

Article

Pub. in Nat. Geog. Post.

Feb. 1901.

No 10, Vol. 8.

Subject.

Therapsidism of West Point.

Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Managing Director,
~~New York City, New York~~
Col. HENRY H. ADAMS,
Treasurer,
No. 177 Broadway, New York.
E. P. FAIRCHILD,
Financial Secretary,
~~New York City, New York~~

The Trustees' Executive Committee
of New York.

Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Col. HENRY H. ADAMS,
Dr. W. C. GRAY,
Rev. NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS, D. D.,
Hon. DARWIN R. JAMES,
Hon. LEVI P. MORTON.

Rev. A. A. MYERS, Financial Secretary.
Cumberland Gap, Tenn.

Lincoln Memorial University
Cumberland Gap, Tenn.

A MONUMENT TO
ABRAHAM LINCOLN



JOHN HALE LARRY,
Acting Pres't, Cumberland Gap, Tenn

Advisory Board.

Hon. WILLIAM L. STRONG,
Ex-Mayor New York.
J. EDWARD SIMMONS,
Pres. Fourth Nat. Bank, N. Y.
FREDERICK D. TAPPEN,
Pres. Gall'n Nat. Bank, New York City.
WILLIAM SHERER,
Gen'l Manager N. Y. Clearing House.
Hon. DARWIN R. JAMES,
Pres. N. Y. Board of Trade.
Maj.-Gen. OLIVER O. HOWARD,
U. S. Army (Retired).
Col. HENRY H. ADAMS,
177 Broadway, New York.
Hon. WM. BROOKFIELD,
220 Broadway, New York.

Hon. S. S. BLANCHARD,
133 State Street, Boston.

Burlington, Vt., _____ 1900.

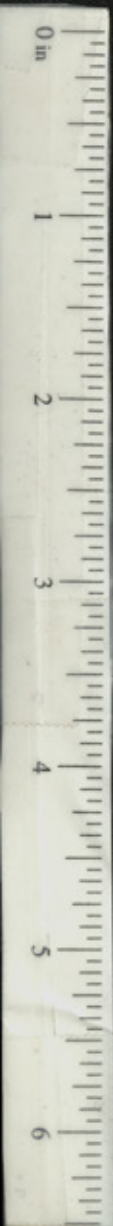
Pub. in ~~Set~~ *Eng. Post*

Phila in Feb 1901.

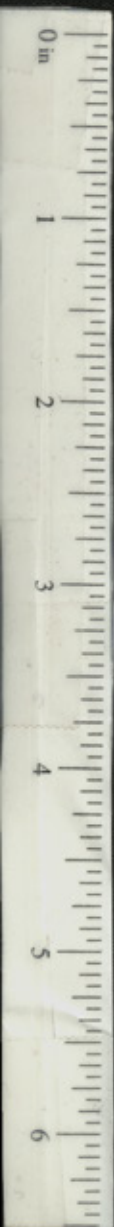
Some Reminiscences of West Point.

have
What ~~has~~ remained in my mind more than anything else in
my life's history have been strong contrasts. ^{one of which} ~~one of them~~ was an ^{experience} ~~experience~~ in
afforded ^{she} ~~by my~~ change of position from Bowdoin College to West Point ^{as a student} ~~life~~.
In the senior class ^{and} having arrived at that dignity which a college
~~senior~~ ^{student} attains after three years of study, ^{in the} peculiar social life and
discipline, ^{of the place} I was a proud and happy ^{youth of} ~~student~~ nineteen years ~~of age~~,
receiving the kind attention of professors and the ~~marked~~ respect of ^{classmates} ~~fellows~~ ^{who were} ~~the students~~, earnestly expectant of that great occasion, the last
Commencement ^{not many weeks ahead}, when I received ^{an} ~~an~~ nomination ^{by} ~~from~~
the Honorable John Otis, the member of Congress from my father's
district, followed speedily by a regular appointment ^{to a cadetship}
at West Point.

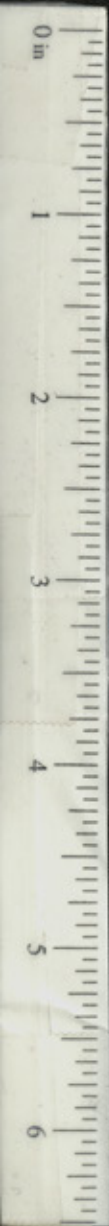
As the immediate future of a student after graduation is
full of uncertainty, I quickly decided to accept the new honor, not
so much because of a military outlook as that I could pursue ^{the} ~~my~~
studies and attain a profession, if found equal to its demands, ^{to be}
attended by a certainty of compensation, - a compensation which
would increase with time. My mother did not quite like the
sudden prospect but she said as she looked in my face "you have already
made up your mind". By permission of the President and Faculty of the
college, I was permitted to ^{also take} ~~pass~~ my examinations and receive ^{a B. S. degree} ~~my~~ diploma
without waiting for "Commencement" which did not occur that year
(A. D. 1850) till the latter part of September. About the middle
of August, furnished with a fairly good outfit of under clothing and ^{such} ~~other~~
other ~~such~~ articles of use as the West Point circular ^{had} ~~specified~~, I



Full of delight with new scenes I entered the cars of the Hudson River Railroad ^{at a station} as far down town as ~~the~~ Chambers Street ~~station~~ and ascended the river enjoying the magnificent scenery from my car window all the way to Cold Spring ^{a village} situated ~~six~~ ^{three} miles north of West Point ~~and on the~~. Being more in haste ^{than} I would have been at any subsequent period of my cadet career, to get over to "the Point" I walked to the ferry at the foot of the main street. At that time there were two ^{now} boats and two weather-beaten old men to man them. As a rule there was but one oarsman for each boat. After some waiting and getting ^a small trunk carried to the dock, I was helped bag and baggage on board. Three or four passengers joined me there. One of them, dressed in citizen's clothes, a fine appearing, genteel, gentlemanly man, who years later gained a great reputation by being ^{our} ~~my first~~ antagonist at Bull Run, was one of them - Capt. E. Kirby Smith. He talked with me pleasantly and drew me into conversation which seemed

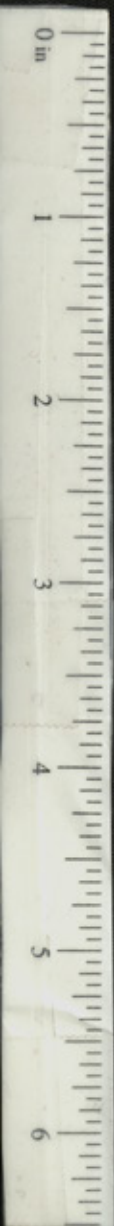


to amuse him as it doubtless reminded him of a like innocent period of his own life. I may pause a moment to say that between Boston and Fall River I had met Lieutenant Alley who had just graduated from West Point, and who was my predecessor from our home district. He had warned me to be sure and dispose of my cane and put away my silk hat ^{articles of attire} which had been badges of ~~my~~ high college attainment in the senior year of Bowdoin. Lt. Alley had given me also much other wholesome advice as I was going to a place where nobody could stay except the young man "who can and will" master the situation. Having attained a little more modesty, if not humility before I met Capt. ^{E. Kirby} Smith, I was prepared to receive gratefully a few suggestions from him. He advised me to go to Roe's Hotel for the night; to visit the encampment of cadets near at hand and carefully observe all I could that evening and the next morning. I should have hastened as my orders required to report to the Superintendent or to his Adjutant as soon as I could find them after our landing, but Capt. Smith said "Better not hurry; you cannot report to the Adjutant or the Superintendent till to-morrow at the orderly hour of nine o'clock". All these favoring providences enabled me to get a fair start without running upon the usual rocks of trouble that afflict a new cadet. I found in the early morning two other cadets who ^{in June year} had entered the previous ~~XXXX~~, -it being now the 20th of August, -Cadets Webb and Stevens who hailed from the State of Maine. Being themselves of the third class which ^{yields} ~~furnishes~~ the drill-masters for new cadets of the grade of Corporal, and ^{also furnishes} all the cadets which have hazing propensities, I had to endure at their hands a little chaffing but it never went further than ^{an attempt} to flatter ~~my pride~~ ^{or} feed me with taffy and send me to the pump for buckets of water.



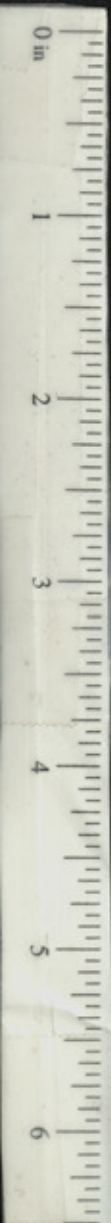
As I did not come in June I lost the "breaking in" which my June classmates had enjoyed, but there were several of us who came in September and were therefore called "Septs", some from the South and some from the North. I recall "Sept" Stuart, whose last rank was Lieutenant-General ³ J. E. B. Stuart, Lee's favorite Cavalry leader; "Septs" H. W. Closson, ^{a few others} H. V. Smalley, A. B. Chapman, with Wade, Black and ~~Green~~. For a time we were all drilled ^Y three ~~and~~ four times a day in two squads. Of the seven I have named with myself there were in time three general officers, three Colonels and one ^{a Lieutenant} who died very soon after graduation.

When I went to report to the Adjutant's office I found there from Augusta, Maine Capt. Seth Williams, a most delightful, modest gentleman who at once told me where to go and what to do. Without much friction or annoyance I speedily fell into the ways of camp life; but those few days before passing to the barracks the first of September it was a trial to be in civilian dress, because ^{kept} one could not keep it tidy with the facilities at hand. I had ^{no} change ^{of coat or trousers} ~~with me~~ as I was ~~so~~ soon to have the new uniform. The sleeping on the floor of a tent with one blanket under you and one over you was new business; and the being drummed to bed at ~~tattoo~~ ^{reveille} and drummed out at ~~xxxxxxx~~ were hardships which of course became less and less so with experience; but the drill for all of us September cadets was tough from the beginning, and did not lose its aggravations ~~till~~ after some twenty days we had lost our petty distinction in the common dress of the cadets, ^{which was} then as now a suit of gray with bell buttons. A little Corporal, who ~~was~~ afterwards ^{was} found deficient at the next January examination habitually drilled my squad.

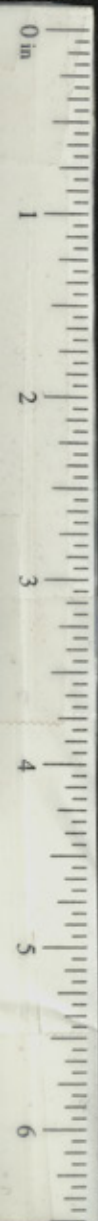


He gave us what was called "the set-up drill" and he did his work faithfully. Occasionally he would get impatient at my awkwardness. To put my little fingers on the seam of my trousers, draw my head back into place, keep my stomach in, my chest well out and my heels together, ~~this~~ ^{and stiffness} was sore work. Then to march with toes pointed downward, without breaking up the extraordinary position of the body ~~and stiffness~~, caused amusement to strangers looking on. One day my Corporal with despair in his voice cried out: "Why don't you stand up like a man and not look so much like a monkey?" How I bore all this without resistance I can hardly tell; ^{perhaps it was because} I had made a peculiar promise to my good mother before I left home which I was trying to keep; ^{though under this promise} ~~that~~ I couldn't fight, I would have sold myself about that time for a six-pence. Perhaps in my awkwardness I could not have brought ^{even} that price. When I see the words "braced up" or "bracing up" applied to cadet's hazing I always think of the corporal and myself when he was trying to transform a monkey into a man. The corporal of the other squad of September cadets was W. R. Boggs of Alabama, who became a General in the Ordnance Department of the Confederacy. Whenever he had us by ^{an} exchange it was a relief and a pleasure to me. He was gentle, careful, dignified and yet firm in his deportment and ~~in his~~ orders.

Contemplating just this period of preliminary preparation in cadet life I realize the antipodes of college senior-dignity and September plebe-beginnings, and have always ^{believed} ~~doubted whether it was~~ ^{sometimes humiliated!} ~~was~~ really ⁱⁿ wise to humiliate young men, as we September cadets were in the outset of their military career. Boggs' gentler method was far the best for it did not risk the destruction of a proper self respect. ^{steem}

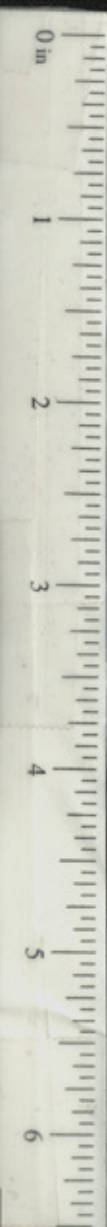


There is one word that met me at West Point just as soon as I had been enrolled among the new cadets and assigned to ^{company} "C", one of the four ~~companies~~ into which the corps of cadets is always divided, - a word that chaffed me and came near causing me many marks of demerit and some positive punishment. That word was "limits". It was usually associated with some other word, for example "cadet limits", "Camp limits", "Barrack limits", "Ordinary limits" and "Extended limits". These expressions soon explained themselves. The ordinary limits did not include Roe's Hotel for example. One day when I had permission to go to the Hotel I was seen in the wash room and ^{noticed} ~~reported~~ by one of our ^{tactical} ~~company~~ officers, reported to Capt. Alden, the Commandant of Cadets, ^{fact} ~~whose~~ tent was nearest the river in the middle of the eastern line of the camp and faced westerly toward the Corps, that as much as possible of his command, arranged in four Companies abreast, A. B. ~~and~~ C. might be constantly under his supervision. At the next orderly hour - eight in the morning - Capt. Alden sent for me. While I stood at attention he picked up a piece of paper and read me the report, to wit, "Cadet Howard, between such and such an hour and of date the day before, off limits." Then turning and looking at me he read my ^{written} ~~excuse~~ which I had handed in as soon as I heard my name published at the previous evening parade for this same delinquency. I think he hardly credited my excuse for its full ^{phase}, but he said: "Mr. Howard, I remove the report this time, but see that you do not get off "limits" again!" ^{afternoon} As Saturday gave us "extended limits", during that day not only all the plain and the slopes to the river but "Crow Nest" and Fort Putnam, prominent heights to the west of us, were all open to cadets for a stroll. The first



Saturday afternoon, with a classmate, I walked ^{only} around what is called "The Plain", a beautiful elevated plateau ^{which had} with the Cadet Barracks, the Academic building and the Library on the South side. The monuments of Dade and his companions, ^{and} of Koziusko; the Forts ~~Knox~~ and Clinton, with ^{the} a cadet encampment upon the eastern side and river slope; Roe's Hotel, the flag staff, accompanied by a fragment of the great chain, which had spanned the Hudson River in Revolutionary times, also the cannon and mortars surrendered at Saratoga, at Yorktown and in Mexico, and the monument, situated upon a high knoll, of Lieutenant-Conel E. D. Wood, a hero of Fort Erie in 1814, - these held the north side; while the west was limited by a straight nicely macadamized ^{shade} street bordered by walks and ornamented with trees of twenty or thirty years growth. Beyond the western walk was at that time ~~lacquered~~ ^{a well painted} ~~at~~ ^{high} iron fence behind which were the houses of the Commandant, the Superintendent and several professors and instructors; all these occupied the space from the northern line of the plain to what were called the "new cadet barracks". The barracks were not quite finished. They fronted northward, were built of a ^{light gray} ~~bright brown~~ stone, ^{resembling} ~~like~~ granite; ^{they} had three stories and extended from the central sally-port ¹⁵⁰ ~~six~~ ¹⁰⁰ ~~hundred~~ feet to the right and left. There was also a wing abutting against the west flank and running back ¹⁰⁰ ~~four~~ hundred feet. This pile of buildings by its central tower ^{and} ~~and~~ territs and diamond windows was very presentable in architectural effects as seen from any point of the plain or ^{from Hudson} the River where visible.

As my companion and myself that afternoon stood near the sally-port of this building and faced northward where we could take in the bend of the Hudson off against Constitution Island and around



The river

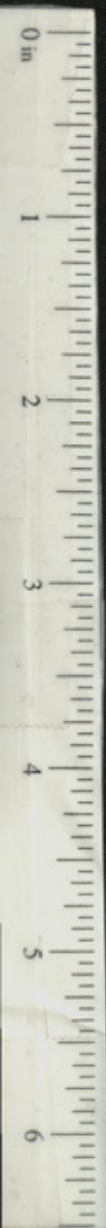
Gee's Point thus apparantly embracing our plateau, we took in a scene that always impresses the beholder who first views that up-river stretch of country. The city of Newberg, ^{uprgh} apparently ^{not far} across the River though eight miles away, arose in beauty before us as the sun was shining upon it. Remember that we are in the highlands and that every part of the scene of houses, shade trees, islands and water, ^{then} smooth as a lake, was framed in by glorious mountains and high shores all ^{seemingly} arranged for an attractive and beautiful picture. Then one old building ^{the north barracks} among the earliest constructed, very plain, some sixty feet broad and a hundred feet long, built up from the ordinary blue stone with nothing but chimneys to break the plain features of its construction, was between us and the camp off to our right; while to the left front was the old "Mess Hall", a two storied affair of like build. ^{quite} These two spoiled the symmetry of the plain and its surroundings but before a year had passed they were all removed and every sign of their existance had disappeared.

The return of the new second class, which had been on furlough during the encampment of the remainder of the corps, was something that attracted the attention of the new cadets. Several ^{coaches} ~~stages~~, one can hardly tell where they came from, ^{shaped like the old ones} or omnibuses rather, came rolling up from the garrison's ferry southeast of the plain.

When they reached the front of the encampment the second class boys with ~~their~~ furlough suits for the most part - blue coats ^{without shoulder straps} and trousers ^{among them} with a sprinkling of citizens dress tumbled out of the door, the windows and off the driver's seat and top of the coach ^{each one} to be embraced

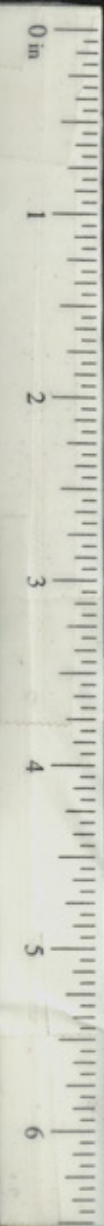
by some choice comrade of the waiting cadets of the first and third

classes. They seemed to me to hug and kiss each other as girls do ^{display} the most ^{laughing} laughing but some excited to tears. I said to myself "I guess



"What a royal welcome ! Perhaps this is the "esprit de corps" of which I had read in books."

The liveliest, busiest and strangest scene occurred the next day when we broke camp and moved into barracks. The breaking of camp, when all the tents come down at once, is ordinary work wherever there is a regiment or battalion of soldiers. But here every cadet had to bear his own burden in moving. For a while all the intervening space between the camp and the north barracks was covered by the young men carrying bedding, blankets, camp stools, water buckets, clothing and whatever else had been allowed them during their sojourn in the field. Everything in the line of goods and chattels was carefully removed and carried to its new destination before the tents were struck; the battalion ^{was then} formed and marched to the south side of the new barracks. There in the area parallel with the ^{main} buildings the cadet-battalion was ^{drawn up} formed in two ranks ^{facing} with a south face. Company A had the left, Company B came next, Company C next, and Company D held the right. In this same order the Companies were put into barracks, but as the new ^{buildings} barracks were not entirely finished and habitable, several of us were sent to the old north barracks which I have described. In ^{those} ~~that~~ the rooms were very large and I found myself the first night with three companions - Thomas J. Treadwell of New Hampshire, Henry M. Lazelle of Massachusetts, and Levi R. Brown of Maine. Each had his iron bedstead ~~and~~ ^{and} mattress and bedding folded at the head. Each also had his place for gun and equipments against the wall, and each an apartment in the common clothes-press. The wash stand for each cadet and its proper accompaniment ^{at} were on hand. There was an iron ^{study} table for two, and a ^{wooden} chair a piece. My comrades had come in June and seemed a great way ahead of me in local knowledge. *Each of the four took a week's turn as room orderly in each of the rooms.* I hardly equaled them in anything till, about the 15th of Sept., I had



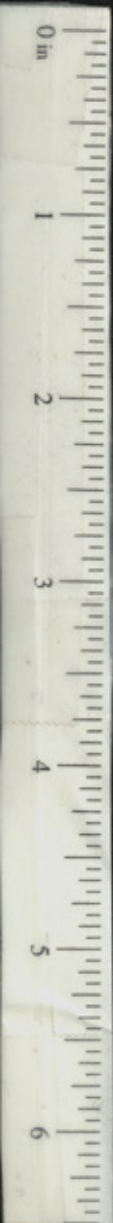
The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The second part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order. The third part of the paper is devoted to a detailed study of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the differential equations of the second order.

received and put on my first cadet ^{uniform} ~~suit~~ and was permitted to occupy a place in the rear rank of my company; my height of course regulated the exact position.

As early as possible in September the recitations ^a began. My own class numbered all told one hundred and twenty members. We were divided into seven sections, ^{at} first in alphabetical order. After a week or two of recitation the instructors, Lieutenants detailed from the Army, and the professor over them, having formed their judgment of the capabilities and the advancement of different cadets had them transferred from one section to another till the first and second ~~section~~ ^{in each study,} contained the most ~~promising~~ ^{efficient}, and the six and seventh the very least promising young men. The lowest section, whatever was its number in any class (for there were ^{always} ~~also~~ four classes), was called by us "the immortals". A cadet always enjoys the humor of the opposite. He calls an ugly cadet "beauty", and he denominates those cadets who are the nearest mortality, that is the nearest to dropping out, not mortals but "immortals". ^{who entered in 1850} I may remark that of our hundred and twenty only thirty-six graduated from the institution; the others fell out by the way,--some by deficiency and some for fear of it, while a few were removed by illness.

^{In the same manner} Just as the battalion was ^{battled & faced} ~~formed in the area~~ when we came to the barracks, the sections ^{were} ~~are~~ formed at each hour for recitations ^{made} ~~in the same area~~ of the barracks. All the sections ^{made} ~~make~~ one long line usually facing south, each ^{cadet} ~~has~~ its section-marcher or head of the section. The officer of the day causes the line in two ranks to face to the front, then each section marcher ^{calls} ~~calls~~ the roll of his section and reports ^{to} to the officer of the day the present and the absent; then each section ^{was} ~~is~~ marched off in quick step to the

4 The classes were numbered 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th the New-cadet comprising the 4th class.



now denominated "The Academic Building"

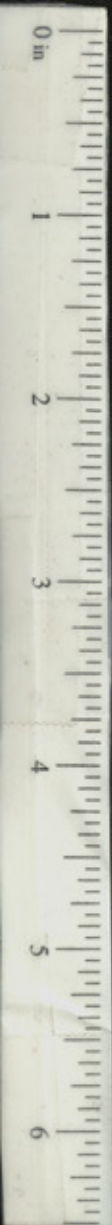
Academy to find its proper["] section room["]. The first time I marched in ^{I was} conspicuous with my black clothing, very much spotted by squad drill and other uses. I noticed a desk and behind it Lt. Sam Jones in army uniform. He subsequently became quite prominent in the Confederate service. He was ^{always} very nervous and quick motioned. Our section leader stepped to the front while we were standing on the right and left near two long benches and in a military attitude saluted Lt. Jones and said "All present". Without any further ceremony we sat down and I noticed that there were blackboards painted ^{on} ~~into~~ the walls on three sides of our room. Habitually eight cadets of the remainder were sent to these boards and then one after another["] questioned upon the floor till somebody at the board was ready. It required some drill to get a new cadet like me to write his name ^{properly} on the board, to put his work neatly below it, then to ^{size} ~~cease~~ the pointer and turn around facing the instructor till he was ready for ^{to wait patiently} ~~my~~ recitation. There were two positions of the ^{soldier} ~~soldier~~ allowable, one was standing "at attention" erect, and the other with hands folded ^{with} ~~and the~~ pointer down "at parade rest."



Fifty years ago the requirements for entrance were about the same as those demanded in our public schools to pass from the Grammar grade to the High School. There have not been many changes since. But often ^{now} candidates for admission are found deficient and sent away on the preliminary examination in minor studies, as in reading or in spelling. Young men I believe do not practice reading ^{is, as} aloud as of old - that [^] boys of my age did, nor pay so great attention to spelling. The examinations in 1850 were not in writing as now, but oral.

After entering the Section room for daily instruction and drill I soon found that a reason must be at hand for every step, especially when mathematics were involved. This demanded the careful deduction of rules and never their assumption.

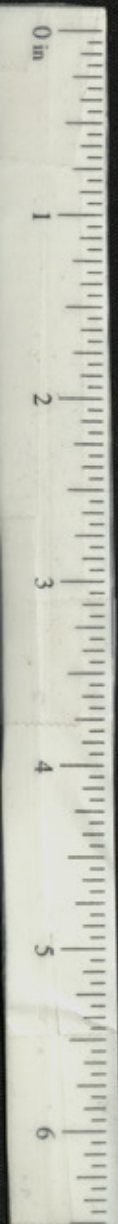
Every Monday morning, a cadet would find put up in a glass case against the ^{Wall} ~~hall~~ of the library ^{hall} wall, his daily marks of merit and the summation for the week. These merit marks varied by tenths from 0 to 3; 0 was a failure; 2.5 was good; 2.8 was far better; but 3 was "a Max" and always when received cheered one's heart. Demerit marks were our horror! ^{by reading aloud their names} Their publication every evening to the entire ^{Cadets} corps by the cadet adjutant added to the grievance. "Cadet Howard out of quarters with coat unbuttoned" - or "gun not clean at Guard mounting", and such like. I listened intensely to the Adjutant's voice till he had passed from H to I on that hateful list. If my name did not appear, the sense of relief was refreshing. These marks were the very essence of "the West Point System" of Government.



(13) ● # A certain number of these marks
caused the dismissal of a cadet.

Superintendent, Commandant of cadets, officers of the army on or near the Point, Cadet officers on duty as cadet-captains and lieutenants of the first class, sergeants from the second class and corporals of the third class, all these were obliged to report all delinquencies observed. For example, an absence from any roll call was a delinquency with three marks of demerit; a late with ^{one} (1) mark. # A good excuse properly written, dated, folded and endorsed might remove the marks. But it was altogether safer not to get them. The cadets relative standing in his class was determined by his merit marks, lowered by his "demerits". When a study was finished, as was the pure mathematics at the end of my 2nd year, our relative standing in mathematics was fixed and set aside for the final reckoning. In that study I came out No. 1; Gen. Robert E. Lee's son, G. W. Custis Lee, No. 2; Thos. H. Ruger No. 3, and so on. After four years on final summation^{of everything} Lee was No. 1 and Howard No. 4.

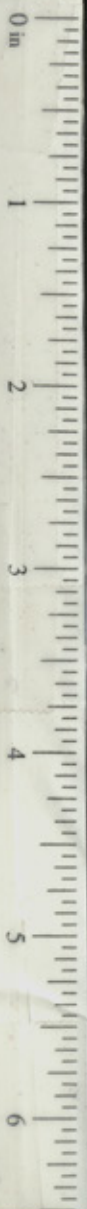
When our Cadet year began Captain Brewerton^{ton} was Superintendent. He was a courtly gentleman, strict in discipline and dignified in bearing. 'Keep your place and do your whole duty' was marked plainly in his face and in his ^{report} bearing. It never occurred to me that Capt. Brewerton could commit an offense, and I do not remember one; but before our first spring had ended we had Capt. Robert E. Lee (soon to have the local rank and pay of a Colonel) for superintendent. Lee had the same grand carriage as Brewerton, but it was delightful to meet him. One of our instructors said "Col. Lee's smile was worth a thousand dollars". In his office, on the plain and at his home, where often I went with my classmate J. E. Stuart I met the same kind face and cheery smile, and a word or sentence that enhanced, and never



lowered my self-esteem. I never knew Col. Lee to lose his temper, his patience or his grave sort of Kindliness.

That spring my classmates, a few at a time, exercised for sport and recreation in our poorly supplied gymnasium. It occupied the north end of our riding hall - which hall itself held the central half of the basement of the Academic Building. Iron pillars in rows were here under the great sleepers as supports. One day I was swinging on the only horizontal bar with my head down. I slipped and fell; the bar was about seven feet from the ground; the tan bark which covered all the hall-bottom was not deep enough over a ledge to save my poor head from a sad blow. It resulted in a cut and contusion which sent me to the old cadet hospital. The bruise produced prostration and fever. A cadet-mate, Alex McDowell McCook of the 2nd class being in the hospital for some indisposition saw me and told the Hospital steward "Howard has erysipelas, sure as you are born !" The veteran surgeon, Dr. Cuyler, on careful diagnosis agreed with young McCook. At times I was very ill, beyond recognition and in great pain. It was rumored that "Sept. Howard" would die. Dr. Cuyler then nursed ^{me} as tenderly as a mother, and the Supt. Col. Lee, as soon as I could be visited, came and sat by my bed-side - showing such interest and sympathy as a Christian man like him would. Few men ever exceeded him in winning the love of his soldiers. This incident indicates a reason for it.

The Corps as a whole marched to every meal from "the area" to the "Old Mess-Hall". The senior of the four Cadet Captains had the command. *This was thought the highest military distinction.* Cadet Capt. Robert Williams of Va. was the first with his deep strong voice acting in this capacity to attract my attention. When the next class McCook's became First, Capt. Thomas Casey was



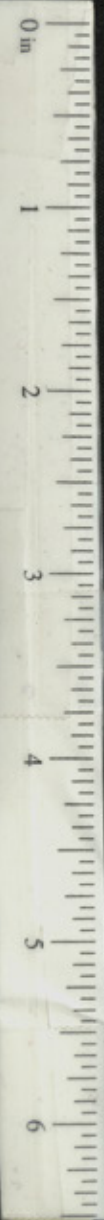
The first part of the report is a general statement of the work done during the year. It is followed by a detailed account of the work done in each of the several departments. The report then gives a summary of the work done in each of the several departments. The report then gives a summary of the work done in each of the several departments.

first Captain. The next Jno. M. Schofield's had J. B. McPherson a-
head in studies, but- ^{Craighill} excelling in pure military matters was the
first Captain. My class-^{mate} Cadet Captain Villipigue ^{in our time} became the
senior Captain. There ~~was~~ ^{and myself} a singular relationship between me and
McPherson. He was cadet quartermaster-sergeant in 1852. I followed
him in the same sergeancy in 1853. That year he was cadet lieutenant
and quartermaster. In 1854, succeeding him, I held the same office.
During his last year McPherson was elected President of the Dialectic
Society and presided all the year. ^{on this also I was his successor.} In 1863-64 he commanded the army
and Department of the Tennessee till his death on the field. After
his death ^{gave me the same honor putting} the President put me in command of his army and Department.
This I held through all the subsequent battles and marches till the
close of the Civil War. McPherson's record was always a grand one,
and I wish, when my times comes to follow him to the other world, that
I ^{may} ~~might~~ be as justly esteemed.

At the time Whitaker the colored cadet was waiting for a
final settlement of his case as to whether he had bound himself
and mutilated his own ears or not (in 1880) I was ordered by President
Hayes from the Department of the Columbia to the Department of West
Point. For a time General and line officers were sent to this command
though under strong protests from the Engineer Corps, ^{which seemed to} who considered
the superintendency of that post particularly their own. Some duty
in settling public accounts ~~had~~ caused me to go to Washington a few
months prior to my new orders for West Point. The President, Gen.
Hayes, ^{then} consulted me concerning the Whitaker case. He told me that
the young man ^{had formally asked} entreated for a Court Martial. I said "Give him a Court

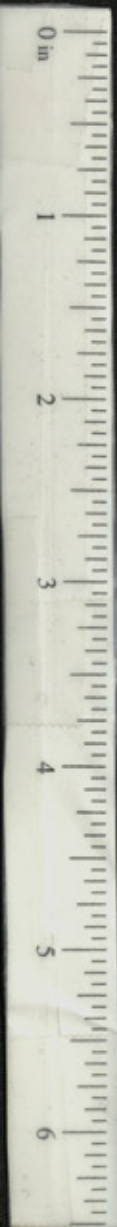
ELVIS PRESLEY

Elvis Presley was born on January 8, 1935, in Tupelo, Mississippi. He was the only child of Vernon and Gladys Presley. His father was a Baptist minister and a member of the Ku Klux Klan. His mother was a member of the Baptist Church. Elvis was a very popular singer and actor. He was known for his unique style of music, which combined rock and roll, gospel, and country. He was also known for his wild and rebellious behavior. He died on August 16, 1968, at the age of 33, due to a heart attack. His death was a major event in American history. He was buried in Graceland, his home in Memphis, Tennessee. Graceland is now a museum and a popular tourist attraction. Elvis Presley is considered one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. His music has inspired many other artists, and his image has become a cultural icon. He was posthumously awarded the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 1968. He was also inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1956 and the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1968. His legacy continues to this day, and his music is still popular around the world.



only do not let it have its session at West Point where the race feeling is just now so manifest." The Court was ordered to meet and hold its hearings in the City of New York. ~~This~~ The case was ^{for duty} happily disposed of just before my ~~next~~ arrival in the East. Thus as Superintendent I did not have the race-trouble to deal with; but I inherited other ~~troubles~~. My predecessor had been very kind, and for a time granted extraordinary privileges to the young men, such as long rides off the grounds, more extended limits than ever before, furloughs upon Christmas and other holidays, ball-playing and other athletic games on the plain and permission to meet ball-players and athletes from other places. Bible classes on Sunday were permitted to go to Constitution Island to have the instruction of the Misses Warner. These kindnesses did not remove the human nature of fun-loving cadets, so that before long the most extraordinary pranks were played. The Superintendent and Commandant could not discover ^{nor} the doers ^{or} their leaders. At once the discipline changed. The cadet ^{Sentinels} guard in barracks were made to walk post all night, which disturbed their studies and caused friction - Army officers (instructors included) were made to room with the companies and take up a rigid ^{also} inspection; and other strong measures were taken and perserved in to detect delinquents and enforce discipline. I had hardly assumed charge before I noticed cadets hiding from army officers and dodging those whose ^{make} duty it was to reports.

On the 22nd of February I gave the Corps an address on George Washington, and took advantage of the occasion to point out ^{emphasis} his manliness. Then I appealed to them never to skulk or hide; but to stand up like true men and bear any penalty caused by an



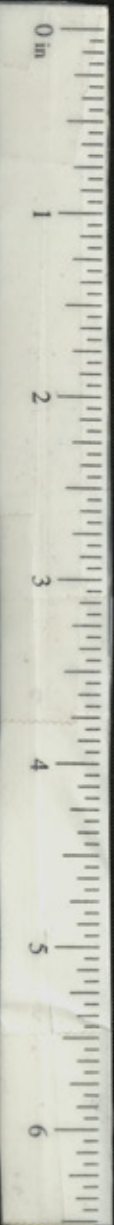
45

(171)

offense against a regulation. I declared that I was about to trust them (the cadets) ~~fully~~, and did. I removed the extra-guards; put the instructors back to their duties proper; stopped the long night-post ^{walking} ~~duty~~ and returned as far as I could to our old West Point methods. I forbade the reporting from around corners, and through windows which some over-ardent disciplinarians wanted to continue. The cadets all responded to my advances with alacrity and hearty good will. So that I am not so sure that many evils might not be lessened by appealing more than we do to the cadets sense of honor and manliness.

The toughest thing for me was to deal with offenses (comparatively harmless in themselves) which demanded by our Regulations the severest penalties, such as crossing the Hudson to Cold Spring or Garrison, or visiting forbidden places at or near Highland ^{falls} ~~Tales~~. Once the son of a choice and intimate friend skated over the River and was reported by an Army Officer. He had committed ^{an} ~~a~~ ~~dismissable~~ ~~offense~~ ^{for which the usual penalty was suspension}. I punished him short of dismissal, but I think his family and mine suffered more than the cadet did as a consequence. The Cadet prayer-circle ^{meeting} that I had ^{inaugurated} ~~established~~ twenty-two years before, when an instructor, and Gen. Upton when ^{to which} ~~Commandant~~ had given new privileges, had continued till I became Superintendent. This with ~~added~~ young mens Christian Association methods it was my joy to encourage and help.

The good chaplain, Rev. Mr. Postlewait, was given rooms near the Cadets and they always found there an open door for counsel and religious help as never before. As Superintendent I tried to carry out my ideas of keeping down everything of the marti ^{net} ~~tendency~~, tendency,



5 ft. 10 in.

SAINT-CLAIR

THE SUCCESSION

(18) # During my long Indian campaigns of the north West, I had tested the ~~for~~ ^{executive} abilities of Captain ~~W. H. H.~~ ^{W. H. H.} in various trials. The Cadets' ~~commandant~~ ^{commandant} ~~had~~ ^{had} for years been a source of complaint. I had ~~him~~ ^{him} detailed & assigned to the ~~can~~ ^{can} & provisioning of the "Mess". The continued satisfaction he gave to the corps for years was ~~redounded~~ ^{redounded} to my credit.

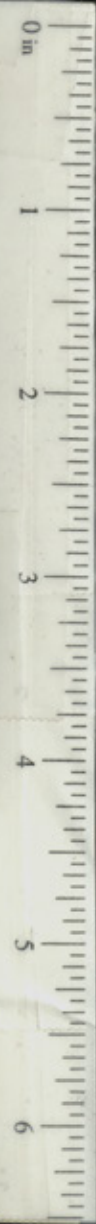
and building up the more paternal management, and I had a strong desire to increase not to restrict the privileges. Newspapers, in character somewhat sensational, ~~imputed~~ ^{imputed} to me the opposite. For example the freedom of smoking out of doors and in quarters during "release from quarters" i.e. in recreation hours, I had the credit from the press of cutting off that allowance - but I was, I think, the only member of our Academic Board who voted to continue that favor. Of course the use of I believed that ~~tabacco~~ ^{tabacco} and especially cigarettes ~~was~~ ^{was} injurious to young students; but I wanted them to put on the brakes themselves from persuasion and not compulsion. Yet the War Department took ~~the sumptuary method~~ ^{abolished the privilege}. The demerit system always troubled me, and I sought to soften its effects and did so to the saving to the service of some of our noblest and best officers of to-day, who while cadets under the strict and literal application of that method would have been discharged from the Academy.

~~X~~ We succeeded during my two years in getting rid of the diamond panes whose numerous frames darkened the cadets' barrack-windows, so more light came for day-time study. There was a constant undercurrent of effort to abolish the "Military Department of West Point" and return to the old regime - thus getting rid of a General and his staff. Perhaps that movement was wise. At the end of the second Academic year I was ~~relieved~~ ^{from West Point} by General Meritt (then a Colonel); ~~the Department was abolished~~ ^{the Dept. was discontinued} and I was ordered to Omaha to command the Department of the Platte.

May I say, let no man envy the Superintendent of the

SAINT CLAIR

WATER SUPPLY



U. S. Military Academy. The supervision of all the various inhabitants with their peculiar wants, of the engineer battalion and its accompaniments, of the artillery and cavalry detachments and their families, including the great military band and its connections, of all the professors, the surgeons, and other army officers stationed there, and of the cadets in their military and academic life, with post stores, hotel, other buildings and grounds galore, costs more hours of diligent work and is attended with more care than the command of an army or other department of service. Four years of cadet life from 1850 to '54 brought peculiar and unexpected hardship; four more happier years as instructor from 1857 to '61 required diligent study and fidelity to duty to secure good results to young men; but the singular ^{condition} of the superintendency, the increasing anxieties with unending demands devolving upon the superintendent from 1880 to '82 made me glad when the change came, and I was able again to breathe the free air and feel the large expanse of the great West. "Still", a voice by my side says: "West Point makes splendid men; and it is our Nation's pride."

has graduated
 I am prepared to say for a century
 the testimony of one who has
 spent ten years of his life there
 at West Point. I am prepared to say
 that for a century West Point has been
 a place of skill, patriotic heroism
 and that the institution
 is the Nation's pride.

