

West Point Military Academy— The Graduating Exercises.

WEST POINT, June 16, 1875.

The last exercises in connection with the graduating class of this year took place under the trees here this morning. The cadets of all the classes were drawn up in front of the library, the first class facing the tables at which were seated the Secretary of War, Professor Gilman, late of Yale and the College of California, and Col. Hall. Prof. Gilman addressed the graduating class, and closed with a few words addressed to Secretary Belknap, assuring him of the thoroughness, the scholastic discipline and the order which the Board of Visitors had found to characterize the Academy.

Secretary Belknap made the closing address, his commanding presence and ease of delivery making it a pleasure to his auditors. He commenced by saying:

"Gentlemen of the Graduating Class of 1875—Five years have passed since I made my first official visit to this academy."

Advice is tiresome to those who hopefully wait for the command which sends them out into the world's active life; but there is a truth for me to tell you, which the experience of coming years will confirm, and that is the oft-told story: that when you go from this place of most thorough instruction, learned in its studies and educated generously by its teachings, you will in the future recall this scene, and wonder why to-day you know so little. Intercourse with others, the acquirements of military life, contact with men, unlearned perhaps, but bright enough by nature to grasp great truths and become your rivals, will try you by a thorough test, and make you thankful that here you formed the foundation of an education which, if you are true to yourselves, will never fail you, nor by its influence put a blemish upon the record of your life. The faithful soldier always has the reverence and regard of the people. In times of war he commands praise by his valor and wins applause by gallantry in action. There is a tie binding his countrymen to him which can only be broken by himself. In all ages daring deeds have secured popular approval, while words of welcome and wreaths of laurel await at home the soldier's return. At the close of the rebellion the avenues of the capital were thronged with those who gathered to give to the armies of the east and west, as they passed in grand review, the willing homage of a grateful people. Though days of peace have no reward like this, still there are duties to be done, and a career to be carved out, which move the young soldier's ambition and arouse his best endeavor. Apparently garrison life gives no incentive to energy. The dull routine of daily effort seems to present no prize; and yet the soldier who is faithful here finds his return in the knowledge that in the time of trouble the nation's call comes first to him, because she finds him ready."

He closed with a few kind words of parting.

The general standing of the class was then announced, and each man, called up in the order of his merit, received his diploma from the Secretary of War. The exercises were concluded with the reading of the orders of the day. The graduates numbered 43. Willard Young, who stands fourth, is a son of Brigham Young.—X in Washington Star.

NEWS NOTES.

Montana has become somewhat apathetic on the railroad question. Texas will have two million bushels surplus wheat.

Spiritualism is said to be spreading rapidly in Russia.

The cost of the Tennessee public schools was last year about \$150 per scholar.

The "Utica skirt" is the latest. It contracts the walking powers of the pent-up wearer.

The indications are that the new census now in progress in New York will not give that city a population of over a million.

Cardinal Antonelli is said to be in a state of great suffering from the gout. The disease has threatened his stomach, and his health altogether is much more precarious than that of the Pope.

Shepherders in Walla Walla county, Oregon, and neighborhood, Washington Territory, lost many head of fine animals on account of the late rains following close upon shearing.

At the dog show last month, at the London Crystal Palace, there were 1,178 animals exhibited, and a marked improvement in all breeds was noticed. The Princess of Wales took the first prize for a fine animal in the class of St. Bernard mastiffs.

Grasshoppers are in good demand on the North Fork of Cache Creek, Cal., the visitors pay the children two cents apiece for them, at Allen Springs, for fish bait. One youngster, while hunting for grasshoppers the other day, was heard to observe, "Oh, if this was in Kansas!"

Sovereigns visiting Rome call upon the King first and then on the Pope. Now times have changed—the Pope used to hold pre-eminence over all the monarchs of the earth, and the latter used to hold his stirrups for them when getting up on horseback to go out and take a ride.

Mary Pomeroy, the Jersey City organist whom Glendinning seduced, is to have a monument. The ladies of Jersey City are collecting funds for the purpose, and the monument will be set up on the first anniversary of her death. Those of us who have not been seduced must get along without monuments.—Springfield Union.

Tragedies seem to be now the order of the day, and, as the law seems to be unusually lenient with the offenders, there is little hope at present of a cessation in crime. Murder is served up in the daily papers in a variety of form, akin to romance or dime novel. The latest instance is that of a father taking an erring daughter out on the river for a row and convincing her of the error of her ways by three shots from a revolver. As a logical sequence the paternal adviser killed himself.—N. Y. Herald.

Dr. Maurin recommends placing in the open windows of invalids canvas well wetted. As is known, water, in passing from a liquid to a gaseous state, absorbs caloric. That chemical process will lower in a few minutes the temperature of a room by five or six degrees, and the humidity distributed in the air makes the heat more supportable. By that system the patients find themselves, even in the height of summer, in an atmosphere refreshed analogous to that which prevails after a storm.

A male convict at Cayenne obtained permission to marry a female convict; but as the man was a widower, the governor declared it was necessary first to obtain the certificate of the death of his first wife. A communication was addressed to the authorities, but without any reply. The convict insisting that the ceremony should be no longer delayed, the Governor said, "But what is there to prove that your first wife is dead?" The reply of the convict was tolerably satisfactory on this point: "Why," he said, "I'm here for having assassinated her."

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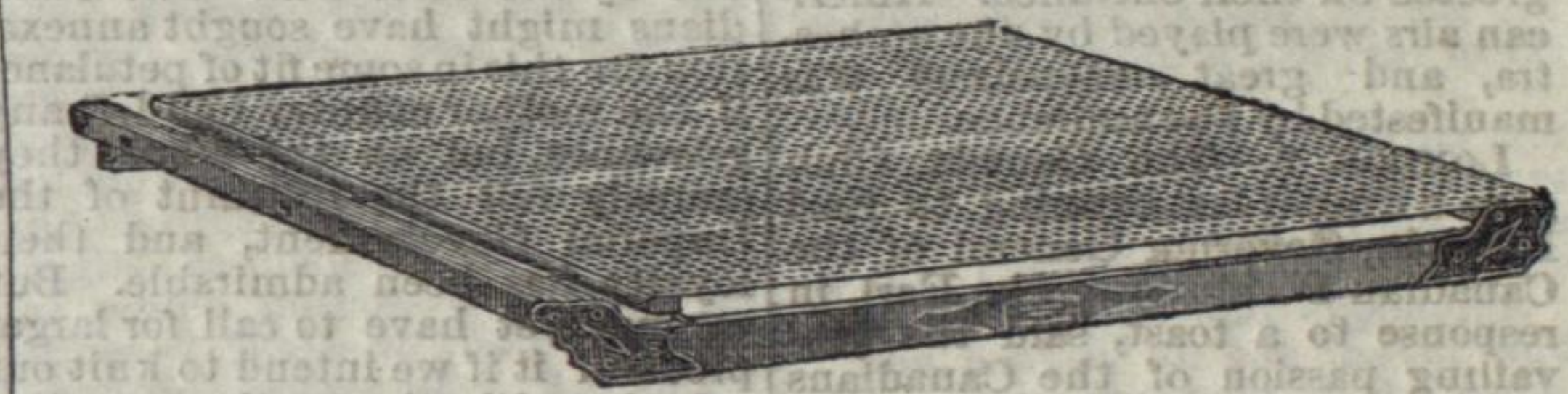
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