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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PREVENTION OF DISEASE

IN

ARMIES IN THE FIELD

BY

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MDCCCCV

PREFACE

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 wellknown 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.

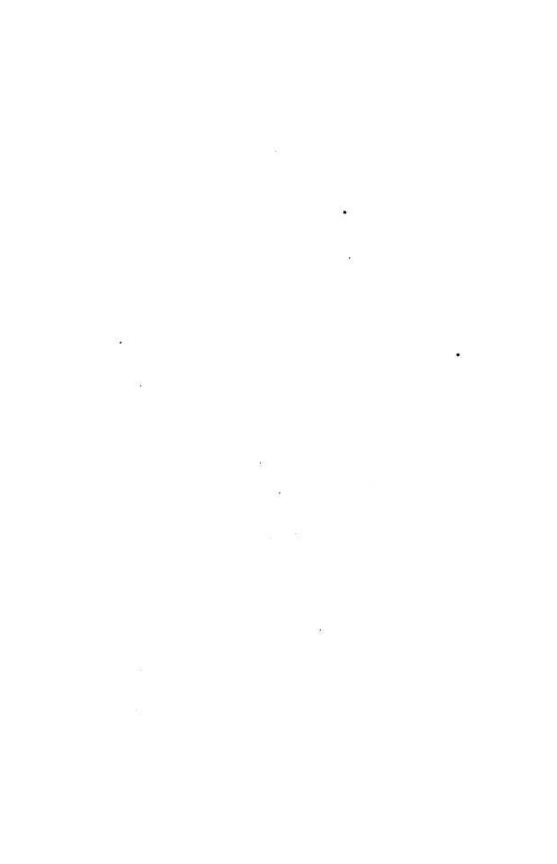
R. C.

ALDERSHOT,

January 1, 1904.

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ERRATA

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

Page 78, line rg, 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.