

Appendix A

Members of the Expedition¹

Officers

Captain Meriwether Lewis (1774-1809)

Virginia

First Infantry

Lewis joined the Army in 1794 and served in the Ohio Valley and the Old Northwest Territory, where he became friends with William Clark. In 1801, Lewis was appointed as President Thomas Jefferson's private secretary, while retaining his military rank. Two years later, Jefferson chose Lewis as commander of the expedition. Following the return of the expedition in 1806, Lewis became governor of the Louisiana Territory, but he encountered financial difficulties that caused him severe emotional problems. On the Natchez Trace in Tennessee, Lewis took his own life in September 1809.

Second Lieutenant William Clark (1770-1838)

Virginia/Kentucky

The younger brother of General George Rogers Clark, William had served in the Army for four years, participating in the campaigns of General Anthony Wayne in the Northwest Territory before resigning his commission in 1796 to attend to the family business. Because of the Army seniority system, Clark received a second lieutenant's commission instead of a captaincy promised to him by Lewis when he rejoined the military as Lewis' second in command. But he and Lewis concealed this from the members of the expedition, who always referred to him as Captain Clark. After the expedition, Clark had a distinguished political career, including the governorship of the Missouri Territory.

Noncommissioned Officers

Sergeant Charles Floyd (1782-1804)

Kentucky

One of the “Nine Young Men from Kentucky,” Floyd was made a sergeant before the expedition began. Lewis regarded him as “a young man of much merit.” Floyd is remembered principally as the only Corps of Discovery fatality on the journey. He died on 20 August 1804, near present-day Sioux City, Iowa, probably from what modern medical experts believe was a ruptured appendix. Floyd kept a journal until a few days before his death.

Sergeant Patrick Gass (1771-1870)

Pennsylvania

First Infantry

Recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Russell Bissell’s company of the First Infantry, Gass had joined the Army in 1799 after serving in a volunteer Ranger unit. His skill as a carpenter was of great value to the expedition. Gass was promoted to sergeant in August 1804, following the death of Floyd. In 1807, Gass was the first to publish his journal. He stayed in the Army and served in the War of 1812 but was discharged after losing an eye in an accident. Gass was the last known survivor of the expedition.

Sergeant John Ordway (1775-1817)

New Hampshire

First Infantry

The only member of the corps who was a sergeant in the Army before the expedition, Ordway was recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Russell Bissell’s company of the First Infantry. He was well educated and became the senior sergeant of the expedition. He took care of the daily administration and, in the absence of the two captains, was in charge of the expedition. Ordway was the only member of the Corps of Discovery to keep his journal faithfully throughout the expedition. His accounts of Indian life are invaluable.

Sergeant Nathaniel Pryor (1772-1831)

Virginia/Kentucky

Pryor was a widower and cousin of Charles Floyd. Pryor was one of the “Nine Young Men from Kentucky.” Lewis and Clark considered him to be “a man of character and ability” and, after the expedition, helped him secure an officer’s commission in the Army. Pryor rose to the rank of captain and participated in the Battle of New Orleans in 1814. He later served as a government agent for the Osage Indians in 1830-31.

Corporal Richard Warfington (1777 - ?)

North Carolina

Second Infantry

Transferred from Captain John Campbell’s company of the Second Infantry Regiment as a corporal, Warfington was both reliable and efficient. When his enlistment expired during the expedition, Lewis and Clark asked him not to take his official discharge but to retain his rank and authority and command the return party to St. Louis in 1805. The captains believed Warfington was the only trustworthy member of the return party, and they wanted to ensure the safety of their dispatches, journals, and specimens sent to President Jefferson. Warfington accepted command of the return party and completed his mission so successfully that he even managed to keep alive a prairie dog and four magpies Lewis had sent to Jefferson. Lewis later recommended that Warfington receive a bonus beyond his regular pay.

Privates

Private John Boley (Dates Unknown)

Pennsylvania

First Infantry

Recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Russell Bissell’s company of the First Infantry Regiment, Boley had some disciplinary problems at Camp River Dubois and was designated for the return party. He later accompanied Zebulon Pike’s expedition to the upper Mississippi in 1805 and continued with Pike to the southwest and the Rockies in 1806.

Private William Bratton (1778-1841)

Virginia/Kentucky

One of the “Nine Young Men from Kentucky,” Bratton served the expedition as a hunter, blacksmith, and gunsmith. In the spring of 1806, he was incapacitated for several weeks by a mysterious back ailment, perhaps the longest period of serious illness experienced by any member of the Corps of Discovery. An Indiana sweat bath finally cured Bratton. After the expedition he served in the War of 1812.

Private John Collins (?-1823)

Maryland
First Infantry

Collins was recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Russell Bissell’s company of the First Infantry Regiment. He was a good hunter but was frequently drunk and disobedient. He was court-martialed for stealing whiskey from the official supply while detailed to guard it. He received 100 lashes for his misconduct.

Private John Colter (1775-1813)

Virginia/Kentucky

One of the “Nine Young Men from Kentucky,” Colter was an excellent hunter and woodsman. On the return trip, he requested permission to leave the expedition at the Mandan villages so he could join a trapping party heading back up the Missouri River. He apparently became the first white man to see the region of present-day Yellowstone Park.

Private Pierre Cruzatte (Dates Unknown)

Half French and half Omaha Indian, Cruzatte was master boatman and fiddle player. Unlike the contract French boatmen, he and Francois Labiche were enlisted members of the expedition’s permanent party. Blind in one eye and nearsighted in the other, Cruzatte accidentally shot Lewis while the two were hunting in August 1806. Lewis later paid tribute to Cruzatte’s experience as a riverman and to his integrity. His fiddle playing often entertained the Corps of Discovery.

Private John Dame (1784 - ?)

New Hampshire

Regiment of Artillery

Recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Amos Stoddard's artillery company, Dame is mentioned only once in the journals. He was a member of the return party

Private Joseph Field (1772-1807)

Private Reubin Field (1771-1823?)

Virginia/Kentucky

The Field brothers were two of the "Nine Young Men from Kentucky." They were among the best shots and hunters in the Corps of Discovery and, with George Drouillard, accompanied the captains on special reconnaissance missions. Both were with Lewis in the fight with the Blackfeet on 17 July 1806.

Private Robert Frazer (? - 1837)

Virginia

There is no information on when Frazer joined the expedition or if he had previously been in the Army. He was not at first part of the permanent party, but he was transferred from the intended return party on 8 October 1804 to replace Moses Reed after the latter's expulsion. Frazer kept a journal and received special permission from the captains to publish it. But the publication never took place and the journal is apparently lost. Frazer's map of the expedition has survived.

Private George Gibson (? - 1809)

Pennsylvania/Kentucky

Another of the "Nine Young Men from Kentucky," Gibson was a good hunter and on occasion played the fiddle for the Corps of Discovery. He served as an interpreter, most likely through sign language.

Private Silas Goodrich (Dates Unknown)

Massachusetts

Just where Goodrich joined the expedition is not known, nor is there information regarding any prior military service he may have had. But he was one of the finest fishermen of the Corps of Discovery. After the expedition, Goodrich re-enlisted in the Army.

Private Hugh Hall (1772- ?)

Massachusetts

Second Infantry

Recruited at South West Point from Captain John Campbell's company of the Second Infantry Regiment, Hall was court-martialed with Collins for tapping into the official whiskey ration and getting drunk.

Private Thomas Howard (1779- ?)

Massachusetts

Second Infantry

Recruited at South West Point from Captain Campbell's company of the Second Infantry Regiment, Howard was the last member of the expedition court-martialed when he climbed over one of the walls of Fort Mandan after the gate had been closed. He was found guilty of "pernicious example" to the Indians, by showing them that the fort wall was easily scaled.

Private François Labiche (Dates Unknown)

Recruited at Fort Kaskaskia, Labiche was an enlisted member of the expedition, not a hired boatman. Like Cruzatte, he was an experienced boatman and Indian trader. He also spoke English, French, and several Indian languages. Lewis noted his services as an interpreter, recommending that he receive a bonus. Labiche accompanied Lewis to Washington after the expedition to interpret for the Indian chiefs.

Private Jean Baptiste Lepage (Dates Unknown)

Recruited at Fort Mandan, Lepage was a French-Canadian fur trader.

Private Hugh McNeal (Dates Unknown)
Pennsylvania

McNeal may have been in the Army prior to joining the expedition on 1 April 1804. A man with that name was on the Army rolls as late as 1811.

Private John Newman (1785-1838)
Pennsylvania
First Infantry

Recruited at Fort Massac from Captain Daniel Bissell's company of the First Infantry Regiment, Newman was expelled from the expedition following his court-martial for "having uttered repeated expressions of a highly criminal and mutinous nature." He remained with the expedition doing hard labor until sent back with the return party to St. Louis in April 1805.

Private John Potts (1776-1808?)
Germany
Second Infantry

Recruited at South West Point from Captain Robert Purdy's company of the Second Infantry Regiment, Potts was a miller by trade. Following the expedition, he joined Manuel Lisa's fur-trading venture to the upper Missouri and, with his friend John Colter, was ambushed by Blackfeet near the Three Forks of the Missouri. Potts was killed and Colter narrowly escaped.

Private Moses Reed (Dates Unknown)

Little is known about Reed's origin and background. In August 1804, he attempted to desert, was apprehended, tried, convicted, and expelled from the expedition. He remained with the Corps of Discovery doing hard labor until sent back with the return party to St. Louis in April 1805.

Private John Robertson (1780 -?)
New Hampshire
Regiment of Artillery

Recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Stoddard's artillery company, Robertson was initially a corporal when he joined the expedition. Robertson may have had some leadership problems, because on 4 January 1804, Clark admonished him for having "no authority" over his men. Robertson's failure to break up a fight at Camp River Dubois caused Clark to demote him to private. Robertson was most likely the first man to leave the expedition. On 12 June 1804, Joseph Whitehouse recorded in his journal that a private "belonging to Captain Stoddard's company of Artillery" was sent back to St. Louis with a trading party encountered coming downriver. Presumably Robertson returned to his artillery company, because there is no further record of him.

Private George Shannon (1785-1836)
Pennsylvania/Kentucky

The youngest Army member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Shannon joined Lewis at Maysville, Kentucky, and is listed as one of the "Nine Young Men from Kentucky." In the fall of 1804, he was lost for over two weeks and nearly starved to death. After the expedition, Shannon became a lawyer and later served as a senator from Missouri.

Private John Shields (1769-1809)
Virginia/Tennessee

The oldest member of the Corps of Discovery, and one of the few who were married, Shields is one of the "Nine Young Men from Kentucky." During the expedition, his skills as a blacksmith, gunsmith, and carpenter were invaluable. "Nothing was more peculiarly useful to us, in various situations," wrote Lewis, "than the skill of this man as an artist, in repairing our guns, accoutrements, &c." Lewis recommended that Congress give Shields a bonus for his services.

Private John Thompson (Dates Unknown)

This is virtually no information on John Thompson, other than Clark praising him as "a valuable member of our party." Thompson may have been a surveyor before joining the expedition.

Private Ebenezer Tuttle (1773-?)

Connecticut

Regiment of Artillery

Recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Stoddard's artillery company, Tuttle was a member of the return party in April 1805. The only mention of him in the journals is in the Detachment Order of 26 May 1804.

Private Peter Weiser (1781 - ?)

Pennsylvania

First Infantry

Recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Russell Bissell's company of the First Infantry Regiment, Weiser descended from the noted frontier diplomat Conrad Weiser. After the expedition he joined Manuel Lisa's fur-trading venture up the Missouri.

Private William Werner (Dates Unknown)

Little is known about William Werner. He had a fight with John Potts at Camp River Dubois and was convicted of being absent without leave at St. Charles, Missouri. Other than these incidents, the journals reveal little more about him.

Private Isaac White (1774 - ?)

Massachusetts

Regiment of Artillery

Recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Stoddard's artillery company, White was a member of the return party to St. Louis in April 1805. The only mention of him in the journals is in the Detachment Order of 26 May 1804.

Private Joseph Whitehouse (1775 - ?)

Virginia/Kentucky

First Infantry

Recruited at Fort Massac from Captain Daniel Bissell's company of the First Infantry Regiment, Whitehouse was initially expelled from the expedition for misconduct, but he was allowed to return after repenting. He kept a journal and often acted as a tailor for the other men. Whitehouse later served during the War of 1812 but deserted in 1817.

Private Alexander Willard (1778 - 1865)

New Hampshire

Regiment of Artillery

Recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Amos Stoddard's artillery company, Willard was convicted of sleeping while on guard duty, which was punishable by death. He was given 100 lashes instead and detailed to the return party in April 1805.² He was a blacksmith. Willard often assisted Shields in his work during the first year of the expedition. Willard later served during the War of 1812.

Private Richard Windsor (Dates Unknown)

First Infantry

Little is known about Richard Windsor, other than the fact that he was recruited at Fort Kaskaskia from Captain Russell Bissell's company of the First Infantry Regiment. Windsor was an experienced woodsman and productive hunter throughout the expedition.

Civilians

The Charbonneau Family

After Lewis and Clark, the most famous member of the expedition is Sacagawea. She was born around 1788, probably near Lemhi, Idaho, the daughter of a Shoshone chief. As a child she was kidnapped by the Hidatsa and sold into slavery to the Mandan. While with the Mandan, Sacagawea was sold or given to Toussaint Charbonneau, who made her his wife. On 11 February 1805, she gave birth to a son, Jean Baptiste. Lewis described Toussaint as a man "of no particular merit," while both captains acknowledged the indispensable service Sacagawea provided the Corps of Discovery. As Clark wrote, "a woman with a party of men is a token of peace."

Interpreter George Drouillard (? - 1810)

Canada

The son of a French-Canadian and a Shawnee mother, George Drouillard met Lewis at Fort Massac. Captain Daniel Bissell was probably employing Drouillard when Lewis recruited him for the expedition. Drouillard was known for his general skill as a scout, hunter, woodsman,

and interpreter. Indeed, he was one of the best hunters of the expedition and often accompanied the captains on special reconnaissance missions. After the expedition, Drouillard became a partner in Manuel Lisa's fur-trading ventures on the upper Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers.

York (1770 - ?)
Virginia

York was Clark's companion from childhood, in the fashion of the slaveholding South. Clark legally inherited York in 1799. The journals indicated that he was large, strong, and perhaps overweight. He carried a rifle during the expedition and performed his full share of duties like the other members of the Corps of Discovery. York received his freedom in 1811 and then operated a wagon freight business in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Contract Boatmen³

Lewis and Clark hired 12 French boatmen, known as *engagés*, to help steer the keelboat and pirogues of the expedition. These men included:

E. Cann (1775 - 1836)
Mississippi

E. Cann was actually Alexander Carson, a man who had lived among the French so long that others thought of him as being French. He hired on with the expedition as a boatman and probably returned to St. Louis with the Return Party. One of his descendants was the famous "Kit" Carson.

Charles Caugee (Dates Unknown)

Captain Clark listed Charles Caugee in 4 July 1804 as one of the nine men hired. Other than that, nothing is known about him.

Joseph Collin (Dates Unknown)

Sergeant Gass mentions Collin in his journal as "a young man who formerly belonged to the North West Company." It appears he accompanied the Corps only as far as the Arikara Indian villages and was still living there when the Corps passed through again in 1806.

Jean Baptiste Deschamps (Dates Unknown)

It appears that Jean Baptiste Deschamps was recruited as a private in the US Army at Fort Kaskaskia to be the foreman of the French boatmen. He returned to St. Louis with the return party.

Charles Herbert (Dates Unknown)

Canada

St. Louis parish records show Hebert was married to Julie Hubert Dit La Croix in 1792. The records also list 11 baptized children. Captain Lewis listed him as an *engage* in May 1804. He was discharged at the Mandan village in the winter of 1804.

Jean Baptiste La Jeunesse (Unknown - 1806)

Jean Baptiste La Jeunesse was recruited as a private in the US Army to serve as a boatman. There is no record of his discharge. He may have remained at the Mandan village or returned to St. Louis.

La Liberté/Joseph Barter (Unknown - 1837)

Canada

While at Fort Kaskaskia, Lewis recruited La Liberte as a private in the US Army to serve as a boatman. He deserted soon afterward and was not mentioned again in the journals.

Etienne Malboeuf (1775[?] – Unknown)

Canada

Lewis recruited Etienne Malboeuf as a contract boatman at Fort Kaskaskia and paid him for his services on 4 October 1805. Jean Baptiste La Jeunesse was married to Malboeuf's sister Elisabeth.

Peter Pinaut (1776 – Unknown)

Shown as born “in the woods.”

Pinaut was the son of a French trader and a Missouri Indian woman. He was listed as a member of the corps in May 1804. He probably returned to St. Louis with the return party.

Paul Primeau (Dates Unknown)

Canada

Lewis recruited Primeau as a contract boatman at Fort Kaskaskia and listed him as a member of the corps in May 1804. An 1807 record shows him owing George Drouillard \$292.05, which he paid back in 1808. It is not known if he returned to St. Louis with the return party or remained on the upper Missouri.

François Rivet (1757 - 1852)

Canada

Hired at Fort Kaskaskia in 1804 as a contract boatman, Rivet, along with three other boatmen (Deschamps, Malboeuf, and Carson), remained at the Mandan village over the winter after they were discharged from the corps. Rivet then departed with the return party but later returned to the Mandan village and was living there when the corps passed through in 1806. He lived to be 95 and died in Oregon.

Peter Roi (Dates Unknown)

The family name of Roi was very common among the French in the St. Louis area. No specific details are known about Peter Roi.

Others**Rocque (Dates Unknown)**

Unknown

The captains listed him as Rokey. However, Sergeant Ordway referred to him as Ross. The proper French name is believed to be Rocque. He served as a boatman along with the other *engages*. It appears that he remained along the upper Missouri and was still there when the corps returned in 1806, "We found a French man by the name of Rokey. Who was one of our engages as high as the Mandans. This man had spent all his wages and requested to return with us." (Captain Clark, 22 August 1806).

NOTES

¹ The US Army Center of Military History provided Appendix A for this the handbook. The Command Studies Institute added one footnote for Private Alexander Willard, biographical sketches for the 12 French contract boatmen, and one additional boatman, engage Rocque.

² Willard was subsequently reassigned to the Permanent Party.

³ The Combat Studies Institute (CSI) added the biographical sketches for the 12 French contract boatmen, and one additional boatman, Engage Rocque. CSI obtained the information from Charles G. Clarke's book, *The Men of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*. Anton J. Pregaldin provided the information to Charles Clarke after extensive research in the Catholic parish registers of French pioneer families in the St. Louis area.

Appendix B

Detachment Orders

Detachment Orders Camp River Dubois, February 20th 1804

[Lewis]

The Commanding officer directs that during the absence of himself and Capt. Clark from camp, that the party shall consider them selves under the immediate command of Sergt. Ordway, who will be held accountable for the good police and order of the camp during that period, and will also see the subsequent parts of this order carried into effect.-

The sawyers will continue their work until they have cut the necessary quantity of plank, the quantity wanting will be determined by Pryor; during the days they labor they shall receive each an extra gill of whiskey pr. day and be exempt from guard duty; when the work is accomplished, they will join the party and do duty in common with the other men.-

The blacksmiths will also continue their work until they have completed the [articles?] contained in the memorandum with which I have furnished them, and during the time they are at work will receive each an extra gill of whiskey pr. day and be exempt from guard duty; when the work is completed they will return to camp and do duty in common with the detachment.-

The four men who are engaged in making sugar will continue in that employment until further orders, and will receive each a half a gill of extra whiskey pr. day and be exempt from guard duty.-

The practicing party will in further discharge only one round each per. day, which will be done under the direction of Sergt. Ordway, all at the same target and at the distance of fifty yards off hand. The prize of a gill of extra whiskey will be received by the person who makes the best show at each time of practice.-

Floyd will take charge of our quarters and store and be exempt from guard duty until our return, the commanding officer hopes that this proof of his confidence will be justified by the rigid performance of the orders given him on that subject.-

No man shall absent himself from camp without the knowledge and permission of Sergt. Ordway, other than those who have obtained permission from me to be absent on hunting excursions, and those will not extend their absence to a term by which they may avoid a tour of guard

duty, on their return they will report themselves to Sergt. Ordway and receive his instructions.-

No whiskey shall in future be delivered from the contractor's store except for the legal ration, and as appropriated by this order, unless otherwise directed by Capt. Clark or myself-

Meriwether Lewis
Captain. 1st U.S. Regiment Infantry

Sergeant Ordway will have the men paraded this evening and read the enclosed orders to them.

M. Lewis

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 2, 174-175.)

Detachment Orders March 3rd 1804

[Lewis]

The commanding officer feels himself mortified and disappointed at the disorderly conduct of Reubin Fields, in refusing to mount guard when in the due routine of duty he was regularly warned; nor is he less surprised at the want of discretion in those who urged his opposition to the faithful discharge of his duty, particularly Shields, whose sense of propriety he had every reason to believe would have induced him rather to have promoted good order, than to have excited disorder and faction among the party, particularly in the absence of Captain Clark and himself: The commanding officer is also sorry to find any man, who has been engaged by himself and Captain Clark for the expedition on which they have entered, so destitute of understanding, as not to be able to draw the distinction between being placed under the command of another officer, whose will in such case would be their law, and that of obeying the orders of Captain Clark and himself communicated to them through Sergeant Ordway, who, as one of the party, has during their necessary absence been charged with the execution of their orders; acting from those orders expressly, and not from his own caprice, and who, is in all respects accountable to us for the faithful observance of the same.

A moments reflection must convince every man of our party, that were we to neglect the more important and necessary arrangements in relation

to the voyage we are now entering in, for the purpose merely of remaining at camp in order to communicate our orders in person to the individuals of the party on mere points of police, they would have too much reason to complain; nay, even to fear the ultimate success of the enterprise in which we are all embarked. The abuse of some of the party with respect to the privilege heretofore granted them of going into the country, is not less displeasing; to such as have made hunting or other business a pretext to cover their design of visiting a neighboring whiskey shop, he cannot for the present extend this privilege; and does therefore most positively direct, that Colter, Boley, Weiser, and Robertson do not receive permission to leave camp under any pretext whatever for ten days, after this order is read on parade, unless otherwise directed hereafter by Captain Clark or himself. The commanding officers highly approve of the conduct of Sergeant Ordway. –

The carpenters, blacksmiths, and in short the whole party (except Floyd who has been specially directed to perform other duties) are to obey implicitly the orders of Sergeant Ordway, who has received our instructions on these subjects, and is held accountable to us for their due execution. –

Meriwether Lewis
Captain. 1st U.S. Regiment Infantry Commanding Detachment

Sergeant Ordway will read the within order to the men on the parade the morning after the receipt of the same. -

M. Lewis Captain.

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 2, 178-179.)

Detachment Orders
Camp River Dubois, April 1st 1804

[Clark]

The Commanding officers did yesterday proceed to take the necessary enlistments and select the detachment destined for the expedition through the interior of the continent of North America; and [has] have accordingly selected persons herein after mentioned, as those which are to constitute their permanent detachment. (Viz).

William Bratton	+
John Colter	+
John Collins	+
Reubin Field	+
Joseph Field	
Charles Floyd	
Peter [Weiser]	
Ct Mll [court-martial?]	
Patrick Gass	+
George Gibson	
Silas Goodrich	+
Thomas P. Howard	
Hugh Hall	+
Hugh McNeal	
John Newman	+
John Ordway	+
Nathaniel Pryor	+
John Potts	+
Moses B Reed	
George Shannon	+
John Shields	+
John B Thompson	+
Richard Windsor	
William Werner	
Peter Weiser	(+)
Joseph Whitehouse	+ &
Alexander Willard	

The commanding officers do also retain in their service until further orders-: The following persons, Richard Warfington, Robert Frazer, John Robertson, & John Boley. [NB: Moses B. Read] who whilst they remain with the detachment shall be incorporated with the second, and third squads of the same, and are to be treated in all respects as those men who form the permanent detachment, except with regard to an advance of pay, and the distribution of arms and accoutrements intended for the expedition.

The following persons (Viz Charles Floyd, John Ordway, and Nathaniel Pryor are this day appointed sergeants. with equal power (unless when otherwise specially ordered). The authority, pay, and emoluments, attached to the said rank of sergeants in the military service of the United States, and to hold the said appointments, and be respected accordingly, during their

good behavior or the Will and pleasure of the said commanding officers.

To insure order among the party, as well as to promote a regular police in camp, The commanding officers, have thought to divide the detachment into three squads, and to place a sergeant in command of each, who are held immediately responsible to the commanding officers, for the regular and orderly department of the individuals composing their respective squads.-

The following individuals after being duly balloted for, have fallen in the several squads as hereafter stated, and are accordingly placed under the direction of the sergeants whose name precedes those of his squad.

(Viz:) 1st Squad
Sergeant Nathaniel Pryor
Privates
George Gibson
Thomas P. Howard
George Shannon
John Shields
John Collins
Joseph Whitehouse
Peter Weiser
Hugh Hall

2nd Squad
Sergt. Charles Floyd
Privates
Hugh McNeal
Patrick Gass
Reubin Field
Joseph Field
John B. Thompson
[John Newman]
Richard Warfington
Robert Frazer

3rd Squad
Sergt. John Ordway
Privates
William Braton
John Colter
[Moses B. Reed]

Alexander Willard
William Werner
Silas Goodrich
John Potts
John Robertson
John Boley

The camp kettles, and other public utensils for cooking shall be produced this evening after the parade is dismissed; and an equal division shall take place of the same, among the noncommissioned officers commanding the squads. Those non-commissioned officers shall make an equal division of the proportion of those utensils between their own messes of their respective squads,- each squad shall be divided into two messes, at the head of one of which the commanding sergeant shall preside. The sergeants messes will consist of four privates only to be admitted under his discretion, the balance of each squad shall form the second mess of each Squad.

During the indisposition of Sergeant Pryor, George Shannon is appointed (protempor) to discharge his [and] the Said Pryor's duty in his squad.-

The party for the convenience of being more immediately under the eye of the several sergeants having charge of them, will make the necessary exchange of their bunks and rooms for that purpose as shall be verbally directed by us.-

Until otherwise directed, Sergeant John Ordway will continue to keep the roster and detail the men of the detachment for the several duties which it may be necessary, they should perform, as also to transcribe in a book furnished him for that purpose, those or such other orders as the commanding officers Shall think proper to publish from time, to time for the government of the Party.-

Signed
Meriwether Lewis
Wm. Clark

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 2, 187-190.)

Detachment Orders
River a Dubois, April 7th 1804

[Ordway]

During the absence of the commanding officers at St. Louis, the party

are to consider themselves under the immediate command of Sergeant John Ordway, who will be held accountable for the police; and good order of the camp, during that period. Every individual of the party will strictly attend to all necessary duties required for the benefit of the party; and to the regulations heretofore made which in now in force. Sergeant Floyd will stay in our quarters, attend to them, and the store; and to other duties required of him; he will also assist Sergeant Ordway as much as possible. -

Signed
Wm. Clark
Meriwether Lewis

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 2, 193.)

Detachment Orders
April 21st 1804

[Ordway]

During the absence of the commanding officers at St. Louis the party are to be under the immediate command of Sergeant John Ordway agreeable to the orders of the 7th instant.

Signed
Wm. Clark Captain

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 2, 206.)

Detachment Orders
River a Dubois, May the 4th 1804

[Ordway]

Orders, Corporal Warfington, Frazer, Boley, & the detachment late from Captain Stoddards Company will form a mess under the direction of the Corporal, who shall be held accountable for their conduct in Camp.-

Orders. The Sergeants are to mount as officers of the day during the time we delay at this place, and whilst on duty to command the detachment in the absence of the commanding officer- He is to see that the guard do

their duty, and that the detachment attend to the regulations heretofore made and those which may be made from time to time. No man of the detachment shall leave camp without permission from the commanding officer present, except the French hands who have families may be allowed to stay with their families at this island.-

Sergt. Ordway for duty to day. Sergt. Floyd tomorrow & Sergt. Pryor the next day.-

Signed Wm. Clark
Captain Commanding

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 2, 212.)

Orders
St. Charles Thursday the 17th May 1804

[Ordway]

A sergeant and four men of the party destined for the Missouri Expedition will convene at 11 o'clock to day on the quarter deck of the boat, and form themselves into a court martial to hear and determine (in behalf of the Capt.) the evidences adduced against William Werner & Hugh Hall for being absent last night without leave; contrary to orders; -& John Collins 1st for being absent without leave- 2nd for behaving in an unbecoming manner at the Ball last night – 3rd for speaking in a language last night after his return tending to bring into disrespect the orders of the commanding officer

Signd. W. Clark Comdg.
Detail for Court martial

Segt. John Ordway Prs.

Members
R. Fields
R. Windsor
J. Whitehouse
Jo. Potts

The Court convened agreeable to orders on the 17th of May 1804

Sgt. John Ordway P. members Joseph Whitehouse, Rueben Field, Potts, Richard Windsor.

After being duly sworn the court proceeded to the trial of William Warner & Hugh Hall on the following Charges Viz: for being absent without leave last night contrary to orders, to this charge the prisoners plead guilty. The court of opinion that the prisoners Warner & Hall are both guilty of being absent from camp without leave it being a breach of the rules and articles of war and do sentence them each to receive twenty five lashes on their naked back, but the court recommend them from their former good conduct, to the mercy of the commanding officer.- at the same court was tried John Collins charged 1st for being absent without leave- 2d. for behaving in an unbecoming manner at the ball last night [and] 3dly for Speaking in a language after his return to camp tending to bring into disrespect the orders of the commanding officer- The prisoner pleads guilty to the first charge but not guilty to the two last charges.- after mature deliberation & agreeable to the evidence adduced. The court are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of all the charges alleged against him it being a breach of the rules & Articles of War and do sentence him to receive fifty lashes on his naked back – The commanding officer approves of the proceedings & decision of the court martial and orders that the punishment of John Collins take place this evening at sun set in the presence of the party.- The punishment ordered to be inflicted on William Warner & Hugh Hall, is remitted under the assurance arriving from a confidence which the commanding officer has the sincerity of the recommendation from the court.- after the punishment, Warner Hall & Collins will return to their squads and duty-

The Court is dissolved.

Sign. Wm. Clark

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 2, 235-237.)

Detachment Orders May 26th 1804

[Lewis]

The Commanding Officers direct, that the three Squads under the command of Sergeants Floyd Ordway and Pryor heretofore forming two messes each, shall until further orders constitute three messes only, the same being altered and organized as follows---

1. Sergeant. Charles Floyd.

Privates:

2. Hugh McNeal
3. Patrick Gass
4. Reubin Field
5. John B Thompson
6. John Newman
7. Richard Windsor
- + Francois Rivet &
8. Joseph Field

9. Sergeant. John Ordway.

Privates.

10. William Bratton
11. John Colter
12. Moses B. Reed
13. Alexander Willard
14. William Warner
15. Silas Goodrich
16. John Potts &
17. Hugh Hall

18. Sergeant. Nathaniel Pryor.

Privates.

19. George Gibson
20. George Shannon
21. John Shields
22. John Collins
23. Joseph Whitehouse
24. Peter Weiser
25. Pierre Cruzatte &
26. Francois Labiche

The commanding officers further direct that the remainder of the detachment shall form two messes; and that the same be constituted as follows. (viz)-

Patroon, Baptiste Deschamps

Engages

Etienne Malboeuf

Paul Primeau

Charles Hébert

[Jean] Baptiste La Jeunesse

Peter Pinaut

Peter Roi

Joseph Collin

1. Corporal. Richard Warfington.

Privates

2. Robert Frazer

3. John Boley

4. John Dame

5. Ebenezer Tuttle

6. Isaac White.

The commanding officers further direct that the messes of the Sergts. Floyd, Ordway and Pryor shall until further orders form the crew of the Bateaux; the mess of the Patroon La Jeunesse will form the permanent crew of the red pirogue; Corpl. Warfington's mess forming that of the white pirogue. —

Whenever by any casualty it becomes necessary to furnish additional men to assist in navigating the pirogues, the same shall be furnished by daily detail from the privates who form the crew of Bateaux, exempting only from such detail, Thomas P. Howard and the men who are assigned to the two bow and the two stern oars. — For the present one man will be furnished daily to assist the crew of the white pirogue; this man must be an expert boatman.—

The posts and duties of the Sergts. shall be as follows-- when the bateaux is under way, one Sergt. shall be stationed at the helm, one in the center on the rear of the starboard locker, and one at the bow. The Sergt. at the helm, shall steer the boat, and see that the baggage on the quarterdeck is properly arranged and stowed away in the most advantageous manner; to see that no cooking utensils or loose lumber of any kind is left on the deck to obstruct passage between the berths-- he will also attend to the

compass when necessary.--

The Sergt. at the center will command the guard, manage the sails, see that the men at the oars do their duty; that they come on board at a proper season in the morning, and that the boat gets under way in due time; he will keep a good lookout for the mouths of all rivers, creeks, islands and other remarkable places and shall immediately report the same to the commanding officers; he will attend to the issues of spirituous liquors; he shall regulate the halting of the bateaux through the day to give the men refreshment, and will also regulate the time of her departure taking care that not more time than is necessary shall be expended at each halt-- it shall be his duty also to post a sentinel on the bank, near the boat whenever we come too and halt in the course of the day, at the same time he will (accompanied by his two guards) reconnoiter the forest around the place of landing to the distance of at least one hundred paces. When we come too for the purpose of encamping at night, the Sergt. of the guard shall post two sentinels immediately on our landing; one of whom shall be posted near the boat, and the other at a convenient distance in rear of the encampment; at night the Sergt. must be always present with his guard, and his is positively forbidden to suffer any man his guard to absent himself on any pretext whatever; he will at each relief through the night, accompanied by the two men last off their posts, reconnoiter in every direction around the camp to the distance of at least one hundred and fifty paces, and also examine the situation of the boat and pirogues, and see that they ly safe and free from the bank.

It shall be the duty of the sergt. at the bow, to keep a good look our for all danger which may approach, either of the enemy, or obstructions which may present themselves to (the) passage of the boat; of the first he will notify the Sergt. at the center, who will communicate the information to the commanding officers, and of the second or obstructions to the boat he will notify the Sergt. at the helm; he will also report to the commanding officer through the Sergt. at the center all pirogues boats canoes or other craft which he may discover in the river, and all hunting camps or parties of Indians in view of which we may pass. He will at all times be provided with a setting pole and assist the bowman in poling and managing the bow of the boat. It will be his duty also to give and answer all signals, which may hereafter be established for the government of the pirogues and parties on shore.

The Sergts. will on each morning before our departure relieve each other in the following manner—The Sergt. at the helm will parade the new guard, relieve the Sergt. and the old guard, and occupy the middle station in the boat; the Sergt. who had been stationed the preceding day at

the bow will place himself at the helm.-- The sergts. in addition to those duties are directed each to keep a separate journal from day to day of all passing occurrences, and such other observations on the country &c. as shall appear to them worthy of notice--

The Sergts. are relieved and exempt from all labor of making fires, pitching tents or cooking, and will direct and make the men of their several messes perform an equal portion of those duties.—

The guard shall hereafter consist of one sergeant and six privates & engages.—

Patroon Deschamps, Copl. Warfington, and George Drewyer [Drouillard], are exempt from guard duty; the two former will attend particularly to their pirogues at all times, and see that their lading is in good order, and that the same is kept perfectly free from rain or other moisture; the latter will perform certain duties on shore which will be assigned him from time to time: all other soldiers and engaged men of whatever description must perform their regular tour of guard duty.—

All details for guard or other duty will be made in the evening when we encamp, and the duty to be performed will be entered on, by the individual so warned, the next morning.-- provision for one day will be issued to the party on each evening after we have encamped; the same will be cooked on that evening by the several messes, and a proportion of it reserved for the next day as no cooking will be allowed in the day while on the march—

Sergt. John Ordway will continue to issue the provisions and make the details for guard or other duty.-- the day after tomorrow dried corn and grease will be issued to the party, the next day pork and flour, and the day following Indian meal and pork; and in conformity to that ration provisions will continue to be issued to the party until further orders.— should any of these messes prefer Indian meal to flour they may receive it accordingly— no pork is to be issued when we have fresh meat on hand. Labiche and Cruzatte will man the larboard bow oar alternately, and the one not engaged at the oar will attend as the bows-man, and when the attention of both these persons is necessary at the bow, their oar is to be manned by any idle hand on board.-

Meriwether Lewis Capt.
Wm. Clark Cpt.

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 2, 254-258.)

Detachment Orders
Nadawa Island July 8th 1804.

[Lewis]

In order to insure a prudent and regular use of all provisions issued to the crew of the bateaux in future, as also to provide for the equal distribution of the same among the individuals of the several messes, The commanding officers do appoint the following persons to receive, cook, and take charges of the provisions which may from time to time be issued to their respective messes, (viz) John B. Thompson to Sergt. Floyd's mess, William Warner to Sergt. Orday's mess, and John Collins to Sergt. Pryor's Mess.- These superintendents of provision, are held immediately responsible to the commanding officers for a judicious consumption of the provision which they receive; they are to cook the same for their several messes in due time, and in such manner as is most wholesome and best calculated to afford the greatest proportion of nutriment; in their mode of cooking they are to exercise their own judgment; they shall also point out what part, and what proportion of the mess provisions are to be consumed at each stated meal (i.e.) morning, noon and night; nor is any man at any time to take or consume any part of the mess provisions without the privity, knowledge and consent of the superintendent. The superintendent is also held responsible for all cooking utensils of his mess. In consideration of the duties imposed by this order on Thompson, Warner, and Collins, they will in future be exempt from guard duty, tho' they will still be held on the roster for that duty, and their regular tour - shall be performed by some one of their respective messes; they are exempted also from pitching the tents of the mess, collecting firewood, and forks poles &c. for cooking and drying such fresh meat as may be furnished them; those duties are to be also performed by the other members of the mess.-

M. Lewis
Wm. Clark

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 2, 359-360.)

Orders
August 26th 1804.

[Lewis]

The commanding officers have thought it proper to appoint Patrick Gass, a Sergeant in the Corps of Volunteers for North Western Discovery, he is therefore to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Sergt. Gass is directed to take charge of the late Sergt. Floyd's mess, and immediately to enter on the discharge of such other duties, as by their previous orders been prescribed for the government of the sergeants of this corps.

The commanding officers have every reason to hope from the previous faithful services of Sergeant Gass, that this expression of their approbation will be still further confirmed, by his vigilant attention in future to his duties as a sergeant. The commanding officers are still further confirmed in the high opinion they had previously formed of the capacity, diligence and integrity of Sergt. Gass, from the wish expressed by a large majority of his comrades for his appointment as sergeant.

Meriwether Lewis
Captain 1st U.S. Regiment Infantry
Wm. Clark Captain &.

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 3, 14-15.)

Orders
October the 8th 1804.

[Clark]

Robert Frazer being regularly enlisted and having become one of the Corps of Volunteers for North Western Discovery, he is therefore to be viewed & respected accordingly; and will be annexed to Sergeant Gass's mess.

Wm. Clark Captain &
Meriwether Lewis
Captain 1st U.S. Regiment Infantry

River Marapa

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 3, 152-153.)

Orders
13th of October 1804.

[Lewis and Clark]

A court Martial to consist of nine members will set to day at 12 o'clock for the trial of John Newman now under Confinement. Capt. Clark will attend to the forms & rules of a president without giving his opinion.

Detail for the Court Martial

Sergt. John Ordway

Sergeant Pat. Gass

Jo. Shield

H. Hall

Jo. Collins

Wm. Werner

Wm. Bratten

Jo. Shannon

(P Wiser)

Silas Goodrich

Meriwether Lewis Capt.

1st U.S. Regt. Infantry

Wm Clark Capt

Or [on?] E. N W D

In conformity to the above order the Court martial convened this day for the trial of John Newman, charged with "having uttered repeated expressions of a highly criminal and mutinous nature; the same having a tendency not only to destroy every principle of military discipline, but also to alienate the affections of the individuals composing this detachment to their officers, and disaffect them to the service for which they have been so sacredly and solemnly engaged."- The prisoner plead not guilty to the charge exhibited against him. The court after having duly considered the evidence adduced, as well as the defense of the said prisoner, are unanimously of opinion that the prisoner John Newman is guilty of every part of the charge exhibited against him, and do sentence him (under the articles of the [blank] section of the [blank] agreeably to the rules and articles of war, to receive seventy five lashes on his bare back, and to be henceforth discarded from the permanent party engaged for North Western discovery; two thirds of the court concurring in the sum and nature of the punishment awarded. The commanding officers approve and confirm

the sentence of the court, and direct the punishment take place tomorrow between the hours of one and two P.M.- The commanding officers further direct that John Newman in future be attached to the mess and crew of the red pirogue as a laboring hand on board the same, and that he be deprived of his arms and accoutrements, and not be permitted the honor of mounting guard until further orders; the commanding officers further direct that in lue of the guard duty from which Newman has been exempted by virtue of this order, that he shall be exposed to such drudgeries as they may think proper to direct from time to time with a view to the general relief of the detachment.-

Meriwether Lewis Captain
1st U.S. Regiment Infantry
Wm. Clark Captain
Or [on?] E. N W D

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 3, 170-171.)

Orders Fort Clatsop January 1st 1806

The fort being now completed, the Commanding officers think proper to direct: that the guard shall be regularly relieved each morning at sunrise. The post of the new guard shall be in the room of the Sergeants respectively commanding the same. The sentinel shall be posted, both day and night, on the parade in front of the commanding officer's quarters; Tho' should he at any time think proper to remove himself to any other part of the fort, in order the better to inform himself of the designs or approach of any party of savages, he is not only at liberty, but is hereby required to do so. It shall be the duty of the sentinel also to announce the arrival of all parties of Indians to the Sergeant of the Guard, who shall immediately report the same to the commanding officers.

The Commanding Officers require and charge the garrison to treat the natives in a friendly manner; nor will they be permitted at any time, to abuse, assault or strike them; unless such abuse or assault or stroke be first given by the natives. Nevertheless it shall be right for any individual, in a peaceable manner, to refuse admittance to, or put out of his room, any native who may become troublesome to him; and should such native refuse to go when requested, or attempt to enter their rooms after being forbidden to do so; it shall be the duty of the Sergeant of the Guard on information of

the same, to put such native out of the fort and see that he is not admitted during that day unless specially permitted; and the Sergeant of the Guard may for this purpose employ such coercive measures (not extending to the taking of life) as shall at his discretion be deemed necessary to effect the same.

When any native shall be detected in theft, the Sergt. of the guard shall immediately inform the commanding officers of the same, to the end that such measures may be pursued with respect to the culprit as they shall think most expedient.

At sunset on each day, the Sergt. attended by the interpreter Charbonneau and two of his guard, will collect and put out of the fort, all Indians except such as may specially be permitted to remain by the commanding officers, nor shall they be again admitted until the main gate be opened the ensuing morning.

At Sunset, or immediately after the Indians have been dismissed, both gates shall be shut, and secured, and the main gate locked and continue so until sunrise the next morning. The water-gate may be used freely by the garrison for the purpose of passing and re-passing at all times, tho' from sunset, until sunrise, it shall be the duty of the sentinel to open the gate for, and shut it after all persons passing and re-passing, suffering the same never to remain unfixed long[er] than is absolutely necessary.

It shall be the duty of the Sergt. of the Guard to keep the key of the meat house, and to cause the guard to keep regular fires therein when the same may be necessary, and also once at least in 24 hours to visit the canoes and see that they are safely secured; and shall further on each morning after he is relieved, make his report verbally to the commanding officers.—

Each of the old guard will every morning after being relieved furnish two loads of wood (each) for the commanding officers fire.

No man is to be particularly exempt from the duty of bringing meat from the woods, nor none except the cooks and interpreters from that of mounting guard.

Each mess being furnished with an ax, they are directed to deposit in the room of the commanding officers all other public tools of which they are possessed; nor (are) shall the same at any time hereafter be taken from the said deposit without knowledge and permission of the commanding officers; and any individual so borrowing the tools are strictly required to bring the same back the moment he has ceased to use them. And in no case shall they be permitted to keep them out all night.

Any individual selling or disposing of any tool or iron or steel instrument, arms, accoutrements or ammunition, shall be deemed guilty of a breach of this order, and shall be tried and punished accordingly.-

the tools loaned to John Shields are excepted from the restrictions of this order.

Meriwether Lewis
Capt. 1st U.S. Regt
Wm. Clark Capt

(Gary Moulton, ed., *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, vol. 6, 156-158.)

Appendix C

The Uniforms of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*

The Lewis and Clark expedition was a military operation. Of the 33 individuals who made the trip to the Pacific, there were two officers in command and 26 enlisted men. Previous scholarship has focused on the places visited and the discoveries made by the expedition; however, little has ever been written about the expedition's uniforms, arms, and accoutrements. This article and drawings show the uniforms, weapons, and accoutrements worn by the expedition at the time it left St. Louis. It does not address the items carried by civilians or show the modifications and replacements that occurred as time went on. Readers who have additional documents are encouraged to contact Dr. Charles H. Cureton at 757-788-3781 or e-mail at: curetonc@monroe.army.mil.

The United States Army at the time of the expedition was organized under the Military Peace Establishment of 16 March 1802. This organization allowed for two regiments of infantry, one regiment of artillery, a small corps of engineers, and the general staff. The Army establishment consisted of a total of 3,287 officers and men. All three line regiments provided soldiers to the expedition.¹

The Officers

The commander of the expedition was Captain Meriwether Lewis of the 1st Infantry.² The uniform of the regiment was detailed in the standing orders of the 1st Infantry dated July 1802 and signed by Colonel John F. Hamtramck.³ It was particularly detailed as to officer dress. The primary uniform for officers consisted of a dark blue woolen cutaway coat with red woolen collar (known in the period as a 'cape'), cuffs, and lapels. All buttonholes were trimmed in silver lace. The coat was lined in white woolen shaloon, and where the turnbacks for each skirt were secured, there were two red cloth diamonds edged in silver. Lieutenants were to wear a silver lace and bullion epaulet on the left shoulder, and captains wore a single silver epaulet on the right shoulder. The opposite shoulder had a dark blue strap edged in silver lace in place of a second epaulet. Field grade officers (majors, lieutenant colonels and colonels) wore two epaulets. Buttons for the officers of the 1st Regiment were silver with the regimental number, "1," surrounded by "UNITED STATES."⁴ There were 10 buttons on each

* Text and uniform plates provided by Dr. Charles H. Cureton and Stephen J. Allie.

lapel, four on each cuff, four on the collar, four on each pocket, and three on each tail. A single small button secured the epaulet and another secured the opposite shoulder strap. Since sleeves fitted close to the arm, cuffs often closed with two or more small buttons placed vertically on the back slit. The coat closed in front with three hooks and eyes; the backward sweep of the front precluded the lapels buttoning over or the coat closing to the waist. Additional features from contemporary portraits show that by 1802, the skirts had the turnbacks sewn down in keeping with English military fashion. Portraits also show the turnbacks edged in red.

The coat was worn with a white woolen waistcoat and white woolen pantaloons in winter and a high-quality white linen waistcoat and white linen pantaloons in summer. Buttons for the waistcoats would have been regimental. Pantaloons came into fashion late in the previous century and were similar to breeches except the legs for pantaloons extended to the ankle instead of just below the knee. The regulation black cocked hat had a black silk cockade with small silver eagle that was held in place by silver lace and a regimental button. The cocked hat still showed vestiges of its tri-corn origins and had not yet become the bi-corn chapeau typical of the War of 1812 era. Around the crown of the hat would have been a silver cord and tassels. A white feather plume completed the headdress. Officer gloves were white buckskin, and when the officer was on duty he was to wear a red silk sash and a silver gorget. The boots prescribed for infantry officers were black and cut in the hussar style with either a scalloped or a pointed front peak and finished with a black tassel. Officers wore black leather or silk stocks in the same manner and for the same purpose as the modern cravat or tie is used.⁵

Officers had a less expensive undress coat for daily wear and for informal occasions. The undress coat was identical to the dress or uniform coat in all respects except that it omitted the silver lace trim from the buttonholes.⁶ The waistcoat, pantaloons, boots, gorget, and sash remained as for the formal uniform. Officers of the 1st Infantry also had a red woolen roundabout (a tailless jacket similar to a sleeved waistcoat) for informal wear during winter months. It was worn with blue woolen pantaloons that were edged along the outseams in white. A simple fashionable black round hat (top hat) was also permitted for undress and fatigue. Some military round hats carried a cockade on the left side.

For use in inclement or cold weather, company grade officers were prescribed a dark blue surtout (overcoat). The surtout was made of a heavier weight wool than used for the uniform, and it extended well below the knee. It was double-breasted on the upper half and single-breasted to just below the waist. All buttons were regimental and the coat was lined in red and had

a red collar. This overcoat had two capes that were 9 and 10 inches long.⁷

The second in command was Captain William Clark. This rank is problematic since Clark's commission was as a first lieutenant of artillery.⁸ Lewis had wanted him returned to active duty as a captain; however, no vacancies in that grade existed so Clark had to accept the lower rank. Although Lewis designated William Clark a co-captain, it is unclear whether he went to the extent of wearing his epaulet on the right shoulder. Personal honor and integrity were the hallmarks of a gentleman and it is possible that Clark would not have presented himself as a captain unless he had official sanction from the War Department to do so. Regardless, other than in the placement of the epaulet, there was no difference in the dress of captains and lieutenants. In general, artillery officers wore the same uniform as infantry officers except the lace, buttons, and epaulets were gold instead of silver. The lace and epaulet(s) on the artillery coat were gold bullion.⁹ All buttons were gilt and featured a cannon with USA&E (for the United States Artillery and Engineers) in script beneath.¹⁰ Artillery coats were lined in red, thus the turnbacks were red with blue cloth diamonds edged in gold.¹¹ Except for having gilt artillery buttons, all other garments were as prescribed for infantry officers. Headdress was the same as infantry but with gold trim and devices in place of silver. There are no surviving general orders for artillery officers as were written for officers of the 1st Infantry. However, according to the illustrations in the Gass journal, Clark is shown consistently wearing a round hat, so that article was common to both artillery and infantry officers.¹² Gass's drawings also show Clark wearing the untrimmed undress coat, which would have been appropriate for the round hat. Clark's boots would have been black, made in the hussar style and with a black tassel.

Officers were armed with a spontoon and a sword. There was no regulation pattern for each; however, surviving spontoons follow the style shown in the illustrations. Swords for company grade officers could have either straight or curved blades, and both artillery and infantry officers carried their swords from a shoulder belt. Scabbards were black leather with either gilt or silver mountings according to the color of metal used for the hilt. Artillery officers had sword hilts and mountings in gilt corresponding to their buttons, while infantry officers had silver hilts and mountings. The color of the sword knot and belt plate matched the button color, silver for an officer of infantry and gold for artillery.

There are some issues regarding wear of the uniform. The uniform coat, undress coat, and roundabout were fitted garments and were cut differently from present-day styles. This is not to say that they were uncomfortable and ill suited; these garments were for an age that had

different ideas as to the function of clothing than Americans do today. Sleeves were cut close to the arm and extended as far as the wrist. The cut of the coat at the area of the armseye was also unique and can be seen in the back views shown in the accompanying plates. Garments made between the mid 1760s and about 1819 had the armseye considerably inset, and this presented a somewhat narrow-shouldered look that is very distinctive. Not only was there a narrow-shouldered silhouette to the figure, the sleevehead was smoothly set into the armseye such as to present a smooth line from coat to sleeve. There was certainly no ridge at the beginning of the sleeve as characteristic of present-day coats or most reproductions made using modern patterns. The position of the epaulet reflected the tailoring, that is, the epaulet strap buttoned on the collar and not on the shoulder and the strap did not extend beyond the armseye, it was the bullion that fell over the top of the sleeve. The epaulet laid close and conformed to the lines of the shoulder as shown. It did not stand up and project out over the sleeve as happened with epaulet design later in the century. Also, it is not generally appreciated that epaulets were very expensive items and could cost more than the coat, waistcoat, and pantaloons combined. This brings the question as to how much officers in the field wore their epaulets when on the march, on fatigue, or in camp. The cross strap, or bridle, that held the epaulet in place would by placement on either the right or left shoulder (or both if field grade) have indicated the officer's rank. It should also be pointed out that there was little difference in the epaulet itself for any rank except for general officers, who had stars on the strap; otherwise, it is the number and placement of the epaulet that indicated the wearer's rank. It is likely that Lewis and Clark would have saved their epaulets for special occasions. Last, when wearing the coat, the sash was worn over the waistcoat and under the coat; it was not worn outside of an open-faced coat. When wearing the roundabout, the sash was on the outside and tied over the sword belt.

What happened to the two officers' uniforms over the next several years of arduous wear and tear is not known precisely. However, there are some considerations that should be mentioned. The frontier notwithstanding, Lewis and Clark were officers and gentlemen and would have attempted to maintain the dress standards of their class and rank for as long as was possible. America in this period was a very class-conscious society, and a person's dress and appearance were a fundamental part to their status and image. In all likelihood, Lewis and Clark had at least two uniforms, the undress and dress coats. Lewis should have had the roundabout as well, and both quite probably had their surtouts. They also had a number of shirts and socks for at least the early stages of the expedition. Given the

importance placed on appearance, both officers would have contrived to set themselves apart from the enlisted men.

The Enlisted Men

The enlisted men of the expedition comprise two distinct groups. Half of the expedition members who made it to the Pacific coast and the men who returned the boats from the Mandan villages were enlisted in the Regular Army prior to the expedition.¹³ Consequently, these men had regimental clothing issued by their original units and thus were dressed in the regulation uniform of the infantry and artillery. There is a surprising amount of information on the uniforms of this period, so it is possible to establish the appearance of these soldiers with some accuracy. A few general rules are necessary. Enlisted uniforms were similar in their general tailoring to officer clothing; however, their design was different and the materials used were of a lesser quality. Sergeants' uniforms and clothing were made of slightly better cloth but otherwise were identical in design to the rank and file dress.

The infantry uniform consisted of a dark blue cutaway coat, lined white with white turnbacks, and had red lapels, cuffs, and collars.¹⁴ These coats were made according to a design approved in 1798, when Congress expanded the Army to meet the demands of a possible war with France. The massive expansion of the Army forced the Quartermaster Department to redesign the previous uniform with an eye toward reducing its cost. A more simplified uniform coat emerged that included a reduction in the number of coat buttons from 44 to 18. The lower number was accomplished by eliminating all collar, cuff, and pocket buttons and reducing to two the number of buttons on each tail. Furthermore, all lace trim as well as the rear pocket flaps were eliminated, and the turn-backs were non-functional. For all its color, this was a considerably simplified uniform and the changes reduced the cost of the coats from \$2.50 to just over \$.80.¹⁵ As it happened, war with France never materialized and the Army was again reduced. This created a surplus of the 1798 pattern, and it was from these stocks of clothing that Lewis and Clark's infantry soldiers received their clothing issue. Infantry uniforms for enlisted men had pewter buttons instead of silver, but they were of the same design as officer buttons, that is, they had the regimental number in the center surrounded by "UNITED STATES." The number in the center might differ, however, as the uniforms produced for the expanded Army were for an establishment of 16 regiments. The Quartermaster Department had to use up the surplus stocks, so the soldiers of the two infantry regiments that survived the reduction were issued coats

bearing regimental buttons numbered 1 through 16 without regard for the regiment to which they were actually assigned.¹⁶ The supply of 1798 coats lasted until after the expedition had departed. At that time it was determined that new coats would be required for the 1804 issue and a new pattern was chosen. Consequently, when the expedition returned two years later, the Army had its enlisted men dressed in a different uniform.¹⁷

The remainder of the uniform followed officer dress but with several details unique to enlisted men. Waistcoats were made of a durable white wool, but the waistcoat had neither a collar nor pockets. The overalls were linen for summer with blue edging along the outseams and white wool with blue edging for winter. Though called overalls, the styles of this period were relatively close fitting and were called overalls because the base of the leg was open and extended to the ankle. Pantaloon differed in that they were shaped to the leg and tied at the base under the instep. Enlisted overalls were worn with short, black-painted linen gaiters that were closed with four small pewter buttons. The winter overalls were made of white wool and had the outside seam edged in blue. However, they were actually gaitered overalls, that is, the lower leg was cut so as to cover the shoe. These fitted over the top of the shoe and closed tightly around the calf with three small buttons.¹⁸ Shoes were low quarter and were closed by buckles.

Enlisted headdress prescribed for infantry was distinctly different from what officers wore. The pattern resembled headdress adopted for the Legion of United States during the 1790s and was also similar in design to headdress adopted by the British army for certain units. The American version was a black felt round hat 5-7/8" tall and 7-3/16" wide, with a 3" brim edged with white worsted binding. Over the crown of the hat was a wire-reinforced 4"-wide strip of bearskin. On the left side was a white deer tail secured by a black leather cockade and pewter eagle.¹⁹ For fatigue and when on the march, the bearskin, deer tail, and cockade were removed.

Undergarments consisted of white linen shirts for summer and woolen flannel shirts for winter. Shirts of the period were quite voluminous and extended to below the crotch. Since underwear was not issued to enlisted men, and were not generally worn anyway, the shirt performed this function and kept the outer garments from getting stained. The shirt was always worn with a black leather stock, which was generally made of a heavier leather than stocks worn by officers.

All noncommissioned rank was distinguished by epaulets. Normally, epaulets followed the button color but were made of worsted wool instead of the officer's bullion, white for infantry and yellow for artillery. To simplify acquisition and distribution of this article for the proposed

expanded Army, however, the 1798 uniform had red epaulets for all noncommissioned officers regardless of their branch. Otherwise, the placement of epaulets mirrored that for company grade officers. Corporals wore a single epaulet on the left shoulder and sergeants wore theirs on the right. Sergeants also wore a scarlet worsted sash and carried a sword.²⁰

The artillery uniform was identical to its infantry counterpart except for a few small details. The tail lining and turnbacks on the coat were red. Further, instead of the pewter infantry buttons, the uniform had brass buttons with similar artillery markings to those found on officer buttons.²¹ In 1802, the artillery uniform was slightly modified. The buttonholes were trimmed with yellow worsted lace and the lapels were sewn permanently to the coat.²² The artillery waistcoats differed from those of the infantry by having collars and brass buttons. Artillery overalls were the same as worn by infantry but with the outer seam edged in yellow. Another difference in their dress was that the men wore cocked hats of a pattern similar to the officer pattern, but the enlisted hat was bound in yellow lace and had a black leather cockade with gilt eagle and a white worsted plume.²³

For fatigue, all enlisted men wore a linen roundabout. Basically a jacket, it closed with eight small pewter or brass buttons according to the branch. The pattern jacket remained in use with only minor changes for fashion until the 1850s, and it is the forerunner of the modern Battle Dress Utility worn by soldiers. Enlisted men attached to the Lewis and Clark expedition would also have had plain loose-fitting linen trousers and a Russian-sheeting (hemp cloth) fatigue frock. The latter was essentially a large overshirt.²⁴ The work uniform was completed with a cloth fatigue hat.²⁵ Based on the French army pattern, these hats resembled an old-fashioned night cap, that is, they were made of two triangular pieces of dark blue uniform cloth from the previous year's coat (the uniform being replaced annually) and were trimmed with red cloth salvaged from the same garment.

The basic uniform dress was to suffice for most weather conditions, hence the need to replace it annually, but the War Department did provide cold weather clothing. In winter, each company had a supply of watch coats at a ratio of one coat for every four to six enlisted men in the command. These coats were not issued to individual soldiers but were for use by the men as they stood watch, simply trading them off as the guard changed. These coats were made of a heavy drab melton wool. The term drab refers to a range of color between light gray and medium brown. Since watch coats were company property, none of the soldiers transferred from regular units had these garments. However, Lewis did receive 15 of these coats from the Quartermaster Department. The number of coats indicates that

they were probably intended for the 15 men specifically recruited for the expedition.²⁶ The other soldiers are believed to have had blanket coats of heavy white wool with blue trim. According to the standing orders for the 1st Infantry, sergeants were issued officer pattern surtouts but made of an inferior quality wool.²⁷

Firearms and accoutrements carried by the infantry and artillery soldiers were as used by the rest of the Army. The musket and bayonet were of the model adopted in 1795. Since the 1795 musket was a flintlock, each soldier also had a brass brush and picker for keeping the pan clean when firing. The bayonet was carried in a black leather scabbard suspended from a shoulder belt. Ammunition was carried in a large black leather cartridge box of a pattern adopted by the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Soldiers also had their bedding blanket and personal items in a knapsack of the type produced initially for the Army in 1792. There is no evidence of either haversacks or canteens being provided to the expedition.

In addition to the soldiers from infantry and artillery units, there was a third group of 15 men recruited specifically for the expedition. As they were not affiliated with any regular unit, it was decided to provide them a distinctive dress. The notable feature of their uniform was a drab-colored coatee. All that is known about the coatees is from a list of materials delivered to Philadelphia tailor Francis Brown on 6 June 1803.²⁸ The pattern for the standard coat of the time would not fit on the allotted cloth. What could be cut was a double-breasted jacket of the sort referred to in the period as a roundabout or jacket. The term coatee described a coat having short skirts, and sometimes the skirts were so short as to make the garment almost indistinguishable from a roundabout or jacket. During the American Revolution, some quartermaster clerks used the terms *coatee* and *jacket* interchangeably. This pattern allowed for 18 coat buttons to close the front, two small buttons to close each cuff, and two small buttons to secure the shoulder straps.²⁹ The argument favoring a double-breasted jacket is supported by the absence of waistcoats for these soldiers. The regulation uniform coat required a waistcoat to cover the exposed area in front, and the absence of this garment suggests that it was not required.³⁰

The recruit coatees were made from superfine milled drab cloth.³¹ Superfine was a very high quality woolen cloth with a tight weave and heavily felted surface nap. The goods were so tight that exposed cut edges could be used without risk that the material would unravel. It was used for the very best civilian coats and officers' uniform coats. As such it was far superior to the woolen cloth used for enlisted men's coats by the Army. The decision for a closed front uniform coat was in keeping with changes

occurring with enlisted men's dress in the British army, and it predates the closed-front coat adopted by the American Army in 1810.³²

The remainder of the special detachment's uniform consisted of the surplus clothing intended for the expanded Army. Instead of the regular Army soldiers' white overalls, the 15 men received obsolete pattern blue woolen overalls edged along the outseam in white. Except for the watchcoats, their shoes, fatigue frocks, and both linen and flannel shirts were as issued to all soldiers.³³ No hats were provided to the recruits, and they are depicted in the "common hats" typical of the period.

In addition to the unique uniform, the new enlistees were armed with rifles. The weapon was the 1792/1794 contract rifle that was shortened and fitted with rifle sling swivels, which matched the slings drawn for them by Lewis.³⁴ As was customary for riflemen, they were also provided with a waist belt, a rifleman's pouch, powderhorn, knife and scabbard, and a tomahawk.³⁵ Lewis had 15 rifle pouches and powder horn sets produced by Robert C. Martin.³⁶ He also provided extra powder horns and cartridge boxes. Like the regulars, these men were provided backpacks and blankets, but again there is no evidence of haversacks or canteens being issued.³⁷

The clothing, equipment, and arms carried by the expedition were sufficient to deal with any eventuality. Availability of fatigue clothing meant that the primary uniform garments would have been spared for a time. However, they are not likely to have lasted the length of the expedition. References in the expedition's journals suggest that later in the expedition, Lewis and Clark attempted to replace worn-out items of uniform with similar garments made of buckskin. Regardless of when and how the soldiers' clothing evolved, the military character of the expedition would have been evident from the arms, accoutrements, and equipment carried by its members.

Image Notes

Image 1. Captain of infantry in dress with sword and spontoon. The sash depicted is too dark; it would have been similar in color to the lapels. Sleeves were fitted close to the shape of the arm.

Image 2. Captain of infantry in dress, back view. Notice that the epaulet lays on top of the shoulder and complements the shoulder line.

Image 3. Captain of infantry in undress with sword. The undress coat simply omitted the lace but was otherwise identical in design to the dress coat. The sash should be red. Note that the fringe to the sash in this period was a continuation of the same thread used in the weave of the sash and did not have the separate bullion knots adopted in 1832.

Image 4. Infantry officer in roundabout, front view. Note the location of the sleevehead. The sash should be red.

Image 5. Infantry officer in roundabout, back view. The seams show the inset sleeve very clearly.

Image 6. Infantry officer in surtout. The sash should be red.

Image 7. Artillery officer in undress, off duty. The artillery uniform for officers was the same as for infantry officers but with gilt buttons and red lining. When off duty, officers were to dispense with the sash.

Image 8. Sergeant of infantry. The early years of the Army's existence were ones of great economy. Accoutrements manufactured during the Revolution continued to be issued, and the illustrations provided were without regard to the color of the button. The sword shown is from a pattern believed to have been issued to noncommissioned officers of the Regular Army at the turn of the century. Most extant swords have brass hilts but there are some examples in steel.

Image 9. Private of infantry. The knapsack was painted linen.

Image 10. Private of artillery. The artillery uniform was distinguished by the yellow lace, brass buttons, and cocked hat. Note the brass picker and brush. They were suspended from a button on the side nearest where the soldier would have held his musket or rifle when priming the pan in preparation for firing.

Image 11. Private of infantry in fatigue jacket. Note the close fit of the jacket and sleeves. The length of the sleeves extended to the hand. The fatigue hat was made of old uniform cloth and had the regimental number on the front.

Image 12. Private of infantry in fatigue frock. This shows the loose fit of the pullover frock and the close-fitting overalls.

Image 13. Private of artillery in watchcoat. The watchcoat is based on civilian overcoats of the period. Accoutrements were worn outside of the coat. Note the gaitered overalls.

Image 14. Sergeant of infantry in surtout, front view. The sergeant's version of the officer's surtout was similar in cut but made of lower-quality wool.

Image 15. Private in blanket coat. The three bars indicated the weight of the blanket wool.

Image 16. "Recruit" rifle uniform. It appears that both cartridge box and shot pouch with powder horn were provided to this group. The waistbelt for the knife and tomahawk is black leather and is based on extant civilian examples. They show the tomahawk suspended from a pouch made to hold the blade.

Image 17. "Recruit" back view. The coat is shown without tails. The absence of much cloth for lining or interfacing suggests a very simple garment.

NOTES

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Image 1. Captain of infantry in dress with sword and spontoon.
Image 2. Captain of infantry in dress, back view.



Image 3. Captain of infantry in undress with sword.

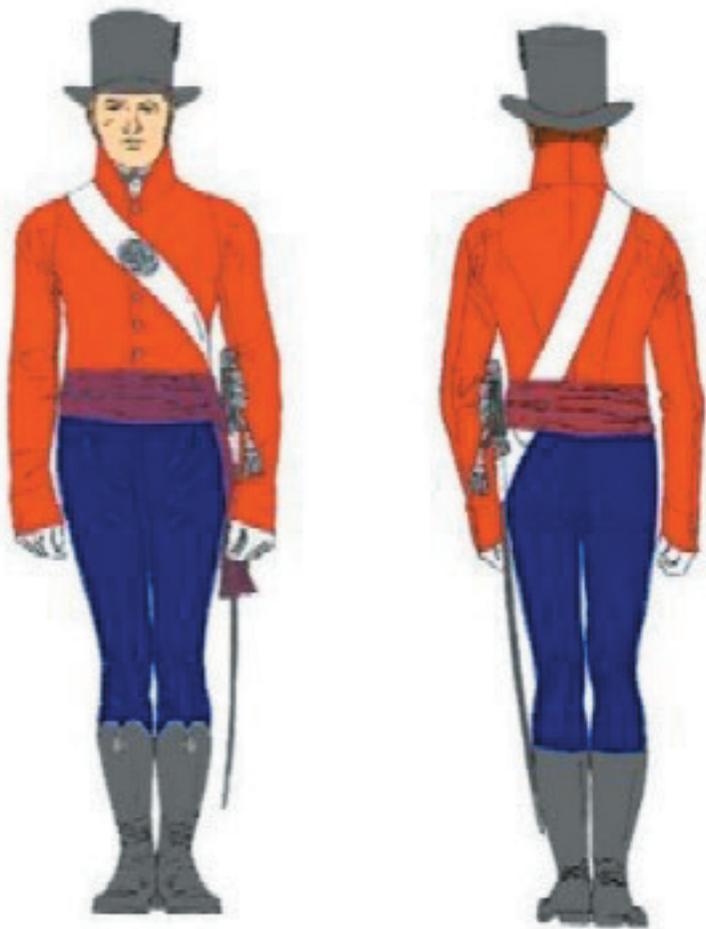


Image 4. Infantry officer in roundabout, front view.

Image 5. Infantry officer in roundabout, back view.

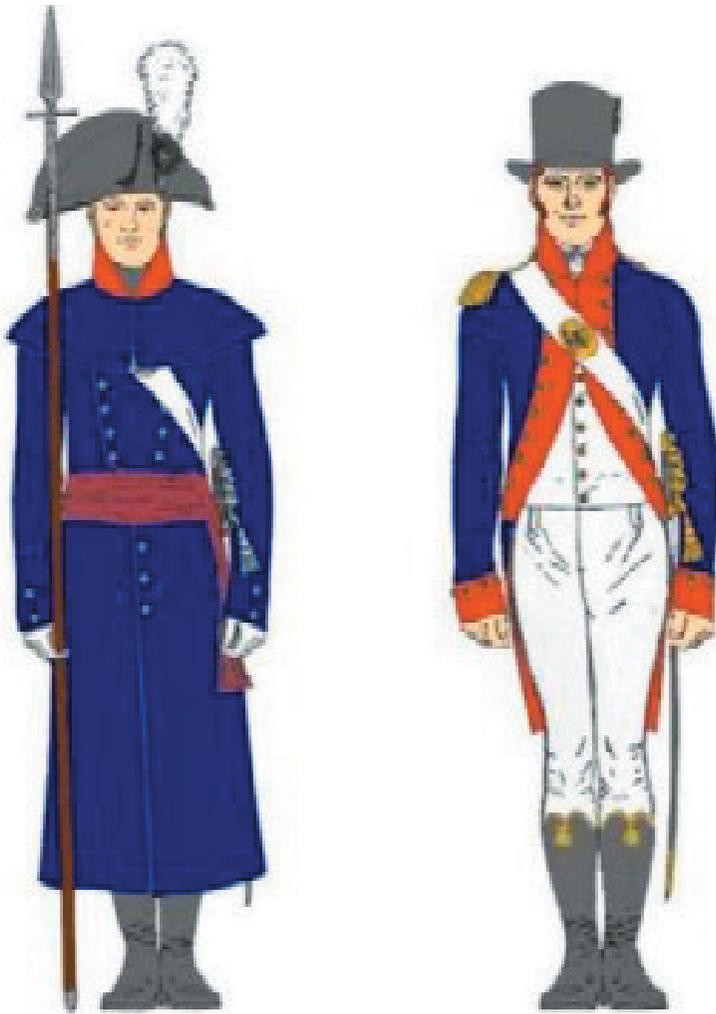


Image 6. Infantry officer in surtout.

Image 7. Captain of artillery in undress, off duty.

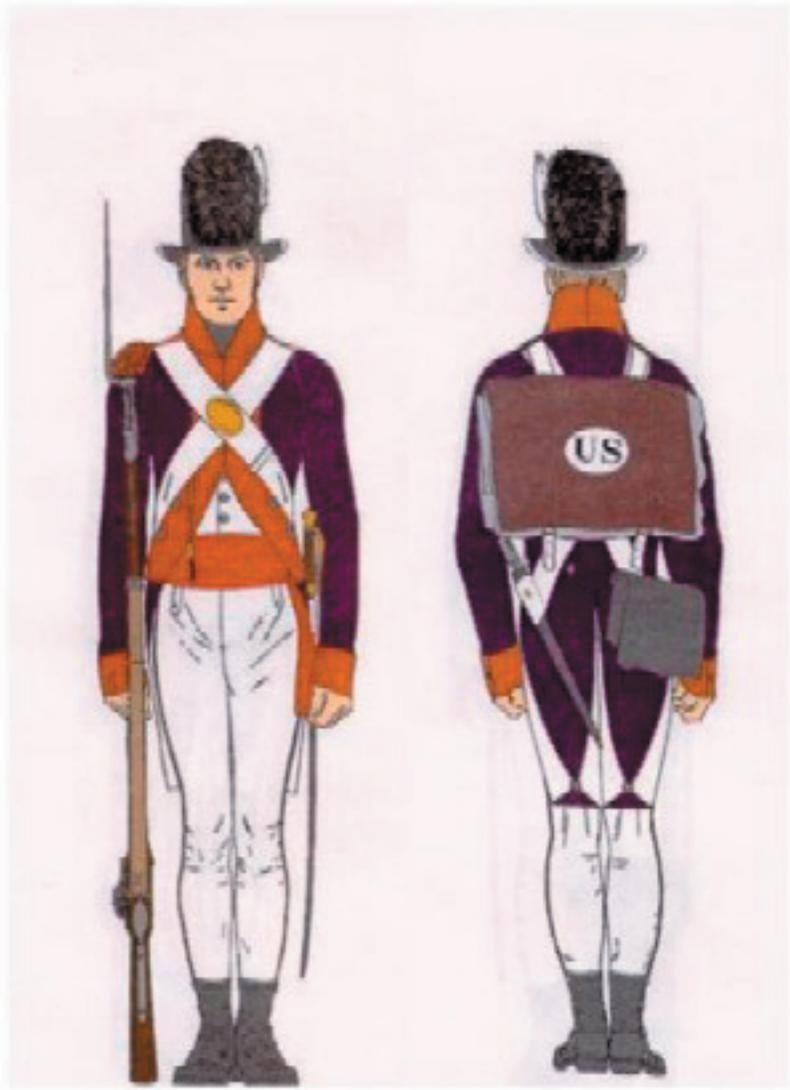


Image 8. Sergeant of infantry, front view.

Image 9. Private of infantry, back view.

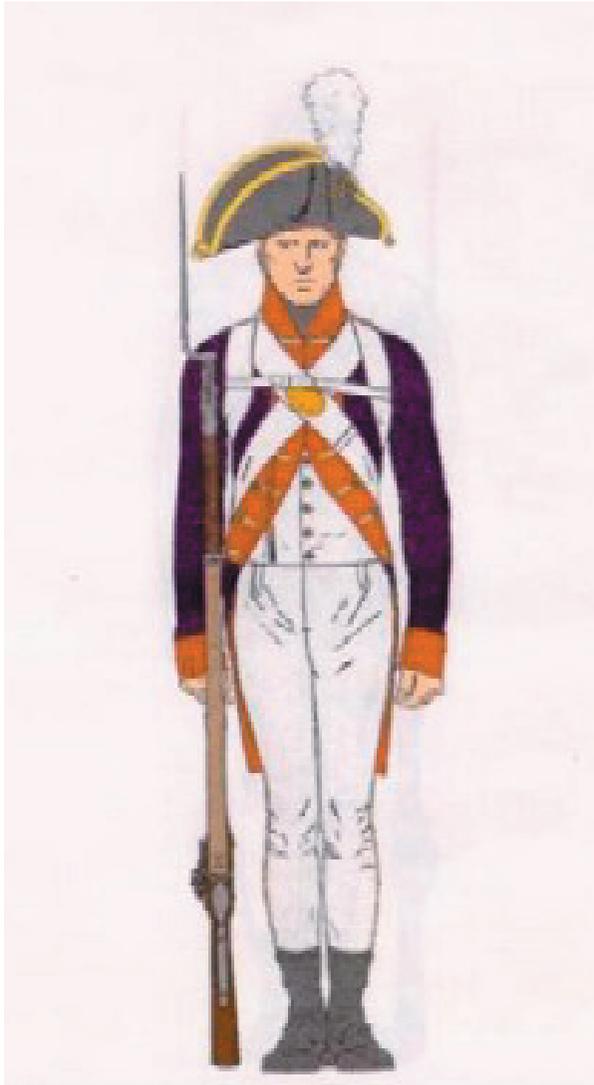


Image 10. Private of artillery.

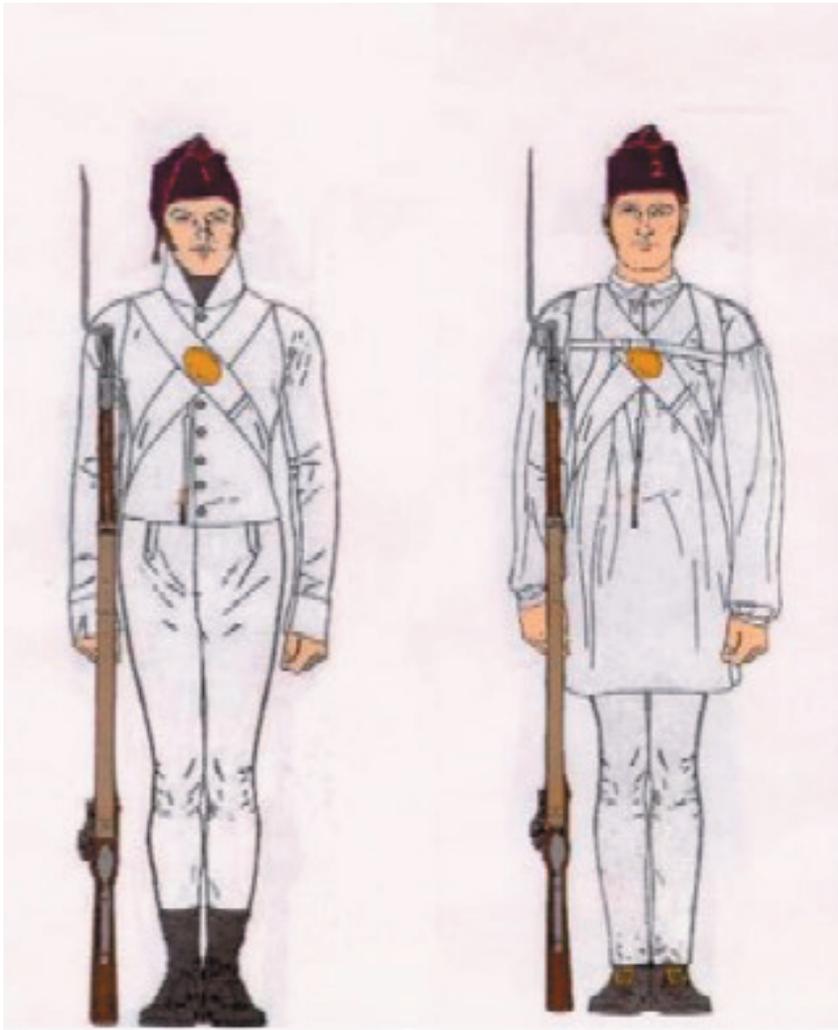


Image 11. Private of infantry in fatigue jacket.

Image 12. Private of infantry in fatigue frock.



Image 13. Private of artillery in watchcoat.

Image 14. Sergeant of infantry in surtout, front view.



Image 15. Private in blanket coat.

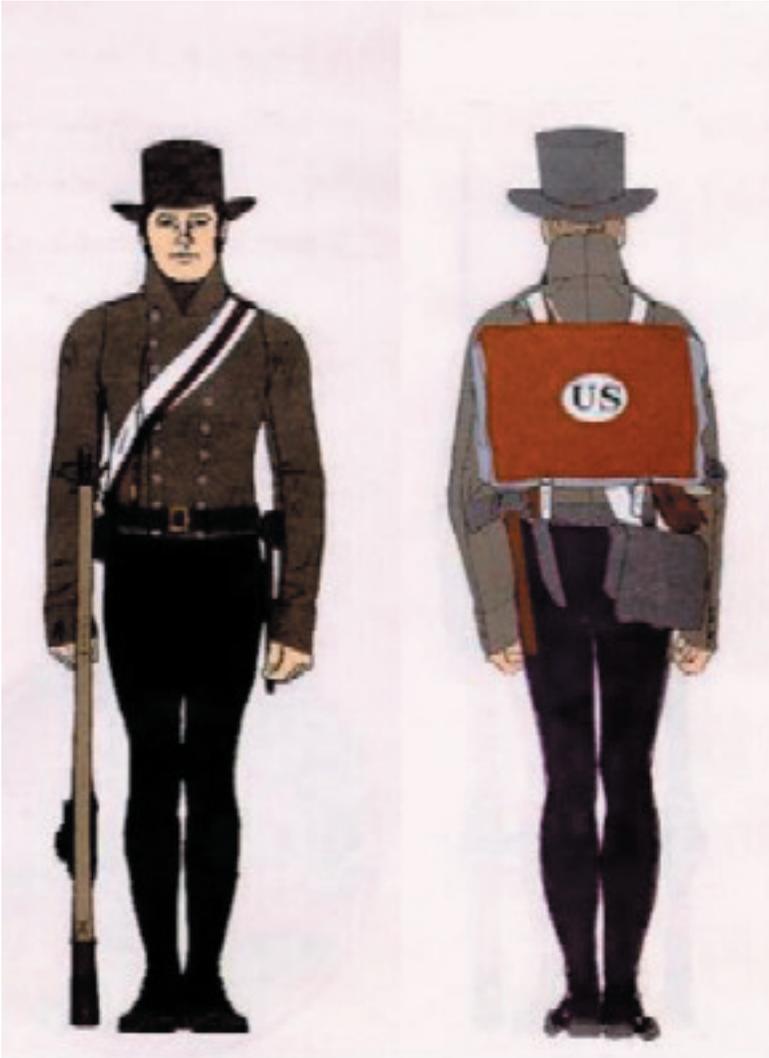


Image 16. "Recruit" rifle uniform, front view.
Image 17. "Recruit" uniform, back view.