical position close to the body, and, from this position, bend the knees and jab the point of the bayonet upwards into the throat or under the chin of the opponent.

"Men must be practiced from the Jab position in fending off an attack made on any part of them by an opponent."

Common Faults.

1. Rifle drawn backward and not held vertically enough.
2. Rifle grasped too low with the right hand.

N.B.—The jab can be employed successfully in close-quarter fighting in narrow trenches and when "embraced" by an opponent.

Lesson 5.

Methods of Injuring an Opponent.

31. It should be impressed upon the class that though a man's "point" has missed or has been parried (or his bayonet broken), he can, as "attacker," still maintain his advantage by injuring his opponent in one of the following ways:—

The Butt.

32. The butt can be used effectively by bringing it up with all possible force against the jaw, stomach, fork, etc. It can also be banged down on the knee or instep. The butt should be employed when it is not possible to use the point.

Magazine or Trigger Guard.

33. Smash the magazine or trigger guard violently into the opponent's face.
Use of the Knee.

34. When gripped by an opponent and unable to use the point, the knee brought up against the fork or the heel stamped on the instep will momentarily disable him and make him release his hold.

Tripping.

35. When wrestling, the opponent can be tripped by forcing his weight on to one leg and kicking that leg away from under him, or any other wrestler’s trip, e.g., “back-heel.”

N.B.—The above methods will only temporarily disable an enemy, who must be killed with the bayonet, etc.

Practice.

36. When the classes have been shown the methods of using the butt and the knee they should be practiced on the stick and paper ball dummy. Fix several marks on a dummy and make a point at one, use the knee on another fixed low down, jab a third, and so on.

Light dummies, incapable of breaking it, should be used for practice with the butt.
SECTION 4.

Tactical Application of the Bayonet.

37. A bayonet assault should preferably be made under cover of fire, surprise, or darkness. In these circumstances the prospect of success is greatest, for a bayonet is useless at any range except hand-to-hand.

Night Work.

38. At night all these covers can be utilized. On the other hand, confusion is inherent in fighting by night, and the execution of a successful night attack with the bayonet, therefore, requires considerable and lengthy training. Units should be frequently practiced in night work with the bayonet.

Bayonet an Offensive Weapon.

39. The bayonet is essentially a weapon of offense which must be used with skill and vigor or it has but little effect. To await passively an opportunity of using the bayonet entails defeat, since an approaching enemy will merely stand out of bayonet range and
shoot down the defenders. In charging short distances across the open in close formation the rifle should be carried at the "high port"—the safest position in this formation.

_No Firing During an Assault._

40. In an assault the enemy should be killed with the bayonet. Firing should be avoided, for in the mix-up a bullet, after passing through an opponent's body, may kill a friend who happens to be in the line of fire.

_Final Assault Practice._

41. _Only to be carried out after the men have been thoroughly trained in all the preliminary lessons, and have acquired complete control of their weapons; otherwise injury to rifles and bayonets will result from improper application of the methods laid down in the foregoing instruction._

The Final Assault Practice must approximate as nearly as possible to the conditions of actual fighting.

Nervous tension due to the anticipation of an attack reacting on the body, as well as the dash across the open by fully equipped men,
result in the arrival of the assaulting party in a more or less exhausted state, and it is only by their physical fitness and superior skill in the use of the bayonet that they can overcome a comparatively fresh foe.

Therefore quick aim and good direction of the bayonet when moving rapidly or even surmounting obstacles, the accurate delivery of a point of sufficient strength and vigor to penetrate clothing and equipment, the clean withdrawal of the bayonet—which requires no small effort, especially should it be fixed by a bone—are of the greatest importance, and need the same careful attention and constant practice as is devoted to obtaining efficiency with the rifle.

In the Final Assault Practice the charge brings the men to the first trench in a fairly exhausted condition, and the accuracy of the aim is tested by the mark, which can only be "carried" by a true and vigorous thrust and a clean withdrawal.

For this practice the men should be made to commence the assault by getting out of a trench six or seven feet deep, as well as from
the open, and they should not shout until close up to the "enemy."

Final Assault Practice Ground.

42. A reproduction of a labyrinth of trenches, with dummies in the "dug-outs," shelters between the trenches, etc., forms an excellent Final Assault Practice Ground, and it should be assaulted from all four sides to give variety. The edge of the trenches should be protected by spars or baulks anchored back, otherwise constant use will soon wear out the course. Cinders scattered over the course prevent the men slipping. The number, length and construction of trenches is regulated by the ground available and by the ingenuity of commanding officers. If gallows cannot be erected, sack dummies should be placed on tripods or standing on end, as well as lying in trenches or on the parapets, with soft earth free from stones under them, etc.

Staff and Assistant Instructors are responsible for the upkeep of Final Assault Practice Courses.
Tactical Schemes.

43. Extremely interesting and practical schemes in trench warfare can be arranged by combining the Final Assault Practice with other branches of training. In these schemes bayonet work should be dove-tailed with bombing, building up of sandbags, entrenching, the duties of "bayonet" and "observation" men, etc.

Competitions.

44. Competitions can be arranged by allotting points for (1) number of marks transfixed and carried on a bayonet, (2) time taken from signal to charge until the last man of the team passes the finishing post, and (3) style.

Competitions should never be carried out until the men have completed their lessons in bayonet training and thoroughly mastered the handling of the bayonet in the Final Assault Practice.
SUMMARY OF PROGRESSIVE STEPS IN BAYONET TRAINING.

LESSON 1.

Class arrangements. Explain hand-to-hand fighting and inculcate the spirit of the bayonet.

(Ref. Para. 20.)

1. Teach "on guard" and "rest."

1st Practice.

(In class by word of command.)

1. Teach "long point" and "withdraw."
2. Two or more "long points," withdrawing after each.

2nd Practice.

(Class working by eye.)

1. Pointing at hand of opposite man in various positions.
2. Pointing when advancing with right foot.

3. Point from "on guard," followed by point when advancing with right foot.

4. Pointing at ball of paper on stick.

3rd Practice.

(Pointing at dummy.)

1. Pointing and withdrawing at extreme range of bayonet.

2. Pointing and withdrawing when advancing.

3. Pointing at two or more dummies.

Lesson 2.

Explain value of parries.

1st Practice.

(In class by word of command.)

1. Teach right and left parries.

2. Right and left parries followed by point.
2nd Practice.

(Class working by eye.)
1. Parry stick pointed breast high.
2. Parry stick, breast high, and point at named target.
3. Parry stick low or high.
4. Parry stick low or high, and point at named target.
5. When advancing, parry stick and point at dummy.
6. Parry point made with stick by advancing opponent.

Lesson 3.

Demonstrate "short point" and explain when it is used.

1st Practice.

(In class by word of command.)
1. "Short point" from "on guard."
2. "Short points" varied with "long points."

2nd Practice.

(Class working by eye.)
1. "Short point" at hand.
2. "Short points" varied with "long points" at hand.
3. "Long point" from "on guard," and "short point" when advancing right foot, at hand.
4. "Long" and "short points" at paper ball on stick.

3rd Practice.
(Pointing at dummy.)
1. "Short point" at dummy and withdrawal from stationary position.
2. "Short point" when advancing.
3. "Long" and "short point" at dummy when advancing.
4. "Long" and "short points" at two or more dummies when advancing.

Lesson 4.

Demonstrate "jab" into dummy and explain when used, etc.

1st Practice.
(In class by word of command.)
1. "Jab" from "short point."
2. "Jab" from "long point."
4. "Short point," "jab," and "long point."

2nd Practice.
(Class working by eye.)
1. "Jab," "short point," and "long point"
   varied at paper ball.

3rd Practice.
(Pointing at dummy.)
1. Standing "jab" at dummy.
2. Standing "jab" from "short point" at dummy.
3. Advancing, "long point" and "jab," "short point" and "jab" at dummy.
4. Advancing, "long and short point" and two or more "jabs" at dummy.
5. Advancing, "long and short points" and "jabs" in varying order at two or more dummies.

Lesson 5.
Methods of disabling opponent by means of the butt, etc. Occasion when used.
1st Practice.

(In class by word of command.)
1. Class to practice butt stroke.

2nd Practice.

(At target.)
1. Practice butt strokes at paper balls.
2. The "trip" practiced by men working in pairs.

3rd Practice.

(On dummy.)
1. Butt strokes on light dummies.
2. Points, "jab" at dummies, butt strokes at light dummies.
PLATE III

"Withdraw"

PRACTICE 3.

LESSON 1.
PLATE IV.
"Short Point"
Manual of Practical Bayonet Fighting

WITH SERVICE RIFLE AND BAYONET

FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES

ILLUSTRATED
FOREWORD.

The object of this manual is to help to insure uniformity of instruction in the art of practical bayonet-fighting with a service rifle fitted with a service bayonet. It does not purpose to be of assistance in training men for competition fighting, although it may be of some use for individual instruction, but is hoped that it will be of service to Officers and N.C.O.'s when training a squad or a company.

There can and should be no absolutely set form of phrases and directions in a course of bayonet-fighting; but the order of the stages of each lesson should be strictly adhered to, and the words of command in the drill, which necessarily enters into each lesson, should be uniform.

The drill is framed to produce order and discipline as well as to save time and eliminate almost entirely the element of danger which would be present when practicing bayonet-fighting if care were not taken.
It is important that every man should be as efficient in bayonet-fighting as in musketry. Owing to the use of machine-guns the soldier’s rifle is growing of less value, and the bayonet is rapidly becoming his chief weapon.

The few hints here presented should be of value to those teaching and learning how to use a bayonet. The advice given is the outcome of experience gained in the present war.
Practical Bayonet Fighting

WITH SERVICE RIFLE AND BAYONET.

The instructor should first of all explain to his recruits the use of the bayonet in modern warfare, and that the object of the lesson is to make everyone efficient in the art of fighting with a "service rifle and bayonet." Lessons should be made interesting and not too fatiguing. A bayonet charge can only be successful when the men show an extraordinary amount of courage, dash, and determination. Victory comes to those who combine with these qualities superior skill in the use of the bayonet. A half-hearted attack is dangerous only to the attacker.

Nothing is more calculated to demoralize the enemy than the appearance of determination on the part of the attackers. The way to acquire the necessary dash and determination is to feel confident in your power to use the bayonet.
In teaching recruits bayonet-fighting the following are the main points to which special attention must be paid:

(1) When "On Guard" the point of the bayonet should be about as high as your opponent's breast, barrel inclining to the left, the bayonet covering your left side. A firm grip of the rifle with both hands should always be maintained. (See Fig. 1.) In coming "On Guard" the point of the bayonet must not be shot up into the air so as to enable the enemy to get underneath it. This is very important, but is a common error.

(2) After the "On Guard" comes the "Rest," which is taught in two movements from the "On Guard":—(1) Seize the rifle with the right hand above the left hand; (2) bring the rifle smartly between the legs, at the same time cut away the left hand to the side. The feet are not moved. To return 'On Guard" from the "Rest" the movements are exactly the same as from
"Attention," excepting that the feet are not moved.

(3) When "Pointing," point vigorously and straight to the front without raising or lowering the point of the bayonet. The left hand will not be moved up or down the rifle. The "Point" will be delivered to the full extent of the arm. (See Fig. 2.) Right elbow should be kept well down. In teaching the "Point," recruits should first be taught to point and remain there until ordered to return "On Guard," but subsequently they should be taught to point and return on guard smartly on the command "Point."

(4) The Instructor must emphasize the necessity for speed both in the delivery of the "Point" and in the "Withdraw," but care must be taken that a good point be made before a quick withdraw is attempted. The body should be inclined well forward to give weight to the point, and the left knee slightly bent, so that the hips are not drawn
back when delivering it. Instructors should explain the reason for rapid withdraw—namely, to enable the bayonet to be withdrawn at the same angle as it was inserted. If your opponent falls forward on your bayonet, great difficulty is sometimes experienced in extracting it, and your second opponent may be on you before you can defend yourself.

(5) When explaining the "Point in any Direction" a man should be called out and told to "Point" at the butt of a rifle, the instructor holding the butt in various positions, such as on his right side, towards the ground or high left. Every man should then be told to imagine that someone is in front of him holding a rifle in the same position as the instructor, and be made to "Point" in the direction in which the instructor holds the rifle.

(6) When "Parrying" do not parry too wide, thus uncovering your body; if
this is done it is an invitation for your opponent’s weapon. As far as possible a parry is made by a vigorous straightening of the left arm in the required direction (See Fig. 3), keeping the right hand as still as possible and using it as a pivot. The left parries are more difficult than those to the right, and must be made with a vigorous chopping movement. The right hand must of necessity be moved slightly in making left parries (See Fig. 4).

(7) When “Parrying in any Direction” men should not be taught to return “On Guard” after each parry, but the rifle should travel vigorously from one parry to another, there being no time to come “On Guard.”

(8) When giving orders to “Parry,” the direction should be given first, i.e., “Right” Parry, “High Right” Parry, etc. Care should be taken never to follow your bayonet with your eyes, but to look straight at your opponent.
(9) In Lesson III. ("Shorten Arms") it is very important that the bayonet should be withdrawn vigorously along the line of least resistance to the fullest extent of the right arm without releasing the grip of either hand.

(10) Always show a squad how to perform each movement.

(11) When instructing, perform each movement smartly, clearly, and distinctly, so that there can be no doubt as to what the men are expected to do.

(12) When calling out a recruit to illustrate a movement, it is desirable to utilize the services of the smartest man in the squad, and to take care that he is facing in such a direction as will enable the whole squad to see exactly what is being done.

(13) Always find some mistake, checking each man's position until all are practically perfect in same.

(14) To promote keenness and accuracy of
FIG. 3—“RIGHT PARRY”
aim and to make the "Final Assault" more interesting, competitions can be held as follows:

(1) White discs or targets pinned on sacks.
(2) Timing over the course.
(3) Style and method of attack.

(15) Above all things suppleness, lightness, ease, and freedom of movement should be aimed at, and all stiffness and cramped positions must be carefully eschewed. For this reason avoid the atmosphere of drill present on the parade ground.

(16) Do not forget that the impetus of a charging line gives it moral and physical advantages over a stationary line. The defensive should therefore be ready to meet a bayonet charge by a counter-charge if their fire fails to stop the assailant. Do not make this counter-charge too soon; when made, victory always goes to those who are best in
hand and charge with the most spirit and determination.

(17) Avoid keeping a squad too long in a strained position, such as "The Point." When explaining a movement men should be called to the "Rest."

(18) Special attention should be paid to all details contained in Lesson I., and if possible individual instruction be given.

(19) It should be impressed on the pupil that though his point has missed or has been parried, he can, as attacker, still maintain his advantage over his opponent by employing any such method as the occasion warrants—e.g., use of butt, tripping, kicking in fork of legs, etc.

(20) In the final assault avoid the tendency of "haymaking" when pointing at the sacks. The bayonet should be thrust into the sack and withdrawn properly and not released by hoisting the sack over the shoulder. It is very difficult and quite unnecessary to cast your opponent over your shoulder like a sheaf of corn on a fork.
ORDER OF THE LESSONS.

Lesson I.

ON GUARD
REST
THE POINT
POINT IN ANY DIRECTION
PARRIES:—

(a) RIGHT PARRY.
(b) HIGH RIGHT PARRY.
(c) LOW RIGHT PARRY.
(d) LEFT PARRY.
(e) HIGH LEFT PARRY.
(f) LOW LEFT PARRY.
(g) PARRY IN ANY DIRECTION.

Lesson II.

STAGE 1.—Pointing at the Sack.
STAGE 2.—Making up Ground or Distance.
STAGE 3.—Advance from Ten Paces in Quick Time, "Point," Return "On Guard" in Threatening Attitude Forward.
Stage 4.—Advance from ten paces as in stage 3, but parry before “point.”

Lesson III.

Stage 1.—Shorten arms.

Stage 2.—Second “point” or “jab” (seizing rifle by the nose with left hand).

Stages 3 and 4.—Repeat stages 3 and 4 of Lesson II., but shorten arms after the “point.”

Lesson IV.

Stage 1.—Repeat last stages of Lesson III., and advance (in quick time only) to a second opponent on the ground about ten paces further on, “Point,” “Withdraw,” placing the foot on the enemy, and show threatening attitude forward.
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STAGE 2.—Final Assault. Advance from thirty paces at the double with arms at the trail, breaking into a charge (on the command) about fifteen paces from the sack, repeating previous stage.

Lesson V.

Use of the Butt.

DRILL.

In Conjunction with Lesson I.

Squad—Fall in
Squad—Attention
Number
Rear Rank—one pace Step back
—March
Open Ranks—March.

(Odd numbers of the front rank take three paces forward; even numbers of the rear rank take three paces to the rear.)
STAND AT EASE, STAND EASY.

(The instructor will then explain what he is about to teach.)

SQUAD—ATTENTION.

(Then follows Lesson I.)

At close of Lesson I., if squad is at "Rest,"

ON GUARD, ORDER ARMS
RE-FORM RANKS—MARCH, CLOSE RANKS
STAND AT EASE, STAND EASY.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH LESSON II.

The squad will be ordered before each stage to gather round the instructor at the double whilst he illustrates and explains what is to be done.

In Stages 1 and 2 the squad will fall in in two ranks facing the sacks and about four or five paces from them.

WITH STAGE 1.

(If four sacks only are available.)

FIRST TWO FILES—READY.

On the command "First Two Files,"
the first two files will spring to “Attention,” and on the command “Ready” will double to their places about one pace from each sack and stand to “Attention.”

ON GUARD
POINT
ON GUARD
POINT

NEXT TWO FILES—READY.

On the command “Next Two Files,” the first two files at once “Order Arms” and the next two files will spring to “Attention.” On the command “Ready,” the first two files will at once double back to their places in the squad, passing well behind the sacks and to their outer flank, and the next two files will double to their places in front of the sacks. Carry on in this manner until it is necessary to give the command—“Remaining Files—Ready.”
With Stage 2.
Commence as in Stage 1, but on the command "Ready," files take up their positions about two paces from the sacks, and when the first two files receive the command "Point," the next two files will spring to "Attention" and double to their places about two paces in front of the sacks. On the command "On Guard," the first two files "Order Arms" and double to their positions in the squad.

With Stages 3 and 4.
The squad will fall in on the side of the practice ground near to the sacks, so as to be able to see clearly what is being done.

First Two Files—Ready.
Files act as in previous drill, except that men take up their positions ten paces from the sacks. On the command "Advance," the next two files spring to "Attention" and double to their places ten paces from the sacks.
When the second and all succeeding two files have taken up their positions ten paces from the sacks and received the command "On Guard," the preceding two files who are at the position of "On Guard" forward of the sacks immediately "Order Arms," and on the word "Advance" double back to their places as previously.

In Conjunction with Lesson III.

With Stages 1 and 2.
Same as with Stages 1 and 2 of Lesson II., except that files will take up their positions rather less than one pace from the sacks.

With Stages 3 and 4.
Same as with Stages 3 and 4 of Lesson II.

In Conjunction with Lesson IV.

With Stages 1 and 2.
Same as with Stages 3 and 4 of Lesson II., except that files will take up their
positions about thirty yards from the sacks.

In conjunction with Lesson V.
Squad will fall in as in Lesson I.

Details of Lessons with Words of Command.

Lesson I.

Squad—Fall in, Squad—Attention, Number, Rear Rank—One pace Step back—March, Open Ranks—March, Stand At Ease, Stand Easy.

Explain the movement for coming “On Guard.”

On Guard

Explain the movement for “Rest.”

Rest

On Guard

Explain the movement for the “Point.”
POINT (and remain there)
ON GUARD
POINT ("Point" and return "On Guard")
REST

Explain and illustrate by calling out a recruit the method of "Pointing in any Direction." On the first "Point," "Point" and remain there, subsequently "Point" and return "On Guard."

POINT IN SPECIFIED DIRECTIONS
(see page 56).

PARRIES
PARRY IN ANY DIRECTION (see page 57).
ORDER ARMS, RE-FORM RANKS—MARCH, CLOSE RANKS, STAND AT EASE, STAND EASY.

Lesson II.
Stage 1.—Pointing at the Sack.
Squad falls in facing sacks about five yards distant.
FIRST TWO FILES—READY (see "Drill," page 64).
ON GUARD
POINT (and remain in sack)
ON GUARD
POINT (and return "On Guard")

NEXT TWO FILES—READY
First two files "Order Arms" and the next two files come to "Attention" as explained on page 65. First two files double away, passing on the left of the sacks and by their outer flank in rear of the sacks, and the next two files double to their positions and stand to "Attention."

ON GUARD, POINT, Etc.
Carry on until "Remaining files."

STAGE 2.—MAKING UP GROUND OR DISTANCE.

FIRST TWO FILES—READY
Files take up their positions two paces in front of the sacks.

ON GUARD
POINT
Men advance one pace rapidly with the right foot, "Point," "Withdraw" very
smartly, and return "On Guard" slightly forward of the sack, showing a threatening attitude.

On the word "Point" the next two files double out and take up their places two paces in front of the sacks, standing to "Attention."

ON GUARD

The first two files "Order Arms" and return to their places in the squad as in Stage 1.

REMAINING FILES

Stage 3.—Advance from Ten Paces in Quick Time, "Point," Return "On Guard" in a Threatening Attitude Forward.

The squad will fall in on the side of the practice-ground near to the sacks so as to see clearly what is being done.

FIRST TWO FILES—READY

Men take up their position ten paces from the sacks, standing to "Attention."
ON GUARD—ADVANCE

Next two files spring to "Attention" and take up their positions ten paces from the sacks in double time.

On the word "Advance," the first two files move in quick time until within a couple of paces of the sacks, when they break into very quick double time, in order to deceive their opponents by altering the pace.

When the second two files receive the command "On Guard," the first two files "Order Arms," and on the word "Advance" being given to the second two files double back to their places in the squad.

Carry on until "Remaining files."

STAGE 4.—ADVANCE TEN PACES AS IN STAGE 3, BUT BEFORE POINTING PARRY.

N.B.—The "Parry" and the "Point" should be done in one forward movement.
Stage 1.—Shorten Arms.

In this exercise the sacks should be held back and allowed to swing forward on the word "Point," so as to enable the bayonet to be thrust completely through, but taking care that the man holding the sack stands clear of the point. The bayonet must be withdrawn vigorously along the line of least resistance to the fullest extent of the right arm without releasing the grip of either hand. Files fall in as in Stages 1 and 2 of Lesson II., but take up their positions rather less than one pace in front of the sacks.

POINT (and stay there)

Withdraw—Shorten Arms

On Guard

POINT, combining the three movements

(a) Point
(b) Withdraw—Shorten Arms
(c) On Guard.
Stage 2.—Second “Point” or “Jab.”
After “Shorten Arms” seize the nose of the rifle with the left hand and “jab” it forward into your opponent.

Stage 3.—Repeat Stages 3 and 4 of Lesson II., but “Shorten Arms,” i.e., Advance Ten Paces, “Point,” Withdraw,” “Shorten Arms,” and Show Forward Attitude.
Words of command and drill are the same as in Stage 3 of Lesson II.

Stage 4.—Same as Stage 3, Except that a Parry Must be Made Before the “Point.”

Lesson IV.

Stage 1.—Advance Ten Paces (at a walk, repeating what has already been learned), “Parry,” “Point,” Advance to Second Opponent on Ground, “Point,” “Withdraw,” Placing Foot on Enemy to Get
BAYONET FIGHTING

Leverage, and Show Threatening Attitude Forward.
Fall in as in previous lessons.

ON GUARD

ADVANCE (in quick time and "Parry" as directed)
Next files take up their positions at the double on the word "Advance."

STAGE 2.—"Final Assault."
In this lesson everything previously learned is practiced at double quick time.
Files fall in as in previous exercises, but at thirty paces from the sacks, and probably in a trench or lying down.

ADVANCE
Men will advance at double time with arms at the trail for about fifteen paces, when the word will be given to

CHARGE
Men immediately come "On Guard" and charge, parrying, pointing, and withdrawing, rushing at second op-
ponent, pointing, and returning "On Guard" in threatening attitude.

LESSON V.

USE OF THE BUTT.

It often happens that it is not possible to use the bayonet for the reason that one is in close grips with an opponent, or that a "Point" has been parried and there is no time to recover and make another. In such cases one is driven in self-defense to any unorthodox method of attack which occurs at the moment, but there are certain uses to which the butt of the rifle can be put which every man should be taught.

The first and most common is to take advantage of the force of the parry, and to swing the butt of the rifle violently round into the ribs or against the jaw or head of an opponent, at the same time closing with him. If the point has been parried upwards, the bayonet will be brought across the left
shoulder and the butt swung upwards and thrust into your opponent's face or into any other open or vital spot where most damage can be inflicted.

A second and useful trick is the "Trip." When in close grips with an opponent lean forward and push him backwards, so as to cause him to throw his weight on one foot, at the same time deftly and quickly jerk his other foot upwards with your own leg. This will throw him on his back at once.

Free and liberal use of the knee or boot in the lower part of the stomach will often be found very effectual.
Notes on Bayonet Training
No. 2

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The following pamphlet, Notes on Bayonet Training, No. 2, is published for the information of all concerned.

(300.6, A. G. O.)

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

H. L. SCOTT,
Major General, Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

H. P. McCAIN,
The Adjutant General.
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## PART II.—"IN-FIGHTING."

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BAYONET TRAINING.

INTRODUCTION.

PHYSICAL FITNESS.

It has been proved that one of the most important factors in this war is physical fitness and development of the fighting spirit. Courage is only developed in a man by his being trained to have the greatest confidence in his fighting weapon. It is just as absurd to send a man forward to fight with a bayonet without having complete confidence in his weapon, as it would be to put an untrained man in the ring against a professional prize fighter. The lack of confidence on the part of the untrained man would be about the same in both cases.

FINAL ASSAULT PRACTICE.

Officers and noncommissioned officers must themselves become good fighters if they are to teach others how to fight, and their success as leaders depends to a very large extent upon their ability as instructors. Looking at the question broadly it may be stated that the aim of training is the improvement of the fighting quality of a mass, and those who are least efficient should receive the most attention so as to bring them up to the plane of their comrades, as each man in the mass depends upon his confidence in himself and in his comrades as fighters.

Bayonet fighting must be taught as boxing, fencing, and wrestling are taught—by actual contact and not merely theoretically. To tell a man how to box and give him instructions by the hour will never make him a boxer. He must combine theory with practice. He must put on the gloves and measure his skill against that of others, and the more he does this, provided he is instructed on the right lines, the greater degree of proficiency to which he will attain. From a fighting point of view, boxing is most invaluable as an aid to training.
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STIMULUS OF PHYSICAL CONTACT.

The aim is to develop the soldier of every rank into an ideal fighting man, and it may be put bluntly that progress in training is frequently hindered by the failure of the recruit to apply the natural fighting spirit. It is here where "in-fighting disarming practice," for instance, is such a valuable adjunct to training. The soldier’s fighting spirit must be drawn out by actual physical contact.

Regimental officers should be more proficient in the use of the fighting weapons than their men, because the fact of the men knowing that their officers are capable fighters creates a feeling of confidence.

THE SPIRIT OF THE BAYONET.

Uniformity in training is also an important point, as men going into action are buoyed up by the fact that their comrades on their right and left are capable of doing their share at the critical moment.

All ranks must understand that the enemy method of bayonet fighting is not the same as our method. Therefore the greatest control of the rifle and bayonet is necessary in order to meet any form of attack.

The spirit of the bayonet must be inculcated into all ranks so that they go forward with that aggressive determination and confidence of superiority born of continual practice, without which a bayonet assault will not be effective.

NOTES.

(1) All "in-fighting" practices can be done with parrying poles padded at the ends representing rifle and bayonet, or with equipment, viz, spring muskets, gloves, masks, and body pads.

(2) Any low point may be effectively parried with the butt, and after parrying the butt can be used to disable opponent.

(3) The first object after parrying point with hand or arm is to disable opponent. Secondly, to disarm and kill.

(4) Troops armed with bayonet only can be effectively taught to repel attack against rifle and bayonet.

(5) Any simple method of Ju-jitsu, wrestling, and boxing should be taught and encouraged.
Series "A."—1-8.

LONG POINT, SHORT POINT, AND JAB.


Each dummy must be regarded as an actual armed opponent, and each line of dummies as an enemy line—attacking, defending, or retiring—and be disposed of accordingly.

1. On guard.
3. Long point, at dummy on ground.
4. Foot on dummy, left hand up, vigorous withdrawal.
5. Short point—Position.
6. Short point at dummy, advancing rear foot.
7. Right hand up, withdrawal ready for jab.
8. Jab—Advancing rear foot. Withdraw, passing through dummies at on guard position.
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ON GUARD.
LONG POINT. AT DUMMY ON GROUND.
Series "A."—4.

FOOT ON DUMMY. LEFT HAND UP. VIGOROUS WITHDRAWAL.
Series "A."—5. Short Point, Position.
Series "A."—7. Right hand up, withdrawal ready for jab.
Series "B."—9-14.

ASSAULT PRACTICE.

Reference, Paragraphs 41 to 55, Notes on Bayonet Training, March, 1917.

9. Charging at high port. The threatening, yet defensive, "On Guard" position will be assumed at least 10 yards from the enemy.
10. Jumping from parapet, with point on dummy.
11. Control and direction of point.
12. Point leading on landing.
13. Foot on dummy, left hand up, vigorous withdrawal.
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Series "B."—10. JUMPING FROM PARAPET, WITH POINT ON DUMMY.
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ON GUARD AND FORWARD.
Series "C."—15-20.

DIRECTION PRACTICE AT THRUSTING RING.

15. On guard.
16. Long point.
17. Short point—position.
18. Short point.
20. Jab.
SHORT POINT.

DEMONSTRATION OF SUCCESSFUL ATTACK, SHOWING METHOD OF WITHDRAWING THE RIFLE FROM VICTIM.

22. Victim forced to ground.
24. Ready for further action with short point.
VICTIM FORCED TO GROUND.

USE OF BUTT.

Reference, Paragraphs 31 to 36, Notes on Bayonet Training, March, 1917.

25. Right parry.
26. Attack continued with butt to flank.
27. Points forced up after parry.
28. Butt to fork.
29. Left low parry.
30. Butt to head.
ATTACK CONTINUED WITH BUTT TO FLANK.
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Series "E."—28. BUTT TO FORK.
Series "F."—31-33.

FINAL ASSAULT.

Reference, Paragraphs 41 to 55, Notes on Bayonet Training, March, 1917.

31. Final assault.
32. Final assault.
33. Final assault.

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Series "F."—31.  
FINAL ASSAULT (1).
Series "F."—33.  
FINAL ASSAULT (3).
Series "G."—34-41.

"IN-FIGHTING."

Parry point outward with left hand. Step in, seizing opponent's left wrist firmly with the right hand. Grip rifle with left hand (back of hand down). Swing rifle upward and to the right, at the same time stepping in, bringing left knee violently to fork. Disarm, using butt or point.

34. Parry point outward with left hand.
35. Step in, seizing opponent's left wrist firmly with right hand.
36. Grip the rifle with left hand, back of the hand down.
37. Swing the rifle upward and to the right, at the same time stepping in, retaining grasp on opponent's left wrist.
38. Left knee, violently to fork.
39. Force opponent to ground, and disarm.
40. Use butt or point.
41. Using point to kill.
STEP IN, SEIZING OPPONENT'S LEFT WRIST FIRMLY WITH RIGHT HAND.
SERIES "C."—36. GRIP THE RIFLE WITH LEFT HAND, BACK OF THE HAND DOWN.
SWING THE RIFLE UPWARD AND TO THE RIGHT, AT THE SAME TIME STEPPING IN, RETAINING GRASP ON OPPONENT'S LEFT WRIST.

Series "G."—37.
Series "G."—40. Use butt or point.
BAYONET TRAINING.

USING POINT TO KILL.

SERIES "G."—41.
Series "H."—42-47.

"IN-FIGHTING."

Parry point outward with right hand, kicking at fork or shin with rear foot and gripping rifle with right hand (back of hand down), swing rifle upward and to the left. Force point to ground, at the same time stepping in, vigorously charging or tripping opponent. Disarm and kill.

42. Parry point outward with right hand.
43. Kicking at fork or shin with rear foot, and gripping rifle with right hand, back of hand down.
44. Swing rifle upward and to the left.
45. Force point to ground, stepping in.
46. Vigorously charging or tripping.
47. Disarm and kill.
Kicking at fork or shin with rear foot, and gripping rifle with right hand, back of hand down.

SWING RIFLE UPWARD AND TO THE LEFT.

Series "II."—44.
FORCE POINT TO GROUND, STEPPING IN.

Series "H."—45.
VIGOROUSLY CHARGING OR TRIPPING.

Series "II."—46
Series "H."—47.  
DISARM AND KILL.
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"IN-FIGHTING."

Parry point outward and grasp rifle with right hand. Step in, striking opponent's left hand from rifle with left hand, and swing left elbow violently to jaw, disarming opponent, using butt to head and killing with point.

48. Parry with hand.
49. Advance, striking opponent's left hand from rifle.
50. Left elbow to jaw.
51. Attack successful, opponent disarmed.
52. Butt to head.
53. Kill with point.
ATTACK SUCCESSFUL, OPPONENT DISARMED.

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Series "K."—54-57.

METHOD OF USING RIFLE AT CLOSE QUARTERS.

54. Attack.
55. Parried and points forced to ground.
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PARRIED AND POINTS FORCED TO GROUND.
CONTACT RESULTS.

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58. Reaching for knife in contact after parried attack.
59. Stab at groin.
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METHODS OF DISENGAGING AND FEINTING.

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61. Disengagement low on parry and dashing in with point.

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DISENGAGEMENT LOW ON PARRY AND DASHING IN WITH POINT.

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Series "N."—62.

A METHOD OF MEETING ATTACKS.

62. Duck and low point.
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