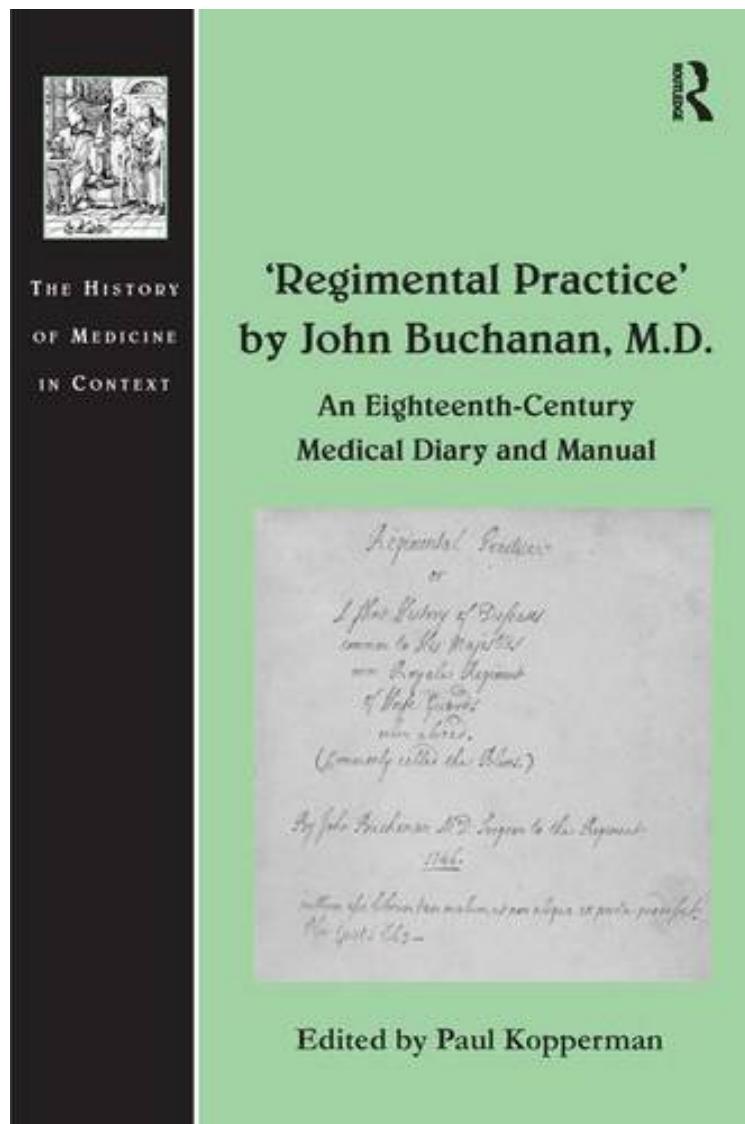


(Library ebook) 'Regimental Practice' by John Buchanan, M.D.: An Eighteenth-Century Medical Diary and Manual (History of Medicine in Context)

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From Brand: Ashgate Pub Co : 'Regimental Practice' by John Buchanan, M.D.: An Eighteenth-Century Medical Diary and Manual (History of Medicine in Context) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 'Regimental Practice' by John Buchanan, M.D.: An Eighteenth-Century

Medical Diary and Manual (History of Medicine in Context):

In 1746, Dr John Buchanan, recently retired as a medical officer in the British Army, produced a manuscript entitled, 'Regimental Practice, or a Short History of Diseases common to His Majesties own Royal Regiment of Horse Guards when abroad (Commonly called the Blews).' Revised in several stages almost until the time of Buchanan's death in 1767, this work was for the most part based on the author's observations while surgeon to a cavalry regiment serving in Flanders 1742-45, during the War of the Austrian Succession. It is a work of immense value to the understanding of eighteenth-century interpretation and treatment of diseases, but as yet has never been published. Presented here is an annotated modern edition of the text, with an introductory section setting the work in the context of Buchanan's life and career, and within the broader framework of eighteenth-century medical practice. Buchanan's practice of medicine generally represented the mainstream of professional practice as regarded both his understanding of disease and his treatment of it. Across the decades of the eighteenth century there were discoveries and fashions that impacted both the theory and the practice of medicine. Various writers of that age, as well as a number of historians since, have conveyed the sense that practice was chaotic. On the contrary, what this book argues is that methods used to treat diseases were fairly standard. Therefore, by reading Buchanan's manuscript one sees not only how he treated more than three dozen diseases, as well as various wounds and injuries, but also how these conditions were often treated in this period.

'... a welcome addition not only to resources on the history of military medicine, but also to eighteenth-century medical practice and innovation more broadly... The publication of Buchanan's manuscript reinforces recent work on early modern and eighteenth-century military medicine that portrays health care in the British armed forces as of a higher standard than has long been assumed, as well as a site for medical innovation and empiricism.' *Social History of Medicine*

About the Author Paul E. Kopperman is a professor of history at Oregon State University, where he has taught since 1978. Among his many publications are two books, *Braddock at the Monongahela* and *Sir Robert Heath, 1575-1649: Window on an Age*. His main research interests are British military and medical history in the eighteenth century. He is currently working on a book about medicine, sickness, and health in the British Army that served in North America and the West Indies 1755-1783.