being a compleat account of the uniforms, weapons, and equipment with which he lived and fought

by Harold L. Peterson

revealing the seldom seen personal side of the American Revolution...

The Book of The Continental Soldier

...opens an almost neglected area, providing even the most casual reader with a very present look at the past
A distinguished keepsake for the custodians of American Pram musket and military history, The Book of the Continental Soldier brings a second-colorful view of a soldier's life... an album of the things and tools with which the individual soldier kept his body and spirit alive while he battled for independence.

In an era sharply into focus the realities of war as it was seen and waged by America's first soldiers, The Book of the Continental Soldier could be called "Norfolk discipline". For historians, the book is a kind of understanding of the Continental's cooking and eating utensils, shaving gear, canteen, pipes, papers, and medicines—all of the intimate physical things for daily living and all of the tools for revolution. For those who enjoy fresh historical views, and a treasure for buffs and collectors of all kinds. The Book of the Continental Soldier brings an eyewitness kind of understanding of the Continental soldier as strong in the field of military history.
The antiquarian's guide
to the beginnings of
yankee ingenuity

- learn about the ingenious instruments used by the Continentals to sabotage cannons which had to be abandoned.
- read how Washington's army used buckshot in muskets to compensate for the low accuracy of the weapon.
- discover how the Americans substituted the spear for the bayonet.
- see the improvisation of broilers from barrel hoops.
- chuckle at the use of turkey calls for battle signals.
- be awed by the innovative American contributions to the military technology of the time—the rifled rampart gun; Belton's repeating muskets; Pickering's combination vent pick, screwdriver, and hammer...to name just a few.
- feel lucky about not having to swallow the concoctions devised for those who contacted a "social" disease.
- shudder at the practice of mutilating musket balls so they would shatter on impact.
- live their favorite psychological tricks such as the ricochet cannon shot that either scattered green troops or badly mauled disciplined veterans.
- bask in the re-telling by those who were there how sheer Yankee determination saved many a day on the battlefield and in camp.
- marvel at problem-saving proposals like arming the cavalry with blunderbusses because no other weapon could be effectively fired from a horse.

just one focus of this
man-and-the-era study—