

Paying the Troops



Pay for soldiers varied from regiment to regiment and according to the number of men an officer controlled. It also depended on how much money the gentleman in charge had.

Look at the table below.

TWO AND A HALF DAYS PAY FOR LORD FAIRFAX'S REGIMENT ON 11 MAY 1645.				
RANK	Pay per day	Pay for 2 ^{1/2} days		
		Pounds	Shillings	Pence
Major	54s.			
A Captain of the Horse	39s.	4	17	6
Lieutenant of the Horse	18s.	2	5	0
Cornet of the Horse	13s.6d.	1	13	9
Quartermaster	9s.	1	2	6
Trumpet	3s.		7	6
Corporal of the Horse	3s.		7	6

How much money do you think the Major would be paid in shillings after 2^{1/2} days? _____ shillings

There were 20 shillings in a pound.

Try and work out how much a Major would get for 2^{1/2} days pay in pounds and shillings. _____ pounds _____ shillings

Pikemen in Oxford earned from 4 shillings to 6 shillings a week, which was the same as an agricultural labourer. Musketeers earned the same.

To risk your life for the same wage that could be had for staying home and working on the local farms did not encourage some people to fight.

Do you think that local gentlemen could afford to pay the wages of the soldiers they employed?

How do you think the King and Parliament found the money to pay the soldiers?