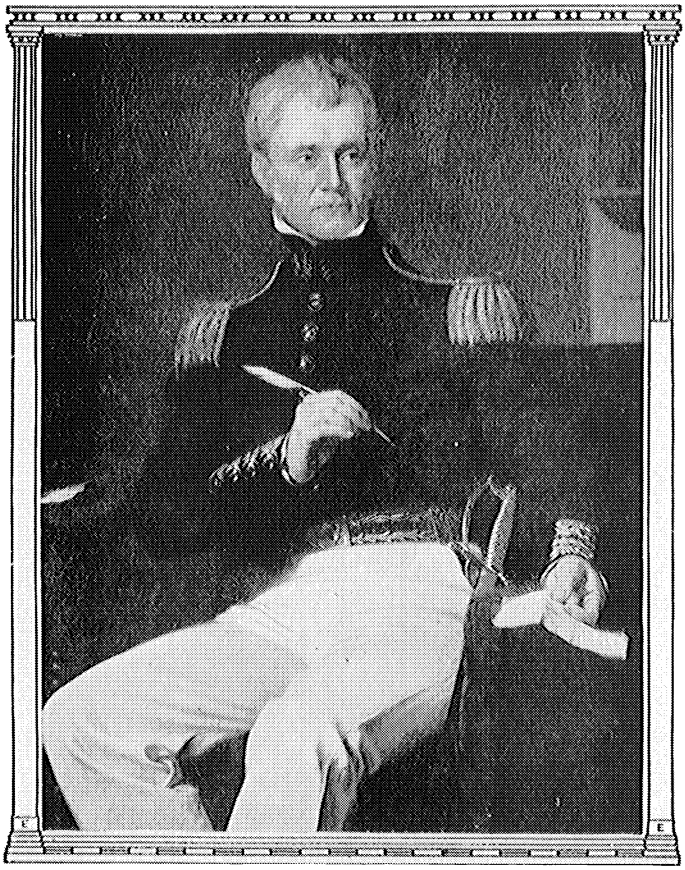

MAJOR SYLVANUS THAYER, CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SUPERINTENDENT
U. S. M. A., 1817–1833.

THE CENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT, NEW YORK.

1802-1902

Volume I

ADDRESSES AND HISTORIES

WASHINGTON
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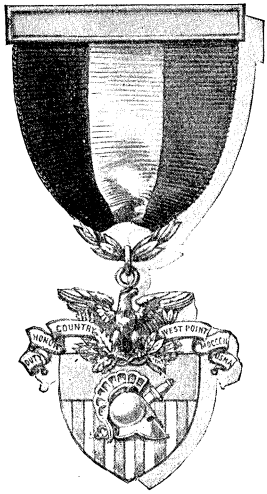
1904

BADGE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY



BADGE

THE ARMS OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY SUSPENDED BY A RIBBON OF BLACK GRAY, AND GOLD FROM A BAR BEARING THE DATE OF THE GRADUATE'S CLASS

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INTRODUCTION.

By Colonel ALBERT L. MILLS, U. S. A. (U. S. M. A., 1879),
Superintendent United States Military Academy.

THE occupation of West Point as a military post took place January 20, 1778, and has been continuous since that date. As early as October 1, 1776, Congress passed a resolution appointing a committee to prepare a plan for "A Military Academy at the Army." The result was the resolution of June 20, 1777, providing for a Corps of Invalids "to serve as a military school for young gentlemen previous to their being appointed to marching regiments." The Invalid Corps was organized in July, 1777; in 1778 a part of the corps was stationed at West Point; and in 1781, at the request of Washington, the corps was marched from Philadelphia to West Point, where an engineer school, a laboratory, and a library had been established in three separate buildings. In 1783, after the cessation of hostilities, Washington, having been called upon for his views as to the peace establishment, laid the matter of a Military Academy before his officers at Newburgh. He referred to it again in his message of December 3, 1793. The law of May 9, 1794, authorized the organization of a Corps of Artillerists and Engineers with two Cadets to a company, thus creating the grade of "Cadet" in the American Army. A school for the Artillerists and Engineers and for the Cadets attached to them was established, on the recommendation of Washington, by order, at West Point, in 1794. The destruction of its buildings by fire in 1796, however, caused its suspension. On July 20, 1801, the Secretary

H. Doc. 789, 58-2—vol 1——1

of War directed that all the Cadets of the Corps of Artillerists should report at West Point for instruction, and on September 1, 1801, a school was opened with four army officers and a civilian as administrators and instructors.

Washington was firmly convinced of the necessity for establishing a Military Academy, and it was due to his efforts, and those of other patriots of the Revolution, that the Academy was created by act of Congress approved March 16, 1802. The act authorized the President to organize and establish a Corps of Engineers to consist of five officers and ten Cadets, and provided that it should be stationed at West Point, in the State of New York, and should constitute a Military Academy. The Academy with ten Cadets present was formally opened July 4, the year of the act.

Acts of Congress, in 1802 and 1808, authorized forty Cadets from the artillery, one hundred from the infantry, sixteen from the dragoons, and twenty from the riflemen; few of these were appointed, and no provision was made for them at the Academy. In 1810 the Academy was deprived of nearly all means of instruction, and officers and Cadets had difficulty in obtaining their pay. During most of the year 1811, and a part of 1812, although war was imminent, academic and military instruction were practically abandoned. In March, 1812, the Academy was without a single instructor. Up to and including this time, 88 Cadets had been graduated; they had entered without mental or physical examination, at all ages from 12 to 34, and at any time of the year.

By act of Congress of April 29, 1812, the Academy was reorganized. The provisions of this act have furnished the general principles upon which the Military Academy has since been conducted and controlled; a more adequate corps of professors was authorized; a maximum of 250 Cadets was fixed; and the age and the mental requisites for admission were prescribed.

In 1817, under the provisions of the act of 1812, and the able superintendency of Major Sylvanus Thayer, Corps of Engineers, the present era in the Academy's history began.

Until 1843, a prescribed residence was not a legal qualification for appointment, but the selection of one Cadet from each Congressional district had grown to be customary. In this year the custom became the law, Congress prescribing that the Corps of Cadets should consist of one from each Congressional district, one from each Territory, one from the District of Columbia, and ten from the United States at large to be appointed by the President.

By acts of Congress approved June 6, 1900, and June 28, 1902, the Corps of Cadets as now constituted consists of one from each Congressional district, one from each Territory, one from the District of Columbia, two from each State at large, and forty from the United States at large, all to be appointed by the President and, with the exception of the forty appointed from the United States at large, to be actual residents of the Congressional or Territorial districts, or of the District of Columbia, or of the States, respectively, from which they are appointed. Under these acts, and under the apportionment of members of Congress according to the Twelfth Census, the maximum number of Cadets is 521.

The total number of graduates from 1802 to 1902, inclusive, is 4121.

The year 1902 marked the completion of the first century in the life of the Military Academy, which was established March 16 and formally opened July 4, 1802. The close of the academic year was decided upon as the most suitable time for commemorating the anniversary, and the occasion was celebrated with appropriate ceremonies on the 9th, 10th, and 11th days of June. Appended hereto is a programme

of the exercises. A feature of the review in honor of the President of the United States on June 11, not in the programme, was the bestowal by him of a medal of honor upon Cadet Calvin P. Titus, of the fourth class, for "gallantry at Peking, China, August 14, 1900, while a soldier of the Fourteenth United States Infantry."

This is the first medal of honor, so far as known to me, to be bestowed upon an undergraduate of the Military Academy, and the only one personally presented by the Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States. Graduation day, June 12, fittingly terminated the exercises. The diplomas of the graduating class were bestowed by the President; the members of the class were addressed by the Hon. Charles Dick, member of Congress, on behalf of the Board of Visitors, and were welcomed into the Army by the honorable Secretary of War and the Lieutenant-General Commanding.

The anniversary excited universal interest among graduates, who spared no effort to make it successful. Invitations to it were extended to the limit of securable accommodations at and near West Point, and it was a matter of great regret to all concerned that our means in this respect were not more ample, for the fact denied the Academy the pleasure of receiving and caring for many more of its friends and well-wishers. A large proportion of the invited guests were present to take part in the ceremonies, and cordial letters of congratulation were received from those whose engagements prevented their attendance.

The exercises were marked from first to last by cordiality and good will on every part. The addresses of the President and all the speakers gave unstinted appreciation to the record the Academy has made for itself, during one hundred eventful years of war and peace. It was also most gratifying to remark the great interest with which the whole country

joined in the celebration, as is abundantly shown in the reports of the proceedings by the newspaper press. This is especially pleasing, for the Cadets impartially represent every portion of the United States. Their records are bound up with the history of the whole country, and the celebration here was but the focus of rays collected from every region of our broad land.

If the impressive words of the honorable Secretary of War at the centennial anniversary are accepted, that "The Military Academy is more necessary now than one hundred years ago," general satisfaction should be felt with the institution's prospects in entering upon the second century of its work. The school has for its object the training of Cadets for the military service of our country. It is a school for the whole Army—not for any special arm. Its scholastic work covers a range of subjects connected with the many duties the educated American officer is expected and must be prepared to perform, and the ideal of its practical work is the graduation yearly of well-grounded young soldiers loyal to their duty and their country and trained to take up at once the work of subaltern officers.

Recent Congressional action will provide the school with an equipment for work as perfect in its essential requirements as experience can provide. While many thoughtful people believe the number of Cadets could, with advantage to the country, be larger, their number is such as to continue to insure the maintenance of high standards of duty and efficiency in the Army.

Finally, the school's faculty and instructors are composed of earnest, progressive officers, devoted to their work, and in full sympathy with the sentiments expressed by the president of the Association of Graduates in unveiling the tablet commemorating the first century in the Academy's life: "Let us all pledge ourselves to our country that the best efforts of

our lives shall be to make the record of the second century even more memorable than that of the first."

The official programme was as follows:

ALUMNI DAY, MONDAY JUNE 9, 1902.

AFTERNOON.

A luncheon for the Alumni in the assembly room of the Memorial Hall at half after 1 o'clock.

A meeting of the Alumni in the Thayer room of the Memorial Hall at 3 o'clock.

Order of the exercises.

I. The meeting called to order by the oldest graduate present (namely, Gen. John S. McCalmont of the class of 1842) as temporary chairman.
II. Prayer.
III. Music—Stars and Stripes—Sousa.
IV. An address by the president of the Association of Graduates.
V. Music—Tenting on the old Camp Ground.
VI. An address by a veteran of the Mexican war.
VII. Music—Benny Havens.
VIII. An address by a veteran of the civil war (Union).
IX. Music—Rally 'Round the Flag.
X. An address by a veteran of the civil war (Confederate).
XI. Music—Dixie.
XII. An address by a veteran of the Spanish-American war.
XIII. Music—The Star Spangled Banner.
XIV. The benediction.

EVENING.

An illumination of the Memorial Hall and the vicinity at half after 8 o'clock.

A reception by the president of the Association of Graduates and Mrs. Schofield, the Superintendent of the Military Academy and Mrs. Mills, in the Memorial Hall, from 9 until 11 o'clock.

FIELD DAY, TUESDAY, JUNE 10.

MORNING.

The annual athletic contests between the four classes of the Corps of Cadets on the parade at 10 o'clock.

AFTERNOON.

A baseball game between Yale University and West Point on the parade at 3 o'clock.

EVENING.

The graduation ball in the Memorial Hall at 9 o'clock.

CENTENNIAL DAY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11.

MORNING.

I. Military honors to the President of the United States, 10 a. m.

a. An escort to the quarters of the Superintendent of the Military Academy by the Corps of Cadets.

b. A review of the Corps of Cadets immediately thereafter.

II. A reception to the President of the United States by the Superintendent of the Military Academy at his quarters, after the review.

III. A luncheon for the invited guests and the Alumni in the assembly room of the Memorial Hall, at 1 o'clock.

AFTERNOON.

The invited guests and Alumni will assemble at the quarters of the Superintendent at a quarter to 3 o'clock to escort the President of the United States to the centennial exercises in the Memorial Hall.

Order of march.

I. The Corps of Cadets.

II. The President of the United States.

III. The invited guests.

IV. The Alumni, staff, former officers and cadets of the Military Academy.

Centennial exercises.

I. Prayer by the Chaplain of the Military Academy.
II. Music—Pilgrims Chorus.—Tannhauser.
III. An address of welcome to the invited guests by the Superintendent of the Military Academy.
IV. Music—Hands Across the Sea.
V. The introduction of the President of the United States by the Superintendent of the Military Academy.
VI. Music—Hail to the Chief.
VII. An address by the President of the United States.
VIII. Music—My Country.
IX. The unveiling of the commemorative tablet by the President of the Association of Graduates of the Military Academy.
X. Music—Reverie.—Schumann.
XI. An address by the orator of the day.
XII. Music—Hail Columbia.
XIII. An address by the Secretary of War.
XIV. Music—The Star-Spangled Banner.
XV. The benediction.

The "graduating parade" will take place at 7 o'clock.

EVENING.

A banquet in the mess hall at half after 8 o'clock.

There will be fireworks and an illumination of the post during the banquet.

GRADUATION DAY, THURSDAY, JUNE 12.

MORNING.

The graduation exercises of the class of 1902 at half after 10 o'clock.

It was decided to print as a permanent memorial of the jubilee of the Academy a volume to be distributed to official guests, to members of Congress, and to the graduates of the institution. The preparation of the volume was put in charge of Professors Larned, Tillman, and Wood, a committee of the Academic Board, and the editorial duties were confided to Doctor Holden, Librarian of the Academy. The

volume has been printed by order of Congress and is now published and distributed.

It contains—

I. The addresses of the President of the United States, the Secretary of War, and others before the official guests of the Academy June 11 and 12, 1902.

II. Addresses before the Association of Graduates June 9.

III. A series of chapters giving, in brief, the history of the Academy during the whole period of its existence, of the post of West Point during the Revolutionary period, and of the services of the graduates in military and in civil life. The illustrations and maps which accompany the text have been derived from many sources. Thanks are due to the Century Company, to Charles Scribner's Sons, to G. P. Putnam's Sons, to the McClure Company, to Mr. Charles O. Hall, to the editors of the Outlook, of the Cosmopolitan, Collier's Weekly, and of the American Review of Reviews for permission to print certain cuts from their publications. The cost of making the illustrations has been borne by a fund contributed by graduates in aid of the Centennial celebration.

The chapters have been written by graduates who represent nearly every arm of the service and also civil life. The writers have been invited to express their own judgments in their own way, so that the chapters are personal, not official. At the same time it is believed that they will be welcomed as the first comprehensive and adequate accounts of the very varied activities and achievements of our graduates in every walk of life. Taken together they present a view of its activity of which our country may well be proud.

The President of the United States has said in his address (June 11):

This institution has completed its first hundred years of life. During that century no other educational institution in the land has contributed so many names as West Point to the honor roll of the nation's greatest

citizens * * * The average graduate of West Point during these hundred years has given a greater sum of service to the country through his life than has the average graduate of any other institution in this broad land.

Every graduate of the Academy is proud of these memorable words. We believe them to have been deserved in the past. We will do our best endeavor that they shall be true in the future.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY,

July 1, 1903.

THE CENTENNIAL EXERCISES.

CADET CHAPEL (BUILT 1836).

PRAYER.

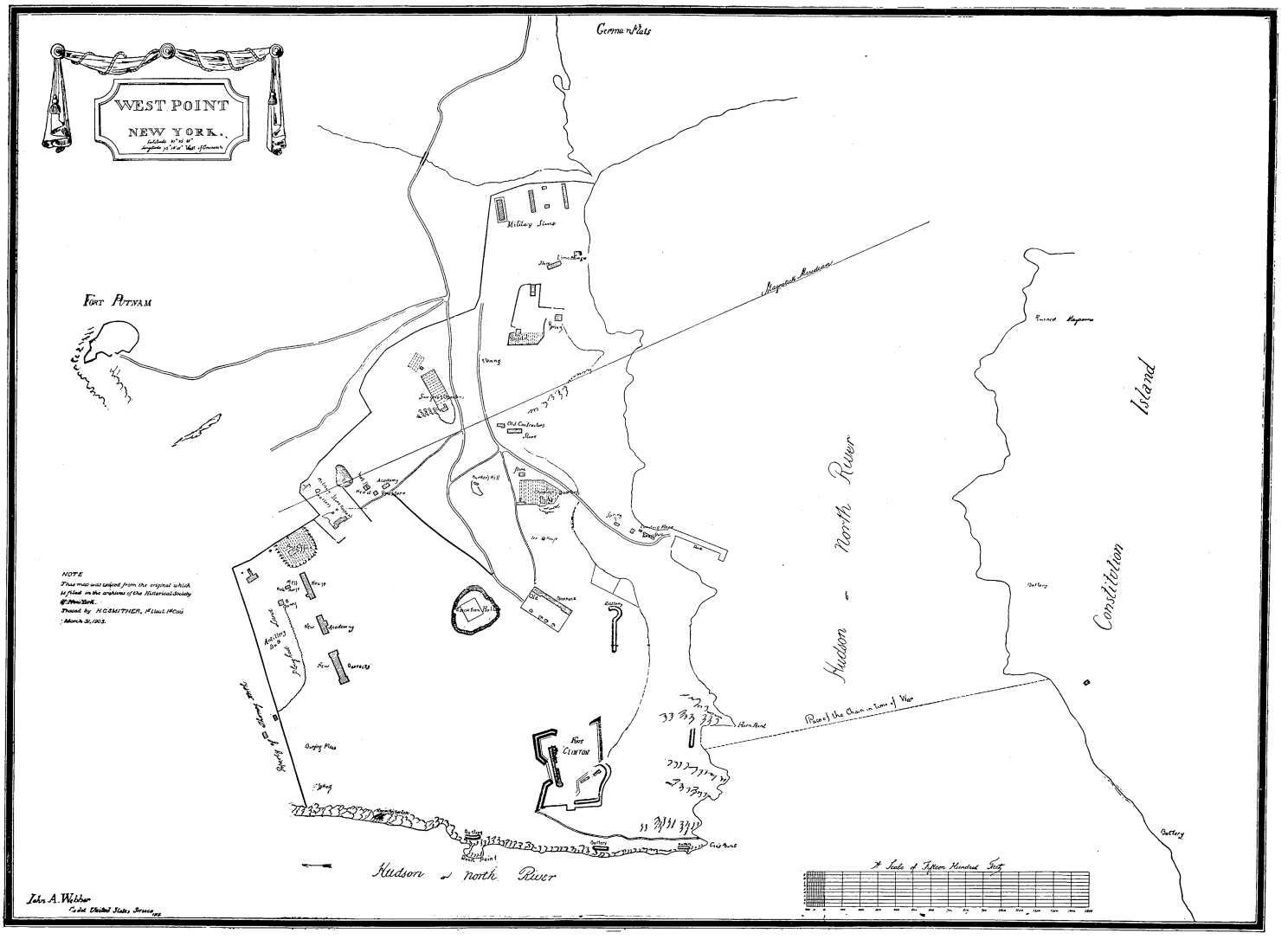
By Rev. HERBERT SHIPMAN, Chaplain, U. S. Military Academy.

LORD GOD OF HOSTS, before whose throne the nations stand, to whom Thou settest bounds that they may not pass, to whom Thou givest life and power that they may do Thy will on earth, in Thy sight a thousand years are but as a single day. We thank Thee that in our nation's day, brightening through the shadows of its dawn, through its morning mists, toward now its glorious noon, Thou hast been near us always. We thank Thee for those, our fathers, who leaning on Thy strength laid in faith our foundations true and strong; for those of a later day who, when doubts divided and human wisdom failed, dared ask for judgment in Thy high and solemn courts of war. We thank Thee for the faith that still in us the spirit of our fathers lives; for the faith that Thou art in the midst of them who are gathered in Thy name, not only in the stillness of Thy sanctuaries, but in the noise and shock of battlefields; that Thy right hand still guides the sword laid bare to raise the low or curb the oppression of the strong. For these things, as for all that Thou hast done and art doing for the land we love, we give Thee thanks; for not to us, but to Thy name, is all the glory.

We pray Thee that, as Thou hast made us a nation fit to do Thy will, there may ever be among us men able and glad to serve the nation best, and dare do the work Thou hast given us to do; and especially do we pray that Thy wisdom and strength may guide and defend him through whom the nation speaks its will, and all others in authority.

And as this day we remember those who lived and died for our country's life, its unity and its peace, may we, the living, be consecrated anew to the high principles which were theirs, that they may live again in us and rouse us to more active effort and to the nobler service of mankind. May we heed the silent yet solemn protest rising from their graves against all that is untrue, unworthy of the destiny Thou hast set before us. May we hear Thy voice above all life's tumult; may we see beyond all self-seeking, that the battle is to the strong—the strong in Thee—the final victory to him whose feet are swift to do Thy will; and so may these, Thy sons, ever be, wherever Thou shalt call them, the ministers of Thy justice, the guardians of that order which receives its sanctity from Thee, apostles and prophets of the nobler peace—Thy peace, which standeth in truth and righteousness triumphant.

We ask this in His name who was the gentlest and the bravest, the manliest and the holiest, who lived as man that He might consecrate our manhood and draw all men unto Him; who liveth now eternally with Thee, Oh One and Only God, the captain of our salvation and the source of all our strength, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



MAP OF WEST POINT, 1815, BY CADET JOHN A. WEBBER. REDRAWN BY LIEUT. HENRY C. SMITHER, FIFTEENTH U. S. CAVALRY, U. S. M. A., 1897.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO THE INVITED GUESTS.

By the SUPERINTENDENT OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

INFANTRY PRIVATE, 1783.

MR. PRESIDENT AND HONORED GUESTS: It is with feelings of pride and gratification that the graduates of the United States Military Academy welcome you to West Point on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of our nation's military school; this welcome which they extend to you is not alone from those whom you see here to-day, but "from earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast," wherever the sons of this Academy are now sojourning, there goes out to you a most sincere and heartfelt greeting. We are deeply sensible of our obligations for your cooperation in making this anniversary what it is; especially are we sensible of our obligations to those who have left the pressing duties of responsible trust, and to those who have journeyed from foreign lands. We extend our grateful thanks for your presence, and we hope you may carry away pleasant recollections of your visit.

This season was selected for these exercises in preference either to the anniversary of the actual date of the founding of the school, March 16, 1802, or of its formal opening, July 4 of the same year, for the reason that, at this time more than at another, nature enhances with her handiwork the natural beauties of the historic place which has been from its birth

the home of the Military Academy. An added interest, it was felt, would be the annual exercises incident to the successful closing of the Cadet's academic career and to his entrance into the larger and more responsible sphere which he must fill, and which will test the soundness of his training here.

More than a century ago President Washington, in his last message to Congress, in dwelling with earnestness upon the utility of establishing a national military academy, said:

The eligibleness of a military academy depends on that evident maxim of policy which requires every nation to be prepared for war while cultivating peace, and warns it against suffering the military spirit and military knowledge wholly to decay. However particular instances, superficially viewed, may seem exceptions, it will not be doubted by any who have attentively considered the subject, that the military art is of a complicated and comprehensive nature; that it demands much previous study, as well as practice, and that the possession of it in its most improved state is always of vast importance to the security of a nation. It ought, therefore, to be a principal care of every government, however pacific its general policy, to preserve and cultivate—indeed, in proportion as the policy of a country is pacific, and it is little liable to be called to practice the rules of the military art, does it become the duty of the government to take care, by proper institutions, that it be not lost. A military academy instituted on proper principles, would serve to secure to our country, though within a narrow sphere, a solid fund of military information which would always be ready for national emergencies, and would facilitate the diffusion of military knowledge as those emergencies might require.

Only two days before his death he wrote to Alexander Hamilton:

The establishment of a military academy upon a respectable and extensive basis has ever been considered by me as an object of primary importance to this country, and while I was in the Chair of Government I omitted no proper opportunity of recommending it to the attention of the Legislature.

No one understood better than this great man, whose memory is honored by the whole world, both the character of his countrymen and the military institutions best suited to their circumstances. I leave it to historians to estimate the value of this school to the country and to recount its services to the nation in war and in peace. Again, in the name of all its graduates and sons, I thank you each and all for the kindly interest which has brought you here and extend to you a warm and cordial welcome as guests of the United States Military Academy.

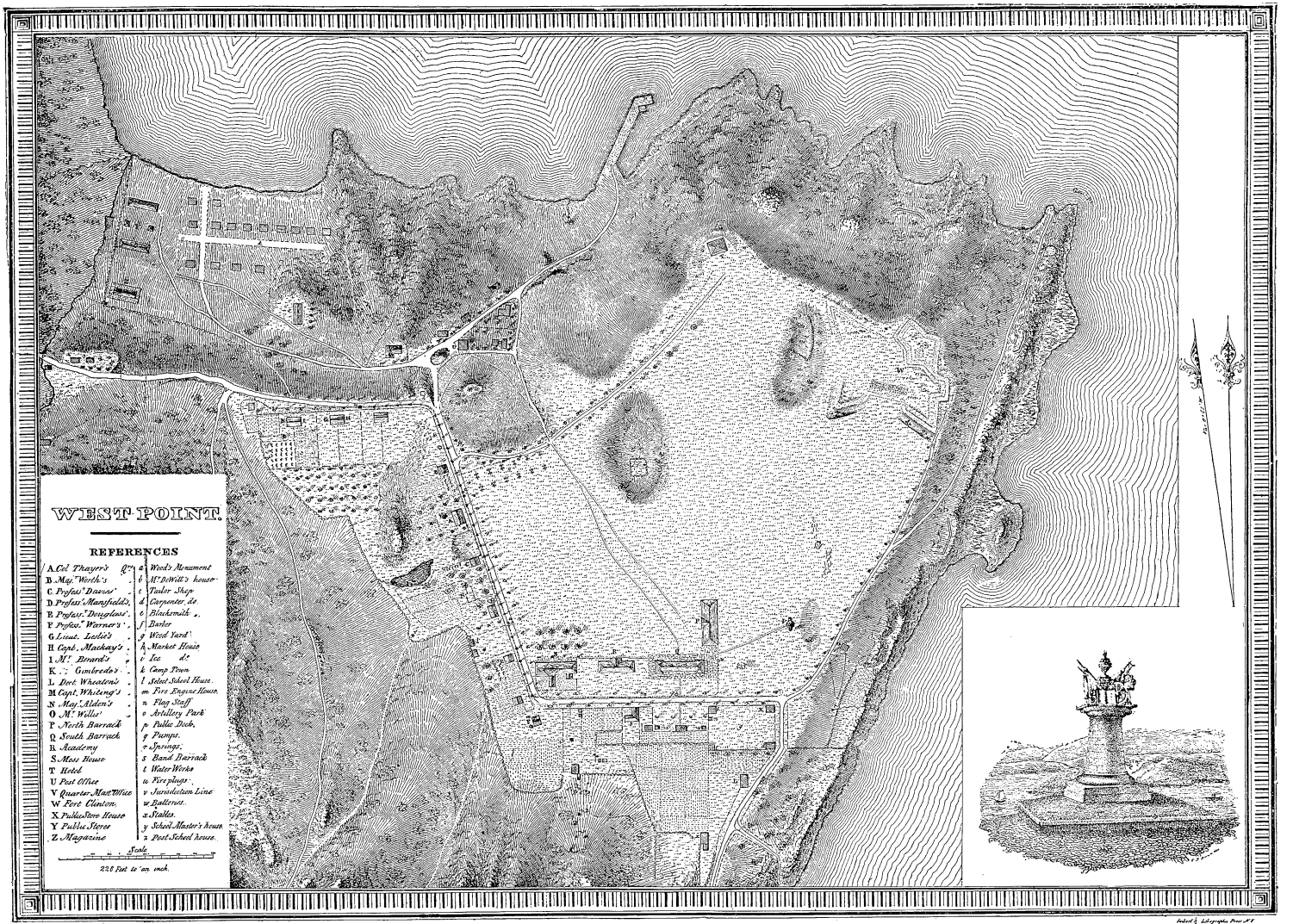
INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

By the SUPERINTENDENT OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

IT WAS the good fortune of the Military Academy that its conception found favor in the eyes of the great and noble men who watched over the infancy and early growth of the Republic. That its establishment should have been proposed and advocated by the first President of the United States associates with it the great name of Washington and is an incentive to the patriotism and devotion to duty of its children.

From its foundation in 1802, the messages of the Presidents show that each appreciated its importance as a national institution and that each had a deep solicitude for its welfare and proper development. Praise of its work and influence was frequent and of increasing warmth as the structure of the institution grew in strength and symmetry into a definite and vigorous form, until it finally became a concrete part of the fabric of this nation, whose stable and sterling qualities it shared.

In view of such early words of approbation and encouragement, it is natural that we should ask: Have those bright promises of youth been realized in maturity; has the Academy fulfilled its high destiny as the years have advanced, and does it still deserve well of the Republic? It is peculiarly appropriate, therefore, that on this day, when we are gathered to celebrate the completion of the first century of the Academy's life and labors, we should hear an answer to these questions from the lips of the latest of that long line of distinguished



MAP OF WEST POINT, 1830, BY LIEUT. T. B. BROWN, THIRD U. S. ARTILLERY, U. S. M. A , 1826.

men who have been the Presidents of our Nation, and that we should have his estimate of the results accomplished by the Academy during these later years. In him we have a President well fitted to speak to us of the Academy's work in all of its phases. As a patriot he can judge whether the Academy has been true to its highest trust; as a statesman he knows its value as an integral part of our national fabric; as a student and scholar he is qualified to commend or condemn it from the purely educational view-point; and, lastly, as a soldier,

> Whose faith and truth
> On war's red touchstone rang true metal,

he can weigh its importance as a factor in the military forces of our beloved country.

Gentlemen, the Military Academy and its sons are honored to-day by the presence of our constitutional Commander in Chief, the President.

ADDRESS OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

CAVALRY PRIVATE, 1801.

COLONEL MILLS, graduates of West Point, and you, the men and women who are drawn to them by ties of kinship, or by the simple fact that you are Americans, and therefore of necessity drawn to them:

I am glad to have the chance of saying a word to you to-day. There is little need for me to say how well your performance has squared with the prophetic promise made on your behalf by the greatest of Americans, Washington. This institution has completed its first hundred years of life. During that century no other educational institution in the land has contributed as many names as West Point has contributed to the honor roll of the nation's greatest citizens.

Colonel Mills, I claim to be a historian, and I speak simply in the spirit of one, simply as a reciter of facts, when I say what I have said. And more than that, not merely has West Point contributed a greater number of the men who stand highest on the nation's honor roll, but I think, beyond question, that, taken as a whole, the average graduate of West Point during this hundred years has given a greater sum of service to the country through his life than has the average graduate of any other institution in this broad land. Now, gentlemen, that is not surprising. It is what we had

a right to expect from this military university, founded by the nation. It is what we had a right to expect, but I am glad that the expectation has been made good. And of all the institutions in this country, none is more absolutely American; none, in the proper sense of the word, more absolutely democratic than this. Here we care nothing for the boy's birthplace, nor his creed, nor his social standing; here we care nothing save for his worth as he is able to show it. Here you represent, with almost mathematical exactness, all the country geographically. You are drawn from every walk of life by a method of choice made to insure, and which in the great majority of cases does insure, that heed shall be paid to nothing save the boy's aptitude for the profession into which he seeks entrance. Here you come together as representatives of America in a higher and more peculiar sense than can possibly be true of any other institution in the land, save your sister college that makes similar preparation for the service of the country on the seas.

This morning I have shaken hands with many of you, and I have met the men who stand as representatives of every great struggle, every great forward movement this nation has made for the last fifty-five or sixty years. The oldest among you—there are some still left who took part in the Mexican war, a struggle which added to this country a territory vaster than has changed hands in Europe as the result of all the wars of the last two centuries. I meet, when I see any of the older men among you, men who took part in the great civil war, when this nation was tried as in a furnace; the men who were called upon to do the one deed which had to be done under penalty of making the memory of Washington himself of little account, because if you had failed, then failure would also have been written across the record of his work. Finally, I see the younger men as well as the older ones;

the men whom I have seen myself taking part in a little war—a war that was the merest skirmish compared with the struggle in which you fought from '61 to '65, and yet a war that has had most far-reaching effects; not merely upon the destiny of this nation, but therefore upon the destiny of the world—the war with Spain.

It was my good fortune to see in the campaign in Cuba how the graduates of West Point handled themselves; to see and to endeavor to profit by their example. It is a peculiar pleasure to come here to-day, because I was at that time intimately associated with many of these, your graduates, who are here. On the day before the San Juan fight, when we were marched up into position, the officers with whom I was lost connection with the baggage and food, and I for supper that night had what Colonel Mills gave me. And the next morning Colonel Mills was with another West Pointer, gallant Shipp, of North Carolina. The next morning we breakfasted together. I remember well congratulating myself that my regiment, a raw volunteer regiment, could have to set it an example, men like Mills and Shipp, whose very presence made the men cool; made them feel collected and at ease. Mills and Shipp went with our regiment into action. Shortly after it begun Shipp was killed and Colonel Mills received a wound from which no one of us at the time dreamed that he would recover. I had at that time in my regiment as acting second lieutenant a cadet from West Point. He was having his holiday; he took his holiday coming down with us, and just before the assault he was shot, the bullet going in, I think into the stomach, going out the other side. He fell over, and as we came up I leaned over to him, he said "All right, Colonel, I am going to get well." I didn't think he was; but I said, "All right, I am sure you will," and he did; he is all right now.

There was never a moment during that time, by day or by

night, that I was not an eyewitness to some performance of duty, some bit of duty well done, by a West Pointer, and I never saw a West Pointer failing in his duty. I want to be perfectly frank, gentlemen. I heard of two or three instances—you can not get in any body of men absolute uniformity of good conduct; but I am happy to say that I never was an eyewitness to such misconduct. It was my good fortune to see what is the rule—what is the rule with only the rarest exception—the rule of duty done in a way that makes a man proud to be an American, the fellow-citizen of such Americans.

Your duty here at West Point has been to fit men to do well in war. But it is a noteworthy fact that you also have fitted them to do singularly well in peace. The highest positions in the land have been held, not exceptionally, but again and again by West Pointers. West Pointers have risen to the first rank in all the occupations of civil life. Colonel Mills, I make the answer that a man who answers the question must make when I say that while we had a right to expect that West Point would do well, we could not have expected that she would have done so well as she has done.

And now, in closing, I want to say one word to those who are graduating here, and to the undergraduates as well. I was greatly struck the other day by an article by one of your instructors, himself a West Pointer, in which he dwelt upon the changed conditions of warfare, and the absolute need that the man who was to be a good officer should meet those changed conditions. I think it is going to be a great deal harder to be a first-class officer in the future than it has been in the past. In addition to the courage and steadfastness that have always been the prime requirements in a soldier, you have got to show far greater fertility of resource and far greater power of individual initiative than has ever been necessary before if you are to come up to the highest level of

officer-like performance of duty. As has been well said, the developments of warfare during the last few years have shown that in the future the unit will not be the regiment nor the company nor troop; the unit will be the individual man. The Army is to a very great extent going to do well or ill according to the average of that individual man. If he does not know how to shoot, how to shift for himself, how both to obey orders and to accept responsibility when the emergency comes where he won't have any orders to obey, if he is not able to do all of that, and if in addition he has not got the fighting edge, you had better have him out of the Army; he will be a damage in it.

In a battle hereafter each man is going to be to a considerable extent alone. The formation will be so open that the youngest officer will have to take much of the responsibility that in former wars fell on his seniors, and many of the enlisted men will have to do most of their work without any supervision from any officer whatsoever. The man will have to act largely alone, and if he shows a tendency to huddle up to somebody else his usefulness is pretty near at an end. He must draw on his own courage and resourcefulness to meet the emergencies as they come up. It will be more difficult in the future than ever before to know your profession, and more essential also; and you officers, and you who are about to become officers, if you are going to do well, have got to learn how to perform the duty which, while become more essential, has become harder to perform. You want to face the fact and realize more than ever before that the honor or the shame of the country may depend upon the high average of character and capacity of the officers and enlisted men and that a high average of character and capacity in the enlisted men can to a large degree only be obtained through you, the officers; that you have got to devote your time in peace to bringing up the standard of fighting efficiency of

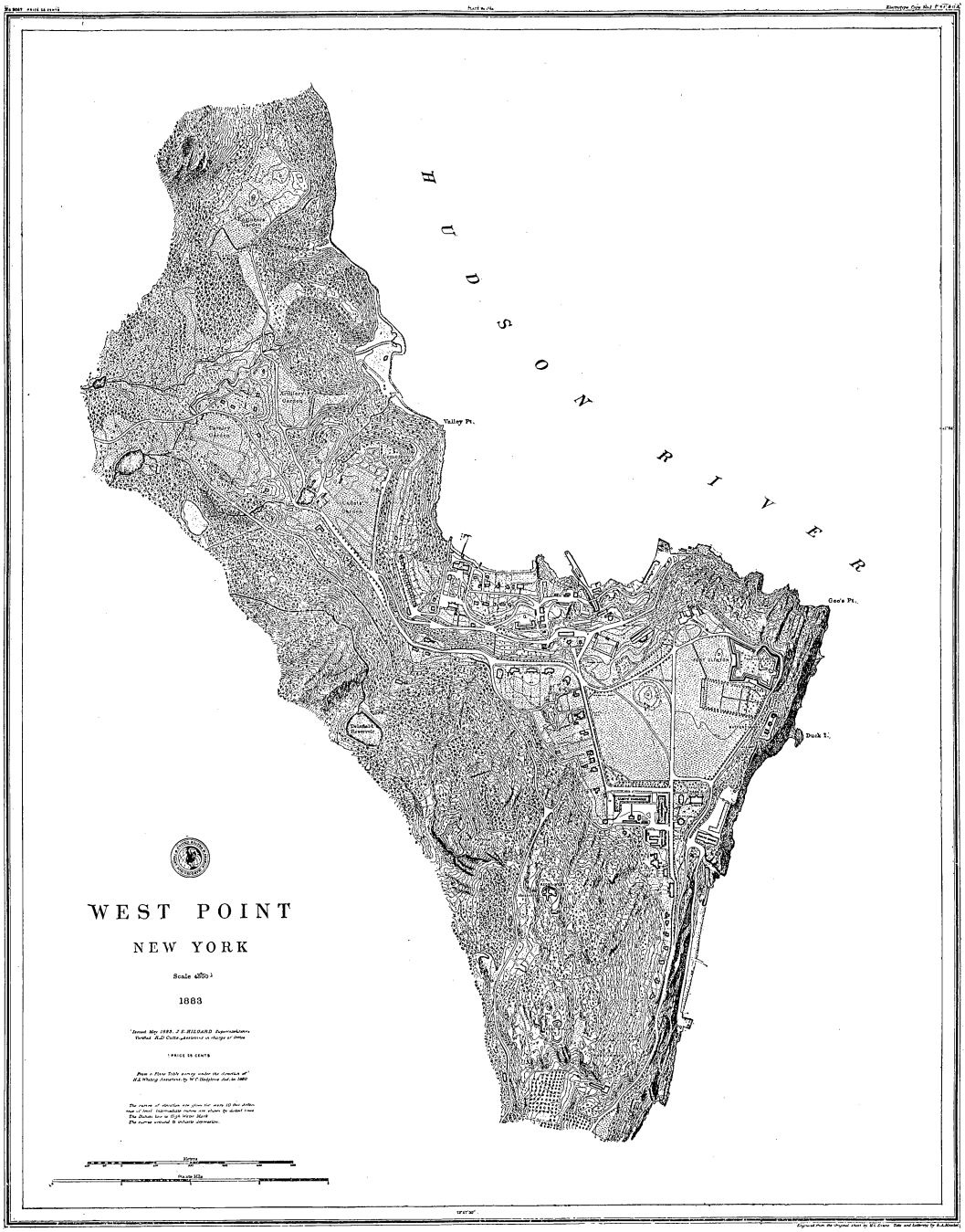
the men under you, not merely in doing your duty so that you can't be called to account for failure to perform it, but doing it in a way that will make any man under you abler to perform his.

I noticed throughout the time that we were in Cuba that the orders given and executed were of the simplest kind and that there was very little maneuvering, practically none of the maneuvering of the parade ground. Now I want you to weigh what I say, for if you take only half of it, you will invert it. I found out very soon in my regiment that the best man was the man who had been in the Regular Army in actual service, out in the West, campaigning on the Plains. If he had been a good man in the Regular Army in actual service on the Plains, he was the best man that I could get hold of. On the other hand, if he had merely served in time of peace a couple of years in an Eastern garrison, where he did practically nothing outside of parade grounds and barracks, or if he had been in an ordinary national guard regiment, then one of two things was true; if he understood that he had only learned 5 per cent of war, he was 5 per cent better than anyone else, and that was a big advance; but if he thought he had also learned the other 95 per cent, he was worse than anyone else.

I recollect perfectly one man who had been a corporal in the Regular Army; this young fellow joined us sure he knew everything, confident that war consisted in nice parade-ground maneuvers. It was almost impossible to turn his attention from trying the very difficult task of making my cowpunchers keep in a straight line to the easier task of training them so that they could do the most efficient fighting when the occasion arose. He confused the essentials and the non-essentials. The non-essentials are so pretty and so easy that it is a great temptation to think that your duty lies in perfecting yourself and the men under you in them. You have got

to do that too, but if you only do that you won't be worth your salt when the day of trial comes.

Now, gentlemen, I do not intend to try to preach upon the performance of your duties here to you. It has been your special business to learn to do that. I do ask you to remember the difference there is in the military profession now from what it has been in past time; to remember that the final test of soldiership is not excellence in parade-ground formation, but efficiency in actual service in the field, and that the usefulness, the real and great usefulness, in the parade ground and barracks works comes in its being used not as an end, but as one of the means to an end. I ask you to remember that. I do not have to ask you to remember what you can not forget—the lessons of loyalty, of courage, of steadfast adherence to the highest standards of honor and uprightness which all men draw in when they breathe the atmosphere of this great institution.



MAP OF WEST POINT, 1883, BY THE UNITED STATES COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

THE Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy is a bond of union between her sons and their alma mater. The aims and limitations of this association are set forth by the following articles of its constitution:

"Article II.—The object of this association shall be to cherish the memories of the Military Academy at West Point, and to promote the social intercourse and fraternal fellowship of its graduates.

* * * * * * *

"Article IV.—Political, or any other discussions foreign to the purposes of the association, as set forth in this constitution, or any proceedings of such a tendency, are declared inimical to the purposes of this organization, and are prohibited."

It is altogether fitting and proper that the tablet which is to commemorate the first century in the life of the Academy should be unveiled by the Association of Graduates in the person of its representative and president. It is especially appropriate and a most fitting coincident that the chosen president of the association should be to-day a distinguished soldier and statesman who has shed luster upon the Academy, both in war and in peace. The sole survivor of the great army commanders who brought to a successful close the memorable war for the Union; the Secretary of War who, after that desperate conflict, reorganized our Army; the diplomatic representative of his country who brought to a

successful issue matters of serious import to this continent; a former Superintendent of the Military Academy and a former commanding general of our Army, he is to-day in rank the senior living graduate and the revered and honored head of the association.

Gentlemen, I take pleasure in presenting Lieut. Gen. John M. Schofield.

UNVEILING OF THE COMMEMORATIVE TABLET BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

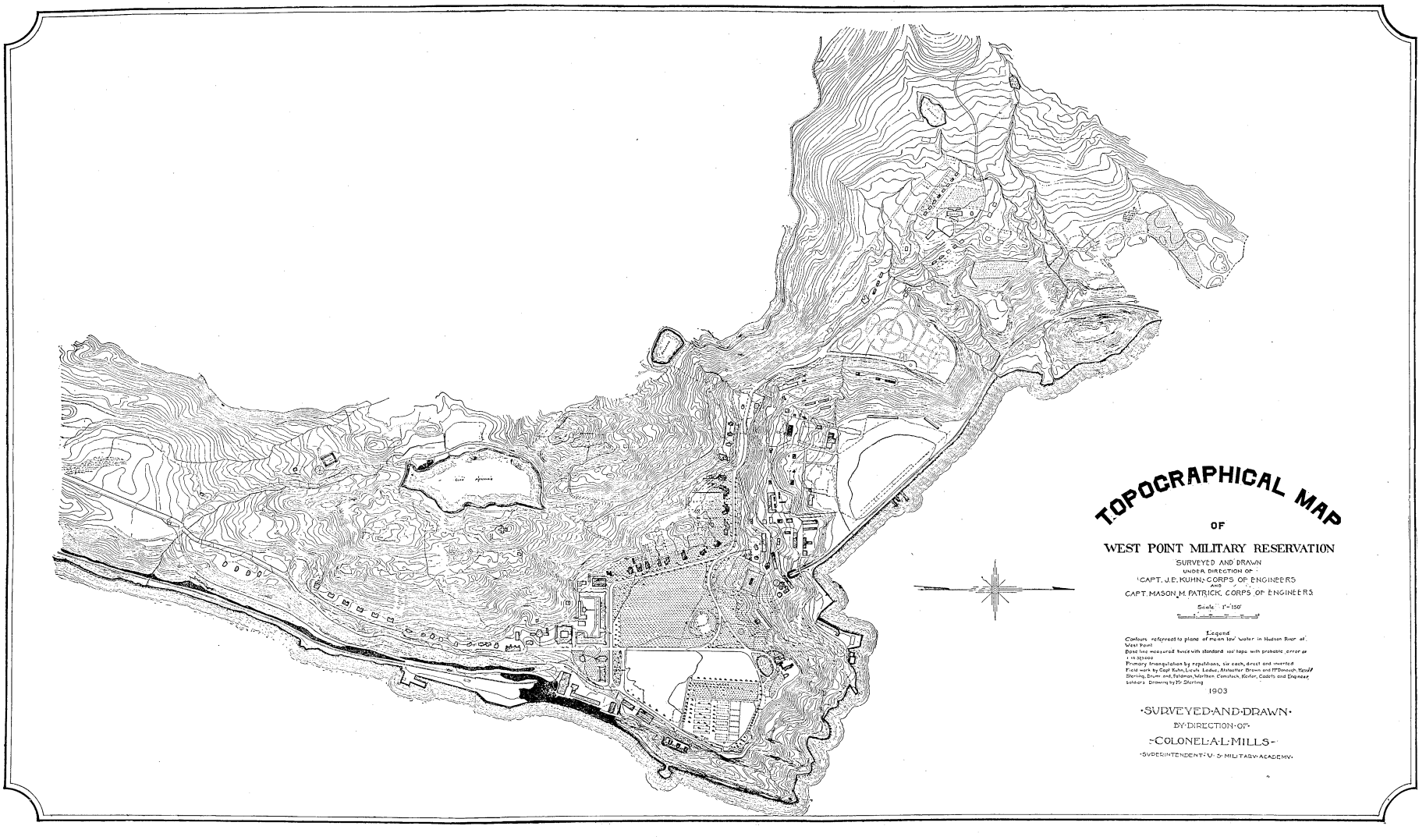
ADDRESS.

Lieutenant-General SCHOFIELD, U. S. Army, Retired (U. S. Military Academy, 1853).

FELLOW GRADUATES: The tablet which we are about to unveil commemorates the completion of the first century of the Military Academy. Let us all pledge ourselves to our country that the best efforts of our lives shall be to make the record of the second century even more memorable than that of the first.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ORATOR OF THE DAY BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

THAT many of our great soldiers were sons of this school is known to most of our countrymen. It is not so well known, however, that many of her sons have borne in the paths of peace no less distinguished and conspicuous parts in the task of developing the resources of our country. Aside from their share in the Army's work in opening the continent to settlement, graduates of this school surveyed the early railway routes of the country, located the lines, constructed them, and often operated the completed roads. The General Government lent their services to assist in carrying out a system of internal improvements upon which the unprecedented development of the country during the first half of the century was dependent. What is true of the land routes is, in a large measure, true of our waterways. Many of the great canals were planned by the officers and graduates of this school. Harbors and light-houses planned and built by them make the navigation of our seas and lakes secure. The public domain is divided into homesteads by their system. In office, as President, Cabinet ministers, ambassadors, Congressmen, governors of States, and in municipal stations; as college presidents, in the manufactories, in the countinghouse, at the bar, in the pulpit, and as authors, they have done honor to the Academy and have contributed to the prosperity and influence of the nation. In the arts of peace, no less than in those of war, they have thus formed an organic part of



TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF WEST POINT, 1903.

the community of their fellow-citizens and have well served the public.

The son of West Point chosen by her to speak this day for his alma mater has served conspicuously as a soldier and as a citizen. He was four times brevetted for gallant and meritorious service in battle. He won the confidence and was the trusted aid-de-camp of that great commander, General Grant. In peace, in the construction, operation, and executive control of railways, and in letters, he has won distinction, and he is again in his country's public service as its representative to one of the world's great powers. It is a peculiarly felicitous coincidence that the orator of the United States Military Academy at the celebration of the first century of its existence should be our ambassador to that great and chivalrous nation to whose generous aid and assistance our country is so greatly indebted in its struggle for independence, and whose gallant soldiers were our comrades in the first years of the existence of our Army.

I have the honor, gentlemen, of introducing the orator of the day, Gen. Horace Porter, LL. D., Ambassador to France.

ADDRESS BY THE ORATOR OF THE DAY,

General HORACE PORTER (late U. S. Army), Ambassador of the United States to France (U. S. Military Academy, 1860).

SINCE the foundation of the United States Military Academy upon the historic spot on which to-day this vast concourse of visitors is assembled, the dial hands of the celestial clock record a century's flight. Upon the centennial of the birth of this devoted child of the Nation, she stands with outstretched hands to press the cup of greeting to the lips of all who come to pay her homage and, with natural fondness, bids her sons to return to her after the trials and vicissitudes of their life's career and once more repose their heads upon her bosom.

It is in every sense an ideal site on which to have founded an institution to teach the science and the art of war. Here the Academy sits enthroned in the fastness of the legendary Highlands; the cold, gray, rugged rocks which form her battlements are symbolic of the rigor of the discipline exacted of her children; her towering hills seem to lift man nearer to his God; the mist-laden storm clouds may lower above her, but they break upon her crags and peaks as hostile lines of battle have so often broken upon the sword points of her heroic sons. Her abode is incomparably beautiful at all hours and in all seasons. At one time we find her mountains reverberating and her plain trembling with the thunder of her guns, as their volleys rend the air in mimic warfare, or, as with their crimson breath they utter their notes of greeting to an illustrious soldier-President who honors her imposing fete day by his distinguished presence. At another time stillness rules her camp; the snowy whiteness of her

tents glistens in the golden light of a midsummer moon, the prevailing silence is broken only by the cadenced footfalls of her trusty sentinels, or the rippling of the waters of the noble stream which flows at her base, bearing to the sea those great argosies of commerce which measure a nation's material prosperity.

As we stand here to-day a hundred years of history pass in review before us, and we would fain light the torch of memory and count the brilliant beads of recollection. When our ancestors threw down the gauntlet to the mother country and resolved to conquer the right to form a government of their own, able leaders were found who had gained a valuable experience in battles with savage tribes and especially in the French and Indian wars, but there was a total lack of officers who had received a military education, and drill masters for our troops were eagerly sought among the trained soldiers of Europe. This want led our statesmen, at an early day, to consider the question of establishing a training school for officers of future armies. Washington favored West Point, which had been so closely identified with his military career, as the most appropriate site for such an institution. During his second administration, in 1794, a military school was located here, but in 1796 the building was destroyed by fire and for several years the instruction was suspended. In Washington's Farewell Address, that immortal document, well described as unequaled by any composition of uninspired wisdom, he formulated a memorable maxim in the words:

> To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace.

Two days before his death in 1799, he wrote to Hamilton a letter, probably the last one his illustrious hand ever penned, saying—

> The establishment of a military academy upon a respectable and extensive basis has ever been considered by me as an object of primary

importance in this country, and while I was in the Chair of Government I omitted no proper opportunity of recommending it to the attention of the Legislature.

Thus this infant of the State received at its baptism Washington's dying benediction.

The present permanent Academy was founded in 1802. The class that year contained 2 cadets. During the ten years following the average number was 20. We might say of the cadets of those days what Curran said of the books in his library—"not numerous, but select." The instruction was then as meager as the rations, and this newborn child was so poorly cared for that it was scarcely provided with decent swaddling clothes. In fact, the necessity of the school came to be seriously questioned. But then occurred the war of 1812; the institution received greater consideration, was more efficiently organized, and the maximum number of cadets was fixed at 250. The golden age of the Academy, however, began with the advent as Superintendent of a soldier who seemed especially created for the position, that man of honored memory, crowned with the title of "Father of the Academy," Col. Sylvanus Thayer. He brought to his field of usefulness a broad scholarship, a ripe experience, an unerring judgment. In his work it was the very magnitude of the task that seemed to call forth the powers which mastered it. While upon an official mission in Europe he had culled from the most noted war schools of the Old World the best features of their curriculum, and afterwards introduced them here. In the sixteen years of his labors he raised the institution from an elementary school to the grade of the highest academies. Among West Point's graduates a test of fidelity is the veneration in which they hold his name.

After the close of the War of 1812, when the drums had

beaten the glad notes of victory and the bugles had sounded a truce, there was a period of some thirty years in which the colors were furled and swords were sheathed. Again a lack of appreciation of the work of the Academy prevailed, and there was much grumbling at the expense it entailed. But then came the war with Mexico. An adventurous campaign was to be undertaken in an unknown land, where skill and science were to play an important part, and her graduates were gladly sought to complete the organization of the expeditionary army. The encomiums passed upon them by their commanders for the practical manner in which they applied their scientific knowledge and their devotion and personal gallantry in that triumphal march from the Gulf to the Halls of the Montezumas silenced all objectors, and convinced the most reluctant that the living had justified their schooling by their deeds; that, if one can barter blood for gold, the dead had amply repaid the cost of their education with their lives.

At different periods campaigns against hostile Indian tribes—the most distasteful of all warfare—tested the powers of our little Army. In 1861 the Temple of Janus again threw wide its portals, and the nation entered upon the most appalling struggle that the New World has ever known. For four years the arts of peace gave way to the science of destruction, blood flowed as freely as festal wine, and the high carnival of slaughter reigned until the record of the carnage staggered humanity. West Point's graduates in that war, from leaders of armies to commanders of companies, by their brilliant feats of arms and conspicuous display of American manhood, challenged the admiration of the world.

In subsequent years an attack was made again upon the Academy. A Representative in Congress proposed to abandon

it and sell the property. The answer made to him was in substance:

There never was but one American who tried to sell West Point, and God in his Providence did not permit him to succeed. His name was Benedict Arnold.

In the war with Spain West Point again proved her usefulness. Her officers bore an honorable part in liberating an oppressed people, lighting their watch fires even in the lands of the antipodes, dipping the fringes of their banners in the waters of Oriental seas, setting our country a century ahead in history and raising it to the proud distinction of a world power.

In this contest the blue and the gray of the previous struggle were blended into one harmonious, patriotic color, and men whose opinions had once made them foes again marched shoulder to shoulder beneath the folds of the red, white, and blue, that banner which represents a trinity of colors—a union of loyalty.

The most recent prominent event in the annals of the Academy has been the donation of the majestic building, with its chaste lines and graceful proportions, the hospitality of which we to-day enjoy. The donor, by this act of princely generosity, gained title deeds to gratitude of which he can never be dispossessed. It has been said that gratitude is a debt in which it is left to the debtor to pay in whatever coin he pleases. Alas! we have no coin save the fervent tribute of thankful hearts with which to pay the priceless debt of gratitude we owe to General George W. Cullum.

The system pursued in the conduct of this Academy is in perfect keeping with the spirit of our liberal institutions. The equal participation of all the States and Congressional districts in the nomination of Cadets, their selection without regard to race, religion, color, wealth, or station, and their impartial examinations, in which the names they bear exert

no more influence on the result than the numbers which designate them, are methods as democratic as the most liberal-minded could desire. The fact that during the past century less than one-half of those who entered were graduated shows an instruction as thorough as the most exacting could demand. Here every Cadet must stand on his own individual merits. He who would be called Thor must be able to wield Thor's battle-ax; he who would be called Ulysses must be able to bend Ulysses's bow.

It has been asked why impart practically the same education to all Cadets, to those destined for the line as well as for the scientific corps? It is because it is believed that the mental discipline, powers of investigation, and accurate methods of thought requisite in solving difficult problems in the higher branches of science are the same qualities which are necessary in planning campaigns against wily savage tribes or conducting battles against trained armies.

An ancient writer has said: "We fatten a sheep on grass not in order to obtain a crop of hay from its back, but so that it may feed us with its mutton and clothe us with its wool." In like manner we train a soldier in science, not with the expectation that he will use an equatorial in getting the range of an advancing battle line, or ascertain his own whereabouts by finding astronomically the longitude of his post by means of lunar culminations, or frighten away an enemy by shaking a table of logarithms at him, terrifying as those figures are, but in order that he may have the general powers of his brain fully developed, be able to concentrate his thoughts, to reason logically, to grasp with precision the difficult problems of a campaign and thus be the better prepared to lead men and to gain battles for the Republic. The fight may last but a day, the training to win it may require many toilsome years. A bicyclist, with a broken machine, stopped at a country blacksmith's to have it mended. The workman

said his charge was a dollar—twenty-five cents for the job and seventy-five cents for knowing how to do it. Battles should be won first with the brain, then with the sword. Men should be taught not only how to stop bullets but how to direct them. Where human life is at stake, we want duels, not butcheries; victories, not excuses. It is quite certain that future successes in war will depend less on numbers and more on discipline, the cultivation of the morale of the soldier, improved weapons, celerity of movements, and an intelligent application of the study of logistics.

It is conceded that no student can successfully master a subject unless his mind becomes duly interested in it. To produce good music an instrument must be in tune. The student who here studies the art of war finds himself in a purely military atmosphere, and feels all the stimulus of his surroundings. About this region, celebrated for its strategic importance, there cluster the most inspiring memories of the war of independence, which constituted the heroic age of the Republic. Here invading armies were checked, hostile fleets were barred, treason was baffled. Here flows the historic Hudson, rich in precious revolutionary reminiscences. From the unequal battle of Harlem Heights to the triumphant field of Saratoga, yonder stream, throughout its entire length, is studded with beacon lights of liberty. Upon the plain are displayed the trophies of former wars; upon the giant rocks are graven the names of victorious battles; pendant on the building's walls are tablets and portraits which recall the record of imperishable deeds and perpetuate names which deserve to be immortal. Here statues are erected to commemorate men who lived believing in their country, who died that their faith might be fulfilled. The mute eloquence of their monuments will plead for equal sacrifice should war again threaten the nation's life, for example is stronger than precept, and patterns are better followed than rules. It

would be a recalcitrant cadet indeed who, under such circumstances, could fail to be imbued with an absorbing interest in the study of the profession of his choice.

It may be asked whether an education amid such surroundings may not make men lovers of war and anxious to taste its experiences. There is little fear of such a result. In this country a soldier is no longer respected if he fails to realize that war should be undertaken only in the interest of peace, and that a nation's prosperity depends upon public tranquillity. He knows full well that a people can be military without being warlike—that a government can be progressive without being aggressive. It was one of our most combative commanders in the field who uttered the famous aphorism: "Let us have peace," and whose distaste for war was so pronounced that, in after life, he never attended a review of troops, even when tendered in his special honor by the great military powers of Europe. Washington, after having experienced the horrors of war, fully appreciated the piping times of peace, when soldiers may turn their battle-axes into billhooks and their helmets into beehives, and yet he never failed to put himself on record in favor of the maintenance of an adequate army. For example, when in convention a delegate moved that the size of the Army should never be allowed to exceed 5,000 men, the great Founder of the Republic, with a display of ready wit which surprised his colleagues, killed the motion by offering an amendment prescribing that no foreign power should be allowed to invade the country with more than 3,000 men. An army may be dangerous when wielded by an arbitrary sovereign, but never when directed by a sovereign people.

The true soldier regards an army as serving the same purpose to the country as the lightning rod to the house, which reaches out, not to attract the lightning but to meet it when it strikes, disperse its forces, and stay the ruin it would work.

Upon our national arms the American eagle is represented as holding in one talon the olive branch of peace, in the other the shafts of war. He leaves to his adversaries which to choose.

No scholar can claim a monopoly of knowledge or perfection in learning. That would be mere pedantry; and Addison tells us that "Pedantry in learning is like hypocrisy in religion—a form of knowledge without the power of it." There are two means of acquiring an education—in the schools and in the great university of experience. Fortunately for the prosperity of nations and the peace of the world, we do not have continual wars in which to instruct our officers, and so we give an education in the schools, making it as practical as possible.

In future, as in past wars, the great bulk of our Army will always be composed of volunteers, those patriotic types of American manhood who, at the call to arms, quit their peaceful avocations, sacrifice their material interests, and rally to the defense of their country's standard. They receive their valuable but hard-learned lessons in the field and even in the presence of the enemy. The graduates from their ranks have furnished to the Army some of its most distinguished officers. The cordial and efficient cooperation of these two great branches of the Service has everywhere brought success to our arms. I have no patience with occasional writers who would make it appear that there are dissensions and discord between these two bodies battling in the same cause. It is a common practice for volunteer organizations to apply for Regular officers to command them, while the Regulars have constantly sought commissions in the Volunteers. In the field inseparable ties of true comradeship have been formed among them, for as iron is welded in the heat of the forge, so are friendships welded in the heat of battle. Anyone in either of these two honorable branches of the

Army who would be guilty of petty jealousy or half-hearted cooperation would be unfit for the Service to which he belonged and unworthy of the name of soldier.

This Academy had its birth and grew to manhood in the most marvelous century of recorded time, an age in which the advance of civilization and the triumphs in useful inventions and scientific discoveries inspire us with the grandeur of events and thrill us with the majesty of achievement. During this eventful period there were graduated 4067 Cadets. They have displayed their devotion upon countless battlefields and attested their usefulness in all the civil walks of life—in science and art, in trade and commerce, in literature and oratory, in theology, law, diplomacy, and statesmanship, from the modest engineer to President of the Republic. Nearly all who entered the Army have been disbursing officers in some capacity or other, from post treasurer to Paymaster-General, and with such scrupulous fidelity have the hundreds—perhaps thousands—of millions intrusted to them been accounted for that those who have ever been charged with peculation can be numbered on the fingers of one hand. Time does not permit us to recount their services. To select for special comment, even the more illustrious, would be to make invidious distinction; to mention all who have efficiently served the State, would be to call the roll of graduates. They need no eulogist, their services attest their worth. They did their duty and trusted to history for their meed of praise.

Of the total of 4067 graduates, 238 have fallen, killed or mortally wounded on the field of battle. In the trials of the self-sacrificing profession in which they cast their lot, they had to learn that "all hours wound—the last one kills." The record of West Point's heroic dead is inexpressibly sad; it is incomparably glorious. The story of their deeds rises to the sublimity of an epic. They honored the

age in which they lived, and future generations will read with pride the inscription on their tombs. The world can better appreciate their services since they have fallen, and the historian has had time to record their achievements. A tree is best measured when it is down. When La Tour d'Auvergne, who by his matchless deeds of valor gained the proud title of the First Grenadier of France, finally fell with his face to the foe, pierced by the enemy's bullets, Napoleon issued an order prescribing that this soldier's name should be carried on the active list, and to this day the sergeant of the company to which be belonged calls "La Tour d'Auvergne," and the color bearer answers "Mort au Champ d'Honneur." If the roll of West Point's graduates were called to-day answer could be made, not for one but for hundreds, "Dead on the field of honor."

I know that I voice the sentiments of every graduate, every officer of the Army, and every patriotic citizen when I express the profound acknowledgments and the deep sense of obligation due to all who have been instrumental in procuring the recent liberal appropriations from a generous Congress for enlarging and improving the Academy, with a view to keeping pace with our growing population, and in order that the efficiency of the institution may increase and multiply and its usefulness be greater even in the coming ages than in the century which is closing. In these names I include those eminent statesmen whose intelligent foresight has been so important in guiding national legislation, the honored Secretary of War, the "organizer of victory," the Carnot of this administration, the able Superintendent of the Academy whose superb courage on the field is matched by his rare powers of administration, and all those associated with him, and the officers of the Army holding high positions in Washington, who, in cases where they are not enrolled as graduates have been as faithful and devoted to the interests of the

institution as if they had been reared within its walls. Conspicuous among the latter I would name the distinguished Adjutant-General of the Army.

And now a word to the Corps of Cadets, the departure of whose graduating class marks the close of the first century of the Academy's life. The boy is father to the man. The present is the mold in which the future is cast. The dominant characteristics of the cadet are seen in the future general. You have learned here how to command, and a still more useful lesson, how to obey. You have been taught obedience to the civil as well as to the military code, for in this land the military is always subordinate to the civil law. Not the least valuable part of your education is your service in the cadet ranks, performing the duties of a private soldier. That alone can acquaint you with the feelings and the capabilities of the soldiers you will command. It teaches you just how long a man can carry a musket in one position without overfatigue, just how hard it is to keep awake on sentry duty after an exhausting day's march. You will never forget this part of your training. When Marshal Lannes's grenadiers had been repulsed in an assault upon the walls of a fortified city, and hesitated to renew the attack, Lannes seized a scaling ladder and rushing forward, cried: "Before I was a marshal I was a grenadier, and I have not forgotten my training." Inspired by his example, the grenadiers carried the walls and captured everything before them.

Courage is the soldier's cardinal virtue. You will seldom go amiss in following General Grant's instructions to his commanders, "When in doubt move to the front." Modesty should go hand in hand with valor. Never underrate yourself in a battle, never overrate yourself in a dispatch. When clothed with authority, avoid everything which savors of puppyism, an evil sometimes bred by power, and shun as well a spirit of dogmatism, which Johnson said is only

puppyism grown to maturity. When you are sure that you are right, do not be disarmed by unjust criticism. Mankind is divided into two classes, those who go ahead and do something and those who sit back and criticise them for not doing it better. You cannot make all men think alike. You might as well try to synchronize the clocks of Charles the Fifth. Censure is often the concomitant to success. Ostracism was the Greeks' reward for popularity; derision and caricature pursued the recipient of a Roman triumph. Even at the present day, in a land whose boast is justice, and among a people whose patent of manhood is their sense of fair play, while the American soldier, by his fidelity, his manly bearing, his matchless gallantry has earned the right to stand with head covered and with feet sandaled in the presence of the proudest warriors of foreign lands, at home the envenomed shafts of slander are hurled at him from behind his back, but they have not even pierced the khaki of his uniform. When the authors of these baseless calumnies are moldering in unmarked and forgotten graves, the patriotic American people will be searching for monumental marble white enough and pure enough on which to engrave the names of our heroes in the distant Philippines.

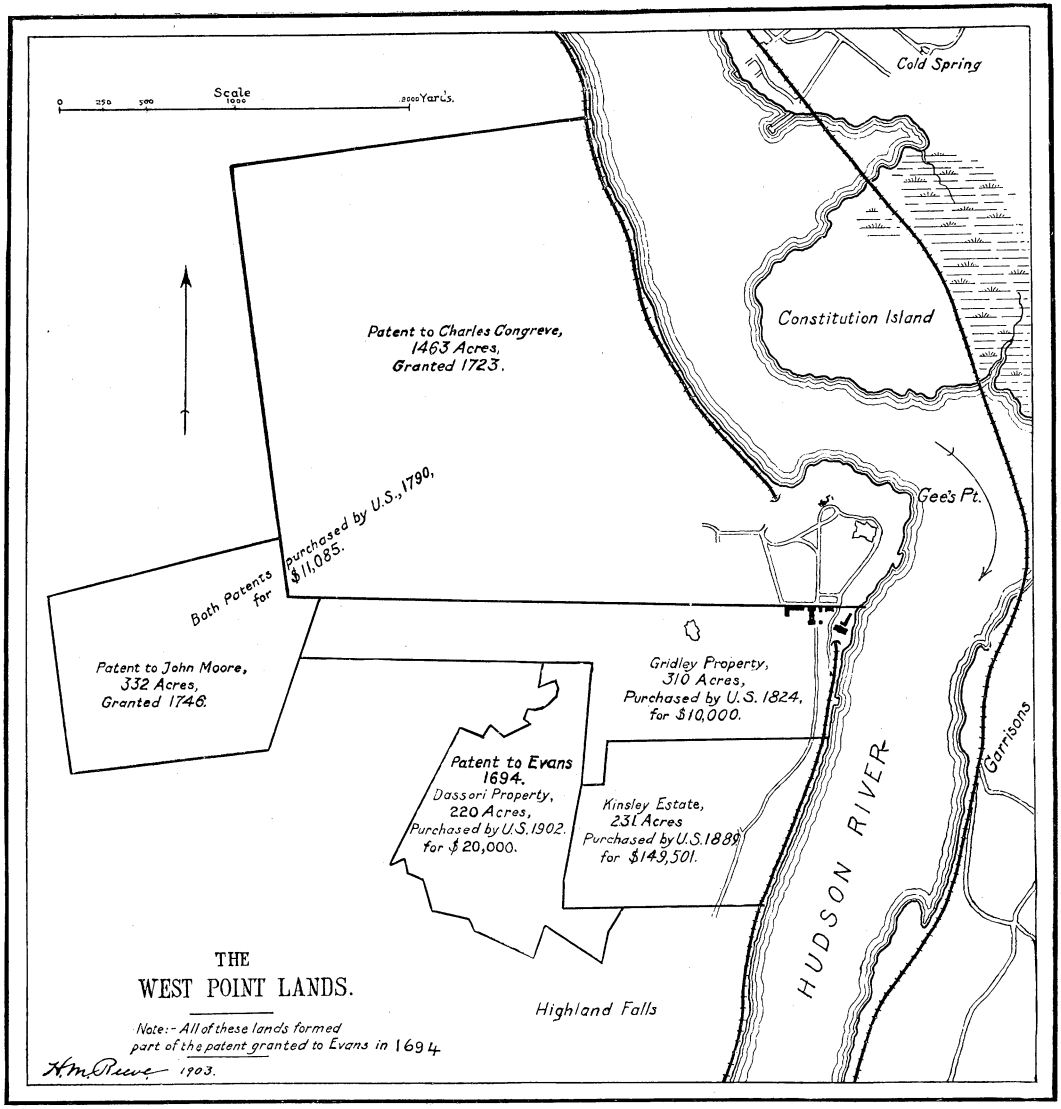
In this institution the flag of your country is kept constantly in view. It is not simply a piece of bunting which can be purchased for a few shillings in the nearest shop; it is not a mere cluster of brilliant colors with which to decorate a window for holiday display; it is the emblem of dignity, authority, power. Insult it, and millions will spring to its defense, resolved that it shall never be dethroned from its proud supremacy. In this free land there is no sovereign, fealty to whom symbolizes national loyalty, no crown to typify inherent authority; our sole emblem of fidelity to country is the flag. Here you are trained to salute it, taught

to reverence it. Remember that it is to be your pillar of cloud by day, your pillar of fire by night, that it will wave above you in victory, will be your rallying point in defeat, and if it be your privilege to offer up your life in its defense, its gentle folds will rest upon your bosom in death, its crimson stripes will mingle with your generous heart's blood, its very presence there will write a nobler epitaph than that on the sarcophagus in which the great Sesostris sleeps.

A generous country has with fostering care equipped you for your career. It is entitled to your undivided allegiance. In closing, let me mention, by way of illustration, a most touching and instructive scene which I once witnessed at the annual meeting in the great hall of the Sorbonne in Paris for the purpose of awarding medals of honor to those who had performed acts of conspicuous bravery in saving human life at sea. A bright-eyed boy of scarcely fourteen summers was called to the platform. The story was recounted of how one winter's night when a fierce tempest was raging on the rude Normandy coast, he saw signals of distress at sea and started with his father, the captain of a small vessel, and the mate to attempt a rescue. By dint of almost superhuman effort the crew of a sinking ship was safely taken aboard. A wave then washed the father from the deck. The boy plunged into the seething waves to save him, but the attempt was in vain and the father perished. The lad struggled back to the vessel to find that the mate had also been washed overboard. Then lashing himself fast, he took the wheel and guided the boat, with its precious cargo of human souls, through the howling storm safely into port. The minister of public instruction, after paying a touching tribute to the boy's courage in a voice broken with emotion, pinned the medal on his breast, placed in his hands a diploma of honor, and then, seizing the brave lad in his arms, imprinted a kiss on each cheek. For a moment the boy seemed dazed, not knowing

which way to turn, as he stood there with the tears streaming down his bronzed cheeks while everyone in that vast audience wept in sympathy. Suddenly his eyes turned toward his old peasant mother, she to whom he owed his birth and his training, as she sat at the back of the platform with bended form and wearing her widow's cap. He rushed to her, took the medal from his breast and, casting it and his diploma into her lap, threw himself on his knees at her feet.

Men of West Point, in the honorable career which you have chosen, whatever laurels you may win, always be ready to lay them at the feet of your country to which you owe your birth and your education.



THE WEST POINT LANDS. (DRAWN BY CAPT. H. M. REEVE, GENERAL STAFF, U. S. ARMY, U. S. M. A., 1892.)

INTRODUCTION OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR BY THE SUPERINTENDENT U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY.

AS FIRST established by law, the Military Academy was a part of the Corps of Engineers. For over sixty years it was under the supervision and practical control of that distinguished and able body of men. They nurtured it through its infancy, and championed it until it had not only shown its usefulness in the scientific and industrial world, but had proved its worth upon the battlefield and its value to our nation. By act of Congress in 1866 the supervision and charge of the Military Academy were placed in the War Department "under such officer or officers as the Secretary of War may assign to that duty." The governing reasons were that the change would simplify the organization, would enlarge the sphere of selection for its control, and would bring the institution more directly under the supervision of the Government. Upon the Secretary of War, therefore, and upon such officers as he may select for supervision of the Academy, largely depends its efficiency and progress.

The Adjutant-General of the Army, acting under the general control of the Secretary of War, has for twenty years been charged with the immediate supervision of the Military Academy. It is a pleasure to express on this public occasion to the Honorable Secretary of War and to the distinguished Adjutant-General of the Army our grateful thanks for the uniform interest they have at all times manifested in its welfare, as well as for their cordial and active support of the measures that have emanated from

it, without which support its present satisfactory condition in discipline, scholastic work, and material improvement would have been impossible.

In the military profession, as in every other, the basis of efficiency lies in the study of fundamental principles followed by their application. The greater the opportunity for such study the greater the inducement, and the wider the study the more beneficial the result, both to the officer and the country. It is, therefore, most fortunate for the Army that within a year we have seen established in it a comprehensive and complete system of schools for officers of all branches of service. To our next speaker belongs the credit for this great step, which, with many other acts of moment to the Army, will make his administration of the high office with which he is entrusted a memorable one in the history of our country.

I have the honor to present the Hon. Elihu Root, Secretary of War.

LOOKING NORTH FROM WEST POINT. (FROM A PAINTING BY ROBERT W. WEIR, PROFESSOR, U. S. M. A.)

ADDRESS BY HON. ELIHU ROOT, SECRETARY OF WAR.

MR. PRESIDENT, MR. SUPERINTENDENT, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN: Every soldier here would more readily charge a battery than I undertake to follow the eloquence, humor, and pathos of Horace Porter. Fortunately, but few and brief should be the words which close this cheerful and interesting occasion. The centennial year of the Military Academy fittingly coincides with the beginning of an era of great opportunity and greater obligation. One hundred years ago the people of the United States, few as they were, were scattered in rural communities; the Indian and the game were near every door, and by every door hung the rifle, the powder horn, and the bullet mold. The men of Lexington and Concord had little training, but every man knew how to shoot. Life was closer to the simplicities of living, and every man knew how to take care of himself out of doors, to feed himself, to clothe himself under the simple and the hard conditions of warfare. Armies were small; the opportunities for supply were proportionately great. But now, with the increase of our population, the collection of a great proportion of our people in the great cities, with the disappearance of game, with the increasing luxuries and refinements of life, the volunteer armies upon which the Republic must in the main depend to fight its wars will be made up of men who for the most part have never fired a gun. Armies are large, and the problems of supply, of transportation, have become complicated and difficult, requiring the best art of the best-trained minds. The increase in the scientific qualities of attack and defense and the changes

in the weapons of destruction have made it impossible that the man should come from the counter and the plow and the workshop and be familiar with the tools which he has to use as a soldier.

And now, at the very time that this great institution of military instruction is rounding out its first century of existence, the attention of our people has been sharply concentrated upon this increased necessity for military training and military science by the events of the past few years, and the conclusion which has been reached finds expression in the action of the National Legislature, which in the long run, through long discussion but with absolute certainty, reaches just conclusions in the end upon all great subjects of public importance. The conclusion that the country needs the Military Academy more at the beginning of the second century of its existence than it did at the beginning of the first is expressed by the laws of Congress, which have enlarged the number of your corps and which are just now devoting to the enlargement of the accommodations of the Academy the munificent sum of two million dollars to be immediately expended, with an authorized expenditure of five millions and a half. How well you will be able to meet the obligation and to justify this confidence let the record of the American Army of to-day answer. For our Army of America, small as it was, and far across the sea, within a few weeks of active military operation captured the fortified city of Santiago, took prisoners an army greater in number than itself, and ended in a single short campaign the conflict with the power which once controlled almost the whole of the western world. Having accomplished that feat, the Army gave to the island of Cuba what it had won; it released the imprisoned; it healed the sick; it cleaned the jails; it opened hospitals and asylums; it dotted the country from end to end with schools; it gathered the

children from the fields and forests and towns and set them in rows of bright and interested faces with schoolbooks before them; it extirpated disease and saved more lives than were lost in all the war; it established the most wonderful school of government ever known, and for three years has been teaching Cuban people how to govern themselves, and at last it has come away, leaving a free and happy and grateful people.

Its clearsighted courage made straight the way from the sea to Peking and after the capture of the imperial city and the rescue of the beleagured legations, in the space of a few short weeks the district of the city controlled by the American Army was found crowded with the people who had returned to their customary avocations under the protection of wise and just soldiers who fought and who carried the blessings of peace and justice, as they fought, under the Stars and Stripes.

In the Philippines, that great stretch of country extending for more than 1,000 miles from north to south, the Army has put down an insurrection of 7,000,000 people, so that to-day peace reigns from the northernmost point of Luzon to the southernmost island of the Sulu Archipelago. And with the sword it has carried the schoolbook, the blessings of peace and self-government and individual liberty, and now, in little more than three years after the great struggle began, in February, 1899, nine-tenths of all the men who took part in the insurgent government are engaged in sustaining or carrying on the government of the Philippines under the protection of American liberty.

Our soldiers have been criticised, and some of them have been accused, but however ready men at ease here may be to believe, to repeat, to rejoice in accusations against our brethren who are fighting under the American flag in support of American sovereignty, away upon the other side of

the world, let me tell you that the President and the Secretary of War and the officers, the public officers of our Government at Washington, have followed these soldiers of ours in report and in private letters and in telegraphic dispatches, and by the oral word of those who have returned, during all their whole course of conflict; have seen them there often barefooted tramping through the jungle; have seen them one by one dropping off, murdered by the treacherous foe; have seen them fading from disease; have seen them falling by shot and by sword; have seen them courageous, patient, enduring, magnanimous, faithful, loyal always to the highest standard of American citizenship, and we give you our words that these men shall not by the public officers of the United States charged to do justice to them be condemned unheard.

Be of good cheer, American soldiers. When the record comes to be made up in the cool judgment of the American people and of mankind; after Cuba, with its brilliant page, after China, with its glorious achievement, will be written another page equally brilliant, equally glorious, on which will be recorded the achievements, in war and in peace, of the American army in the Philippines.

All honor to the volunteers who have been and who must always be the main support of our country in war. All honor to the genius, the courage, the self-sacrifice of the men, many of whom I see before me now, who have won immortal renown as generals of the Volunteer Army. They will be the first to say aye when I declare that the formative power, the high standard of conduct, the informing spirit of every American army is to be found in the Regular Army of the United States. All honor to the officers of the Regular Army, who in true republican fashion have worked their way up from the ranks, as did Chaffee, commanding in the Philippines. And all honor to the officers who, turning aside from the

allurements of wealth and honor in civil life, have been appointed to the Army as civilians, accepting the slender income and the hard life that is known to accompany the duties of a soldier. They will be with the first to say aye when I say that the informing spirit, the high standard of the Regular Army are derived from the graduates, the teachings, and the traditions of the Military Academy. Happy augury of the future that here where for a hundred years honor has ever ruled—honor made up of courage, truth, compassion, loyalty—is to be found the formative and controlling power of the American army of the future—regular, militia, and volunteer. No army inspired by the spirit of the Military Academy can ever endanger a country's liberty or can ever desert its country's flag.

ALUMNI DAY.

PRAYER.

By Rev. GEORGE DESHON, C. S. P. (U. S. Military Academy, 1843).

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL FATHER, we bow down in humble adoration before Thy Divine Majesty. We acknowledge that Thou art our Creator and that we are simply Thy creatures; that all we have—our life, our health, our strength, the endowments of body and soul, our reputation, our worldly goods—all are the gifts of Thy bounty. May we make such use of them as to gain Thy favor and a participation in Thy happiness.

May Thy Kingdom come here on the earth. We pray for Thy Holy Church, which Thou hast founded on a rock, commissioned to teach all nations the very truth which Thou hast taught us, promising to be with her until the end of the world, that she may fulfill her vocation, and that all men may be brought to the knowledge of this truth and the fulfillment of their eternal destiny.

We pray Thee for our country, for our President of the United States and the Congress, for the governors and legislatures of the different States, that wise and just laws may be made for the prosperity and the benefit of all classes of our fellow-citizens, that vice, immorality, and dishonesty may be suppressed and virtue and religion may be promoted.

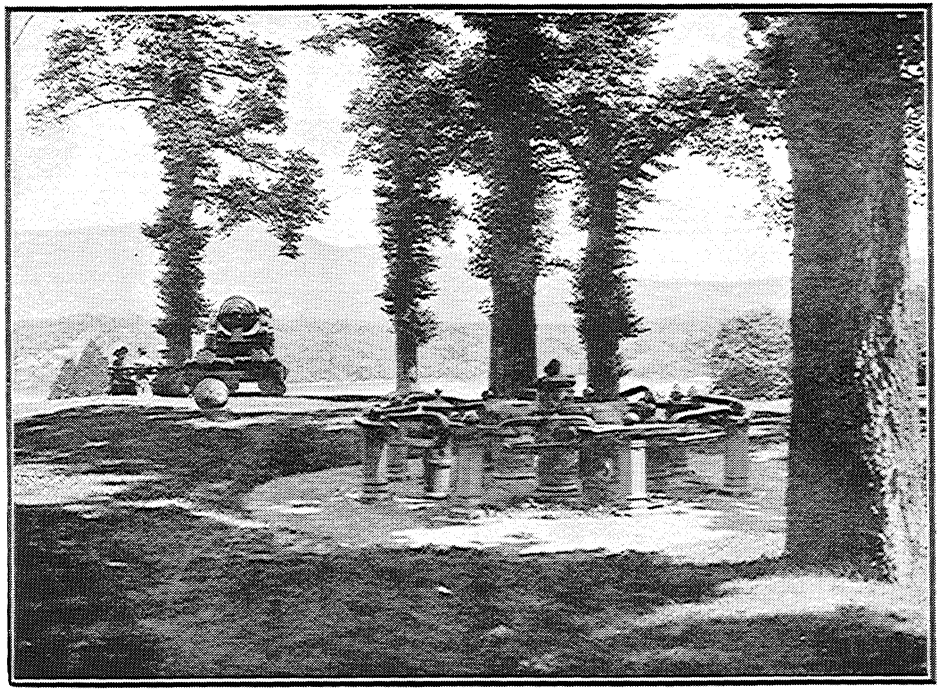
We pray Thee for the Army and Navy of these United States, and particularly for our beloved Military Academy, for the Superintendent and those detailed on duty in it, that

its affairs may be administered wisely, efficiently, and kindly, so that all the objects for which it was founded a hundred years ago may deserve the esteem and love of our country.

We pray for all the alumni of the Academy that they may be men of honor and integrity, lovers of God and their country, keeping the commandments of God not only in the letter but in the spirit, that when this short and transitory life is over they may be received into the eternal habitations of the Kingdom of Heaven.

And we pray for the souls of the faithful departed, for our parents, our children, our brothers and sisters and relatives and friends who have left us, that if at the hour of their death there remained any spot or blemish rendering them unfit for the presence of God it may be speedily washed away and that they may enter into the joy of the Lord.

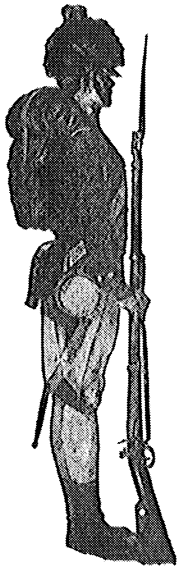
All this we ask for the sake of the merits and suffering of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.



TROPHY POINT, SHOWING PART OF THE CHAIN ACROSS THE HUDSON, 1778.

ADDRESS BY LIEUT. GEN. J. M. SCHOFIELD, U. S. ARMY, RETIRED (U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY, 1853).

President of the Association of Graduates U. S. Military Academy



INFANTRY PRIVATE, 1802.

DURING the entire colonial period of this country, during the war of independence, and even the subsequent war with Great Britain the military forces of the country were mostly untrained, undisciplined militia, until the latter period of the Revolution, when Washington succeeded, after great effort, in organizing and disciplining the troops of the "Continental Line." Even then, except for the few gallant foreigners who cast their lot with the young Republic, technical military education was almost unknown in this country. But the leading soldiers and statesmen of that period were not unmindful at any time of the great disadvantage under which the country labored because of the lack of such education. At the very beginning of the war with Great Britain steps were taken to introduce some sort of military instruction among the new levies, and efforts to this end were continued by Washington and his subordinates until he had in the regiments of the Continental Line a fairly well-disciplined Regular Army.

Immediately after the war, in the discussions of the question of a peace establishment for the country, great prominence was given to a Military Academy as an essential

part of such establishment. But the condition of the country for the next few years, under the old Articles of Federation, was not favorable to the consideration of any such subject. The vital question of the continued existence of the States as a nation and the adoption of an effective Constitution superseded all minor questions. But in 1793, four years after the organization of the Government under the present Constitution, Washington as President instituted measures looking to the establishment of a Military Academy. This resulted in the act of Congress of May 9, 1794, which provided for a Corps of Artillerists and Engineers of four companies, each company to have two Cadets, etc. Several subsequent acts authorized the appointment of Cadets in limited numbers and provided for their instruction; and finally the act of March 16, 1802, which authorized the organization of a separate Corps of Engineers, provided that the said corps, when so organized, should be stationed at West Point and should constitute a Military Academy. This was the germ, planted at West Point one hundred years ago, from which grew in time a great military institution.

But the development and growth of the institution were slow, indeed. Nearly everything necessary to its healthy existence was wanting, and many years were spent in numerous efforts, through inadequate legislation and other expedients, to supply manifest deficiences. At length, in 1812, Congress passed an act providing a full corps of professors and instructors for the Academy and establishing the institution on a broad and solid basis so far as could be done by law. But it still remained to impart life and health and strength and vigor. The genius to do this was found in 1817. Then Major Sylvanus Thayer was assigned to duty as Superintendent of the Academy.

Major Thayer has been not unjustly called the father of the Military Academy. He was even more than that. He

took the Academy after its youth had been well nigh wasted, and, by appropriate discipline, training, and culture, developed one of the foremost institutions of learning in the world. It is true that West Point has not fallen behind in the advance of the country up to the present time. Yet it is equally true that its essential character to-day is the same as that impressed upon it by Major Thayer three-quarters of a century ago.

The Academy has been most fortunate, during the long period from the time of Major Thayer to the present, in having a corps of able, diligent, conscientious professors, instructors, and assistants, who have loyally supported the Superintendent in developing, perfecting, and enforcing the system of instruction and discipline which has made the institution famous. But I must leave to others the agreeable task of paying just and loving tribute of honor and respect to the memories of those great and good men, whose names are household words among the graduates of the Military Academy and the lovers of learning throughout the land.

Time will not permit a description here of the circumstances as they existed at West Point before Major Thayer assumed command in 1817. The condition has been justly characterized as chaotic. The measures instituted by him were so numerous, so drastic, so minute in detail, and so comprehensive as to justify the idea of a new creation rather than that of reconstruction or reform. Suffice it to say that the rules and methods then introduced and successfully enforced gave to West Point its unique character among the educational centers of the country and laid the foundations for its world-wide fame.

It would require too much time to explain in detail what constitutes the West Point system as compared with all others. But the more salient features may be briefly stated.

First, and most important of all, is discipline. The Military and Naval Academies alone, of all the educational

institutions in this country, have the necessary power to enforce the discipline which is requisite to their course of training. Second, is the incentives to great and constant exertion and strict observance of regulations on the part of cadets afforded by the prize offered to those who win in the competition. This prize is not only a commission in the Army (or Navy), but a commission in such corps as the graduate may prefer if his class rank entitles him to the choice. The strife for these coveted prizes is very great. Third, is the published daily record of each Cadet's scholarly performance and the final summing up of these records in each and every subject, their consolidation, together with the conduct record, at the end of each term and at the end of the four years' course, so that the Academic Board may decide wisely and justly not only the relative merits of all the members of a class, but what corps or arm of the service each Cadet is qualified to enter. The object of West Point training is not simply to fit young men for the Army, but to justly determine the appropriate place for each in the several corps and arms of the service.

It has been said sometimes that Cadets and graduates show signs of overwork. It would be strange indeed if, under such incentives, ambitious young men did not go to the limit of their strength and endurance. But how can this be avoided? Would you take away the incentive and leave to chance or influence the selection of officers for the highest places in the Army? Or even, if a young man with less brains than ambition injures his health in the long-continued effort to graduate at the head of his class, who can prevent him or deny him the right to make the effort? The law of survival of the fittest seems to be the only rule applicable to such a case. I have known some such in my own experience, but I have never known or heard of one in which the injury appeared to be lasting.

I will mention only two more of the peculiar West Point methods: One is the blackboard method of recitation. Its advantages are very great, and I believe are now well understood. I am informed that this method has, of late years, become very general in the schools of the country. The second is the subdivision of classes into small sections of from eight to ten Cadets, under an instructor for each section.

In this connection it is pleasing to refer to the fact that West Point has long since ceased to be the only place in this country where a thorough mathematical education can be obtained. The great institutions throughout the country now rival the Military Academy in the thoroughness of their instruction in mathematics, pure and applied, to all who desire such instruction. It is even more pleasing to note the vast advance made by the public schools of the country, as evinced by the action of the authorities in proposing to accept the certificates of such schools as sufficient evidence of qualification for admission to the Military Academy. Not the least, in my opinion, among the honors due our old alma mater, is the fact that it was the pioneer in that thorough method of instruction and training which has now become so general throughout the country.

A note of warning here is believed to be called for. The high character always sustained by the Corps of Cadets and by the graduates of the Academy has been due in great measure to the natural characters of the young men appointed Cadets. That this has been far above the average follows as a matter of course from the fact that the selection has been made by the Congressman himself from his own personal acquaintance with the candidate and his family. The Corps of Cadets has always been a real American aristocracy—an aristocracy of character. If the time ever comes when competitive examinations or school certificates are permitted to take the place of established character, serious injury will be

done to the Corps of Cadets and to the Army. The honor as officers and gentlemen, of which Cadets have justly been most proud, is very largely in their own keeping. It is greatly to be hoped that the appointing power will do nothing to diminish the purity of this fountain of honor which comes direct from what is best and purest in the country—the respectable family.

Our beloved Academy has always set before its students the highest standards of manly character. Veracity, honesty, honor, fidelity, and patriotism, no less than scholarly excellence, have been held indispensable on the part of all who would win the diploma. With exceedingly rare exceptions the roll of graduates is one long roll of honor of men who, in every walk of life, have been distinguished for meritorious services to the country, and especially for honorable conduct among their fellow-men. Very many have gained distinction as military leaders, and some have received the applause of the world as masterly commanders of great armies. These latter, most noble sons of the Academy, during all the vicissitudes of the war, whether in victory or in defeat, have maintained toward each other and toward the people of the country that honorable, chivalrous, and Christian conduct which most adorns the noble institution where they learned the art of war.

Such, briefly and very imperfectly sketched, is what the Military Academy has been and what it has done for the country in the first century of its life. The beginning of the new century finds the institution in a condition and in hands fully worthy of the past. The great demands of the future are, I doubt not, fully appreciated, and will be met with courage and zeal commensurate with the just expectations of the country. Let us all indulge the hope and confident expectation that our noble alma mater will go steadily forward, deserving higher and higher honors for her services to our beloved country.

ADDRESS BY BRIGADIER-GENERAL T. J. WOOD, U. S. ARMY, RETIRED (U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY, 1845).

Veteran of the Mexican war.

I SUPPOSE that some apology is necessary, for you would "scarce expect one of my age to appear in public on the stage," but your worthy Superintendent has requested me to come before you, and I have not had the heart to refuse him.

The theme which has been assigned to me to respond to is "the Mexican war." The first thought that occurs to me in connection with the Mexican war is the fact that it has entirely changed the destiny of the United States. Geographically, in the first place, for the great acquisition of territory of the United States through this war extended from the western frontier of Texas to the Pacific and embraced New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and California with its grand coast line from Lower California to the Southern boundary of Oregon; indeed such a vast area of territory was acquired that it requires a brilliant imagination to comprehend its dimensions. The Pacific Ocean with all its vast trade was opened up to us, and our more recent acquisitions of territory on both sides of the Pacific were but an after effect of the Mexican war, which gave to us a country that extended from sea to sea. So much for the effects, great as they were, of the Mexican war; and now what was the cause? How was this vast stretch of territory added to our country? The answer is simple; it was attained by military prowess, by the deeds of our soldiery.

Before I go further on this subject let me, without egotism, tell the story of my own relations with the military deeds of that far-away time. As you all know, I am a graduate of 1845. Upon graduation I was assigned to the Topographical Engineers, and was ordered immediately from West Point to report to General Taylor, at Corpus Christi, for duty on his staff. On my way there, I met an older graduate of the Academy of the class of 1835, who was also a member of the Topographical Engineers, then Lieut. George G. Meade, who afterwards rose to world-wide fame as commander of the national Army in the great battle of Gettysburg. Lieutenant Meade and myself arrived at Corpus Christi together, and reported to General Taylor for duty, and, being lieutenants, shared the same tent. Thus on the sands of Corpus Christi began my connection with the military organization that was soon to achieve a most remarkable success against foes superior in number.

It is an accepted axiom that the poetry and songs which are heard in the camp of an army are the best exponents of the feelings of an army. As an example of this axiom let me quote one stanza from a poem written at that time by Capt. Arthur T. Lee, of the Eighth Infantry, which was very popular in the army at Corpus Christi. This army was commonly called the "army of occupation."

> Some will sleep 'neath the prairie sod,
> And some will go back o'er the sea, my boys;
> But those who are true to their country and God
> Will meet at the last reveille, my boys.

The first battle in the drama of the Mexican war was fought on the 8th day of May, 1846. The army under General Taylor was on the march from Point Isabel to Fort Brown, and when it arrived at the plain of Palo Alto the general found himself confronted by the Mexican army, 4600 strong, under

General Ampudia. General Taylor immediately disposed his troops for action, opened fire with his batteries on the Mexican lines, and they in turn responded very vigorously with their guns.

I had been detailed by General Taylor to bring up the heavy guns from Point Isabel, and it had been found necessary to use oxen for that purpose, four yoke to a gun, and it was with great difficulty that we brought our ox guns into action, and I received my baptism of fire in charge of these heavy guns at Palo Alto. Major Samuel Ringgold, a graduate of this Academy, who was the founder and organizer of light artillery in our Army, was moving immediately in the rear of my section with his light battery when a cannon ball passing directly over my guns struck him, killing his horse and mortally wounding the major, so that by this chance, as it were, the first man I ever saw killed in action was a graduate of this Academy. This vigorous cannonade was kept up until darkness compelled its discontinuance. We had no direct evidence of its effect, but we felt sure that it had been decisive and marked.

Both armies rested on their arms on the field of battle, being unable to light any fires for the preparation of food because it would be a mark for the enemy. Somewhat to our surprise the following morning when we got up we found the enemy had retreated during the night.

As soon as the needed preparations could be made we at once marched in pursuit. About noon we found the enemy halted across our line of march in battle array at Resaca de la Palma; another sharp encounter ensued, but before nightfall we had again forced the Mexicans to withdraw with heavy loss, including several pieces of artillery and one general officer, General La Vega. This battle was marked by the very brilliant cavalry charge under Captain May of

the old Second Dragoons, which broke the Mexican center and captured several guns.

As the result of these two engagements the army of occupation under General Taylor, only 2200 strong, had compelled the Mexicans, 4600 strong, to retreat across the Rio Grande, and Texas was completely in our possession.

As soon as supplies could be brought up we ascended the Rio Grande to Carmaga, where a new base was established. In September '46 advance was begun into northern Mexico and the Mexicans were first encountered in force at Monterey. This city had been very strongly fortified by the Mexicans and their position was most formidable. General Taylor at once prepared for action, and after three days' hard fighting, some of it in the streets of the town in hand-to-hand combat, we so surrounded the town of Monterey that Ampudia, who was in command of the Mexicans, offered to surrender. General Taylor accepted the terms, and the Mexicans were disarmed and, under parole that they would not take up arms against the United States again, were allowed to evacuate the town.

During the winter of 1846–47 our army was encamped around Monterey, and quite a number of troops were drawn off to take part in General Scott's expedition on the east coast; but in February, 1847, we advanced as far south as Saltillo, and there learned that Santa Ana, the ablest general in the Mexican army, was advancing with a large army to overwhelm General Taylor's small force.

General Taylor fell back and concentrated his army at Buena Vista, and there awaited the Mexican advance. When Santa Ana appeared in front of our position at Buena Vista, he at once sent in a flag of truce, and demanded of General Taylor the surrender of his army on the ground that it would, without question, be captured, and he wished to avoid needless loss of life.

Of course the communication was in Spanish, and when the interpreter had finished reading it to General Taylor, the old man, with his characteristic readiness and brusqueness, said: "Tell him to go to hell." This reply of the General's justifies the name that his men gave him of "Old Rough and Ready."

The odds were greatly against us, as we had but 4600 men to 22000 Mexicans, and the latter fought as if victory was in their grasp; but the American soldier of that day did not know the word "defeat." For two days the battle waged most fiercely and the loss of life on both sides was very great, but on the third day when we gazed on the Mexican position, to our great joy and satisfaction, we found that during the night they had retreated, and the victory was ours.

But the fight had cost us dear, many of our fellow-graduates had poured out their life's blood on the field of Buena Vista. Among them were William R. McKee of the class of 1829 and Henry Clay, jr., of the class of 1831. These two gentlemen were colonel and lieutenant-colonel of the Second Kentucky Infantry.

After the war the legislature of Kentucky made an appropriation to have the remains of the Kentuckians killed at Buena Vista removed to the cemetery near Frankfort, and Theodore O'Hara, who was also a soldier, wrote a beautiful poem in honor of this touching act of the people of Kentucky.

This poem was entitled the "Bivouac of the Dead," and I will quote one verse from it:

> The muffled drum's sad roll has beat the soldier's last tattoo;
> No more on life's parade shall meet that brave and chosen few.
> On fame's eternal camping ground their silent tents are spread,
> And glory guards with solemn round the bivouac of the dead.

After this most successful battle there was no serious fighting and no important military operation on General Taylor's line.

The scene of operations was now along the southern and eastern frontier of Mexico, where General Scott now opened his campaign. From the capture of Vera Cruz to the last blow in the grand operations around the City of Mexico, his course was marked by the most magnificent and grand success; Molino del Rey, Churubusco, Chapultepec became days of glory for our arms, and finally our flag was floated over the Halls of the Montezumas.

In all these battles our brothers of the Academy played their usual glorious rôle. One of them, Molino del Rey, has a special personal interest for me, as in it my old classmate and roommate at the Academy, Joseph F. Farry, was killed at the head of the storming party inside of the Mexican lines.

In 1848 ratifications of the treaty of peace of Guadalupe Hidalgo were exchanged between the two nations, our troops were withdrawn from all parts of the Republic, and peace reigned again along the Rio Grande.

Thus ended a war most glorious to our arms and nation, and the greatest glory rested on the deeds of our band of brothers, the graduates of this Academy. General Scott said, in speaking of the work of the graduates, "I give it as my fixed opinion that but for our graduated cadets the war with Mexico would have lasted four years instead of one and one-half, and we would have lost the greater part of the first two years' engagements—instead of this we did not lose one."

In this war many of the greatest leaders on both sides in our great civil war learned their first lessons in warfare, and began to show the mettle that was in them.

Sixty years have passed away since I first stood on this fair plain of ours, and but few of the men of my day are left to join in this grand celebration of ours to-day. Their work is done; how well it has been done is told on every page of our country's history.

And now, since the graduates of the decade of the forties are not likely to meet with you again, I bid you a last farewell, and with it this benediction, a true heritage of the old Academy which we love so well:

> When you and I and Benny, and General Jackson, too,
> Are brought before the final board our course of life to view,
> May we never "fess" on any point, but then be told to go
> To join the army of the blest and Benny Havens oh.

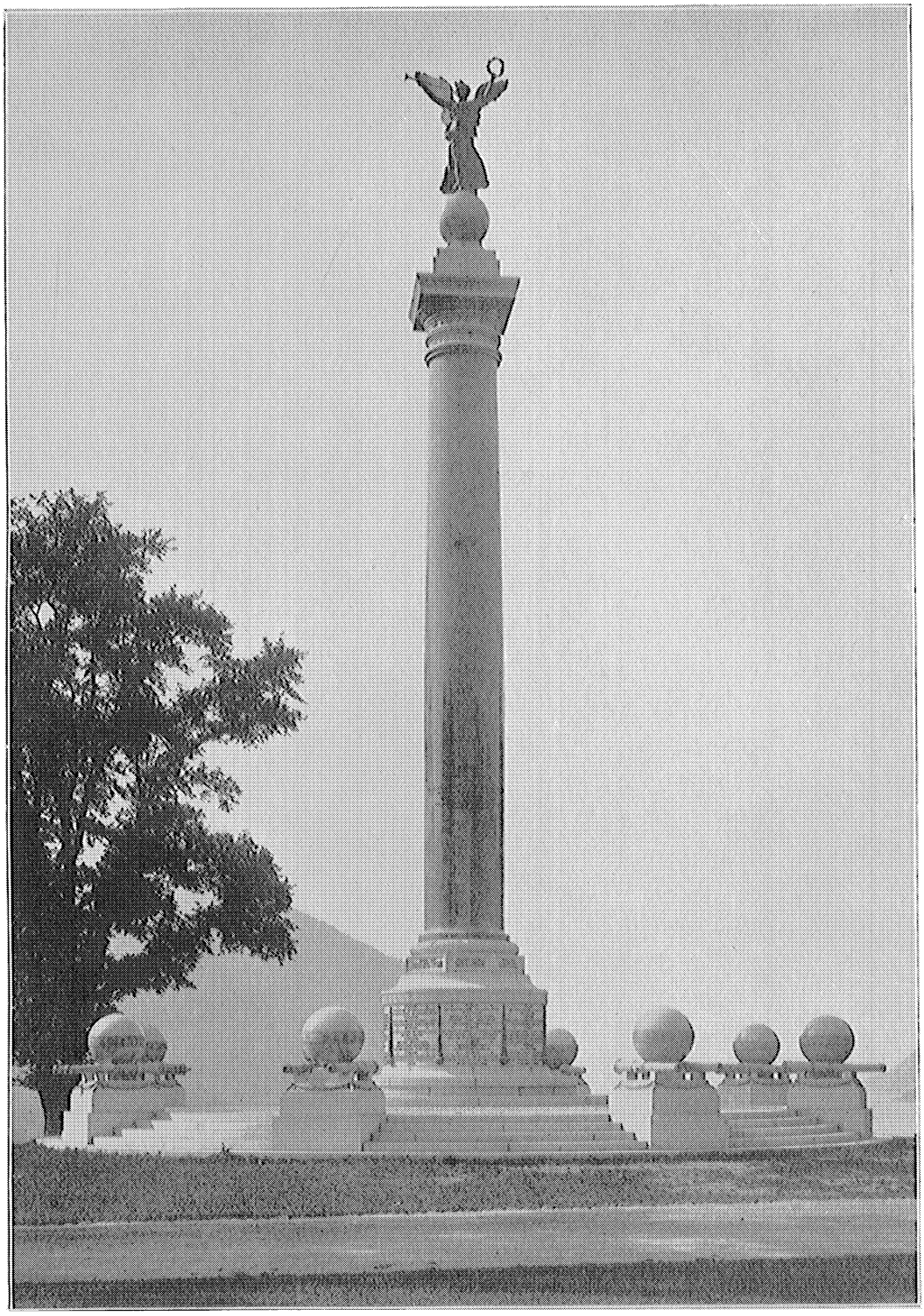
ADDRESS BY MAJ. GEN. THOMAS H. RUGER, U. S. ARMY, RETIRED (U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY, 1854).

Veteran of the Civil War.

MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOW-GRADUATES OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: To soldiers of the civil war, veterans in age they now must be, the details of events and incidents in connection therewith have for most part faded somewhat from memory in the succession of years; but certain impressions, especially those affecting the feelings and the imagination, remain in force and possibly grow stronger in retrospection through the vista of intervening events.

Of these impressions are, that of the great uprising of the people to meet the trial of war when it became imminent, of the succession of great battles and many campaigns, and possibly greater than any other, that of magnitude in physical effort made and in moral results produced. In no former instance in history were so large forces engaged for such length of time, nor in any case in civil war. The great joy of the nation at the happy ending of the war signified the import of the results apparent in degree to the minds and hearts of the people, and which year by year is perceived more fully in view of a unified nation, powerful, confident of the future, with no shame upon its brow, and by contrast in thought otherwise of a dissevered country, the fragments without respect of the world, and with further war as a legacy of the struggle.

The performance by graduates of the Academy in the war and its effect will mainly be the subjects of my remarks, in



THE BATTLE MONUMENT (DEDICATED 1897) TO OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE REGULAR ARMY WHO WERE KILLED DURING THE CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865.

furtherance of the motive of this meeting the celebration of "the centennial of the Military Academy," not of the fact merely, without essence by itself, that a hundred years have passed since the Academy was founded, but for taking account of its product by bringing together for view in mass the sheaves of the harvests by its sons for a hundred years. In fact, with the reflection that a century in time has passed since the foundation of the Academy there comes to mind almost spontaneously the question of utility: What are the deeds of its graduates that justify its institution, and what in their conduct gives adequate warrant for its continuance?

It would be impossible in the time properly assumable for my remarks to present in detail the facts and events of the civil war pertinent to these questions, much less the mass of statistics applicable, and consideration of the part taken by graduates of the Academy in the war will consist mainly in statements of facts of common information, the inference from which relative to the purpose will be evident and which to many present are in great part of personal knowledge.

One fact affecting the body of graduates of importance as well as concern to the country, more so than at the time was generally apprehended, probably even by the Government, was the instant return to the military service of the country at the beginning of the war of practically all graduates, capacitated and then in civil life, from States supporting the Union—a return not made upon formal call by the Government, but voluntarily, each impelled, not less by patriotism than his fellow-countrymen who volunteered, but also by the sense of honor and of obligation to fulfill duty fostered by the training of the Academy.

It may be said that such conduct was properly expectable—quite true; but the properly expectable often met by individuals is seldom so by an entire class—almost never at individual volition. Among those so returning were

Generals Grant, Sherman, McClellan, Rosecrans, Hooker, Burnside, army commanders, and many others of honorable fame and some also illustrious.

This action was in spirit, in continuation of that shown by graduates of the Academy in civil life when the war with Mexico occurred; the number then volunteering for service was so large that the Government was finally compelled to refuse offers for lack of places.

To recur to the question of performance in the war by graduates of the Academy. When or where to begin matters little. At any time and anywhere the commander of an active army of the Union is a graduate.

The phrases "the volunteers" and "the volunteer armies," implying those persons in service or in organizations as distinguished from, or not infrequently as contradistinguished to, the regular force and all of its inclusions, were in frequent use during the war and the years immediately following, and still survive in similar sense. The popular opinion was that the Regular Army, owing to its limited numbers, was an insignificant element relative to the war. The assertions now that there was no volunteer army, distinctively in a military service meaning, would seem a surprising statement to many, if not an offensive one, but such is the truth. The armies which subdued the rebellious States were, of course, in rank and file, and in the numbers of officers, practically volunteer, but not in command, organization, instruction, and discipline. They were a coalescence of the volunteer and regular forces, principally on the part of the latter by its officers, including the graduates of the Academy, returning to military service from civil life, and other non-graduates formerly officers.

These officers as a body were of the very life of the armies as disciplined and fighting organizations.

It might be taken for granted that recourse for the chief

commanders would at first, as was the case, be had to officers of the Regular force, including as of the same class those formerly of the Army. The chief commands in the field were held by graduates as a class throughout the war, and also a large proportion of the higher commands not armies.

The confidence in such commanders by the armies, the active forces—call them volunteers or by what designation you may—and of the country was abiding.

These conditions of predominance in command by graduates of the Academy and of reliance upon them for results under the stress of four years of war when the demand by the country for results was urgent at the first and became more pressing in spirit, if not so loud in utterance, as time passed, was not fortuitous. It was recognized by all that if these men could not lead to success hope must be abandoned.

As an accompaniment to the fact of command was that of chief control and direction by graduates of the administrative and supply departments, both in the War Department and with the principal armies in the field. How well such duties were in general performed needs no specification, certainly not to participants in the war.

The war with Mexico gave the Academy its laurel wreath, the civil war a lasting crown.

It may be reasonably supposed that the services rendered the country during the period of the war by many men eminent as statesmen, legislators, and jurists might be disregarded without essential effect as to final results, but should the names and deeds of Generals Grant, Sherman, Meade, Thomas, Sheridan, McClellan, Buell, Halleck, Hooker, Schofield, McPherson, Franklin, Sedgwick, Slocum, Howard, Reynolds, and many other graduates of the Academy be excluded from conception of results the history of the country from 1861 would be only matter for conjecture.

The list of battles where they commanded embraces all of essential consequence in determining final success. But let not the mistake be made by inference from the foregoing remarks, substantially a statement of facts, that they are prompted by a spirit to detract from or in any way to belittle the value of services rendered by officers of volunteers simply.

They formed the greater part by far of the officer body; steadfast men they were, and many showed qualities for and worthily attained to high command. As time passed a large number of good aptitude, profiting by experience, especially those comparatively young, were fast coming to prominence during the later part of the war. The records show that army commanders suitably recognized the merits of these officers as quickly as those of graduates of the Academy. So far from lack of harmony existing between the elements, regular and volunteer, unity in purpose and concord in spirit prevailed.

The phase "civil war," as used in these remarks, is the proper one, although the term "rebellion" was the official designation by the Government. The case was that of several parts, individual subordinate States, attempting by formal action to withdraw from the Union and by combining together and the use of force to make the attempt effective.

This is civil war. The outcome was something more than the preservation of the Union, the first purpose. The principle of the supremacy of the nation was established.

The founders of the Constitution hoped the principles embodied therein and its provisions would assure the nation against the ills that assail States from within, but such hope was not founded on human experience. The ideal republic was not yet, probably will not be until the ideal man in mass appears. The Constitution of the separate States, political units with legislative power, gave ready means for, if not indirect inducement to civil war when the spirit therefor arose.

Of the subjects for reflection that come to the mind of the veteran of the war is the kind of man in the ranks, the predominating elements, and their quality in his character as a soldier. A brief characterization will lead to appreciation of the man who stood out at the close of the war indicative of a potent military nation not before much regarded by the world in such aspect.

It was not so much his courage that fixed attention as its combination with fortitude, self-reliance, and determination in such degree that fighting, however adverse, did not greatly depress his spirit. To many, even military students in Europe, the war appeared to be a succession of fierce battles with great loss of life, few victories, but with little loss of fighting spirit on either side. The reasons for the indomitable spirit of the troops are not far from view. The descent in both the Northern and Southern States of all but a small fraction of the people was Teutonic in the general sense and Celtic. The elements of self-reliance and determination inherent in these races had been strengthened in their descendents and offshoots in this country by the conditions of their lives and the nature of their surroundings in the work still in progress of occupying a continent, in general phrase. From a mass such in general kind there stepped forth at the call of the country the most willing and the most resolute, and thereby the most fit for the duty demanded.

It would be unwarrantable to assert that no army has existed superior in fighting power, man for man, to those of the Government armies and their Confederate opponents. The high qualities exhibited by these men still abide, and will be a legacy by transmission to far distant time.

It is not within my province to present considerations relative to the deeds and conduct of graduates of the Academy who fought against the Government during the war. An able graduate will address us, a veteran of the Confederate

side in the war. The statement may, however, be permitted me that no one who faced such graduates in battle doubts the sincerity of their intent. Civil war necessarily implies sincerity on the part of participants; the state is otherwise impossible. Hypocrites do not combine for fighting. When the end came there was found in their hearts an echo to the words, "Let us have peace."

It is gratifying to meet many such graduates on this occasion for gratulation, and to further renew the tie of good-fellowship, and especially to meet them at this place, where, as in the days of our youth, honesty and duty are still watchwords; where a man is estimated according to his qualities, and where favor can not be purchased. So may it always be.

ADDRESS BY GENERAL E. P. ALEXANDER, LATE C. S. ARMY (U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY, 1857).

Veteran of the Civil War.

Once more the light of Jackson's sword
  Far flashes through the gloom.
There Hampton rides, and there once more
  The toss of Stuart's plume.

Oh, life goes back through years to-day
  And we are men once more,
And that old hill is Arlington,
  And there the alien shore.

And over yonder on the heights
  The hostile camp fires quiver,
And sullenly 'twixt us and them
  Flows by Potomac's River.

THE Confederate veterans! With these words does there not arise in every mind the thought of a meteoric army which over forty years ago sprang into existence, as it would seem, out of space and nothingness, and after a career of four years, unsustained by treasury or arsenal, but unsurpassed for brilliant fighting and lavish outpour of blood, vanished from earth as utterly as if it had been a phantom of imagination.

It had followed as a banner a starry cross, born in the fire and smoke of its battle line, which had flown over its charging columns on many fields and under many leaders, whose names proud history will forever cherish, and then in a night it also had taken its flight from earth, to be seen no more of men.

A Federal historian wrote of this army:

> Who can forget it that once looked upon it? That array of tattered uniforms and bright muskets—that body of incomparable infantry, the Army of Northern Virginia—which for four years carried the revolt on its bayonets, opposing a constant front to the mighty concentrations of power brought against it; which, receiving terrible blows, did not fail to give the like, and which, vital in all its parts, died only with its annihilation.

And the whole people who had created that annihilated army and had upheld that vanished flag, and in their behalf had sacrificed its all, now with one consent gave to the cause for which they had striven vainly but so well, the title "The Lost Cause."

And this people mourned over their lost cause as the captive Israelites mourned over Zion: "If I forgot thee, O Jerusalem! let my right hand forget its cunning, and my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth." But they buried their grief deep in their own hearts, and, exchanging swords and guns for implements of industry, set themselves to restoring their desolated homes and rebuilding their shattered fortunes.

And now a generation has passed away. The smoke of civil conflict has vanished forever from the sky, and the whole country, under the new conditions evolved in its four years' struggle, finds itself united in developing its vast resources in successful rivalry with the greatest nations of the earth.

Whose vision is now so dull that he does not recognize the blessing it is to himself and to his children to live in an undivided country?

Who would to-day relegate his own State to the position it would hold in the world were it declared a sovereign, as are the States of Central and South America? To ask these questions is to answer them. And the answer is the acknowledgment that it was best for the South that the cause

was "Lost!". The right to secede, the stake for which we fought so desperately, were it now offered us as a gift, we would reject as we would a proposition of suicide. Let me briefly review the story of this change of sentiment.

We believed, and still believe, that its sovereignty was intended to be reserved by each and every State when it ratified the Constitution. It was universally taught among us that in this feature there was divinely inspired wisdom.

It may have been wisdom for that century. Each State was then an independent agricultural community. The railroad, the steamship, the telegraph, were undreamed of on earth. But, as in nature, whenever the climate has changed, the fauna and flora have been forced to change and adapt themselves to new environment, so among mankind must modes of government be modified to conform to new conditions.

The steamboat, railroad, and telegraph by 1860 had made a new planet out of the one George Washington knew. National commerce had been born, and it was realized that State sovereignty was utterly incompatible with its full development. The "inspired wisdom" of the previous century had now become but foolishness. Nature's great law of evolution, against which no constitution can prevail, at once brought into play to overturn it forces as irresistible as those of a volcano. But such Darwinian conceptions as those of political evolution had then entered few men's minds. Patrick Henry had said, "Give me liberty or give me death." Surely it would not be liberty if we could not secede whenever we wished to. Holding these views, we should have been cowards had we not resisted for all we were worth. And posterity should be grateful for our having forced the issue and fought it out to the bitter end.

Now, I have learned to appreciate the limited range of Patrick Henry's views, and have discarded them in favor

of Darwinian theories. I want neither liberty nor death; I want conformation to environment.

And as the changes in our planet still go on, and as international commerce has grown up—a Siamese twin to national commerce—I applaud our nation's coming out of the swaddling bands of its infancy and entering upon its grand inheritance. Let it stand for universal civilization.

This is but a small and crowded planet, now that science has brought its ends together by her great inventions. Neither States nor nations can longer dwell to themselves. An irrepressible conflict is on between barbarism and civilization.

Through human imperfection much that must be done may seem harsh and cruel. Much that has happened doubtless was so to our aborigines; but for all that we must look forward and not backward, and walk boldly in the paths of progress.

Now, for their bearing upon my story. Let me speak briefly of two matters of history.

Mr. Charles Francis Adams, in a recent address, has pointed out that it is due to General Lee that at Appomattox, in April, 1865, a surrender of the Confederate army was made, instead of the struggle being prolonged into a guerrilla war, such as has been recently seen in South Africa. This action does, indeed, place Lee upon an exalted plane. And it fortunately happened that his rival actor in this great drama was General Grant, a brother graduate of the Military Academy.

Our Alma Mater may cherish the record of that day, when two of her sons, having each written his name so high in the annals of war, now united to turn the nation into the paths of peace. For General Grant, who has been proudly called by his victorious army "Unconditional Surrender" Grant, now seemed only to seek excuses to spare the Confederates

every possible mortification and to save them from individual losses, even at the expense of his own Government.

His example was immediately followed by every man in his army, down to the humblest teamster Time fails me to describe the friendliness, courtesy, and generosity with which the whole victorious army seemed filled. The news of the surrender and its liberal terms was received everywhere with similar feelings of generous conciliation. In proof it is only necessary to refer to the early negotiations between Sherman and Johnston. President Lincoln also fully shared these feelings and even planned for the South financial compensation for its loss of property by the emancipation of its slaves. Thus for six days—from April 9 to 14—there was every prospect that reconstruction would be accomplished in the spirit manifested by Grant and under the direction of Lincoln, who, without her knowledge, was at that time the South's most powerful friend. Our treatment would have been not less liberal than that we have just seen accorded by the British to the Boers.

Oh! the pity of it! That this spirit of peace and good will could not have been permitted to spread over the whole country and influence the breasts alike of both victors and vanquished.

By the fatuous act of an assassin, in a moment, this fair vision was shattered, and in its place, and without fault upon her part, there was invoked against the prostrate South a whirlwind of rage and resentment. Indeed, it is due to the restraint put upon the political leaders of the North by General Grant that the death of Lincoln did not mark for the South the beginning of greater woes than those of the war itself. There resulted many years of bitterness and estrangement between the sections, retarding the growth of national spirit, and yielding but slowly even to the great daily object lesson of the development of our country.

But at last, in the fullness of time, the stars in their courses have taken up the work! As in 1865 one wicked hand retarded our unification by the murder of Lincoln, so in 1898 another assassin, equally wicked and equally stupid, by the blowing up of the *Maine*, has given us a common cause and made us at last and indeed a nation in the front rank of the world's work of civilization, with its greatest problems committed to our care.

But there is still one thing more to be said.

Was all our blood shed in vain? Was all the agony endured for the lost cause but as water spilt upon the sand?

No! A thousand times, no!

We have set the world record for devotion to a cause. We have given to our children proud memories, and to history new names, to be a theme and an inspiration for unborn generations. The heroes of future wars will emulate our Lees and Jacksons.

We have taught the armies of the world the casualties to be endured in battle.

And the qualities of heart and soul developed both in our women and men, in the stress and strain of our poverty and in the furnace of our affliction, have made a worthier race, and have already borne rich reward in the building up of our country.

But above and beyond all, the firm bonds which to-day hold together this great nation could never have been wrought by debates in Congress. Human evolution has not yet progressed so far.

Such bonds must be forged, welded, and proved in the heat of battle and must be cemented in blood. Peace congresses and arbitrations have never yet given birth to a nation, and this one had to be born in nature's way.

So much for the attitude of the South and the steps through which it has been reached.

But bear with me yet a little, for I can not leave the thoughts and memories evoked by my theme without some reference to a few among the great figures who moved amid those scenes, lest my story should seem to you as one of Hamlet with Hamlet left out.

> And Love, where death has set its seal,
> Nor age can chill, nor rival steal,
> Nor falsehood disavow

Shall I name to you at once the Confederate hero who deserves the highest pedestal, who bore the greatest privations and contributed most freely of his blood to win every victory and resist every defeat? I name the private soldier. Practically without pay, and on half rations, he enlisted for life or death and served out his contract. He did not look the fighting man he was. He was lean, sunburnt, and bearded; often barefoot and ragged. He had neither training nor discipline, except what he acquired in the field. He had only antiquated and inferior arms, until he captured better ones in battle. He had not even military ambition; but he had one incentive which was lacking to his opponents, brave and loyal as they were. He was fighting for his home. From the time of Greece to that of South Africa all history attests the stimulus of the thought of "home" to the soldier fighting for it. And if some young military scientist among your bright boys can formulate an equation to express the battle power of an army I am sure he will find the thought of "home" to be the factor in it with highest exponent. So there was nothing anomalous about the fighting of our army. We fought for our homes under men that we loved and trusted. This brought out the best in every individual, whether private or general.

Upon our President, Jefferson Davis, there fell from the necessity of his prominent position not only defeat, but obloquy, and woes too many to enumerate. History, however, will do him justice as having been most worthy to

represent us, whether as a man, a statesman, or a soldier. And as any compromise of the issues at stake would have only carried with it the seeds of another war, the nation is to be congratulated that to his high courage and devotion to his cause no compromise was possible.

And how, now shall I speak to you of the great Lee whom it was an education to know? Never elated and never depressed, but always calm and audacious in reliance upon himself and his troops, who in their turn relied upon him and loved him unto death.

Of stern and grave Stonewall Jackson, trusting only in the god of battles and in the righteousness of his cause, but winning by the fierce courage his personality inspired.

Of Joseph E. Johnston, master of strategy in the great game of war, whose brain was "Reason's self-encased in bone."

Of Beauregard, who won Bull Run by his personal tenacity and with such science and skill defended Sumter and Petersburg.

Of Longstreet, whom Lee called his "old war horse," doing heavy work on every field from Bull Run to Appomattox.

Of A. P. Hill, whose name was last on the lips of Lee upon his deathbed, and of Jackson when he "crossed over the river to rest in the shade of the trees."

Of genial, dashing Stuart, always ready for any venture and sanguine of success, who took up the battle left unfinished by Jackson's fall and carried it to its brilliant end.

Of gifted Hampton, our Chevalier Bayard, with his saber-scarred face, who served his State as effectively in peace as he had done in war, and "always bore without abuse the grand old name of gentleman."

Of Hood, with his one leg and crippled arm, under whom the Texans loved to fight.

Of good old Ewell also with his one leg and bald head and lustrous woodcock eye, who believed fighting to be the sole business of a soldier.

Of Early—whose unreconciled spirit is perhaps still raiding up and down the valley—and a thousand others whose forms and faces throng upon my memory, and whose names history has inscribed upon her Roll of Honor.

It were a shorter task to try and enumerate the great fields of battle made historic by their valor.

Dolorous and bootless Antietam is conspicuous as the bloodiest single day in the annals of this continent.

Pickett's charge at Gettysburg was the brilliant culmination of a school of attack, which has forever passed away with the advent of modern arms.

But Jackson's valley campaign will always illustrate the correct principles of strategy, however weapons may be altered or improved.

Wilderness and Spottsylvania, where the Federal army in eight days suffered more casualties than befell in all the wars from the discovery of America to 1860, were but the initial combats of what should be called the one great "Battle of Grant and Lee," begun on the Rapidan on May 4, 1864, and fought without pause until ended at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, eleven months and six days. History has scarcely a parallel for such supreme display of battle power upon each side.

At its opening Grant marshaled 122,146 men, and 61,274 followed Lee. In its progress every available reenforcement was called in by each side, the Confederates even robbing the cradle and the grave to repair their wasting ranks.

At its end, the Federal losses had reached a total of 124,390. The Confederate losses can never be known, for their army was wiped out of existence, and no reports were possible.

But the final act was the surrender of 28,356 Confederates to a force of 100,000—immediately about them—a million men being in arms on the Union side. And so did time permit, lessons could be learned and stirring events be depicted from the memories of innumerable other scenes.

But I prefer to leave the picture as it stands. We did not go into our cause; we were born into it. We fought it out to its remotest end and suffered to the very utmost its dying aches and pains. They were rich in compensations and have proven to be only the birth pangs of a new nation, in whose career we are proud to own and to bear a part.

And to our Alma Mater, who taught us not the skill to unravel conflicting political creeds, not—

> that acumen to divide
> A hair twixt south and southwest side—

but rather to illustrate by our lives manly courage and loyalty to convictions, we commend the record of—

> The old Confederate veteran, we know him as he stands
> And listens for the thunder of the far-off battle lands.
> He hears the crash of musketry, the smoke rolls like a sea,
> For he tramped the fields with Stonewall and he climbed the heights with Lee.
>
> The old Confederate veteran, his life is in the past,
> And the war cloud, like a mantle round his rugged form is cast.
> He hears the bugle calling o'er the far and mystic sea,
> For he tramped the fields with Stonewall and he climbed the heights with Lee.

ADDRESS BY MAJOR E. J. McCLERNAND, 12TH U. S. CAVALRY (U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY, 1870).

Veteran of the Spanish-American War.

MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOW-GRADUATES: The gallant and distinguished officer in whom all Americans take pride as a man, a soldier, and a general, J. Franklin Bell, who was first requested to respond as a veteran of the Spanish-American war, was unable to accept. His gallantry, experience, and soldiery qualities are still needed in the Philippines, and while we regret his absence, we can not but recognize its necessity.

Since the close of the civil war the country had enjoyed thirty-three years of peace. The end of that great struggle found the people tired of war; and, in the mad race for wealth that followed, the military profession and preparation no longer interested them. Until the early eighties the Navy suffered as much, if not more, from this neglect than the Army. About this time, however, a few wise and farseeing men were able to lay the foundation for a new Navy. The naming of vessels after cities and States created a local interest in different war ships, which grew as the number of vessels increased, and it is fair to say the Navy had become a favorite with the public before the war with Spain. The Army was less fortunate; appropriations were grudgingly given, legislation for the desired reorganization could not be had, an antagonistic feeling toward the regular establishment was entertained by many interested in the National Guard, and it must be admitted the Army of the United States struggled on for a number of years under a heavy load of difficulties. Fortunately the

interest and zeal of the great mass of the regular officers were not cooled by the indifference of the people, and the years immediately preceding the Spanish-American war were replete with study, and as far as circumstances would permit, with practice assimilated to the conditions of war. It was because of these preparations persistently pursued in the face of obstacles well-nigh insurmountable and often disheartening that the little army we sent to Santiago de Cuba was able to render so good an account of itself, and to justly claim and to receive from the country an acknowledgment of the constancy of purpose and gallantry under hardship that merited and achieved success.

That war would come was written during the winter of 1897–98 in letters so large that he who ran might read, and yet those always eager to proclaim from the housetops that the days of war have passed, and that a high court of arbitration will henceforth settle disputes between nations, made themselves conspicuous throughout the winter, even after the destruction of the *Maine*, and in fact until war became an accomplished fact.

To permit a country to drift into war in such a way is a crime. What are the facts as regards needed supplies? Even the most important—rifles, ammunition, and ocean transportation—were lacking, for it was evident the latter would be speedily needed unless our land forces were to act simply on the defensive.

On March 9 Congress appropriated $50,000,000 "for national defense." Observe this was for defense; and the President confined its expenditure within that limitation. From this fund allotments were made for the War Department as follows: Ordnance, about $10,000,000; Engineer, $5,500,000, both amounts mainly for coast defenses. The Quartermaster's Department got but $500,000, the Medical $20,000, and the Signal Corps $226,000. However, when

the declaration of war came, April 25, although it said war had existed since the 21st, the larger part of the Regular troops had been concentrated in Southern camps, many torpedoes and mines had been placed in various harbors, and the work of placing our seacoasts in a suitable state of defense, which had been lagging for years because of the lack of suitable appropriations, was rapidly and materially advanced.

The War Department had been unable to do anything in the way of accumulating material for offensive action. The arsenals and private establishments were working to their full capacity day and night, turning out guns, carriages, powder, etc., for the seacoast, but while every sane and practical man knew war was inevitable, it was decided the War Department could not purchase or even contract for any material outside of that for "national defense." Thus no accumulation of material was permissible for that army of volunteers upon which Congress and the people have repeatedly said this country must rely in the event of war. Here is food for serious reflection. Are we likely to have a longer notice of the outbreak of hostilities on another occasion, and will the sentiment of the country ever be more united in demanding war? All can recall how the people, as well as the press, insisted on the liberation of Cuba, and those of us who traveled with troops from the heart of the continent to the selected camps of concentration will never forget the wild enthusiasm of men and women, whose faces showed that our forward movement had their ardent approval and that the men behind the guns had the hearts of the people behind them. Every soldier going to the front felt in a pronounced degree this remarkable heart beat of the nation. It was the apotheosis of patriotism, the magnificent spectacle of a nation aroused, not given to all men to see, but once witnessed, never forgotten.

The hearts of the people went out to their soldiers, and could an army but carry into battle the impassioned emotions that filled the minds of the troops as they were cheered on to the front, it would be invincible. The people so long indifferent to military affairs were aroused at last, and their patriotism swept on like a mighty flood, taxing the ingenuity and energy of those in command to direct it into practical channels. There is no doubt we entered upon the war with Spain under conditions peculiarly favorable for organizing and training the volunteer forces, upon which the country, whether wisely or unwisely, has elected to rely in the hour of trial, and yet these conditions did not permit any bureau of the War Department to purchase or even contract for supplies so soon to be needed by the volunteers. Each bureau had provided only enough for the immediate everyday needs of the regular establishment on a peace basis.

How can such unpreparedness be avoided in future? It brought upon patriotic and able men, charged with the direction of affairs, vituperation and abuse for shortcomings and evils which it was too late to avert, and for which they were in no way to blame.

The volunteers responded to the President's call with patriotic eagerness, but the Department was unable to properly equip them. There were lacking shoes, blankets, canteens, tents, trained horses, rifles, aye, and even the bullets to shoot therefrom. It will not answer to say that Congress must be more far-seeing, must in time of peace prepare for war. Congress will do just so much and no more than the people wish. No public servants act, as a rule, more in unison with the wishes of their constituents than do the members of our Congress. We must therefore conclude that to correct the evil under consideration, some means must be found to arouse the people to the necessities of our profes-

sion, and not to permit their active support to delay until the enemy is unfurling his banners. To draw something practical from these lessons, let each soldier, and those who have been soldiers, resolve to labor untiringly to educate our fellow-citizens in recognizing the necessity for timely military preparation, to make them realize that on another occasion we may be fighting against a foe capable of calling from us a real effort on land and sea, and that to proceed as we did may not, indeed, bring ultimate defeat, but humiliation, a useless loss of life, and waste of money.

On another occasion events may not permit so leisurely a preparation as did the war with Spain, where on March 9 we appropriated $50,000,000 for defense; on April 25 declared war, and in August had 247,000 men under arms, but the greater part furnished with an inferior rifle. Previous apathy on the part of the people with the resulting reluctant legislation, had borne its fruit, which would have been bitter indeed had our enemy been England, Germany, or France. The important Quartermaster's, Commissary, and Medical departments were denied the opportunity of any preparation until April 23. On that date there was a call for 125,000 volunteers, and on the 26th authority was given to increase the Regular Army to about 61,000 men. Medical and hospital supplies, clothing, tentage, land and ocean transportation, all had to be considered and provided for at the same time. In May there was a further call for volunteers, and the wonder is, not that there was confusion, but that we made such progress as we did. The field of operations due to Dewey's victory extended half around the globe, and when the conditions are fairly considered the rapidity with which our forces were organized, instead of meriting complaint, should meet with unstinted praise; at all events we did our best, and are not likely to do better in the near future. In 1861 the first call for troops came as it did in 1898, in April.

In 1898 we had 247,000 men in the field in August; in 1861 this number was not reached until November.

Unforeseen movements on the part of the enemy rendered early offensive action imperative. Fortunately our strength, or rather Spain's weakness, enabled us to strike hard at Santiago de Cuba. Dewey had already electrified the country, and perhaps surprised Europe, by his magnificent victory in Manila Bay. His genius, decision, and audacity wrote his name high on the rolls of fame. Like Farragut at Mobile he did not permit the fear of torpedoes to interpose between his fleet and that of the enemy, but sailed on to victory and imperishable renown. All honor to him and to the officers and men who so gallantly served with him. They set a pace that was hard to follow, but the Navy at home and the Army turned their faces toward Santiago with a fixed determination to achieve brilliant success.

The reason for the campaign is quickly told: A Spanish fleet had unwisely entered the harbor at Santiago, and our blockading admiral promptly called for the cooperation of the Army in an attempt to destroy nearly all of what remained of Spain's sea power. He asked for 10,000 men. Fortunately we were enabled to send 815 officers and 16,072 enlisted men.

A few words about Tampa and the preparations incident to the embarkation there will not be amiss, perhaps, at this point. A fairly good harbor and its proximity to Cuba determined, in a large measure, the selection of Tampa as a camp for mobilization. Under the conditions existing when the Spanish squadron was discovered in Santiago Harbor Port Tampa was the logical port from which to sail. That its railroad facilities were inadequate to the demands is certain, and had we possessed a better appreciation of the lack of enterprise of the Spanish navy we might well have divided the Fifth Corps and the troops acting with it and caused

detachments to sail from several ports, as did General Bates from Mobile, all to unite off the south coast of Florida. But we believed then, and reasonably, that the Spaniards would make a determined attempt to destroy our transports. This certainly should have been their policy, and we could not assume they would not adopt it. The necessity for an adequate supply of potable water and other sanitary requirements demanded that as the different regiments arrived they be assigned to camps separated by considerable distances from each other and from Port Tampa. To have placed any considerable portion of the army at the latter place was not practicable, however desirable it might have been as an assistance to speedy embarkation. The railroads from the North leading directly into Tampa were more than sufficiently taxed. The single track on to Port Tampa was simply swamped. Undoubtedly a second track was needed, but for various reasons it was not practicable to build it.

The fact that the facilities were inadequate for embarking the troops and large quantities of supplies at Port Tampa was well appreciated at the headquarters of the Fifth Corps. Suggestions have been heard since as to what might have been done, but in looking back to that time when sleep and rest were almost unknown at corps headquarters, I recall that everyone there, from the commanding general down to the youngest officer, was ready at all times to accept a good suggestion. One object, and one only, was kept constantly in view, viz, to obtain the best possible results. Many of the ideas afterwards advanced had the advantage of what is commonly called "hindsight," and reached headquarters too late to be of practical use.

The various bureaus of the War Department, under the commanding general, had labored faithfully to fully equip the volunteers, and yet with their best efforts most of those at Tampa were not prepared to engage advantageously in a

campaign. Among other desirable supplies needed, except perhaps in one regiment, were modern rifles and smokeless powder. This was the condition when about 7 p. m. on the evening of May 30 the following telegram was received at corps headquarters from Washington: "Admiral Schley reports that two cruisers and two torpedo boats have been seen in the harbor of Santiago. Go with your force to capture garrison at Santiago and assist in capturing harbor and fleet."

It should be recalled this problem was presented with all the suddenness of the electric telegraph. The capacity of the transports fixed a definite limit to the force that could be taken. There was not sufficient transportation for the cavalry division to participate, unless it went dismounted. It has ever been a source of satisfaction to me that I was in position to speak earnestly on this subject to one in authority, and to point out we were trained and daily practiced in fighting on foot, and that the dismounted cavalry could operate as so much additional infantry, armed with a modern weapon, which would be equally as good as the rifle in the broken and wooded country around Santiago. This view was not accepted without protest by some of our cavalry friends, who contended such action, even if temporary, would deal that arm a serious blow. It was, however, necessary to go dismounted or to stay at home. The results proved the wisdom of the course adopted.

The necessary orders designating the troops to participate and the supplies to be taken were, if I remember correctly, completed about 1 a. m. on the 31st, and sleepy orderlies were awakened to dispatch the orders to their several destinations and to start the machinery of the campaign of Santiago. It was proposed to take the Fifth Army Corps, three divisions, commanded by Kent, Lawton, and Snyder; a battalion of engineers, a detachment of the Signal Corps, five squadrons

of cavalry, under special instructions; four light batteries and two batteries of heavy artillery.

As we were reasonably certain to have to lay siege to Santiago, and the result of the approaching naval battle could not be foreseen with certainty, prudence called for a large quantity of supplies. The limited railroad transportation, and the inadequate facilities at Port Tampa for embarkation, made it simply impossible to accomplish the work with the dispatch desired, and when on the evening of June 7 orders came to sail at daybreak, with not less than 10,000 men, confusion and irritating delays were unavoidable. Snyder's division, armed with the Springfield rifle and supplied with black powder, and which was yet materially lacking in training and equipment, was ordered to remain at Tampa, and the dismounted cavalry was increased from five to twelve squadrons.

The wharf at Port Tampa was too small for the speedy embarkation of so many troops, and as the regiments had to be assigned in haste to vessels, undoubtedly there was lacking that clockwork precision which is desirable in military movements, but to obtain which, time must be given to carefully arrange details, money must be expended to secure conveniences, and officers and men instructed in what is expected of them. Three months later the reembarkation of the army at Santiago was much more systematic, although it was practically an army of sick men, and a year later I saw several thousand troops embarking at the same time in San Francisco. There the desired precision had then been obtained, time had permitted ships to be properly arranged to receive troops and their supplies, conveniences had been provided, and profiting by the experience of 1898, a board of officers was convened in the fall of that year and carefully worked out very satisfactory transport regulations, and what had been difficult at Tampa was an easy problem in San Francisco.

Of course there was little rest for anyone belonging to the

expedition on the night of the 7th and 8th and the next day. Perhaps my experience was that of many. I recall rising at 5 a. m. on the 7th and not lying down, or even closing my eyes, until 10 p. m. on the 8th. Then we were aboard our transports, some of which had already passed to the lower bay. Officers in the headquarters ship, the *Segurança* had retired for a much-needed rest when, about half past 10, I was awakened and handed an alarming dispatch about the close proximity of a Spanish fleet, which was afterwards called "the phantom fleet." At this time our only naval protection was a few small vessels, for the larger war ships were to join us later. There was nothing to do but to recall with the utmost haste the transports already passing to the lower bay.

"The phantom fleet" delayed our sailing until the 14th. These six days would have been very valuable had they been given to us to move the army from Tampa to Port Tampa and to embark it. As stated, we sailed with 815 officers and 16,072 enlisted men, including General Bates's brigade. In the latter there was one squadron of the Second Cavalry, the only mounted troops accompanying the expedition. With the exception of one dismounted regiment of volunteer cavalry, armed with the Krag-Jörgensen carbine, and two regiments of volunteer infantry, armed with the Springfield and provided with black powder, the entire force was taken from the Regular Army.

As will be remembered by many here, the sailing of the fleet was an inspiring sight. The necessary orders for disembarkation were prepared en route, but before issuing the same the commanding general thought well to consult with Admiral Sampson and General García. This was done, and the advisability of disembarking at Daiquiri was confirmed. I do not recall it was necessary to change in any respect the general order previously prepared. Those who were present

will never forget the lively cannonade on the morning of the 22d by the Navy of the hills about Daiquiri as a precaution against possible attack by a hidden enemy upon the troops landing in small boats. The coast was rocky and precipitous and the sea was somewhat rough, but the army—nearly 17,000 men and officers—was landed at Daiquiri and Siboney, 8 miles nearer to Santiago, with the loss of only two men, and by the evening of the 24th disembarkation was practically complete.

The orders for June 24 contemplated General Lawton's division taking a strong defensive position on the Santiago road a short distance beyond Siboney. Kent, who disembarked at the latter place, was to occupy it and its environments; Bates was to take position in support of Lawton, while Wheeler's division was to remain on the road between Siboney and Daiquiri. These positions were to be held until the disembarkation of the troops and transportation was completed and a reasonable supply of subsistence stores and forage landed. However, one brigade of the cavalry division passed beyond Lawton on the night of the 23d and 24th and became engaged next morning with a Spanish force intrenched near Las Guasimas, about 3 miles beyond Siboney on the road to Santiago. The plans of the brigade commander were skillfully prepared, and after a very gallant attack the enemy was driven from his position. While the army commander did not desire or intend that this engagement should take place at this time, nevertheless victory is always welcome, and this one gave us a camp ground in a well-watered country nearer the enemy. It resulted in hurrying the troops to the front before the desired supplies were landed and before the transportation was in order to work to the best advantage, adding in this way somewhat to the discomfort of the command.

Earnest and untiring efforts were continued to unload the

necessary land transportation and subsistence supplies. The officers in charge of this work showed both ability and zeal, and no one who was not immediately connected with this part of the problem can properly appreciate the difficulties encountered and the labor performed.

On June 29 information reached the commanding general that Pando, with 8,000 reenforcements for the Santiago garrison, was en route from Manzanillo. The letter giving this information was handed to me by General Shafter with the remark, "What do you think?" I replied, "We can not fight too soon." This was also his opinion, although he fully appreciated the army was lacking in many comforts and that more complete preparations might be made if the attack was delayed; but we were in a sickly climate; the one narrow and difficult trail available to bring forward supplies might be rendered impassable at any time by the copious rains; a storm might drive the transports to sea with the great bulk of our supplies and temporarily force the Navy to uncover the mouth of the harbor, and finally a very considerable reenforcement was en route to the enemy. Under these conditions it was determined to give battle.

On June 30 the commanding general in person reconnoitered the enemy's position. From the hill upon which Grimes's battery afterwards took position the city was in full view, and also the intrenchments on San Juan Hill and the country about El Caney lying to the right as we looked toward the city. The roads were little better than bridle paths until the San Juan River and El Caney were reached. At the latter place the Spaniards had a strong outpost, and it was important to them as holding the road to Guantanamo, where they had a considerable force, and from it they could easily assail the flank and rear of any troops attacking San Juan Hill. The attack at El Caney was assigned to Lawton, who thought he could capture it in two hours, and then move

on Santiago and join the right of the cavalry division, which, with Kent's, was to advance on San Juan Hill via El Pozo. All this was explained to the division commanders at a conference at Corps Headquarters on the afternoon of the 30th.

The remainder of the afternoon and night was devoted to moving the troops forward and to other preparations for attack. Bates's brigade at Siboney was ordered forward.

At 3 o'clock on the morning of July 1 I entered the tent of the commanding general. He said he was ill and feared he would not be able to participate as actively in the battle as he had anticipated and desired. He then asked several questions and gave some directions. Over-exertion in the intense heat of the sun the day before had brought on a severe and painful, although not a serious, illness. It gives me pleasure to bear witness to the indomitable will General Shafter showed to keep in touch with events and the persistence with which he held, while suffering, to the work laid out, and it is also my pleasure, as well as my duty, to say that physical weakness did not turn him from his course or in the least shake the courage of his convictions.

Early morning of July 1 found Lawton in position to attack at El Caney, and Sumner, in temporary command of the cavalry division, in the vicinity of El Pozo, near which the head of Kent's division had arrived. Bates was well on his way to the front.

Lawton's artillery opened a quarter after 6, and on that part of the field the action soon became general, and was hotly contested. The enemy's defense was gallant in the extreme. He had shown lack of aggressiveness during our disembarkation and advance, but there was no discount on his fighting behind intrenchments. Two hours passed, and although the rattle of small arms told that Lawton was fighting hard, there was no indication he would soon be ready to fulfill the second part of his programme—that is, to unite

with the cavalry division; but there was grave danger that further delay on the left might enable the enemy to concentrate at El Caney and beat him before the balance of the army was in position to attack. To prevent this possible contingency Sumner was directed to move forward at once, cross the San Juan River and deploy to the right, with his left resting near the Santiago road; and later, when Kent arrived at El Pozo, the enemy's position, intrenchments, and blockhouse on San Juan hill—all of which were in plain view—were pointed out to him. Grimes already understood the blockhouse was to be his first target. Kent was told that after crossing the river he would deploy to the left, with his right resting near the Santiago road. At 8.20 Grimes was ordered to open. His fire was effective, and the enemy were seen running away from the vicinity of the blockhouse. This fire was soon returned and with some effect. Grimes's range was about 2,500 yards.

The road from El Pozo to the San Juan River, about a mile, was narrow and so overgrown in places it was difficult for a column of fours to pass. The advance was painfully slow, and it was only at this time that I, and perhaps others, had any apprehension as to the result. With the troops once across the river, there never was, either that day or the next, any good reason to doubt ultimate success.

While this unsatisfactory progress was being made in front of El Pozo the action at El Caney was still earnest, and as Bates had reported in person to General Shafter he was ordered about 10 a. m. to proceed with his brigade to El Caney and render such assistance as might be practicable. This he did most effectively, and, although he had marched much of the night before and had passed the greater part of the day in marching and fighting, midnight of the 1st and 2d found him in position to protect the extreme left of Kent's division, where his arrival was most opportune.

To return again to El Pozo, it will be recalled the long-ranged rifles of the Spaniards enabled them to kill and wound a number of our men as the column of fours was moving slowly forward. At this time Kent and Sumner were ordered to push forward with all possible haste and place their troops in position to engage the enemy. General Wheeler had come up in the meantime, and after the enemy's position and our points of attack were pointed out to him he went forward to join his command.

A short distance before reaching the river the road forked, and upon arriving at this point the First Division (Kent's) was able to move more rapidly, the greater part following the left-hand branch, and, crossing the stream, formed for attack directly in front of San Juan Hill. During this formation the Third Brigade (Wikoff's) suffered severely, and its gallant leader fell mortally wounded; then Worth and Liscum, to whom the command fell in turn, were wounded. The movement continued, however, and the troops were now rapidly formed for attack.

Sumner formed, as ordered, to the right of the Santiago road and struck the enemy near the stream, on what was afterwards called Kettle Hill. Here a fierce conflict took place, and the enemy was only driven back after the utmost gallantry on the part of our officers and men. While Wheeler's division found the Spaniards close by at Kettle Hill, Kent had a wide bottom in his front, which led directly to the foot of the San Juan Hill, along the crest of which the enemy was strongly intrenched. Nothing daunted, the gallant men of both divisions pushed on under heavy loss to drive the Dons from their chosen position. Officers whose names we honor and will ever hold dear laid down their lives in cheering their men on to close with the foe, and to the living none but words of praise are due. We will not particularize, but will content ourselves with saying that words

fail to do justice to the gallant regimental officers and their heroic men, for, while the generals had placed them in position, it was, after all, the intrepid bravery of the subordinate officers and men that carried our colors to the crest of San Juan and thus sealed the fate of Santiago.

As the long line struggled up the steep hill, part halting here and there to fire, and then again rushing on, the general effect was that of a uniform advance. It resembled a blue ribbon, one end flung out from the hand and fluttering in a gentle breeze, one moment some points of this blue line were a little in advance, only to be overtaken and passed by portions a moment before in the rear. An Attaché of one of the great powers, speaking more to himself than to me, said, "The world never saw better troops," and he was right.

The enthusiasm of battle thrills the mind even in after days, but the battlefield also leaves painful memories. It will not be inappropriate to mention here an incident that painfully affected me. Four soldiers were seen bearing a man on a litter; his face was covered by a bloody cloth; he was motionless, and I thought perhaps dead. A friend was walking by his side, and in answer to my look of inquiry said, "No, he is not dead, but if he lives, he will never see." The bloody bandage covered the face of one we meet to-day with pride and pleasure, and with congratulations that sight was not taken from him. I speak of the distinguished Superintendent of this Academy.

We can not dwell long upon the siege of Santiago. The morning of the 2d found Wheeler and Kent intrenched on San Juan Hill. Bates was perfecting his position on the left, and Lawton was forming on the right of the cavalry. During the 2d the battle continued at intervals with more or less fury, but our troops held fast to what they had gained, and two additional regiments of volunteers arrived. By the

night of the 2d the army was ready to begin a systematic siege, and the next morning the Spanish fleet that had been lying in the harbor for weeks practically undisturbed put to sea. We were told Admiral Cervera had said "it was better to die fighting than to sink his ships." Before going, however, his naval forces had rendered very able assistance in the trenches, and in turn sustained considerable loss. The news of the great naval victory that followed was enthusiastically received by our troops. Like the battle of Manila Bay, it was complete and cast imperishable renown upon our Navy, of which the Army was justly and enthusiastically proud. This victory was the deathblow to Spanish power in the Western Hemisphere. It will be recalled General Shafter's orders of May 30 were: "Go with your force to capture garrison at Santiago, and assist in capturing harbor and fleet." The garrison and harbor fell to the Army in due time, and when it is remembered Cervera had been at Santiago for weeks, and left a few hours after the Army had completed its concentration in front of the city, can it be said that the Army did not do its full share in capturing the fleet? Certainly, if the Army had not been at Santiago, there is no reason to believe the crushing defeat that fell to the Spanish squadron would have occurred on July 3. It must then be admitted that the Army at least hurried that very desirable end.

At 8.30 a. m., before Cervera sailed, a step was taken that had a decided bearing on the siege of Santiago. A demand was made on the Spaniards to surrender. Substantial results were hoped for from this demand, and were realized, for although they declined to comply at the time, hostilities practically ceased, and it was quite evident the enemy was ready to quit as soon as he could do so with honor.

Our Army could not, however, escape hardships in the trenches under a tropical sun and rain that fell in torrents;

it was lacking, too, in comforts and conveniences, which could not be supplied. In a sickly climate disease attacked our unacclimated troops, and ere they sailed for Montauk Point it was indeed an army of invalids. Toral's surrender enabled us to select better camps, but the change came too late to restore health.

The formal surrender, which included the district and 24,000 troops, took place between the lines on the 17th, each army being represented by 100 men.

The campaign of Santiago was one of constant toil and hardship, but more was garnered than we were sent to gather. The Army carried itself in a manner deserving the admiration and unstinted praise of the nation. It fought gallantly and hung on persistently, though disease continued the deadly work the bullet began. As was said while we were camping among the beautiful hills about the city, all who "participated in the campaign, battle, and siege of Santiago de Cuba, will recall with pride the gallant deeds accomplished, and will hold one another dear for having shared great suffering, hardships, and triumphs together; all may well feel proud to inscribe on their banners the name 'Santiago de Cuba.'"

This surrender practically terminated Spain's efforts in the West Indies; but on a far field, in the Orient, Merritt, with 10,000 men, had gone to hold what Dewey's genius had brought us.

With our present knowledge we realize a campaign in the Philippines was almost inevitable, but it may surprise many, as it certainly did me, to see a statement from ex-Secretary Alger that our Government had decided to send an army of occupation to the Philippines before the receipt of the news of Dewey's victory. This information came on the 7th of May, and as early as the 4th orders were given for the assembling of western volunteers at San Francisco intended for the

Philippines as part of a plan "in further prosecution of the measures adopted by this Government for the purpose of bringing about honorable and durable peace with Spain."

General Merritt's selection to conduct this campaign met with the approval of the entire country, and no doubt existed as to his ability to execute successfully this novel expedition that was to carry our flag to the very doors of China, seven thousand miles from home.

San Francisco afforded every convenience for mobilizing, supplying, and embarking an army. The railroad facilities were excellent and harbor accommodations ample. As a result the difficulties experienced at Tampa were not encountered at San Francisco. The troops, designated as the Eighth Corps, sailed in seven expeditions from May until October, but only three arrived in time to participate in the siege of Manila. Those three were commanded by Anderson, Greene, and MacArthur, in the order named, and comprised 470 officers and 10,464 men. General Merritt accompanied the third expedition and arrived in Manila Bay July 25. He found Anderson and Greene encamped with approximately 6,000 men at Cavite and on the beach about 3 miles south of Manila. The presence of our victorious war ships of course gave protection to this small force confronted by an enemy more than twice their number. The situation was made even more difficult by the attitude of the armed Filipinos under Aguinaldo. Just what their course and pretensions would be was uncertain, but their presence demanded from the commanding general the exercise of great tact. For various reasons their services were not desired, and yet their enmity was to be avoided.

The major part of General MacArthur's troops arrived July 31, but on account of the high surf they were unable to land until the 7th of August.

The Spanish position at Manila was both naturally and

artificially strong against a land attack. The old or walled city, in the form of a quarter of a circle, is washed on the west and southwest by the waters of the bay. On the north the deep Pasig River divides it from the new city, and on the east and south it was surrounded by thick walls and moats. One and one-half miles to the south the Spaniards had built intrenchments covering the roads leading to Cavite. These works extended from Fort San Antonio-Abad, on the bay, southwest to blockhouse No. 14, nearly a mile. In rear of these was a second line of trenches, extending from Malate to Cingalon. The country south of the first-mentioned intrenchment was almost impassable for troops except along the beach and on two roads—the Calle Real, running near the beach, and the Pasay road, parallel to the first and about half a mile west. Facing the Spanish breastworks at a distance of about three-quarters of a mile, the insurgents had intrenched from the beach to the Calle Real.

General Greene was empowered to arrange with the Filipinos to permit our troops to pass their line to intrench nearer the enemy. These delicate negotiations were accomplished successfully, and on the night of July 30 he threw up breastworks about 100 yards beyond those occupied by the Filipinos, and of course that much nearer the enemy. The next night the Spaniards opened fire on Greene's new position, which was held by a small force. The enemy's fire was heavy and our loss was 10 killed and 43 wounded.

This was the Army's baptism of fire in the Philippines, and it acquitted itself most creditably. The proportion of Regulars to Volunteers in the Eighth Corps was very small, but the latter had put their time to good use and they showed to advantage in their first fight. The fire from the enemy's trenches was renewed on the 1st, 2d, and 5th of August. The American losses for the four nights were 15 killed

and 53 wounded, but the preparations were not sufficiently advanced to permit them to take the offensive, and the troops remained in their trenches, annoyed certainly, but in no way shaken. Upon MacArthur's disembarkation on the 7th, Merritt organized his entire force, practically 10,000 men, into a division under Anderson, with Greene and MacArthur as brigade commanders.

On the same day, the 7th, the Spanish commander was informed that operations by land and sea might begin at any time after the expiration of forty-eight hours, and two days later a demand was made for the surrender of the city. The Spanish general requested time to submit the question to his Government, which was refused, and operations for a joint attack by the Army and Navy were commenced. The attack on San Antonio Abad was assigned to Greene; that against block house No. 14 and the works at Cingalon to MacArthur. The Navy was to assist directly by shelling the trenches near San Antonio Abad. The attack opened at 9.30 a. m. on the 13th, one day after the signing of the peace protocol, which was not known at Manila until the 16th.

The enemy were quickly driven into the city, although they held on for a time to Cingalon with considerable obstinacy. The white flag was soon displayed on the walls, and the articles of capitulation were signed the next day. These included 13,000 prisoners and 22,000 modern small arms—certainly a rich harvest.

If the fighting at Manila was not sanguinary, there was full scope for and a display of those characteristic American qualities—self-reliance and audacity. These traits have been bred in our bone for centuries, and are an inheritance from ancestors, who acquired them in their conquest of a continent. Merritt and his army were not dismayed by confronting an intrenched enemy, superior in numbers and better armed than themselves. These obstacles served to call forth that

which is greatest in the American character—an indomitable will to succeed. The story of the achievements of these men reads like a novel, and reflects credit on them and the country that sent them on their distant mission.

This surrender practically terminated the Spanish-American war, although the Senate did not recommend the ratification of the treaty of peace until the 6th of February, 1899. In the meantime General Merritt's successor, General Otis, had to deal with one of the most difficult problems ever presented to a soldier. It was different from that encountered in Cuba, for in regard to that island our intentions had been definitely announced, and we possessed the friendship and had the assistance of the people as far as their political education permitted them to help. In the Philippines we found enmity, engendered by the ambitions of a few designing men working upon the ignorance of their countrymen. No one could say certainly what the fate of the treaty would be concerning those islands. When the prejudices of the day pass away, and the seeker after truth writes his history, another generation will hold in high regard the incomparable efforts in the reestablishment of order and government displayed by Elwell S. Otis.

The Spanish-American war belongs to the past. The pledge we gave ourselves and the world as to Cuba has been faithfully kept and already made good. The deed we set out to do is an accomplished fact, and well performed. There is another great work, about which we gave no pledge, and which was not of our seeking. It came to us as if guided by the hand of God, and under His guidance the American people will do their full duty to those that destiny, or what you will, brought to them. The audacious soldiers who served under Merritt in August, 1898, were followed by another army who have labored well in a great cause. You may pick flaws, gentlemen, here and there. An army of

65,000 men would not be human if that were not possible, but those of us who have served in the Philippines know well the grand and good work accomplished by our Army. We know it has not only conducted successfully one of the most trying guerrilla wars known to the annals of history, but that while doing this it laid the foundations for civil government in that country, and the time will come when the people of the Philippine Islands, living under the flag planted by our Regulars and Volunteers, all honor to both, will bless the day when the first American soldier set his foot on Luzon, to engage in that long, trying, and often disheartening conflict which, in the end, will give the Filipinos good government and make them a happy, prosperous, and self-respecting race. The work of the Army in the Philippines will stand the test of time, and as we recede from the work its grand deeds will stand out and its few errors sink into insignificance. The gallantry it has shown, the hardships it has suffered, the wise and humane acts it has performed, its labors in reestablishing order and in blazing the way for a more perfect civil government than the Orient has ever known, will all show clearly under the searchlight of history to the honor of the Army and the glory of our country.

THE CENTENNIAL BANQUET

THE CENTENNIAL BANQUET, JUNE 11: RESPONSES TO TOASTS.

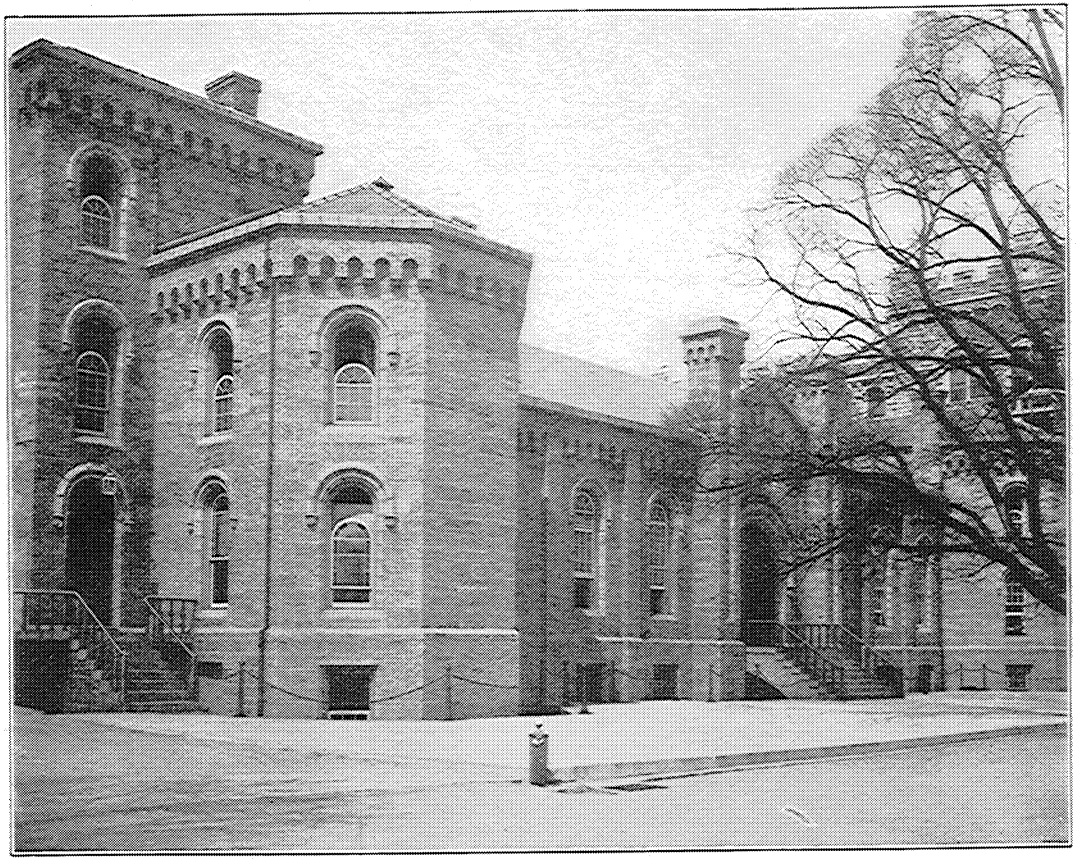
OUR GUESTS.

By SIGNOR EDMONDO MAYOR DES PLANCHES, Ambassador of Italy to the United States.

MR. PRESIDENT, GENTLEMEN OF THE CABINET, COLONEL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY, GENTLEMEN: I have the honor, speaking in the name of your foreign guests, to thank you heartily for the kind invitation extended to us, in order that we might participate in this gathering, which can rightfully be considered a family festival, and to thank you also for the generous hospitality you offer to us.

We accepted your invitation with the warm interest we take in every American event. Upon our arrival here, our natural feeling of curiosity was immediately changed to one of admiration, because everything calls it forth irresistibly, from the beauty of the remarkable location to the minutest details, as far as revealed to us of this institution, one of the finest of its kind in the world.

Within these walls many remembrances of your history recur to our minds. We recall that Sherman, the audacious leader of the "march to the sea;" that McClellan, whose genius checked the invading armies at Antietam; that Sheridan, who snatched victory from defeat in the valley of the Shenandoah, and his adversary, Early; that Thomas, the hero of Chickamauga, and his opponent, Hood; that Grant,



GRANT HALL—CADET MESS. (BUILT 1850.)

the glorious victor, Lee, the glorious vanquished, of the last battles of the civil war, and many others whose deeds of valor have filled all lands with wonder, have graduated here. When an institution has such a glorious past it will have a similar glorious future.

To my admiration, I confess, was joined at first a certain, yes, and even a double, surprise—the surprise of finding an already old institution in your young country and that of finding myself, a man of peace, among warriors. But into this centennarian Academy passes a spirit of perpetual youth as these brave and bold generations succeed one another; and even nonmilitary men, like myself, can appreciate the immense benefits of such a school, in which you not only prepare young men for possible wars, but also give them the most desirable education that youth can receive in our times, exercising them in such qualities as are considered the best in human nature, the most necessary in social life, the most useful in the citizen of modern States, for the battles of life and the pursuit of liberty.

I am, for my part, an advocate of military education. I would wish that every citizen might be trained in a military school; not so much, of course, for the technical knowledge he acquires, but for the establishment of his moral character upon a firm basis.

In a military school youth learns the great virtue of discipline, and discipline is a condition of order; youth developes its innate feeling of honor, and honor is a gurantee of integrity in private and public life, of the fulfillment of duty in peace as in war; in a military school youth grows in an atmosphere where no material interests are concerned, where self-abnegation, sacrifice, devotion to the country, are the ideals constantly before the mind.

I profess that a perfectly good soldier is almost necessarily a good citizen; that a perfectly great soldier is almost

necessarily a great citizen. The history of your country could supply many examples of this truth. But what example could I evoke more opportunely, in this place, in this moment, than the example of your great Washington, the world does not know whether greater as a soldier or as a citizen, of Washington, with whom originated the idea of a military academy for his country?

With these sentiments, with this example before us, I beg, Mr. President and gentlemen, to drink, in the name of your foreign guests, to the prosperity and greatness of the United States Military Academy of West Point.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

By Dr. WILLIAM R. HARPER, President of the University of Chicago.

MR. PRESIDENT, MR. SUPERINTENDENT, GENTLEMEN: The honor of representing, on this occasion, the American universities and colleges is indeed a great one. The high position now universally accorded this particular factor in our American civilization is attested on the one hand by the constantly increasing facilities for higher education provided by the Federal and State governments and by corporations or individuals; and, on the other, by a demand for the advantages thus proffered which, up to the present time, has not been adequately satisfied.

The centennial of the birth of one of these American institutions furnished excellent opportunity not only for rejoicing, but as well for reflection.

An institution of one hundred years must have in itself elements of strength, to the existence of which is due the fact that it has been permitted to enjoy so long a period of existence; and further, these elements of strength, these characteristics, must be worthy of the consideration of sister institutions, older and younger, as furnishing ideals of educational method and policy which have produced splendid results in one environment, and from which, even under different circumstances, good may be expected.

What, now, is West Point's message to the educational world? This is a question not to be answered in a five-minute speech, and least of all by one whose acquaintance with the institution is so slight as my own. And yet it is possible to state in few words the great ideas for which the

Military Academy has stood, as these ideas have found expression on the lips of those who best understand its work.

The first of these is concentration of effort. The purpose has been a single one, the supreme spirit has been characterized by unity. No disposition has existed to dissipate the effort of instructor or student by undertaking to do things other than those directly and absolutely involved in the particular purpose for which the school was founded. Its definite purpose has never been lost sight of.

Another of these characteristics has been the degree of thoroughness demanded in the work. Every educator is compelled to admire that policy which limits the membership of the sections arranged for classroom work to 8, 10, or 12 students, and to place in unfavorable contrast with it that other policy, so generally adopted for financial reasons in all our institutions, which assigns to the same section for recitation or lecture 40 or 60, or even 100 students. The spirit of accuracy developed under conditions which have existed here at West Point, the high degree of thoroughness thus made possible, are of inestimable value.

A third characteristic has been the spirit of subordination, of obedience, engendered in the student. It is true, of course, that in preparation for a military career such training is fundamental. But it is to be observed that a large proportion of the alumni of this institution have entered civil life and occupy high positions in the various professions and in the different fields of business activity. Such training has evidently produced satisfactory results in all these cases.

I appreciate the fact that the question I am raising touches vitally the most sacred articles in the creed of the modern educator. I understand that it is to-day a piece of pedagogical heterodoxy to look with any favor upon an educational policy which is not based upon the idea that the student must be allowed to follow his own sweet will in selecting his

courses of study, his hours of study, and his methods of work. At the same time, I venture to ask whether in the application of this modern educational policy we have not gone too far; whether it has not been applied to fields of work in which it had no place; whether, for example, it would not be well for every boy to have at one stage or another of his development, a period of discipline at all events similar to that which is called military.

But this is not the time for a pedagogical discussion.

The universities and colleges of America, one of which is the United States Military Academy, have, during the last quarter of a century, taken many forward steps in connection with the country's progress in other departments of its activity. No greater changes have taken place in methods of commerce, or of transportation, or of communication than those which have come in methods of higher education.

These changes may be summed up as (1) those that have arisen from a larger sympathy with life in the world at large; for the student to-day goes out into the world, instead of shutting himself away from it; (2) those which have come from the desire to deal with the student as an individual and to give free scope to individual development; for it is in our time that the doctrine of individualism is really beginning to bear fruitage in state and church; (3) those which owe their origin to the growth of the spirit of association and cooperation; for institutions work together now as they did not half a century ago, and from this cooperation beneficent results have grown; (4) those which are rooted in the effort to take a higher place in the world's education; for the tide has already begun to turn, and men are now coming from the Old World to study in American institutions of learning.

I say that great progress has been made; but much still remains to be done, and of all that remains nothing is more

important than that our universities and colleges shall undertake to do larger work in cultivating the spirit of patriotism.

I do not mean mere "jingoism;" nor do I forget that in the recent war with Spain college men went forth in great numbers and with enthusiastic spirit. I have in mind intelligent patriotism; a patriotism that is deep and soul-stirring; a patriotism that controls life, and life in time of peace as well as in time of war.

Let every institution of learning become a seat of righteous judgment against iniquity, a stronghold of courageous conviction for truth. Then will virtue rise supreme and the Kingdom of Heaven have come.

CONGRESS AND ITS RELATIONS TO THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

By the Hon. DAVID B. HENDERSON, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

[No report of this response has been received.]

THE ARMY.

By Lieut. Gen. NELSON A. MILES, U. S. Army.

GENERAL MILES, in speaking to the Army, said in part: "Our military force has not only been chiefly instrumental in achieving our independence, but it has been the vanguard of civilization, the pioneer of our development and progress, the defender of the home builders, and has borne our flag in triumph over the battlefields of a century.

"The Army has passed through various stages of expansion and contraction, yet it has gradually grown in strength and efficiency commensurate with the needs of the nation. It should never be decreased to that extent that it will become so weak as to be unable to give adequate support to the civil government of our country, and at the same time it should never be expanded to the extent that it might constitute a menace to our liberties."

"Whether the country shall be prepared or unprepared for war," he continued, "depends entirely on the wish of the people and the action of Congress. There was not any army or corps of any army on the earth better equipped with skillful, efficient and experienced officers and brave, intelligent, physically perfect men than our little Army in the spring of 1898. Yet, with complete equipment for perhaps 10,000 additional men, the Government found itself wholly inadequate to supply and equip an additional force of 250,000 men in a few days or months. In fact, although 52,000 men left the country before the war was over, and even before a large volunteer force could be properly organized,

instructed and equipped, the regular force was, however, prepared to take the field within twenty-four hours after receiving its orders, and was mobilized within five days. Whatever strength is authorized by Congress, the Army will be maintained at the highest state of efficiency, and will ever be ready for any service or sacrifice that it may be called upon by its Government.

"To this end it is essential that its officers shall be thoroughly trained in all the art and science of modern and civilized warfare. Washington realized the need of experienced scientific officers, and this institution, conceived and urged by him, has contributed largely to the efficiency, the skill and military science that has done so much to bring success to American arms. Here truth, justice, honor, and moral courage are maintained as the essential principles governing those in the military service, especially those who are to mold, discipline, instruct, command, and lead the military forces of our country. This institution, in which Washington, Scott, and Sherman and their associates were so interested, has grown from the most primitive condition to one of great importance, and stands first among the great universities of the world."

THE NAVY.

By Capt. FRENCH E. CHADWICK, U. S. Navy.

IN answering for the Navy on such an occasion as this I think I can best fill the five minutes to which the Superintendent so kindly limited me by recognizing what the Navy of to-day owes to West Point, which is, in a sense, our alma mater, as well as your own. Had it not already existed for many years it is but fair to say that the Naval Academy would have been an institution of much later date than it was. You gave us our first system of organization, our regulations, our methods. In fact, West Point had worked out for us, in the half century preceding the advent of the Naval Academy, the details which are of such vital value to a great school, and which stand to-day, to a great degree, in each unchanged.

And there has been an interlacing of West Point names with the Naval Academy which has reflected honor on both—that of Mahan, which represents a name honored in West Point history as well as in the Navy, and, indeed, I may say wherever and by whomsoever the subject of war is studied or read.

Another is that of Lockwood, a West Point graduate, who did so much to start us fair at Annapolis, and to whom the Navy will always feel a deep indebtedness.

I should like to dwell a few moments on what I hope I may mention as the increasing unity of our two services. Our English brethren have long had the phrase "The United

Service" in clubs and in literature, but in the old days of sail it was not much more than mere words. Steam has altered our relationship. A fleet now marches so many miles a day with the same certainty as an army. We have our lines of communications to be preserved in a much more vital sense than formerly, and the necessity of this preservation is as imperative to us as it is to you. With the Army it is chiefly a matter of its provisions; with the Navy it is coal. Without the latter we are as helpless as you would be without the former.

The old-fashioned way of keeping the sea with a fleet which should be absolutely self-supporting for many months through the supplies it was able to carry is a thing of the distant past, and we are bound down by this exigency to certain difficult conditions from which, one may say, we were once almost practically free. We have now to have a constant train of coal ships as you your supply trains, though I must say that we still have an advantage in the fact that the sea offers an infinity of routes from which to select. We have come also to see that naval strategy is twin brother to that of the Army, and in fact that the army of the sea differs from the army of the land but little in its needs, its ways, and in its studies; the essential difference is in the way it is moved. We have found that naval thought, when it deals with war problems, must run in the same lines as yours; that the study of campaigns ashore is almost as essential to us as of those afloat; that in fact there is a basic similarity in the ways in which we must look at things which must tend of necessity to the increased good understanding and sympathy for which we should all strive and hope.

The naval man has, I may say, however, reason to rejoice that coal is the great necessary about which he must worry, and not, as in the case of the Army, about what he shall

eat. This difference was forcibly brought to my mind in 1898, knowing that under the rain clouds which swept every afternoon over the valleys east of Santiago were thousands of our men, soaked and unsheltered, with but a rather short supply of hard-tack and bacon, while the sailor man had a deck over him and everything he wanted short of beer. I knew that under these rain clouds, which somehow persistently stuck to the shore and avoided the sea, were a lot of good fellows, whom I had known many a year, who deserved everything and whose discomfort and suffering I hated to see. I never was so desirous of sharing with my fellow-man whatever I had to eat or wear. While you were being drenched in the trenches, Jackie, if he happened to wear shoes, which was but seldom, was not even allowed to have wet feet. It may surprise some to know that he is coddled, so to speak, to this extent; but if there is one thing ingrained in the naval officer's mind it is to get his men into dry clothes at the earliest possible moment. Our tropical service has taught us the value of this, as it no doubt has taught yourselves, only that with us happily the thing itself is attainable.

Army grit, however, surmounted the disabilities, and whatever damage was done was happily transient. I see many to-night who must compare this festive board with their fare of four years ago. Their trials left some at least with undiminished energy, and it has given us an honored head of the State and a Commander in Chief whose ardor is as true and wholesome as when its sphere of activity was San Juan Hill.

These trials gave also to West Point a superintendent whose heroic and suffering experience deserves all honor, but they brought with them some mournful memories, the chief of which, to myself, is associated with the honored name

of Michie, beloved of all of us, who bore manfully the grief which came to him before Santiago. I do not think I can express a better wish for West Point than that it should continue the ideal which was embodied in this our old friend and fellow-soldier. So doing, it shall build in the esteem and affection of the nation as solidly as its walls now stand upon the granite of its everlasting hills.

THE STAFF AND THE ARMY SCHOOLS.

By Maj. Gen. HENRY C. CORBIN, U. S. Army.

IN THIS presence it is not necessary to set forth in detail the importance of work of the staff of the Army. Every one here understands full well that good work by the man behind the desk is quite necessary to provide efficient men behind the guns, but in the mind of the public it would be well if this fact could be better understood. It is from the staff that all efficient armies have their being. Laws for the government of, and appropriations for the creation of an army, are necessary but amount to little until made effective by staff administration. The recruitment, equipment, and assembling of men, and their formation into military units, is but the beginning of staff work. The making of arms and ammunition for a modern army—think what that alone means—and of the other machinery that must be put in motion in supplying clothing, camp and garrison equipage, land and water transportation, subsistence, and pay, medical and hospital supplies—the work of the Engineers and of the Signal Corps; the latter is but a suggestion for quick communication and connecting the army with its base of operations.

How many ever stopped to think of all that was necessary to have General Shafter's army on its march to Santiago, and the army of the Philippines, with all its ramifications, always within speaking distance with Washington. Think of it! And this was so with General Chaffee and the allied forces in their victorious march to Pekin; and it was left to our army to do this and to announce to the world the glorious victory of that expedition. It was here that the work of

our staff called forth the admiration of the older armies of the world. Our transportation, food, care of the sick and wounded, the work of our engineers, our arms and ammunition all were superior to any others there. Our soldiers were as brave as the bravest, and the most intelligent. A foreign officer speaking of them said: "The trouble is that American soldiers are so intelligent and fine looking it is difficult to distinguish officers from men."

A high tribute to the efforts of the recruiting service which last year, for example, developed 148,000 applicants, from whom only 37,000 were selected as morally, mentally, and physically fit to be entered apprentices to the trade of the soldier in that typically volunteer body of loyal and patriotic citizens, the Regular Army, whose recorded history does not contain the name of a single soldier drafted for its service.

Year by year they come in thousands from the people's best manhood, and to the people they are annually returned upon graduation from the school of the Army with increased knowledge and love of country and a quickened sense and pride of citizenship improved in capacity to perform the manifold duties of that citizenship in peace and war with a loyalty and patriotism faithful even unto death.

Let the graduates of this, the people's great democratic institution of military training, be taught to see to it that every enlisted man and brother in arms, of the thousands annually graduated from the school of the Army, shall return to his people and community a better son and citizen because a master of the soldier's profession in the highest Christian sense, and with respect for his officers and good will for the service.

During the war with Spain there was just complaint of the lack of carefully prepared plans and preparations for military movements and of the way in which such plans as were formed were carried into execution; and this complaint

has often resolved itself into a general criticism of the present staff. As a matter of fact, we have not been justly subject to this criticism, because such organization as would be properly chargeable with such duties was not provided for by law. No need is more marked. The remedy has been urged by a bill prepared by the present able Secretary of War, and having the approval and support of the staff of the Army. This bill is now pending before the military committees of the Senate and House and its final enactment into law is earnestly hoped for.

The wise provision of a detailed staff has done away with any feeling that may have existed between the line and staff. Before the enactment of this law there was just enough feeling in the service to furnish carping critics texts for mischievous essays.

The efficiency of the detailed staff can not be better illustrated than by the career of our late President. Before reaching the age of 18 he, on the 12th of June, 1861, enlisted as a private in Company E, in the famous Twenty-third Ohio, commanded by General Rosecrans, a graduate of this Academy. After ten months' service as a private he was made regimental commissary-sergeant, in which grade he served nearly seven months, when he was promoted to be second lieutenant; sixteen months later he was promoted captain, and on the 13th of March was, for "gallant and meritorious services during the campaign in West Virginia and in the Shenandoah Valley," breveted major, with which rank he was, on the 25th of July, 1865, after more than four years' constant service in the field, honorably discharged the service. It took him a month and a half more to obtain his diploma than is required of cadets at this Academy. While serving as commissary-sergeant he attracted attention by having hot coffee served to the men of his regiment while under fire on the battlefield of Antietam. During this

service as noncommissioned staff officer he became a well-instructed commissary. After five months as a lieutenant with his company he served as brigade quartermaster for more than fifteen months, then for ten months he served as assistant adjutant-general on the staff of those splendid generals, Hayes, Carroll, and Crook; then for nearly four months he was aid and adjutant-general on the staff of another graduate of this Academy, the gallant Hancock.

This training enabled President McKinley to comprehend fully all questions of command, of supply, and administration. It fitted him to meet the requirements of the Constitution that "the President shall be the commander in chief of the Army." That he did so wisely and well, that he died at his post in the zenith of his usefulness, that he won the respect of the peoples of the earth and the undivided affection of the American people is accepted history.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

By Maj. Gen. DANIEL SICKLES, *U. S. Army.*

[No report of this response has been received.]

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

By Maj. Gen. CHARLES DICK, *Ohio National Guard.*

[No report of this response has been received.]

ADDRESS.

By Colonel VON WITZLEBEN, of the Prussian Army, Commandant Cadet School.

MEINE HERREN: Gestatten Sie mir, dass ich, des Englischen nicht genügend mächtig, in meiner deutschen Muttersprache einige Worte an Sie richte:

Seine Majestät mein erhabener Kaiser König und Kriegsherr hat die Gnade gehabt zu gestatten, dass ich der gütigen Einladung des Herrn Superintendenten zur Theilnahme an der Jahrhundertfeier Ihrer Militär-Akademie folgen darf. Ich bin glücklich und stolz darüber, dass es mir so vergönnt ist, diese berühmte Pflanzstätte des amerikanischen Offizierkorps und ihre vortrefflichen Einrichtungen aus eigener Anschauung kennen zu lernen. Als Vertreter des deutschen Kadettenkorps überbringe ich der amerikanischen Schwesteranstalt deren wärmste Glückwünsche zu der heutigen bedeutungsvollen Feier. Wir leben der festen Überzeugung, dass es ihr vergönnt sein wird, treu ihren altbewährten Traditionen im Sinne ihres grossen Gründers Washington und treu ihrem schönen Wahlspruch: "Ehre, Pflicht, Vaterland," der Nation und der Armee in den nächsten 100 Yahren ebenso tüchtige Männer und Soldaten zu schenken, wie in den letztvergangenen.

Translation by Lieut. HERMAN GLADE, Fourth U. S. Infantry (U. S. M. A., 1900).

GENTLEMEN: Permit me, as one unfamiliar with English, to say a few words to you in my German mother tongue.

His Majesty, our illustrious Emperor, King, and Commander in Chief, has graciously allowed me to accept the

kind invitation of the Superintendent to take part in the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of your Military Academy. I am happy and proud that I am thus permitted by personal observation to become acquainted with this famous seminary of the American corps of officers, and with its excellent methods.

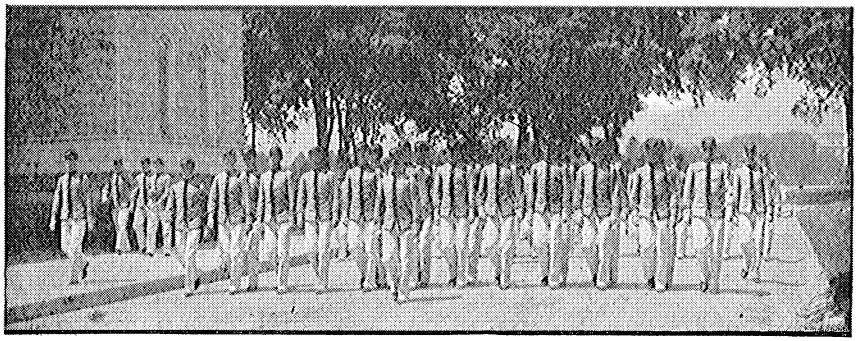
Representing the German Corps of Cadets, I bring to the American sister institution their warmest congratulations upon to-day's important celebration. We are convinced that this Academy, true to its long-cherished traditions, imbued with the spirit of its great founder, Washington, and true to its fine motto, "Honor, Duty, Country," will, in the next hundred years, present to the nation and to the Army no less capable men and soldiers than it has done in the hundred years just elapsed.

BANQUET AT MANILA, JUNE 11, 1902.

ON THE 15th of April, 1902, there was organized at Manila the U. S. Military Academy Centennial Association to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Military Academy. All ex-cadets serving in the Philippine Islands constituted its membership. Its officers were Col. W. A. Rafferty (U. S. Military Academy, 1865), president; Lieut. Col. George C. Greenough (1865), vice-president; Maj. H. C. Carbaugh (1882), secretary and treasurer, and an executive committee composed of these officers and of Col. W. P. Hall (1868), Capt. E. O. Fechét (1868), Col. C. A. Woodruff (1871), Lieut. Col. A. H. Russell (1871), Lieut. Col. G. S. Anderson (1871), Capts. F. de W. Ramsay (1885), B. T. Clayton (1886), W. W. Harts (1889), J. R. Lindsay (1892), J. A. Moss (1894), C. McK. Saltzman (1896), and A. S. Conklin (1897). On June 11 a banquet was given by the association. The menu is a little pamphlet bound in the Academy colors and illustrated with cuts of cadet and of army life. The spirit of the meeting of those graduates far away from home is irresistibly suggested by the make-up of the little volume. Here on a single page is the dreary north front of cadet barracks with its row of immemorial elms, and below it the palms of Manila surrounding one of the outlying blockhouses for its defense. On another page is a cut of cadet guard-mounting in camp and below it an automatic gun in action against Filipino insurgents. Both scenes were familiar to the 108 graduates who sat down to the centennial dinner, but their hearts

warmed to the views of their rock-bound highland home—their country. It was their duty to serve that country well and with honor in a distant land.

As the U. S. army transport *Hancock* was crossing the longitude of 180° W., June 11, 1902, the 34 officers present, representing the classes of 1879, 1887, 1888, 1890, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, and 1898, and veterans of the civil war, celebrated the day by addresses and songs in mid-Pacific. Wherever the duty of a graduate called him his heart was with Alma Mater on this memorable day.

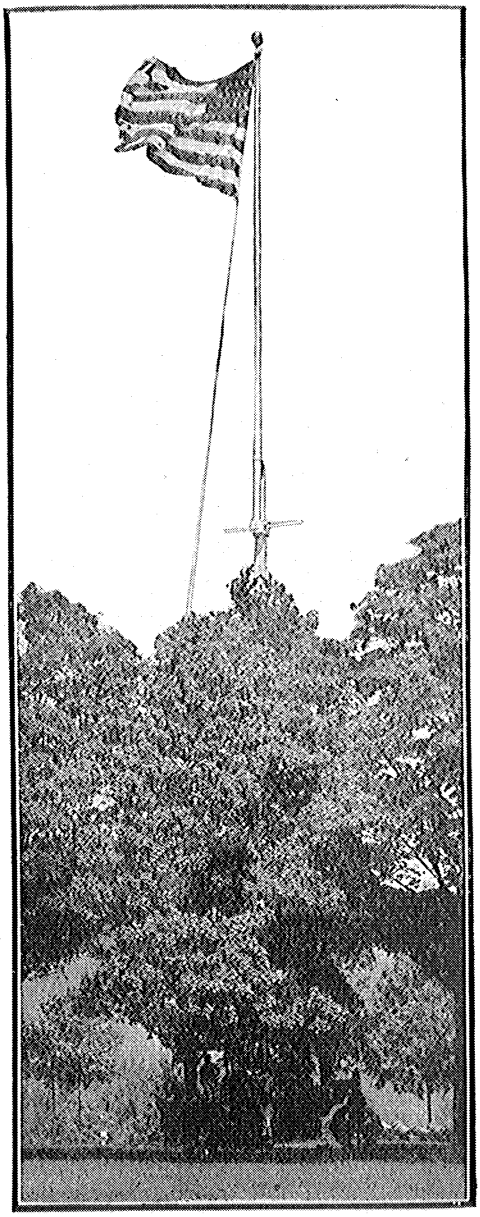


CORPS OF CADETS MARCHING TO DINNER, 1902.

PRAYER.

By Reverend HERBERT SHIPMAN, Chaplain.

Graduating exercises, June 12, 1902.



THE FLAG AT WEST POINT.

GOD of all power and might, who alone through all chances and changes changeth not; who leddest our fathers through strife and conflict to the land of their inheritance, and sealed it to a later generation in the blood of those who, loving peace, yet dared to die for truth; as Thou hast been with them, so, we pray Thee, be now with us. In particular, we ask Thy blessing on these Thy sons whose lives are here consecrated to their country's service, and who now go forth to face the opportunities and responsibilities of the wider life awaiting them. May they enter on it conscious that truth alone endures, that beyond all victories and triumphs, beyond all praise that men can give, Thine own "Well done!" alone will satisfy at last.

In the high calling which is theirs, whether it be in peace or in the solemn necessity of war, may their thoughts be high, their hearts pure, their words and actions true.

Be Thou near them always; strengthen them with Thine own strength, comfort them in sorrow, if sorrow come, and in the hour of victory and success let them not forget that he alone is great who serveth Thee, that he alone is strong who bends his will to Thine.

We ask this in His name who lived and died that men might know the strength and power of love, and who, looking beyond the strife and tumult of the centuries, saw of the travail of His soul and was satisfied, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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