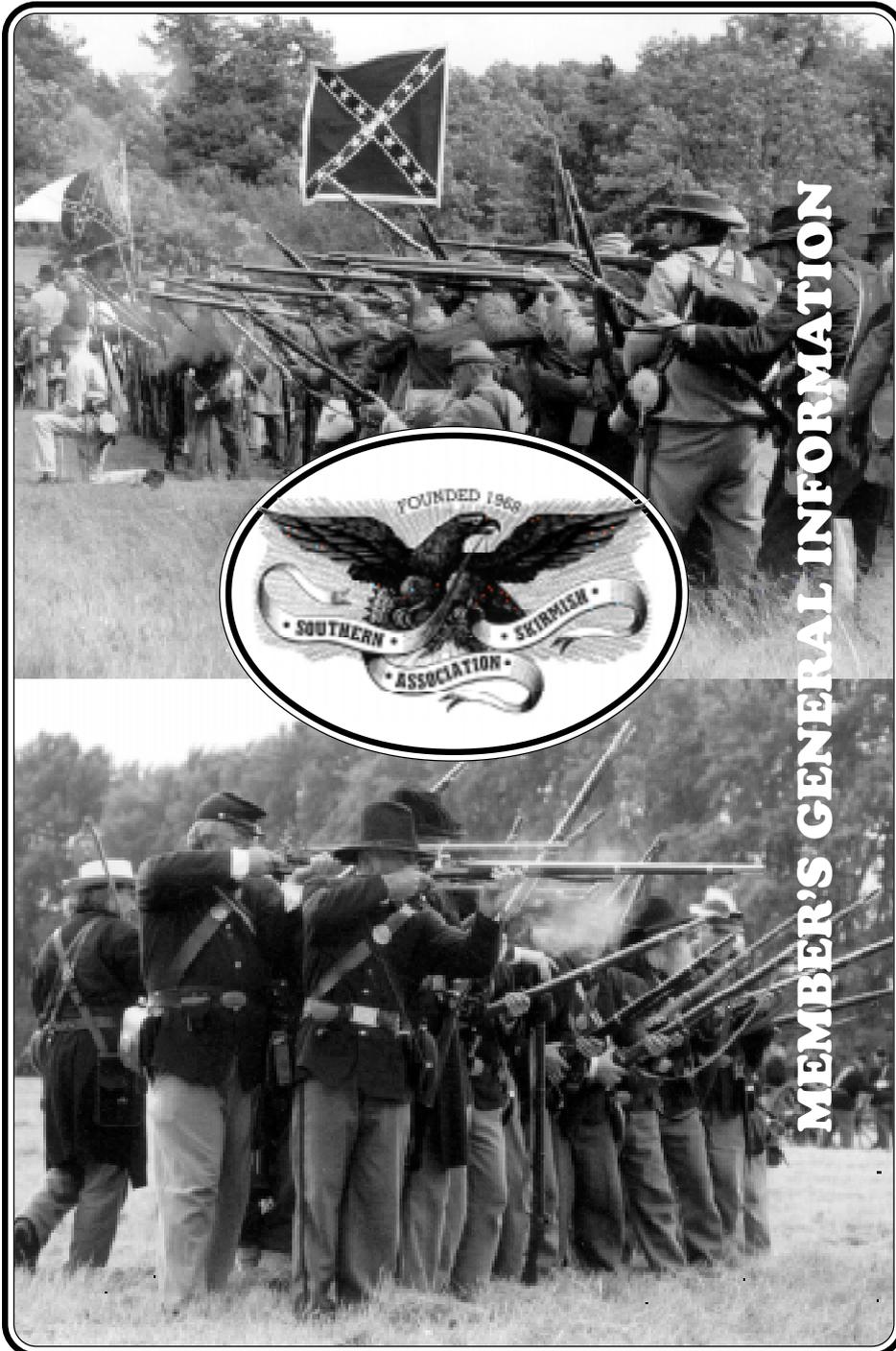


SOUTHERN SKIRMISH ASSOCIATION



MEMBER'S GENERAL INFORMATION



Edition One - June 2001

Copyright ©2001 by the Southern Skirmish Association. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, without prior written permission from the publisher.

**Southern Skirmish Association
PO Box 485
Swindon
WILTSHIRE
SN2 8BF**

Telephone - 01474 322317 E-Mail - JRReb@aol.com Website - www.soskan.co.uk

Civil War Magazines & Periodicals

For obvious reasons there are a good number of magazines on sale in the United States, most of them are very good. All of them are very easy to subscribe to and only need a phone call and a credit card to put you on their mailing list. If I had to choose just one I would go for 'Civil War News'. This is a large newspaper format with four sections totalling approximately 88 pages covering current Civil War related news items, book reviews, re-enacting news and loads of sutlers adverts.

CIVIL WAR NEWS - 234 Monarch Hill Road, Tunbridge, VT 05077, USA. Telephone 001 802 889 3500 E-Mail - mail@civilwarnews.com Website - www.civilwarnews.com

CIVIL WAR TIMES ILLUSTRATED - 6405 Flank Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112, USA. Telephone 001 717 540 6622 E-Mail - civilwarti@palmcoastd.com Website - www.thehistorynet.com/CivilWarTimes

BLUE & GRAY MAGAZINE - 552 Norton Road, Columbus, OH 43228, USA Telephone 001 800 248 4592 E-Mail - JLR@bluegraymagazine.com Website - www.bluegraymagazine.com

NORTH SOUTH TRADER'S CIVIL WAR - PO Drawer 631, Orange, Virginia 22960, USA. Telephone 001 540 672 5921 E-Mail - info@nstcivilwar.com Website - www.nstcivilwar.com

AMERICA'S CIVIL WAR - 741 Miller Drive SE, D-2, Leesburg, VA 20175, USA. Telephone 001 800 358 6327 E-Mail - amcivilwar@palmcoastd.com Website - www.thehistorynet.com/AmericasCivilWar

CAMP CHASE GAZETTE - 240 Seventh Street, PO Box 707, Marietta, OH 45750, USA. Telephone 001 614 373 1865 E-Mail - civilwar@campchase.com Website - www.campchase.com

MILITARY IMAGES - PO Box 2391, Southeastern PA 19399-2391, USA. E-Mail - milimage@yahoo.com Website - www.civilwar-photos.com

THE CITIZENS' COMPANION - 240 Seventh Street, PO Box 707, Marietta, OH 45750, USA. Telephone 001 614 373 1865 E-Mail - civilwar@campchase.com Website - www.campchase.com

Contents

GENERAL INFORMATION 1

Foreword 1

The Southern Skirmish Association 1

Southern Skirmish Association Events 2

The Civil War Soldier 2

General Equipment for Enlisted Men 3

A - Hats 5

B - Jackets 5

C - Trousers & Suspenders (Braces) 6

D - Shirt 7

E - Brogans/Footwear 7

F - Haversack/Breadbag 7

G - Cartridge Box with Sling 8

H - Equipment Belt & Cap Pouch 8

J - Canteen 8

K - Musket with Sling 9

L - Bayonet, Scabbard & Frog 10

M - Tin Cup 10

Items NOT Shown in Diagram 10

1 - Waistcoat/Vest 10

2 - Socks 10

3 - Plate with Knife, Fork & Spoon 10

4 - Wool Blanket or Quilt 11

Shotgun, Firearm and Black Powder Licences 12

Roles for Women 12

Southern Skirmish Association

Camp Life	13
Medal Ceremony	13
Sutlers	15
American Sutlers	15
Songs & Music of the Civil War	16
Making a Bedroll	17
Procedure fo Making Paper Cartridge Tubes	18
Recommended Book List	20
Computers	21
Civil War Magazines & Periodicals	22

Southern Skirmish Association

THE US CIVIL WAR MILITARY MACHINE - Ian Drury & Tony Gibbons. A large format book very well illustrated with coloured drawings showing the weapons and tactics of the Union & Confederate armed forces. Recommended retail price £25 but if you shop around, especially in the Bargain Book shops you will find it reduced to £10, well worth the price. **Dragons World Ltd, Limpsfield, SURREY RH8 0DY ISBN 1 85028 1319**

CIVIL WAR SUPPLY CATALOGUE - Alan Wellikoff - Very similar to a Sears, Roebuck catalogue from the 1860's. A large size, 200 page paperback book which is a comprehensive sourcebook of products from the Civil War Era, available today. **Crown Trade Paperbacks, New York ISBN 0-517-88703-7**

WHO WORE WHAT? - Women's Wear 1861-1865 - Juanita Leisch. This one is especially for the ladies, an excellent reference for all types of womens clothing from the Civil War period. **Thomas Publications, PO Box 3031, Gettysburg, PA 17325, USA ISBN 0-939631-81-4**

THE COMPLETE IDIOT'S GUIDE TO THE CIVIL WAR - Alan Axelrod. *'There is no better one-volume introduction to the Civil War than Alan Axelrod's'* So says W author of *Great Civil War Heroes and Their Battles*. Anyone who has a computer, has probably seen the **'IDIOT's GUIDE'** books and if you have purchased one then you will know how informative they are. I picked this copy up while in the US last year and I must agree with the statement above. Anyone wanting a good overall knowledge of the Civil War, then tis a must for your collection. **ISBN 0-02-862122-0**

FIREARMS FROM EUROPE - David Noe, Larry W Yantz & James B Whisker. This is a large format publication and gives detailed information about the small arms imported by both the Union & Confederate Governments, from most of the European powers. It is profusely illustrated with actual photographs of most of the weapons mentioned in the text. There are even lists of cargo mainifests of blockade runners. **Rowe Publications, 295 Lake Breeze Park, Rochester, NY 14622, USA.**

Computers

For those of you have a computer fitted with a CD/DVD-Rom drive there are on the market several excellent CD-Roms containing information and reprints of various publications. Listed below are details of three American Companies that produce a wealth of such material and well worth checking out. I have included their website addresses so you can check them out for yourselves.

H-BAR ENTERPRISES - 1442 Davidson Loop, Oakman, AL 35579, USA. **Telephone 001 800 432 7702 E-Mail - hbaral@aol.com Website - www.hbar.com**

GUILD PRESS OF INDIANA - 435 Gradle Drive, Carmel, Indiana 46032, USA. **Telephone 001 317 848 6421 Website - www.guildpress.com**

BROADFOOT PUBLISHING COMPANY - 1907 Buena Vista Circle, Wilmington, NC 28405, USA. **Telephone 001 910 686 4816 E-Mail - bropubco@wilmington.net Website - http://broadfoot.wilmington.net**

BALLADS & SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR by Jerry Silverman. Published by **MEL BAY PUBLICATIONS INC**, No.4 Industrial Drive, Pacific, MO 63069-0066, USA - Price \$19.95 ISBN 1-56222-581-2

PLEASE NOTE - Most of the CD's listed are also available on tape.

Recommended Book List

The following list of books is a small collection of what we believe to be a good starting point for anyone interested in the American Civil War. This list and the list on the opposite page will be updated as and when necessary.

BATTLES AND LEADERS OF THE CIVIL WAR (Vols. 1-4) - A four volume set of books originally published in 1887. Very good personal accounts of all the major campaigns of the war in both the Eastern & Western theatres. An original set, if available, is quite pricey approximately £200-£300 depending upon condition. If you look around the discount book shops there are some good facimile copies available at approximately £10 per volume.

TIME-LIFE SET - THE CIVIL WAR (Vols. 1-30) - An excellent set of well printed and well presented books that at first may seem expensive at £18 per volume. But the content is well worth the money to any serious Civil War Buff. Time-Life will send you one volume every 2 months on 10 days free approval. This makes it easier to afford, it works out to £2.25 per week. Sometimes you can find the odd volume in the discount book shops.

TIME-LIFE SET - ECHOES OF GLORY (Vols. 1-3) - Another excellent set from Time-Life consisting of three large volumes in a slip case. There is one volume for each of the Confederate and the Union forces showing every type of artifact imaginable. Nearly every page is illustrated with coloured photographs of all the equipment used by both sides. The third volume being an illustrated atlas of virtually every battle. The complete set costs £75. All three volumes have also been published seperately in paperback form.

OSPREY MEN-AT-ARMS SERIES (£8.99 each) This inexpensive series of paperback books are an excellent start for any newcomer to the hobby. They are available from most good book shops and the **Sutlers Stores (0870 757 2363)** also stock them. The following list are all Civil War titles that are available. The number in brackets is the Osprey publication number.

The Army of Northern Virginia (37)

The Army of the Potomac (38)

ACW Armies (1) : Confederate Artillery, Cavalry & Infantry (170)

ACW Armies (2) : Union Artillery, Cavalry & Infantry (177)

ACW Armies (3) : Specialist Troops (179)

ACW Armies (4) : State Troops (190)

ACW Armies (5) : Voluteer Militia (207)

US Infantry Equipments 1775-1910 (214)

Flags of the American Civil War (1) : Confederate (252)

Flags of the American Civil War (2) : Union (258)

Flags of the American Civil War (3) : State & Volunteer (265)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Foreword

Re-enacting is a wonderful hobby and a marvellous way to escape the realities of our modern world. Whether you leave a house full of screaming children, or the frantic pace of the city, or a place of work, no one can deny that part of the reason we engage in this hobby is to leave the hustle and bustle of the 21st Century behind. It is also good to see old friends again. The sense of camaraderie among Civil War re-enactors is a strong one, and when one has been involved in the hobby for a number of years your circle of friends grows even larger, all bound together in one common interest. There are few things more satisfying than sitting around a campfire at night boiling a cup of coffee swapping tales talking or even a sing song or two. We are not here to glorify war....but to represent and honour the gallant men and women who distinguished themselves in all the theatres of the American Civil War.

The Southern Skirmish Association

Commonly referred to as **SOSKAN**, the Association is a registered Charity at law. It is supported by Membership Subscriptions, Private Donations, Advertising Revenue and Public Project Fees.

The Association is International in membership with members in Europe and USA as well as the British Isles. The membership is drawn from a wide variety of backgrounds with varying areas of interest in the American Civil War, with wargamers, social and military historians. Men, women and children are welcomed into the Association and fulfil various living history roles. Many of our members enjoy postal membership of the Association. The Membership fee paid to **SOSKAN** is the only Official one recognised by the Association.

Membership entitles you to take part in re-enactments, living history displays, camps etc. as described in the Rules and Regulations. You will also receive yearly 6 copies of the - Associations newsletter, **Bugle Call**, to which you are encouraged to make contributions in line with its Editorial Policy.

Each **SOSKAN Regiment** (*See booklet entitled SOSKAN's FIGHTING REGIMENTS*) has a distinct identity based upon a Civil War Regiment. The Regiments and Armies are organised in authentic structures for the time. Some Regiments have unofficial mutual aid funds for newsletters and equipment pools. Civilians portray their counterparts according to the Social Rules, Dress and Etiquette of the period.

The Confederate Infantry take their Instructions from **Hardee's Infantry & Rifle Tactics**, the Union Infantry from **Casey's Infantry Tactics**, Artillery from **French, Barry & Hunt's Artillerists Manual**, and Cavalry from **Cookes Cavalry Tactics**.

Southern Skirmish Association Events

These range from battles, exhibitions, living history camps and displays, TV appearances and lectures, and sometimes all at one event! Quite often we display at Country Houses and Parks. For example, The American Museum at Bath, Fort Brockhurst, Holdenby House in Northamptonshire, and fetes and fairs (eg Hayes Carnival in Middlesex) and many more.

Dates and details of each event are published in **Bugle Call** or circulated individually by post as necessary. Other organisations are invited to take part and we are invited to take part in other organisations events. Training events also take place and are normally arranged by the Regiments with permission from the Executive Committee. All Rules & Regulations apply to these events as well.

The Civil War Soldier

What did the common soldier think when he marched off to war in the Spring of 1861? Perhaps he joined the colours to save the Union or protect his home from invasion. Perhaps he was an idealist or perhaps he simply didn't want to be left behind. In any case, he and tens of thousands of young men like him, both North and South, put on their knapsacks, shouldered their rifles and went off to what appeared to be a great adventure.

He knew little of the reality of war. What he did know came from books and stories. In school he had read about the deeds and heroes of the Continental Army and of Andrew Jackson at New Orleans. He had heard about frontier heroes like Daniel Boone and of Davy Crockett at the Alamo. He knew about the brave deeds at Chapultepec where Army Regulars and Volunteers armed with Mississippi rifles and bowie knives forced their way through to Mexico City. His heroes fought hand to hand, locked in mortal combat with their enemies.

Probably he had never seen a company of Regular soldiers. There were 16,000 men in the army but 13,000 of them were west of the Mississippi River and all were scattered among a hundred posts and stations. The village militia of his friends and neighbours, drilled by an old veteran of the Mexican War was his generation of military thinking. The infantry fought standing up in straight lines at close range. They fired by volley on command, that is, all at one time, and then charged the enemy with the bayonet. These ideas were practical as long as the men were armed with flintlock or percussion muskets whose accuracy after a few shots was doubtful at a hundred yards. The theory was that if enough of them were fired at the same time, someone in the enemy lines was bound to get hit. In practice however, it was found that the troops often fired high or low and in spite of the many pounds of lead that flew in the air, not many of the enemy were hurt.

By 1860, great technical changes had taken place in the weapons. A new rifle was developed which was accurate well beyond five hundred yards in the hands of good shot. However, it still took a long time to load and soldiers attacking a fortified position were at a great disadvantage. After they had stopped to fire, they had to remain still and reload or charge the enemy lines with bayonet and empty rifles. The longer it took to get to the enemy lines the more time the enemy had to hurt them. As the war progressed, the troops learned not to stand up and make targets of themselves when it wasn't necessary, but the attack still had to be made by a solid mass of men over running the enemy lines and beating him by sheer numbers and physical force.

BATTLEFIELDS & CAMPFIRES - Vol.1 - 97th Regimental String Band CD30971
DIXIE & OTHER LOVE SONGS - Vol.2 - 97th Regimental String Band CD30972
CHANTEY IRISH - Vol.3 - 97th Regimental String Band CD30973
TENTING ON THE OLD CAMP GROUND - Vol.4 - 97th Regimental String Band CD30974
RAISE A RUCKUS - Vol.5 - 97th Regimental String Band CD30975
MARCHING ALONG - Vol.6 - 97th Regimental String Band CD30976
BRASS MOUNTED ARMY - Vol.7 - 97th Regimental String Band CD30977
SATURDAY NIGHT AT SEA - 97th Regimental String Band CD30980
SONGS OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY Vol.1 - Bobby Horton HMCDC1
SONGS OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY Vol.2 - Bobby Horton HMCDC2
SONGS OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY Vol.3 - Bobby Horton HMCDC3
SONGS OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY Vol.4 - Bobby Horton HMCDC4
SONGS OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY Vol.5 - Bobby Horton HMCDC5
SONGS OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY Vol.6 - Bobby Horton HMCDC6
SONGS OF THE UNION ARMY Vol.1 - Bobby Horton HMCDU1
SONGS OF THE UNION ARMY Vol.2 - Bobby Horton HMCDU2
SONGS OF THE UNION ARMY Vol.3 - Bobby Horton HMCDU3
CIVIL WAR FAVOURITES - 8th Regimental Band 8RB
A TREASURY OF CIVIL WAR SONGS - Tom Glazier SMCD850
MUSIC OF THE CIVIL WAR - The Americus Brass Band DCD126
CIVIL WAR MILITARY MUSIC - Heritage Americana & Musick Virginia
BALLADS & SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR - Wayne Erdsen NG-CD004
THE CIVIL WAR COLLECTION - Jim Taylor PEARLMAE 004-2
THE HOME FRONT - 17 Authentic Tunes of the Civil War - Wayne Erbsen NG-CD006
SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR - Tennessee Ernie Ford CAPITOL CDP7 95705-2
SHADES OF BLUE & GRAY - Dave Mathews CAMELOT C-CD-102
STONE GREY DAY - Songs About The Confederacy JR-CD 101
THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR - Symphonic Trilogy RSNO Nord-Disc 2028
PORTRAITS IN BLUE & GRAY - Charleston Symphony Orchestra

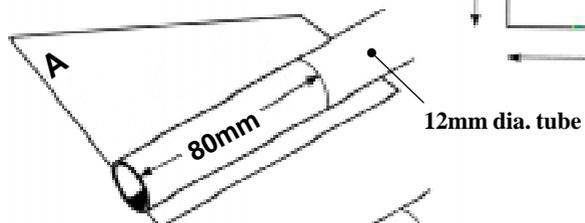
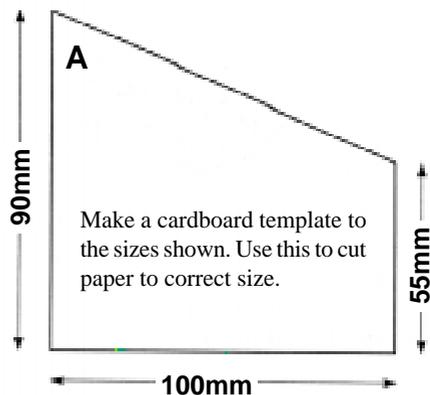
For the serious Civil War music buff there are various publications of the songs including the sheet music. Two very good books are available, both are American publications, and are highly recommended -

SINGING SOLDIERS by Paul Glass & Louis C Singer. Published by **DA CAPO PRESS** - New York - Price \$13.95 ISBN 0-306-80021-7

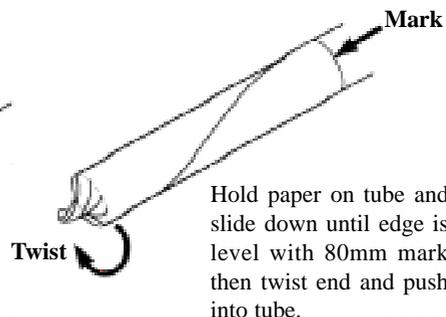
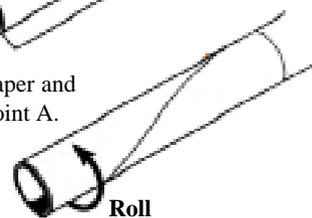
Procedure for Making Paper Cartridge Tubes

MATERIALS - Greaseproof paper or any long grained paper which is less than 60gsm. **NOT newspaper or yellow pages.**

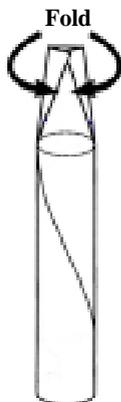
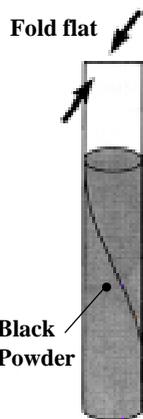
Piece of 12mm diameter dowel with a hollow in one end or preferably a 12mm diameter tube. If you cannot get either of these then a good substitute is the body of an old felt pen or marker. Whatever you finally use make a mark 80mm from one end.



Lay tube on paper and roll towards point A.



Hold paper on tube and slide down until edge is level with 80mm mark then twist end and push into tube.



The last three stages opposite will be performed by the Ordnance Sergeant and have only been included to show the complete procedure. You are expected to produce at least 100 tubes for each meeting. These should be handed to the Company's Ordnance Sergeant.

Manoeuvring the troops in battle was also difficult. From marching columns, the soldiers had to swing into double lines facing the enemy. Sometimes they were attacked from the flank or side. The long double lines then had to be turned to face in a new direction.

The new volunteer officers had as little training or experience in drill as the men. Imagine one of them standing in front of his company, tactic book in hand, trying to figure out article IV, paragraph 129, which read as follows :

The line will halt if marching, and the four men of each group will execute this rally in the following manner: the front-rank man of the even-numbered file will take the position of guard against cavalry; the rear-rank man of the odd-numbered file will also take the position of guard against cavalry, turning his back to him, his right foot thirteen inches from the right foot of the former and parallel to it; the front-rank man of the odd file, and the rear-rank man of the even file, will also place themselves back to back, taking a like position, and facing to the right and left; the right feet of the four men will be brought together, forming a square, and serving for mutual support. The four men in each group will come to the ready, fire as occasion may offer, and load without moving their feet.

This manoeuvre was to be done if everything in the battle became confused. Soldiering obviously took some time and practice to learn.

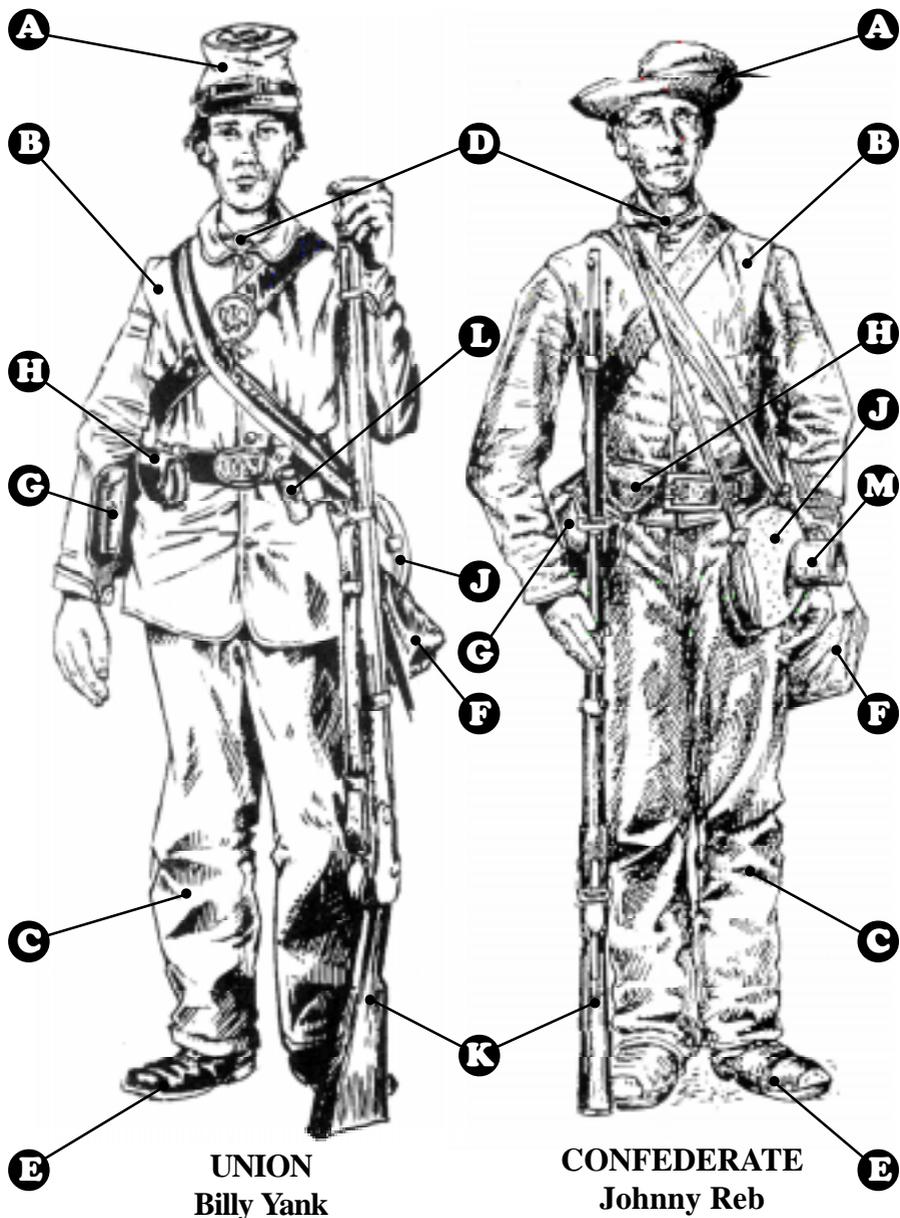
But learn it our soldier did. The next four years would see him engaged in the greatest battles ever fought on American soil. Over half a million soldiers would die around him in combat or from disease. But through it all our soldier would carry on marching, manoeuvring and moaning like the true professional he had finally become.

General Equipment for Enlisted Men

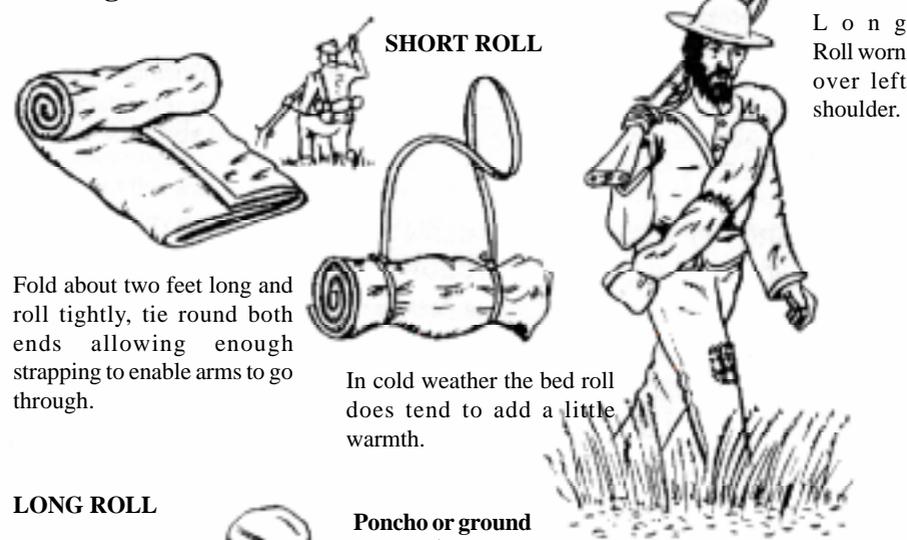
The diagrams on page 4 and the following text are to be used as a general guide only. Before the new recruit attempts to purchase any items of equipment it would be advisable to check with the company/regiment you are joining. The majority of **SOSKAN's** fighting units have their own special requirements, and they will be able to give advice about any purchase you wish to make.

Most of the equipment recommended in the following text is illustrated in the excellent Time-Life set of books - **Echoes of Glory**. These can be purchased as a three volume set or separately. The two volumes concerned are **Arms & Equipment of the Confederacy** and **Arms & Equipment of the Union**. The references in the text will be abbreviated as **EOG/CS** for the Confederate book and **EOG/US** for the Union book. Again it must be stressed that these are references only, so check with the relevant regiment/company before making any major purchases.

All potential new recruits would be well advised to check out the **Sutlers Stores, 11 Columbia Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH10 4DZ, Telephone - 0870 757 2363**. This is an excellent 'ONE STOP SHOP' for all your re-enactment needs. All of the photographs and illustrations in the following section are from the Sutlers Stores comprehensive catalogue, which is available from the above address.



Making a Bedroll

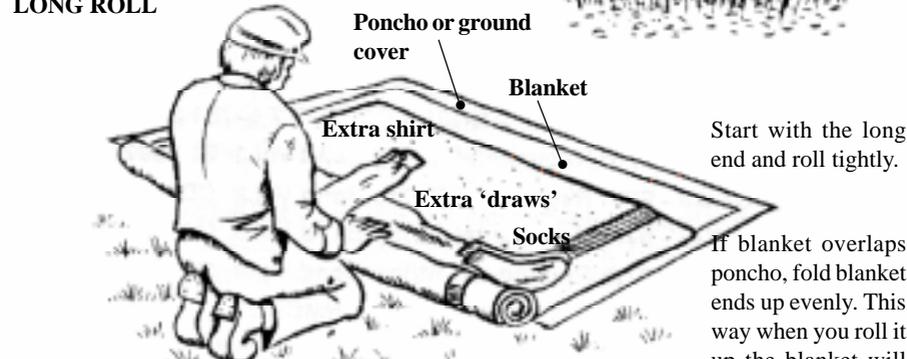


Fold about two feet long and roll tightly, tie round both ends allowing enough strapping to enable arms to go through.

In cold weather the bed roll does tend to add a little warmth.

Long Roll worn over left shoulder.

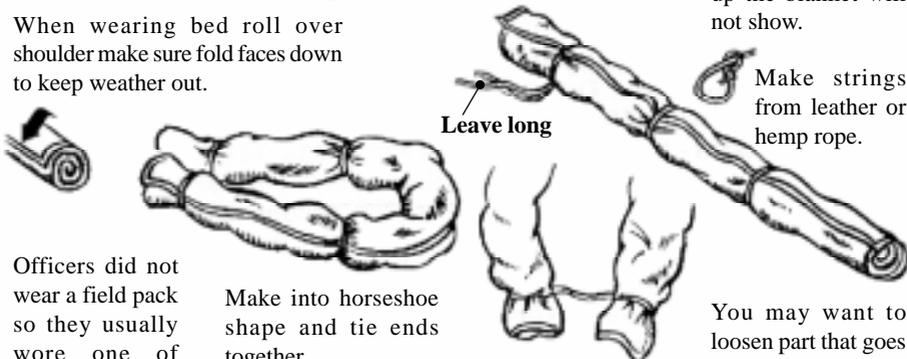
LONG ROLL



Start with the long end and roll tightly.

If blanket overlaps poncho, fold blanket ends up evenly. This way when you roll it up the blanket will not show.

When wearing bed roll over shoulder make sure fold faces down to keep weather out.



Officers did not wear a field pack so they usually wore one of these.

Make into horseshoe shape and tie ends together.

You can leave tie longer for easier removal.

You may want to loosen part that goes over shoulder.

Southern Skirmish Association

PANTHER PRIMITIVES - PO Box 32, Normantown, West Virginia 25267, USA Telephone 001 304 462 7718 Catalogue - \$2.00 Good selection of tents, equipment mainly earlier frontier period, very interesting catalogue. Website www.pantherprimitives.com

JAMES COUNTRY MERCANTILE - Jean & Del Warren, PO Box 364, Liberty, Missouri 64068, USA Telephone 001 816 781 9473 Catalogue - £5.00 This one is especially for the ladies. Stockists of patterns for authentic clothing 1740-1940 also available books, buttons, fabric, jewellery, ready made clothing, tapes and accessories. Website www.jamescountry.com

DIXIE LEATHER WORKS - PO Box 8221, Paducah, Kentucky 42002-8221, USA Telephone 001 502 442 1058 Catalogue - \$4.00 Excellent range of leather work, books and Civil War equipment. Website www.dlwleather.com

DIXIE GUN WORKS - PO Box 130, Gunpowder Lane, Union City, Tennessee 38281, USA Telephone 001 901 885 0700 Catalogue - \$5.00 All types of Civil War equipment including guns of all descriptions. The catalogue is a massive 768 pages rather like a telephone directory, well worth the £5.00 asking price. Website www.dixiegun.com

THE KINGS CELT - PO Box 1776, Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401, USA Telephone 001 304 267 0411 Catalogue - £2.00 All types of period musical instruments plus books, tapes, CD's and sheet music. Website www.kingscelt.com

Songs and Music of the Civil War

For anyone interested in music and the Civil War there are a whole collection of tapes and CD's available, if one knows where to look. Many of the tapes are only available from the US but if one goes to the Lower Oxford street branch of HMV, lower ground floor, easy listening department one will find an abundance of CD's etc. If they have not got what you want then the sales assistant is usually very helpful and he/she will be able to order for you. The follow titles are just a few of the CD's that are available. This list is by no means comprehensive.

GETTYSBURG - Film Soundtrack MILAN 35654-2

More Songs and Music from GETTYSBURG MILAN 35664-2

SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR - Various Artists COLUMBIA CK48607

THE CIVIL WAR - ITS MUSIC AND ITS SOUNDS MERCURY 432591-2

SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR - Harmonieion Singers NEW WORLD NW202-2

THE CIVIL WAR - TV Documentry Soundtrack ELEKTRA 7559-79256-2

WHITE MANSIONS - Various Artists A&M CDA64691

SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR - Cumberland Three RHINO R2 7073

GLORY - Film Sondtrack VIRGIN CDV 2614

SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR - Tennessee Ernie Ford CDP7 95705-2

LINCOLN - TV Film Soundtrack ANGEL CDC 0777 7 54751 2 8

Richard Bales : THE CONFEDERACY SONY MUSIC AK 47123

Richard Bales : THE UNION SONY MUSIC AK 47124

Southern Skirmish Association

A - Hats

The Union soldier is shown wearing the Regulation issue forage cap, adopted by the Army in 1858 after it had been designed by a board of Officers. Six of these Officers went on to become Confederate Generals thus the widespread use of the cap in the Confederate Armies as well. Made of dark blue (*EOG/US Pages 182/183*) or grey (*EOG/CS Pages 164/165*) wool, stiffened with buckram the crown was reinforced with paste board. A crescent shaped visor of leather adorned the front and this was finished with a leather chinstrap, brass slide and two general service buttons. One of the main reasons for its adoption was the ease of production on the machines of the period, thus greatly reducing costs.

The Confederates also had an affinity for the kepi or chasseur style forage cap (*EOG/CS Pages 162/163*) which was more stylish than the standard forage cap. They were produced in - a great variety of colours, the various shades of grey and butternut being the most common.



Shown above are three typical hats from the period as supplied by modern sutlers. On the left is a Union Forage Cap, centre a high crown beehive and right a Confederate Kepi.

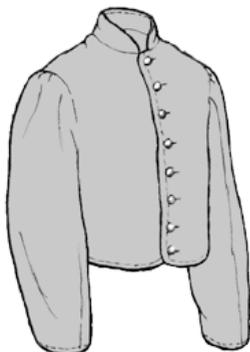
Our Confederate soldier is shown wearing an extremely popular style of slouch hat called the 'Beehive'. The felt slouch hat was more popular with the Western Theatre Armies of both sides. Many variations in designs and colours existed. (*EOG/CS Pages 166-169*) The Union Armies tended to have more hat decorations in the way of regimental or corps badges, but this doesn't mean the Confederates never had any. One item that does go well with the slouch hat is the blue infantry hat cord made of worsted wool. These were decorative and they could be used to adjust a well worn hat.

Prices of modern replicas of all these hats can vary, depending on the quality you purchase. Many re-enactors take great pains to choose their hat and once the right one has been obtained they usually stick with it, in fact it becomes their trademark.

B - Jackets

One could write a complete book on the subject of jackets, there being so many different styles and variations on a theme. We will stick with our two infantrymen opposite and start with the Rebel figure. He is depicted wearing the 'standard' shell jacket (*EOG/CS Pages 132/144*), this was a short waist length wool jacket lined with muslin. The Western Confederate Armies had shell jackets in grey, butternut or even Union blue although these were usually - bleached and then re-dyed. The troops in the Eastern Armies were more fortunate, in that, depending from which State they came, they were better supplied. North Carolina was the most successful at furnishing clothing throughout the war. The buttons, at the start of the war, were made of brass and could vary from the standard 'I' or 'CSA' to various State buttons. (*EOG/CS Pages 96/97 & 119*) The number of buttons on these jackets varied from 5 to 9 depending on where, and who manufactured them. As the war progressed and the Union blockade

Southern Skirmish Association



Typical Confederate Army Shell Jacket

took hold the materials & supplies dwindled, the men in the ranks resorted to making their own buttons. The materials, wood, bone etc were only limited by the ingenuity of the individual.



Typical Union Army Sack Jacket

The Union infantryman was much better supplied and in the latter years of the war there were huge stocks of supplies in warehouses across the country. Our man is wearing the standard Federal issue sack coat or fatigue jacket, usually made of 12oz dark blue wool, unlined, with an inside left hand

breast pocket. Four general service eagle buttons adorned the front. (EOG/ US Page 125) These jackets were well liked by the rank & file for their great comfort and usefulness. According to regulations, all enlisted men of all service branches received one of these coats when they enlisted.

The Confederates also had a version of the sack coat (EOG/CS Page 138), the main difference being the colour and the Southern version had a stand-up collar as opposed to the floppy folded collar of the Union issue. There are other types and styles of jackets that were in use by both Armies but before you purchase any of these, it would be advisable to check with the Company you have or are going, to join. Period patterns are available from the Sutlers and if you are lucky enough to have a tailor or seamstress in the family you could save yourselves a small fortune.

C - Trousers & Suspenders (Braces)

The most common material of the period was wool and the Confederate re-enactor has a wide choice of colours. (EOG/CS Pages 152/153) Various shades of grey were in use at the beginning of the war, but as the Union blockade took a firm hold dyes become very scarce. The women folk started making their own cloth and the substitute dye was walnut husks. Depending on the strength of this mixture the resulting colour could be anything from beige to a dark brown, hence the term "Butternuts". It is also quite in order for rebel forces to wear the Union "Kersey blue" trousers, as these could have easily been looted from the bodies on the battlefield. Not shown in the diagram are braces or to be correct - suspenders, many styles are available. Elastic suspenders did exist during the



Re-enactors canvas suspenders (braces) with leather tips



Right - Typical Trousers (Pants) of the period with side pockets

Southern Skirmish Association

Sutlers

This is a generic term for a person who sells liquor or provisions to soldiers in camp or garrisons. Since the advent of the Centennial celebrations of the Civil War in the States during 1961-1965, sutlers have appeared in all types and guises, some good, some bad. Obviously there are more sutlers in the USA than over here but the few we have, have all stood the test of time and are generally good and reliable. Most sutlers in the US will have no problems shipping to the UK and all of them usually produce catalogues etc of the goods and services they are offering.

If you are a newcomer to the hobby then I suggest you check with some of the older members or your Company Officer before making any purchases. They will be able to recommend sutlers, who, in their opinion, will give you the best deal for your money.

The Sutlers stores

THE ONE STOP SHOP FOR ALL YOUR RE-ENACTMENT NEEDS



WHY NOT PAY US A VISIT?
We are open six days a week

0870 757 2363

11 COLUMBIA ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH BH10 4DZ

Website: www.sutlers.co.uk E-Mail: rbz@sutlers.co.uk

Send £3 for our NEW 100pg A4 Catalogue



The following list of useful contact names and addresses is by no means comprehensive, names will be added/deleted as regular updates.

American Sutlers

C&D JARNAGIN - PO Box 1860, Corinth, Mississippi 38834, USA Telephone 001 601 287 4977 Catalogue - \$3.00 Excellent catalogue of all types of equipment plus a sample sheet of materials. Website www.jarnaginco.com

FALL CREEK SUTLERY - A J Fulks, PO Box 92, Whitestown, Indiana 46075, USA Telephone 001 317 769 5355 Catalogue - \$3.00 Stockists of all types of Civil War equipment and uniforms. Website www.fcsutler.com

Southern Skirmish Association

civil war but would not have been typical for soldiers in the field, especially Confederates. Belts were not typically worn with civil war era trousers. Depending on your sensitivity to wool you may want to wear “Long Johns”, pyjama bottoms or period style long underdrawers. It is not unheard of for re-enactors to have the wool trousers lined. Federal issue trousers were either dark blue or the more common “Kersey blue”. (EOG/US Page 127).



D - Shirt

You may wear period style civilian or military style shirts. Men in both armies wore checked shirts and various fancy gingham's in addition to the plain white or unbleached muslin shirts (US issue EOG/US Page 126). A coloured shirt has the advantage of not showing dirt as readily as the white muslin ones. (EOG/CS Pages 154/155) In time, you will want more than one shirt, get them relatively full cut for comfort.

E - Brogans/Footwear

US M1851 Jefferson Brogans with pegged soles were standard issue, (EOG/CS Pages 174/175 & EOG/US Page 191). The Sutlers Stores based in Bournemouth carry a very comprehensive range of Civil War footwear and are well worth a visit.



If the boots you purchase come without the heel plates it is advisable to get them fitted as soon as possible to avoid uneven wear on the heels. The leather should be heavy, stiff and have the rough side out. No eyelet's were used and the laces should be leather strips. As soon as you receive them, soak the leather in Pecan oil or Neats foot oil and try to wear them before an event so they are broken-in before you face the enemy.

F - Haversack/Breadbag

This is your carry-all and as such is available in many styles. The simplest being the white linen or canvas CS bread bags which closed with one or more buttons. The black US haversacks (EOG/US Pages 210/211) are made of a waterproof material and have a buckle for closure. CS white linen haversacks with buckles are also available and this kind was used by early war militia units on both sides. (EOG/CS Pages 200/201).



Southern Skirmish Association

G - Cartridge Box with Sling

The recommended pattern is the US M1855 (EOG/US Page 203) cartridge box complete with tins which hold 40 cartridges. This type of box is available in black, brown or natural leather. It was quite common for the cartridge box to be attached directly to the equipment belt, but if you prefer to wear it with a sling these are available from most sutlers. Confederate canvas slings (EOG/CS Page 197) with leather ends will be slightly cheaper. Enfield pattern cartridge boxes (British style) are also available and it is quite in order to wear one in preference to the US pattern.



The US M1855 cartridge box, this comes complete with tins

H - Equipment Belt and Cap Pouch

The US M1856 pattern leather waist belt with brass keeper was the most popular style and was used by both US & CS forces. (EOG/US Pages 202/203) This essential item has the bayonet frog and cap pouch attached to it and is worn over the cartridge box sling and the haversack/breadbag sling. CS waist belts with sewn loops are sometimes available and all belts vary in price. The cap pouch shown in the diagram is a small leather box shaped container for securely holding percussion caps. CS, CSA or various state buckles



US M1856 waist belt complete with brass keeper

may be worn depending on the particular regiment/company you belong to. Shown on the Rebel figure is one of the most popular buckles amongst Confederate forces, the Georgia frame buckle, of which many variations existed. (EOG/CS Pages 190/191) The Union soldier depicted is shown wearing the standard US oval brass buckle these were also quite popular amongst the Confederate troops who wore them upside down as SN (Southern National). The standard US & CS lead backed buckles are the cheapest, solid cast brass are also available. When purchasing a solid brass buckle examine it thoroughly as some 'sand cast' buckles are of a very poor quality.



Typical percussion cap pouch

J - Canteen

All re-enactors on both sides should carry a canteen on the battlefield, obviously, filled with water. Not only is it useful to relieve one's thirst on a hot sunny day it is also a must in case anyone is unfortunate enough to suffer powder burns etc. The most plentiful were the US tin bullseye or smooth side canteen with cloth covers. (EOG/US Pages 206-209) This is available with a variety different styles and colours of covers. The Confederate forces used various other ingenious devices (EOG/CS Pages 208-211) to substitute for canteens including wooden ones.

Southern Skirmish Association

Patterns for womens clothes of the period are readily available, both in the UK & the US (see Sutlers on pages 14-16), and a recently published book, 'Who wore what? - Women's Wear 161-1865' is an excellent reference for all things "female".

Camp Life

There are so many ways to portray Camp Life because all the normal human activities could be found when soldiers were off duty. In addition there would be the Army side of Camp Life - role call, sick call, mail call, discipline etc.

Off Duty Activities - Personal hygiene & maintenance: shaving, washing, laundry, clothing repair, reading newspapers, letters, books, writing letters, diaries, company newsletters, preparing and cooking food, cleaning equipment etc.

Sport and Pastimes - Baseball, football, wrestling, boxing, gambling, leapfrog, racing on foot, singing songs and playing instruments, whittling, making things, religious meetings, debating societies.

Camp Discipline - Courts Martial and punishments being carried out, penal activities of digging latrines/graves, guard duty, extra duty, firing squad, public humiliation.

Camp Visitors - Sutlers, Army paymaster, Postmaster, Quarter master, War correspondents, war artists, politicians, spies, senior officers.

Medal Ceremony

Traditionally, the last official function of SOSKAN's yearly events has always been the re-enactment and living history weekend at the **American Museum, BATH**. This usually occurs - during the 2nd or 3rd week in September. On the Sunday of this weekend a unique ceremony takes place early afternoon, just before the battle re-enactment. This occasion is known as the Medal Ceremony.



CENTRE CHEST

LEFT SHOULDER

Shotgun, Firearm and Black Powder Licenses

Because of the potential for misuse and injury from weapons which can kill or maim it is essential that the Southern Skirmish Association protects its members and the Association from any potential or actual problems over weapons. Accordingly it is essential that any member wishing to use a muzzle loading weapon must without fail obtain permission from the Secretary as shown below. Failure to do so could result in delay in obtaining the necessary licenses or lead to permission being denied.

6.1 Any member applying for a Shotgun license, a Firearms certificate or a Black powder license for use on Southern Skirmish Association functions must first apply' to the Secretary for permission. (From SOSKAN's Rules & Regulations).

Roles For Women

During the Civil war, women made valuable contributions to the war effort on both sides'. Whether you portray a Confederate or Union woman you would normally participate in very similar if not identical activities common to North and South. These roles would cover some of the following:

Military wives of all ranks- Cooked meals, repaired uniforms, darning, patching, making up food parcels, opening parcels from home, embroidering flags, making patchwork quilts.

Hospital/Prison Visitors - Visiting wounded soldiers, writing and reading letters for them, comforting, conversing with soldiers.

Nurses- On both sides women played a vital role in helping with wounded and dying in field and city hospitals. In the North it was The Sanitary Commission and although the South didn't have a formal organisation the southern women carried out the same role.

Soldiers- Many women entered the ranks and served through out the entire war without being detected and some even won pensions after the war. Each SOSKAN Unit decides whether to admit women as soldiers. It is conditional upon being able to blend in without looking like a female soldier.

Street Vendors - Selling items to the public and military

Laundresses- Washing and pressing etc. were attached to some Army Units.

Hobbies and Pastimes - Painting, embroidering, singing, writing, reading poetry or newspapers, picnics, tea parties etc.

This list is not exhaustive. To present an authentic impression, period clothing would be necessary dependant upon what impression you were trying to make. Clothing would depend on occasion and time of day. For example, a day dress would be appropriate for most daytime activities, with a ball gown being worn to a ball in the evening.

For occupations, clothing specific to them would be used. All the above includes accessories and implements being used as was done then.



Just a few of the huge variety of canteens available from the sutlers

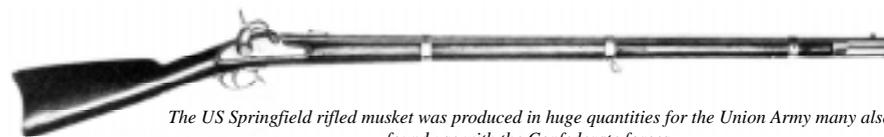
Some sutlers in the UK can supply the wooden canteens but they are quite expensive. If you can afford it a stainless steel canteen is the best buy, these do not rust.

K - Musket with Sling

By 1863 the 3-band British Enfield Rifled Musket (*EOG/CS Pages 36/37*) was probably the most common gun carried by the Confederate soldier. Although new members will be allowed to carry other rifles, they will be encouraged to purchase Enfields for authenticity sake. This will be your most expensive item. Two types of Enfield 3-banders are available, the cheaper Indian pattern Enfield or the Euro Arms model which is the more authentic version.

The rifle sling can be, either the Enfield pattern or the Confederate canvas and leather version (*EOG/CS Page 199*).

The most popular rifled musket used by the Union Army was the US Model 1861 Springfield. More than 700,000 of this 0.58 calibre rifled musket were manufactured during the war. (*EOG/US Page 40/41*) It was a great favourite amongst both the Union & Confederate troops for its simple construction and reliability.



The US Springfield rifled musket was produced in huge quantities for the Union Army many also found use with the Confederate forces.

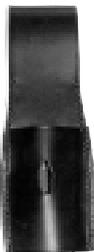


Britain supplied both the Union & Confederate Armies with various models of the Enfield rifled musket.

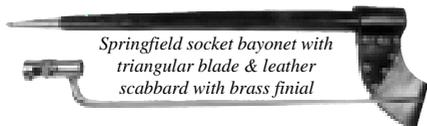
New members should note that before they can purchase a rifle they will need a shotgun licence which is obtainable from their local police station. The licence needs to be produced before you are allowed to use your gun at any SOSKAN events. You will also need a Blackpowder licence.

L - Bayonet, Scabbard and Frog

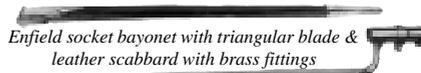
Before purchasing a bayonet it is good practice to try fitting it on your rifle. Bayonets are hand made and sometimes require filing before they are useable. The scabbard should be made of leather and have a brass tip to ensure the bayonet does not stick through the leather. A 'frog' is a leather device which hangs from the equipment belt and holds the bayonet scabbard. The Enfield frog is recommended as it was used by both US & CS forces, it holds the bayonet in a vertical position. (EOG/US Page 31 & Page 202).



Right - Enfield leather 'frog'.



Springfield socket bayonet with triangular blade & leather scabbard with brass finial



Enfield socket bayonet with triangular blade & leather scabbard with brass fittings

M - Tin Cup

Enamel cups were not typical of the evening camp use. It is advisable to get a of large size, (EOG/CS Pages 214/ 215).



period, but are handy for good quality, heavy tin cup

Items NOT Shown in Diagram

1 - Waistcoat/Vest

Although not supplied as an issued item the waistcoat/vest was extremely popular amongst the rank and file. (EOG/US Page 121 & EOG/CS Pages 128 & 149) Through sutlers and from the home supply source, military cut, stand-up collar garments were available and were widely used. Most modern sutlers usually carry a wide range of styles including both military and civilian. All are available in a variety of materials.



Right - Typical stand-up collar military style waistcoat/vest of the period

2 - Socks



Grey or brown wool, (EOG/CS Page 175) of the type carried in camping & sporting goods shops, with no coloured stripes. Some rag cotton socks have the same appearance as white wool and would be more comfortable. Always have an extra pair of socks with you. It might be advisable to wear a pair of nylon or cotton socks as a liner to help avoid blisters on those long marches.

3 - Plate with Knife, Fork & Spoon

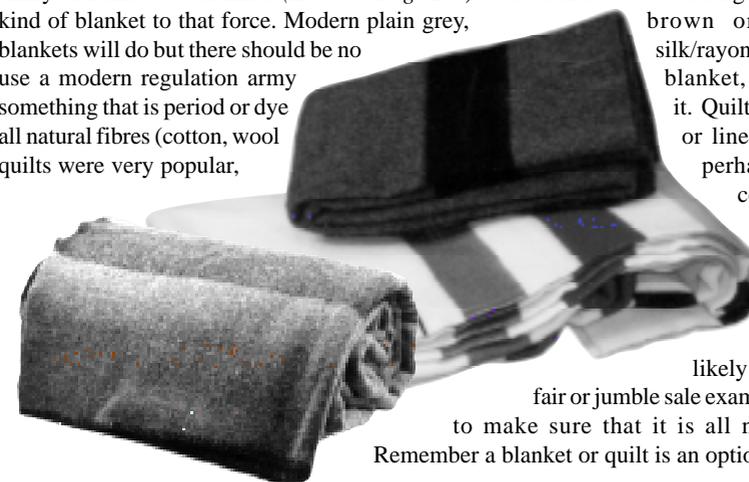
Sutlers tin plates are fairly expensive and as the period tin plates looked just like modern pie pans it might be cheaper to check these out first. Knives and forks are also expensive to buy from sutlers and a good idea is to check your local boot fair or jumble sale but do look at the

style in one of the many good books that are available before purchasing. The plate and cutlery can be carried in your haversack and your tin mug attached to the strap of your canteen or on the bottom of your bedroll. (EOG/US Pages 224/225)



4 - Wool Blanket or Quilt

Some sutlers sell period style blankets which are of excellent quality. The two common types of the period were the 1855 regulation grey blanket with black end stripes and the emergency manufacture brown blanket with dark brown end stripes and no end stitching, (EOG/US 214/215). The letters 'US' were not typically stitched into the blankets, though they did appear. There was no uniform issue CS blanket, although some sutlers offer large dark blue" Army of Tennessee" blankets (EOG/CS Page 203) because there was a large issue of this kind of blanket to that force. Modern plain grey, brown or blue wool blankets will do but there should be no silk/rayon edging. If you use a modern regulation army blanket, hide it under something that is period or dye it. Quilts should be of all natural fibres (cotton, wool or linen). Patchwork quilts were very popular, perhaps you could convince a lady relative or girlfriend/wife to make you one. If you find a likely quilt at a boot fair or jumble sale examine it carefully to make sure that it is all natural fibres. Remember a blanket or quilt is an optional item.



The two figures on page 4 plus the following text (Pages 5 to 11) will, hopefully, give you some basic groundwork on the necessary equipment for both US and CS infantrymen. There are, of course, other branches of the various services depicted in SOSKAN's military units, but as I stated in B - Jackets, one subject alone could command a book. Therefore if you have joined a Cavalry, Artillery or any other branch of the Armies then I suggest you have words - with the Officer commanding your particular Regiment/Company. He/She will be able to give you the relevant information that you will need to make the necessary purchases for your equipment.