

CHAPTER V.

EQUIPAGE AND SUPPLIES.

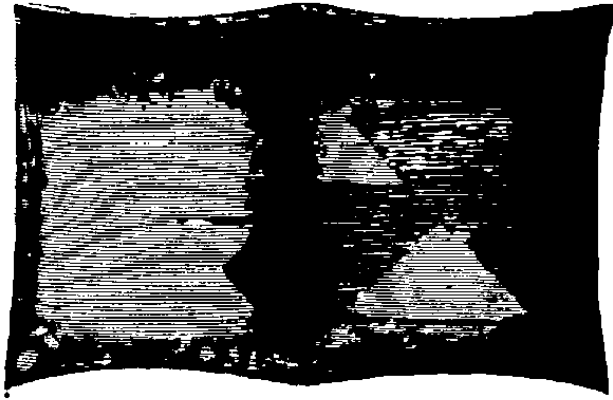
When a regular command is ordered into the field, the commanding officer should use his own discretion in designating the equipage, supplies and individual outfits to be taken. The following observations may, however, be useful, when with a view to comfort and efficiency, certain deviations from the general regulations are permitted.

CLOTHING.

The importance of flannel (or cotton in its absence,) next to the skin cannot be overrated. Both shirt and drawers should be made of well shrunken material of good quality and unobtrusive color. The shirts should be supplied with turn-down collars and breast pockets, which are very convenient for holding a variety of small articles when no waistcoat is worn. Long woolen stockings, to be worn with shoes and over the bottoms of the pants should also be taken. The Government woolen sock is excellent, but in a locality where the ground is very hot, I prefer something still thicker. For the coat and waistcoat, nothing can surpass the Goodyear garments. A waterproof or canvas blouse, cut sufficiently short to clear the saddle and provided with numerous convenient pockets, will be useful and handy on all occasions.

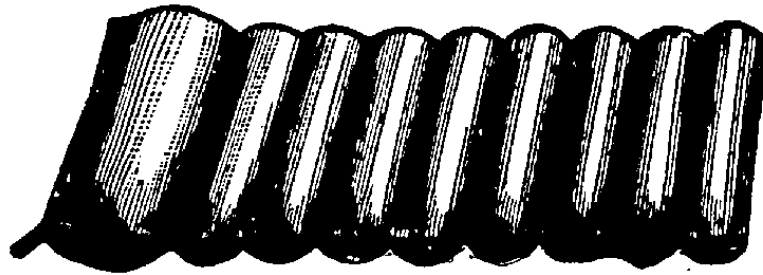
The drawings show the outside and inside finish of a convenient pattern.

air exhaled from the body and is made to assume any de-



gree of softness by varying its contents of air.

In many camps water is a scarce article, and in order to be on the safe side, I would recommend an air bed and pillow, and for convenience would have them combined in one.



In addition to the clothing and bedding, it is a good plan to have a small satchel or sort of 'ditty bag' accompany the personal outfit. It should contain thread, needles, wax, a roll of tape, a ball of twine, a few buttons of all sorts, a paper of pins, a bodkin, a thimble, a pair of scissors, a few shoe-strings, a small awl or sail needle and some buckskin.

The provision of a suitable quantity of reading matter and writing materials should never be neglected.



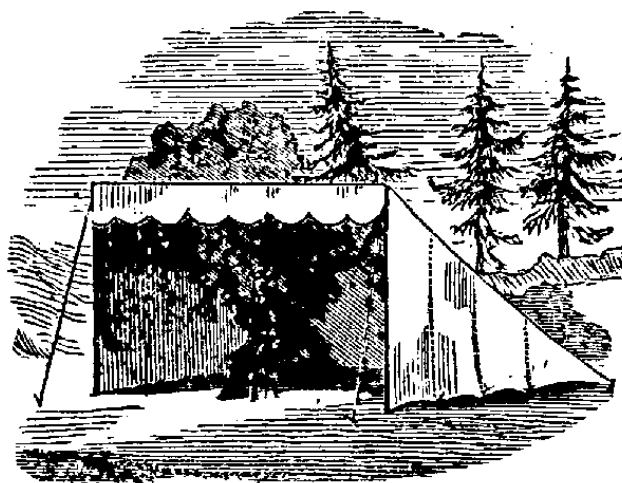
The drawing shows an ingenious contrivance for fasten-

of the Tente d' Abri of the French, is furnished our scouting columns in the field and is well suited for such work; but, when there is left any choice or selection in the matter of canvas, it may be very much improved upon.

In selecting the tent, one should consider its lightness, its capability of being quickly pitched (and in different ways depending upon the climate and the facilities for securing poles,) its ventilation, its capability of neatly enclosing the bundle and serving as a waterproof covering for the bed when not pitched, but merely wrapped about it

It is believed that the author's Combination Shelter, Storm and Common Tent better meets the requirements of the tentage, to be used in all climates and independently of the transportation, than any other that has been tested.

The tent may be made on a large scale and will well re-



place the present form of Hospital Tent, affording a maximum available sheltered space for the minimum amount of canvas and will admit of being combined so as to form a single shelter for any number of men, standing either high or low. This combination tent (service size) and its capabilities will be noticed at length in the chapter 'Forced Marches.'

The French Officers' Tent, here represented, is a very satisfactory one so far as room and lightness are concerned,

but it possesses the disadvantages of numerous pegs and guy ropes and not being suitable for wrapping about the bundle.



Every man, on going into the field should take an extra lariat, as one will generally wear out during a long journey, and besides, they will be found very useful in making the bundles secure and in crossing deep streams, etc. If the transportation will admit of it, a coil of half-inch rope should also be taken.

A few extra locks, screws, springs, tumblers, etc., should be taken along, in order to keep the arms in thorough repair.

A sufficient number of spades and axes (a few hatchets never come amiss) should be packed with the equipage. A small hand saw, a rasp, a few gimlets, brad-awls, saddler's awls, nails, screws and coils of wire packed closely in a small chest or canvas roll will be found well worth the transportation and frequently useful.

A good hunting knife is indispensable, and I know nothing more valuable in this connection than the trowel bayonet of Colonel Rice (one edge kept sharp.) While invaluable as an intrenching tool, the soldier soon learns to use it as a knife, a hatchet, a spade and chopping axe.

A proper supply of horse and mule shoes and nails should be carefully provided. They should be transported in several small leather or canvas sacks, each furnished with a hammer, rasp and pincers, which will become very handy in case the command is divided into detachments.

