

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY,

MADE TO THE

SECRETARY OF WAR,

FOR THE

YEAR 1877.



WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1877.

BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT
WEST POINT, 1877.

APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

Prof. CHARLES O. THOMPSON, *of the Free Institute, Worcester, Mass.*
The Right Rev. CHARLES T. QUINTARD, S. T. D., LL. D., *Bishop of Tennessee,
Sewanee, Tenn.*
General DAVID B. HILLIS, *Keokuk, Iowa.*
General THOMAS W. HYDE, *Bath, Me.*
Colonel JOHN S. McCALMONT, *Franklin, Pa.*
Rev. CHARLES S. RICHARDSON, *Malone, N. Y.*
Hon. ADLAI E. STEVENSON, *Bloomington, Ill.*

APPOINTED BY THE SENATE.

Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE, *Maine.*
Hon. SAMUEL B. MAXEY, *Texas.*

APPOINTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Hon. HENRY B. BANNING, *Ohio.*
Hon. THOMAS C. PLATT, *New York.*
Hon. GILBERT C. WALKER, *Virginia.*

REPORT
OF
THE BOARD OF VISITORS.
1877.

SIR: The board of visitors to the Military Academy at West Point for the year 1877 have the honor to submit the following report:

The board was organized at West Point on Monday, the 4th day of June, 1877, by the election of a president and secretary, and the appointment by the president, in accordance with the vote of the board, of the following committees:

1. *On fiscal affairs.*—Hon. A. E. Stevenson, General Hyde, and Representative Platt.

2. *On buildings and grounds.*—Senator Blaine, Colonel McCalmont, Senator Maxey, Representative Banning, and Representative Walker.

3. *On discipline and drill.*—General Hillis, General Hyde, and Senator Maxey.

4. *On commissary and mess.*—Senator Maxey and Hon. A. E. Stevenson.

5. *On the corps of cadets.*—Bishop Quintard and General Hyde.

6. *On the course of study.*—Professor Thompson, Bishop Quintard, and Rev. C. S. Richardson.

7. *On the religious condition of the post.*—Rev. C. S. Richardson, Bishop Quintard, and Colonel McCalmont.

All the members of the board were present excepting Representative Walker. The committees of the board proceeded at once to an investigation, as careful and minute as possible, into the subjects respectively assigned them, and reported to the board in writing. These reports, after full discussion in daily meetings, were unanimously adopted, and the president and secretary were instructed to embody the results of these investigations in the report of the Board of Visitors.

Every available means has been used for getting full and trustworthy information on every topic committed to the care of the board. The first evening after the organization was spent in a conference of the whole board with the superintendent. The committees held repeated and prolonged conversations with the commandant of cadets, with all the members of the academic board, with the quartermaster, the surgeon, the army officers stationed at the Academy as instructors, and with personal friends in the corps of cadets. The researches of different members gave the board the advantages of European experience in

military schools, and of all published histories of the Academy, with many of the reports of previous boards. The adjutant furnished carefully-prepared statistics. All the books and records of the post were freely submitted for inspection.

The board enjoyed a signal advantage in finding in its membership two graduates of the Academy, Colonel McCalmont (1842) and Senator Maxey, (1846,) whose clear and distinct recollection of the condition of the Academy in former times was of great assistance in forming a judgment of its progress.

Members of the board dined with the cadets on brief notice, inspected their quarters at unexpected times, sat in the office of the commandant of cadets during the administration of discipline, inspected their quarters, the quality of their food and the method of preparing it, and the hospital.

They attended the examination of the first class, and those of the lower classes at such hours as could be spared from committee work, and scarcely an hour passed in which some member was not present. During the examination of the first class, which began on the 1st day of June and closed on the 9th, some sections of the lower classes were engaged in ordinary recitations. This opportunity was not neglected.

In short, the board took advantage of the absolute "freedom of the city" tendered by the superintendent to satisfy themselves on every point that was raised concerning the management of the corps of cadets.

Nothing could exceed the considerate courtesy which was shown to the members of the board by every officer of the Academy in the prosecution of their inquiries. From these sources of information the board derived a general impression that the Academy is educating the officers of the Army in a thorough and effective manner. All the recommendations of this report are in the direction of a possibly higher degree of efficiency in certain points and greater economy of expenditure. Every suggestion and recommendation is based on the personal observation and knowledge of members of the board.

The Military Academy has rendered a service to the country in giving tone and elevation to education, and in furnishing stimulating examples of fidelity and self-denial in the discharge of duty, which are of scarcely less importance than the skill in the art of war which has shone on so many fields. The history of education abounds in illustrations of the indebtedness of the science of pedagogy to the professors at West Point, especially to the illustrious inventor of the blackboard. Of the more direct results of the work of the school it is easy to judge. Indeed, not the least interesting and valuable feature of West Point is the younger Army officers who are assigned to duty in the different departments. These instructors, selected by the heads of departments on account of their conspicuous merit, after two years' experience in the Army, ordinarily remain at West Point at least four years. Under this arrangement, the effectiveness of their instruction is not impaired by too close

proximity to cotemporary students, and they enjoy all the advantages of a residence at the Academy as post-graduates. These advantages they highly enjoy and improve, so that multitudes of officers under this system advance their studies into the higher realms of knowledge. Free intercourse with these gentlemen convinces the board that the anticipations raised by the academic career of cadets are largely fulfilled in their Army life.

Before passing to a detailed account of their investigations, the board desire to record their sense of the great value to the Academy of the presence of a major-general of the Army at its head. As the office is now filled, certainly, harmony of action is secured in the academic board, and the morale of the corps of cadets kept at a high pitch.

FISCAL AFFAIRS.

A tabular statement of the appropriations made by Congress for the current fiscal year is appended to this report, Table A.

The appropriations are disbursed through the office of Capt. R. F. O'Beirne, the disbursing officer. The books are kept on a simple and ingenious plan evoked by the recognized need of the office, and give to any inspector a clear and satisfactory account of the manner in which each specific appropriation is expended.

The specific accounts with the members of the corps of cadets are kept in the office of Lieut. S. M. Mills. The board notice with great pleasure the discreet method of purchase and distribution of supplies which promotes the comfort of the cadets in many ways. These duties Lieutenant Mills performs in addition to his work in charge of the cadets' mess.

A cadet receives no money at any time prior to graduation. He is credited with his pay, and all articles he is permitted to have are charged to him. The accounts are so kept that he can see at any moment how he stands. With one or two exceptions, the cadets are out of debt, and they appear to be learning the great lesson of living within their means, which is inculcated by judicious rules. The present reduced pay has been found sufficient, since purchases of all articles of food and clothing are made on the most advantageous terms in open market. It will be seen by reference to Table B, appended to this report, that the amount of business thrown upon the officer in charge of the cadets' mess is quite large, and that the clerical work required in this office is of such a nature that an enlisted man could rarely be found to perform it in a satisfactory manner.

The board therefore recommend that Lieutenant Mills be allowed a clerk, whose compensation shall not exceed one thousand dollars per annum.

GROUND AND BUILDINGS.

The board find, after thorough personal inspection and conferences with the quartermaster, that the chapel, the academic hall, the mess-

hall, the library, the superintendent's office, the riding-school, and stables are in good condition, and need no change, addition, or repair. The barracks for cadets require enlargement. The rooms are constructed for the accommodation of two cadets each, and cannot be occupied by more with due regard to health, convenience, and proper facilities for study. Yet, in several cases, three cadets are compelled to occupy one room.

An addition could be made to the present barracks at very reasonable cost, and in perfect harmony with its architectural design.

The windows in the barracks are filled with very small panes of glass—seventy-eight to each window. The glass is of inferior quality, and the supply of light utterly inadequate. Larger panes of better glass are indispensable to an adequate supply of light in the study-rooms.

The new hospital, the construction of which was begun in 1874, and arrested a year ago by lack of appropriations, is greatly needed for the proper care of the health of the cadets. Though its construction is well advanced, it is now an unsightly, unfinished building, utterly valueless as it stands, and constantly deteriorating. Whatever sum may be needed to complete it will be most wisely expended, and an appropriation for the purpose is respectfully urged upon Congress. The old hospital-building is in every respect inadequate and unfit for the purpose; but it could be turned to good account for officers' quarters, of which there is a decided lack at the post.

Nothing is more needed than a plentiful supply of good water and an effective system of sewerage; but the water-supply at West Point has been precarious for many years, and, at seasons when most needed, altogether insufficient. An inexhaustible supply of pure water is obtainable by bringing it from a mountain lake less than four miles distant from the post. A committee of the board having carefully examined the present and proposed sources of supply, the board have no hesitation in saying that the plan of bringing water from the lake should be adopted.

The system of sewerage, now well advanced in portions of the post, should be extended over the whole and made entirely thorough. As matters now stand, there is great danger that diseases traceable to sewage contamination may break out in the undrained portions of the post. The board would not make any recommendation tending to increase the mere luxury of living, but pure water in abundance and effective drainage are essential to health, especially in a place so densely peopled as West Point, and no reasonable expense needed to secure them should be withheld.

Additional facilities are needed for the manufacture of gas. A few years since, Congress appropriated \$25,000 for this purpose, but, before it could be used, the law covering unexpended balances into the Treasury went into effect, and the improvement was not made.

It is now recommended that the appropriation be renewed. The evidence submitted to the board as to its necessity was entirely conclusive.

THE COURSE OF STUDY.

For purposes of instruction, each class is divided into small sections, usually of not more than ten each. Each section is taught by one of the assistant professors, who are all directly supervised by the professors in the respective departments. These instructors in every case have been absent from the Academy on service in the Army at least two years, and the evil of adventitious authority over cotemporaries in school is largely averted. This method of imparting instruction is the secret of the extraordinary results of the West Point course. It probably requires the support of military discipline to be thoroughly satisfactory, but with that support it certainly works well.

It is obvious that a large part of the labor of these instructors must be concentrated upon the more backward scholars. Whether this is a wise expenditure or not, the board do not feel clear enough to express an opinion. The increased accomplishments of the more brilliant officers who would appear as a consequence of concentrating the force of instruction upon the upper sections is perhaps completely balanced by the useful career of officers taught on the existing plan whose graduating rank was low.

A large per cent. of graduates from a thorough school is a test of the economy of expenditure of its educational force, the standard remaining unchanged. Table C of the appendix shows what the number of cadets would have been from the beginning had the quota of each State been kept full; Table D, the number appointed and rejected from each State since 1838; Table E, the per cent. of graduates and specifications of reasons for rejections; it also gives statistics of the class of 1877. These tables will repay attentive study. It appears that, of the whole number of cadets between 1850 and 1877, inclusive, 52.1 per cent. have graduated, and of the total membership of the class of 1877, 61.8 per cent. graduated. Statistics given in the reports of the United States Commissioner of Education show that the per cent. of graduates to membership in the polytechnic schools of this country falls below thirty. The Academy therefore sustains a comparison with similar schools with great advantage to the effectiveness of its method.

The details of the course of study are printed in the Regulations. The board find that the instruction in the several departments is given in exact accordance with the printed programme, and with great fidelity and success. The examination of the graduating class was diligently watched by nearly all the members as the main ground for forming a judgment, though other classes were frequently visited. A careful comparison of the results of these examinations with the questions and papers returned on them by candidates at the entrance examination shows that the time devoted to instruction has been skillfully and diligently used by officers and students. All the examinations, including the one for admission, seem to the board just and impartial.

The course is severely gymnastic. Mathematics and physics occupy a share of the time, which might seem disproportionately large were it not true that the object of the school is "special," namely, to fit men for effective service in the field of military engineering, and this work must be done in four years with young men who come from the common schools of the country.

The Academy does not undertake to give a broad general education. The fallow-ground of literature, psychology, ethics, and æsthetics it cannot turn, except to teach the essentials of English composition. Its functions are quite distinct from those of an institution which undertakes to fit men for subsequent professional studies.

It is an interesting fact that a preparation for college, and especially a thorough knowledge of the Latin language, is a valuable auxiliary in its own work. Of the first seven men in the graduating class of 1877, six had enjoyed this advantage, and the first man had completed two years of a college course. But some surprise was occasioned by the discovery that no time is allowed on the hour-plan for instruction in the department of history, geography, and ethics, a department expressly created by statute.* Indeed no direct training in the use of the English language is given during the entire course. Considering the importance to an Army officer of a lucid and graceful style of English composition, the board feels bound to draw special attention to this omission.

The question of the true position of drawing in this course is beset with many difficulties and engaged the serious attention of the board. Drawing involves two distinct branches of knowledge, viz, construction-drawing, including projections, topography, &c., or the ability to represent all objects on a flat surface in such a way that their size and relations will be intelligible to a competent observer, and free-hand or art drawing. Instruction in the first, in the judgment of the board, might properly be put upon the instructor in practical military engineering, except that part of it which now falls to the professor of mathematics.

The practice of drawing as one of the fine arts is a beautiful accomplishment, and must add to the attractiveness of a topographical map; but it is not indispensable to a successful engineer, though it enlarges his resources of pleasure, especially in isolated localities on the frontier. Whether the time now devoted to it at West Point can be afforded or should be filled with other labor a larger experience will decide. The professor of drawing has served but one year, and the results of the year are quite pleasing.

The position of the professor of law is anomalous. He is the only member of the academic board assigned to duty, and by this means liable at any time to transfer like any Army officer. Common justice would demand a recommendation for his recommission by the President, with the consent of the Senate, so as to secure him a permanent tenure,

* Gen. Statutes, chap. 4, sect. 1309.

were there not strong reasons for a reorganization of the other departments so as to assimilate them to this.

The attention of the board was called to the possibility of a considerable economy without loss of efficiency by a reorganization of the plan for giving instruction in the modern languages.

It will be remembered that the length of the course has not been uniform. By act of Congress September 18, 1854, the course was changed from four years to five. Changed back October 11, 1858, again made five years April 15, 1859, and finally fixed at four, July, 1861, in which year two classes graduated. The confusion arising from these tentative experiments has resulted in a possible survival of the strongest rather than the fittest in the elements of the curriculum. But specific changes in a course of study which has in it the experience of seventy-five years, and which has borne fruit, on the whole, so good, must be made with great care and circumspection. Each part of the course must be wisely and justly set in its true relations to other parts.

For such minute and careful labor the time at the disposal of the board was altogether inadequate. They content themselves, therefore, with stating the results of their inquiries, as ground for the conclusion which they reached—that the time has come for a judicious and thorough re-adjustment of the course of study.

They therefore recommend that a commission, small enough to be efficient and large enough to be serviceable, be constituted by act of Congress, at as early a date as possible, with ample time and powers, to consist of gentlemen representing the academic board, the graduates of the Academy, and civilians familiar with general education, who shall report to Congress such changes in the organization of the Academy and its course of study as shall promote its usefulness.

In making this recommendation the board re-affirm, from their own observations, the judgment of their immediate predecessors.*

THE CORPS OF CADETS.

Commissary and mess.

Allusion has already been made in this report, under fiscal affairs,† to the important duties which devolve upon Lieutenant Mills in the purchase of commissary supplies and clothing for the cadets, and in the management of the mess-hall, garden, laundry, &c. Under his management the cadets' mess-bill for two months has been reduced from an average of forty dollars to twenty-nine, without any falling off in the quality and variety of the food furnished. This reduction is important since the cadets now draw but ninety dollars for every two months, out of which *all* their bills must be paid.

Frequent visits to the mess-hall gave abundant evidence that the food corresponds with the bill of fare which is posted in the hall, and those members of the board who sat down to meals at different times approve its quality and amount.

* See Report of Board of Visitors for 1876, General Devens, president. † Page 7.

The cadets procure washing in the laundry by steam at very low prices, and all the appointments of the laundry, kitchen, and mess-hall are satisfactory.

Drill.

For purposes of instruction in tactics, the corps is divided into four companies, each in charge of an assistant instructor, who is a commissioned officer of the Army.

The board witnessed exhibitions of the proficiency of the cadets in each of the three arms of the service, and are clear that the high reputation of the Academy for perfection in precision of military manœuvres is well sustained. Much surprise was manifested at the remarkable attainments of the cadets in cavalry practice, considering the small amount of time which is devoted to this branch.

In the infantry drill, in addition to perfect step in column line and wheel, the board remarked with approbation the new movement in the skirmish drill, by which the advanced line is re-enforced by the second and third.

In the manipulation of artillery the cadets sustained the high reputation of the corps for brilliancy in the manœuvring of field-batteries and accuracy in the firing of siege-guns.

The important subject of the flight of projectiles is treated in theoretical and practical use of the most valuable contributions of exact science.

The Band.

The board find that the reduction of the band under recent legislation of Congress from forty to twenty-four members has greatly increased the difficulty of keeping up a high degree of excellence in tactical movements.

This band, the only one paid for by the Government in the entire military establishment of the United States, has long contributed in a marked degree to the precision, effectiveness, and spirit of the drill and training of the cadets. Its effectiveness has been diminished by the reduction in numbers in a greater ratio than the figures indicate. The board are clearly of opinion that the band ought to be restored to its pristine numbers and efficiency. All connected with the Academy thoroughly sympathize with this view.

Religious and social advantages.

Since the organization of the Academy the only time at which formal religious instruction is given is on the Lord's day. On that day the whole body of cadets attend service in the chapel in the forenoon, except such as are excused to attend some other service, or are excused altogether on the ground of conscientious scruples. This service is conducted by the chaplain. In the afternoon a volunteer Bible-class is held in the chapel, and, at the same time, several cadets attend other Sunday-

schools. On Sunday and Wednesday evenings a volunteer prayer-meeting is conducted in Dialectic Hall, which is largely attended by the cadets. No study is required on the Lord's day. The chaplain of the post states that the cadets have uniformly manifested a high degree of respect and attention toward religious services.

The nature of the case forbids any specific church organization at the post.

The board hope that some means will be adopted whereby there shall be more frequent contact between the cadets and the chaplain, and they further respectfully recommend to the Secretary of War and the academic board to consider whether the public parade on the Sabbath day might not be omitted without impairing the discipline and efficiency of the corps of cadets.

The Dialectic Society, a voluntary organization established in 1824, is kept up with a good degree of efficiency, and affords excellent opportunities to its members for practice in extempore discussion and in composition. The cadets are allowed to visit the hall of the society on Saturday evenings and on other days during release from quarters. The rule governing the visits of cadets to families on the post restricts them to recreation-hours on Saturday afternoons, except by written permission of the commandant. They may visit in barracks on Saturday evening from inspection until tattoo. They may consult books in the library at any time when exempt from duty elsewhere, and it is gratifying to learn that large use is made of this privilege.

Discipline.

Every cadet is enlisted in the Army of the United States for eight years. During the four years of his residence at West Point he is to become familiar by actual experience with the duties of a soldier. For this end the system of discipline is calculated. It must, of necessity, differ widely from the regimen of a civilian school.

The conduct-roll is the mainspring of the system of discipline. The rules, which every cadet is bound to obey, are contained in two printed documents: Regulations for the United States Military Academy, and General Orders for the United States Corps of Cadets, issued under the sanction of the Secretary of War.*

The punishment for every offense is also carefully prescribed. The enforcement of discipline is carried out by means of punishments awarded by the commandant of cadets, with the approval in every instance of the superintendent, and by advantages gained by regularity and obedience. The enforcement of such minute rules in a mechanical way would become injurious, but when it is mixed with common sense and manly discretion, as at West Point, it produces most beneficial re-

* These pamphlets are furnished by the superintendent to any applicant, and give detailed information as to rules, punishments, and rewards. A list of other printed sources of information is given in Table F.

sults. The cadets acquire habits of neatness, order, regularity, implicit obedience to lawfully-constituted authority, and the faithful performance of the most minute duties, which are essential to the character of a good soldier. The most scrupulous care is exercised by the commandant, who is charged with the immediate administration of discipline, to secure exact justice in all transactions with the cadets, so that each student shall feel that his own immunity from outrage must be met on his own part by a nice regard for the rights of others. Indeed, the example and precept of the commandant are well supported by the influence of the whole academic board. The cadet in recitation is addressed by the title of "Mister;" the tender of respectful courtesy from the inferior in rank is invariably met by a return in kind from the superior; perfect decorum prevails in the mess-hall at meals; and hazing, lying, profanity, and all use of alcohol are prohibited by stringent rules which are rigidly enforced. It is noteworthy that no purchases can be made by the cadets except through the commissary. There are no shops on the post. All that officers can do is done to secure equal rights to all cadets; and, above all, every effort is made to instill and to cultivate a high sense of honor as the principle of honorable conduct, so that mild punishments are severely felt, and simple rewards deeply appreciated. The object of the discipline of the Academy is to fit men for soldiers in such a manner as not to unfit them for civilians. But the life of a soldier is rigorous and exacting. It is well, then, that the cadets should be subjected to a regimen which will prepare them for their profession. Perfect regularity in sleep, dress, diet, care of the body, exercise, study, and recreation, under the wise direction of expert instructors, results in the finest physical development and great professional ability. The board remarked with great pleasure the modest and manly bearing of the cadets, and their freedom from all visible signs of any vicious indulgence; and the country may congratulate itself that the officers of its Army are so admirably nurtured as soldiers and men. Every good citizen is deeply interested in all that concerns the welfare of the Academy, and cannot lose sight of the fact that it is the vital point of our national defenses.

For convenience, the recommendations of the board are briefly recapitulated:

1. That the commissary of subsistence be allowed a clerk, (page 7.)
2. That the barracks be enlarged and better lighted, (page 8.)
3. That the hospital be finished, (page 8.)
4. That the water-supply be enlarged, (page 8.)
5. That the sewerage of the post be completed, (page 8.)
6. That more ample gas-works be provided, (page 8.)
7. That the band be restored to forty members, (page 12.)
8. That inquiry be made as to the possibility of abolishing military parades on the Lord's day, (page 13.)

9. That a commission be constituted to revise the course of study, (page 11.)

In conclusion, the board cordially re-affirm the judgment of all their predecessors in commending the Military Academy at West Point to the confidence and support of the people of the United States.

Signed, in accordance with the vote of the board,

CHARLES O. THOMPSON, *President.*

CHARLES TODD QUINTARD, *Secretary.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

TABLE A.
 APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

Statement of balances unexpended of former appropriations, and of money received and expended by and under the direction of the superintendent during fiscal year ending June 30, 1877.

Holds of appropriations.	Balances unexpended	Appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877.	Total.	Expended to June 30, 1877.	Covered into the Treasury of the United States under the act of July 12, 1870.	Total expended and covered into the Treasury June 30, 1877.	In Treasury of the United States June 30, 1877.	On deposit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States, New York, June 30, 1877.	Unexpended June 30, 1877.
		\$12,857 34	\$51,125 00	\$63,982 34	\$51,662 30	\$5,644 63	\$57,306 93	\$114 71	\$12,569 70	$12,675 41
Current and ordinary expenses.....	581 86	13,140 00	13,721 86	12,756 91	457 95	13,214 86	.....	507 00	507 00
Miscellaneous items and incidental expenses.....	500 97	500 00	1,000 97	+1,000 00	97	1,000 97	.....	.....	.....
Buildings and grounds.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	19,940 17	64,765 00	84,705 17	65,419 21	6,103 55	71,522 76	114 71	13,067 70	13,182 41

* Of this amount, \$8,858.01 was for liabilities incurred previous to June 30, 1876.
 † Of this amount, \$123.91 was for liabilities incurred previous to June 30, 1876.
 ‡ This amount will not be drawn out.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY,
 West Point, N. Y., August 20, 1877.

R. F. O'BEIRNE,
 Captain, Twenty-first Infantry, A. D. C., Disbursing-Officer.

TABLE B.

Lieut. S. M. Mills, treasurer United States Military Academy, in account with the United States Corps of Cadets, for the year ending April 30, 1877.

Dr.			Cr.
To equipment funds retained	\$13,432 00	By balance from last settlement	\$17,061 89
To cadets' mess, board	59,599 80	By deposits	8,861 51
To cadets' mess, damages	101 61	By equipment funds returned	10,888 00
To cadets' commissary, store and clothing department	50,675 04	By credits at cadet commissary	1,821 26
To cadets' commissary, shoe department	6,239 25	By traveling pay	1,475 94
To cadets' commissary, laundry department	9,797 84	By pay	161,196 67
To barber, shoe-black, &c	1,951 31	By cash credits	543 60
To baths	661 42		
To policing barracks	2,630 93		
To printing fund	435 66		
To dialectic society	231 40		
To gas fund	1,265 95		
To dentist	1,545 00		
To damages, quartermaster's department	34 01		
To damages, ordnance	44 08		
To damages, library	12 87		
To postage	7 37		
To use of dictionary	90 35		
To expressage	27 05		
To periodicals	287 20		
To iron beds	34 50		
To entertainments	1,282 22		
To photographs and albums	1,870 85		
To notary public, (oath)	44 25		
To dancing lessons	995 40		
To Centennial expenses	1,103 70		
To regulations	63 05		
To "general orders"	70 25		
To miscellaneous items	349 75		
To cash	5,821 64		
To balances paid	21,308 45		
To balance due	19,834 67		
	201,848 87		201,848 87

MEMORANDA OF THE QUOTA OF CADETS.

The right of appointment has always been with the President.

In 1802 the Academy was established by law as part of the Engineer Corps, (2 Stats., 137,) and the number of cadets was 10.

Previously the organization of the Engineer Corps (1 Stats., 366) had provided for 2 cadets.

In 1812 the number was increased to 250, (2 Stats., 720,) but nothing was enacted as to their residence. The custom gradually grew up, however, in these as in other appointments of consulting the Representatives in Congress as to fit persons for the appointment, and this custom continues and is now invariable, although it has never been enacted a law.

In 1843 the number was fixed at one from each congressional district, Territory, and District of Columbia, and ten appointments at large in addition, and has so remained to the present time.

It is presumed that the 250 cadets authorized in 1812 were distributed approximately according to the population of States, and the accompanying table is drawn up on that basis.

It would involve a clerical labor of several weeks (and then without a strictly accurate result, owing to the meagerness of the early records) to take account of the failures and "turn-backs" from different States and the "five-years" classes.

The accompanying table is compiled by distributing the 250 appointments among the States by the proportion, as the total population is to the population of the State, so is 250 to the quadrennial quota of the State.

Dividing the allotment of each State by four, we obtain its annual quota. After 1843 the number of congressional and territorial districts (according to each change thereof) has been used and the number of each State divided by four as before. The result is only an approximation, but a very close one, to "the number of cadets to which each State would have been entitled had the quota been kept full from the beginning."

Respectfully submitted.

F. V. GREENE,
First Lieutenant Engineers.

NOTE.—This table is, of course, purely hypothetical. It shows the number of cadets each State would have had provided no vacancies had ever been left unfilled, and provided each cadet had remained four years and then graduated. The fact that so many have failed after admission and thereby given two or more cadets to one district in four years and less than one graduate in the same period, makes these figures less than the actual number of admissions and greater than the actual number of graduates, these being given by Colonel Hall at 5,721 admissions and 2,640 graduates.

F. V. G.

TABLE D.

Table showing States from which were appointed candidates rejected by the academic board from 1838 to 1876, inclusive.

Years.	Ala.		Ark.		Cal.		Colo.		Conn.		Del.		Fla.		Ga.		Ill.		Ind.	
	Reported for examination.	Rejected.																		
1838	3	2	2	1	6	..	1	..	2	..
1839	3	..	1	2	2	1	4	2	..
1840	2	2	1	4	2	..
1841	2	1	1	4	4	1	..	4	1	..
1842	4	1	1	1	1	1	..	5	1	3	..
1843	3	6	1
1844	4	..	1	1	1	1	1
1845	3	3	3
1846	4	2	2	..	1	..	1
1847	1	2	2	1	5	1	..	1
1848	2	..	1	1	1	2
1849	3	..	1	1	1	3
1850	2	1	2	2	1	..	1	..	3
1851	1	4
1852	2	1	1	1	1
1853	2	1	1	1	1	1
1854	4	3	3	1
1855	2	..	1	1	1	3
1856	1	..	1	..	2	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	4	..	3
1857	3	1	2	2	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	1
1858	2	1	3	3	2	..	1	..	2	6	6	3
1859	3	1	1	1	2	1	6	3	1
1860	3	..	1	1	7	..	6	3	..
1861	1	2	2	1	3	..	5	5	..
1862	2	..	1	..	1	1	4	..	4	4	..
1863	4	..	2	..	1	1	1	1	..	2	3	3	1
1864	1	1	2	1	1	1	..	1	5	5	2
1865	1	1	1	1	6	6	..
1866	1	..	1	..	1	..	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	5	5	3
1867	1	1	..	2	3	7	7	2
1868	5	3	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	..	9	3	..	5	5	1
1869	3	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	..	4	4	5	..	3	3	1
1870	4	4	3	2	2	..	2	2	3	3	1	1	..	6	4	5	..	1	1	1
1871	4	3	1	1	1	..	2	1	1	2	2	3	..	1	1	1
1872	3	2	2	..	1	2	2	1	..	3	..	7	1	4	1
1873	6	4	4	2	2	1	2	2	1	..	3	..	7	1	4	1
1874	2	4	1	1	2	2	1	..	2	1	1	..	1	14	6	6	6	1
1875	2	5	2	1	1	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	1	1	3	9	6	4	1	4
1876	5	3	4	2	3	2	1	..	1	1	1	1	2	11	6	2	3	2
Total	105	29	36	12	29	7	7	3	59	8	21	5	13	1	103	17	148	31	145	34

Table showing States from which were appointed candidates rejected, &c.—Continued.

Years.	Iowa.		Kans.		Ky.		La.		Me.		Md.		Mass.		Mich.		Minn.		Miss.	
	Reported for examination.	Rejected.																		
1838					6	2			1		3		2		1					
1839	1				6				2		1		2		1					
1840					6	1			3		2		4						1	
1841					4	2			3		4		1							
1842					4				2		4		7						1	
1843	1					2			1		1		1		3				1	
1844					3	2			1		2		2		1				2	
1845					6	1			3		1		3		1				3	1
1846					4	4			3		4		5						2	
1847	2				3	1			3		1		2		1					
1848					3	1			1		3		1		1				2	
1849	1				1				3				3		1				3	
1850					5	3			3		2		4				1		2	
1851					3	2			1		1		5						1	
1852	1				5				2		3								1	
1853	2				4	1			2		4		1		3					
1854					1				3		4		5		2		1		3	
1855			1		1	1			1		1		3		1				2	1
1856	1				4	1			1		1		2		2				2	1
1857	1		1		7	2			3		1		2		2				3	
1858	1				2	1			2		3		1		5				1	
1859			1		3	3					1		1		1		1		2	
1860					2				2		1		1		3		1		2	
1861	1				2	1			3		5		2		4		1			
1862	2		1		7				1		4		3		3		1			
1863					3	1		3	1		1		4		1				5	
1864	5	2			4	2			1		1		2		3		1		1	
1865	2	1			5	1			3		3		3		2		1		1	
1866	4	1	1		3				2		1		2		2		1			
1867	2	1									1		1		3		3			
1868	1				4	3					3		3		3		3		1	
1869					6	2		4		3		1	1		1		5			
1870	3	1	2		8	1		1	4	2	1		1		3		1		7	6
1871	3	1	1		7	3		2	1		1		3		7		1		3	
1872	2		2		1	1					7		4				1		1	
1873	5	2	2		6	4		2	2		5		2		6		3		2	
1874	3				8	3		3	3		1		6		3		7		4	
1875	3	1	1		6	2		5	2		1		7		4		4		2	2
1876	3				6	2		2	1		1		4		7		3		1	2
Total	51	11	13	4	159	33	57	12	71	7	89	14	128	9	67	15	15	2	61	15

Table showing States from which were appointed candidates rejected, &c.—Continued.

Years.	Mo.		Nebr.		Nev.		N. H.		N. J.		N. Y.		N. C.		Ohio.		Oreg.		Pa.	
	Reported for examination.	Rejected.																		
1838	1						1		1		8		4		8	1			8	
1839	1						1		4		12		1		1				7	
1840							1		1		16		7		4				7	
1841							2		3		13		1		7				11	
1842							2		3		13		1		5				12	
1843							2		1		13		6		5				1	
1844							2		1		11		2		6				6	
1845							2		1		9		4		5				7	
1846	1						1		1		12		7		7				6	
1847	1						1		1		14		6	1	1				10	
1848	2						1		1		10		3		3				8	
1849	2						1		4		9		3		10				8	
1850							2		1		3		3		8				7	
1851	1	1							1		9	1	4		2				11	
1852	2								3		14	1	3		8				8	
1853	3						2		3		13	3	3		5				5	
1854	3								2		8	3	2		1				4	
1855	1								2		10	2	2		6		1		10	
1856	3	1					1		1		11	3	3		7				11	
1857	2						2		2		13	2	1	1	7		3	1	9	1
1858	1	1	1						2	1	8	2	3	2	2				9	2
1859	3	3							2		5	6	2	2	10				5	2
1860	4	2							1		6	2	2	2	1				10	2
1861	4						3		2		10	2	2	5	6				9	
1862	5		1		2	2			2		15	1	1	10	2		1	1	15	1
1863	1				1				1		13	2	2	10	3				8	2
1864	3						2		2		8		8		4		1		6	1
1864	3						2		2		12	1		5	1				3	
1865	5						2		2		12	2	2	10	2				14	2
1866	2	1					1		1		10		1	8	2				8	
1867	1				1	1			1		10	1		7	2				7	2
1868	4	2	1	1			3	1	2		13	4	5	1	8				5	
1869	2		1		1	1			3		6	1	4	1	3				3	
1870	7	4			2	2	1		2	1	12	7		3	5				12	7
1871	4	3			1				2	1	13	3		9	1		1		11	3
1872	4	2					3	1	2		18	5	3	2	10				14	5
1873	10	3	2	1					4		16	6	10	5	12				15	6
1874	6		1		2	2	1		1		12	5	4	1	7				12	6
1875	6	3			1		1	1	1		19	7	2		10				18	6
1876	5	2					3	1	2		21	6	3	2	5				17	6
Total	106	29	8	2	11	8	40	5	71	3	447	61	115	21	276	52	7	1	356	57

Table showing States from which were appointed candidates rejected, &c.—Continued.

Years.	R. I.		S. C.		Tenn.		Tex.		Vt.		Va.		W. Va.		Wis.		Ariz.	
	Reported for examination.	Rejected.																
1838.....	1	...	3	...	6	2	...	10
1839.....	1	...	3	1	2	1	2	...	2	1
1840.....	2	...	5	2	6	1	5
1841.....	4	...	4	...	7	2	...	10
1842.....	1	...	7	1	4	1	...	9
1843.....	4	...	4	1	3	1	1	1
1844.....	1	...	4	2	5	2	4
1845.....	2	...	2	...	4	1	1	...	7	1
1846.....	1	...	1	...	6	1	2	...	3	1	5	7	1
1847.....	3	...	3	...	3	2	...	7
1848.....	1	...	3	...	4	1	3	1
1849.....	1	...	1	...	3	...	2	...	1	...	8	2
1850.....	1	...	4	...	3	3	...	7	2
1851.....	4	...	4	...	4	1	1	...	3
1852.....	1	...	1	...	7	3
1853.....	2	...	2	...	3	1	...	1	6	1
1854.....	1	...	2	...	6	1	1	...	2	...	7	2	...	3
1855.....	2	...	2	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	3	1	...	1
1856.....	1	...	1	...	4	4	1	1	1	...	6	3	...	2
1857.....	1	...	3	1	4	1	1	8	1
1858.....	2	...	2	...	5	1	4
1859.....	1	...	1	...	4	1	...	3	1	1	...	1	...
1860.....	1	...	2	...	3	1	...	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	...
1861.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	1	...
1862.....	1	7	...	2	...	2	...	7	1
1863.....	1	...	5	...	1	2	...	7	...	1
1864.....	1	1	1	2	1	1	5	4	4	...
1865.....	1	1	1	2	...	1	...	1	1	1	...
1866.....	1	1	1	2	...	1	...	3	3	3	...
1867.....	1	5	1	2	1	1	1	1	...
1868.....	1	...	2	1	4	3	1	1	1
1869.....	3	...	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	...	1	1	1	1	4	2	2	...
1870.....	2	1	2	1	3	2	...	9	4	2	2	1	2	2	2	...
1871.....	1	1	4	1	2	...	1	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
1872.....	2	...	3	1	7	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
1873.....	1	1	12	5	1	1	1	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
1874.....	1	...	5	4	4	2	3	4	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	...
1875.....	1	...	6	4	7	2	1	1	1	4	6	5	5	2	2	2	2	...
1876.....	1	...	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	7	5	4	2	1	1	1	1	...
Total.....	26	2	92	23	157	38	24	5	39	2	172	31	24	12	50	10	3

Table showing States from which were appointed candidates rejected, &c.—Continued.

Years.	Dak.		D. C.		Idaho.		Mont.		N. Mex.		Utah.		Wash.		Wyo.		At large	
	Reported for examination.	Rejected.																
1838.			3														26	
1839.			1														13	
1840.			1														6	1
1841.			4														17	
1842.			3														18	
1843.																	12	
1844.																	13	
1845.																	10	
1846.			1														10	
1847.			1														9	
1848.																	10	
1849.																	10	
1850.																	10	
1851.			1														11	
1852.											1						17	1
1853.									1								10	
1854.										1							10	
1855.									1		1						10	
1856.			1						1	1			1				10	
1857.									1								11	1
1858.							1										11	1
1859.																	11	1
1860.											1						10	
1861.	1		1														26	
1862.			1						1								13	
1863.									1								12	2
1864.											1		1				10	
1865.	1				1	1											11	
1866.	1		2	1	1	1							1				11	
1867.					1	1			1								12	1
1868.							1				1						11	2
1869.					1	1											11	1
1870.			1		1	1							1				13	3
1871.					1	1								1			18	8
1872.	1						1				1						11	1
1873.					1				1						1		10	1
1874.			1							1			1				13	5
1875.			1										1		1		16	6
1876.	1		1	1			1	1			1	1	1	1			37	15
											1	1					24	8
Total	5		23	2	6	5	4	1	8	1	8	1	6	1	4		523	58

ROBT. H. HALL,
Captain Tenth Infantry, Adjutant.

ADJUTANT'S OFFICE, UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY,
West Point, N. Y., June 8, 1877.

TABLE E.

Statement showing the number of candidates appointed to the United States Military Academy, number rejected, and number admitted, from 1838 to 1876, inclusive.

Year.	Number appointed.	Rejected by academic board.							For want of qualification in—							Rejected by medical board.	Appointment canceled.	Declined appointment.	Failed to report.	Admitted.	Of whom there graduated four years thereafter—
		Reading.	Writing.	Orthography.	Arithmetic.	Grammar.	Geography.	History.													
1838	132	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16	111	54, or 48.6 per cent.			
1839	91	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	6	76	34, or 44.7 per cent.				
1840	106	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	84	22, or 26.1 per cent.				
1841	131	6	4	1	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	1	114	34, or 29.8 per cent.				
1842	144	17	4	5	6	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	109	47, or 43.1 per cent.				
1843	77	6	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	60	29, or 48.3 per cent.				
1844	96	14	4	7	1	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	75	34, or 45.3 per cent.				
1845	98	9	3	1	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	81	40, or 49.3 per cent.				
1846	121	5	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	103	41, or 39.8 per cent.				
1847	84	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	74	35, or 47.2 per cent.				
1848	84	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	81	38, or 46.9 per cent.				
1849	95	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	88	42, or 47.7 per cent.				
1850	98	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	90	40, or 44.4 per cent.				
1851	81	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	7	71	31, or 43.5 per cent.				
1852	102	7	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	90	44, or 48.8 per cent.				
1853	97	6	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	83	36, or 39.7 per cent.				
1854	120	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	7	103	{ 20, 4 years, or 42.5 per cent. 22, 5 years, or 39.2 per cent.				
1855	99	7	4	6	6	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	80	37, 5 years, or 46.2 per cent.				
1856	101	17	2	5	12	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	72	44, 5 years, or 61.1 per cent.				
1857	132	26	8	19	18	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	7	82	33, or 39 per cent.				
1858	108	19	6	12	11	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	7	75	24, or 32 per cent.				
1859	91	26	8	24	24	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	5	60	20, or 33.3 per cent.				
1860	84	12	4	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	72	27, or 37.5 per cent.				
1861	148	13	3	4	4	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	23	107	63, or 58.8 per cent.				
1862	96	11	1	8	7	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	81	38, or 46.9 per cent.				
1863	126	9	4	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	10	99	58, or 58.5 per cent.				
1864	101	15	4	11	11	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	12	73	46, or 63 per cent.				
1865	101	16	8	13	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	5	74	36, or 48.6 per cent.				
1866	95	17	7	9	9	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	2	70	45, or 64.2 per cent.				
1867	84	19	2	15	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	55	33, or 60 per cent.				
1868	127	34	8	12	12	16	25	15	19	3	1	2	11	11	11	118	41, or 34.7 per cent.				
1869	112	24	5	13	13	9	17	13	13	7	7	7	7	7	4	70	40, or 59.1 per cent.				
1870	163	73	15	30	30	28	54	42	40	4	16	5	5	5	9	76	43, or 56.57 per cent.				
1871	131	32	3	10	10	15	24	15	22	11	2	1	9	9	9	95	57, or 60 per cent.				
1872	165	35	5	19	19	11	17	18	15	20	1	1	14	14	14	118	41, or 34.7 per cent.				
1873	230	74	2	28	28	30	50	49	29	13	7	7	18	18	18	89	41, or 46.05 per cent.				
1874	175	66	4	25	25	30	46	36	19	4	2	2	12	12	12	121	43, or 35.5 per cent.				
1875	205	67	4	31	31	25	34	27	31	6	2	2	8	8	8	98	48, or 48.09 per cent.				
1876	168	53	4	2	4	24	30	18	21	3	2	2	10	10	10	98	48, or 48.09 per cent.				
Total	4,599	765	139	344	345	370	297	340	218	145	15	91	288	3,301							

ROBERT H. HALL,

Captain Tenth Infantry, Adjutant Military Academy.

ADJUTANT'S OFFICE, MILITARY ACADEMY,
West Point, N. Y., June 14, 1877.

Statistics of class of 1877.

Number admitted 1873.....	118
Joined from preceding classes.....	6
	124
Lost:	
Discharged.....	25
Resigned.....	14
Turned back.....	8
	47
Leaving in class.....	77

of whom one, an original member, is absent on sick leave. Therefore, the actual number of graduates is 76.

TABLE F.

Printed sources of information concerning the Military Academy at West Point.

Reports of Boards of Visitors, appended to annual reports of the Secretary of War.

Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the United States Military Academy. By General George W. Cullum. Van Nostrand, New York.

Military Systems of Education. Henry Barnard. Hartford, Conn. Published by the author.

Accounts of the Systems of Military Education in France, Prussia, Austria, Bavaria, and the United States. The chapter on West Point, by Col. P. L. MacDougall. London: Eyre and Spottiswoode.

History of West Point. Maj. E. C. Boynton. Van Nostrand, New York.

Report of a Commission appointed in 1860 to revise the Course of Study. The War Department, Washington.

The Army Register. Adjutant-General's Office, Washington.

List of cadets admitted into the United States Military Academy at West Point. Compiled by Capt. Robert H. Hall, War Department, Washington.

A valuable pamphlet privately printed by the Association of Alumni.

Regulations for the United States Military Academy. Sent on application to the superintendent of the Academy.

General Orders for the United States Corps of Cadets. Sent on application to the superintendent of the Academy.

For additional valuable information, suggested by Gen. Thomas M. Vincent, Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. A., see American State Papers, Military Affairs, vols. I to VII; particularly vol. VII, (pages 1 to 108,) for report No. 731, H. R., 24th Congress, 2d session, giving, from a select committee, a history of the origin of the Military Academy; its changes by legislation and practice; objections to its constitution and operations; modifications to adapt it to the wants of the nation; history of the names and matters relating to all cadets, from 1800 to 1834; military history of all graduates received into the Army; amount appropriated for the Military Academy and annual expenses, from 1815 to 1834; the same from 1802 to 1815; recent appointments, graduates, and how disposed of; resignations from the Army, of graduates, and remarks on the regulations of the Academy, &c.

