

RIMMER  
In Memory of  
**THOMAS THETCHER**  
a Grenadier in the North Reg<sup>t</sup>  
of Hants Militia, who died of a  
violent Fever contracted by drinking  
Small Beer when hot the 12<sup>th</sup> of May  
1764. Aged 26 Years.

In grateful remembrance of whose universal  
goodwill towards his Comrades, this Stone  
is placed here at their expence, as a small  
testimony of their regard and concern.

Here fleeps in peace a Hampshire Grenadier,  
Who caught his death by drinking cold small Beer,  
Soldiers be wise from his untimely fall  
And when ye're hot drink Strong or none at all.

*This memorial being decay'd was restor'd  
by the Officers of the Garrison A.D. 1781.*

*An honest Soldier never is forgot  
Whether he die by Musket or by Pot.*

*The Stone was replaced by the North Hants  
Militia when disembodied at Winchester  
on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1802. in consequence of  
the original Stone being destroyed.*

*And again replaced by*



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"Here lies a Hampshire Grenadier  
Who caught his death  
Drinking cold small beer.  
A good soldier is ne'er forgot  
Whether he dieth by musket  
Or by pot.

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*Actual Tombstone:*

Here sleeps in peace a Hampshire Grenadier,  
Who caught his death by drinking cold small Beer,  
Soldiers be wise from his untimely fall  
And when ye're hot drink Strong or none at all.  
An honest soldier never is forgot  
Whether he die by musket or by Pot.

Tombstone of Thomas Thetcher, 1738-1764