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**HINTS FOR VOLUNTEERS.**

SOME POINTS FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN WHO WEAR "THE WIDOW'S" BELTS AND EAT HER RATIONS.

Mr. GRIP had a long and special interview a few days ago with the new Commandant of Her Majesty's forces in British North America, Mr. GRIP not being a *militaire* himself feels himself incapable of giving an exhaustive statement of the interview, but is forced to give but a summary of the remarks and advice of Gen. Middleton, which are, as near as he can remember, as follows:

The Lieut.-Colonel or officer commanding a Battalion when mounted should have his boots "shined." He should likewise always wear spurs, though not necessarily of the "Jack" order.

It is bad form for him to smoke an indifferent cigar while on parade. Field officers such as majors and adjutants are instructed to do likewise. Company officers should keep their tunics buttoned when on duty, and should refrain (when in uniform) from carrying grocery or other packages through the streets. Smoking a pipe is also considered bad form on the streets. The sword should be worn on the left side, otherwise they would

have to wear their waist belt upside down, besides there are few soldiers who are left handed. Should any captain or subaltern be promoted to the adjutancy, it is wise to know that he should not wear jack spurs with prunella boots. Sergeants or other non-coms should not wear out the sleeves of their tunics on a bar room counter, or hob nob with privates. Such a hob nob is not nobby. Neither should a sergeant get overpowered by the dignity of his position and get too nobby, or he may get "one for his nob," for although the leopard's spots can not be changed, the sergeant's stripes can—on to the sleeve of somebody else.

The "men," if light infantry, should wear white belts, never maroon or of olive green color. This can be accomplished by the aid of a piece of pipe clay and a rag, used, say once a month. Rifle battalions should not pipe-clay their belts or havresagues, white belts would not harmonize with the color of their uniform, and the column of route might be mistaken by civilians for a funeral. Black belts are more becoming, and all belts should be put on above the buttons on the western part of their tunics. It would not be out of place for them to occasionally oil the locks of their firearms, and once in a while fire at some-

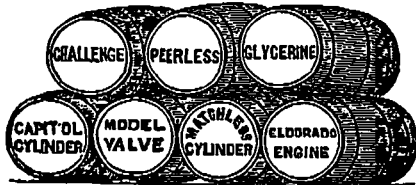
thing, say a target. Otherwise, when in action, instead of shooting anybody they may possibly get shot themselves. The bayonet is not always to be depended on, especially when men are extended as skirmishers.

Buglers, drummers, and pipers should, when convenient, practice late in the evening, say from 11 p.m. until midnight. Everything is quiet then, and the neighbors will enjoy it. If not served out with their regimental instruments, beginners might practise on the Kazoo.

The cooks of each company—well never mind the cooks, cavalry or field batteries just now. Mr. GRIP will enlighten them in their duties after his next interview with the General.

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