

**THE PREVENTION OF
DISEASE IN ARMIES
IN THE FIELD**

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The Prevention of Disease in Armies in the Field by Robert Caldwell

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ROBERT CALDWELL

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IN
ARMIES IN THE FIELD

BY

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DISTRICT LABORATORY, FIRST ARMY CORPS

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P R E F A C E

THIS little book has been written in the hope that what is, in the main, a record of sanitary experience in the field may possibly prove of some interest to those whose attention is particularly drawn to the physical well-being of the soldier on service.

I must apologize for the constant introduction of the personal element on the ground that I have endeavoured to formulate my own conclusions from my own experience, and to avoid the repetition of well-known matter. How far my conclusions are justified I must leave to the judgment of readers.

Certain of my statements have already appeared in the *British Medical Journal*, *Public Health*, and the *Journal of State Medicine*.

I may take this opportunity of making clear the fact that remarks relative to the Revolutionary Army of France refer solely to men whose mental attributes were the result of an altogether exceptional state of society. There is, I should add, no intention to convey any suggestion of a slur on a chivalrous and courageous people, whose military achievements have formed the wonder of the civilized world.

I have considered the term 'in the field' as bearing reference rather to the fighting force of an army than to the troops on the lines of communication or at the base, where conditions approximating to those of peace are likely to obtain, and sanitation, in consequence, carried out on generally accepted lines.

My best thanks are due to Captain C. Abbot Anderson, the Manchester Regiment, and Sergeant-Major A. Harwood, R.A.M.C., for their kindness in supplying me with photographs illustrative of matters of great practical importance; to Surgeon-Major S. Guise Moores, Scots Guards, for the trouble he has kindly taken in overlooking the proof sheets; to Major Cummins, R.A.M.C., for permission to reproduce a diagram of his well-known sterilizer; and to Major James Evelyn Pilcher of the United States Army, for his courtesy in obtaining for me a copy of the recent Annual Report of Surgeon-General Sternberg, a most valuable document, which I found of material assistance in my work.

R. C.

ALDERSHOT,

January 1, 1904.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. INTRODUCTION - - - - -	1
II. DISEASES OF THE SOLDIER IN THE FIELD - -	10
III. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS AFFECTING THE HEALTH OF TROOPS IN THE FIELD - - - - -	62
IV. SANITARY MEASURES IN THE FIELD - - - -	80
V. THE SANITARY ORGANIZATION OF A FIELD FORCE -	139
VI. GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECAPITULATION -	160
INDEX - - - - -	179

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11. 12.

13.

14.

15.

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

FIG.	PAGE
1. SCENE NEAR SUMMIT OF DRAKENSBERG - -	24
2. BLOCK-HOUSE IN THE HARRISMITH DISTRICT -	40
3. SINGLE-FLY BELL-TENT, FLIES DOWN - -	63
4. SINGLE-FLY BELL-TENT, FLIES PARTIALLY ROLLED UP	64
5. DIAGRAM ILLUSTRATING AIR-CURRENTS IN DOUBLE- FLY BELL-TENT, WITH APERTURE AT UPPER PART OF FLY - - - - -	65
6. DIAGRAM ILLUSTRATING AIR-CURRENT IN DOUBLE- FLY BELL-TENT, WITH NO APERTURE IN UPPER PART OF FLY - - - - -	65
7. ADJUSTABLE WATERPROOF COVER - - -	70
8. DIAGRAM SHOWING POLLUTION OF GROUND-WATER AND SPRING BY DISUSED AND DEEP LATRINE TRENCHES - - - - -	72
9. DIAGRAM SHOWING SHALLOW LATRINE TRENCH WELL ABOVE LEVEL OF GROUND-WATER - -	73
10. DIAGRAM OF IMPROVISED REFUSE DESTRUCTOR -	89
11. CONVALESCENT CAMP, HARRISMITH - - -	91
12. MUNSON HOSPITAL TENT, SEMI-DIAGRAMMATIC -	92
13. MEN'S CORRUGATED IRON HUT AT OLIVIER'S HOEK -	93
14. OFFICERS' CORRUGATED IRON HUT AT OLIVIER'S HOEK	95
15. OFFICERS' MESS HUT WITH VERANDA AT OLIVIER'S HOEK - - - - -	95

FIG.	PAGE
16. AMBULANCE CROSSING DRIFT NEAR TWEEFONTEIN -	97
17. DIAGRAM OF WATERHOUSE-FORBES WATER STERILIZER	103
18. HOW WATER WAS CARRIED IN SOUTH AFRICA IN LOCALITIES INACCESSIBLE TO WATER-CARTS -	104
19. REGIMENTAL WATER-CART (NEW PATTERN) -	105
20. DIAGRAM OF MAJOR CUMMINS'S (R.A.M.C.) STERILIZER	107
21. DRIFT NEAR HARRISMITH - - -	116
22. BLOCK-HOUSE OF THE MANCHESTER REGIMENT, WITH GOATS FOR MILKING - - -	117
23. PRIVATE, 2ND EAST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT (FRONT VIEW OF EQUIPMENT) - - -	120
24. PRIVATE, 2ND EAST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT (BACK VIEW OF EQUIPMENT) - - -	121
25. SERGEANT-MAJOR, 2ND EAST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT (EQUIPMENT WORN ON MARCH)- - -	123
26. CAMP OF BOER PRISONERS AT BROAD BOTTOM FIELD, ST. HRELENA - - -	161
27. GENERAL VIEW OF CAMP AT OLIVIER'S HOEK -	163
28. PLAN OF FIELD HOSPITAL - - -	169

ERRATA

Page 18, line 9, for 'bheestie skins' read 'mussacks.'

Page 78, line 19, insert 'as a general rule,' between the words 'it is,' and the word 'impossible.' The sentence should read 'It is, as a general rule, impossible at the front,' etc.