

"All of our (company) have been issued shelter tents and we take them with us when we go out on picket."

Pvt. Ira Pettit, 11th U.S. Infantry

The load remained relatively unchanged through the 1800s. The fighting load included a musket and bayonet with ammunition carried in a cartridge box and cap pouch on a waist belt. Additional equipment was attached to leather straps across the shoulders, which resulted in an uneven distribution of weight. Headgear was a forage cap with a small visor.



Forage Cap



Infantry Cartridge Box



Waist Belt and Plate



Percussion Cap Pouch



Scabbard and Bayonet



Water Canteen



THE LOAD (Pounds)

M1863 Rifle Musket (10)

Ammunition - 40 Rounds (6)

Knapsack, Haversack, Blanket (30)

TOTAL LOAD (46)