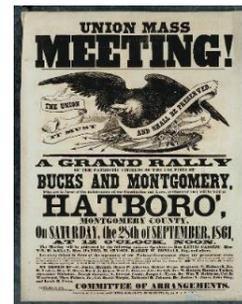


## THE CIVIL WAR SERIES 2017

### Encampment August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017



A look at some of the equipment and effects from Company C of the 28<sup>th</sup> PA Volunteer regiment that were typical for most troops during the U.S. Civil War.



Each shelter tent covered two troops and came in two sections. Each soldier carried a section, and the sections were buttoned together to form the tent. Gum blankets (black) were made of rubber, and issued to infantry to provide them some protection from the rain and muddy ground. Sometimes troops did not have a tent shelter. In these cases, troops slept on a blanket on top of a gum blanket, and then covered themselves with another blanket or coat. Blankets were issued and usually two troops shared a blanket.

Soldiers carried personal belongings in a knapsack that held items such as extra clothing, personal items, blankets, and a half-tent (necessity items). Soldiers were also issued haversacks in which they typically carried food rations, personal effects, and extra ammunition. Knapsacks and haversacks were made of cloth and painted for waterproofing.



Troops were issued a cartridge belt, cartridge box made of leather (containing 40 rounds of packaged ball and powder), and a bayonet (used more often as a tool around camp and less often as a weapon). They typically carried these items in a haversack.

Soldiers carried everything with them they would need for camp and battle. Between their full cartridge box, rifle/musket, rations, canteen, camp equipment, personal belongings, and extra clothing, a soldier carried about 60

pounds on the march. Equipment was a matter of survival for troops, but troops on the march often needed to drop and leave behind extra equipment that was deemed not necessary.



Military order required troops to layout their equipment in a specific order. This contributed to instilling discipline in camp. Each soldier was issued a set of instructions for this layout, and the layout was inspected. Those failing inspection were fined. Soldiers personal effects could include letters, writing paper and pencil, bibles, books, and photos, pipe and tobacco, newspapers, playing cards and checkers.