

**“After the Battle: Fredericksburg 2008”
Picket Event
November 14-16, 2008, Fredericksburg Battlefield
(Civil War Preservation Trust “Slaughter Pen” Site), Virginia**

Federal Standards, Rules, and Regulations

Updated: August 23, 2008

Authorship: These Standards were written by Kevin O’Beirne. Jeff Henion of the Columbia Rifles authored the ammunition standards included herein.

Origins: These Standards were developed largely from the “Potomac Legion Military Guidelines”, which were adapted from military guidelines originally prepared for the Eastern Campaigners’ Alliance (April, 2000; principal author: J. Tobey). Portions of the Columbia Rifles’ Authenticity Standards (January, 2002 edition; principal authors: K. O’Beirne, J. Tobey, J. Henion) and the Eastern Campaigners’ Alliance Event Standards (April, 2000; principal author: K. O’Beirne) were also incorporated into these Standards.

Applicability

These Standards apply to **all Federal** participants of the “After the Battle: Fredericksburg” event hosted by the Columbia Rifles and Stonewall Brigade, in cooperation with the Civil War Preservation Trust.

Participation as a Federal infantryman at this event is open to those who can and will meet the event Standards; participation with other Federal portrayals (medical, cavalry, and others) is by invitation only.

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“After the Battle: Fredericksburg 2008” Picket Event

Sections I and II

Introduction and Basic Guidelines

I. Introduction and General Philosophy

All military personnel who participate as Federals in the “After the Battle: Fredericksburg 2008” event shall comply with these Standards.

Most of the information in these Standards can be classified in two categories: “minimum standards” and “suggestions for improvement”. Prohibited items are explicitly listed. For selected categories, detailed supplemental information is provided. Without a clear set of minimum standards it is impossible to insure a quality, historically accurate experience for participants.

While the event sponsors desire to promote as authentic an atmosphere as possible, safety is always paramount. This is not as detrimental to authenticity because many aspects of the original drill, clothing, etc. incorporate safety considerations.

Please note that some modern anachronisms are visible from many areas of the 205-acre event site—namely, a warehouse complex to the south, and a small community airport serving propeller planes to the north (runway alignment and frequency of use appear to indicate that the airport should not be a major intrusion on the event); nighttime site lighting from certain parts of these facilities is expected to be visible in much of the event site. The sponsors ask that participants overlook these drawbacks and concentrate on the site’s historic and bloody history—during the battle of Fredericksburg on December 13, 1862, the property was the site of the famous infantry assaults by the Federal First Corps divisions of George Meade and John Gibbon that broke the lines of Stonewall Jackson and nearly won the battle of Fredericksburg for the Union. After the battle, the bloody site was picketed by troops of George Stoneman’s Third Corps of the Army of the Potomac. Until now, this site has never been available for use by reenactors and, indeed, *it is the only largely unspoiled part of the Fredericksburg battlefield where an opposing-forces event can be held*. When CWPT purchased the site in June 2006, it was the largest and most expensive—over \$12 million—acquisition in CWPT’s history. This event highlights the almost-forgotten history of the site and CWPT’s yeoman’s efforts to preserve it for future generations.

II. Basic Guidelines

II. A.: Event Impression and Basic Federal Infantry Basic Kit

These Standards are intended to support a reasonably accurate impression of the **11th New Jersey State Volunteers, Cos. D and I, on December 13-15, 1862, during the**

Fredericksburg campaign. They are not an attempt to dictate the specific look of each participant's impression; rather, the goal is to field about one-hundred troops who look like they belong to the same regiment.

Federal Infantry Basic Kit (detailed requirements for each item are provided later in these Standards):

- *Footwear:* Bootees (i.e., “Jefferson brogans”) are required for enlisted men. Boots for enlisted men are not allowed.
- *Shirt:* Off-white domed flannel is strongly preferred. **Limited** use of civilian shirts is also acceptable.
- *Trousers:* New York Depot (i.e., the common J.T. Martin contract reproductions) or Schuylkill Arsenal pattern, sky-blue kersey.
- *Jacket:* Frock Coats are PREFERRED: New York Depot or Schuylkill Depot pattern. Fatigue Blouse (sack coat) is acceptable **ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A FROCK COAT:** New York Depot (i.e., the common J.T. Martin contract reproductions) or Schuylkill Arsenal pattern **State jackets are not allowed.**
- *Overcoat/Greatcoat:* STRONGLY ENCOURAGED. You are portraying soldiers in a December in a winter campaign. It is quite likely that you will need an overcoat for this event!
- *Headwear:* “Type 1” or “Type 2” forage cap is required for enlisted men. No corps badges! At the wearer's option, appropriate company letter (D or I) and regimental numbers (1 1) may be worn. Civilian hats are STRONGLY DISCOURAGED.
- *Canteen:* New York Arsenal or Schuylkill Arsenal canteen, smoothside or bullseye, with cotton (white) strap.
- *Haversack:* Black waterproofed.
- *Knapsack:* M1855 double-bag knapsack. Blanket rolls may be used in lieu of a knapsack, but knapsacks are strongly encouraged.
- *Blanket:* Domestic manufacture, 100 percent wool, preferably with chain-stitched three-line “U S”. Gray or tan color. .
- *Gum Blanket.*
- *Shelter Half:* Three-panel “mid-war” version with bone buttons is PREFERRED. No heavyweight shelter halves, and no brass grommets. Because the bivouac is in an open field, you are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to bring a shelter half.
- *Waistbelt and Buckle:* Buff or waxed leather with U.S. belt plate (no state plates) with **leather** keeper. Belts with brass keepers like today's reproductions were not issued until 1864.
- *Cap Pouch.*
- *Bayonet Scabbard:* Two-rivet pattern for the bayonet that fits your long-arm is preferred; seven-rivet pattern is reluctantly accepted. Sewn scabbards and eight-rivet are not allowed.
- *Cartridge Box:* M1857 or M1861 with buff or waxed leather sling and U.S. box plate. State plates are not allowed.
- *Long Arms and Ammunition:* Period-correct Austrian long-arms are preferred (in late 1862 the 11th New Jersey regiment's Company D carried “Austrian percussion

musket, Cal. 0.69-0.70”; and Company I carried “Austrian Lorenz rifle-muskets in 0.58 caliber.” The sponsors recognize that these long-arms are virtually unavailable to reenactors. Therefore, acceptable long-arms include: M1853 Enfield rifled-musket, M1855 and M1861 Springfield rifled-musket, and the more-recently available M1854 Austrian Lorenz 0.54-cal. rifle-musket reproductions. M1842 smoothbores are strongly discouraged (although much of the regiment, other than the companies portrayed, did carry these weapons at Fredericksburg). Discouraged and prohibited long-arms are listed below in these Standards. Ammunition shall conform to these Standards. Each participant shall bring at least SIXTY rounds, properly packaged. Each participant will carry his own ammunition; there will NOT be a collection and re-issue.

- *Bayonet*: Appropriate for your long-arm; originals are encouraged.

II. B Major Differences Between These Standards and Most “Mainstream” Standards

The Standards are generally more stringent, and cover more topics than the average reenactment group’s internal standards and/or the guidelines used by most event sponsors. This does not imply that these Standards are more difficult to meet, but strongly suggests there are certain elements of mid-Nineteenth Century material culture can and do apply directly to living historians seeking to provide an “accurate” portrayal. Such aspects include construction techniques, materials, workmanship, patterns, and availability. In addition to material culture, these Standards include requirements for personal conduct – relative to both the reenactment and in fostering an historically accurate portrayal of a late-1862 infantry regiment.

While there are many differences between these Standards and many units’ and event guidelines, several of the most important are listed below (note: participants are responsible for being familiar with all of these Standards, not just the following abridged list):

- *Jackets*: The preferred jacket for this event is the Federal enlisted man’s frock coat: Photographic evidence of the original regiment reveals men attired in frock coats at this time. If you cannot buy or borrow a frock coat, fatigue blouses (“sack coats”) will be reluctantly accepted, but please try to minimize the number of sack coats in the ranks.
- *Greatcoats*: This event portrays troops in a winter campaign in December—we should not have to tell you that an overcoat is essential to your comfort and possibly health at this event. Each Federal participant is **STRONGLY** encouraged to bring a U.S. issue greatcoat/overcoat. Mittens are acceptable encouraged. While the organizers prefer 100-percent woolen, handmade knitted products (mittens, scarves, caps), safety takes priority over authenticity—if you do not have hand-knit mittens, cap, etc., bring your closest modern equivalent that does not look horribly, shockingly modern, because you will very likely need them.

- *Canteens*: Few things stand out in an Eastern Federal impression more than an incorrect canteen strap. The required canteen strap for this portrayal is the **cotton (white) strap**—leave your leather strap home for this event. The preferred canteen cover is gray or tan jeancloth.
- *Cartridge Box Tins*: Each participant must use tins. Failure to use cartridge box tins may result in your expulsion from the ranks of the Battalion until tins are procured. Tins are an essential black powder safety item, and we do not want anyone getting their leg or hindquarters blown off. Tins are available by mail order from a number of vendors.
- *Requirements for Commissioned Officers*: Most units and events are devoid of material standards for commissioned officers – but not this one. If you are appointed to portray a commissioned officer at this event you **MUST** read and understand the detailed requirements applicable to your impression. These Standards attempt to recognize that Civil War commissioned officers’ uniforms and gear varied from one officer to the next.
- *Campaign Portrayal*: Federal participants will portray troops on campaign and may move as a unit to more than one campsite during the event. Pack accordingly, and **ASK IN ADVANCE** if you have questions on what to bring (**advice is gladly provided by the event planning committee**). If you cannot wear and comfortably carry all your gear for several hours through a couple (relatively short) start-halt-start marches, and if you cannot move your campsite each day, then reduce your load to that of a soldier during 1862.
- *Ornamentation, Corps Badges, and Other Insignia*: See the detailed Standards. Corps badge are prohibited because the event’s scenario pre-dates their issuance. Get rid of your hat ornamentation and other insignia (including harps, thistle pins, coon bones, artillery primers, and Masonic badges) — other than a brass company letter appropriate for the company portrayed (D or I). Brass regimental numbers, if worn, must be correct (1 1 only). If you have prohibited ornamentation you will be required to remove it. **Knapsacks shall be devoid of unit designations unless appropriate for the portrayal.** If you have an inappropriate unit designation painted on your knapsack, borrow a non-marked knapsack or use a blanket roll for this event.
- *Rations*: This is a “full-haversack” event—**BRING YOUR OWN RATIONS!** Sustenance provided by individuals shall be period correct; army issue fare, such as hardtack, salt pork or slab bacon, beef, and coffee. “Foraged” items are strongly discouraged. Wrappings, when used, shall be period-correct; no plastic. Period candies for modern diabetic needs, such as horehound and lemon drops for are to be carried in period-correct wrappings or tins.
- *Medical/Medication Considerations*: Safety is paramount. Diabetics and participants with other special medical needs are strongly encouraged to bring their medication to the event. Common sense is the rule with respect to using such items – carry medication in its original container inside a period-correct container, such as a canvas or cotton bag or wrapped in a rag. Do not make a “public show” of using modern medication. This applies to modern allergy medication and contact lens solution.

- *Enforcement and Inspection:* Overall we feel these Standards are not oppressively strict, but all participants should bear in mind **THEY WILL BE ENFORCED!** An inspection of each participant will be conducted at the registration check-in point, and additional brief, company inspections may be conducted during the event. Items that do not conform shall be corrected.
- *Conduct:* We are attempting to portray soldiers on campaign as accurately as possible – not reenactors at a powder burning festival. All Battalion participants are expected to conduct themselves like soldiers. This includes adherence to military protocols and courtesy by all personnel (including commissioned officers: you accepted the role so play the part). During the weekend all participants are **expected to remain with the Battalion at all times through dismissal at the end of the event.** Persons absent from camp without a pass may be “disciplined” in a period manner. We expect to issue very few passes for absences from camp – remember, you are representing troops in a heartbreaking campaign. Passes will be provided **only by the Officer of the Day or Battalion Commander** upon recommendation of the soldier’s company commander or Orderly Sergeant. Passes serve at least two functions: 1) personnel accountability, and 2) it is an opportunity to make sure you know where the Battalion will be located upon your return.
- *Expectations and Cooperation:* The event’s participants have high expectations for what they hope to obtain by attending this event. Only by all participants “pulling together” can everyone’s high expectations be even partly realized. If your intentions are to run to a bar in nearby Fredericksburg, act like a moron, be a tourist, arrive late, leave early, and/or blow off the event, you should not register for this event. The event sponsors would rather have participants with positive attitudes and slightly less-than-stellar uniforms and kit who are out there “making the impression happen” than those with allegedly perfect kit and a poor attitude. This is a weekend to act like a soldier – not to “farb out” with your buddies.

PLEASE NOTE: While it is preferred that “museum quality” reproductions of clothing and equipment be used by all participants, details such as “*stitch counts*” **will not be checked.** However, participants are advised the “*really bad*” equipment (i.e., fabrics of obvious synthetic content, badly faded uniform coats or hats, etc.) *will not be allowed* in the ranks. The Battalion will be strict with respect to items that should not be present at all (i.e., non-period insignia, “dead animal parts”, anachronisms, modern eyewear, excess impedimenta, plastic wrappers, &c.).

II.C Notes on How to Wear Your Kit and What to Pack

All accoutrements should be worn at the proper height. The waist-belt shall be worn about the center of the stomach (over the navel). Cartridge box slings were issued in only one length, and when such a sling is used adjust the billets so that the top of the box rides just below the bottom edge of the waist-belt. Haversack and canteen straps shall be the proper length so that the top of the haversack and canteen are approximately equal with the elbow. If necessary, straps shall be shortened for the haversack (cut and sewn shorter) and canteen (knotted up or cut-and-sewn). If a knapsack is used, to improve

safety, it is recommended that the canteen strap be over the knapsack straps to facilitate both drinking and refilling the canteen while wearing the knapsack.

Knapsacks and haversacks should be packed for campaign conditions. Bring only what you absolutely need. For further reading see: O'Beirne, Kevin, "Knapsack and Haversack Packing 101", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 1st Ed.* (2001). This article is available online at www.authentic-campaigner.com.

II.D. Federal Artillery and Cavalry Basic Kit

II.D.1 Artillery:

Not applicable; artillery is not allowed at this event.

II.D.2 Cavalry:

Cavalry guidelines will be established separately by the commander of the Federal cavalry detachment. Cavalry participation is only by invitation of the Federal cavalry coordinator.

II.E. Specialty Impressions

II.E.1 General

Specialty impressions must be approved by the Federal Coordinator prior to the event. If approved, requirements for specialty impressions will be provided.

II.E.2 Medical

This event will feature a Federal field bandaging station portrayal, consisting of a one or more assistant surgeons, hospital steward, one ambulance driver (private soldier), stretcher-bearers (private soldiers or musicians able to carry a man on a stretcher), and participants that portray patients. Enlisted personnel serving with the medical impression shall conform to applicable sections of the Standards. Commissioned officers (assistant surgeons) shall conform to applicable sections of the Standards relative to commissioned officers. Medical kits and gear associated with the medical impression shall be approved in advance by the Medical Coordinator and at the event by the registration-area Inspector. Medical portrayals are assigned to the field bandaging station. Nurses are not allowed at this event.

II.F. General Requirements

II.F.1 Age:

All participants must be at least sixteen years of age to use firearms. Persons between the ages of thirteen and sixteen may serve as functional field musicians if proficient as such, but not as color-bearers, messengers, &c. No participant under age sixteen, other than functional musicians, is allowed. Minors (i.e., anyone under age 18) must have either a parent or guardian present with the Battalion at all times. There are no restrictions on *maximum* age; however, participants are encouraged to take note of their own potential

physical limitations and the requirements both of the event and the physical fitness guidelines in these Standards.

II.F.2 Female Soldiers:

Because an historically very small proportion of Civil War soldiers were women, female soldiers are not encouraged in the ranks at this event. Female soldiers are allowed in the ranks at this event but, if the true gender of a woman portraying a soldier is discovered and brought to the attention of a commissioned officer or non-commissioned officer, she will be treated in period fashion, meaning she will be immediately “discharged” and escorted from the boundaries of the event site. Persons so “discharged” shall not return to the military camp and shall cease presenting a military impression for the remainder of the event.

II.F.3. Registration:

All registration is through the event sponsors and is by individuals. All participants must comply with pre-registration and registration procedures, pay required fees, and obey the requests of the event hosts and superior officers. Substitutes are acceptable. **Walk-on registration is not allowed.** Failure to comply with these provisions may result in expulsion from the ranks for this event.

II.F.4. Full Marching Order:

Because military participants depict soldiers on campaign, knapsacks and/or blanket rolls are required for marches, and may be required while on picket duty, and as ordered by the Officer of the Day or Battalion Commander.

II.F.5 Demeanor:

This Battalion portrayal attempts to project the proper atmosphere of the Civil War era. Participants are asked to view the event as an extended first-person living history experience, rather than a “traditional reenactment”. Unruly first-person behavior by participants will be dealt with as appropriate for the period. Soldiers may be placed under guard, confined to the guardhouse, or “punished” in a period fashion.

II.F.6. Campfires:

Each time the Battalion breaks camp, campfires shall be 100 percent dosed with water so that they are free of smoldering embers, unless other participants are detailed to remain behind and take care of fires. Fires are allowed only at locations designated by the Battalion Commander and event staff. If in doubt, ask before you light a campfire. Campfires ARE limited to two per company, one for the commissioned officers, and up to two at the bandaging station. Because this event is on an historic site where archaeological investigations may be performed, fire pits (excavated below the bottom of the sod) are not allowed. Campfires shall be constructed by first removing the sod and building the fire without excavating a pit. Fire shall not be used for disposal of trash. When the campfire is being abandoned, the fire shall be doused and the sod replaced. Local rules on campfires and fire pits shall be obeyed.

II.F.7 Camp Furniture:

Due to the campaign-nature of the military portrayal, purpose built camp furniture is not allowed outside of the bandaging station, where furniture, if any, would have probably been limited only to items obtained from local homes and a couple of camp stools. Improvised camp furniture, such as logs and period crates, is acceptable for all participants.

II.F.8. Flags:

Flags are not required for this event.

II.F.8. Anachronisms:

The use of obviously anachronistic items such as coolers, sleeping bags, cots, wristwatches, modern eyewear, &c. is prohibited. Electronic devices such as televisions, radios, tape players, &c. are prohibited. If you even think bringing one of these items we strongly encourage you not to consider attempting to register for this event.

II.F.9 Lanterns:

The use of lighting devices other than candles and soldier-improvised lights is prohibited outside of the event's bandaging station. Commercially manufactured oil lamps and "sutler row" box candle lanterns are not allowed in the ranks of the infantry battalion. Some exceptions on lanterns may be allowed for the bandaging station.

II.F.10. Civilians in Military Camp:

Due to the military/campaign nature of this event, roles for Nineteenth Century civilian impressions are virtually non-existent. Questions on participation by civilian impressionists should be referred to the Federal Coordinator. Nineteenth Century civilians who request to enter the Battalion camp shall do so only under military escort with a pass from the Officer of the Day. This rule is in effect from noon on Friday until the close of the event. This rule does not apply to spectators/civilians in modern attire.

II.F.11. Pets:

Pets and other animals, excluding horses and mules, are prohibited without prior authorization from the event hosts. The event sponsors have made prior arrangements for all animals that will be onsite during the event.

II.F.12. Quiet Hours:

Quiet will be observed between an hour designated by the Officer of the Day and the morning Musicians' Call, according to the Battalion's schedule. Failure to observe quiet hours may result in participants' expulsion from the ranks of the Battalion. Quiet hours will be enforced so that participants can obtain necessary rest. This is a safety issue relative to alertness during the event and the long drive home faced by many participants.

II.F.13. Alcohol:

Consumption of alcoholic beverages at the event is prohibited – you are supposed to be portraying troops on campaign, not sailors in port. Drunken and/or disorderly behavior

will be grounds for expulsion from the ranks of the Battalion and, potentially, from future events sponsored by the event hosts/battalion command staff.

II.F.14. Weapons Safety:

The following shall apply to weapons safety:

- *Inspection:* All long-arms and side-arms shall be inspected no later than 11:00 p.m. Friday evening at registration check-in, and may be checked again periodically during the event. One inspection on Friday will be by the Inspector at the registration check-in point and other inspections by the event hosts, company officers and/or Battalion Staff may be held throughout the event. On-the-spot inspections may be performed without notice. At all inspections, long-arms must be in good repair, have fully-functional half-cocks, trigger pull within satisfactory range, nipples/cones that are clear, secure, and intact, and clean barrels. Persons who have fired live ammunition prior to this event must clean their weapons with special care to remove all metal fragments, rags, and residue. Inspectors' decisions are final!
- *Tompions:* Each man is **encouraged** to provide a tompion. Tompions shall not be placed in the muzzle when a round is loaded, regardless of the weather. Tompions found in violation of this rule will be confiscated and retained throughout the event.
- *Ramrods:* Ramrods may not be drawn/used in situations where people can be "in the line of fire" (i.e., opposing pickets). Ramrods will NOT be used during ordinary picket firing.
- *Weapons Maintenance Implements:* Each participant is strongly encouraged to have a properly fitting original or reproduction wiper (i.e., "worm") for his weapon. This facilitates proper maintenance and greatly reduces stuck rammers during cleaning. Each man should bring at least 20 cleaning patches to the event. Although highly realistic as a living history interpretive item, ball pullers are discouraged in the ranks due to their potential (albeit slight) to become projectiles. Wrench/Screwdriver Combination Tools are strongly encouraged for each participant. It is recommended that each sergeant have proper sergeant's tools.
- *Firing Distance:* Firing distances will be "realistic" during opposing picket scenarios. Firing within 25 yards is **STRONGLY discouraged**. At no time will a weapon be pointed at and/or discharged in the direction of another participant or spectator. Participants are discouraged from "firing at birds" (i.e., excessive elevation) that looks stupid even to uninformed observers.
- *Tins:* Cartridge boxes **MUST** be equipped with tins.
- *Other Requirements:* Additional requirements relative to weapons and ammunition are provided below in these Standards.

++ END OF SECTIONS I AND II ++

“After the Battle: Fredericksburg 2008” Picket Event Sections III.A through III.C Philosophy, Clothing, Camp & Garrison Equipage

III. Descriptions of Equipment Items

III. A. Philosophy

The following minimum Standards are based on a common-sense determination of what would be seriously distracting relative to historical accuracy (i.e., “authenticity” to most reenactors), balanced with what is readily available or easily modified. These Standards strive to use the Civil War period classifications for each issue item; for example, the armies in 1862 considered blankets as part of a soldier’s clothing issue, which is where blankets are included in these Standards. Requirements for subsistence and other material culture (such as personal items and luxuries) are presented in later sections of these Standards.

There are basically two levels of authenticity identified for each item. The first level is the minimum standard, and the second is best described as exhibiting the characteristics of a museum quality replica. Descriptions for the features of museum-quality replicas can be found in the sources listed as “Further Reading” for each item.

Many of the articles referenced in these Standards as, “Further Reading” are contained in a 440-page book entitled, *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium*, 2nd Edition (2008) or “CRRC2” (Tobey, John E., et. al., editors, Warren MI: The Watchdog Quarterly, Inc.,2008). The CRRC2 is available for purchase at the following:

- <http://www.watchdogreview.com/crrc2.shtml> .
- S&S Sutler, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, <http://www.ss-sutler.com>
- Skillet Licker Sutler, Fair Lawn, New Jersey <http://www.skilletlicker.com>.

In the event participants desire to obtain new uniforms or equipage prior to this event, they are encouraged to consider the vendors of high-quality reproduction items listed on the “approved vendor list” at www.authentic-campaigner.com.

III. B. Federal Clothing:

Note: “Enlisted Men and Non-commissioned Officers” are abbreviated as “EM”.

III.B.1. US EM Dress Hats (a.k.a. “Kossuth Hat” or “Hardee Hat”)

Dress Hats are not allowed for EM.

III.B.2. Hat & Cap Trimmings and Miscellaneous Insignia

Minimum Requirements: When an EM wears a civilian hat, no hat cords for and no ornamentation whatsoever not specifically listed in these Standards. No metal bugles, harps, bucktails, feathers, raccoon bones, artillery primers, or other excessive, individualistic insignia or ornamentation. Corps badges are not permitted at this event because the portrayal pre-dates their issuance. At the discretion of the participant, participants may wear an appropriate brass company letter (D and I) and/or brass regimental numbers (i.e., “1 1” only). Because the regiment was fairly new and “green” at the time of the scenario, there may have been more brass letters and numbers on headwear than is appropriate for many other events. Commissioned Officers may, at their discretion, wear a hat cord and embroidered patch appropriate for branch of service.

III.B.3. US 1858 Forage Caps

Either “Type 1”-style forage caps (that have rounded, crescent-shaped, slightly-slanting visors and smaller-diameter crowns) or “Type 2” caps (with visors that are more rectangular in shape and that usually lay flat, and larger-diameter crowns) are acceptable.

Minimum Requirements: Caps shall be made of a finely woven, dark blue or royal blue wool (not navy blue) with painted leather brim and chin strap. Buttons will be plain US regulation, small size. Liner will be black or brown polished cotton. Caps shall not possess a surplus of material under the flat crown that results in the “blown out” or “floppy” look. Caps shall not be worn with the sides of the brim rolled under in the manner of a modern baseball cap. No havelocks.

Further Reading: F. C. Gaede, “A Model of 1858 Forage Cap” in *The Journal of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians; Smithsonian Studies in History and Technology*, Number 30, page 12. Tobey, John E. “The Forage Cap” in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*, and Willis, Rob, “Corps Badges of the Army of the Potomac, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

Additional Detailed Information: It is preferred that forage caps be made of a finely woven medium weight Federal or indigo blue wool broadcloth, with an enameled thin leather chin strap, and visor. Forage caps should have a welt around the crown and should be lined with brown or black polished cotton. Sweatbands should be handsewn.

III.B.4.US EM Kepis

Private purchase caps (kepis) are allowed but are not encouraged for EM.

III.B.5. Civilian Hats

For EM, civilian hats are strongly discouraged. .

Minimum Requirements: Hat will have a sewn-on edge binding of silk ribbon, and a sweatband of leather or cotton duck. The hat shall be made of fine wool felt and will not

exhibit a “fuzzy” or overly floppy appearance. The following colors are acceptable: medium to dark gray, medium to dark brown, or black, with black being the preferred color. No straw hats.

Further Reading: Tobey, John E., “Enlisted Men’s Hats in the Eastern Theatre”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.6. US EM Fatigue Blouse

Fatigue blouses (a.k.a. “sack coat”) are not preferred for EM this event; if you have a frock coat, please wear it at this event.

Minimum Requirements: Wool flannel (with a visible wale in the fabric), in a shade between a medium and dark blue color. The color will NOT be a blackish navy blue that fades to an even more unacceptable purple color.

Further Reading: McKee, Paul, “Notes on the Federal Issue Sack Coat”, *The Journal of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians*, Volume XLVII, No. 2, Summer 1995. Quigley, Edward, “The Fatigue Blouse” in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.* Another excellent pair of articles is entitled “My Own Poor Observations on the Lowly Sack Coat, Parts One and Two”, *The Watchdog*, Vol. 8 No. 1 and 2, Winter and Spring 2000. Also see, Brown, Patrick, *For Fatigue Purposes: The Army Sack Coat of 1857-1872*, Warren MI: The Watchdog Quarterly, 2003.

III.B.7. US EM Frock Coats

Frock coats are the preferred jacket for EM this event; if you have a frock coat, please wear it at this event.

Minimum Requirements: Frock coats shall be of dark blue wool broadcloth material. Wool broadcloth (tightly woven and very different from the flannel used on fatigue blouses) shall be between a medium and dark blue color. The color shall NOT be a blackish navy blue that fades to an even more unacceptable purple color.. Frock coats should be lined with a mixture of alpaca, tow or some similar material as chest padding, polished cotton, and muslin or osnaburg in the sleeves. Frock coat trim shall be light blue piping or cording around the collar and cuffs; “tape-trim” is not allowed. Frock coats should have a separate cuff with functional buttonholes. Frock coats shall have standard U.S. infantry buttons. Original frock coats were made with pocket in the skirts only; there should not be a factory-made pocket in the breast. [similar to EOG/US page 122-123]

Further Reading: Quigley, Edward, “Enlisted Men’s Frock Coats” in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.9. State Shell Jackets.

State jackets are not allowed at this event.

III.B.10. US Musicians’ Coats

If worn, tape trim shall be sky blue worsted wool in the appropriate weave.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “Musicians’ Kits”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.11. US Commissioned Officers' Jackets, Trousers, and Headwear

- Fatigue Blouse (“Sack Coat”) for Commissioned Officers: The officer’s sack coat is a loose-fitting blouse that should generally be longer than the enlisted fatigue blouse. Officers’ sack coats were privately purchased and exhibited variation from one officer to the next. Sack coats shall be of dark blue wool flannel or broadcloth material (refer to “US EM Fatigue Blouse” and “US EM Frock Coats” above for requirements on fabric color). Linings shall be appropriate to the original used as a pattern. Sack coat may have a four or five-button front; additional buttons are permissible. Sack coats generally had at least two outside pockets. Black velvet collars and cuffs were common and are acceptable on officers’ sack coats. While there is documented evidence of officers on campaign preferring to wear the unadorned sack coats of private soldiers, the Columbia Rifles desires that an officer’s impression include a jacket or coat that is of a pattern specific to commissioned rank.
- Frock Coat for Commissioned Officers: One of the most common coats worn by commissioned officers was the private-purchase frock coat. Captains and lieutenants’ frock coats shall be single-breasted coats. Frock coats worn by field-grade officers (although no field officers are expected at this event) shall be double-breasted. Frock coats shall be of dark blue wool broadcloth material; refer to “US EM Fatigue Blouse” and “US EM Frock Coats” above for fabric color requirements. Frock coats should be lined with a mixture of alpaca, tow, or similar material as chest padding, and polished cotton; sleeves shall be lined with muslin or osnaburg. Officers are strongly discouraged from wearing rank insignia on the sleeve. Frock coats shall have nine ¾-inch eagle buttons on the front, three 5/8-inch eagle buttons on each cuff, and a four- or six-button tail. Black velvet collars and cuffs were common and are acceptable on officers’ frock coats. Officers shall not wear EM frock coats.
- Shell Jacket for Commissioned Officers: Many commissioned officers wore shell jackets. If worn, commissioned officer shell jackets shall be of dark blue wool broadcloth material; refer to “US EM Fatigue Blouse” and “US EM Frock Coats” above for fabric color requirements. Shell jacket lining shall be appropriate to the original used as a pattern.
- Insignia for Commissioned Officers: It is preferred that rank insignia be worn by commissioned officers. Insignia should be shoulder straps. Straps can be embroidered or the Smith Patent laminated metal styles. Backing shall be fine wool or velvet, medium blue or dark-blue in color. At the discretion of the officer, either double-border or single-border straps may be used. Miniature insignia may be worn, but is discouraged.
- Commissioned Officer Trousers: Shall be made of broadcloth or a kersey-weave wool, cut so that the top of the waist band reaches to at least the wearer’s navel, with a noticeable rise in the back. Buttons will be metal (tin shall be paper-backed), ceramic, glass, gutta percha, or a natural material such as bone or mother-of-pearl. Commissioned officers may wear sky blue enlisted men’s trousers or dark blue trousers. A blue welt down the outer seam of each leg is encouraged but is not required.
- Commissioned Officer Headwear: May be either a private purchased officer forage cap, enlisted forage cap, civilian hat, or Army hat. Privately purchased officer forage caps should generally conform to the requirements for enlisted forage caps, and have

a sewn binding around the visor's edge; embroidered patch appropriate for the branch of service is optional. U.S. Army hats shall be black in color and made of medium-weight felt, with a crown about 5¾ inches high and a brim 3 to 3¼ inches wide. U.S. Army hats shall have two lines of stitching as an edge binding and a 3/8-inch to 5/16-inch wide ribbon hatband knotted on the left side. The liner shall include a black or maroon leather sweatband and glazed paper crown backing.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, "A Cheese Knife and Shoulder Straps: Re-creating the Eastern Federal Infantry Company-grade Officer's Kit" in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.12. US EM Trousers, Foot

Minimum Requirements: Trousers shall be made of sky blue kersey-weave wool, cut so that the top of the waist band reaches to at least the wearer's navel, with a noticeable rise in the back. No pleats. Trousers must have a watch pocket. Buttons should be paper-backed tin.

Further Reading: McKee, Paul, "Four Sizes May Fit All...But Stylish They Ain't", *The Company Wag*. Spencer, Cyrus, "Infantry Trousers", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.13 Braces (Suspenders)

Minimum Requirements: Any type of period civilian model is acceptable: all-cloth "poor boys", or adjustable with tin, brass, or japanned steel buckles. No buckles of nickel-plated metal. Canvas, drill, tapestry, embroidered, crocheted, woven, or ticking suspenders are acceptable. Leather ends on suspenders must be 100 percent natural leather. Musket sling "belts" are also acceptable. Avoid the "Gohn Brothers" variety of "Amish" suspenders often offered for sale by many vendors of reproduction wares.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, "Civil War Braces", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

Additional Detailed Information: Most issue trousers were furnished with only four suspender buttons – two in the front and two in the back. If you want to preserve the "unaltered-just-as-issued" look that was typical of soldiers in the field, use braces with only four suspension points.

III.B.14. US Issue Shirts

Despite its alleged associated discomfort, the Federal Issue domet (i.e., "scratchy") flannel or gray flannel shirt is ***strongly preferred*** for all enlisted participants at this event. Federal issue shirts may also be worn by commissioned officers.

Minimum Requirements: Domet flannel shirts shall have three tin buttons: one at the neck and one at each cuff, and shall be cut from a period-correct pattern. Gray flannel (or dark blue or tan) contract variants are also acceptable.

Further Reading: Nelson, D.E., "The Union 'Army Standard Size and Make' Shirt", *The Journal of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians*. Quigley, Edward, "Shirts!", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.* Brewster, William, "The Case for the Contract Issue Shirt" reprinted in *The Hardcracker Handbook*.

III.B.15. Civilian Shirts

Civilian shirts are discouraged for EM but are reluctantly accepted. ***White muslin shirts are discouraged.***

Minimum Requirements: Civilian shirts shall be made of 100 percent natural materials in period-correct colors and/or patterns. Buttons will be metal, ceramic, glass, gutta percha, or a natural material such as bone, or mother-of-pearl.

Further Reading: McKee, Paul, “The Wartime Use of Civilian Shirts”, *The Company Wag* and *The Hardcracker Handbook*

III.B.16. US Drawers

Minimum Requirements: Drawers (when worn) will be made of 100 percent natural material. Buttons should be either metal or a natural material such as bone, wood, or mother-of-pearl. While modern underwear is **strongly discouraged** in the ranks of the Battalion (do we really have to tell you that?), no one will inspect your drawers.

Further Reading: Osman, S.E., “Army Drawers in the Civil War”, *The Journal of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians*, Volume XLVII, No. 3, Fall 1995.

Tobey, John E., “U.S. Army Drawers 1861-1865”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.17. US Stockings

Minimum Requirements: Stockings shall be made of a solid-color yarn, in any of the following colors: off-white, gray, buff, blue, or bluish-gray. Stockings shall have no rings or bands of contrasting color, although plain-color contrasts between the toe and heel is acceptable. No elastic.

Further Reading: Timour, Karin, “Socks and Stockings”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.18. US Bootees

All infantry EM shall wear issue bootees (i.e., “brogans”). Canvas leggings (i.e., “gaiters”) are not allowed. Boots are prohibited for EM.

Commissioned officers are encouraged to wear bootees, although boots are acceptable for commissioned officers. Leather “false boots” are acceptable and encouraged (if available) for officers.

Minimum Requirements: Black with pegged, stitched, or pegged-and-stitched soles. To be constructed from waxed (rough-side-out) leather, with leather or rawhide shoelaces. Bootees shall have a leather sole and heels. The shape of the toe can be square or broadly rounded but not pointed in the manner of modern wingtip shoes. Avoid “fuzzy looking” leather – if your bootees are fuzzy, they can be finished smooth with some shoe polish and elbow grease. Heel plates and hobnails are optional.

Further Reading: Peterkin, E.W., “The United States Army Bootee 1861-1865”, *Journal of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians*, Vol. XLVII, No. 2, Summer 1995.

Tobey, John E., “The Army Shoe” in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.19. Boots

Boots, often given the moniker “cavalry boots” can be worn by, at their discretion, commissioned officers (any time) and cavalrymen.

Minimum Requirements: Cavalry boots shall be made of rough-out leather, black color. Maximum height of upper 12 inches. Leather soles and heel. No engineer boots.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “Boots of the Infantrymen”, and Tobey, John, “A Cheese Knife and Shoulder Straps: Re-creating the Eastern Federal Infantry Company-grade Officer’s Kit” both in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed*

III.B.20. US EM Overcoat, Foot

All participants are encouraged to bring and use a U.S.-issue “foot” pattern overcoat, of light blue kersey wool, with white cotton or osnaburg lining in the sleeves and flannel or wool lining in the body (removal of the lining is acceptable), brass buttons (5-button front, 9-button cape), and preferably with hand-sewn button holes. Overcoats shall have standard U.S. infantry buttons. [EOG/US page 129] Cavalry greatcoats are not acceptable except for commissioned officers. Chevrons for non-commissioned officers shall NOT be displayed on overcoats. While there are original overcoats with chevrons, this practice is extremely detrimental to the plain, “nondescript” look that the event hosts are trying to achieve..

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “Overcoats”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed*

III.B.21. US Overcoat Straps

Minimum Requirements: Issue leather straps for knapsack. Nickel-plated hardware is unacceptable.

Further Reading: Tobey, John E., “Knapsacks”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.22. US Waterproofs (Gum Blankets)

For infantrymen, the use of gum blankets is encouraged instead of ponchos.

Minimum Requirements: Rubber waterproofs shall have grommets 3/8-inch diameter or smaller.

Further Reading: Babits, L.E. “Rubber Poncho and Blankets from the Union Transport Maple Leaf”, *The Journal of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians*, Volume XLVII, No. 2, Summer 1995. Tobey, John E., “Gum Blankets, Painted Blankets, and Ponchos”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.23. US Issue Woolen Blankets

Because this is a *campaign* event, each man should bring only one blanket. Civilian blankets, coverlets, carpet, and quilts are prohibited.

Minimum Requirements: Army-issue blankets shall be 100 percent wool material and should not have edge binding. It is preferred that blankets have “U S” stitched into the center. Blankets shall be gray, tan, or grayish brown. Civilian blankets and quilts are prohibited.

Further Reading: Gaede, Fred, “Notes on the Federal-Issue Civil War Blanket”, *The Watchdog*, Vol. 8, No. 1, Winter 2000. Quigley, Edward, “The Army Issue Wool Blanket”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.24. US Chevrons and Trouser Stripes

It is requested that non-commissioned officers wear chevrons. Non-commissioned officers may wear trouser stripes per U.S. Army Regulations.

Minimum Requirements: Worsted or kersey wool for company level non-commissioned officers. Chevrons shall conform to U.S. Army Regulations relative to branch color and material. If worn, trouser stripes shall be worsted wool tape.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “Where is Your Insignia, Sergeant? Re-creating the Federal Non-commissioned Officer’s Kit”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.B.25. US Sashes

Orderly sergeants, the principal musician (if present at the event), and commissioned officers may wear sashes. Other ranks shall not wear sashes. Because this is a campaign event, use of sashes by non-commissioned officers is discouraged.

Minimum Requirements: Sashes for non-commissioned officers shall be “red worsted wool,” knotted at both ends, and approximately nine feet in length. Sashes for commissioned officers may be “crimson silk netting” or crimson knitted wool (not purple), knotted at each end, and approximately nine feet in length.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “A Cheese Knife and Shoulder Straps: Re-creating the Eastern Federal Infantry Company-grade Officer’s Kit” and Tobey, John, “Where is Your Insignia, Sergeant? Re-creating the Federal Non-commissioned Officer’s Kit”, both in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III. C. Federal Camp and Garrison Equipage

III.C.1. Canteens

Each man shall carry a canteen; this is a safety requirement.

Minimum Requirements: Canteens may be either “smoothside” or “bullseye” style. Straps shall be white cotton drilling, approximately 3/4-inch wide and 72 inches in length. New York Depot canteens often used the same drill that was used to fabricate shelter tents, with a visible twill weave. The Schuylkill Arsenal usually used twill tape after 1862. The preferred cork retaining system is jute string and is required for “bullseye” canteens; New York Arsenal jack-chains are acceptable only on smoothside canteens. Canteen covers shall be jeancloth, satinette, or other “cheap” material; kersey covers are discouraged. Covers will be (in the order of preference): gray, tan, brown, dark blue, or sky blue.

Further Reading: Coates, E.J., “The Civil War Issue Canteens: Patterns of 1858 and 1862”, *The Journal of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians*, Volume XLVII, Number 3, Fall 1995. O’Beirne, Kevin, “A Canteen is a Canteen...Or is it?” in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.2. EM Haversack (Waterproofed Version)

Items carried in the haversack should be period-correct. Note that such things as modern blue/red bandanas sold by many vendors are incorrect and are forbidden. The haversack was intended to carry food and mess furniture; personal items should largely be carried in the knapsack/blanket roll.

Minimum Requirements: Pattern 1851 U.S. issue tarred canvas preferably with inner bag. Haversacks must have a black waterproof coating; black-dyed cloth is not acceptable. The haversack closure shall be a finished black leather closure strap. The roller buckle affixed to the strap shall be japanned, painted black, or unfinished iron. Nickel or other plating on the buckle is unacceptable. The usable length of the haversack's carrying strap must be no longer than 42 inches (40 inches is closer to the historical norm). The carrying strap shall be of folded and sewn cloth coated black. Maximum size of the haversack shall be 12 inches by 12 inches.

Further Reading: Tobey, John E., "The Omnivorous Haversack", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.3. Commissioned Officers' Haversacks

Commissioned officers may use either an enlisted haversack or an officer haversack.

Minimum Requirements: If used, officer haversacks shall be either patent (period) or dyed leather with adjustable leather strap, or painted canvas. No nickel-plated hardware.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, "A Cheese Knife and Shoulder Straps: Re-creating the Eastern Federal Infantry Company-grade Officer's Kit" in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.4. M1855 Knapsack

Blanket rolls or short rolls made with natural fiber rope or musket slings are acceptable in lieu of a knapsack.

Minimum Requirements: Knapsacks must have a waterproof coating; black-dyed cloth is not acceptable. Knapsacks shall be painted (black) canvas or drilling with black-dyed (not painted) leather straps. Closure buckles shall be japanned, painted black steel, or unfinished iron; nickel-plated and stainless steel buckles are not allowed. Hooks shall be brass. ***It is required that knapsacks be plain, without regimental designations or other distinguishing markings, unless appropriate for the regiment and company portrayed.***

If your knapsack has regimental markings, use a blanket roll or short roll for this event.

Further Reading: Tobey, John E., "Knapsacks", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.5. US Shelter Tent

Each EM should have one shelter half. Commissioned officers may carry two shelter halves. Purpose-built triangular end pieces are forbidden at this event because there is little evidence that they were issued to the troops.

Minimum Requirements: Federal-issue shelter halves should *not* have brass grommets; instead, shelter halves should have two 3/8-inch diameter hand-sewn holes at the corners. Shelter halves should be 8 oz./yard cotton drilling or fine tabby-weave linen. Each shelter half shall measure approximately 5'-5" by 5'-6". For this event, the preferred shelter half is the mid-war style three-panel shelter half, with single or double-side

reinforcement preferably with bone buttons. However, the two-panel (late-war) model with tin buttons (many with “blue line” cloth) shelter halves are reluctantly accepted. Each shelter half should have attached at one upper corner a 6-foot section of rope. Shelter halves should have rope loops through the grommet holes. Tent stakes should be of wood; **iron tent stakes are not allowed**. Shelter tent poles (if used at all) shall be foraged wooden tree limbs (although these are in short supply at the site) rather than brought to the event site—DO NOT BRING TENT POLES TO CARRY! As an alternative to tree branches, use bayoneted muskets as upright tent supports (if possible). The preferred rope is hemp; manila rope is the minimum acceptable rope on tents; avoid cotton surplus pup-tent rope.

Further Reading: McDermott, P., “A Survey of Civil War Shelter Halves”, originally published in *The Company Wag* and reprinted in *The Hardcracker Handbook*. Holbert, James, “Shelter Halves”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.* Gaede, Fred, *The U.S. Civil War Shelter Half*.

III.C.6 Tin Cups and Boilers

Minimum Requirements: To be tin-plated steel or iron, with a flanged, flat bottom (not rolled and “crimped” like a modern tin can). Cups and boilers should preferably not be equipped with a purpose-built lid because so-called “muckets” and “billie cups” have insufficient documentation for their use. Stainless steel boilers are unacceptable.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “Mess Furniture of the Army of the Potomac”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

Additional Detailed Information: Participants are encouraged to improvise coffee coolers to supplement or replace tin cups. The most popular style of cooler was a simple period vegetable can with a bail wire attached. If used, cans must have smooth sides and shall not have “crimped” bottoms (i.e., do not use modern grocery store cans).

III.C.7 Tin Plate

Each participant should have a tin plate and/or a canteen half.

Minimum Requirements: Plate (whether a purpose-made plate or a canteen half made into a plate) shall be made of tin-plated iron or steel. Stainless steel is not acceptable.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “Mess Furniture of the Army of the Potomac”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.8 Flatware

Minimum Requirements: Shall be plain or tinned iron. Stainless steel is not acceptable.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “Mess Furniture of the Army of the Potomac”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*, Spencer, Cyrus, “The Indispensable Pocketknife”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.9 Frying Pans

Participants may elect to carry a frying pan, but are advised that a canteen half is a more easily carried expedient. Heavy cooking gear such as fire grates, tripods, and cast iron mess gear (including cast iron frying pans) is forbidden.

Minimum Requirements: Frying pans will have a separately attached handle. The handle will be either forged or stamped iron or steel. Frying pan handles shall be of single-piece

construction without maker's logos or other conspicuous markings. Hollow "cooling handles" are not allowed.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, "Mess Furniture of the Army of the Potomac", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.10 Axes, Shovels, Mattocks, and Hatchets

Minimum Requirements: The number of axes, shovels, mattocks, and hatchets should be minimized – after all, someone has to carry them on the march. Two or three small hatchets per company is usually sufficient. Axes, shovels, mattocks, and hatchets shall be of period-correct construction without modern markings or labels. Edged tools shall be stored when not in use.

Further Reading: O'Beirne, Kevin, "Out Bullet-proof Cover: How Fieldworks Were Built and Used by Eastern Federal Troops", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.11 Camp Kettles

Because this is a campaign portrayal, cooking for the enlisted men will generally be by the enlisted men over company fires and, therefore, use of camp kettles will be minimal or nil.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, "Mess Furniture of the Army of the Potomac", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.12 Mess Pans

Because this is a campaign portrayal, cooking for the enlisted men will generally be by the enlisted men over company fires and, therefore, use of camp kettles will be minimal or nil.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, "Mess Furniture of the Army of the Potomac", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.C.13. Drums, Fifes, Bugles

Minimum Requirements: Full-sized instruments only. It is preferred that drums not be painted with regimental designations. If regimental designations are present on drums, the drum shall be carried so that the regimental designation faces toward the drummer's body and is not easily viewed by others. No instruments other than drums, fifes, and bugles.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, "Musicians' Kits", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

++ END OF SECTIONS III.A THROUGH III.C ++

“After the Battle: Fredericksburg 2008” Picket Event

Sections III.D through III.F

Ordnance Stores, Sustenance, Personal Items

III. D. Federal Ordnance Stores

III.D.1 Long Arms

Minimum Requirements: Period-correct Austrian long-arms are preferred (in late 1862 the 11th New Jersey regiment’s Company D carried “Austrian percussion musket, Cal. 0.69-0.70”; and Company I carried “Austrian Lorenz rifle-muskets in 0.58 caliber.” The sponsors recognize that these long-arms are virtually unavailable to reenactors.

Therefore, acceptable long-arms include: M1853 Enfield rifled-musket, M1855 and M1861 Springfield rifled-musket, and the more-recently available M1854 Austrian Lorenz 0.54-cal. rifle-musket reproductions. M1842 smoothbores are strongly discouraged (although much of the regiment, other than the companies portrayed, did carry these weapons at Fredericksburg). M1842 Springfield converted rifles are strongly discouraged. Any *original* (period) muskets must look new and be in proper working order.

Prohibited: Two-banded long arms, Hawkins rifles, Kentucky rifles, Zouave rifles, Confederate rifles, and long arms *other than* Austrian long-arms of the period, M1853 Enfields, M1855 or M1861 Springfields, and very reluctantly-accepted M1842 smoothbores and rifle conversions..

Further Reading: Walden, Geoff, “Authenticizing Your Reproduction Enfield”, *The Watchdog* (reprinted in *The Hardcracker Handbook*). Wunderlich, George, “U.S. Model 1861 Springfield Rifles”, *The Watchdog* (reprinted in *The Hardcracker Handbook*). Hubbs, Mark, “How Authentic is Your Rifle Musket?”, *The Company Wag* (reprinted in *The Hardcracker Handbook*). Schmidt, Curt, “The Case for the British Enfield” and Henion, Jeff, “The U.S. Rifle-musket”, by in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.2 Musket Slings

Minimum Requirements: Made of brown or russet leather with a single-hook size adjustment. No rivets or staples to be used in the construction of the two loops. Loops must be sewn. 1853 Enfields should be equipped with a Springfield sling.

Further Reading: Walden, Geoff, “Sling, Arms!”, *The Watchdog*, Vol. 3 No. 3. Tobey, John, “U.S. Musket Slings”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.3 Commissioned Officer Sword and Scabbard

The sword and sword belt will be worn by commissioned officers upon all occasions of duty without exception.

Minimum Requirements: Sword may be of the pattern adopted April 9, 1850 – this is the United States Army foot officer’s sword with brass guard and leather grip. Plain or engraved blades are acceptable. The hilt of the sword (where the blade meets the guard)

shall have a leather sheath of the same size as the head of the scabbard. Swords that have a “nut” on the end of the pommel are unacceptable. Use of officer’s sword knot is at the discretion of the officer. Scabbards shall have a brass throat with a brass loop to attach to the swivel snap on the sword belt, and a brass drag with a second brass loop approximately one-third of the way down the scabbard. It is preferred that scabbards for Model 1850 foot officer’s swords be black leather, although steel scabbards are reluctantly accepted. Another *extremely* common sword used by foot officers was the sword known today as the “Petersen 75”, which were imported from Germany and had steel fittings and steel scabbards. Field and Staff officers are encouraged to acquire a sword of the pattern adopted by the War Department, April 9, 1850; or the one described in General Orders No. 21 of August 28, 1860 for officers therein designated, as appropriate.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “A Cheese Knife and Shoulder Straps: Re-creating the Eastern Federal Infantry Company-grade Officer’s Kit” in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.4 Commissioned Officer Sword Belt:

Minimum Requirements: Commissioned officers’ sword belts shall be black-dyed, brown, black patent leather (period), maroon, and embroidered cloth. All of the following dimensions are given as a *guide only* because original sword belts have significant variations. Commissioned officers are advised to copy an existing original that has a documented provenance. Sword belt for commissioned officers should be approximately 1-5/8 inches wide. Belt length should be adjustable by means of a brass buckle, and should include a leather keeper. Buckle-closure may be a brass rectangle with eagle insignia and hook to mate with the brass eye at opposite end of belt. Belt should include two square brass loops each approximately 1½ inches by 1½ inches, each fastened to the belt with two pieces of leather reinforcing sewn to the belt. Belt should include two 1-inch wide leather straps looped through the brass loops and secured with removable brass rivets. Each strap shall have a brass swivel snap (note: there are few accurate reproduction swivel snaps; commissioned officers are encouraged to use original swivel snaps if available). The belt should have a 1-inch wide adjustable baldric (shoulder strap) with leather keeper and brass closure hook; the baldric may be removed at the officers’ discretion. Massachusetts sword belt plates are permitted.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “A Cheese Knife and Shoulder Straps: Re-creating the Eastern Federal Infantry Company-grade Officer’s Kit” in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.5 US EM Infantry Waistbelts and Plates

Minimum Requirements: Minimum width: 1.75-inch. Maximum width: 2-inch. Constructed of black-dyed (not painted) leather. EM waistbelts should have a **leather** keeper; late-war brass keepers are **STRONGLY DISCOURAGED** and *extremely reluctantly* accepted. Waistbelt plate shall read, “U S” and shall be constructed in a manner consistent with the model of plate, of materials appropriate for the same. EM state belt plates are not acceptable.

Non-commissioned officers may wear the Federal non-commissioned officer waistbelt with rectangular eagle plate closure. Non-commissioned officer waist-belt shall be dyed

black leather approximately 1¾ inches wide. The non-commissioned officer belt length shall be adjustable by means of a brass hook, and shall include a leather keeper. Buckle-closure shall be a brass rectangle with eagle insignia and hook to mate with the brass eye at opposite end of belt.

Further Reading: Hubbs, Mark, “Getting Into Leather Part I”, *The Watchdog*, Vol. 4, No. 2. Tobey, John, “Waist Belts for Infantry Privates”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.5. Cap Pouch

Minimum Requirements: Cap pouches shall be made of black-dyed leather, with an inner waterproof flap. A sheepskin liner is encouraged but is not required. The finial shall be unplated yellow brass.

Further Reading: Hubbs, Mark, “Getting Into Leather Part I”, *The Watchdog*, Vol. 4, No. 2. Tobey, John, “Cap Pouches”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.6. Bayonet

Minimum Requirements: The bayonet will affix securely to the long-arm carried and shall be equipped with a locking ring (model specific). Anachronistic markings (i.e., “Made in India”, etc.) must be removed. Originals are encouraged due to their historical accuracy, toughness, and durability compared with reproductions.

Further Reading: Walden, Geoff, “Getting to the Point: Reproduction Bayonets”, *The Watchdog*. Twiss, Jason, “The U.S. Bayonet”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.7 Bayonet Scabbard

For safety, each EM shall have a bayonet scabbards with a securely fastened brass tip.

Minimum Requirements: Scabbards shall be constructed of sturdy, black-dyed (not painted) leather, and shall have a brass tip securely fastened to the end. Either two-rivet (preferred) or seven-rivet (reluctantly accepted) scabbards are acceptable; note that the Army of the Potomac started to receive seven-rivet scabbards probably in the second quarter of 1863—post-dating this event’s portrayal. Sewn scabbards, eight-rivet scabbards, and English-made (“Enfield”) scabbards-and-frogs are unacceptable.

Further Reading: Hubbs, Mark, “Getting Into Leather Part I”, *The Watchdog*, Vol. 4, No. 2. Tobey, John, “U.S. Pattern Bayonet Scabbards”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.8 Infantry Cartridge Box & Sling

Minimum Requirements: M1857 or M1861 cartridge box is required; Reproduction English-manufactured (“Enfield”) cartridge boxes are unacceptable. Cartridge boxes shall be constructed in a rigid manner with flat end pieces. M1861 or earlier boxes will have an inner flap with end pieces. Cartridge boxes shall be finished black. Preferred that cartridge boxes closure is sewn to the cover (rivets are an 1864 pattern). Cartridge box plate is preferred. If a plate is present, it shall read “U S” (state-issue plates are unacceptable) and mounted in the visual center of the box flap. Slings shall be made in the regulation length of 55 inches not including the billets (for .58 caliber box) and

should include a brass eagle plate. ***Cartridge box MUST be equipped with tins for safety; no one will participate without tins.***

Further Reading: Johnson, *Cartridge Boxes of the Union Infantryman*. Tobey, John, “U.S. Infantry Cartridge Boxes”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.9 Gun Tools

It is recommended that all participants provide proper musket cleaning tools.

Minimum Requirements: Gun tools shall be appropriate for the weapon. Modern screwdrivers and T-bar wrenches are strongly discouraged. Modern oil containers are forbidden. Sweet oil or olive oil is preferred in lieu of modern gun oils (which are quite noticeable by their odor).

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “Musket Tools and Gun-cleaning Gear”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.10 Ammunition for Rifle-muskets

Refer to the Ammunition Protocol presented below in these Standards. Ammunition will NOT be collected; each man will carry his own ammunition. All cartridges should be as uniform as possible. Each man should bring at least SIXTY rounds to this event.

Minimum Requirements: All rounds brought to the event shall be packed in ten-round packets. Such packets shall have a tan (masking paper) or off-white paper wrapping and shall be tied with a natural-colored cotton or linen cord. Cartridge packages should NOT be labeled. Cartridges shall be rolled with tan (masking paper) or off-white paper and have a string closure on the “bullet end”. Maximum loads to be as follows:

- .58 caliber: 67 grains FFG.

No staples, penny wrappers, notepaper, or newspaper. Cartridges may have a cottonball or paper wadding to simulate the Minie’ ball. No paper or wadding shall be placed down the barrel.

Further Reading: Henion, Jeff, “Selected Cartridges for the .58 and .69 Caliber Muskets”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.11 Ammunition for Side Arms

Ammunition for side arms shall not be brought to the event; side-arms shall not be drawn and used.

III.D.13 Revolver (Commissioned Officers)

Minimum Requirements: Carrying a side arm by commissioned officers is optional. Choice of side arm is at the discretion of the officer. Among the most common types of side-arms were .36 caliber Colt Navy revolvers, and Smith & Wesson 0.32 caliber “pocket” pistols. Large “cavalry” (0.44 caliber) pistols are discouraged for line officers, but are acceptable for mounted officers.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “A Cheese Knife and Shoulder Straps: Re-creating the Eastern Federal Infantry Company-grade Officer’s Kit” in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.D.19. Revolver Cartridge Box

Minimum Requirements: Not allowed for commissioned officers, because it was very common for commissioned officers to dispense with the revolver cartridge box in favor of carrying pistol ammunition in their pockets or bags. EM shall not have revolver cartridge boxes or side arms.

III.D.21 Pistol Holster:

Minimum Requirements: Shall be worn only by commissioned officers and cavalrymen who elect to carry a side arm. Holster shall be black leather, with one belt loop riveted or sewn to the holster. A very common holster was right-side, butt forward, although other holster configurations are also acceptable.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, "A Cheese Knife and Shoulder Straps: Re-creating the Eastern Federal Infantry Company-grade Officer's Kit" in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III. E. Subsistence

III.E.1: General Requirements:

Participants shall bring their own food to this event—the Battalion will NOT be issuing rations! If you want to eat, bring it.

Participants shall keep in mind that Federal units were able to engage in virtually no foraging at the time of the event scenario. Therefore, non-issue rations should be **minimal to non-existent**. The best bet for an historically-accurate reenactor is to largely stick to U.S. Army military staples appropriate for troops on campaign.

Minimum Requirements: Preferred rations are hardtack, slab bacon or salt pork, beef, coffee, and sugar.

III.E.2. Federal Issue Staples:

E.2.a. Meat Ration (fresh beef, salt pork, salt beef, bacon, etc.)

Minimum Requirements: Fresh beef, pork, mutton, or other meats should not be carried uncooked for obvious health reasons.

Further Reading: O'Beirne, Kevin, "Campaign Cuisine; Rations for the Federal Civil War Soldier", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

E.2.b. Hardtack

Minimum Requirements: Hardtack will be hard enough so that the inspector will not be able to leave an indentation in its surface with his fingernail. Hardtack should have only the following ingredients: flour, water, salt. Size must fall within the following ranges: between 2.5 and 4 inches on a side, and between 1/4- and 3/4-inch thick. Hardtack should have aeration holes. Both G.H. Bent and Mechanical Baking Co. hardtack are acceptable.

Further Reading: O'Beirne, Kevin, "Campaign Cuisine; Rations for the Federal Civil War Soldier", in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

E.2.c. Coffee:

Minimum Requirements: Must be stored loose or in period containers only. Instant coffee, other than period Essence of Coffee, is forbidden.

Further Reading: O’Beirne, Kevin, “Campaign Cuisine; Rations for the Federal Civil War Soldier”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

E.2.d. Sugar:

Minimum Requirements: Must be stored loose or in period containment only. White or tan (unrefined) sugar is acceptable. Modern brown sugar is not allowed.

Further Reading: O’Beirne, Kevin, “Campaign Cuisine; Rations for the Federal Civil War Soldier”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.E.3. Food Procured from Other Sources

Non-issue rations should be minimal to non-existent for troops campaigning in areas that were fairly “picked clean”. In general (i.e., when not engaged in hard campaigning), there was a fairly large quantity of food consumed by the soldiers that came from sources other than their own Commissary Department. Soldiers bought foodstuffs from sutlers, received them in boxes from home, and either bought, traded, or stole them from the local populace. The variety of such foodstuffs was, of course, enormous. Without becoming mired in this complicated topic, here are some rules of thumb to follow when choosing non-issue food to stick in your haversack: If the foodstuff was procured locally:

1. Is the foodstuff in season? For a winter campaign event, food must—of course—be food that was stored and “kept” since the harvest.
2. Is it available in the area from which it was supposedly foraged?
3. Is it of a variety that compares favorably with its Civil War ancestor?
4. If the foodstuff was either procured from the sutler or sent from home, the reenactor must ask himself: When was the foodstuff received relative to the time frame of the event? Were sutlers even accessible?

Minimum Requirements: That the item(s) in question conform to the criteria outlined above.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “A Box from Home! An Important Event in the Life of a Civil War Soldier” and O’Beirne, Kevin, “Campaign Cuisine; Rations for the Federal Civil War Soldier”, both in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.F. Tobacco

Minimum Requirements: Despite the large amount of research done in recent years, there is no evidence that cigarettes were in common use by soldiers. Therefore, cigarettes are unacceptable. Soldiers are discouraged from cigars and, if you smoke, you are encouraged to use a pipe. Chewing tobacco is another acceptable method of nicotine delivery.

Further Reading: Grant, Jonathan, “Tobacco Products and Paraphernalia of the Civil War”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.F. Personal Items and Miscellaneous

III.F.1 Eye Glasses

Minimum Requirements: It is preferred that participants have either no eyewear or, if vision correction is required, contact lenses. Modern glasses utterly destroy an historical

impression. If eyewear is necessary, it shall be of period style. Lenses shall be no more than 1-inch diameter. Nose-rests are unacceptable. Temple-pieces (“bows”) shall not loop behind the ears. Sunglasses are not allowed.

Further Reading: Hughes, Nicky, “A Closer Look”, *The Watchdog*, Vol. 3 No. 4. Newbury, Lewis, “Eyeglasses for Reenactors”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.F.2. Neckerchiefs/Bandannas

Minimum Requirements: Neckerchiefs shall not be worn at parade or while on duty (i.e., guard duty). Neckerchiefs or handkerchiefs shall be of period-correct styles and colors. Modern blue and red dime store/railroad bandannas are unacceptable.

III.F.3 Paperwork/Forms

Morning report forms and other forms required, if any, will be furnished to company commanders and Orderly Sergeants by the Battalion commander prior to the event. Each company Orderly Sergeant is **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to provide, bring, and **USE** his own duty rosters (in blank, period-style notebooks). All commissioned and non-commissioned officers (even corporals!) are expected to each carry a small blank book and writing instrument, and are reminded that candlelight may be required (i.e., bring a candle or two) for certain roll calls.

Further Reading: Schaffner, Michael, *School of the Clerk*, 2008 Edition. Tobey, John, “Civil War Writing Supplies” and Tobey, John, “Why Don’t You Write? Re-creation of Soldier Mail”, both in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

III.F.4 Additional Items

In general, **“additional items” should be minimal for troops on campaign**. Period-correct personal items that may be correct for this impression – should the soldier choose to carry them – include: folding pocket knife, toothbrush, toothpowder, looking glass, shaving equipment, ration bags, wash rag, comb, boot blacking, rottenstone, matches, matchsafes, books, wallet, CDVs, spice containers, writing utensils, housewives, letters from home, newspapers, periodicals, cards, dice, and timepieces.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “Wallets and Money”; Tobey, John, “Identification Tags, Rings, Badges, and Stencils”; Tobey, John, “Period Reading Materials”; Tobey, John, “An Embryo Tailor’s Shop: Federal Soldiers’ Housewives”, and Henion, Jeff, “Barrels, Bags, and Boxes”; all in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

+ + END OF SECTIONS III.D THROUGH III.F + +

“After the Battle: Fredericksburg 2008” Picket Event

Sections IV, V, and VI

Personal Appearance, First Person, Military Procedures

IV. Personal Appearance

IV.A Cleanliness and General Appearance

Further Information: Federal troops portrayed at this event had been actively campaigning for only a few days prior to the dates portrayed (December 13-15, 1862); as such, the soldiers were probably not overly dirty. Uniforms were probably in fairly good repair with a minimum of tears and rents, but were probably somewhat dirty (especially trousers) from crossing the banks of the Rappahannock River and sleeping in open fields in December.

IV.B. Hair

Minimum Requirements: U.S. Army regulations required that the soldier’s hair and beard be kept short. The wearing of extremely long hair and beards by front-line military personnel (save for some generals and staff officers) is not supported by photographic evidence and is therefore strongly discouraged. Non-period hairstyles, and unnatural hair colors are unacceptable.

Further Reading: Tobey, John, “‘You Folks Would Hardly Recognize Me’: The Personal Appearance of the Union Soldier”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

IV.C. Jewelry

Minimum Requirements: Aside from the occasional finger ring, Civil War troops were practically devoid of jewelry. Wristwatches are forbidden. Commissioned and non-commissioned officers should have a period-correct timepiece in good working order. Military personnel wearing anachronistic items like earrings and unusual body piercings shall remove them.

Further Reading: Spencer, Cyrus, “Ringfinger? Schmingfinger!”, in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 1st Ed.* (2001)

IV.D. Physical Conditioning

Minimum Requirements: Potential campaigners should not underestimate the importance of being physically fit. Not only does physical exhaustion detract from a person’s ability to enjoy an event, it can also create a potential for serious injury. Out-of-shape muscles can be the cause of lower back and joint injuries, and a low level of physical fitness also makes a person more susceptible to heat-related ailments. The event hosts do not advocate extreme diet programs that result in the emaciated appearance that some folks incorrectly praise as “the look” of original soldiers, and there is evidence to support the existence of at least a proportion of large men in the ranks. There is, however, a

difference between “healthy large” and “unhealthy large”, with people in the latter category asking for trouble if they embark on a potentially strenuous event such as this one (minor marching, fatigue details such as chopping wood, and possible exposure to cold) without preparation. Participants should have a level of physical fitness to be able to safely participate in scenarios and events. This event will be strenuous and persons who may be unable to wear full marching order, including a full knapsack with a greatcoat, haversack, and rifle-musket for a mile or so in cold and possibly rainy weather, coupled with occasional “sprints” in light- or full-marching order for up to 100 or more yards, should consider abstaining from this event.

V. First Person Impression

Additional information useful in a good first-person portrayal of the 11th New Jersey will be provided to participants in advance of the event.

The unit portrayed at this event (11th New Jersey) was recruited primarily in small, rural towns across New Jersey. There would have been a high proportion of farmers and small-town craftsmen in the ranks. However, some men in the ranks were from cities.

First-person impression means acting like people from another time. By using the proper speech, mannerisms, and limiting conversation to mid-Nineteenth Century topics, a living-historian can provide spectators and participants with the sense that they are interacting with Civil War-era people.

There are many levels to which first-person interpreters can take their impressions. Some may adopt the persona of a member of one of the regiments to be portrayed at the event, complete with the study of his/her occupation, lifestyle, habits, and family history. Others will study speech patterns and period expressions and thereby attempt to recreate a voice from the past. Still others will study current events of the period and the contemporary worldview and enjoy period debates and discussions with like-minded reenactors. The possibilities are almost infinite and the potential and need for research is enormous.

Minimum Requirements for First Person Impression: The reenactor is expected to do or say nothing that would distract others from performing or participating in first person activities. We are not asking for a certain level of participation, although we encourage you to do so. All we desire is for reenactors to refrain from being a distraction for those are participating in first person (i.e., never let your own good time spoil someone else’s moment). **Avoid discussing the following: reenactor politics, current events, modern sports, the Internet, where you bought the latest “cool” acquisition to your reenactment wardrobe, the “farbs” you saw earlier today, and other modern topics.**

This event includes the novelty of closely interacting with Confederate “soldiers” for an extended period (an hour or more). The truce between the opposing sides at the “slaughter pen” site on December 14 or 15, 1862, was characterized by an **almost collegial atmosphere and great good feeling between the opposing forces.** Participants

in the truce reenactment are asked to behave and act in “first-person” in a manner consistent with the historical record of the events being depicted.

Further Reading: Kelly, George, “A Nuts ‘n Bolts Approach to First-person”; Tobey, John, “Life on the Farm”; Tobey, John, “Personality Traits and Attitudes”; Tobey, John, “Vernacular Speech of Soldiers from Upstate New York”; Tobey, John, “Life in a Country Village”; Tobey, John, “Songs and Their Time Frames”; Tobey, John, “Civil War Profanity”; all in—along with other useful chapters—*The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

VI. Military Procedures

VI.A. Drill

The Battalions will drill and operate based on the following manuals:

- *Infantry Tactics*, by Silas Casey
- *U.S. Army Regulations of 1861 with revisions to 1863*
- *Customs of Service for Non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers*, by August Kautz
- *Customs of Service for Officers of the Army*, by August Kautz
- *Parade, Inspection and Basic Evolutions of the Infantry Battalion* (1998 edition), by Dom Dal Bello
- *Instructions for Guards and Pickets* (2002 edition), by Dom Dal Bello

VI.B. Details

All participants attending the event must be willing to perform details (including, but not limited to guard and fatigue). The roster for such details will be administered by company Orderly Sergeants and the Officer of the Guard. Care shall be taken to prevent participants from being assigned to exhausting details when mental alertness is paramount (i.e., before attempting to drive ten hours home after the event). To be allowed more restful sleeping arrangements “guarding the wagons” on Saturday evening, respectfully identify yourself to your company’s Orderly Sergeant as a “volunteer for teamster duty”.

VI.C. Military Courtesy

Minimum Requirements: Proper military courtesy should be accorded to officers by enlisted men, and vice versa throughout the event, although each participant should bear in mind that this event portrays fairly new troops on campaign, where some of the formalities of military service were set aside. If you are assigned to portray a commissioned officer, play the part (i.e., salute back without saying, “Knock that off”, or “Whaddya tryin’ to do, get me shot?” and other non-period witticisms that are probably meant to be self-deprecating but really wind up coming off as dumb). **Bear in mind that certain military niceties, such as saluting, were often dispensed with on the picket line, such as portrayed at this event.**

Further Reading: O’Beirne, Kevin, “Basic Honors to be Paid by the Troops: Saluting for Reenactors”, and Tobey, John, “Putting on Airs: Military Department and the Federal Soldier”, both in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*

VI.D. Rank

Commissioned officers shall be appointed by the Federal commander. Each company commander shall appoint his own non-commissioned officers. There are few things that distract from a group impression more than a preponderance of shoulder straps and stripes. Non-commissioned officers shall know their jobs, including drill, guard duty, and military protocols. Here are a few rules of thumb to follow:

- Regardless of your “normal” rank, bring to the event a private’s blouse and enlisted equipment and keep it in your vehicle, to be used if necessary.
- If you are going to participate with the event and your rank has not been confirmed by the battalion staff or your company commander, bring your private’s kit (see above).
- Regarding rank in infantry line companies, the sponsors advocate the following guiding proportion of privates/non-commissioned officers/commissioned officers: 25:6:2. Subalterns may be required for the performance of various duties—subalterns usually get a workout at events run by the sponsors of this event.

Further Reading: O’Beirne, Kevin, “Who Did What? Job’ Descriptions for Civil War Infantry” in *The Columbia Rifles Research Compendium, 2nd Ed.*, and O’Beirne, Kevin, “A Guide to Leadership in Reenacting: In the Field (Parts 1 and 2)”, in *Civil War Historian* magazine, May/June 2005 and July/August 2005.

VI.E Company Organization

Care will be taken by the event committee to keep living history organizations intact. However, the needs of the Battalion and the event are paramount.

++ END OF SECTIONS IV, V, AND VI ++

“After the Battle: Fredericksburg 2008” Picket Event

Section VII

Enforcement

VII. Enforcement

The following enforcement mechanism is established for the event:

1. All participants shall appear in uniform and full marching order before the Inspectors at the registration check-in point. At this time a detailed inspection of the participant and his kit will be performed.
2. No one shall go to the camp or fall in with the Battalion without receiving a signed pass from the check-in Inspector.
3. Each participant must keep his signed pass on his person at all times during the event and shall immediately show it to commissioned and non-commissioned officers upon demand.
4. Following inspection at the registration check-in area, the following personnel shall be responsible for enforcement of these Standards:
 - Company non-commissioned officers.
 - Company commissioned officers.
 - Officer of the Guard.
 - Officer of the Day.

If company officers fail in their charge to enforce the Standards, the chief responsibility for enforcement lies with the Officer of the Guard and members of his Guard, and Officers of the Day.

5. Company commissioned officers and Orderly Sergeants are the first line of defense in enforcing the Standards, particularly with respect to first-person impression and adherence to military protocols. Other non-commissioned officers are highly encouraged to assist their Orderly Sergeant in “policing” their company.
6. To make the job of the Inspectors and others charged with enforcement as objective as possible, he will render judgement based on these Standards and period documentation.
7. If a person who has passed Inspection fails to comply with the Standards, he will be brought before the Officer of the Day.
8. Judgment of the Inspectors and the Officer of the Day: Failure to conform to minimum requirements will result in one of the following immediate-action judgements by the Inspector at registration check-in or, after inspection, the Officer of the Day:
 - Fix on the spot.
 - Immediate placement in storage and do without.
 - Documentation of non-conformance to be remedied by next event; the Officer of the Day will keep a single notebook for such entries.
 - Failure to abide by a judgment will result in expulsion from the event.

- The judgment of the Inspectors and the Officer of the Day is final.
- A grievance against the Inspectors and Officer of the Day shall be sent directly to the Event Coordinator, who shall render judgement or convene a special investigative committee as he sees fit.

+ + END OF SECTION VII + +

“After the Battle: Fredericksburg 2008” Picket Event

Section VIII

Infantry Ammunition Standards

VIII.A Blank Cartridges



This standard presents a practical approach to making ammunition that looks much like an original cartridge. The tools and methods described below should be an acceptable method for almost any reenactment and most living history events.

- Cartridges may contain wadding; participants shall not ram cartridges when people are downrange. The 1861 Ordnance Manual gives dimensions for and describes the making of blank rounds for firing practice
- All rounds are to be properly bundled and tied. Only those rounds held in the upper sections of the cartridge box tins may be loose.
- All cartridge **bundles** should be unmarked. Do NOT use “Watervliet Arsenal” labels or other labels—historical evidence supporting the use of such labels is scant.
- All .58 caliber cartridges shall use approximately 60 grains of black powder. No Pyrodex is permitted.
- Cartridges conforming to the standards described in the Columbia Rifles Research Compendium are acceptable as a “higher standard” than these Standards. The following is a simplified method for producing a cartridge from a single tube (Civil War-era .58 cartridges were “double-wrapped”). This is the minimum Federal standard for the event.

Materials

Former: Two types of cylindrical formers are required for to make the cartridge.

- The first is made from a 5/8-inch (0.625 inches) dowel about 6 to 8 inches long that is then turned or sanded to approximately 0.58 inches. One end of the former should be cut flat and the other cut or sanded to a taper matching the conical end of a Minié ball. Using a pencil, draw a line around the former 4 inches from the conical tip

- The second former will be used for rolling percussion cap tubes. For our purposes, a plain, ½-inch diameter dowel is acceptable. The second former does not need a conical end.

Thread: White, 100-percent cotton crochet thread is an acceptable substitute for the linen thread used to tie the ends of original rounds.

Wadding: The ball in the cartridge can be simulated using either a cotton ball or toilet tissue; the latter is preferred because it holds its shape better.

Paper: The best, readily obtainable paper is 3M Masking Paper (light brown in color), available in the paint section of most hardware stores. This ‘Kraft’ type paper comes on 150-foot rolls, is the same thickness as the paper used in making original, Civil War-era ammunition, and is inexpensive. It has a smooth finish and the color is a virtual match to the paper used on some original cartridges. A larger sheet of this paper can be used as a bundle wrapper. In lieu of 3M Masking Paper, newsprint is also acceptable, although it tends to tear easily. Newspaper, tissue paper, or penny-rolls are unacceptable. Dimensions are presented in the table below.

Cartridge Bundling Box: Because the main purpose of this device is to hold ten cartridges in position for wrapping, the parts need not be made to precise dimensions to function properly. Two parallel rails 2-5/8 inches long and 1-3/16 inches high attached to a board at a distance of 2-7/8 inches apart are more than adequate. Dimensions for the wrapper paper are presented in the following table:

Paper Dimensions:

Cartridge Paper		Bundle Wrappers	
Length	4 7/8	Length	9”
Right side	4.3/8	Height	6 1/2”
Left side	2 1/2”		

Rolling Tubes:

1. Cut the cartridge paper to the required size.
2. Place the paper on the table in front of you with the oblique edge away from your body and sloping off to the right. This leaves the shortest side closest to your right hand. Place the .58 caliber former on the bottom edge of the paper parallel to your body and with the tapered end pointing left. The line marked on the former should be even with the right side of the paper. Starting at the bottom of the sheet, roll the paper around the former.

Closing Cartridge Tubes:

1. Attach two feet of stout string or linen cord to some secure, fixed point in your work area to serve as a choking cord. A toggle attached to the end of this cord will save painful wear on the fingertips.
2. Wrap the choking cord around the end of the cartridge paper leaving about 1/3-inch of paper beyond the cord.

3. Place one fingertip in the opening of the cartridge tube.
4. Pull the cord tight thus choking the paper down over the conical end of the former. As the cord pulls tight use your fingertip to spread the excess paper open.
5. Unwrap the choking cord from the cartridge.
6. Tie a length of linen thread around the base of the choked portion using two half hitch knots. Trim the excess thread.
7. Press the excess paper back over the tied thread so it forms a sort of blossom.

Assembling Cartridges:

1. Insert the wadding. The number of sections required depends upon the type of wadding paper used. Because the average .58 caliber Minié ball was approximately 1-inch long, wadding used should fill an equivalent length of the cartridge. The average *assembled* cartridge was a shade less than 2-3/8-inch in length. Adjust your wadding accordingly.
2. Press the wadding down with the flat end of the former. It should be packed firmly but not so tightly that the conical end of the cartridge is distorted or torn.
4. Pour black powder into the tube.
5. Once the powder is in place, fold the excess tube over at a right angle to the rest of the tube as seen in the photos to the right. Flatten this tail portion and then fold the edges of it towards the middle. Make sure you press the flaps down tightly. Now fold the tail back over the section you previously folded so the tail is doubled over itself. Don't worry if the tail doesn't stay down against the body of the cartridge—it doesn't on many original cartridges as well.



Rolling Cap Tubes:

- Roll a piece of trapezoidal cartridge paper around the 1/2-inch diameter former,
- Crimp and tie one end the same way the cartridges were tied,
- Place 12 percussion caps inside the tube, and
- Twist closed the open end of the tube.

Bundling Cartridges

1. Place the “folding box” in front of you with one open end facing you.
2. Place a bundle wrapper in the folding box with the long dimension parallel to the side rails.
3. Set five cartridges in a line across the box. The tails of the cartridges can be kept in place by placing the rounds on their sides such that the tails are wedged between them.
4. Place five more in line on top of these. Note: the Ordnance Manual states that the cartridges are to be placed “two tiers of five cartridges each, balls alternating”. It is not altogether clear whether the most common method of laying the cartridges down consisted of one row pointing one way and the next row pointing the other or whether the balls alternated in each row. Specimens of period blank ammunition exist in which the cartridge ends alternate within each row of five.
5. Set one tube of percussion caps in the bundle so that it sets against the ends of the cartridges.
6. Fold the right and left side of the wrapper over the middle of the bundle.
7. Fold the excess material down to form a flap on either end of the bundle.
8. Fold the outside corners of each flap towards the center.
9. Fold the flap back up over the bundle.
10. Close the bundle using a single length of linen thread wound first lengthwise then widthwise and tied in a bow-knot.
11. Trim off the excess twine.

++ END OF SECTION VIII ++
