

Chapter 1 : Full text of "A book for every soldier's knapsack"

*A Book for Every Soldier's Knapsack Tracts for the War. [Anonymous] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. This is a pre historical reproduction that was curated for quality.*

Terminology[edit] The word backpack was coined in the United States in the s. Moneybag and packsack were used prior, and now occur mainly as regionalisms. The word knapsack was the usual name for a rucksack or backpack up until the middle of the 20th century. This is commonly used in Canada. Alternative names include haversack from the German Hafersack meaning "oat sack" [1] which more properly describes a small cloth bag on a strap worn over one shoulder and originally referred to the bag of oats carried as horse fodder , Kraxe a German rucksack with a rigid framework , and bergen a large load-carrying rucksack, from a design issued by the British Army during the Second World War. Bergan , combined with the name of the Norwegian city of Bergen. They are also used in recreational activities, and have long since been used to carry sports equipment and other materials. Long before its various terminologies began appearing in print, evidence of early backpacks was scarce. A pack frame, when present, serves to support the pack and distribute the weight of its contents across the body more appropriately, by transferring much of the weight to the hips and legs. Most backpacks are capable of being closed with either a buckle mechanism, a zipper , or a dry-bag type closure, though a few models use a drawstring fitted with a cord lock for the main compartment. The majority of the load in a bodypack is carried by the hips. The load must be dispersed onto the skeletal structure in an even manner, and should not produce unbalanced forces on the body. Frameless[edit] The simplest backpack design is a bag attached to a set of shoulder straps. Such packs are used for general transportation of goods, and have variable capacity. The simplest designs consist of one main pocket. This may be combined with webbing or cordage straps, while more sophisticated models add extra pockets, waist straps, chest straps, padded shoulder straps, padded backs, and sometimes reflective materials for added safety at night. These packs are generally produced inexpensively. Some outdoor packs, particularly those sold for day hikes, ultralight backpacking and mountaineering are sometimes frameless as well. Hydration pack Sports and hydration backpacks are smaller with a profile closer to the body, wider straps and can come with water bladders and hip belts for running, cycling or hiking. Running hydration packs are the smallest and lightest, many under 2 litres and most under six litres. Cycling hydration packs are six to ten litres sitting high on the back. Although daypacks are small averaging ten to thirty litres, all Trekking and Hiking hydration packs are generally the largest and heaviest. Thirty five up to sixty five litres and above are common. Wooden pack frames were used for centuries around the world. Such packs are common in military and mountaineering applications; [7] metal versions first appeared in the midth century. For this reason, external frame packs are generally considered to be a "cooler load" than internal frame designs. External frame packs have a fabric "sack" portion which is usually smaller than that of internal frame packs, but have exposed frame portions above and below the sack to accommodate attachment of larger items. In addition, the sack can often be removed entirely, permitting the user to customize the configuration of their load, or to transport a non-conventional load such as a quartered game animal. Military packs are often external frame designs due to their ability to carry loads of different shapes, sizes and weights. The other type of external frame which recently was proposed, is made from composite plastic which is not flexible like current backpack straps and also it is a kind of material that can be shaped like human spine curvature. In this type of backpack, load directly transfers to the shoulders through the non-flexible straps. This non-flexible structure diminishes the momentum at lumbar region of the back. Strap curvature is shaped close to spine curvature and there are two flexible drawstrings to prevent backpack movement in transverse plane. The straps of this backpack are wide enough to distribute the pressure on shoulders and also a white glass wool layer is added to the internal part of them to absorb dynamic forces, which could be produced through walking. This backpack type is an experimental sample that need further options to be prepared for usage. One of the benefits of backpack with external frame is preventing the spine to incline forward during walking that would be helpful in preventing damage of long term backpack carrying. A complex series of straps works with the frame to distribute the

weight and hold it in place. However, the tight fit reduces ventilation, so these type of packs tend to be more sweaty than external frame packs. The internal construction also allows for a large storage compartment; a few lash points including webbing loops and straps for sleeping bags and other large items may be present, but as the frame is completely integrated, it is difficult to securely lash larger and heavier items which do not fit inside the compartment to the outside of the pack. Internal frame packs originally suffered from smaller load capacity and less comfortable fit during steady walking, but newer models have improved greatly in these respects. In addition, because of their snug fit, the improved internal frame models have largely replaced external frame backpacks for many activities. They are not large enough for average wilderness backpacking that use full-sized sleeping bags and backpacking tents, but may be large enough for ultralight backpacking. Padded or unpadded waist straps may be provided to distribute weight across the body. School bag In many countries, backpacks are heavily identified with students , and are a primary means of transporting educational materials to and from school. The purchase of a suitably fashionable, attractive, and useful backpack is a crucial back-to-school ritual for many students. While traditionally very simple in design, school backpacks are often made with padded shoulder straps and backs as well as additional reinforcement to hold large numbers of heavy textbooks, as well as safety features such as reflective panels to make the wearer of the pack more visible at night. Backpacks are sometimes worn as fashion accessories, in which they perform the same function as a purse. Special-purpose backpacks[edit] Some backpacks are specifically designed to carry certain items. Common examples include backpacks for small valuable items such as laptops and cameras ; [10] backpacks designed to hold laptop computers in particular generally have a padded compartment to hold the computer and medium-sized pockets and flaps to accommodate accessories such as charger cables and mice. These are especially common in college and university settings. In order to supply these devices with electricity, a few high-end backpacks are equipped with solar panels. Because of their design, rolling backpacks reduce the strain on the user, though the shoulder straps may be used to carry the pack for short distances when the terrain is not suitable for wheels. Rolling backpacks are most commonly used while traveling by airplane or train. Hydration backpacks are also available. These light daypacks are especially designed to hold water in a special water bladder also known as reservoir , and their purpose is to allow the carrier constant fluid hydration handsfree, so that the carrier can focus on the mission ahead without having to stop for water breaks. Professional use[edit] Backpacks are a standard part of the load-bearing equipment of soldiers, especially infantry , in most countries, and military-style packs are regularly available to civilians in military surplus stores. Such packs are often, though not always e. Each soldier may carry extra weapons, ammunition, rations, medical supplies, tents or other shelter material, and extra clothing. Many police tactical units, as well as players of military-style combat games such as paintball and airsoft, use these military-style tactical backpacks and webbing for storing gear and ammunition. There is also a small but thriving industry devoted to creating historical reproductions of military gear; such companies generally produce period-appropriate uniforms and other gear in addition to backpacks. Recently, at least one brand of backpack has been specially designed for professional cooks and culinary students. This sort of backpack is meant to safely carry knives, cooking tools, and other miscellaneous equipment such as notebooks, towels, and uniforms. Specialist backpacks are used by fire services for wildfire fighting, as well as by rescue services for Search and Rescue. These backpacks are generally very modular, allowing the pack to be reconfigured to the users wishes and are designed to load around the wearers hips. They may include features such as sections for water bladders and specially designed pouches, such as those used to carry personal fire shelters.

Chapter 2 : A Book for Every Soldier's Knapsack

*A book for every soldier's knapsack [Robert] [Dodge [from old catalog]] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. This reproduction was printed from a digital file created at the Library of Congress as part of an extensive scanning effort started with a generous donation from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.*

It gets used, it gets abused, and it gets shoved in the bottom of your locker or the corner of your room. But can your backpack abuse you? The answer is yes. Multiple compartments keep all your supplies and notes close at hand. How Can Backpacks Cause Problems? Your spine is made of 33 bones called vertebrae. Between the vertebrae are disks that act as natural shock absorbers. To compensate, you may bend forward at the hips or arch your back. This can cause your spine to compress unnaturally. People who carry heavy backpacks sometimes lean forward. Over time this can cause the shoulders to become rounded and the upper back to become curved. If you wear your backpack over just one shoulder, or carry your books in a messenger bag, you may end up leaning to one side to offset the extra weight. You might develop lower and upper back pain and strain your shoulders and neck. Is your backpack getting on your nerves? Tight, narrow straps that dig into your shoulders can pinch nerves and interfere with circulation, and you might develop tingling, numbness, and weakness in your arms and hands. Carrying a heavy pack increases the risk of falling, particularly on stairs or other places where the backpack puts the wearer off balance. Students also can be injured when they trip over large packs or the packs fall on them. Is My Backpack a Problem? You may need to put less in your pack or carry it differently if: Tips for Choosing and Using Backpacks Here are a few tips that will help make your backpack work for you, not against you: The wider the straps, the better. Make use of another hiking tip: Look for a backpack with a waist belt, which helps to distribute the weight more evenly across the body. Backpacks with multiple compartments can also help distribute the weight more evenly. If the pack bumps against your lower back or your butt when you walk, the straps are probably too long. Always pack your backpack with the heaviest items closest to your back. Wear both straps over your shoulders. Try a pack with wheels. Lots of kids use these as an alternative to backpacks, but there are guidelines and considerations to keep in mind with this kind of pack, too. Make frequent locker trips to drop off heavy textbooks or extra stuff, like gym clothes or project materials. Figure out the nonessentials, too. Get two sets of books. If your school has extra copies of some of your books, ask if you can borrow them so you can keep a set at home. This means that if you weigh pounds, your backpack should weigh no more than 12 to 18 pounds. Choosing a lightweight backpack can get you off to a good start. Use your bathroom scale to weigh your backpack and get an idea of what the proper weight for you feels like. Pick it up properly. As with any heavy weight, you should bend at the knees when lifting a backpack to your shoulders. A great way to prevent back injury is to strengthen the stabilizing muscles of your torso, including your lower back and abdominal muscles. Weight training , pilates , and yoga are all activities that can be effective in strengthening these core muscles. Following these tips is the best way to avoid back pain and other problems.

Chapter 3 : Backpack - Wikipedia

The conduct of some of the present leaders of the South in the seceding States, has shocked the moral sense of the North. The Strong phalanx who Opposed Lincoln and his party and abolition, with its cry of dissolution of the Union and destruction of the slave power.

On the Web, there are now numerous ways to expand your hunt beyond Amazon. Abebooks is a consortium that connects you to thousands of used-book stores around the world. Another search site is the Berkeley-based Bookfinder. You can also search a growing number of individual stores online, including the Portland-based Powells and Bolerium Books in San Francisco, which specializes in rare books on labor issues and radical history. Utne Reader Bookshelf Meanwhile, your local library can be a great help, too, thanks to a practice called interlibrary loan. Tell the pros as much about the book as you can. Title and author are most important, but publisher and publication date or even a good guess at it can be helpful too. I remember a phrase on the front cover but not the title itself or the author. The phrase is something along the lines of "would you rather have the perfect life or the perfect love. In both lives, she looks exactly the same but her lives are very different. Whenever she turns 18, her parents throw her a huge birthday party at her house. She starts contemplating what life she wants to stay in and plans to kill one of her selves just to stop the cycle. The phrase says something along the lines of "would you rather have the perfect life or the perfect love. Her 2 bodies are exactly the same, but her lives in each are very different. In the second, she is poor and only lives with her mom. One day, in her second life, she injures her ankle. She starts to contemplate what life she wants to live in and starts experimenting on her body. She starts off by cutting herself to see if the injury transfers over. She dyes her hair to see if it also changes when she switches back and forth. The man that she likes works there and she tells him about her switching. Gets in trouble with drugs. Judge sentences her to Africa to help at an orphanage. The kids get kidnapped sometimes to either be used for soldiers or sold. One wants the best of everything even though it is beyond her means and she loses it all. The poorer sister is the happier of the two. The book alternates between her perspective and the perspective of an alien living on the same planet. The alien finds her hiding in a cave, approaches her, and they tentatively eventually become mutuals. An example of one of the short stories was about this kid who wore shoes for a few months straight without taking them off to fend off bullies from killing a turtle. Another one of the short stories was about a boy who wanted to whiten his teeth with whitener, but in the end, his teeth had liquified because he kept them on for too long. Poor family, dad not one to show affection. Boy was all excited to wear it to school, Dad was quietly proud. Kids made fun of boy because jacket was a knockoff and he got in a fight over it, I think the coat was torn, he never wore it again, and dad never mentioned it. Grouchy retired sea captain, irritated by a rainbow, captures it, rolls it up and stows it in a hatch in his little home. Neighborhood boy frees the rainbow which unfurls into the sky. Beautiful and fun water color illustrations. Sea captain sees the error of his ways! He wrote about his life in Africa including some funny experiences. I think he worked for The York Times. Some American paper for sure. Thanks I have been trying to find it, but difficult without title or author! Cannot remember title or author. Some funny experiences he had in Africa. I think he worked for the New York Times? But was based in Africa. Thank you for helping me! The woman is also battling for custody of her daughters with her cheating ex husband. Things escalate with her and the man eventually. R rated book, I am an adult. He has a pocket sized computer that he runs programs on written in BASIC, I believe and each book had programs you could run on your computer after typing them in. I remember in one book, The protagonist meets the president, who calls him a "Class Act", and our hero wonders if the President knows what he does on the side. Another adventure has our hero paired up with a dog in a secret base in i believe the Alaskan wilderness. Protagonist goes through a series of emotions like fear, anxiety, etc because an alien ship has landed. Protagonist describes the ship and the creatures coming out of the ship, as having hair "all over their head" - as if that was crazy weird. Big reveal at the end is that the protagonist is an extra-terrestrial and the aliens are humans from Earth. Really great story on perspective and looking at things egocentrically. And a kid really wants to meet a certain famous hockey player. But, the hockey player just happens to be her ex and father of

her son that he knows nothing about I need help finding this book!! But, the hockey player just happens to be her ex and father of her son.. And this autistic kid really wants to meet a certain famous hockey player. The hockey player happens to be her Ex and the father of her son. And then in the end I think that they come back after all of this and I remember like an engagement between two of the characters. She is made fun if at school and her only friends are two brothers they are twins. When they grow up she gets pregnant by one of the brothers, and the other one dies. After a year or so she comes back and after a row of events she lives happily ever after with the father of her child and the love of her life. It starts with a girl trying to find her twin sister in a garrage or some shady place. It is a fantasy paranormal book maybe involves farie world non mages. The mother is leading a rebellion the king kills both mom and real princess thinking that the princess is the double. She ends up helping the little girls father find his daughter. The woman and the father end up falling for each other. I think this is romantic suspense. When he gets out of prison he looks for his missing sister and finds out that she was involved with some sort of mafia or something similar. To find and save her he has to work with the mafia people and was forced to blow up a train station. When I was younger I read this great book that I just remembered and cant get out of my head. It was this book about these two foster girls whos "aunt" who was a hippie had suddenly died in the bathroom one day and the girls had buried her in the backyard and pretended to live on like nothing happened surviving by cleaning rent cabins until they fight about whether to tell the authorities or not and one of them wants to run away. It sounds like the story you summarized. Strong people were burdened with weights He eventually discovers that the drug is doing something to your brain and makes you forget stuff. So he tries to fool the device with an apple where he put his blood on. He stops taking the drugs and his memory becomes clear. He has some sort of girlfriend and convinces her to stop taking the drug too. And if you go against the law by having I think it was "good memories" or something like that, you get the death penalty. So once she goes off to college she disconnects from her family and her childhood love and marries a rich boyfriend. Once married the honeymoon phase was really but then he started to change first he would just raise his voice but then it get physical. When she got pregnant she thought thing had changed but was still cautious but one he was just angry hit her so hard she fell and ended up going into labour. Thankfully both the woman and her baby girl were okay but once at home she tried her hardest to shield her daughter from her husband but sometimes it would be so sudden that there was nothing she could do, it got so bad that her daughter would be crying completely silent in fear of her father. In desperate need for safety for her daughter she devises a plan where she packed up both of their necessities before hand. Once out of the neighborhood she raced to father who was the leader of a gang or club of some sort for protection she drove non stop no matter how tired es she got. Only when she was inside the gates was she relieved, she got the car and walked up to her shocked father she passes out leaving her daughter silently crying in the back seat. I think it was her first day of school and she wore her hair in braids with ribbons, and she got new shoes with ribbons, and she had buttons down her jumper. She may have brought her neighbors cookies at one point in the story. Has a wife and i think a kid. He hoes out to a bar one night and is supposed to bring his wife back ice cream and gets kidnapped or something. The kidnapper know everything about him. Brings him to a abandoned warehouse and then he wakes up in a hospital; however, he is living the what could have been life. He wears velvet and has golden hair. The setting was Africa Egypt I think a crime perhaps murder had occurred and he was going to solve it he was great at fighting too man i miss this book but cant remember the author of title. He spared her and eventually takes her back to where his people are on the other side of the mountains. Despite her escape attempts inevitably they fall for one another but he releases her anyway.

Chapter 4 : Catalog Record: A book for every soldier's knapsack | Hathi Trust Digital Library

Note: Citations are based on reference standards. However, formatting rules can vary widely between applications and fields of interest or study. The specific requirements or preferences of your reviewing publisher, classroom teacher, institution or organization should be applied.

See Important Quotations Explained Summary Lieutenant Jimmy Cross, of the Alpha Company, carries various reminders of his love for Martha, a girl from his college in New Jersey who has given no indication of returning his love. Cross carries her letters in his backpack and her good-luck pebble in his mouth. Martha is an English major who writes letters that quote lines of poetry and never mention the war. He wonders, uncontrollably, about whether or not Martha is a virgin. He carries her photographs, including one of her playing volleyball, but closer to his heart still are his memories. They went on a single date, to see the movie Bonnie and Clyde. Now, in Vietnam, Cross wishes that he had carried her up the stairs, tied her to the bed, and touched her knee all night long. He is haunted by the cutting knowledge that his affection will most likely never be returned. They are things in the most physical sense—mosquito repellent and marijuana, pocket knives and chewing gum. Nervous Ted Lavender carries marijuana and tranquilizers to calm himself down, and the religious Kiowa carries an illustrated New Testament, a gift from his father. Some things the men carry are universal, like a compress in case of fatal injuries and a two-pound poncho that can be used as a raincoat, groundsheet, or tent. Most of the men are common, low-ranking soldiers and carry a standard M assault rifle and several magazines of ammunition. Several men carry grenade launchers. All men carry the figurative weight of memory and the literal weight of one another. They carry Vietnam itself, in the heavy weather and the dusty soil. The things they carry are also determined by their rank or specialty. The medic, Rat Kiley, carries morphine, malaria tablets, and supplies for serious wounds. One day, when the company outside the Than Khe area is on a mission to destroy tunnel complexes, Cross imagines the tunnels collapsing on him and Martha. He becomes distracted by wondering whether or not she is a virgin. On the way back from going to the bathroom, Lavender is shot, falling especially hard under the burden of his loaded backpack. Still, Cross can think of nothing but Martha. He thinks about her love of poetry and her smooth skin. Cross leads his men to the village of Than Khe—where the soldiers burn everything and shoot dogs and chickens—and then on a march through the late afternoon heat. When they stop for the evening, Cross digs a foxhole in the ground and sits at the bottom of it, crying. Meanwhile, Kiowa and Norman Bowker sit in the darkness discussing the short span between life and death in an attempt to make sense of the situation. In the ensuing silence, Kiowa marvels at how Lavender fell so quickly and how he was zipping up his pants one second and dead the next. He finds something unchristian about the lack of drama surrounding this type of death and wonders why he cannot openly lament it like Cross does.

Chapter 5 : How to Find That Book You've Spent Years Looking For

Full text of "A book for every soldier's knapsack" See other formats in Class E y-^E. Book iJL'h JAMES MILLER., Å\$00liscllcr, fubliskr, auij |mpj1er, BROAD"WAY, NEW YORK, OPPOSITE THE ST.

How Many Fought About 2. Most soldiers were between the ages of 18 and 39 with an average age just under Making a Living The majority of soldiers North and South had been farmers before the war. Union rosters contained references to more than different careers, including accountant, surveyor, locksmith, teacher, carpenter, shoemaker, black-smith, painter, mason, teamster, and mechanic. Southerners who had not farmed included carpenters, mechanics, merchants, machinists, lawyers, teachers, blacksmiths, and dentists. Rifle, Carbine, or Cannon? In the Union army, 80 percent of the men were in the infantry, 14 percent in the cavalry, and 6 percent in artillery. In the Confederate army, 75 percent of the men served in the infantry, 20 percent in the cavalry, and 5 percent in artillery. A Yankee stood a 1 in 8 chance of dying due to illness and a 1 in 18 chance of dying in battle. A Rebel faced a 1 in 5 chance of succumbing to disease and a 1 in 8 chance of dying in combat. Some recent estimates claim the totals were actually higher. Prisoners of War Roughly , Union soldiers were captured; 17, were paroled in the field; 30,, or about Why They Fought Men on both sides were inspired to fight by patriotism, state pride, the chance for adventure, steady pay. Union soldiers fought to preserve the Union; the common Confederate fought to defend his home. Later in the war, increasing numbers of Federal soldiers fought to abolish slavery, if for no other reason than to end the war quickly. Confederate soldiers sometimes fought because they feared Union victory would result in a society where black people were placed on an even footing with whites. Nonetheless, large numbers of stout-hearted newcomers to the country also volunteered to fight—especially in the North. Approximately , black soldiers wore the blue; 37, lost their lives. In March , the Confederate congress authorized the army to recruit , black troops. Some units were raised, but it was too late for them to make a difference. Soothing the Savage Breast Johnny Reb and Billy Yank loved to sing—on the march, in camp, and sometimes even in battle. Confederates were supposed to be supplied but seldom were with 12 ounces of bacon or 20 ounces of beef usually salted along with 18 ounces of flour or 20 ounces of corn meal or hard bread. Vegetables such as beans and peas often proved hard to come by, especially for the Rebs. Usually, Yankees banked on hardtack and coffee, while their counterparts tried to get by on corn bread and coffee. Men on both sides got what they could from sutlers or foraging. Coffee and tobacco were common cravings. Passing the Time Soldiers had to deal with much boredom. To fill the hours, Yanks and Rebels wrote letter after letter to family, friends, and sweethearts. In spite of the warnings of officers, bouts of drinking and especially gambling broke out. Soldiers played checkers, chess, and baseball, whittled and carved, and if they were feeling particularly creative, would even put on plays. Tennessean Sam Watkins described one winter diversion: Many thousands of men were engaged in a snow ball battle. Both sides loved dime novels and the Bible. Dirt and Disease Whenever armies remained settled in camp, sanitary conditions worsened. For starters, until later in the war, latrines were often built upwind or even upstream from camps. Accumulation over time created an unpleasant and unhealthy environment. Eventually, refuse from cooking and slaughtered animals began to cover the ground, and the local water source often became fouled. Most of the men were Christian, though 7, Jews fought for the Union and 3, for the South. Some data has been edited due to new research since the original article was published. Union Soldiers Total numbers of the Union armies are estimated to be between 1. The bulk of these men were volunteers, though estimates say that 5 to 6 percent were conscripts. Read more about Union Soldiers. Confederate Soldiers Estimates of the total number of confederate soldiers is difficult, and range between , to 1 million soldiers fought during the Civil War. Learn more about Confederate Soldiers. Decimated by Disease By Glenn W. For every soldier killed in battle, two died of disease. During their first summer of service in the Confederate army, William C. Oates and his comrades of the 15th Alabama Infantry Regiment watched as the first casualties dropped from their ranks, not from wounds inflicted by their Federal foes but from the deadlier onslaught of microbes and viruses in their camp. The Alabamians learned before they ever fired a single shot in anger that war often brought suffering and death where they were least expected, and that this particular war

would seldom show mercy to anyone caught in the swath of its deadly scythe. The 15th Alabama Infantry fell victim to an enemy more powerful than any Union army in the summer and autumn of Oates was a lawyer, newspaper publisher and editor, as well as a former fugitive from justice who had spent part of his youth as a gambler in Texas. Oates was named captain of Company G. From Fort Mitchell on the Chattahoochee River, Cantey moved his regimentâ€”about 1, men strongâ€”north by train to Richmond, where the 15th Alabama spent a few weeks drilling and training. Then, on August 21, the regiment received orders to proceed to the front. When they heard the news, the men cheered and sang all through the night. The next morning, Cantey led the regiment through the streets of Richmond to the railroad depot, where President Jefferson Davis reviewed the troops and complimented Cantey on their fine appearance. The newly elected governor of Alabama, John Gill Shorter, a prominent Democrat from Eufaula with whom Oates was politically allied, was also there to see the 15th off, and he delivered a short address before the men boarded the cars. All around Centreville and Manassas, near where the Confederates had won their first major victory in a battle fought on July 21, Brigadier General Joseph E. Johnston had extended the Southern lines. Reinforcements from all over the South were being rushed to the Manassas defenses as recruits poured into the army in the wake of the fighting along Bull Run. As the train carrying the 15th Alabama passed through little hamletsâ€”places no bigger or even smaller than Abbeville, the county seat where Oates had mustered in the Henry Pioneersâ€”on its ambling journey north, Virginians stood by the tracks cheering the soldiers and waving their hats and handkerchiefs. On the march, Captain Benjamin Gardner of Company I led his men while he held a great umbrella over his head. Across the broad expanse of field, practically nothing but row upon row of tents could be seen. The noise of campâ€”officers shouting, feet plodding on dry sod, bugles blowing, drums tappingâ€”echoed over Pageland in one vast discord of sound. Although the water in the camp was bad, the weather was hot, and many thirsty soldiers decided to drink the tainted water rather than suffer from dehydration. Colonel Cantey saw to it that his companies drilled hard every day, and from miles around one could see the dust rising from Pageland like the billowing smoke of a forest fire. Despite the arduous regularity of drilling every day for at least four hours, the men did have some respite and moments of gaiety and laughter. As Gus McClendon remembered: It had just been a month since the Confederate victory, and the Alabamians were all curious to see what a battlefield really looked like. At first, the terrain matched their own romantic conceptions of the battle and the heroes who had fallen fighting for their righteous cause. Boyd and his comrades even discovered severed hands and feet on the ground. The carcasses of dead horses still littered the field. Oates distinctly remembered, almost 45 years later, the pungent smell of fennel and pennyroyalâ€”weeds growing on the battlefield that had been mashed down during the fight and still gave off their recognizable aromas. A few of the Alabamians reacted to the battlefield with less solemnity than did Oates or Caspar Boyd. The trees had been chopped to pieces by musket volleys. If nothing else, the excursion to the Manassas battlefield gave the Alabama boys reason to ponder war and its grim realities. They had no idea of the far worse horrors yet to come. Those horrors began at Pageland. When the 15th Alabama had first arrived at Pageland, its closest neighbor in the camp, the 21st North Carolina, was already struggling with an epidemic of measles and serious outbreaks of mumps and typhoid. All of these diseases wereâ€”and still areâ€”highly contagious, although in our modern times we have grown accustomed to dealing with them during childhood and have vaccines that prevent their spread and other medicines that quickly wipe them out. Measles cut through the ranks of the 15th Alabama at the encampment like a biblical plague or the medieval Black Death. No one, including the small number of surgeons assigned to the army, knew that the disease was carried on droplets through the air and that proximity to the virus meant almost certain infection. In this respect, it is somewhat miraculous that the entire Confederate camp at Pageland was not stricken with the disease. Infected soldiers experienced high fever, rash, runny noses, watery eyes, and coughing. Due to the lack of a vaccine and effective treatments, few men who were infected survived the illness. After the initial symptoms, their condition generally worsened. Some soldiers came down with pneumonia and encephalitis brain inflammation as a result of measles; others suffered middle-ear infections, severe diarrhea, and convulsions. The worst casesâ€”and there were hundreds of themâ€”among the troops of the 15th Alabamaâ€”resulted in death. The first man in the regiment to die was Andrew J. Folmar, 18, a private in

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Company I. Then many others quickly became sick and had no strength or immunity to fight off the overwhelming disease. Overcome with emotion from this profusion of sickness and death, one private wrote in despair: Sick and well alike yearned for the comforts of home and to be magically transported from this strange land where so many men were dying. So many men were sick that the routine camp duty for those who remained healthy became more strenuous than ever, for now there were fewer hands to do the work. Throughout the desolation of this epidemic, the 15th Alabama "just like all the other regiments" was ordered to keep up its drill four hours a day, although those who were not sick began to lose their strength under the physical burdens they had to bear. Oates became outraged at the desperate situation. He faulted the army for keeping the sick in the same camp with the healthy men, which ensured that those who were not yet sick soon would be. Years later he wrote in anger: I do not know who was responsible for it, but it was a great mistake. There was not that care taken of the men of any regiment, so far as my observation extended, which foresight, prudence and economy of war material "leaving humanity out of the question" imperatively demanded.

Chapter 6 : Operation Paperback

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Chapter 7 : Once Upon a Town: The Miracle of the North Platte Canteen by Bob Greene

A book for every soldier's knapsack. by [Dodge, Robert], [from old catalog] Publication date Topics Secession. Publisher New York, J. Miller.

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Chapter 9 : Backpack Basics

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