

[A Cheap Method of Making a Watch-Coat for Soldiers, Chiefly those in America.]

Date: 1767/08/20

Publication Format

Print

Type

Miscellaneous

Ingredients

textile

linseed oil

litharge of gold

Places

Halifax

America

Source: Nova Scotia Gazette

Institution: Nova Scotia Archives | **Source Origin:** Nova Scotia Newspapers on Microfilm | **Reference:** Microfilm Reels 990, 8162, 8163, 9466

Description

A set of instructions for coating fabric to make it waterproof. Vol. 2, No. 54. Microfilm Reel 9466.

Transcription

A cheap Method of making a Watch-Coat for Soldiers, chiefly those in America.

TAKE a large check shirt of about half a crown a yard, for it should be pretty fine: cut off the wristbands, and continue the opening of the breast down to the bottom; sew up the sides from the gussets downwards; rip out the gathers in the fore parts of the collar as far as the shoulder straps, and resew it plain to the collar. The shirt will then become a sort of Watch-coat, like a bed-gown with wide sleeves.

Take a quantity of linseed oil, and boil it gently till one half is diminished, to which put a small quantity of litharge of gold, and when it is well incorporated with the oil, lay it on with a brush upon the Watch-coat, so that it shall be every where equally wet.

Let the Watch-coat be hung in a garret, or

other covered place, and so suspended that one part shall not touch another. When it is dry a second mixture of the same kind should be laid on with a brush as before. When the second coat of painting is dry, the paint will not come off, and the garment is an effectual preservative from the rain; it is very light to carry, and being pretty full on the back, will not only keep the man dry, but also his pack and ammunition.

This Watch-coat will be equally serviceable to sailors at sea, in rainy weather, and if generally used, would save many lives.

A Cheap Method of Making a Watch-Coat for Soldiers, Chiefly those in America. recipe from Early Modern Maritime Recipes:
<https://emmr.lib.unb.ca/recipes/32>