Tonoling 186



## THE DRUM-MAJOR.

#### PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

The duties of the Drum-Major are of more importance in the British service than may be supposed. To him is chiefly entrusted the teaching of the instruments used for calls, beats, and signals; and on him rests the responsibility of their due performance. When it is borne in mind that the calls, beats, and signals form a military language, so to speak, which must be at once understood by the army in general, and by every man in particular, and that this has to be taught by the Drum-Major, and that besides these duties, which are inherent in the office, the band also occasionally remains under his command, as when on parade, in the field, and on the march, it will be seen that it is necessary that the person entrusted with these responsibilities should be an intelligent man, possessed of a good ear for music, and be musically instructed for his duties. Beats, calls, and eignals, taught by ear, evidently cannot be so accurately performed as if taught by note. Without the knowledge of the notes and their durations, the military sounds of command may become, and sometimes are, inadvertently added to, contracted, or varied. These little alterations and fancied improvements are introduced at first imperceptibly, but, passing from ear to ear, a little added here and a little curtailed there, in process of time they may be rendered conspicuously different from the originals. This can never be the case when the Drum-Major himself is properly instructed, and able, as soon as he discovers any deviation from the correct notes, to refer to the source. Musical knowledge, moreover, is the more necessary at present in Drum-Majors, since the whole body of drummers is often required to beat the marches with the band. Several drums adding their rhythmical, powerful, and enlivening accompaniment, or their crescendo rolls, judiciously employed, form a magnificent auxiliary to wind instruments. And here, perhaps, it may be remarked how desirable it seems that the Fifers and Buglers, like the Drummers, which are enjoined this duty by Her Majesty's regulations (page 127), should join the band in the march. Supplied with proper instruments, so many hands might add greatly to the efficiency of the band, and the improvement which

Fifers and Buglers would necessarily derive from this exercise, would at the same time qualify them to perform their duties more effectively.

The union of a body of drums with the band, however, will prove of little effect, and may even become injurious, unless the Drum-major be a musical man; for composers and arrangers of military music, do not indicate the drum parts with the technical terms commonly used by drummers, but by means of musical notes. But even were it not necessary for the Drum-major to know music, in order to teach the service instruments, it would be necessary in order that he should not give the sign to the band to stop in a wrong place, when suddenly required, and so cause, what sometimes happens, a most unpleasant effect, as if the band had broken down.

To meet these various exigencies, and to show the changes which in the increasing improvements in military musical instruments, have also been made in the service instruments, a new Course of Instructions has been deemed necessary, in which the peculiar terms used by drummers to indicate the different beats, such as Flams, Drags, Paradidles, etc., etc., and which are learned with so much labour and difficulty, will be illustrated by musical notes and measure; this being the surest and shortest method of correctly conveying to learners and making them clearly understand the most difficult beats.

#### DRUMS USED IN THE SERVICE.

SIDE DRUM.—The old wooden, heavy, and clumsy signal drum, having gone into general disuse, was superseded for some time by a brass drum of smaller dimensions; this again has lately been replaced by a shallow drum, also of brass, the heads of which are stretched by means of screws instead of cord-bracing, the cords (hempen or copper) running on pulleys.\*

TENOR DRUM.—The tenor drum, which is of a middle size between the side and the bass drum, is constructed on the

same plan as the side drum.

Bass Drum.—The old long dram, also, has gone into gradual disuse, others having been substituted, made on the same principles and with the same advantages as the new Regulation Drum.

<sup>\*</sup> Since the first publication of this work, the Authorities have again adopted the Brass Drum with Cords and Braces, but as the heads, carriage, etc., here described, remain the same, the instructions respecting them remain unaltered.



#### , ON MANAGING, TUNING, AND PRESERVING THE DRUMS.

Side, tenor, and bass drum being constructed in a similar manner, the remarks offered upon the treatment and care of one of these instruments will be available for all, attention being paid to their difference in size, etc.

The tone of a well-constructed drum, i.e., one in which the materials are good and well fitted together, depends chiefly on the equal thickness throughout, and the equal tension of the head. This is only to be stretched so much as is necessary to produce the best quality of tone, but when playing with the band, they must not be pitched to any determined note, because an unchangeable note would be disagreeable on account of the changes of keys and modulations.

It will be easily understood that the state of the weather acts most powerfully on the tension of the head; that dry winds and sunshine will cause such a contraction, that very little or no stretching at all may be required; that damp and moisture will relax the head, so that the drum-cord or screws, pulled as much as they will admit, will scarcely suffice to produce a good tone; that the same circumstances have the opposite effect upon the snares of the side drum, and that such changes may happen very suddenly. These effects of the atmosphere are, or should be, well understood by the experienced Drum-major.

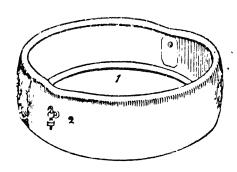
The use of the catgut (snare) which is applied transversely several lengths on the lower head (snare head), is to render the tone rattling and brilliant. It should be carefully adjusted; because if too tight or too loose, it will neither rattle, nor will the drum produce the brilliant tone of which it is capable. If a piece of cloth, or cord, be placed between the catgut and the skin, the side drum will yield a dull sort of sound; this, contrasting, as it does, with its usual brilliancy, is used in dead marches, or for producing sombre effects in other music; it is termed muffling the drum. The catgut may be wrapped with silver wire like the deepest harp or violencelle strings. This renders the rattle distinct and telling, even in the extreme piane. When several drums are to beat together, the volume of sound will always be more striking and powerful by setting them all, as near as possible, at the same degree of tension.

The drum head must at certain times be changed; for this purpose, it must be damped until it is rendered so soft and manageable as to be easily lapped round the flesh hoops. The loosening or tightening the screws and cords, and taking off and putting on the hoop and heads, must be done with great care. The screws should be tightened little by little on opposite sides alternately.

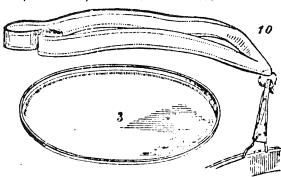


The necessary degree and equality of tension may be ascertained by gently tapping round the head near the hoop. It is better if the snare-head be rather looser than the batter head.

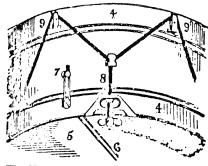
Should a new head be too thick or unequal in thickness, it may be thinned and equalized by gently rubbing a pummice stone on the rough side at the thicker parts. The snare-head should be somewhat thinner than the batter head. It is a general rule that when the drum is not used, the cord, or screw, must be slackened.



1. The Shell. 2. The Snare Screw.



3. The Batter-head. 10. The Carriage



4. The Hoop. 5. The Snare head. 6. The Snare. 7. The Snare Pin. 8. The Screw. 9. The Pulley.

To keep a drum always in effective order, requires the drummer's constant care, and considerable attention on the part of the Drum-major; so that, when through the circumstances previously alluded to, the head becomes either too slack or too tight, he may give directions for bringing it to the state of tension required. Here it must be again remarked, that the tension of the head in the new screw regulation drum can be incomparably better managed than other drums; inasmuch, as it can be screwed or unscrewed at pleasure, even while beating. Unless the cautions given above are attended to, many heads will be prematurely broken, and the drum will be often out of order.

But, above all, it is well to state, what is not less obvious than important, that, in order permanently to keep up the efficiency of his corps, the first care of a qualified Drum-major should be to maintain a strong number of hands at his disposal, and not to be restrained from this by the trouble of teaching so many; because in the long run, this will prove the easiest way of going on. In the regiments of the Guards, the corps of Drums and Fifes for each battalion consists of about twenty-eight; fourteen Drummers and fourteen Fifers.



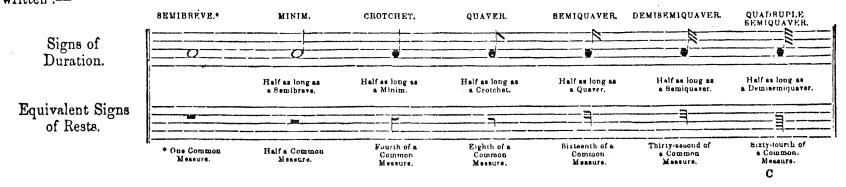
#### PRINCIPLES OF MUSIC FOR THE DRUM.

Sound, even when undefined in pitch, that is to say, a noise, symmetrically repeated, according to certain rules of time or measure, becomes attractive, and may convey a musical meaning. In fact, sounds produced in symmetrical succession, considered independently of the air, tune, or melody they may be intended for, can be put down in writing, and the melody itself may be brought to recollection by this means. Thus, by the knowledge of the differently formed musical notes merely, one can produce a written movement, and can even detect the melody, if he has heard it, as, for instance, the following:—



Hence, the only knowledge required to beat the drum by music, is confined to the *rhythmical* principles of music or time; and this simple and easily acquired knowledge will enable a drummer to call himself a MUSICIAN.

The signs of time or duration which, for the drummers, indicate the interval, or length of time, which is to elapse between one stroke and another, or how long a roll is to last, are marked and named as follows. It is not absolutely necessary they should be written on the usual musical staff, composed of five parallel lines, but they are generally so written:—





The regulation time for marching by Maelzel's metronome is 7 75 (seventy-five paces in the minute for the slow march; and 7 or 2 108 (a hundred and eight paces in the minute) for the quick march. The given number, however, according to the highest military authorities, may be exceeded by a few paces, but must never be under it.

Although every given measure contains the same number of parts, some parts must be more accented than others; these are called the strong parts of the bar. In marches it is obvious that the accents generally fall on the stepping notes. In other music, they are the first in measures composed of two or three parts; the first and third in the measures composed of four parts; and the first and fourth in the measures composed of six parts. The other parts are called the weak parts of the measure. Peculiar accents are duly indicated.

The parts of the measure may be altered by the introduction of some extra notes; for instance, there may be three quavers in the length of a crotchet, called a TRIPLET; or six semiquavers in the length of four, called a six. They are generally indicated thus The indication of the measure, or time and movement, is placed at the beginning of the piece, and whenever it is to be changed.

DEGREES OF LOUD AND SOFT.—The degree of loud and soft in which beats and rolls may be required, is indicated as follows: piano, or p (soft); crescendo, or cres., or \_\_\_\_\_\_ (increasing); forte, or f (loud); diminuendo, or dim., or \_\_\_\_\_ (diminishing), etc., etc.

#### OTHER SIGNS USED IN MUSIC.

TREBLE. TENOR. BASS.

These signs are called *clefs*, because they determine the names of the notes. The first is used for high toned instruments; the second for those of a medium pitch; and the third for the instruments of a low pitch.

Military drums, it has been remarked, give a single sound, and this not at a defined pitch; but should these instruments, for a musical purpose, require to be tuned, the notes of the scale which may be obtained from them are marked under the brace in the following example:—





This compass, however, may vary according to the size, construction, and capability of tension of the drum.

THE PAUSE.— This sign indicates a conventional suspension of the time, or it implies the end of a piece. Fine (the end) is written sometimes on the last note of the ending part.

ABBREVIATIONS.—
This sign indicates the repetition of the preceding bar, or part of a bar; and when it is placed across a bar, thus, the two preceding bars must be repeated. Notes with strokes across, like these, etc., must be considered as so many quavers or semiquavers, etc., as the number of strokes may indicate, and the duration of the note may imply.



dotted double lines, like the preceding, is to be repeated. When the first part or the whole of a movement is to be repeated, it is generally indicated by a double bar with dots placed at its left side.

DA CAPO, or D.C., means to play again from the beginning.

FIRST TIME, SECOND TIME.—These words are sometimes met with in repeats, under a curved line, embracing one or more bars. First time implies that the bar or bars embraced under that curved line are to be played the first time only; and, on repeating, must be omitted, and the bar or bars marked second time be substituted. Repetitions and omissions of this kind may be indicated by means of any other conventional sign, when duly explained.

SMALL NOTES.— \( \int \) These small notes, called appogiaturas, indicate the slight taps or strokes required in flams, drags, etc., as they are used in music to indicate grace and embellishing notes. These appogiaturas must be performed so quick that



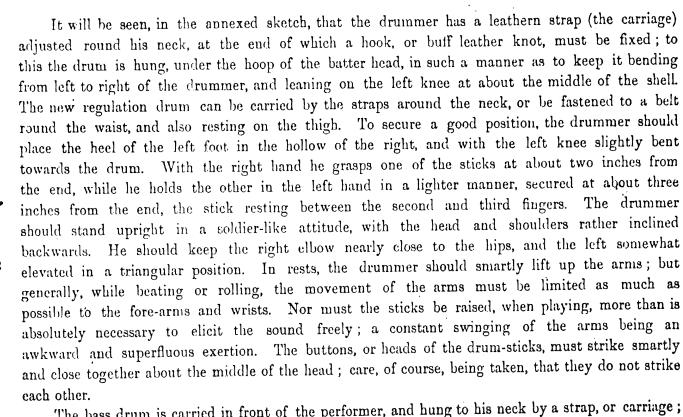
they may really have no exact duration assigned to them, but may borrow, so to say, their value from the following note, without any perceptible alteration of time.

THE SLUR. Curved lines, like the preceding, are placed above groups of notes, which must be particularly well connected together.

The general principles of music are given in the introductory part of the Bandsman. Instructions and methods are also given on the different heads regarding military music and instruments.



#### POSITION OF THE DRUMMER.—CARRIAGE OF THE DRUM.



The bass drum is carried in front of the performer, and hung to his neck by a strap, or carriage; this is beaten with padded sticks, as is also the tenor drum.

Before proceeding to the exercises, it must be premised that the drummers should be instructed at an early age; it being difficult to acquire, when in maturity, the necessary agile action to manage the sticks.



#### EXERCISES.

2. Beats and rolls generally begin by striking with the left hand first; but when successively performed, at given intervals, some are better performed by beginning them alternately, first with the left, and then with the right hand; and this is called

beating or rolling from hand to hand.

3. It is not necessary that a learner should begin beating with the body of drummers, or accompanying the fifes, until after he has passed over the whole of the following exercises, but he may be directed to exercise himself in the beats, in which he will be gradually becoming competent, while he is progressing in knowledge.

TAP , AND STROKE . It has been stated that the sound is elicited from the drum-head by taps and strokes. By a tap, the sound is not so forcibly elicited as by a stroke. The stroke is therefore marked by the sign >, which is used in music for notes which are to be strongly accented.

ROLL \( \frac{\text{from}}{\text{Q}} \). The roll is formed by a successive and alternate repetition of two strokes with each hand, and is learned by bringing the continuous repetition of these two strokes, from the slowest time, closer and closer, until a perfect roll is obtained. Care should be taken that the beats are perfectly equal as to time and power, and the longer the practice of the roll is kept open, the more perfect it will ultimately become. It is dangerous to close it too soon. It should be long before any degree of rapidity beyond the quavers is attempted. The practice of the roll in the art of beating the drum is to the drummer what the practice of the scale is to other instruments. It is the exercise through which alone he can reach the highest degree of efficiency, and should be kept up until satisfactorily attained. The drummers familiarly call it Daddy Mammy.

In practising the first exercises for the Roll, each hand and arm, after its two strokes, must be brought at a certain distance from the drum, viz., the left hand raised up to the forehead, but not close to it, keeping the stick rather inclined towards the drum. The right arm must be kept close to the body, as already stated, but the hand and wrist turned outside, so that the stick may remain nearly in a horizontal position. This distancing of the hands and sticks from the drum must, of course, decrease in

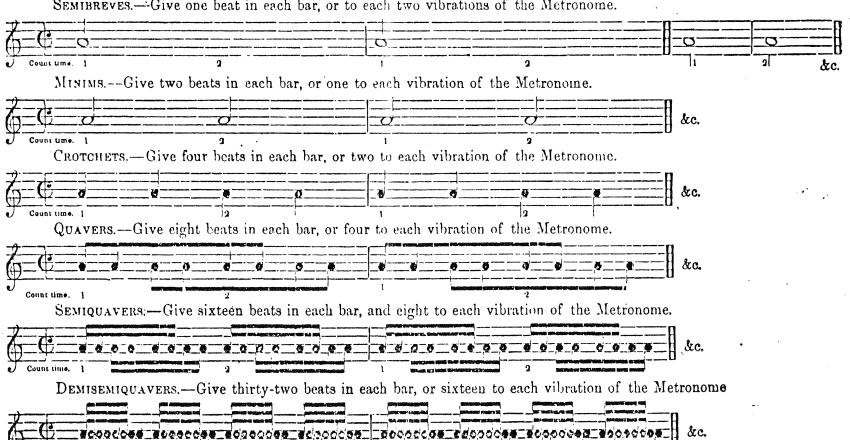
proportion as the strokes become closer.

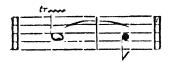


#### EXERCISE FOR THE ROLL.

75 Maelzel's Metronome, giving the vibrations in each bar.

SEMIBREVES.—Give one beat in each bar, or to each two vibrations of the Metronome.











CRESCENDO AND DIMINUENDO ROLLS.—These become more effective, particularly with many drums together, by beginning the roll quite close to the hoops for the piano, and gradually carrying the sticks towards the middle of the drum-head for the forte, and vice versa.





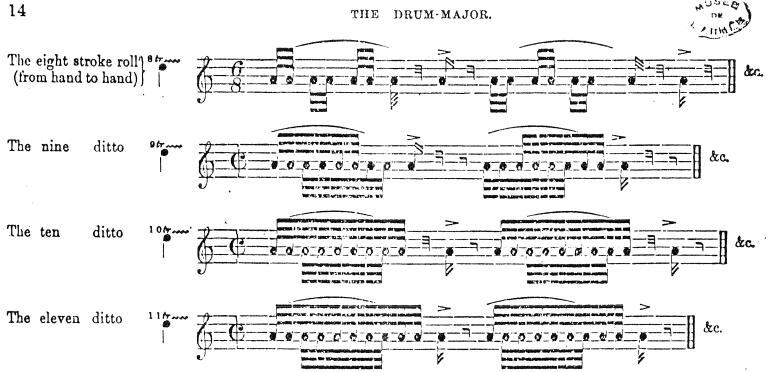


SOFT ROLL.—This must not end with the harshness of a stroke, nor even of a tap, but as gently and evenly as possible.

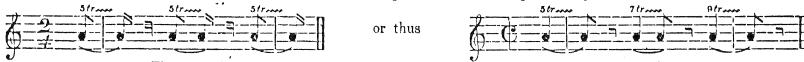
SHORT ROLL.—Every short roll is termed after the number of strokes it implies.



\* This is one of the rolls most in use.

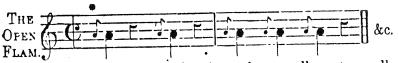


To show the exact duration of these rolls with more precision in drum parts, they are also indicated thus:



The second note indicates in which part of the measure the roll must end.

Tap Strokes and Rolls differently combined with Flams, indicated  $\Gamma_{\bullet}$  or  $\Gamma_{\bullet}$ ; Drags, indicated  $\Gamma_{\bullet}$ ; and Paradidles. indicated may produce a variety of rhythmical beats, the limits of which, the industrious and tasteful Drummer can extend as far as the ear is capable of detecting measure and symmetry. For instance :-



\* It has been stated that the small notes called apprograturas are to be tapped very gently. In the open flam the approgratura must be held on distinctly before the next tap.



In some very quick movements the close flam may be more conveniently performed without change. It is then called





The feint, \* as the word indicates, must be tapped as gently as an appoggiatura.





Performed as indicated here, forte the flam, and piano the other taps, it is very effective.



In quick movements, when the close drag is scarcely practicable from hand to hand, it might easily be performed without change. It is then called Left-hand close DRAG.









\* This is one of the beats most in use.







This and the following beat are very much used in such music as Spanish or Moorish Airs, &c.





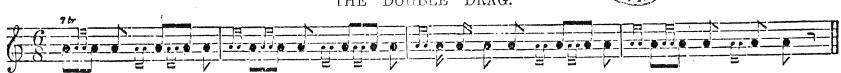


The two following, although composed of various rolls and beats, are commonly known among Drummers as

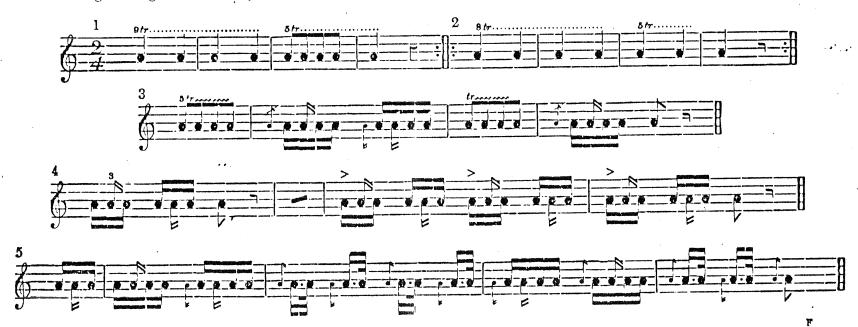
#### THE SINGLE DRAG.



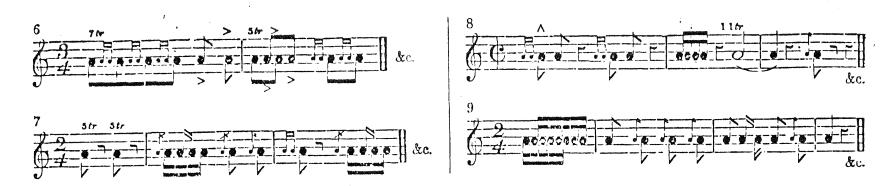




After having practised separately the exercises previously given, which are more or less used for the Regulation beats and signals, the Drummer may exercise himself in variously linking them together, passing alternately from one to another without interruption, in a rather moderate movement at first, quickening after; in a word, he should try to find out new combinations, or compose beats of his own; this, according to the most eminent Drummers, being the best method by which the highest degree of efficiency can be obtained. A few examples will suffice to illustrate this sort of exercise.



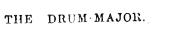


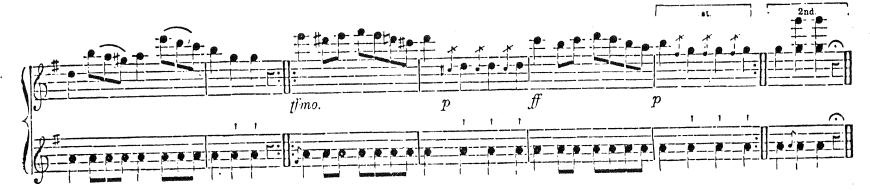


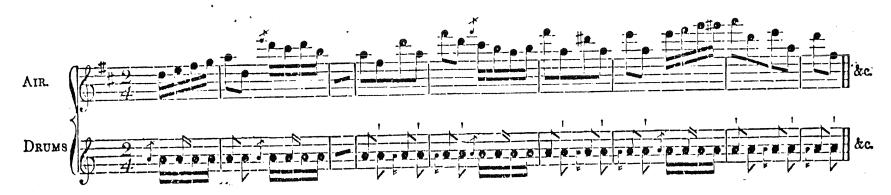
There is a peculiar effect to be obtained from the Side Drum wooden sticks, which, in the military line, might be made very effective, when the drums in a large number play by themselves or in union with the fifes, and even with the band. It is somewhat like the effect of Castanets. This is produced by striking the sticks across each other, a little above the buttons or knobs, at about eight inches distance from the batter head.

The strokes of the sticks are indicated by dashes, thus ' ' '









The following beats, accompaniments, and exercises will be written as all drum parts are written for military music, i.e., without any reference to the previous rule, which states that the notes having the stem upwards are to be beaten with the left hand, and those having the stem downwards with the right; nor will the beats be any longer indicated by their peculiar names, it being presumed that, through the former instructions, the learner has already become able to use his own discretion in performing any drum part.

# REGULATION CALLS, BEATS, AND SIGNALS

FOR

## THE DRUM.

				•					
The Reveillé or t	he Rous	e at de	y-break	. •	ese	***	21	To Arms -	32
Officers' Mess Dr	essing (	Call	٠	45	40	<b>an</b>	24	Commence Firing	ib.
Breakfast and Di	nuer Ca	.11		**	•	•	25	Cease Firing	
Drummers' Call	~	•	• • •	-	400		ib.		ib.
Serjeants or Orde	erlies for	r Com	pany's C	all	•	•	26	Preparatory Strokes, Rolls, and Chords	33
N. C. Officers' or	Serjean	its' an	d Corpo	rals' Ca	.ll <b>-</b>	•	ib.	Troops -	35
Piquet Call	•	-	•	,	•	-	ib.	General -	37
Recruiting Call	•		•	*	***		27	Retreat at Sunset	38
Meat Call	-	-	•	-	108	40	28	Second Retreat or Taptoo	39
Church Call	•	•	æ	mp	Wigh	•	ib.	NATIONAL ANTHEM	40
School Call	-	-	***	alle.	-	-	30	Grenadiers' Slow March, or point of war	ib.
THE THREE	UNITE	D KI	NGDOX	is, na	TIONA	L AI	RS.	British Grenadiers, Quick March	41
Rule Britannia		•	•	400		•	30	Pioneers' March	42
St. Patrick's D.	<b>A</b> Y	400	•	•	•	•	31	Rogue's March	43
AULD LANG SYNI	3	=	•	=	ے	•	ib.	Dead March	44

DRUM MAJOR ...

#### THE REVEILLE

0R

THE ROUSE AT DAYBREAK.

SIGNAL STROKES OF THE SIDE DRUMS







TUNE PLAYED TO THE INTRODUCTORY ROLLS.



(Tune. Three Camps.)



Marching in Slow Time.

DRUMS.



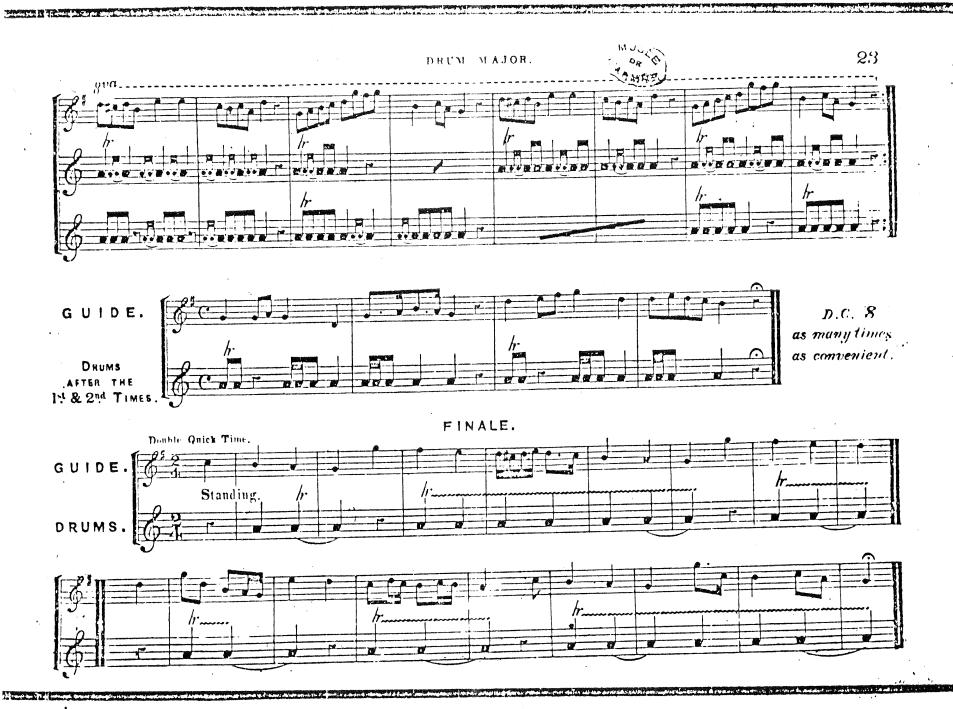
#### SCOTCH REVEILLÉ.



DRUMS

DRUMS











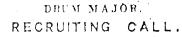




#### THE DRUMMERS CALL.

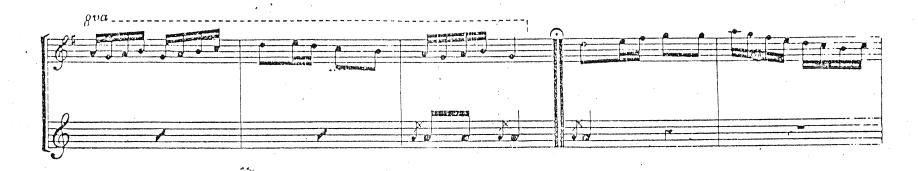








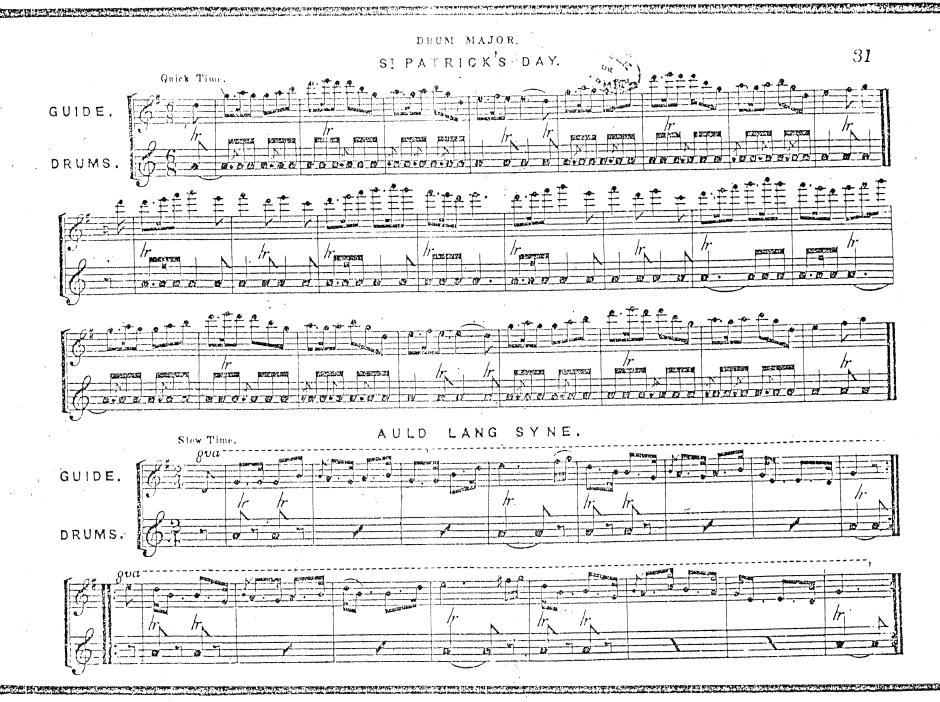


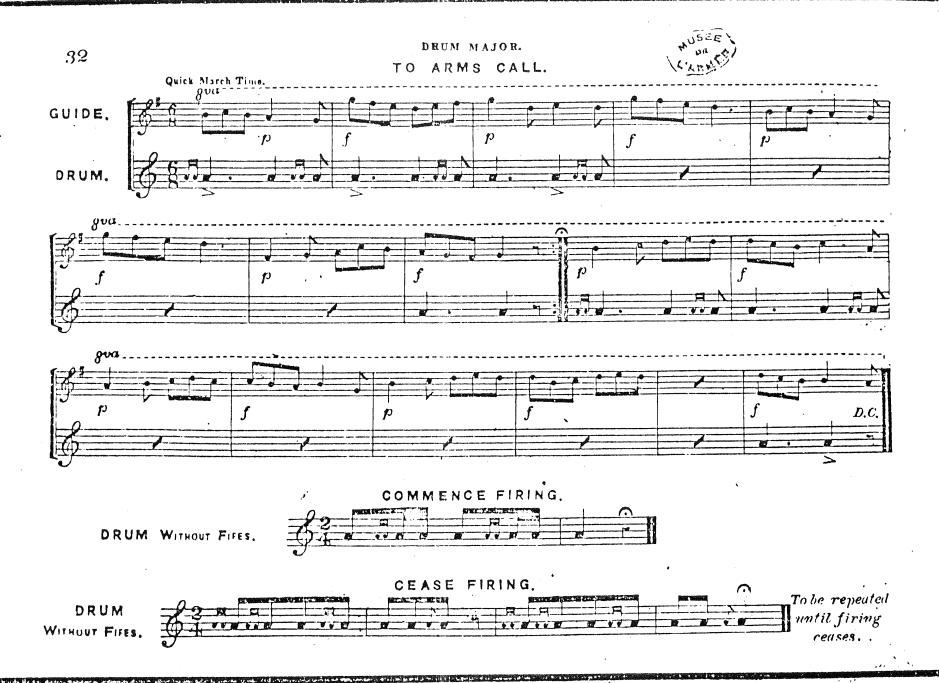










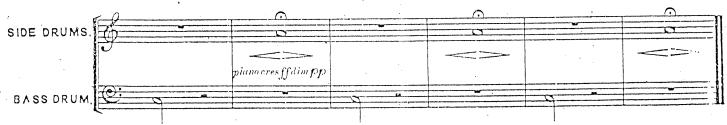




#### PREPARATORY STROKES, ROLLS AND CHORDS.

The TROOP, the GENERAL, the RETREAT, and the TAPTOO are usually preceded by three signal strokes, and three preparatory Rolls and Chords. They are performed as follows.

(For the Chords of the Fifes accompanying these Rolls, see the next remark)



The attention of the Drum Major is ernestly called to the Chords, especially for the Troop, and the Retreats the Tunes of which being optionally chosen, may be in different Keys. It being obvious that each different Key must necessarily be prepared by different Chords, it would be a gross mistake to play the same chords indiscriminately previous to every tune.

. The Chords to be used for accompanying the Three preparatory Rolls are the following.



Although Tunes in a Minor Key are seldom selected for Fifes, nevertheless it may be useful to know the Chords suited for these Keys also.



This selection of Chords will be amply sufficient for the different Keys in which the music for Fifes is arranged.

THE TROOP. Signal Strokes and preparatory Rolls and Chords (see page 38) warning or assembling the









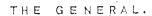
The Rolls and Chords are repeated and the end of the troop.

N.B. For the troop the Drum Major is at liberty to play the tunes he likes, provided they are in 6, or in quick march time, and the parts of such time be of eight Bars each, so as to suit the given heating of the Drums, which is REGU LATION.



The Dublin Garrison grand Troop, or Guard mounting parade proceeds as follows.

- 1 TROOF, performed by the Fifes and Drums on entering the parade ground, marching, from right to left, in front of the Lines. They place themselves behind the Band but the Leading Drummer remains in front to give the signal (a short Roll) for the officers to fall in.
- 2 Stow March (about 16 Bars long) performed by the Band, standing, while the officers and N. C. officers march up to their respective guards.
- 3 Troop performed by the Band, marching in front of the Lines, in slow time, from left to Right, and in quick time returning from Right to Left.
- 4 BRITISH GRENADIERS (quick march) performed by the Band, marching the front company up facing the colours.
- 5 NATIONAL ANTHEM performed by the Band at the command to present arms to the colours.
- 6 THE GRENADIERS OF POINT OF WAR (slow march) performed by the Band while marching the colours in front of the Lines.
- 7 ROYAL OR GENERAL SALUTE, as the case may be. If the salute be ROYAL, the National Anthem is repeated, and if General, 8 bars of a slow March are generally performed.
- 8 SLOW AND QUICK MARCH. for marching pass in Review order.
- 9 Quick MARCH, for marching the guards off.









The Drums repeat the previous 14 Bars.



The Rolls and Chords are repeated at the end of the General.

#### DRUM MAJOR.

The Retreat Signal (Bugle sounding)

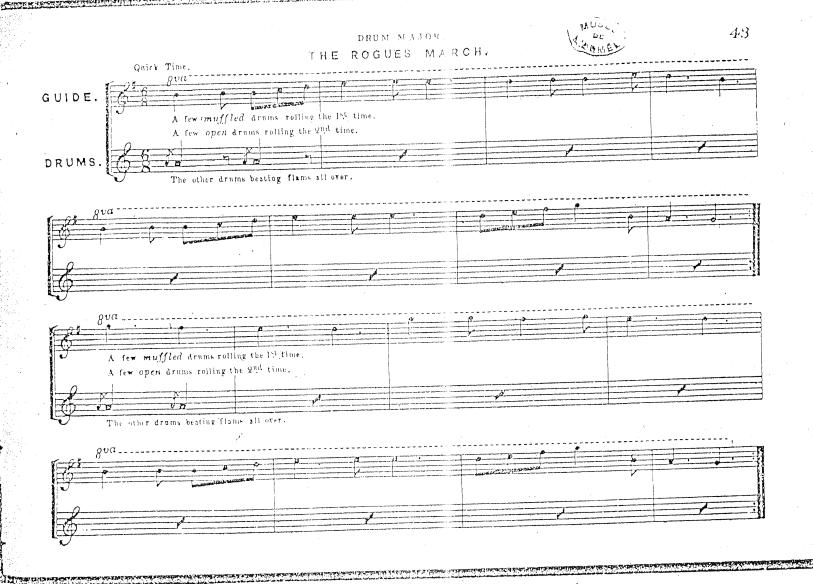




The Rolls and Chords are repeated at the end of the Retreat.

N.B. For the Retreat the Domm Major is at liberty to choose the tunes he likes, provided they are in \( \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{8} \) or \( \frac{9}{8} \) time and affording Three Steps, in quick time, to each Bar, as above. It is also to be observed that each part of the tune intended for the Retreat should be composed of eight hars, and should combine in Rythm and Cadence with the given heating of the Deains, which is REGULATION.











### THE SECOND RETREAT OR TAPTOOL

FIRST Post (Bugles Sounding.)

Signal strokes and preparatory Bass Drum Strokes Rolls & Chords (see page 33.)



THE MARCH. The Drum Major, can choose, for marching, the Tunes he may think best adapted to the efficiency of his Corps. The Double is played previous to every new tune, and also after the last, then the Rolls, Chords, and Bass Drum strokes are repeated again and immediately after, follows

