

THE

Soldiers' Pocket Bible

ISSUED

FOR THE USE OF THE ARMY

OF

OLIVER CROMWELL;

A. D. 1643.



PREFACE TO THIS EDITION.

OLIVER CROMWELL, Lord Protector of the English Commonwealth from 1653 to his death in 1658, began his military career in 1642. In 1643 appeared this little manual for the English army. Though not prepared by Cromwell, it undoubtedly had his approbation, and was in general use among his soldiers. Cromwell's success was due in no small degree to the strict morals and rigid discipline of his army, and to *the inspiring power of religion*. He declared, "Truly I think he that prays best, fights best. I know nothing that will give like courage and confidence as the knowledge of God in Christ will; and I bless God to see any even in this army able and willing to impart the knowledge they have for the good of others." "Accordingly," he says "I raised such men as *had the fear of God before them*, and made some conscience of what they did. And from that day

forward they *never were beaten*, but whenever they were engaged against the enemy, they beat continually.' Cromwell's IRONSIDES, as they are usually called, fed their faith upon God's word, went into battle with psalm-singing and prayer; and fearing God only, were the best soldiers perhaps the world has ever seen. Their watchword was, "The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge." Whitelocke describing them to Christina, queen of Sweden, said, "The officers and soldiers of the Parliament held it not unlawful, when they carried their lives in their hands, and were going to adventure them in the high places of the field, to encourage one another out of His word who commands over all: and this had more weight and impression with it than any other word could have."

THE
SOLDIER'S POCKET-BIBLE.

A Soldier must not do Wickedly.

When the host goeth forth against thine enemies then keep thee from every wicked thing. Deut. xxiii, 9.

The soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely, and be content with your wages. Luke iii, 14.

And if he will not for all this hearken unto me, ye shall have no power to stand before your enemies. Lev. xxvi, 27, 37.

The Lord shall cause thee to

be smitten before thine enemies; thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them. Deut. xxviii, 25.

A Soldier must be Valiant for God's cause.

Be thou valiant for me, and fight the Lord's battles. 1 Sam. xviii, 17.

Be of good courage, and let us play the man for our people, and for the cities of our God, and the Lord do that which seemeth him good. 2 Sam. x, 12.

For the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands. 1 Sam. xvii, 47.

A Soldier must not rely on his own Wisdom, his own strength, or any provision for war.

Lean not unto thine own understanding. Prov. iii, 5.

By strength shall no man prevail. 1 Sam. ii, 9.

I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me. Psa. xliv, 6.

There is no king saved by the multitude of a host; a mighty man is not delivered by much strength. A horse is a vain thing for safety, neither shall he deliver any by his great strength. Psa. xxxiii, 16, 17.

There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit, neither hath he power in the day of death. Eccles. viii, 8.

We have no might against this great company that cometh against us, neither know we what to do; but our eyes are upon thee. 2 Chron. xx, 12.

A Soldier must put his Confidence in God's wisdom and strength.

Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Eph. vi, 10.

With Him is wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding. Job xii, 13.

The God of Israel is He that giveth strength and power unto His people. Psa. lxxviii, 35.

God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble. Psa. xlvi, 1.

God hath power to help, and to cast down. 2 Chron. xxv, 8.

I will go in the strength of the Lord God. Psa. lxxi, 16.

Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a

shield; but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel. 1 Sam. xvii, 45.

A Soldier must Pray before he goes to fight.

Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them. Neh. iv, 9.

And Samson called unto the Lord; and said, Oh Lord God, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee only this once. Judg. xvi, 28.

And David said, Oh Lord, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness. 2 Sam. xv, 31.

If any of you lack wisdom, let Him ask of God. James i, 5.

Give me understanding, and I

shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.
Psa. cxix, 34.

Give thy strength unto thy servant, and save the son of thy handmaid. lxxxvi, 16.

Plead my cause, Oh Lord, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me, take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help.
Psa. xxxv, 1, 2.

And the children of Israel said unto the Lord, We have sinned; do thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto thee; deliver us only, we pray thee, this day.
Judg. x, 15.

A Soldier must Consider and Believe God's gracious promises.

And they arose early in the

morning and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa, and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. 2 Chron. xx, 20.

For the Lord your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you. Deut. xx, 4.

The Lord shall fight for you. Exod. xiv, 14.

The Lord your God ye shall fear, and he shall deliver you out of the hands of all your enemies. 2 Kings, xvii, 39.

Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us, from the bur-

ning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thy hand, O King. Dan. iii, 17.

I will subdue all thine enemies. 1 Chron. xvii, 10.

Thou shalt seek them and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee; they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of naught. Isa. xli, 12.

No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper. Isa. liv, 17.

A Soldier must not fear his enemies.

When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses and chariots and a people more than thou, be not afraid of them, for the Lord thy God is with thee. Deut. xx. 1.

Ye shall not fear them ; for the Lord your God he shall fight for you. Deut. iii, 22.

Be strong and courageous ; be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him ; for there be more with us than with him. With him is an arm of flesh ; but with us is the Lord our God to help us, and to fight our battles. 2 Chron. xxxii, 7, 8.

Fear not, neither be faint-hearted for the two tails of these smoking firebands. Isa. vii, 4.

And Fear not them which kill the body. Matt. x, 28.

A Soldier must Love his enemies as they are his enemies, and Hate them as they are God's enemies.

But I say unto you, Love your enemies. Matt. v, 44.

Shouldst thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord? 2 Chron. xix, 2.

Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate thee, and am I not grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them mine enemies. Psa. cxxxix, 21. 22.

A Soldier must Cry unto God in his heart in the very instant of battle.

When Judah looked back, behold the battle was before and behind; and they cried unto the Lord. Chron. xiii, 14.

And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, Lord it is nothing with thee to help with many, or with them that have no power. 2 Chron. xiv, 11.

When the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, they said, It is the King of Israel. Therefore, they compassed about him to fight; but Jehoshaphat cried out, and the Lord helped him; and God moved them to depart from him. 2 Chron. xviii, 31.

A Soldier must Consider that sometimes God's people have the worst in battle as well as God's enemies.

The sword devoureth one as well as another. 2 Sam. xi, 25.

All things come alike to all, there is one event to the righteous and to the wicked, to the good and to the clean, and to the unclean; to him that sacrificeth and to him that sacrificeth not: as is the good, so is the sinner; as he that sweareth, as he that feareth an oath. Eccles. ix, 2.

So there went up thither of the people about three thousand men; and they fled before the men of Ai. Josh vii, 4.

And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel. Judg. vi, 2.

And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent; and there was a very great slaughter, for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen. 1 Sam. iv, 10.

But when he (Moses) let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. Exod. xvii, 11.

My children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed. Lam. i, 16.

Soldiers and all of us must consider that though God's people have the worst, yet, it cometh of the Lord.

Who gave Jacob for a spoil

and Israel to the robbers? did not the Lord? Isa. xlii, 24.

Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it? Amos iii, 6.

And the Lord sold them into the hands of Jabin, king of Canaan. Judg. iv, 2.

The Lord hath delivered me into their hands, from whom I am not able to rise up. Lam. i, 14.

The Lord hath cast off his altar, he hath abhorred his sanctuary, he hath given up into the hand of the enemy the walls of her palaces. Lam. ii, 7.

For the iniquities of God's people, they are sometimes delivered into the hands of their enemies.

Even all nations shall say Wherefore hath the Lord done

thus unto this land? what meaneth the heat of this great anger? Then men shall say, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord God of their fathers. Deut. xxiv, 25.

And the Lord said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? Israel hath sinned, and they also have transgressed my covenant which I commanded them. Josh. vii, 10, 11.

The Lord thy God hath pronounced this evil upon this place: now the Lord hath brought it, and done according as he hath said, because ye have sinned against the Lord. Jer. xl. 2, 3.

My people have been lost sheep: all that found them have devour-

ed them; and their adversaries said, We offend not, because they have sinned against the Lord. Jer. 1, 6, 7.

Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins? Lam. iii, 39.

Therefore both Soldiers and all God's people upon such occasions must search out their sins.

Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord. Lam. iii, 40.

Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against to-morrow; for thus saith the Lord God of Israel: There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel; thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you. Josh. vii, 13.

Especially let Soldiers, and all of us upon such occasions search whether we have not put too little confidence in the arm of the Lord, and too much in the arm flesh.

For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. Yea, thou shalt go forth from him with thy hands upon thy head: for the Lord hath rejected thy confidences, and thou shalt not prosper in them. Jer. ii, 13, 37.

Thus saith the Lord, cursed be the man that trusteth in man; and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. Jer. xvii, 5.

And let Soldiers and all of us consider, that to prevent this sin, the Lord hath many times given victory to a few.

And The Lord said unto Gideon, the people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me. And the Lord said unto Gideon, By these three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thy hand. Judg. vii, 2, 7.

And the children of Benjamin were numbered at that time out of the cities twenty and six thousand men that drew sword. And the children of Benjamin came forth out of Gibeah, and destroyed down to the ground

of the Israelites that day twenty and two thousand men. And Benjamin went forth against them out of Gibeah the second day, and destroyed down to the ground of the children of Israel again eighteen thousand men. And the children of Israel went up against the children of Benjamin on the third day. They enclosed the Benjamites round about, and chased them, and trod them down with ease; and there fell of Benjamin eighteen thousand men. And they gleaned of them in the highways five thousand men; and pursued hard after them unto Gidom and slew two thousand men of them. So that all which fell that day of Benjamin were five and twenty thou-

sand men that drew the sword. Judg. xx, 15, 17, 21, 25, 30, 43, 44, 46.

And Abijah set the battle in array with an army of valiant men of war, even four hundred thousand chosen men; Jeroboam also set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, being mighty men of valor. And Abijah stood up upon Mount Zemaraim and said, Hear me, thou Jeroboam and 'all Israel. Ye think to withstand the kingdom of the Lord in the hand of the sons of David; and ye be a great multitude, and there are with you golden calves, which Jeroboam made you for gods. But as for us, the Lord is our God, and we have not for-

saken him ; and behold God himself is with us for our captain. O children of Israel, fight ye not against the Lord God of your fathers, for ye shall not prosper, But Jeroboam caused an ambushment to come about behind them. And when Judah looked back, behold, the battle was before and behind; and they cried unto the Lord, and the priests sounded with the trumpets. Then the men of Judah gave a shout; and as the men of Judah shouted, it came to pass that God smote Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah. And Abijah and his people slew them with a great slaughter; so that there fell down slain of Israel five hundred thousand

chosen men. 2 Chron. xiii, 3, 4, 8, 10-17.

And Asa had an army of men that bare targets and spears, out of Judah three hundred thousand; and out of Benjamin, that bare shields and drew bows, two hundred and fourscore thousand: all these were mighty men of valor. And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian, with a host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots. Then Asa went out against him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah. And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, Lord, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help

us, O Lord our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O Lord, thou art our God; let not man prevail against thee. 2 Chron. xiv, 8-11.

And let Soldiers and all of us know, that the very nick of time that God hath promised us help, is when we see no help in man.

In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen. Gen. xxii, 14.

And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not; stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show you to-day. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace. Exod. xiv, 13.

O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might

against this great company that cometh against us ; neither know we what to do ; but our eyes are upon thee. 2 Chron. xx, 12.

Ye shall not need to fight in this battle : set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you. Ver. 17.

To me belongeth vengeance and recompense : their foot shall slide in due time ; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste. For the Lord shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up or left. Deut. xxxii, 35, 36.

For my strength is made perfect in weakness. 2 Cor xii, 9.

Not by might, nor by power,
but by my Spirit, saith the Lord
of Hosts. Zach. iv, 6.

For the oppression of the poor
for the sighing of the needy;
now will I arise, saith the Lord;
I will set him in safety from him
that puffeth at him. Psa. xii, 5.

Now will I rise, saith the Lord;
now will I be exalted; now will
I lift up myself. Isa. xxxiii, 10.

*Wherefore, if your forces be weakened, and
the enemy strengthened, then let soldiers
and all of us know that we have a promise
of God's help which we had not when we
were stronger; and that therefore let us
pray more confidently.*

O Lord, be gracious unto us;
we have waited for thee: be thou
their arm every morning, our

salvation, also in the time of trouble. Isa. xxxiii, 2.

Hear, O Lord, the voice of Judah, and bring him unto his people; let his hands be sufficient for him, and be thou a help to him from his enemies. Deut. xxxiii, 7.

I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me; refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul. I cried unto thee, O Lord, I said, Thou art my refuge. Psa. cxlii, 4, 5.

Be not far from me, for trouble is near; there is none to help. Psa. xxii, 11.

Remember not against us former iniquities: let thy tender

mercies speedily prevent us; for we are brought very low. Psa. lxxix, 8.

Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help. Psa. xxxv, 2.

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name. Psa. lxxix, 9.

And let Soldiers and all of us know, that if we obtain any victory over our enemies, it is our duty to give all the glory to the Lord, and say:—

The Lord is a man of war; Jehovah is his name. Thy right hand, O Lord, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy. And in the great-

ness of thine excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee. Exod. xv, 3, 6, 7.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. Psa. cxviii, 23.

For the Lord fought for Israel. Joshua x, 14.

Therefore I will look unto the Lord. Micah vii, 7.

Who delivered us from so great a death. 2 Cor. i, 10.

Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name. 1 Chron. xxix, 13.

Seeing that thou our God, hast punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and hast given us such deliverance, as this, should we again break thy commandments. Ezra ix, 13, 13.

Amos

I will walk before the Lord
in the land of the living. Psa.
cxvi, 9.

I have sworn, and I will per-
form it, that I will keep thy
righteous judgments. Psa. cxix,
106.

Amos

A. C.