HAND-BOOK FOR ACTIVE SERVICE; CONTAINING PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS IN CAMPAIGN DUTIES. FOR THE USE OF VOLUNTEERS

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Hand-book for active service; containing practical instructions in campaign duties. For the use of volunteers by Egbert L. Viele

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EGBERT L. VIELE

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ACTIVE SERVICE;

CONTAINING

Practical Instructions in Campaign Duties.

FOR THE USE OF VOLUNTEERS.

BY

EGBERT L. VIELE,

LATE U.S. A., CAPTAIN ENGINEERS, SEVENTH REGIMENT, N.O.

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TO

The Sebenth Begiment, National Guard,

OF NEW YORK,

WHICH,

BY ASSIDUITY, DISCIPLINE, AND ESPRIT DU CORPS,

NO LESS THAN BY ITS EMINENT PATRIOTISM,

HAS BECOME

THE MODEL REGIMENT OF CITIZEN SOLDIERS,

THIS BOOK

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED.

Mineral Designation of the Control o

New York, 21st February, 1861.

CAPTAIN E. L. VIELE, Engineer, etc.

Siz:—I have read with great satisfaction, the advance sheets of the "Hand Book for Active Service" sent me. A practical work of this description is greatly needed, and will be prized by the soldiers composing our militia throughout the States. Teaching the soldier how to prepare his food in the most economical and expeditious manner is certainly not the least important part of your interesting volume. Knowledge thus disseminated will, in case of service in the field, save many lives, and add to the efficiency of the force, while the general information upon military subjects, given in a concise and familiar style, I doubt not will be highly appreciated.

I am, my dear Sir,
Your friend and servant,
MARSHALL LEFFERTS,
Col. Wh Regiment, N. G.



PREFACE.

THERE are at this moment in the United States 3,000,000 of organized troops, all of them more or less accustomed to the use of arms, and many of them have been drilled in military tactics. Very few have been in actual service, and are therefore unaccustomed to the fatigues, and unacquainted with the duties, of camp and garrison life. Were any number of them to be brought suddenly into the field, this want of experience would be at once felt by officers as well as soldiers, and a great deal of useless labor, unnecessary privation, and personal suffering would be gone through with before they would become sufficiently accustomed to the entire change in their mode of life. With a view to avoid these difficulties as much as possible, and set before the soldier in a familiar manner that line of conduct to be pursued in a campaign which would enable him to husband his physical resources and