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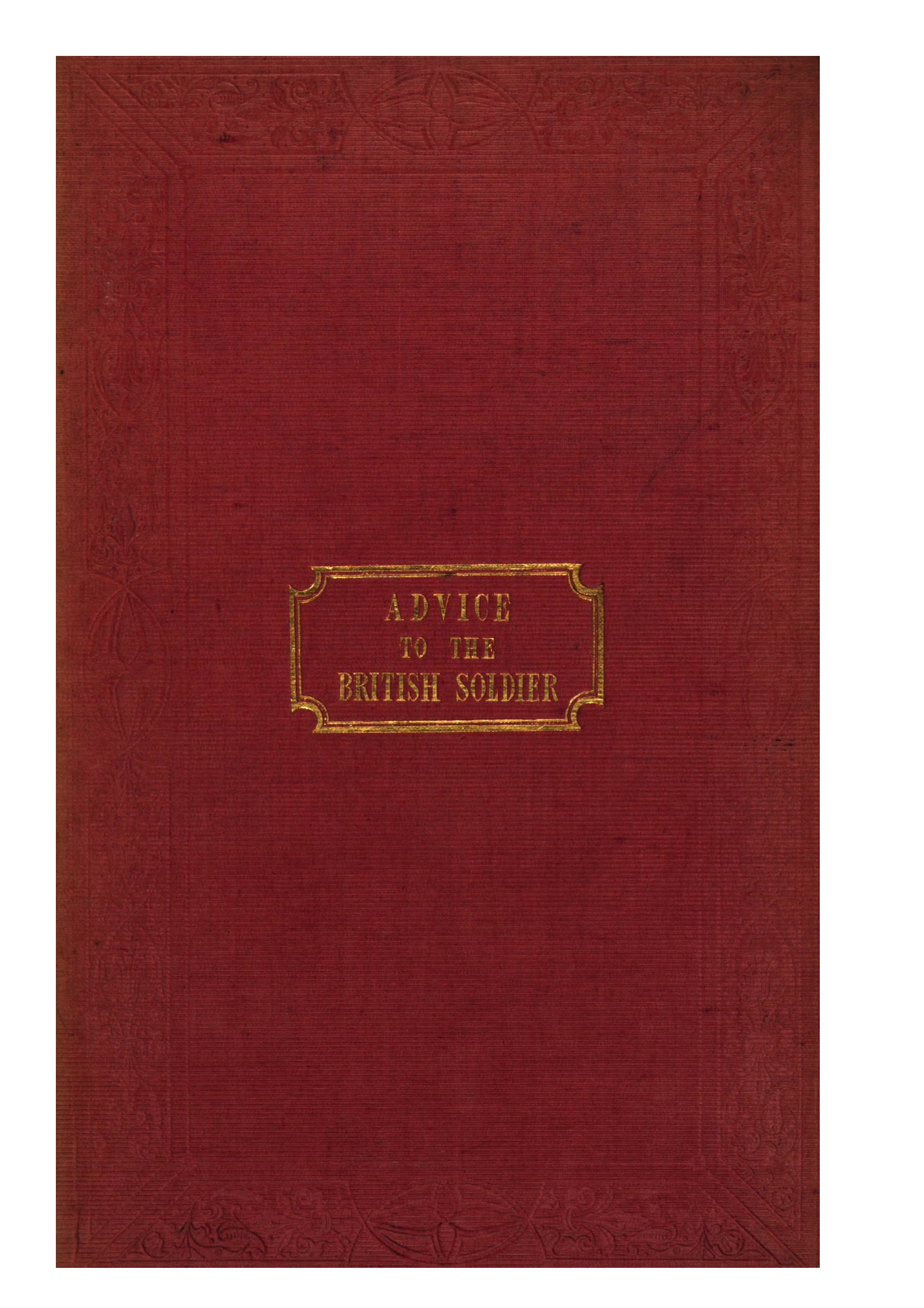
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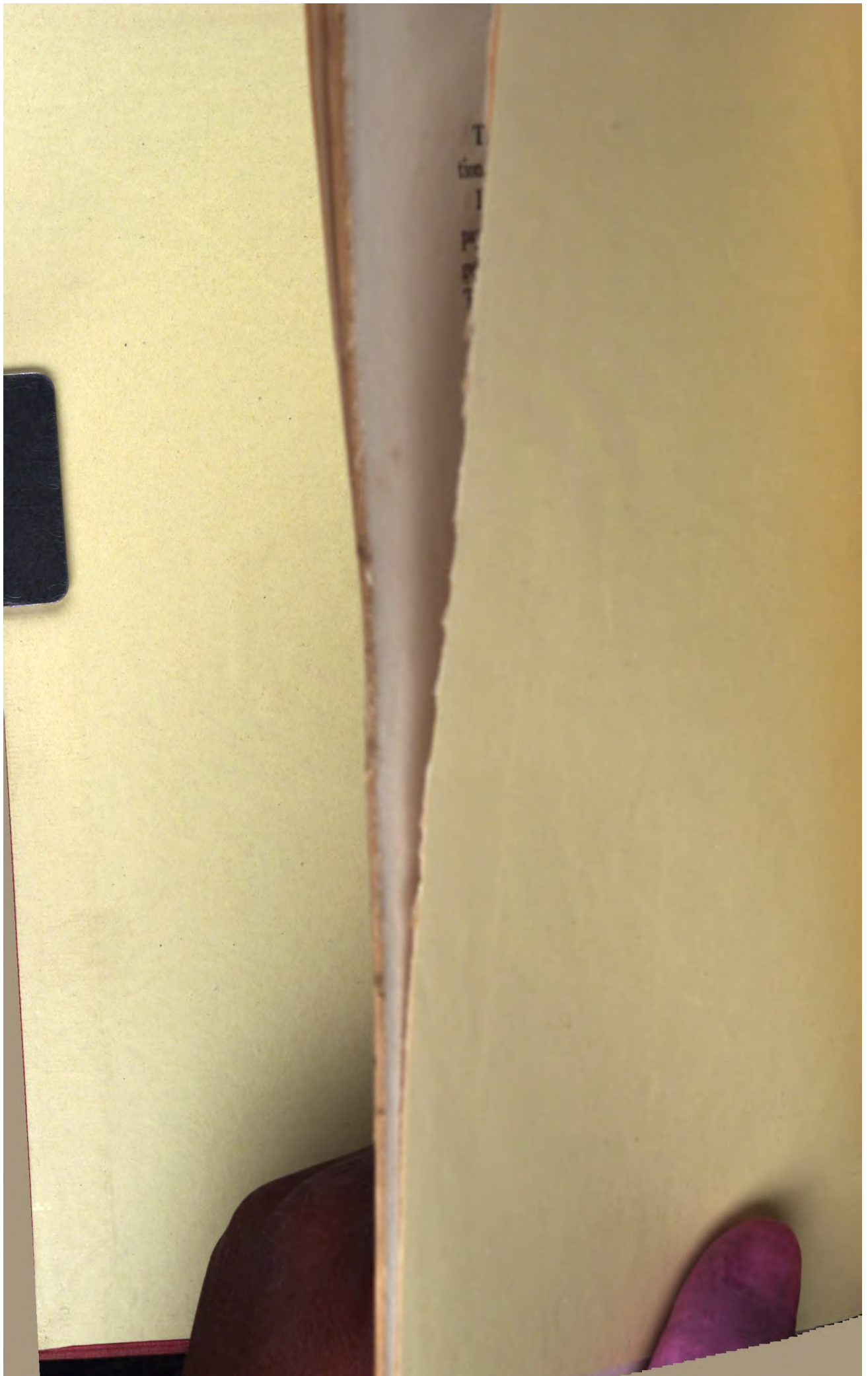
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ADVICE  
TO THE  
BRITISH SOLDIER



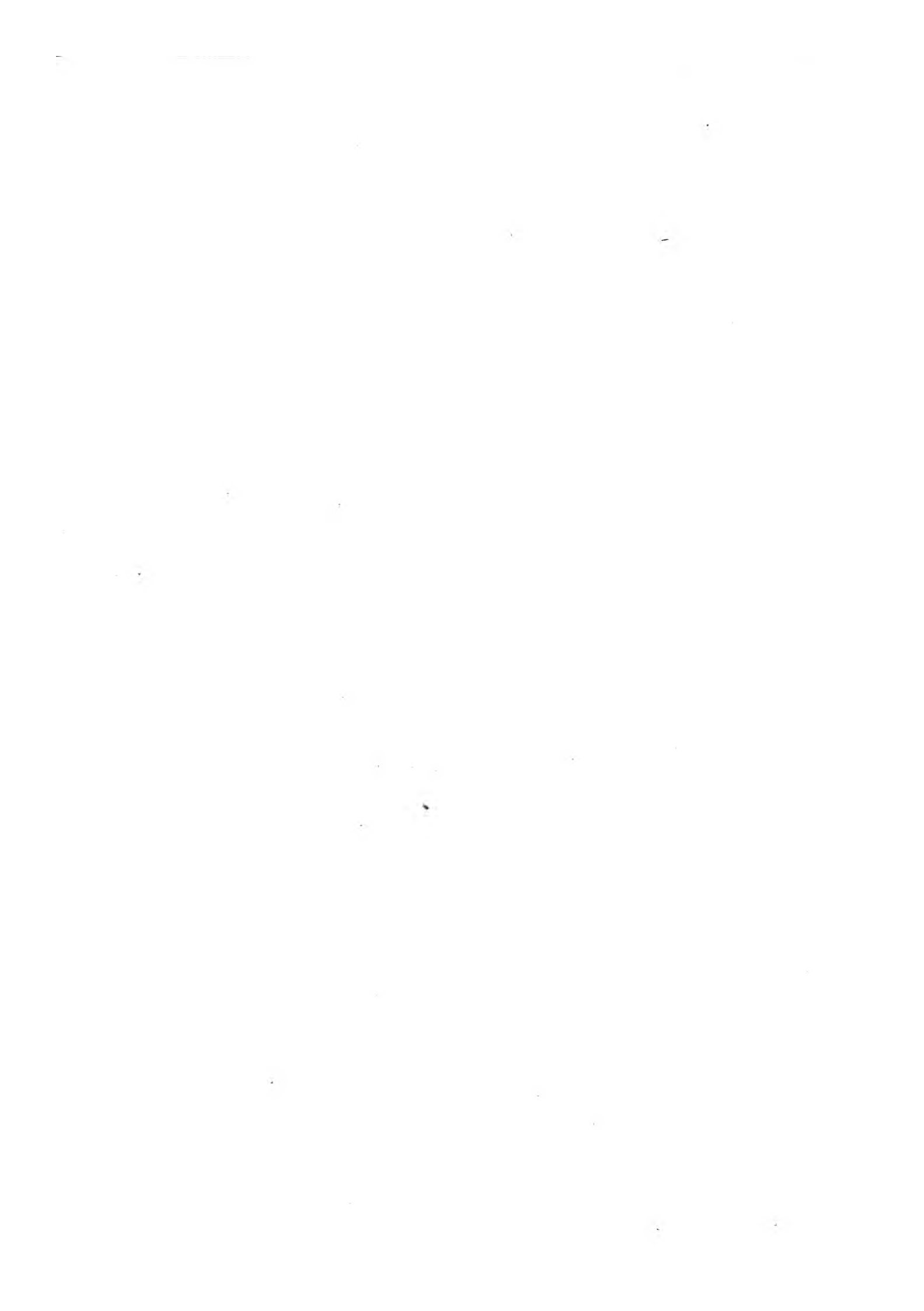
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# ADVICE

TO

THE BRITISH SOLDIER,

BY

A NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER.

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LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM WILCOCKSON,

ROLLS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE.

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## ADVERTISEMENT.

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OF the following little treatise, nothing can be said beyond that which its intelligent compiler has himself explained. It is the result of long personal experience in the service ; of a close and accurate observance of individual character, and of a thorough acquaintance with every part of the subject which the writer has undertaken to discuss. Its object is not merely to tell the soldier how it behoves him to act in every situation into which he may happen to be thrown, but to point out the certain advantages which are sure to follow, provided in every station he conduct himself aright. Surely such a work needs no extraneous recommendation to ensure for it the attentive perusal of those to whom it is addressed ; surely it will be accepted by the members of the British army, as the offering of a friend.

If ever there was a time when the profession of a soldier could, in this country, be regarded as discreditable, it has long since passed away. Its brilliant services during the late war, the mildness of the discipline by which order is maintained in it ; these, with the facilities which are afforded of promotion from the ranks, all conduce to render the army one of the most desirable, as it is certainly the most

creditable walk of life in which a young man can enter. In other lines of business he may earn a subsistence ; and in the present state of society, even that is not always certain ; but in the army he not only lives well, from the very outset, but if he be correct in his behaviour, and exhibit proofs of zeal and intelligence, he is sure to get forward. How thankful then, ought he to be to those who, drawing upon their own experience, take the trouble to mark out a line of proceeding for him, by following which, he may reckon not only upon great comfort for the present, but upon advancement and even distinction in his after years.

Such is the little work which is now submitted to his perusal. Let him read it carefully ; treasure up the advice which it gives, and as often as opportunity offer, act upon the suggestions of its Author. He is himself a living example of what good conduct in the ranks can ensure ; and his most earnest wish extends no farther than that in the ranks he may have many imitators.

## ADVICE TO THE BRITISH SOLDIER.

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### BROTHER SOLDIERS AND COMRADES,

THE following hints for the guidance of your conduct in all the different situations into which you are likely to be thrown, are offered to you by one who has spent the best years of his life in the service ;— who, rising from the ranks, is still a non-commissioned officer ; and who has no other object in view than your individual welfare, connected, as that necessarily is, with the honour of a profession to which he is devotedly attached. He entreats that you will read them with attention, and weigh carefully the arguments which they contain ; nothing doubting that if you act up to the advice which is given, you will each of you, in his own person, live to think of the adviser as of a friend.

The first thing of which a young man on joining his regiment ought to feel convinced is—that he has entered upon a profession ; and that it is by far the most honourable which it is possible for man to embrace. The same rule, however, which holds good in other professions, holds good in reference to the army. No person can hope for success in any walk of life who is not anxious to make himself acquainted with his duties, and careful, when he knows these

duties, to discharge them faithfully. Indeed the soldier has in this respect a decided advantage over the members of civil professions, be they what they may. A soldier's duties are so simple and so clearly defined, that comparatively little cost of thought is required to understand them, and the bodily toil that is necessary to discharge them properly, is lighter by far than is demanded from either the mechanic or the day-labourer. At the same time he entirely deceives himself who supposes, that on entering the army he is beginning a life of idleness and dissipation. An idle and dissipated man can come to no good any where ; and in the army he is sure to come to evil. Remember, that it is one thing to drudge on, barely escaping punishment, by constantly deceiving your superiors ; and another thing so to act, that both officers and non-commissioned officers shall hold you in esteem. If you follow the former course you can gain nothing, and may lose all ; for the deceiver is in nine cases out of ten found out at the last. If you pursue the latter, there is no degree of promotion to which your honourable ambition may not aspire.

When first you join your regiment you will be sent, as a matter of course, to drill. This is without doubt the most irksome period in your career ; for the restraint and attention requisite to make you familiar with your exercise, and fit to take your turn of duty with others in the ranks, are necessarily excessive. Bear with it patiently, and never think of contrasting your own situation unfavourably and unwisely, with that of your comrades in the barrack-room. They all underwent the same trials ; and,

what is more, this is to you the most important period in your professional life. It is while he belongs to the drill-squad that the dispositions and habits of the recruit are most particularly noticed. Be very attentive therefore to the instructions you receive, show the utmost respect and obedience to your instructors; and when you are dismissed to your barrack-room, if any part of your exercise shall have proved more difficult for you to accomplish than another, take care to practise it, and make yourself master of it as soon as you can.

This also is the time during which you are to learn how to clean and manage your appointments; observe how the cleanest and most regular of your comrades deal with theirs, and ask their advice and assistance, whenever you are at a loss. They will always give it cheerfully and readily. It is at this stage in your career, likewise, that you must be especially on your guard as to the sort of persons with whom you associate familiarly, for exactly as you begin, will all your after life be spent.

Do not keep company with men of irregular habits. Once recognized as their companion, it will be difficult to disengage yourself from them; and remember, that he who persuades you to keep improper hours, to contract habits of drunkenness, or to seek the company of lewd women, is neither your friend nor his own. The inevitable result of such practices is, that the man who falls into them, sells his necessaries;—and how foolish is he,—how indifferent to his own interest, who can be mean enough to sell his necessaries for perhaps one-third of their value, for the purpose of revelling for a few

hours in some grossly obscene and indecent company. Nay, more; the evils attending this crime are many. First, he who commits it, must remain long in debt, till the articles he has made away with are replaced; and all the time he is in debt his situation is comfortless in the extreme. In the next place, he is sure to incur a heavy punishment, which he richly deserves; because he has not only committed a breach of the laws, by which the army is governed, but by parting with the articles which are essential to his own health, not less than by the confinement to which the offence renders him subject, he has deprived the country of those services which he was pledged to render. But above all, years will pass ere he can retrieve the injury his character will have sustained. Happily this crime is not now of so frequent occurrence in the army as it used to be; and it would be well if all such fellows as committed it, were sent about their business, for they are invariably men of depraved habits, and a disgrace and trouble to the service. Be careful to avoid the least approach to intoxication. In any situation of life drunkenness is highly disgraceful, and most particularly so in the army; for once you have got the name of a drunkard, you are never trusted or esteemed, and months and years of reformed habits are necessary to regain what you may lose in one week or one night. It is easy to lose, but difficult to regain, a good character.

Adhere to the line of conduct which is here pointed out, and you will earn and deserve the reputation of a steady and attentive young man. This will be of unspeakable advantage to you everywhere.

Your comrades will respect, your superiors look favourably upon you, and above all, there will be that within, for the absence of which nothing can compensate. You will respect yourself; and in the course of three or four months, being dismissed drill, you will enter upon your duties as a disciplined soldier.

Here then you are in a new situation, free from restraints which may have heretofore galled you, and in a great degree your own master. Consider well how it behoves you to proceed. In the first place, make yourself perfectly master of your exercise; be steady in the ranks, attentive to the various words of command, and careful to know your correct place during all evolutions on parade.

In the second place learn how to clean your appointments, and have them always in that soldier-like trim, of which none but a dirty sloven is ever neglectful. Take care to keep your firelock in excellent order at all times; recollect that no other person is so much interested in this matter as the soldier himself, and that the firelock out of order will be of little use in his hands when it is wanted; nay, that his life itself may often depend on its excellence, and his own dexterity, in using it. Every person acquainted with, and master of, his weapon, feels a confidence in himself, of which those who act upon a different principle know nothing. It is this feeling of superiority, indeed, which has enabled a few well disciplined troops, both in ancient and modern times, to meet with confidence, and defeat without difficulty, vastly superior numbers of undisciplined men. The military history of the world proves this in all ages, from the victories of



ancient Rome over the barbarian nations round her, to the conquest of the Spaniards in South America, and our own achievements in the East; but in no case has the truth of the axiom been more fully exemplified than by the triumphs of Charles XII. of Sweden over his enemies, the Russians.

A little practice and attention to your firelock, which will be mere amusement in your barrack-room, will suffice to accomplish this object, and once your appointments are in good order, they are easily kept so. You will have abundance of time both for amusement and exercise, when all has been done as it ought.

And now that you have spare time at your command, I strongly advise you to improve your mind. Devote a large portion of your leisure hours to the perusal of instructive and useful books, which are always to be obtained if you are desirous of them; for by these means you will fit yourself for promotion; which every well conducted and intelligent soldier is certain, sooner or later, to obtain.

As yet, however, I assume, that you are only in the ranks as a private; and I have still some suggestions to make for the purpose of rendering your condition there at once comfortable to yourself, and beneficial to your country.

Let it be impressed on your mind that the first duty of a soldier is prompt and ready obedience. Never make use of certain remarks in which I have sometimes heard men indulge, when called on for fatigue duty, such as, "It is not my turn, I was on fatigue yesterday," &c. I never knew any of these kind of grumbling fellows liked in their regiments, or do

well. No matter whether it is your turn or not, always do with readiness whatever you are desired, recollecting that (right or wrong) the soldier must obey, and that it is much better to do what is required with a good grace than with a bad one.

I am certain you will not be imposed upon in consequence of your readiness to obey. A non-commissioned officer has no interest in causing one man to do more duty than another ; besides, he is liable to be called to a strict account for any partiality. But by doing your duty with alacrity and cheerfulness, you will gain the good will of all the non-commissioned officers of the company, who will represent you to the captain, as a steady well-conducted soldier ; and in the course of a little time you will be promoted.

Again, as every soldier ought to be continually looking forward to promotion, so let nothing ever discourage you in your efforts to obtain it. A soldier without honourable ambition is unworthy of the name ; he will be all his life long a useless member of his corps, and is sure to die or be discharged a private. At the same time remember, that to win promotion we must strive to deserve it ; and this is not to be done without labour on your part. Suppose that you are no scholar ; that your education at home was neglected, and that now you can neither read nor write. You must learn to do both, and to keep accounts also. There are opportunities of doing so, free of expense, in every regiment ; you have plenty of time at your disposal, and nothing will gratify the officers more than to see you endeavouring to im-

prove yourself. It is never disgraceful to learn. On the contrary ; the greater the difficulties you may have to surmount, the more credit will be given to you for surmounting them.

Peter the Great thought it no dishonour to leave his throne and empire that he might learn how to build ships ; and among other nations obtain such knowledge as would enable him to govern his own. It was this conduct indeed, which earned for him his title " the Great."

I have known many men who could neither read nor write, when they entered the army, become excellent non-commissioned officers, and so far educate themselves that they paid companies with credit to themselves, and the approbation of their captains. I knew an instance of a man who rose to the rank of an officer, who first began to write after he had been made a corporal.

While all this is going on, and you are looking forward with praiseworthy ambition to the time when length of service and a good character shall entitle you to expect promotion, there is a subject on which I am bound to touch. I allude to an evil which has, of late years, crept into the British army, and particularly into that part of it which is employed in Ireland ;—I speak of clandestine marriages, or the practice of marrying without the consent or knowledge of the commanding officer. It is impossible to describe, in terms too strong, the miseries which this false step entails—not on the soldier only, but on the unfortunate woman whom he has enticed away from her friends. Even at the best, the situation of a married man in the army, to whom all the indulgencies

allowed by the rules of the service are extended, is very uncomfortable. But when a soldier marries clandestinely, both his fate and that of his wife are deplorable. When in quarters they have no home, properly so called. He must sleep in barracks ; generally he is attached to a mess ; while she, with her children, occupies some filthy lodging near the gate ; his means being quite inadequate to procure for her better accommodation. And as to food and clothing, and the commonest necessaries of life, the balance of his pay, after his messing is deducted, will go but a short way to provide these, even in the smallest quantities. And then see them on a march hungry and naked, and cold and haggard,—the hardest heart will bleed to witness their sufferings. Mother and little ones fainting at every step, with scarce a rag to shelter them from the weather. Meanwhile the unfortunate husband travels on in the ranks with a heavy heart and an empty stomach, his very food being curtailed in order that something may be supplied to those in whose welfare he is naturally more interested than in his own. And finally, sickness bows him down, and he goes into the hospital—his wretched wife and children becoming thereby penniless,—or, more distressing still, he is ordered on foreign service, where they cannot accompany him. Soldiers, this is no over-drawn picture—no production of a sensitive imagination. It is but a poor copy from reality with which every man who has spent even a few years in the army must be familiar. Look at it steadily, and as you value your own peace and the peace of others, avoid in every rank, the horrors of clandestine marriages. Other

misfortunes a young man may recover ; but he who has once taken this step is sure, unless some unusual good fortune attend him, to repent it all his days. But the subject is too painful to be dwelt upon, and therefore I quit it.

I will suppose now that the reader has ascended one step on the ladder, having been just made a corporal. He is commencing a new and more important range of duty, of which he is justly proud, yet let not his be that sort of pride which urges us to treat with disrespect or haughtiness those who were our comrades yesterday, who may be our equals to-morrow, and are, at all times, our companions in danger and hardship. No ; let your manner and tone of voice be kind and friendly ; and always be ready to oblige, as far as shall consist with propriety and a sense of duty. At the same time beware of that coarse familiarity which, while it lowers you in your own esteem and in that of others, may possibly lead to your being insulted when you cannot resent an insult ; and is sure to render you incapable of doing your duty like a man. If, for example, you are in the habit of drinking with the privates, how will it be possible for you to check any irregularity in their proceedings ? The man who was your companion in the tap-room over night naturally expects that you will hide his faults, not reprove them, in the morning ; and if you do reprove, he takes the reproof from you with a much worse grace than he would from any other non-commissioned officer in the regiment. In like manner, beware of favouritism. The non-commissioned officer who, either from favouritism or any other cause, overlooks an offence in one man which

ought to have been visited with confinement, cannot, with any justice, confine another man who has been guilty of the same crime. And when it comes to this, there is an end to his usefulness. It is your wisdom, as well as your duty, to act fairly and openly and impartially to all. Never fear that by doing so you may incur the ill-will of the men. The men never hate a non-commissioned officer who respects himself, and is known to conduct himself uprightly and impartially towards them. Besides, you can always count on the support of your officers, and this, with the approbation of your own mind, will make ample amends for any little annoyances that may befall you. Observe, however, that you are not, as a corporal, bound to cut yourself off from all companionship or even pleasure. Enjoy yourself with moderation, whenever you can; only take care to seek your enjoyments in the company of those who are respectable, and in the same station of life with yourself.

There is another error into which I have often known young corporals fall, against which I am bound to warn you. They are apt, at times, to think too much of themselves, and when reprimanded by a sergeant for some error occasioned by neglect, or perhaps owing to ignorance, they return, *as far as they dare*, a disrespectful answer in order to show their spirit. This is highly improper as well as foolish; indeed it generally recoils with double force upon themselves,—because no sergeant who understands and does his duty correctly, will permit a corporal to exhibit any disrespect towards him. Bear in mind that a sergeant is your imme-

diate superior ; and always treat him with the respect that his situation and greater experience demand. When he has occasion to reprimand you (which will be very seldom the case if you mind your business), hear him calmly, answer mildly, and endeavour to avoid falling into a similar mistake in future.

These rules, simple and easily attended to as they are, will, if they be acted upon, secure for you both the good will of your superiors and the respect of your inferiors. But I take it for granted that having earned the first step in advance, you will not cease to keep your eye fixed upon the step that is beyond it. You hope some day to be a sergeant. Begin then, as soon as you are master of your own duties, to make yourself acquainted with the duties of a sergeant. Observe how the best of that rank act in different situations, and treasure up in your own mind, both the points where they have done well, and those in which they seem to have fallen short. And when, at any time, you are called upon to do a sergeant's duty, accept the trust as an honour, and prove that you are worthy of it. It is honourable in every case to be employed in duties which belong to a rank superior to our own.

A steady and intelligent corporal is seldom kept long in the back ground. You will soon be promoted, and when this takes place, you will very naturally be proud both of your new dignity and your personal appearance. There is no harm in this. On the contrary, such pride, when it never degenerates into foppery, is of great use to the soldier ; for it urges him on to excel his comrades in every thing, and to seize whatever opportu-

nities may occur of distinguishing himself. And above all it keeps him from bringing disgrace on himself and his station, by the commission of any unworthy act, or the contraction of unworthy intimacies. But remember, that the higher you rise in your profession, the more you are called upon to improve and respect yourself.

As a sergeant your position is in every point of view respectable.

Your pay is fully adequate to maintain you in every comfort that your situation requires, with enough, and more than enough, to spend. You have not on your mind the care which belongs to your superiors in rank. Except you are orderly for your company, or present on parade, you have nothing to do but to improve yourself either in reading, writing, or studying your discipline book. To all these pay attention; for in exact proportion as you show yourself zealous and intelligent on points where zeal and intelligence are required, will you be at ease for the present, and justly hopeful in reference to the future.

Your first object will of course be, to make yourself thoroughly master of the drill; from the management of a recruit at the balance step up to the manœuvring of a company. For this purpose study your book attentively; practise what is there taught, and lose no opportunity of increasing your knowledge by observing what others do, and striving to make their skill and intelligence your own.

Never permit anything to be done in a careless manner. No matter how trifling the matter may be, it ought always to be done correctly. A steady



decided word of command also must invariably be given, because a great deal depends on the tone and the manner of giving it. This point is too much neglected both by young officers and non-commissioned officers. They give the word of command in a careless indifferent tone of voice ; and as they give the word so the men obey it. The consequence is, that habits of unsteadiness and inattention in the ranks are acquired, and men are sent to drill who know well enough what they ought to do, but are too careless to do it as becomes them. On this subject I strongly recommend that the sergeant's drill book, at page 47, be carefully studied. All that can be said is there said so clearly, that if you err after an attentive perusal of it, you will not have the plea of ignorance to urge in your defence.

Before taking leave of you as a platoon-sergeant, I have a few words more to say. Besides attention to your drill and parade duties, remember, that on you in a great measure depends the internal management of the company, whether for good or for evil. The men are constantly under your eye, and rarely can anything improper happen without its coming to your knowledge. If you preserve a proper distance from them, and be prompt to check any impropriety which comes under your notice, there will be less occasion to reprove men or bring them before the commanding officer. It is quite as much the duty of a non-commissioned officer to prevent offences as to confine the offenders after the offence has been committed; and the former course is infinitely more to his credit.

It would be needless for me to say anything con-

cerning your duties in the field, or in front of an enemy, except that the more perilous or more difficult the situation into which you may be thrown, the greater will be the demand on your vigilance. As to personal bravery I need make no allusions to it, for I believe that few belonging to the British army will in that respect be found wanting when brought in contact with the enemy.

From the condition of a platoon-sergeant, your next move in advance, will be to that of colour-sergeant, who pays his company. This is indeed an important step to take, for as it places you in one of the most elevated stations to which, as a non-commissioned officer, you can attain, so it brings with it a large addition to your cares and your responsibility.

In the first place the colour-sergeant ought to be so completely master of his work, as that he shall not only himself feel at home in all that belongs to his station, but be competent to drill and instruct the whole company in every part of their duty, both in field and quarters; for besides being called upon to drill the men under the superintendance, or in the absence of his officer, it is his business to aid the young sergeants in acquiring a knowledge of their duty; to teach them the sword exercise, and every other acquirement of which they may be ignorant. In a word, there is no point of discipline—no detail of duty, for the management of which the colour-sergeant ought to be incompetent; and all this, it is hardly necessary to add, will not be accomplished without much study.

In the next place, it is to the colour-sergeant that

the captain looks for the regularity and good order of the company in barracks. He must, therefore, be constantly and unremittingly attentive to its internal management; the turbulent must be kept in order; and crimes and disorderly conduct promptly repressed. Not that it is necessary to bring soldiers before their officers, or send them to the guard-house for every trifling offence. Let them be admonished in private, the impropriety of the proceeding represented to them, and caution given that the offence may not be repeated in future. I have always found this method of proceeding to avail much, especially with recruits and young men. He must be very callous who does not see that you are actuated in what you do by a desire to promote his welfare, and that the wish to keep his name from coming before the commanding officer, is on your part entirely disinterested; and he who sees this will, in most cases, take care not to try your good nature too much by abusing it. On the other hand, when young soldiers are confined for every trifling offence, and their names perpetually in the guard report, they become hardened and careless; they get the name of blackguards, and become so in reality. Yet great care is necessary in order to prevent this system from degenerating into weakness. A second and a third transgression must on no account be dealt with as if it were the first. At the same time, let each man know his own place, and see that your non-commissioned officers are not, in the execution of their duty, unnecessarily proud or supercilious. Nothing wounds us more than to be spoken to in terms of wanton contempt; and firm-

ness is quite compatible with good humour. I need not add that if it be fatal in corporals to drink, or enter into coarse familiarity with privates, such a proceeding in the case of a sergeant becomes a thousand times worse. There is no necessity to forget yourself, while you remember what is due to another.

With respect to your duty as pay-sergeant, and the keeping of the company's accounts, your instructions are detailed in Her Majesty's regulations, and it is very certain that the more neatly and correctly your books are kept, the more credit you will deservedly obtain. Never make an entry in a hurry. In the course of the month, while you have leisure time, you can be getting your books into order, or drawing up the returns and rolls that you know will be required. By these means you will not be pressed for time at the end of the month, nor do your business in a confused and slovenly manner.

I have known many instances of pay-sergeants who, considering themselves clever fellows, were in the habit of leaving all their business to the last. Such men did every thing confusedly ; their books were never neat, and the ledger was generally disfigured with erasures—the consequence of mistakes committed in their haste.

During ten years that I was colour-sergeant of a company, my books were never, in any instance, found fault with ; but more than once I had the satisfaction to receive the approbation of the inspecting general, and my own officers always praised me. I attribute the circumstances to this one fact, that I never left anything to be done to-morrow which ought to be done to-day.

The next subject to which I must draw your attention, is the expenditure of the company's mess-money.

In most regiments with which I am acquainted, the pay-sergeant selects some shopkeeper from whom he gets the grocery, &c. paying his bills once a month. This system I do not approve of. The men, whether they have cause or not, are apt to think that the sergeant derives some personal advantage from the plan, and complain of their messing being bad, often without reason, merely because they wish to annoy the pay-sergeant. I have known the cook wantonly spoil the coffee, in order that the pay-sergeant might be compelled to change the grocer. In the regiment to which I belonged, the corporal and orderly-man of the mess, used to receive every evening the mess-money that was to be expended on the following day, and they laid it out as advantageously as they could, wherever the goods were to be had, the best and cheapest. The men were by such means satisfied; the pay-sergeant had no trouble, and there never was any complaint.

I believe that, in most regiments, necessaries are supplied from the quarter-master's store. No better method can be adopted, because uniformity in the regiment is ensured by it; and, as the quarter-master's goods are always received from some respectable house, they are of a better quality than can be obtained at the same prices from retail dealers. Besides, they are minutely examined and approved of by a board of officers, previous to their being issued to the soldier. When such is not the case, and a soldier is ordered any article of necessaries, the pay-sergeant should take the man to the shop, and, in his presence, purchase the article and

pay for it. The soldier cannot then complain that the article is dear or bad ; and the sergeant has acted in an upright, independent manner.

Too much care to ensure correctness in the management of pecuniary affairs cannot be bestowed. It is thus only that you can hope to secure the esteem of your officers, and the respect of the men ; while without it your own conscience never can be at rest. And let me add, the man who, for a few years, has held the situation of colour and pay-sergeant with credit to himself and satisfactorily to his officers, need not shrink from incurring the responsibility of any military appointment which he may have the good fortune to obtain.

I have now accomplished the object which when I began to write I had in view, and would at once take leave of my brother soldiers and comrade non-commissioned officers, were there not one point more on which, as it seems to concern all ranks in the army, it may not be amiss if I touch very shortly. There is no class of persons to whom so many opportunities are afforded as to soldiers of seeing foreign lands, and mixing with strange people. They are both to be blamed and pitied if they fail to take advantage of them. But nobody can turn such advantages to account who goes from place to place entirely ignorant of the histories of the nations with whom the course of his service may be expected to bring him into acquaintance. I recommend you then, to read history, as at once calculated to enlarge your own minds for the present, and as laying up a store of ideas with which to work, when you shall be enabled to compare the state of things as you find it, with

what the historian has described it to have been, either recently or long ago. For even as a soldier, you will be the more esteemed in proportion as you show that you are intelligent; and you must look forward to the time when you shall cease to be a soldier. How pleasant it will be, when your period of service is over, to find yourself sitting down in a comfortable independence, and both able and willing to communicate to your friends and relations information which you have picked up, as well from books, as from your intercourse with mankind. And to yourselves what a resource against the enticements of bad company and bad practices, will this habit of living with the distant and the dead afford. Lose no opportunity then of improving your own minds, whether you be at home or on foreign service; knowing this, that he is generally the best soldier who is the best man; and he is the best man who takes care to gather wisdom and a desire to do what is right, from every thing which he sees around him.

JOHN FLETCHER,  
Quarter-Master-Sergeant,  
59th Regiment.









