

# REMEDIES

From the camp medical chest came roots and herbs, long on Latin names and short on curing. But the unfortunate soldier could count on one or all of the following "cure-alls" to be inflicted, thereby increasing his sorry lot considerably.

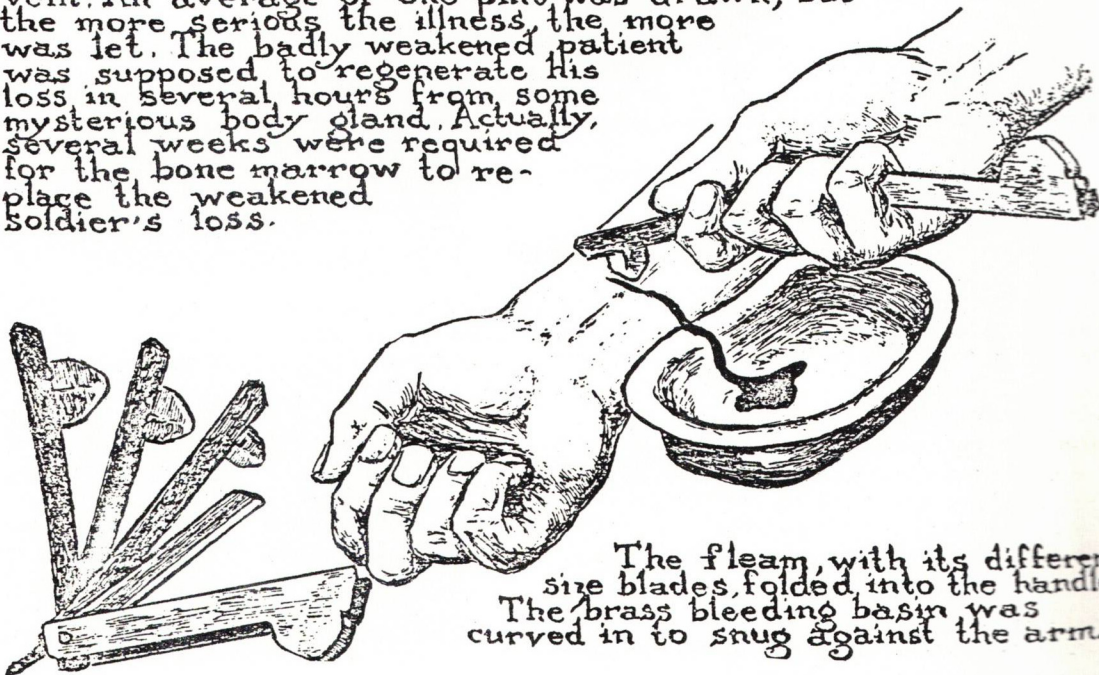
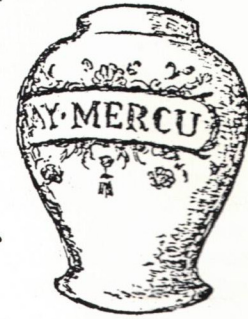
**CATHARTICS OR LAXATIVES** (calomel, jalap, nitre, Peruvian bark, and snake root) for purging out sickness.

**EMETICS** (tartar emetic, warm water and honey) for vomiting out the illness by a different pathway.

**ENEMAS** - still another method of flushing out illness.

**BLISTERING** - a caustic solution was applied to the skin to raise blisters. It was thought that the irritation drew the inflammation outside, but it succeeded only in changing the character of the soldier's pain.

**BLOODLETTING** - to rid the body of disease poisons, "bad" blood was drawn out by cutting an arm vein. An average of one pint was drawn, but the more serious the illness, the more was let. The badly weakened patient was supposed to regenerate his loss in several hours from some mysterious body gland. Actually, several weeks were required for the bone marrow to replace the weakened soldier's loss.



The fleam, with its different size blades, folded into the handle. The brass bleeding basin was curved in to snug against the arm.

## THE COLD CURE

It was winter time on that old dirt farm in Wayne Township. It was the time of the year for running noses and sore throats. The snow was drifted in some places beyond the top of the fences, and on the level it was a foot deep. In some places, there were bare spots and the ground was frozen as hard as glass. The deep ruts in the old back lane would twist your ankle if you did not walk with extra care.

I was thirteen years old at the time, and big for my age. I was expected to do, and did, my share of the chores around that farm barn. The cows were milked and the milk cared for in cans and taken to the creamery. Jack and Jenny, the faithful team of mules, never failed to take the milk on the bobsled to the creamery. Other chores had to be taken care of and the horses had to be fed and watered. The chickens were fed and the eggs had to be hunted to make sure none of them froze.