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## DRESS CODE FOR CAMP FOLLOWERS

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### *Guidance for the Camp Followers of the Citty of London Brigade*

The purpose of this document is to share the aims and ambitions of the Citty of London Brigade with its current members, new members and potential members looking for advice and guidance on what equipment is suitable for their chosen role. The main aim is to improve our appearance over time. Sombre coloured clothing is always likely to be suitable – greys, greens, browns etc. (*imagine anything created by a vegetable dye*).

We have prioritised certain items as they are the most important to get a new member involved with the regiment as soon as possible. We unashamedly have put authentic shoes first – they are expensive, but they are the single most important item in the authentic presentation of the regiment. Please support this decision by lending kit to new members thus minimising initial expense.

### **FIRST LEVEL EQUIPMENT**

- Authentic shoes, clogs or boots only (desert boots are not acceptable).
- All women must wear appropriate underwear, which is essential to posture and the shape of the outerwear.
- Shirts and shifts should be linen, not cotton.
- Skirts should be wool or linen. No modern materials or bright unnatural colours like purples, orange etc
- Hose should be knitted wool, woollen cloth or linen. Colours should be natural and subdued. Cotton hose can be worn under woollen hose, but must not be seen.
- Leg ties should be cloth, linen or inkle loom woven wool. No modern fabrics.
- All women should wear a linen coif or coif and head-cloth. All hair needs to be hidden under your coif. Hats, if you wear them, should reflect your social background (*as with the men*), so felted wool hats or statute caps. No uncovered heads. Any embroidery on your coif should be appropriate to your station, and should be blackwork...not polychrome (multi-colour).
- No make-up or (*non-period*) jewellery is to be worn, no visible tattoos or body piercing.
- Modern hair styles and unnatural-coloured hair must be hidden.
- Period glasses only should be worn, no modern types.

### **SECOND LEVEL EQUIPMENT**

- Water bottle for battlefield use – *hung over the shoulder*.
- Other bags & pouches for personal items.

### **EXTRA EQUIPMENT**

- Appealing to the camp follower's interest in staying alive we might expect to see – cudgels, clubs, daggers, knives etc. Make sure that anything sharp is safely sheathed to prevent accidental injury to either you or the public.

- Consider what you may have scavenged on the march. Will you have food with you? If so how will you carry it and keep it clean? Will you have cooking equipment with you?
- Will you have a bedroll to sleep on? Maybe a blanket can be used to keep you warm and dry when on camp? Natural wool or muted vegetable dye colours are most suitable – avoid bright colours.
- Will you have spare kit with you? Spare shoes, clothing?
- Maybe you have a little business selling something whilst in the camp – a small selection of fruit and vegetables on a bit of cloth makes you a greengrocer – a few beeswax candles makes you a candle maker; think of your own role and bring the kit.
- What about games to gamble on? Dice, cards etc expect to be berated by the Regimental Preacher!
- Is your character religious? A bible?
- Drinking tankards for common soldiers are more likely to have been leather or wooden rather than pewter.
- What personal items do you have – a love token from a sweetheart; a horn comb; a horn drinking cup; a whetstone for sharpening knives, weapons etc; a purse with some coins; some cutlery? Pamphlets – are you educated? Flint and steel for setting a fire complete with kindling? A clay pipe and a little tobacco? Needle and thread to repair equipment on the march?
- Use authentic political and free religious slogans and statements to personalise your equipment – remember we are representing a professional standing army that are very much committed to the causes of Parliament.

This Standing Order is issued for the Citty of London Brigade, this daye 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016.  
By Order.

**Jon Courtney-Thompson**

Colonel & Officer Commanding Citty of London Brigade