

DOC. No. XI.

REPORT

OF

THE BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE.

JULY 1856.

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# REPORT.

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VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE,  
JULY 9, 1856.

SIR,

The board of visitors of the Virginia military institute, after a laborious and careful examination of the various interests of this institution, beg leave to make the following report:

The examinations of the several classes of the cadets, which were conducted by the academic board in the presence of the board of visitors, in a thorough and searching manner, gave full assurance that instruction has been imparted with fidelity and ability.

The board of visitors, satisfied with the proficiency of the first class of cadets, consisting of thirty-three members, in the several departments of sciences and languages in which they have been instructed, conferred upon them the degree of "graduates," authorized by law.

The board are required by regulation to report to the executive the names of the two most distinguished cadets in each class; and they are pleased to announce, for the special notice of your excellency and of the general assembly, the following named cadets:

*First Class.*

1. Cadet Francis W. Smith of the city of Norfolk.
2. Cadet Edward L. Smith of Norfolk county.

*Second Class.*

1. Cadet J. McCausland of the county of Mason.
2. Cadet C. W. Hardy of the city of Norfolk.

*Third Class.*

1. Cadet M. B. Hardin of Alexandria county.
2. Cadet L. W. Reid of the city of Alexandria.

*Fourth Class.*

1. Cadet J. W. Lyell of Richmond county.
2. Cadet W. H. Otey of Campbell county.

The attention of the board having been specially called by the superintendent to the deficient preparation of many of those who are admitted as cadets, it has been thought advisable to add a *fifth* year, with the view of meeting such deficiency to the course of instruction. This arrangement will enable the academic board to arrange a course of instruction for such new cadets as are found upon examination to be unprepared to take up the regular studies of the 4th class, while all of those who are qualified may be admitted into the 4th or 3d class, thereby graduating in four or three years.

Another great benefit will be found to result from this arrangement. The distinctive feature of this school has been the high scientific character of its course of instruction. With limited means at their command, the board have nevertheless aimed to reduce the cost of education, so as to meet the pecuniary condition of a large class of our people who could not otherwise and elsewhere avail themselves of such advantages. The great effort of our institution has been also to *teach thoroughly* the practical and useful sciences and arts, which the demands of our commonwealth and the practical character of the age in which we live so pressing called for. While this has been done in a manner and to an extent which will challenge the admiration and defy the rivalry of any other institution of learning in the country, it is nevertheless true that many subjects of polite and thorough education have been necessarily neglected, from want of means to support the full corps of instructors.

This institution is essentially a *Virginia* school. Whilst constant applications have been received year after year for admission from other states to an extent that would swell our numbers four fold beyond the means of accommodation, yet in no case has any other than a *Virginia* youth been received within our limits.

Believing that every citizen of Virginia should be instructed at least to some extent in the science of government, and made acquainted with the theory and nature of the constitutional union of the United States, and the history and nature of his own state government, and especially believing it essential that he should understand and believe the foundation of that divine institution of *slavery* which is the basis of the happiness, prosperity and independence of our southern people, and thoroughly fortified to advocate and defend it, the board has been enabled, by extending the term of the course, to introduce into the curriculum of instruction these most important subjects. They have also, for a like reason, had an opportunity to add to the course the subject of general history, as taught in the able manual of President Dew, and also the subject of physical geography.

The superintendent having reported the eastern wing of the barracks ready for occupancy, the board have felt it their duty to yield to the pressing demand for admission on the part of pay applicants, and have appointed 17 additional pay cadets, making the total corps of cadets number 150.

The increase of the number of the corps necessarily throws additional labor upon the superintendent and other officers of the institution, and called for additional assistance in the department of instruction and an increase of salaries. Your excellency may have noticed that the board has repeatedly directed the attention of the executive to the limited salaries of the professors and the inability of the institution to provide such compensation for its officers as their unremitting labors and distinguished attainments justly entitled them to, except by an increase of the price of education. The necessity of the occasion and the desire to do justice to the professors and those who are to be benefited by their instruction, have forced the board to adopt several suggestions of the superintendent, contained in his report, which have enabled them, by advancing the tuition fee of the pay cadet \$ 10 per annum, and by restricting the state cadets to such allowances as are contemplated by law, to produce a fund which has enabled them to add considerably to the salaries of the present corps of professors, and to provide for the support of two additional assistant professors. They were anxious at the same time to organize an independent chair of history, &c. but their means were insufficient for this purpose; and they have been compelled, in the mean time, to distribute the subjects of this chair between the superintendent and the professor of English literature and Latin. Under this necessity, and with this additional evidence of the disposition and effort of the board to continue as far as practicable the *self-sustaining* character of the institution, and while extending the benefits of the school, not to draw needlessly upon the resources of the state, the board are still deeply sensible that the usefulness of the institution would be greatly promoted by

an increase of the annuity by the sum of *five thousand dollars*. This would enable the board not only to provide for the support of the additional professor now needed for the course just organized, but still farther to arrange and extend the course of instruction and subdivide the labor now severely pressing upon some of the departments, and also admit one *state cadet* from each of the fifty senatorial districts into which the state is now divided.

The claim is a most reasonable one. The annual state appropriation at present amounts to the small sum, when viewed with reference to the consideration which has been received for it, of \$9,210. Of this amount the sum of \$6,000 is strictly chargeable to the guard to the state arsenal, leaving but \$3,210 as justly chargeable against it as applicable to the cause of education; and yet it is upon this small annuity that the Virginia military institute has been brought to its present high reputation, as being looked to throughout the entire south as the model upon which other states are framing their institutions of learning.

It may be boldly declared that no institution in any country has accomplished so much in so short a period and upon such slender means.

The United States military academy at West Point has been in operation fifty-four years, and is sustained and supported by the power and means of the federal government. Its *band alone costs more annually than is devoted to the entire support of the Virginia military institute*, and yet the most gratifying testimonials have been on two occasions communicated to the authorities of the state from professors of the United States military academy, that a visitor to this school could scarcely distinguish in the results of the operations of the two institutions.

The board of visitors are satisfied that they but reflect the sentiments of the people of the commonwealth, when they say they feel proud of this great state school; and they are desirous of making it more and more the pride of the people, by perfecting it as much as may be consistent with the means of the state and the peculiar destiny of the institution.

The institute having been honored by your excellency with a visit during the session of the board, in connection with a duty charged upon the executive, the inauguration of the splendid copy by Hubard of Houdon's statue of Washington, presented to the Virginia military institute, under a resolution of the general assembly, passed March 1856, an urgent appeal for an appropriation will be particularly appreciated by your excellency for the several purposes of enclosing this great work with an appropriate railing, of inserting on the pedestal bronze tablets to relieve the statue from the effect of the heavy granite base, to receive the inscriptions which belong to it, and to commemorate the inauguration of July 1856.

The board are afraid that they might be regarded as asking too much even in connection with this patriotic subject, did they urge now what they hope time and the increased means of the government will hereafter furnish them. They would desire to see placed upon the pedestal of the statue such entabletures of bronze as the genius of Hubard or some other Virginia artist might adorn with such devices as would both "illuminate the immortal subject and give intelligence to the dedication of 1856." They would desire to see the terrace in front of the institute extended several yards so as to allow full space on all sides of the statue, and its character and shape so modified with an embrazoned parapet that an imposing and beautiful bastioned front might be presented, within the area of which might rest the great statue of Washington. They trust the liberality and patronage of the general assembly will at no distant day authorize this to be done. In the mean while, the urgency of an appropriation to enclose the statue with an iron railing, to improve and enclose the public grounds, to pave the interior court yard, to complete the public buildings now nearly finished, to pay the small outstanding debt, and finally to supply the institute with an independent water line, are wants which have been brought specially and personally to your notice during your visitation, and were in part laid before the executive by our predeces-

sors; and they earnestly recommend that an appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars be appropriated for these various purposes.

The inauguration of the Washington statue has been an era in the history of the state as well as the history of this institution, which will be long remembered; and the board of visitors feel that they are discharging a duty to both by embracing in the report now presented to your excellency, a copy of the address of the governor and of those representing the institute, pronounced upon the occasion of these interesting exercises. The history of every transaction tending to honor the good and the great, especially of such as would be likely to preserve, as an illustrious subject of emulation and imitation to the youth of our state, the character of one who unquestionably stands "first in peace, first in war, and first in the hearts" of all Virginians, should be most sacredly kept; and it is with the view of perpetuating the occurrences of this great day that the board have communicated to your excellency these documents, with the request that they be transmitted to the general assembly with the papers accompanying your annual message.

For a more full understanding of this report, and for a detailed statement of the financial condition of the institution during the past year, and for the estimates of the next, as well as for a statement of the condition and operations of the several departments connected with the institute, your excellency is referred to the report of the superintendent, and to the several reports of the committees of the board, herewith communicated.

The arsenal was duly inspected by the board during their visitation; but a more minute examination of it, as well as of the public arms, having been made by the adjutant general, who is *ex officio* a member of this board, and to whom is specially assigned by law this duty, they would refer your excellency to his special report.

We have the honor to be,

Very resp'y, your ob't serv'ts,

WM. B. TALIAFERRO, *Pres.*  
 WM. H. RICHARDSON, *Adj. Gen.*  
 AUGUSTINE J. SMITH.  
 JAS. L. KEMPER.  
 A. RUSSELL MEEM.  
 JAMES H. PAXTON.  
 A. HUGHES DILLARD.

*His Excellency* HENRY A. WISE,  
*Governor of Virginia.*

# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

*Unanimously adopted July 7, 1856.*

## I. The Virginia military institute account for the fiscal year ending June 15th, 1857, may be estimated as follows:

### RECEIPTS:

Annual state appropriation, - - - - -	7,710 00
Literary fund, - - - - -	1,500 00
Tuition of 118 pay cadets, - - - - -	7,080 00
Pay of ordnance and quartermaster sergeant, - - - - -	360 00
Commission account, - - - - -	1,200 00
Diplomas, - - - - -	200 00
Music fund, - - - - -	750 00
Total receipts,	<u>18,800 00</u>

### LIABILITIES:

Support of 32 state cadets, - - - - -	3,840 00
Salary of superintendent, - - - - -	2,500 00
Salaries of professors and surgeon, - - - - -	8,046 00
Assistant professors, - - - - -	2,625 00
Pay of ordnance sergeant, - - - - -	360 00
Pay of musicians, - - - - -	700 00
Balance,	<u>18,071 00</u> <u>\$ 729 00</u>

## II. Quartermaster's department:

Total credits of quartermaster's department, - - - - -	34,021 31
Liabilities, - - - - -	31,746 45
Balance to credit of this department, - - - - -	2,274 86
Of these credits, this sum may be regarded as composed of bad debts, - - - - -	1,000 00
Leaving net balance to credit of this department,	<u>\$ 1,274 86</u>

## III. Subsistence department:

The total credits of the subsistence department, - - - - -	22,366 66
Total liabilities, - - - - -	22,162 37
Balance to credit of subsistence department,	<u>\$ 204 29</u>

## IV. Building fund:

Credits of building fund, - - - - -	1,532 94
Amount of liabilities, - - - - -	8,434 94
Balance against building fund,	<u>\$ 6,902 00</u>

*Recapitulation.*

Balance to credit of Virginia military institute fund,	-	-	729 00
Do.    quartermaster's department,	-	-	1,274 80
Do.    subsistence    do.	-	-	204 20
Total balances of credits of institution,	-	-	2,208 10
Balance against building fund,	-	-	6,902 00
			<u>\$ 4,693 80</u>

The committee on finance have carefully inspected the accounts of the treasurer, and the accompanying documents, and present the foregoing estimate of the financial condition of the Virginia military institute. They have found the accounts of the treasurer sustained by proper vouchers, and the papers and books of the office are neatly and methodically arranged and preserved.

JAMES L. KEMPER  
AUG. J. SMITH.  
HUGHES DILLARD

COL. WM. B. TALIAFERRO,

*Pres. B. V. V. M. I.*



## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION.

*Unanimously adopted July 7, 1856.*

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The committee on instruction have examined into the subject referred to their consideration, with such care as they were enabled to give to it, and beg leave to make the following report:

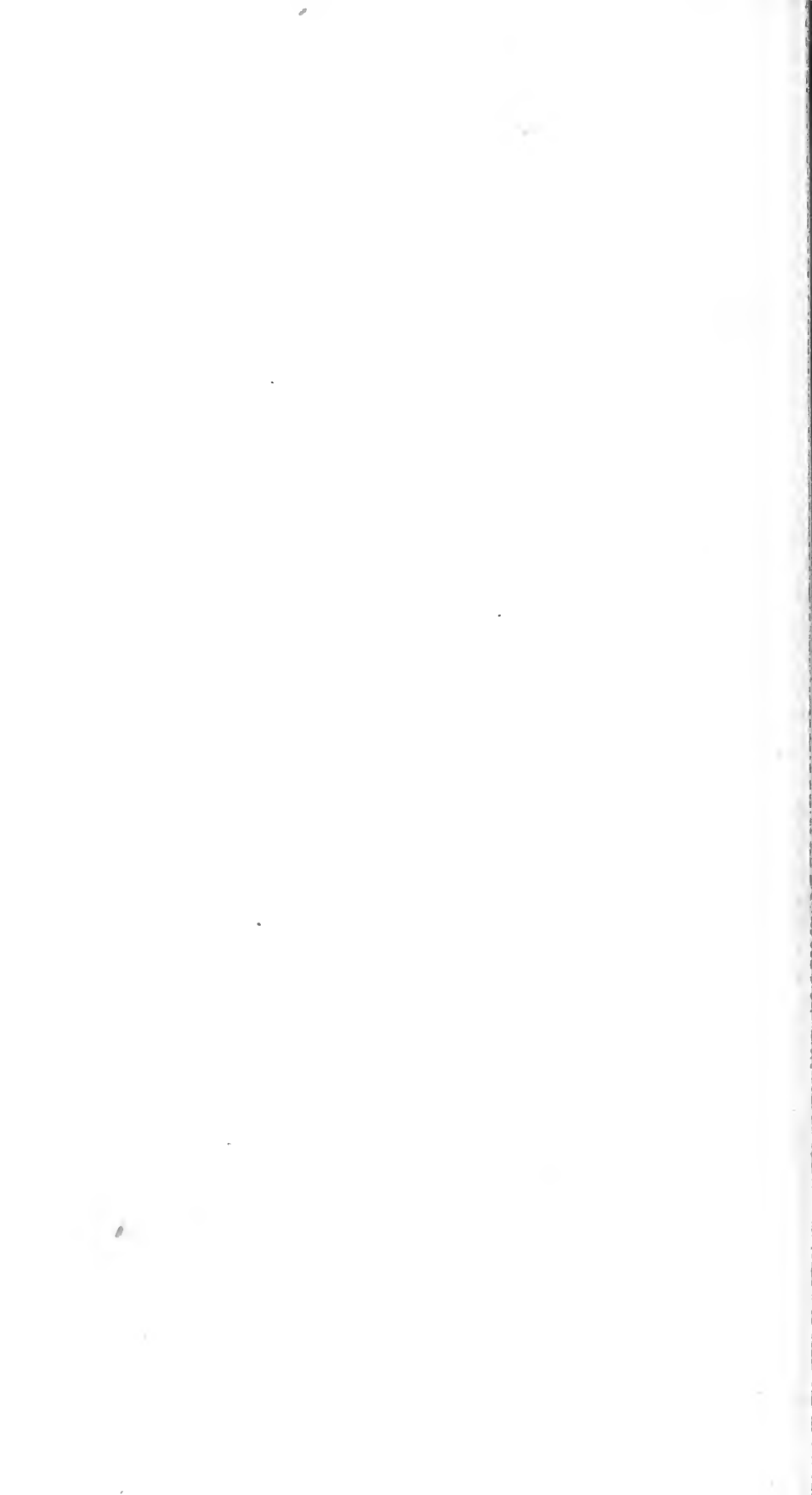
The examination which has just closed reflects the highest credit on the cadets, and the able and distinguished academic board who conducted it, conclusively attesting to the thorough and perfect manner in which the studies of the institution are conducted.

From a careful examination into the character of the studies and the manner in which they are conducted, we would respectfully recommend an extension of the course from four years to five, as it would enable many meritorious young men, who, from poverty, want of the means of education and other causes, are unable to meet the requirements which a proper regard for the discipline of the institute would demand, and would also enable the academic board so to arrange the curriculum of studies as to give to them greater efficiency, and that the same be so modified as to embrace political economy, constitutional law, and the principles of slavery, as expounded by the text book of Professor Dew.

This committee would further recommend an increase of the salaries of the superintendent, professors and assistant professors at least twenty per cent. believing the salaries they now get as entirely insufficient. To do so would be to them an act of simple justice. It can scarcely be expected that gentlemen possessing the talents and distinguished attainments of the present academic board, (notwithstanding their proved fidelity and devotion to the institute,) could much longer sacrifice their pecuniary interest, when greater inducements are held out to them elsewhere.

AUG. J. SMITH.  
 JAMES L. KEMPER.  
 WM. H. RICHARDSON.

COL. WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Pres. B. V. V. M. I.*



## REPORT ON QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

*Unanimously adopted July 7, 1856.*

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The committee appointed to examine the quartermaster's department have done so, as far as it was practicable, and beg leave to present the following report:

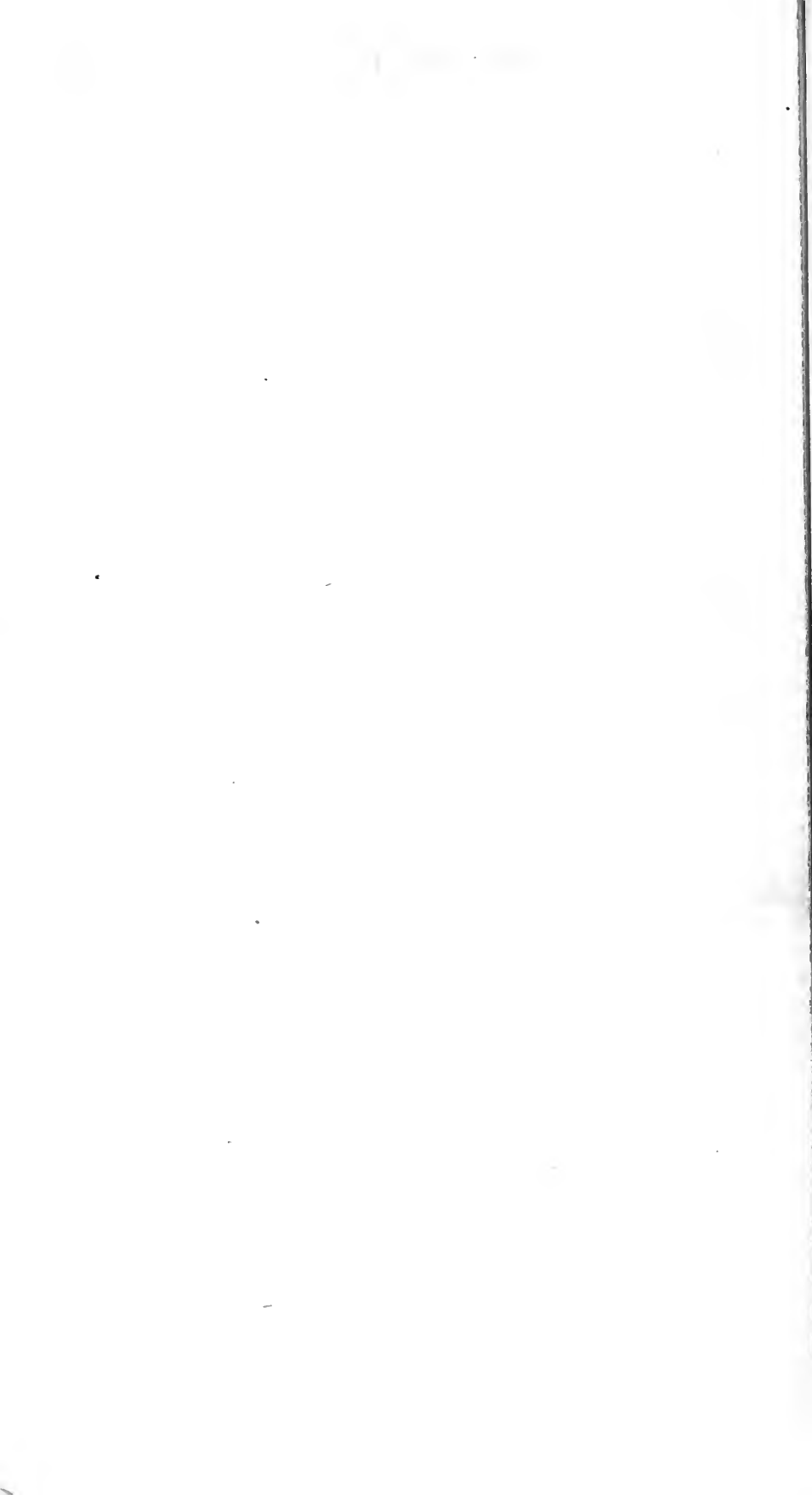
They find nothing in this department requiring the special attention of the board, its general condition being in all respects satisfactory. The articles intended for the use of the cadets seem to be of excellent quality, and are furnished to them, at advances upon prime cost, barely sufficient to cover the expense of transporting and of issuing them. The books are so kept as to exhibit at all times the state of the accounts between the cadets and the quartermaster, and no article is issued from the department without an order from the superintendent. The cadets, thus knowing the condition of their accounts, are enabled to regulate their purchases, so as not to exceed the estimated expenses.

By reference to the tabular statement accompanying the report of the quartermaster, it appears that \$22,487 54 have been disbursed for this department for the year, which is offset by credits from the sale of merchandise to officers and cadets, amounting to \$25,913 53, leaving a balance to the credit of the department, of \$3,425 54. The liabilities of the department amount to \$9,258 46; to meet which, there is, in addition to the balance against the treasurer, merchandise in charge of the quartermaster, valued at \$8,107 78; which will leave a balance to the credit of the department, of \$2,274 86. This balance is liable to a reduction of \$1,000 on account of debts outstanding against ex-cadets, which are supposed to be bad.

The committee find that the small advance on the charges for fuel, light and washing, authorized last year, has been sufficient to cover the outlay of the department, on these supplies.

JAMES H. PAXTON.  
JAMES L. KEMPER.

To COL. WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Pres. B. V. V. M. I.*



## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUBSISTENCE.

*Unanimously adopted July 7, 1856.*

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The committee on subsistence, after a careful investigation, submit the following:

That the various branches of this department have been conducted with strict regard to economy, neatness and order.

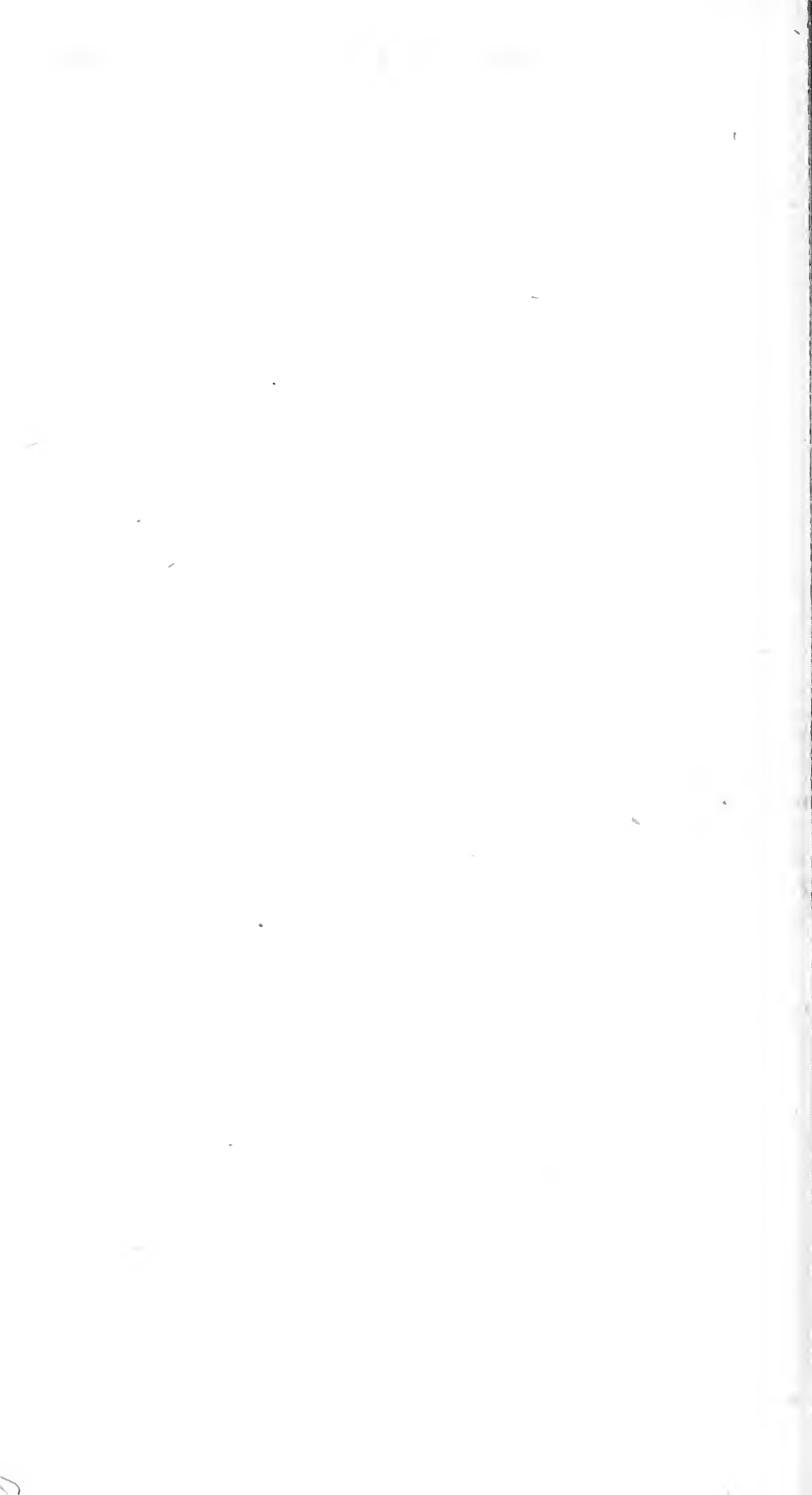
The board of 1855, with a view to the general advance in supplies of all kinds, increased the rates of board from \$ 8 50 to \$10 per month, which is now deemed sufficient—the monthly average of subsistence, as per statement, being \$ 8 04.

The examination of the condition of buildings, property and stores was highly satisfactory.

The committee would suggest that a new cooking range be erected in a suitable building contiguous to the kitchen, the present range being in the main room, from the burning of grease, &c. disseminating unpleasant odor throughout the entire building, besides, during the summer, uncomfortably heating the apartments near it.

A. RUSSELL MEEM.  
JAMES H. PAXTON.

Co COL. WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
Pres. B. V. V. M. I.



## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINE.

*Unanimously adopted July 7, 1856.*

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The committee on discipline find nothing in this department, requiring the particular attention of the board of visitors. So far as appears to this committee, the conduct of the corps of cadets has been respectful and orderly, in a remarkable degree, for some time past, and affords a well grounded confidence for the future. All proper vigilance and attention appear to have been exercised by the commandant of cadets, and by his assistants.

WM. H. RICHARDSON.  
A. RUSSELL MEEM.

By COL. WM. B. TALIAFERRO,  
*Pres. B. V. V. M. I.*





# SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

HEAD QUARTERS,  
VIRGINIA MIL. INSTITUTE,  
June 24, 1856.

I have the honor to lay before you my annual report of the operations of this institution.

FINANCES.

The financial operations of the institute are classified under four distinct heads :

1. *The Virginia Military Institute Account.*
2. *The Quartermaster's Department.*
3. *The Subsistence Department.*
4. *The Building Fund.*

I will explain in detail the operations of each of these departments.

1. *The Virginia Military Institute Account* embraces in its receipts the annual state appropriation for the support of the institute, the pay of the ordnance sergeant, the tuition fees of the pay cadets, the fees for diplomas to graduates, and the commission for the safe keeping and disbursement of the deposits of the cadets.

These receipts, upon the basis of 100 pay and 32 state cadets, amount in the aggregate to the annual sum of (A)	<u>\$15,570 00</u>
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The Virginia military institute account is charged with the pay of the professors, treasurer, surgeon, ordnance sergeant and musicians, with the support of the state cadets, and with the contingent expenses of servants, printing, postage, &c. amounting in the aggregate, upon the basis of 32 state cadets, the annual sum of (A)	<u>\$15,660 16</u>
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Annual excess of charges over receipts,	<u>\$90 16</u>
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This result has been subject to modification during the past year, by the receipt of \$ 553 to the credit of this fund from ex-state cadets, by the saving of \$240 in the pay of Sergeant Aldauf, who deserted 1st August 1855, and by the fact that three state cadet vacancies existed for the entire year, while eight more pay cadets were admitted—five in January and three in September, in the place of state cadets, so that these causes have, for the past year, operated favorably upon this account, and given a balance to the credit of the V. M. Institute account, of \$1,086 18, as per treasurer's report. These items being incidental and special, the result stated above must be regarded as *the actual basis* of receipts and expenditures on account of the Virginia military institute. Outstanding claims against this account, about \$ 800.

An examination of this result and of the statement (A) upon which it is based, demonstrates that upon the most economical basis upon which it is possible to estimate the annual expenditures of the institution, existing receipts are insufficient to meet them. A reference to the annual proceedings of the board fully explains the reason. The enhanced cost of provisions, labor, and indeed of almost every article of support, has forced a heavily increased charge upon the Virginia Mil. institute account for the support of the state cadets, without any corresponding means to meet it.

This increased charge for subsistence of 32 state cadets exceeds that of 1840, by the annual sum of	-	-	-	-	-	1,384 00
And for washing,	-	-	-	-	-	192 00
					Total,	<u>\$1,576 00</u>

So that the Virginia military institute account is charged with a burden amounting to nearly \$1,600 for the support of the state cadets, over and above the sum which their support would have involved when the institute was first established, and without any legislation or other provision to meet it. This increased charge has been gradual and *pari passu* with the enhanced cost of living, and has been most seriously pressing upon the institution during the last three or four years. Thus, flour, which cost the institute a few years ago from \$3 50 to \$4 per barrel, cost us, during the past year, from \$8 75 to \$11. Beef, which averaged \$3, now commands \$7. Butter has risen from 10 cents to 20 cents per pound—and other supplies in like proportion.

The expense of labor has increased in like manner. An able bodied man servant now commands \$150, when we paid from \$60 to \$65 in 1840.

The increased charge upon the Virginia military institute account has not only absorbed the *contingent surplus* which former estimates of the board aimed to provide, but has now forced the expenditures above the receipts. No relief having been provided by the legislature to meet this exigency, (although it is confidently hoped and believed that early provision will be made,) it becomes necessary to devise the ways and means to enable the institution to support itself in the mean time. For this purpose, I beg leave to recommend:

1. That the state cadets be hereafter charged with fuel, lights, washing, mattress, surgeon and books, instead of these items being supplied to them gratuitously, as at present.
2. That each cadet pay \$5 for expense of musicians.
3. That the fee for diploma be fixed at \$10.
4. That the tuition fee for pay cadets be fixed at \$60.

The effect of these changes upon the *receipts* of the Virginia military institute account will be to increase them:

For the charge of music,	-	-	-	-	-	665 00
For the charge for diplomas,	-	-	-	-	-	100 00
For the charge for tuition,	-	-	-	-	-	1,010 00
					Total increase of receipts,	<u>1,775 00</u>

The charges against the Virginia military institute acc't will be diminished by the transfer to the debit of the state cadets, equal to an actual gain to this account, of

-	-	-	-	-	-	1,412 16
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Making the total change in favor of the Virginia military institute acc't, \$3,187 16

The effect of these changes upon the expenses of the state cadet will be to increase

them from the present annual charge, including clothing, of \$ 90 to \$ 139 12, while the annual expenses of the pay cadet will be increased \$ 15.

Nor will these charges be unreasonable or unjust, so far as the state cadet is concerned. The law only charges the institution with the expense of "tuition and board." (See section 13, chapter 34, Code of Virginia.) We have then been supplying to the state cadet more than the law required. In "tuition and board" we give him more in money value and much more in real value than was contemplated by the original provision in his behalf. The cost of board has nearly doubled since 1840. The course of instruction is four fold more extensive; so that a fair and reasonable provision will still be made for the state cadet by the recommendation proposed. While these expedients will relieve the institute from a burden which has been annually growing upon it, from causes before mentioned, they will enable the board, in some measure, to provide for the deficiencies in the salaries of the professors, and to set apart a sinking fund for the gradual extinction of the debt due on account of the building fund.

I cannot doubt that the legislature will, at a proper time, provide for these important claims as well as for the salary of an adjunct professor of mathematics. Still, I have deemed it my duty, under pressing necessities, to make the recommendations now presented, some or all of which, if adopted, may be hereafter modified, as means may be provided from other sources.

2. *The Quarter Master's Department* supplies the clothing, fuel, lights, books, stationery, beds and washing of the cadets. The receipts embrace credits for the amount of goods sold at an advance of 20 per cent. upon the invoice price of such goods, and the actual cost of fuel, lights and washing furnished.

The total amount of these receipts for the past year, was (B)	-	-	24,639 86
This department is also credited with the amount of goods on hand, as per quartermaster's inventory,	-	-	8,107 78
And balance to the credit of this department in the annual report of the treasurer, June 1855,	-	-	1,273 67
			Total credits, \$ 34,021 31

The charges against this department embrace the amount paid out for goods, fuel, lights, washing, &c. and for house rent and fuel for professors, making an aggregate for the past year, of	(B)	-	-	-	22,487 99
Existing liabilities, of (B)	-	-	-	-	9,258 46
					31,746 45
					Balance to the credit of quartermaster's department, \$ 2,274 86

Of which sum \$ 2,440 58 are due from cadets who have left the institution, \$ 1,000 of which may be regarded as *bad debts*.

3. <i>The Subsistence Department</i> conducts the mess arrangements of the cadets. Its credits embrace the allowance for the board of the cadets, laborers and servants, and for sales to officers, amounting in the aggregate for the past year, to (C)	-	-	-	-	16,918 31
Provisions, &c. on hand,	-	-	-	-	2,012 08
Balance to the credit of the department, June 1855,	-	-	-	-	3,436 27
					Total credits, \$ 22,366 66

	Credits brought forward,	\$ 22,366 0
This department is charged with the cost of provisions, furniture, pay of steward, hire of servants and contingencies, amounting in the aggregate for the past year, to (C)	- - 16,901 28	
Outstanding liabilities, (C)	- - 5,261 09	
		<u>22,162 3</u>
Balance to the credit of subsistence department,		<u>\$ 204 2</u>

The balance to the credit of the subsistence department is, exclusive of property belonging to the department, and which had accumulated from year to year, from its previous profits, embracing :

Silver in use,	- - - -	700 0
One man servant, (baker,)	- - - -	1,000 0
Table furniture, (new,)	- - - -	327 2
Table furniture in use, bedding and hospital furniture,	- - - -	1,765 4
Articles not in use,	- - - -	26 8
	Total,	<u>\$ 3,819 5</u>

*The Building Fund Account* stands as follows :

Due Lexington savings institution,	- - - -	3,886 38
R. P. White,	- - - -	2,829 28
J. G. Pole,	- - - -	1,118 77
Contingencies,	- - - -	600 00
		<u>8,434 44</u>
Balance to the credit of the building fund on treasurer's books,		1,532 94
	Balance due on building fund,	<u>\$ 6,902 00</u>

Since the last meeting of the board, I have been enabled to floor, plaster and paint the eastern wing of the barracks, and thus to put 20 rooms in condition for occupancy this fall. In consequence of the desertion of Sergeant Baldauf soon after the adjournment of the board last summer, the work, which had been assigned to him in this connection, was necessarily thrown upon others, thereby augmenting the charge which the work was expected to cost. The materials were all ready, and greater loss would have resulted from delay, while the crowded condition of the institution made it indispensable that increased accommodations for the cadets should be provided as speedily as possible.

It is much to be desired that the legislature should provide the means necessary to liquidate the debt due on account of the building operations. The greatly increased price of provisions and labor has operated most unfavorably upon us in our building operations, and has thus diminished the value of the appropriation made for these purposes. With all the economy we could practice, no human skill or foresight could guard against the charges thus brought against this fund by the enhanced price of provisions and labor, averaging some 45 per cent. above that existing when the barracks were estimated for and commenced. A small sum would enable the board to complete the unfinished building, pay the outstanding liabilities, and put the public grounds in a condition corresponding with the taste and design of the institution. This school is, year by year, attracting more and more of public observation, and thousands annually pass by to witness its operations. The pride of the state is appealed to, that its grounds and buildings should be attractive, and reflect credit upon the enlightened liberality of the state.

In this connection, I would remark that the institution has been very much inconvenienced from the want of a suitable room for public graduating exercises. Even at this meeting of the board, honored as we shall be by the presence of the governor of the state, the interesting ceremonies connected with the inauguration of the bronze cast of Houn's statue of Washington, the address of the governor will have to be delivered in the open air, from the want of a room for the purpose. I would recommend the appropriation of \$5,000 for the erection of a public hall, which may be used for chapel, lecture and graduating exercises.

In the above exhibit of the financial operations of the institute, it is necessary to bear in mind that the "*Virginia military institute account*" alone is that upon which the current support of the institute depends. The quartermaster's department account and the subsistence department account embrace the operations of departments, which were organized upon the principle of being *self-supporting*. Although they have enabled us to provide for many necessary wants which the Virginia military institute fund did not and could not meet, no charge out of the legitimate range of these departments can be imposed upon them. The treasurer's report very properly consolidates the balances on all these accounts in his recapitulation, as exhibiting the actual state of the funds of the institute. The building fund is of course a special fund, *kept distinct*, as having reference to special operations not designed to be permanent.

#### COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

The departments of instruction, comprised by the regulations of the institute in eleven distinct heads, are assigned to six professors, as follows:

##### 1. *Department of Mathematics—Col. F. H. Smith, Professor.*

Instruction is given in this department to the 2d, 3d and 4th classes, divided into eight sections, each section occupying from one hour to one and a half hour daily. The mathematical course is as complete and extensive as that taught at the U. S. military academy, and embraces the whole of Smith's Algebra, Davies' Legendre's Geometry and Trigonometry; Davies' Descriptive Geometry; Lectures on Shades, Shadows and Linear Perspective; Smith's Biot's Analytical Geometry; Davies' Surveying, with Practice in the field, and Church's Differential and Integral Calculi. In this department the professor has been assisted for part of the year by Captains J. S. Gamble and L. B. Williams, Lieut. Crutchfield and Cadet F. W. Smith.

Since the 1st January the department of moral and political philosophy has been under the charge of this professor, and daily instruction has been given to the first class for three months. Text book, *Paley's Moral Philosophy*, with references to *Bishop Butler's Sermons* and *Human Nature*.

The first class has also recited every Sabbath on McIlvane's Evidences of Christianity and the Bible, and the second class on the Bible, to the professor in charge of the mathematical department.

##### 2. *Department of English and Latin—Major J. T. L. Preston, Professor.*

Instruction is given in this department to the first class in rhetoric, English grammar, logic and mental philosophy, by daily recitations of one and a half hour, and to the second and third classes, divided into convenient sections, by daily recitation in Latin. The professor has been assisted in part by Lt. S. Crutchfield and Lt. W. T. Patton.

The course of the first class embraces *Blair's and Whateley's Rhetoric*, *Whateley's Logic*, *Gayland's Intellectual Philosophy* and *Lectures*, by the professor. The second class, Latin. The first section has read parts of Tacitus, Horace, and the whole of Terence, with the

Grammars of Bullion and Harrison. The second section has read the Cateline of Sallust and Anthon's Cicero complete. The third class, 1st section, has read Virgil's *Æneid* and Cicero's Orations. The second section commenced Latin, and has progressed as far as Sallust, which was commenced and finished.

3. *Department of Engineering, Architecture, Drawing and Geography*—Major Thomas Williamson, Professor.

Instruction is given to the first class, divided into two sections, by five recitations each fortnight before January, and six a fortnight after January, in engineering. Also six weekly drawing lessons are given to the second class, of two hours each, and tri-weekly drawing lessons to the third class, of two hours each, from the 15th of January, and the same hours, viz: from 2 to 4 P. M. for part of the time, with one section, as the second class, and from 11 to 1 for the other section. The 4th class recites in geography daily 1st January.

In military engineering, the course embraces the whole of Mahan's Field Fortification. Instruction is given in civil engineering and architecture, by the printed notes of the professor, accompanied with lectures, and the necessary practice in linear drawings by class. In geography, *Mitchell's Modern Geography* is used, and the class is daily practicing in drawing maps on the black board. *Drawing* embraces pen and colored topography, varieties of linear drawing and landscape drawing in pencil.

4. *Department of Chemistry, Geology and Mineralogy*—Major Wm. Gilham, Professor.

Instruction is given to the second class in chemistry by the tri-weekly recitation of one hour each for two sections, and by the same number of recitations to the first class in geology, agricultural chemistry and mineralogy and infantry tactics. The text books used were *Kane's Chemistry*, *Hitchcock's Geology*, *Norton's Agricultural Chemistry*, and *Scott's Infantry Tactics*, in 3 volumes. All of which, or their equivalents, by lectures by the professor, have been prosecuted by the classes.

5. *Department of Natural and Experimental Philosophy*—Major Thomas J. Jackson, Professor.

Instruction is given to the first class in two sections, by daily recitations of one and half hours each, and to the second class, by daily recitations of one hour and a half—the first class occupying the entire time allotted to this course before the 1st January, and about three months since the 1st January—the second class, all the allotted time, except two weeks since the first January. The second commences and concludes *Bartlett's Analytical Mechanics*. The first class having reviewed mechanics, commences and completes *Bartlett's Optics and Acoustics* and *Bartlett's Astronomy*. To this professor is also assigned the duty of instructor of artillery. The instruction embraces, besides practical exercises in the field, recitations by the first class in *Kingsbury Artillery* and *Artillery Tactics*, by board army officers.

6. *Department of French Language*—Major R. E. Colston, Professor.

Instruction is given to the three sections of the 3d class, reciting daily one hour each, and to four sections of the 4th class, reciting daily one hour each. In the 4th class an introductory course of English grammar is conducted by the professor.

The classes have read Picot No. 7, Gil Blas, and have kept up a regular study of French grammar. Bible recitations have been conducted on each Sabbath in the 3d and 4th classes—the 3d class in charge of Major Preston, and the 4th class, of Major Gilham.

Exercises in composition and declamation by the 3d and 4th classes, and in original speeches by the 2d class, have been regularly conducted by a distribution of labor among some of the members of the academic board.

An examination of this programme of studies demonstrates what has been long known to the board, that not only are some of the departments very much pressed with labor, but the course itself is too much crowded. I would respectfully suggest a careful review of the subject, that it may be seen whether the school might not be benefited by an extension of the course of instruction to five years. Many young men are annually admitted, whose elementary preparation is very deficient. These labor under this drawback all the time, and discouragement in their studies occasionally leads to indifference in duty, which results in dismissal.

The addition of a 5th year with a course of elementary studies for this class, would relieve in part this evil, while it would enable the academic board to so arrange the course of studies as to finish the mathematical studies in the 3d, and the department of natural and experimental philosophy in the 2d class, and thus relieve the 1st class from the excessive pressure under which it now labors. By still continuing the privilege of permitting the candidates for admission to enter, if qualified, the 4th or 3d class, no inconvenience would result to any who might not need the elementary course.

I would again urgently recommend some provision for an increase of the library of the institute. It is impossible for the professors to keep pace with the rapid progress of science, without access to the works which the press is annually putting forth. An appropriation of \$500 a year would enable us to make a steady addition to the library, and to subscribe to such periodicals as are indispensable to the course of instruction. No material addition, except from the public documents received from the United States state department, has been made for five years.

#### BRONZE CAST OF HOUDON'S STATUE OF WASHINGTON.

The legislature of Virginia, by a most complimentary vote, authorized the purchase of the board's bronze cast of Houdon's statue of Washington. Arrangements have been made for the inauguration of this splendid work of art, on the 3d day of July. I have requested excellency Henry A. Wise, governor of Virginia, to be present on this interesting occasion, and in person conduct the ceremonies of the day; and I have the pleasure to announce that he has consented to attend, and will deliver an address on the occasion, as well as a person deliver the diplomas to the graduating class on the 4th.

#### CONCLUSION.

It gives me pleasure to state that the institution during the past year has been made the object of the special manifestation of divine grace, extending in a greater or less degree throughout the whole school, while some 30 or 40 cadets have publicly professed their faith in the Redeemer. With such an influence at work, all that could tend to preserve order and promote attention to duty has been most happily realized, and many will return to their homes carrying with them the blessings of our holy religion.

Commending the interests of the institute to the special care of the board of visitors,

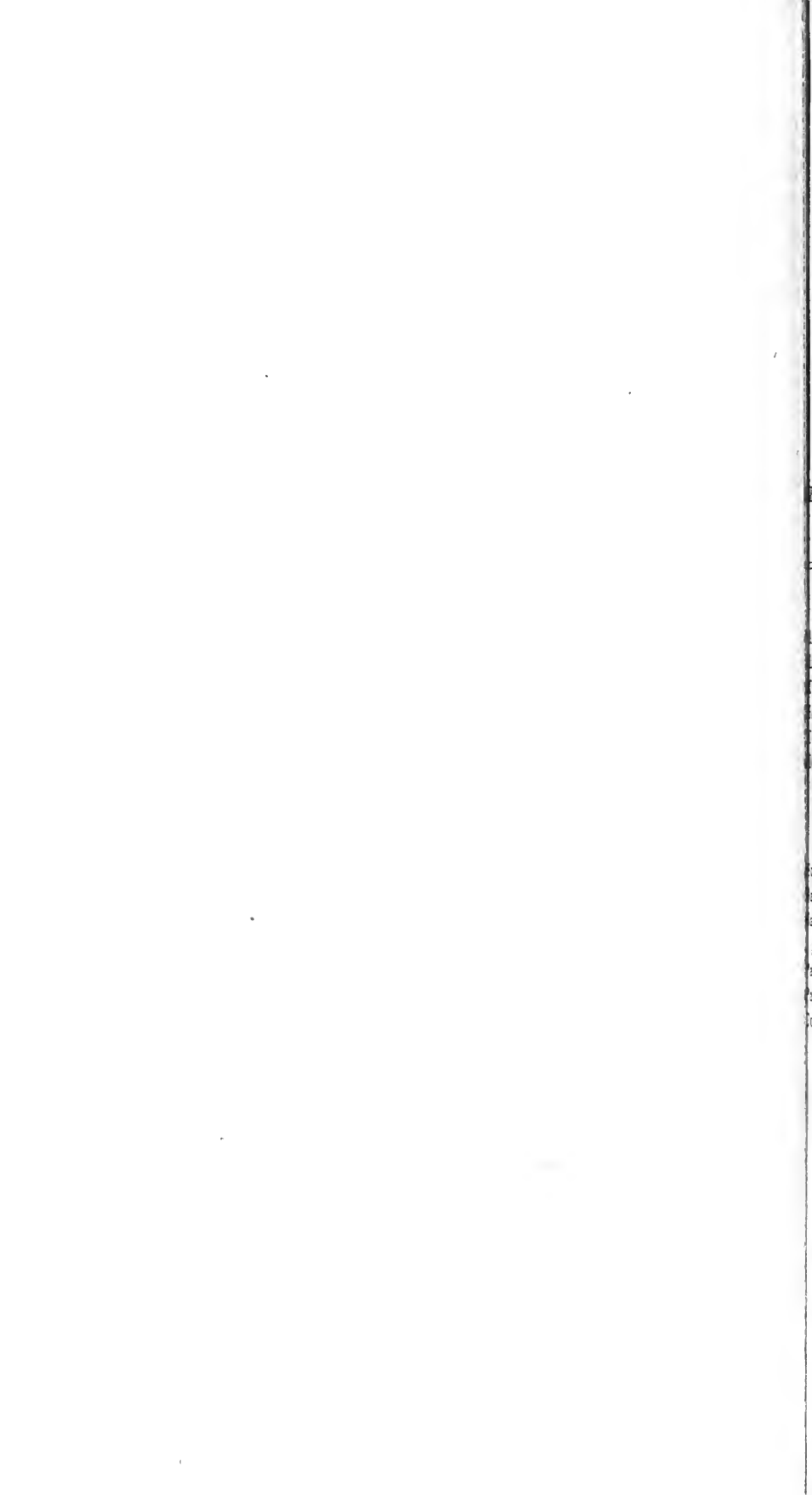
I have the honor to remain

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS H. SMITH, *Supt.*

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,

*Pres. B. V. V. M. I.*





## A

[No. 1.]

*Estimated Statement of Annual Receipts and Liabilities of the Virginia Military Institute, July 1, 1856, to July 1, 1857.*

## RECEIPTS:

Annual state appropriation,	-	-	-	-	7,710 00
Terary fund appropriation,	-	-	-	-	1,500 00
tuition fees 101 pay cadets,	-	-	-	-	5,050 00
ty of ordnance and quartermaster sergeant,	-	-	-	-	360 00
ommission account, (estimated,)	-	-	-	-	850 00
iplomas,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Total annual receipts for next fiscal year,					15,570 00

## LIABILITIES:

upport of 32 state cadets, (A No. 1,)	-	-	-	-	4,604 16
alary of superintendent,	-	-	-	-	2,000 00
alaries of five professors, assistant professors, treasurer and surgeon,	-	-	-	-	7,296 00
ty of ordnance sergeant,	-	-	-	-	360 00
ty of musicians,	-	-	-	-	700 00
urrent expenses,	-	-	-	-	700 00
					\$15,660 16
Annual deficiency of receipts,					\$90 16

## [No. 2.]

*Estimated Annual Expense of a State Cadet to the Virginia Military Institute,  
exclusive of Medical Attendance, Tuition and Lodging.*

Board for average of 10½ months, at \$10,	-	-	-	105 00
Washing " " " \$1 50,	-	-	-	15 75
Fuel, lights, books, &c.	-	-	-	23 18
Annual charge of each state cadet to the Virginia military institute, exclusive of tuition, medical attendance, lodging, &c.	-	-	-	<u>\$143 88</u>

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT,  
VIRGINIA MIL. INSTITUTE,  
June 30, 1856.

SIR,

I have the honor to present herewith statements of the operations of the quarter-  
master's department for the year ending June 30, 1856.

Very respectfully,

R. H. CATLETT,  
Q. M. V. M. I.

COL. F. H. SMITH, *Supt. V. M. I.*

DR.—*Statement of Receipts and Disbursements by Treasurer Virginia*  
*year ending*

1855.					
June 30,	To balance to the credit of quartermaster's department,	-			1,273 6
Oct. 1,	To amount of goods furnished cadets for the quarter,	-			10,128 1
1856.					
Jan'y 1,	Do.	do.	do.	-	5,904 5
May 1,	Do.	do.	do.	-	1,309 1
June 30,	Do.	do.	do.	-	7,211 9
	Do.	do.	do.	-	86 0

\$ 25,913 58

Balance to the credit of quartermaster's department, June 30, 1856,

\$ 3,425 54

*Military Institute on account of the Quartermaster's Department, for the  
June 30, 1856.—CR.*

1855.				
June and July,	By cash paid sundries,	-	-	7,298 42
August,	Do. do.	-	-	1,839 06
September,	Do. do.	-	-	623 81
October,	Do. do.	-	-	1,892 44
November,	Do. do.	-	-	393 25
December,	Do. do.	-	-	1,126 31
	By cash paid cadets,	-	-	785 71
1856.				
January,	By cash paid sundries,	-	-	2,519 86
February,	Do. do.	-	-	674 73
March,	Do. do.	-	-	1,254 82
	By cash paid cadets,	-	-	181 01
April,	By cash paid sundries,	-	-	1,868 72
May,	Do. do.	-	-	1,139 43
	By cash paid cadets,	-	-	161 04
	Do. do. sundries,	-	-	729 38
			Balance,	3,425 54
				<u>\$ 25,913 53</u>

*Statement exhibiting the Condition of the Quartermaster*

1856.			
June 30, To	E. P. Tabb & Co. Norfolk,	-	212 2
	Davies & Jones, New York,	-	127 6
	D. Evans & Co. Attleboro',	-	250 0
	W. H. Cary & Co.	-	92 9
	Purcell, Ladd & Co. Richmond,	-	163 5
	Richardson & Co. do.	-	295 4
	Cowperthwait & Co. Philadelphia,	-	885 1
	C. J. Dupont & Co. Wilmington,	-	1,434 7
	W. H. Hostmann & Sons, Philadelphia,	-	56 2
	A. B. Davidson, Baltimore,	-	366 9
	Stillman, Hinricks & Co.	-	1,048 1
	Norris & Brother,	-	273 2
	Charles De Silver, Philadelphia,	-	332 6
	G. J. Sumner, Richmond,	-	25 7
	A. M. Simpson, Staunton,	-	325 0
	Norgrove & Vanderslice, Lexington,	-	510 1
	C. E. Deaver, do.	-	408 6
	Mrs. Winn & hands, do.	-	700 0
	Wm. Kenney, do.	-	240 0
	Mr. Shaner, do.	-	500 0
	Mr. Tutwiler, do.	-	85 0
	Ball account,	-	575 0
	Outstanding accounts—estimated,	-	350 0
		Balance,	2274 86
			<u>\$11,533 32</u>

Department Virginia Military Institute, June 30, 1856.

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1856.

June 30, By net value of available property on hand, as per inventory, all of which will be in requisition during the coming year,	-	8,107 78
Balance against treasurer V. M. I.	-	3,425 54

\$11,533 32

1856.

June 30, By balance,	.	.	.	.	.	.	<u>\$ 2,274 86</u>
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E. E.

R. H. CATLETT, Q. Mas.

Statement showing the Operations of the Tailor's Department of the Virginia Military Institute for the year ending June 30th, 1856.

	W. Coats.	Overcoats.	S. Pants.	W. Pants.	W. Vests.	S. Vests.	F. Jackets.	Repairing.
July, August, September,	- 64	-	183	4	26	17	48	22 44
October, November, December.	- 30	40	-	141	54	-	-	16 37
January, February, March,	- 74	5	72	78	12	-	-	28 50
April, May, June,	- 35	-	130	-	-	73	-	49 75
	203	45	385	223	92	90	48	\$ 117 06

Payments to Tailor, 1855-56.

October 1, To quarter's salary to date,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	579 45
January 1, To do. do.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	350 00
April 1, To do. do.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500 00
July 1, To do. do.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	510 18
								<u>\$ 1,939 63</u>

E. E.

R. H. CATLETT,  
Q. M. V. M. I.



*Statement of the Debits and Credits of the Heating and Lighting Account for the year ending June 30, 1856.*

		DR.		
1856.				
June 1—	To wood, rosin, coal, labor, &c.	-	-	3,171 72
		CR.		
1856.				
June 1—	By fuel and lights for 120 cadets, at \$ 18,	-	-	2,160 00
	sundries,	-	-	1,042 50
				<u>3,202 50</u>
				By balance, <u>\$ 30 78</u>

*Washing Account.*

		DR.		
1856.				
June 1—	To services of Mrs. Winn, hire of hands, soap, starch, &c.			2,179 74
		CR.		
1856.				
June 1—	By washing for 120 cadets, at \$ 18,	-	-	2,160 00
	“ “ sub. department,	-	-	48 00
				<u>2,208 00</u>
				By balance, <u>\$ 28 26</u>

*Statement of Balances due by Ex-Cadets on the Books of the Treasurer Virginia  
Military Institute, June 30, 1856,*

E. L. Archer,	-	^	^	^	70 10
E. T. Bridges,	-	-	-	-	81 27
C. Bronaugh,	-	-	-	-	217 02
J. Byrd,	-	-	-	-	42 01
J. D. Campbell,	-	-	-	-	6 82
R. T. Daniel,	-	-	-	-	76 48
A. B. Dudley,	-	-	-	-	54 09
F. M. Fortney,	-	-	-	-	70 56
J. Giles,	-	-	-	-	32 73
G. Gray,	-	-	-	-	119 24
H. Ker,	-	-	-	-	79 36
S. D. Kennedy,	-	-	-	-	12 56
H. C. Mason,	-	-	-	-	65 59
G. W. Meade,	-	-	-	-	39 25
E. B. Montague,	-	-	-	-	9 31
W. S. Parran,	-	-	-	-	25 57
N. Tyler,	-	-	-	-	34 64
R. Tyler,	-	-	-	-	8 75
W. S. Van Dorin,	-	-	-	-	164 57
G. Waddell,	-	-	-	-	37 51
E. Wall,	-	-	-	-	17 50
E. Wallazz,	-	-	-	-	79 00
C. B. Williams,	-	-	-	-	175 65
G. Roberts,	-	-	-	-	67 05
J. E. Jordan,	-	-	-	-	50 00
D. S. Hounshell,	-	-	-	-	48 88
E. A. Langhorne,	-	-	-	-	41 18
A. Lewis,	-	-	-	-	19 13
W. A. Thompson,	-	-	-	-	52 00
W. D. Coleman,	-	-	-	-	354 42
M. T. Wheatley,	-	-	-	-	46 36
A. Rowe,	-	-	-	-	19 68
R. J. W. Love,	-	-	-	-	41 95
John W. Hill,	-	-	-	-	88 10
					\$2,348 33

About \$ 1,000 of the above sum may be regarded as bad debts.

## C

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT V. M. I.  
June 1856.

IR,

I have the honor to present herewith statements in detail of the operations of the subsistence department for the year ending June 1856.

By reference to the comparative statement, it will be seen that the advance in the price of groceries and other supplies still continues, ranging about 10 per cent. over last year, and upwards of 40 per cent. beyond that of 1850—showing further, that the enhanced cost of the subsistence of the cadets is attributable to this cause, and not, as might be supposed, to any additional amount consumed.

It was contemplated to have purchased a new range, and build for it an addition to the kitchen, rendered indispensable by the odor arising and pervading the entire hall from burning grease and smoke while cooking. Inadequacy of means to make this purchase and improvement compels us still to submit to the great inconvenience of the present arrangement.

During the year a smoke-house has been built, which will enable the department to cure its own bacon.

Respectfully submitted.

JNO. T. GIBBS,  
*Com'y Sub. V. M. I.*

COL. F. H. SMITH, *Sup. V. M. I.*

*DR.—Current Expenses of the Subsistence Department Virginia*

1855.					
June,	To provisions on hand,	-	-	-	748 84
1856.	provisions purchased during year,	-	-	-	13,181 64
	salary of commissary and hire cook, waiters, &c.	-	-	-	1,772 95
	washing,	-	-	-	156 00
	gas from '54 to June '56,	-	-	-	200 00
	crockery,	-	-	-	21 75
	iron beds for hospital,	-	-	-	46 00
	tin ware and repairing same,	-	-	-	122 66
	materials and work for smoke-house,	-	-	-	275 00
	shoats,	-	-	-	87 00
	ice for 1856,	-	-	-	57 60
	trip of cadets to Petersburg,	-	-	-	125 00
	sundries, as per statement,	-	-	-	980 22
	wood,	-	-	-	632 12
	repairs, carpentry, piping, &c.	-	-	-	92 16
	freight, toll, &c.	-	-	-	162 94
	balance,	-	-	-	204 29
					\$18,866 04

Military Institute for the year ending June 1856.—CR.

1855.				
By	By board of cadets,	-	-	14,551 63
less	“ refunded,	-	-	467 74
				<u>14,083 89</u>
	amount received from board of visitors,	-	-	628 50
	“ “ “ ball fund,	-	-	47 25
	sales of provisions and board of officers,	-	-	1,278 05
	grease and tallow,	-	-	62 52
	old bottles,	-	-	10 50
	pork,	-	-	53 34
	sundries,	-	-	232 46
	hospital charges,	-	-	249 25
	breakages refunded,	-	-	54 24
	board of engineer, laborers, &c.	-	-	234 00
	provision on hand,	-	-	1,932 04

\$18,866 04

E. E.

JNO. T. GIBBS,  
Com'y Sub. V. M. I.

o COL. F. H. SMITH, Sup. V. M. I.

DR.—*Subsistence Department Virginia Military Institute*—

1855.						
June,	To board refunded, -	-	-	-	-	42 3
	cash paid by treasurer,	-	-	-	-	93 1
July,	“ “	-	-	-	-	2,801 9
Aug.	“ “	-	-	-	-	541 5
Sept.	“ “	-	-	-	-	1,666 9
	credit to cadet Taylor, on account of W. H. Taylor,	-	-	-	-	325 6
Oct.	board refunded,	-	-	-	-	53 9
	cash paid by treasurer,	-	-	-	-	501 7
Nov.	“ “	-	-	-	-	1,118 4
Dec.	“ “	-	-	-	-	505 1
1856.						
Jan.	“ “	-	-	-	-	5,398 5
Feb.	“ “	-	-	-	-	2,122 1
	board refunded,	-	-	-	-	404 4
March,	cash paid by treasurer,	-	-	-	-	814 8
April,	“ “	-	-	-	-	18 5
May,	“ “	-	-	-	-	167 0
	credit to cadets Cameron and Lewis, on account of wheat furnished					
	by Col. Cameron,	-	-	-	-	325 0
	To balance,	-	-	-	-	3,453 30
						<u>\$ 20,354 58</u>

Account with Treasurer Virginia Military Institute.—Cr.

1855.						
ane,	By balance,	-	-	-	-	3,436 27
	board of cadets,	-	-	-	-	56 00
	sundries furnished	quartermaster's department,	-	-	-	400 34
		Virginia military institute,	-	-	-	167 80
		board of visitors,	-	-	-	628 50
sept.	board of cadets to	1st January 1856,	-	-	-	7,020 53
1856.						
an.	By board of cadets to	1st July 1856,	-	-	-	7,531 10
ane,	sundries furnished	quartermaster's department,	-	-	-	697 14
		Virginia military institute,	-	-	-	416 90

\$20,354 58

DR.—*Statement exhibiting Condition of the Subsistence*

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1856.					
June 1st, To outstanding claims, per statement,	-	-	-	-	5,261 0
balance,	-	-	-	-	204 2

\$ 5,465 3



Department Virginia Military Institute, June 1856.—CR.

1856.					
June 1st, By balance,	-	-	-	-	3,453 30
provisions on hand,	-	-	-	-	1,932 04
amount due by board of visitors.	-	-	-	-	18 25
"    individuals,	-	-	-	-	61 79
					<u>\$ 5,465 38</u>

E. E.

JNO. T. GIBBS,  
Com'y Sub. V. M. I.

DR. F. H. SMITH, Supt. V. M. I.

*Table exhibiting the Average Cost of Subsistence of each Cadet for the year ending June 1856.*

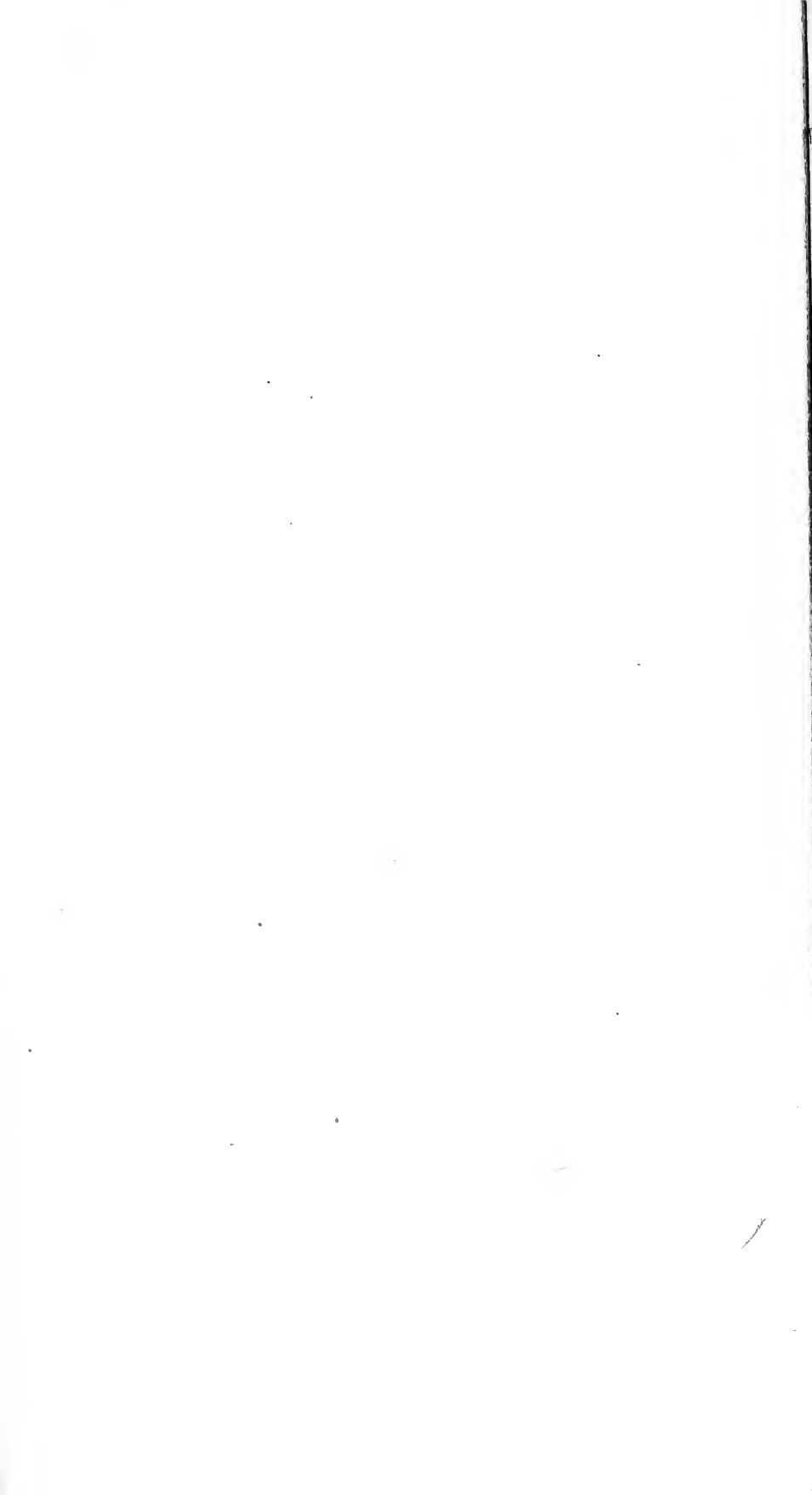
MONTH.	Average.	MONTH.	Average.
1855—July, - -	\$ 10 77	1856—January, - -	\$ 9 1
August, - -	9 16	February, - -	8 7
September, - -	7 54	March, - -	8 7
October, - -	7 35	April, - -	8 7
November, - -	9 78	May, - -	9 3
December, - -	9 78	June, (est'd.) - -	9 3

Monthly average, \$9 04.

JOHN T. GIBBS,  
Com'y Sub. V. M.

Table exhibiting the Comparative Cost of Provisions at the Prices paid in April  
1850 and 1856.

ARTICLES.	1850.	1856.
pounds alum, -	7 cents per pound, - 14	7 cents per pound, - 14
bushels D. apples, -	75 cents per bushel, - 4 12	\$1 per bushel, - 5 50
10 pounds bacon, -	9 cents per pound, - 47 70	12½ cents per bushel, - 66 25
36 pounds beef, -	4½ cents per pound, - 190 62	7 cents per pound, - 296 52
1 pounds butter, -	9d. and 1s. per pound, - 42 67	1s. and 20c. per pound, - 50 16
pounds sp. candles, -	35 cents per pound, - 70	35 cents per pound, - 70
pounds cloves, -	30 cents per pound, - 60	30 cents per pound, - 60
7 pounds coffee, -	10 cents per pound, - 21 70	14 cents per pound, - 30 38
3 bushels corn, -	40 cents per bushel, - 19 20	50 cents per bushel, - 24 00
1 pound cr. tart. -	- - - - 42	- - - - 42
10½ doz. eggs, -	8½ cents per dozen, - 8 38	10 cents per dozen, - 10 05
4 barrels flour, -	\$4 per barrel, - 72 00	\$8 50 per barrel, - 153 00
10 pounds lard, -	10 cents per pound, - 20 00	12½ cents per pound, - 25 00
9 gallons milk, -	9d. per gallon, - 72 37	9d. per gallon, - 72 37
9 gallons molasses, -	40 cents per gallon, - 20 00	60 cents per gallon, - 30 00
½ pounds mustard, -	50 cents per pound, - 2 25	42 cents per pound, - 1 89
1 pound nutmegs, -	\$1 75 cents per pound, - 44	\$1 25 per pound, - 31
pounds pepper, -	12½ cents per pound, - 55	13 cents per pound, - 52
3 bushels potatoes, -	35 cents per bushel, - 8 05	50 cents per bushel, - 11 50
10 pounds rice, -	6 cents per pound, - 5 40	9 cents per pound, - 8 10
sack salt, -	\$3 20 per sack, - 1 60	\$3 per sack, - 1 50
pounds soda, -	12½ cents per pound, - 25	8 cents per pound, - 16
100 pounds sugar, b. -	8 cents per pound, - 80 00	11 cents per pound, - 110 00
10 pounds do. wh. -	11 cents per pound, - 15 40	12 cents per pound, - 16 80
2 pounds tea, -	\$1 08 per pound, - 12 96	80 cents per pound, - 9 60
10 cords wood, -	\$3 per cord, - 30 00	\$3 per cord, - 30 00
	\$677 47	955 47
		677 47
		<u>\$278 00</u>
	Difference in favor of 1850,	



IRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE,

In account with R. E. COLSTON, Treasurer.

DR.

	Voucher.	V. M. I.	Q. M. Dep.	Subsist. Dep.	Building Acct.	Mess Hall Acct.
July 1855.						
o balance, as per last annual report,		-	-	-	-	4669 42
To amount paid:						
. H. Dolhoff, - - - - -	1	-	-	93 13		
. McDowell, - - - - -	2	110 00	-	200 00		
r. Patton, - - - - -	3	-	-	121 80		
r. Beard, - - - - -	4	-	-	103 00		
& W. Dixon, - - - - -	5	-	-	117 53		
r. Leyburn, - - - - -	6	-	-	31 25		
T. Gibbs, - - - - -	7	-	-	721 62		
r. Wright, - - - - -	8	-	72 50	17 50		
r. Lyle, - - - - -	9	-	133 50	11 50		
r. Davidson, on Gillock's contract,	10	-	-	400 00		
acon & Baskerville, - - - - -	11	-	117 61	1077 70		
ichardson & Co. - - - - -	11	-	1599 22			
. Cowperthwaite, - - - - -	11	-	675 33			
. M. Simpson, - - - - -	11	-	125 00			
urcell & Ladd, - - - - -	11	-	187 89			
ubs. Dept. - - - - -	12	167 80	400 34			
ad. Alexander, articles returned,	13	-	49 77			
. A. Bargamin, - - - - -	14	-	354 74			
ad. Magruder, ball music, - - - - -	15	-	255 50			
aj. Jackson, house rent, &c. - - - - -	16	-	205 36			
aj. Colston, do. - - - - -	17	-	154 66			
r. Davidson, - - - - -	18	-	75 00			
orgrove and Vanderslice, - - - - -	19	-	1099 03			
. E. Jackson, - - - - -	20	-	55 25			
utchinson & Robinson, - - - - -	20	-	10 54			
. R. Smith, - - - - -	20	-	50 75			
R. Wright, - - - - -	20	-	5 50			
m. Kenny, - - - - -	20	-	240 00			
. Marshall, - - - - -	20	-	9 13			
Deaver, - - - - -	20	-	430 00			
r. Turner, - - - - -	21	-	72 50			
rs. Winn, washing, - - - - -	22	-	796 70			
r. Gillock, printing, - - - - -	23	-	57 75			
unt Sukey and Fanny, washing, - - - - -	24	-	65 19			
r. Wright, - - - - -	25	-	-	-	232 50	
ad. Crutchfield, - - - - -	26	30 00				
. Cushley, drummer, - - - - -	27	37 00				
us. Lightell, - - - - -	28	25 00				
ays, Percival & Mays, - - - - -	29	6 00				
aj. Williamson, sal. for July and						
August, - - - - -	30	200 00				
V. White, - - - - -	31	20 00				
August 1855.						
apt. Gamble, sal. to Oct. 1st, - - - - -	32	125 00				
erg't Baldauf, - - - - -	33	280 00	71 56			
. Birmingham, - - - - -	34	40 00				
. Davidson, plank, - - - - -	35	92 70				
I. McLaughlin, for T. M. Wade, - - - - -	36	1 50	7 95	58 97		
aj. Preston, sal. for July and Aug't,						
aj. Gilham, sal. for July, - - - - -	38	116 66				
V. L. Figgatt, - - - - -	39	-	119 00			
. McCorkle, - - - - -	40	-	92 50			
V. H. Cary & Co. - - - - -	41	-	37 70			

	Voucher.	V. M. I.	Q. M. Dep.	Subsist. Dep.	Building Acct.	Mess Ha. Acct.
August 1855.						
Davidson & Harris, - - -	42	-	581 45			
C. J. Dupont, - - -	42	-	928 90			
Mr. Jenks, - - -	43	-	-	-	60 50	
D. Hileman, - - -	44	-	-	382 57		
Mr. Gibbs, - - -	45	-	-	100 00		
September 1855.						
Subs. dept. board of state cadets, -	46	1612 30				
Dr. Estill, surgeon's fee of do. -	47	96 00				
Lt. Williams, sal. to Oct. 1st, -	48	100 00				
Col. Smith, do. - - -	49	500 00				
Maj. Williamson, do. - - -	50	100 00				
Preston, do. - - -	51	100 00				
Jackson, do. - - -	52	300 00				
Gilham, do. - - -	53	233 33				
Colston, do. - - -	54	225 00				
J. M. Ruff, - - -	55	21 97	-	5 50		
S. M. Dold, - - -	56	80 00				
W. Stevens, - - -	57	116 89	24 38	151 24		
Mr. Compton, - - -	58	42 72	1 75	157 55	11 40	
C. Birmingham, - - -	59	42 50				
Mr. Plunket, - - -	60	28 14				
Mr. Gibbs and Capt. Baker, - - -	61	-	-	282 60		
Mr. Lowman, - - -	62	-	-	148 00		
Snyder & Reynolds, - - -	63	-	-	160 00		
Mr. Rhodes, - - -	64	-	-	176 00		
Campbell & Co. - - -	65	-	-	97 70		
W. W. Perry, - - -	66	-	-	198 22		
J. A. Kinnear, - - -	67	-	97 50	290 09		
Mr. Pettigrew, - - -	68	-	132 62			
Davis & Co. - - -	69	-	100 00			
Mr. Catlett, sal. to Oct. 1st, -	70	-	175 00			
Q. M. dept. fuel and lights of state cadets, - - -	71	558 00				
Q. M. dept. washing of state cadets, -	71	279 00				
Sundries, as per quartermaster's abstract, - - -	71	-	92 56			
Cad. Taylor, W. H. - - -	72	-	-	325 65		
October 1855.						
Cad. Worsham, - - -	73	-	-	30 60		
J. T. Gibbs, current expenses, - - -	74	-	-	150 00		
Mr. Sumner, - - -	75	-	-	187 08		
C. Boyle, - - -	76	-	-	164 63		
Whitmore & Logan, - - -	77	-	10 38			
Dr. Marshall, - - -	78	-	33 58			
Norgrove & Vanderslice, - - -	79	-	579 45			
Macfarlane & Ferguson, - - -	80	64 50	24 50			
J. Chipman, - - -	81	-	41 13			
Gable, McDowell & Co. - - -	82	-	176 60			
J. Wiley, - - -	83	-	82 94			
Col. Smith, expenses north, - - -	84	-	100 00			
Mr. Myers, - - -	85	-	12 61			
Mr. Catlett, sal. to January, - - -	86	-	175 00			
W. Pannill, trip to Petersburg, - - -	87	-	300 00			
Richmond & Petersburg R. R. Co. -	88	-	156 25			
Mr. Catlett, current exp. in Petersburg, -	89	-	100 00			
Mr. Catlett, current exp. in Richmond, - - -	90	-	100 00			
Capt. Gamble, sal. to January 1st, -	91	125 00				
Lightell & Crocken, musicians, - -	92	43 00				
Lt. Williams, sal. for Oct. - - -	93	33 33				

	Voucher.	V. M. I.	Q. M. Dep.	Subsist. Dep.	Building Acct.	Mess Hall Acct.
October 1855.						
aj. Colston, sal. for Oct.	94	75 00				
Crutchfield, sal. to Oct. 1st,	95	100 00				
November 1855.						
Crutchfield, sal. to Oct. 1st,	96	66 66				
Fitzgerald, -	97	10 00				
Ruff, acceptance of R. L. Gillock,	98	-	-	800 00		
T. Gibbs, -	99	-	-	125 00		
owman, -	100	-	-	170 00		
ev. J. Morrison, -	101	-	-	23 44		
R. Smith, -	102	-	81 00			
Birmingham, -	103	-	12 25			
rs. Winn, washing, -	104	-	306 00			
December 1855.						
ubs. dept. board of state cadets to						
July, -	105	1696 70				
undries, -	105	-	-	231 48		
undries, as per quartermaster's abstract,	106	-	815 71			
r. Leach, -	107	-	-	25 00		
Glasgow, -	108	-	-	17 00		
Palmer, -	109	-	24 00	6 00		
J. Kerr, -	110	-	-	67 71		
Gibbs, current expenses, -	111	-	-	100 00		
W. Lyle, -	112	-	62 25	106 41		
Shaver, -	113	-	377 50	183 07		
Wallace, -	114	-	-	-	156 05	
Wright, 6 months' wages as carpenter, -	115	-	-	-	210 00	
t. Williams. sal. to Jan. 1st, -	116	100 00				
Birmingham, -	117	40 00				
McD. Moore, Esq. water tax, -	118	10 00				
aj. Preston, sal. to Jan. 1st, -	119	300 00				
Jackson, do. -	120	300 00				
Gilham, do. -	121	350 00				
Williamson, do. -	122	300 00				
Colston, do. -	123	150 00				
ol. Smith, do. -	124	500 00				
ts. Patton and Crutchfield, sal. to						
Jan. 1st, -	125	66 66				
Fitzgerald, sal. to Jan. 1st, -	126	8 50				
fr. Charlton, do. -	127	13 75				
Plunkett, postage, -	128	27 66				
Kahle, -	129	-	72 00			
Crocken, -	130	-	20 37			
Echols, -	131	-	100 00			
Clarke, -	132	-	74 26			
Catlett, sal. to Feb. 1st, -	133	-	58 33			
im, clothing, -	134	-	20 00			
Mr. Leyburn, hire of Sam, -	135	-	110 00			
Mr. Turner, coal, -	136	-	72 60			
Hilton, labor, -	137	-	10 00			
Mr. Wright, wood, -	138	-	125 00			
January 1856.						
apt. Williams and Lt. Crutchfield, salary, -	139	75 00	-			
t. Patton, -	140	33 33	-			
us. Lightell, -	141	25 00	-			
s. Gillock, -	142	14 50	-			
itchie & Dunnivant, -	143	383 25	-			
C. Birmingham, labor to March 1st, -	144	60 00	-			

	Voucher.	V. M. I.	Q. M. Dep.	Subsist. Dept.	Building Acct.	Mess E Acct.
January 1856.						
Mrs. Winn, - - - - -	145	-	365 25			
Davis & Co. - - - - -	146	-	150 00			
Mr. Vanderslice, - - - - -	147	-	350 00			
S. Harwood, - - - - -	148	-	307 38			
Bacon & Baskerville, - - - - -	149	-	391 32	1322 81		
Mr. Campbell, - - - - -	150	-	25 00			
Deaver, - - - - -	151	-	409 36			
Jackson, barber, - - - - -	152	-	79 55			
H. Norgrove, - - - - -	153	-	22 00			
D. Evans & Co. - - - - -	154	-	386 00			
Lewis, cloths and labor, - - - - -	155	-	18 00			
Cad. Elliott, ring refunded, - - - - -	155	-	10 00			
J. Dunkum, - - - - -	157	-	6 00			
L. S. Inst. sundry acceptances for R. L. Gillock, - - - - -	158	-	-	2853 35		
L. S. Inst. acceptance for J. G. Pole, on his contract, - - - - -	158	-	-	-	539 32	
Col. Cameron, wheat, - - - - -	159	-	-	500 00		
Mr. Hileman, - - - - -	160	-	-	388 17		
Mr. White, for R. L. Gillock, - - - - -	161	-	-	150 00		
Mr. Webb, - - - - -	162	-	-	63 68		
Switzer & Black, - - - - -	163	-	-	120 51		
Mr. Withers, - - - - -	164	-	-	-	25 00	
February 1856.						
Davies & Co. - - - - -	165	-	130 00			
Jesse Davis, wood, - - - - -	166	-	50 00			
Figgatt & Hutchinson, - - - - -	167	-	54 86			
Mr. M. Campbell, for C. J. Campbell, - - - - -	168	-	104 13			
Sukey and Fanny, washing, - - - - -	169	-	80 18			
S. McD. Moore. Esq. hire of Milton, - - - - -	170	-	70 00			
J. Reily, - - - - -	171	-	31 60			
J. W. Massie, bal. on cadets' monument, - - - - -	172	-	23 50			
W. S. White & Co. - - - - -	173	-	21 25			
N. Birmingham, - - - - -	174	-	18 21			
T. McCorkle, - - - - -	175	-	82 50	46 25		
Mr. Garing, - - - - -	176	-	8 50			
D. Lowman, - - - - -	177	-	-	334 70		
H. S. Locker, - - - - -	178	-	-	203 90		
Col. Cameron, wheat, - - - - -	179	-	-	500 00		
Mr. Gibson, - - - - -	180	-	-	464 32		
R. L. Gillock, - - - - -	181	-	-	405 55		
J. T. Gibbs, current expenses, - - - - -	182	-	-	100 00		
Mr. Seay, - - - - -	183	-	-	67 43		
Capt. Williams, sal. to April, - - - - -	184	83 33				
Maj. Jackson, sal. to January, - - - - -	185	100 00				
Williamson, sal. to do. - - - - -	186	100 00				
Col. Smith, sal. to do. - - - - -	187	166 66				
Lt. Patton, sal. to Feb. - - - - -	188	33 34				
Lt. Crutchfield, sal. to Feb. - - - - -	189	33 34				
Mus. Lightell, - - - - -	190	25 00				
March 1856.						
A. Schleit, - - - - -	191	-	-	115 56		
J. & W. Dixon, - - - - -	192	-	-	117 04		
H. McCorkle, - - - - -	193	-	-	39 37		
J. A. Wilson, - - - - -	194	-	-	38 37		
Mr. Gibbs, - - - - -	195	-	-	94 15		
Campbell & Co. - - - - -	196	-	-	10 62		
C. Boyle, - - - - -	197	-	-	15 00		
Compton & Chandler, - - - - -	198	-	40 91	88 80	3 72	



	Voucher	V. M. I.	Q. M. Dep	Subsist. Dept.	Building Acct.	Mess Hall Acct.
March 1856.						
Kinnear & Lyle, - - -	199	-	152 50	108 61		
Magdalene, - - -	200	-	-	63 00		
W. W. Perry, - - -	201	-	-	124 34		
Maj. Preston, sal. to April 1st,	202	300 00				
Williamson, do. - - -	203	200 00				
Gilham, do. - - -	204	350 00				
Jackson, do. - - -	205	200 00				
Colston, do. - - -	206	225 00				
Col. Smith, do. - - -	207	333 67				
Mr. Catlett, do. - - -	208	-	116 66			
G. Davidson, - - -	209	-	19 75			
F. A. Davis & Co. - - -	210	-	125 00			
G. A. Baker, - - -	211	-	800 00			
Sundries, as per abstract for the 1st class, - - -	212	-	51 01			
Sundries, board refunded, - - -	213	-	-	179 33		
Subs. dept. board of St. Cad. Parker to July, - - -	213	43 00				
Cads. Cameron and Lewis, on acc't of wheat of Col. Cameron, - - -	214	-	-	325 00		
Cad. Cameron, hire of servant Jim, - - -	214	-	100 00			
Cad. Smith, F. sal. as assist. prof. - - -	215	35 00				
April and May 1856.						
Sundries, as per quarter master's abstract to June 2d, - - -	216	-	161 04			
Davis & Jones, - - -	217	-	982 72			
Jesse Davis, wood, - - -	218	-	50 00			
W. Horstman, - - -	219	-	290 90			
Norgrove & Vanderslice, - - -	220	-	500 00			
Miss N. Graham, - - -	221	-	41 00	6 00		
Norgrove & Vanderslice, freight, - - -	222	-	5 00			
Robt. McDowell, hire of servants, - - -	223	-	120 00	30 00		
Mr. Tutwiler, wood, - - -	224	-	300 00			
Pegram, Paynter & Davis, - - -	225	-	488 22			
Mr. Norgrove, - - -	226	-	34 00			
N. Birmingham, - - -	227	-	22 21			
Maj. Colston, sal. for April, - - -	228	75 00				
Pat. Gormley, labor, - - -	229	59 75				
Lt. Patton, sal. April, - - -	230	33 33				
Lt. Patton, sal. to July 1st, - - -	231	100 00				
Mus. Lightell, - - -	232	25 00				
Capt. Williams and Lt. Crutchfield, sal. to July, - - -	233	258 33				
Mr. Catlett, sal. to July 1st, - - -	233	-	175 00			
Maj. Williamson, do. - - -	234	300 00				
Col. Smith, - - -	235	500 00				
Maj. Colston, - - -	236	150 00				
Jackson, - - -	237	300 00				
Gilham, - - -	238	350 00				
Preston, - - -	239	300 00				
C. Birmingham, labor, - - -	240	40 00				
J. Caffrey, work on statue, - - -	241	10 40				
N. Lackey, - - -	242	-	-	12 50		
Bearer, - - -	243	-	-	13 50		
Jose Blatter, - - -	244	-	-	64 25		
Mr. Gibbs, - - -	245	-	-	50 00		
Sundries, board refunded, - - -	246	-	-	68 03		
Q. M. dept. washing and drawing instr. of state, - - -	216	285 00				
Mr. Catlett, freight on rosin, - - -	247	-	31 00			
Subs. dept. balance on acct. - - -	248	-	697 14			
Do. do. - - -	248	416 90				
		\$16291 40	22487 99	16900 68	1238 49	4669 42

## C.R.

	Voucher.	V. M. I. proper.	V. M. I. tuition.	Q. M. Dep.	Subsist. Dep.	Buildin App.
By balance, as per last annual report, July 1855.	-	189 47	-	1273 67	3436 27	7435 8
By sundries, - - - - September 1855.	12	-	-	-	619 14	
By L. S. Inst. - - - -	-	-	-	1350 12		
By L. S. Inst. - - - -	-	-	-	-	628 50	
By L. S. Inst. - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	5 0
By L. S. Inst. - - - -	-	182 00	-	-	-	
By sundries, commission on deposits,	-	510 67	-	-	-	
By tuition fees of pay cadets, -	46	-	5200 00	-	-	
By library fees, - - - -	47	226 00	-	-	-	
By board of cadets to January 1st,	46	-	-	-	5408 23	
By V. M. I. board of state cadets do.	46	-	-	-	1612 30	
By sundries, as per qr. master's report, December 1855.	-	-	-	8778 06	-	
By Lex. Sav. Inst. - - - -	-	5396 66	-	-	-	
By do. - - - -	-	-	-	60 00	-	
By sundries, commission on deposits,	-	299 78	-	-	-	
By board of pay cadets to July 1st,	105	-	-	-	5561 74	
By V. M. I. board of state cadets do.	105	-	-	-	1696 70	
By sub. dept. board of st cads. refunded,	105	20 00	-	-	-	
By sundries, as per qr. master's abstr. -	106	-	-	5844 58	-	
By sundries, as per qr. master's abstr. for 1st class, - - - -	212	-	-	1309 11	-	
By sundries, tuition fees, - - - - May 1855.	249	-	250 00	-	-	
By sundries, diploma fees of 1st class,	250	165 00	-	-	-	
By sundries, board to July, - - - -	213	-	-	-	272 66	
By Lex. Sav. Inst. - - - -	-	-	-	396 33	-	
By Lex. Sav. Inst. two quarterly inst. of appr. - - - -	-	3855 00	-	-	-	
By Lex. Sav. Inst. - - - -	-	623 00	-	-	-	
By sundries, commission on deposits, -	-	277 00	-	-	-	
By Col. Smith, am't returned by Cad. Lee,	251	203 00	-	-	-	
By sundries, as per abstr. to June 2d,	216	-	-	6815 58	-	
Cad Fant, - - - -	246	-	-	-	5 00	
By qr. m. dept. balance on acc't,	248	-	-	-	697 14	
By V. M. Inst. do. - - - -	248	-	-	-	416 90	
By Dr. Estill, am't of his acc't,	252	-	-	86 08	-	
		\$ 11947 58	5450 00	25913 53	20354 58	7440 8

## GENERAL RECAPITULATION.

CR.

By amount received from

V. M. institute proper,	-	-	-	-	11,947 58
Tuition fees of pay cadets,	-	-	-	-	5,450 00
Q. M. department,	-	-	-	-	25,913 53
Subsistence department,	-	-	-	-	20,354 58
Balance on building appropriation, &c.	-	-	-	-	7,440 85

\$ 71,106 54

DR.

To amount paid for

V. M. institute,	-	-	-	-	16,591 40
Quarter master's department,	-	-	-	-	22,487 99
Subsist. department,	-	-	-	-	16,900 68
Building acc't,	-	-	-	-	1,238 49
Balance due on build'g of mess hall,	-	-	-	-	4,669 42
To balance,	-	-	-	-	9,518 56

\$ 71,106 54

By balance on hand June 15th, 1856,

\$ 9,518 56

## SPECIAL RECAPITULATION.

## V. M. institute :

Cr. as per report, by V. M. I. proper, and tuition fees,	-	-	17,397	50
Dr. as per report,	-	-	16,291	40
		By balance,	<u>\$</u>	<u>1,106 10</u>

## Q. M. department:

Cr. as per report,	-	-	25,913	50
Dr. as per report,	-	-	22,487	90
		By balance,	<u>\$</u>	<u>3,425 50</u>

## Subsistence department:

Cr. as per report,	-	-	20,354	50
Dr. as per report,	-	-	16,900	60
		By balance,	<u>\$</u>	<u>3,453 90</u>

## Building account:

Cr. as per report,	-	-	7,440	80
Dr. as per report,	-	-	1,238	40
		By balance,	<u>\$</u>	<u>6,202 30</u>

## Mess hall building account:

Dr. as per report, balance from last annual report,	-	-	\$	<u>4,669 40</u>
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E. E.

R. E. COLSTON,  
Tr. V. M. I.

June 15th, 1856.

*Merit Roll of Cadets of the Virginia Military Institute, as determined at the  
General Examination before the Board of Visitors, July 1856.*

\* Distinguished. † Deficient.

FIRST CLASS—GRADUATES.

General merit.	NAMES.	COUNTIES.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
*1	F. W. Smith,	Norfolk city,	2611.4	Act. Ass't Professor.
*2	E. L. Smith,	Norfolk city,	2096.	1st Lieutenant.
3	F. M. Suddoth,	Fauquier,	2089.3	
4	P. B. Stanard,	Richmond city,	2085.3	
5	G. P. C. Rumbough,	Campbell,	2065.	2d Captain.
6	G. M. Edgar,	Monroe,	2048.8	
7	J. H. Carpenter,	Alleghany,	2016.9	
8	W. B. Selden,	Norfolk city,	2004.9	Act. Ass't Professor.
9	J. L. Cross,	Warren,	1955.3	
10	T. B. Robinson,	King Wm.	1941.3	
11	E. Fowlkes,	Montgomery,	1873.	
12	R. M. McKinney,	Campbell,	1832.3	2d Lieutenant.
13	W. Y. C. White,	Washington,	1740.1	1st Lieutenant.
14	W. S. Guy,	Nottoway,	1684.6	
15	M. N. Moorman,	Campbell,	1645.1	1st Captain.
16	J. L. Meem,	Campbell,	1625.1	
17	C. M. Barton,	Frederick,	1619.5	
18	F. M. Boykin,	Isle of Wight,	1606.8	
19	J. J. McAllister,	Isle of Wight,	1561.5	3d Lieutenant.
20	D. B. Penn,	Richmond city,	1545.6	
21	W. J. Sergeant,	Louisa,	1535.9	
22	Wm. B. Clagett,	Loudoun,	1503.5	Adjutant.
23	C. H. Hurt,	Petersburg,	1481.7	
24	R. H. Hooe,	Fauquier,	1481.5	
25	J. F. Alexander,	Spotsylvania,	1463.6	Quartermaster.
26	J. A. Galt,	Fluvanna,	1425.3	
27	J. B. Cocke,	Powhatan,	1363.4	
28	J. G. Gittings,	Harrison,	1223.1	
29	T. H. Owen,	Halifax,	1208.3	3d Lieutenant.
30	F. H. Hannum,	Washington,	1183.5	
31	W. H. Hood,	Southampton,	1168.6	
32	W. H. Easley,	Halifax,	1147.6	
33	T. H. Halcomb,	Mecklenburg,	1030.9	

## SECOND CLASS.

General merit.	NAMES.	COUNTIES.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
*1	J. McCausland,	- Mason,	- 1085.	2d Sergeant.
*2	C. W. Hardy,	- Norfolk city,	- 1038.8	Quartermaster Se
3	A. M. Fauntleroy,	- Frederick,	- 972.1	2d Sergeant.
4	Alexander Rives,	- Albemarle,	- 947.9	
5	R. M. Mayo,	- Westmoreland,	- 938.9	
6	J. J. Smith,	- Alexandria,	- 894.	Sergeant Major.
7	B. F. Stewart,	- Westmoreland,	- 879.5	
8	R. K. McCausland,	- Mason,	- 873.2	4th Sergeant.
9	J. Ker,	- Northampton,	- 842.9	1st Sergeant.
10	A. Fulkerson,	- Washington,	- 831.1	Color Sergeant.
11	J. M. Steptoe,	- Bedford,	- 783.6	
12	R. B. Taylor,	- Norfolk city,	- 747.3	2d O. Sergeant.
13	P. P. Slaughter,	- Madison,	- 732.2	1st O. Sergeant.
14	E. McConnell,	- Richmond city,	- 700.8	
15	J. W. Bosworth,	- Randolph,	- 686.6	
16	J. A. Hambrick,	- Franklin,	- 684.	
17	J. Read,	- Roanoke,	- 642.4	4th Sergeant.
18	S. G. White,	- Petersburg,	- 626.4	3d Sergeant.
19	H. Ker,	- Northampton,	- 586.8	1st Sergeant.
20	J. H. Cameron,	- Rockbridge,	- 562.7	
21	J. Q. Richardson,	- Norfolk,	- 546.5	3d Sergeant.
22	J. W. Keeble,	- Matthews,	- 531.	
23	J. C. Hiden,	- Orange,	- 524.1	

## THIRD CLASS.

General Merit.	NAMES.	COUNTIES.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
*1	M. B. Hardin,	- Alexandria,	- 760.4	Corporal.
*2	L. W. Reid,	- Alexandria city,	- 742.3	Corporal.
3	L. L. Marks,	- Petersburg,	- 690.7	1st Corporal.
4	M. McDonald,	- Hampshire,	- 656.2	
5	J. W. Kincheloe,	- Fauquier,	- 626.1	1st Corporal.
6	N. C. Wilson,	- Rockbridge,	- 540.8	Corporal.
7	J. F. Neff,	- Shenandoah,	- 535.9	Corporal.
8	E. C. Edmunds,	- Alexandria,	- 533.	Corporal.
9	J. T. W. Hairston,	- Henry,	- 519.5	
10	H. B. Meade,	- Amelia,	- 518.4	
11	J. Breckenridge,	- Botetourt,	- 495.3	
12	T. L. Pitts,	- Richmond,	- 495.2	
13	J. Armstead,	- Elizabeth city,	- 484.6	
14	W. E. Cutshaw,	- Jefferson,	- 483.9	
15	J. E. Tayloe,	- Roanoke,	- 467.9	Corporal.
16	J. B. Terrill,	- Bath,	- 424.	
17	D. W. Flowerree,	- Fauquier,	- 418.	
18	T. S. Taylor,	- Franklin,	- 408.9	Corporal.
19	H. L. Norfleet,	- Nansemond,	- 379.9	
20	S. Wilson,	- Surry,	- 350.3	
	J. C. Pegram,	- Norfolk city,	- 457.4	

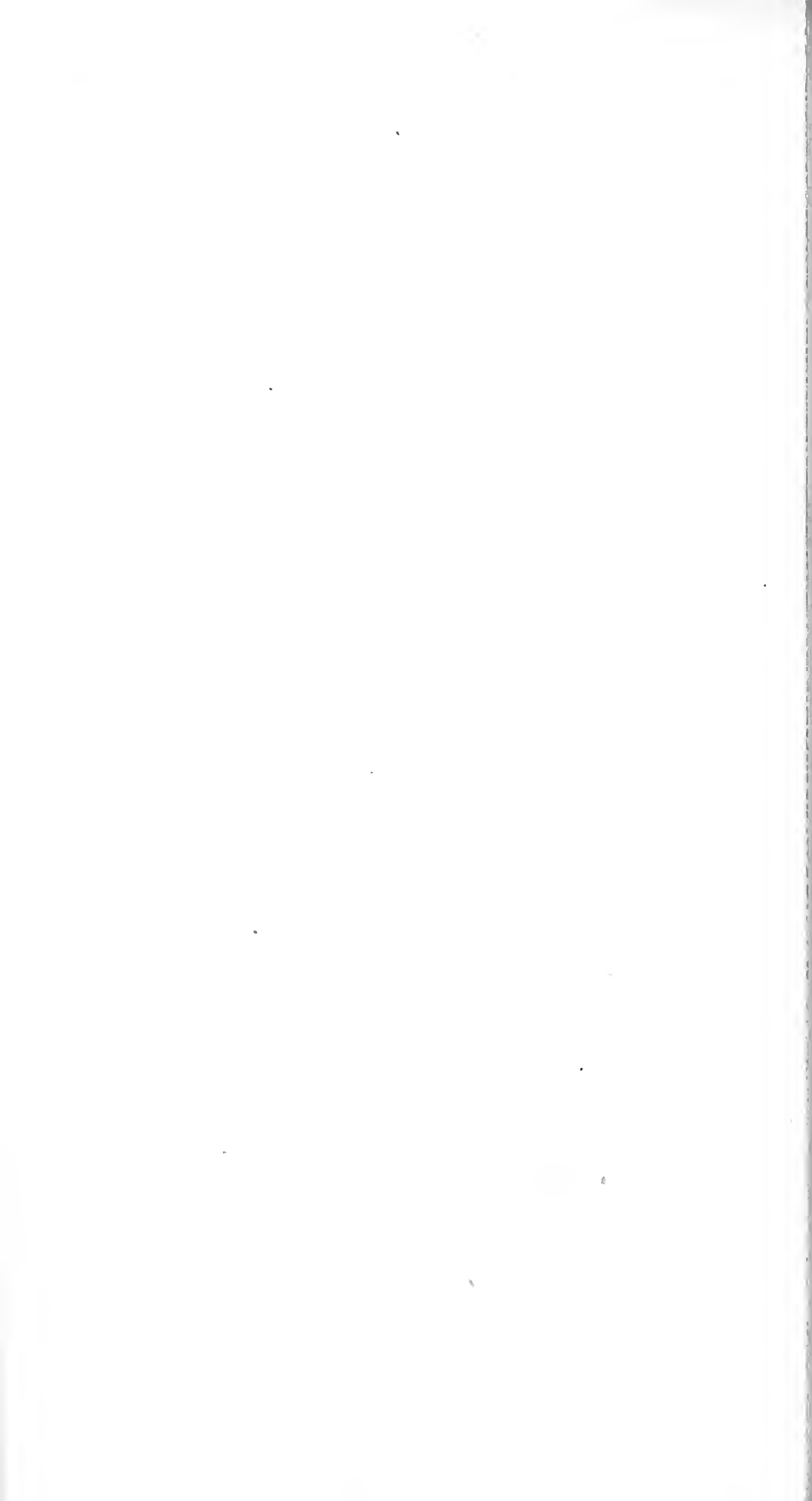
## FOURTH CLASS.

General merit.	NAMES.	COUNTIES.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
*1	J. W. Lyell,	- Richmond,	- 643.2	
*2	W. H. Otey,	- Campbell,	- 642.6	
3	E. S. Hutter,	- Campbell,	- 610.3	
4	J. H. Ham,	- E. City,	- 602.8	
5	W. Keiter,	- Hampshire,	- 595.8	
6	J. H. Chenowith,	- Randolph,	- 581.8	
7	J. F. Tyler,	- Lee,	- 559.	
8	J. W. Lewis,	- Bath,	- 549.5	
9	A. H. Haden,	- Botetourt,	- 531.7	
10	J. P. Minetree,	- Petersburg,	- 508.9	
11	C. W. McDonald,	- Hampshire,	- 466.4	
12	G. B. Cooke,	- Norfolk,	- 465.5	
13	M. C. Selden,	- Powhatan,	- 440.1	
14	O. C. Henderson,	- Alexandria,	- 435.7	
15	J. W. Kerr,	- Petersburg,	- 433.7	
16	W. L. Wingfield,	- Bedford,	- 432.2	
17	J. D. Coles,	- Pittsylvania,	- 425.8	
18	M. Gouldin,	- Richmond city,	- 421.8	
19	D. H. Hardaway,	- Nottoway,	- 362.9	
20	Geo. Bean,	- Hardy,	- 355.3	
21	J. R. Hall,	- Mason,	- 346.9	
22	W. J. Cunningham,	- Hardy,	- 328.6	
23	T. V. Williams,	- Tazewell,	- 322.4	
24	W. Carter,	- Fauquier,	- 315.3	
25	C. Crutchfield,	- Spotsylvania,	- 310.	
26	H. C. Cox,	- Petersburg,	- 309.3	
	C. T. Steptoe,	- Bedford,	-	
	Wm. M. Palmer,	- Halifax,	-	
†	Wm. F. Sydnor,	- Petersburg,	-	
†	J. R. Kent,	- Montgomery,	-	Entered February 1856
†	W. W. Bentley,	- Montgomery,	-	Do. do.
†	W. C. Kevan,	- Petersburg,	-	
†	W. J. Rives,	- Petersburg,	-	
†	W. F. Wiley,	- Amelia,	-	
†	T. B. Booth,	- Petersburg,	-	
†	G. D. Parker,	- Norfolk,	-	Entered March 1856.
†	R. S. Blair,	- Ritchie,	-	
†	C. C. Burks,	- Rockbridge,	-	
	T. Pollard,	- Petersburg,	-	Deficient in conduct.



The following List of Cadets is specially reported to the Governor, in conformity with a Regulation for the Government of the Virginia Military Institute, requiring the Names of the most Distinguished Cadets, not exceeding two in each Class, to be reported thus at each Annual Examination.

No.	NAMES.	COUNTIES.	Science and Art in which each Cadet particularly excels.
	<i>First Class.</i>		
1	F. W. Smith, -	City of Norfolk, -	Mathematics, Latin, French, Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Rhetoric, Artillery and Infantry Tactics.
2	E. L. Smith, -	City of Norfolk, -	Engineering, Artillery and Infantry Tactics, Natural and Moral Philosophy.
	<i>Second Class.</i>		
1	J. McCausland, -	Mason, -	Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, Chemistry and Drawing.
2	C. W. Hardy, -	City of Norfolk, -	Mathematics, Chemistry, Latin and Drawing.
	<i>Third Class.</i>		
1	M. B. Hardin, -	Alexandria, -	Mathematics, French, Latin, Drawing and Composition.
2	L. W. Reid, -	City of Alexandria, -	Mathematics, Drawing and Composition.
	<i>Fourth Class.</i>		
1	J. W. Lyell, -	Richmond, -	Mathematics and Declamation.
2	W. H. Otey, -	Campbell, -	Mathematics, French and Geography.



A D D R E S S E S

DELIVERED AT THE

Ceremonies of erecting, at the Virginia Military Institute,

HUBARD'S BRONZE CAST

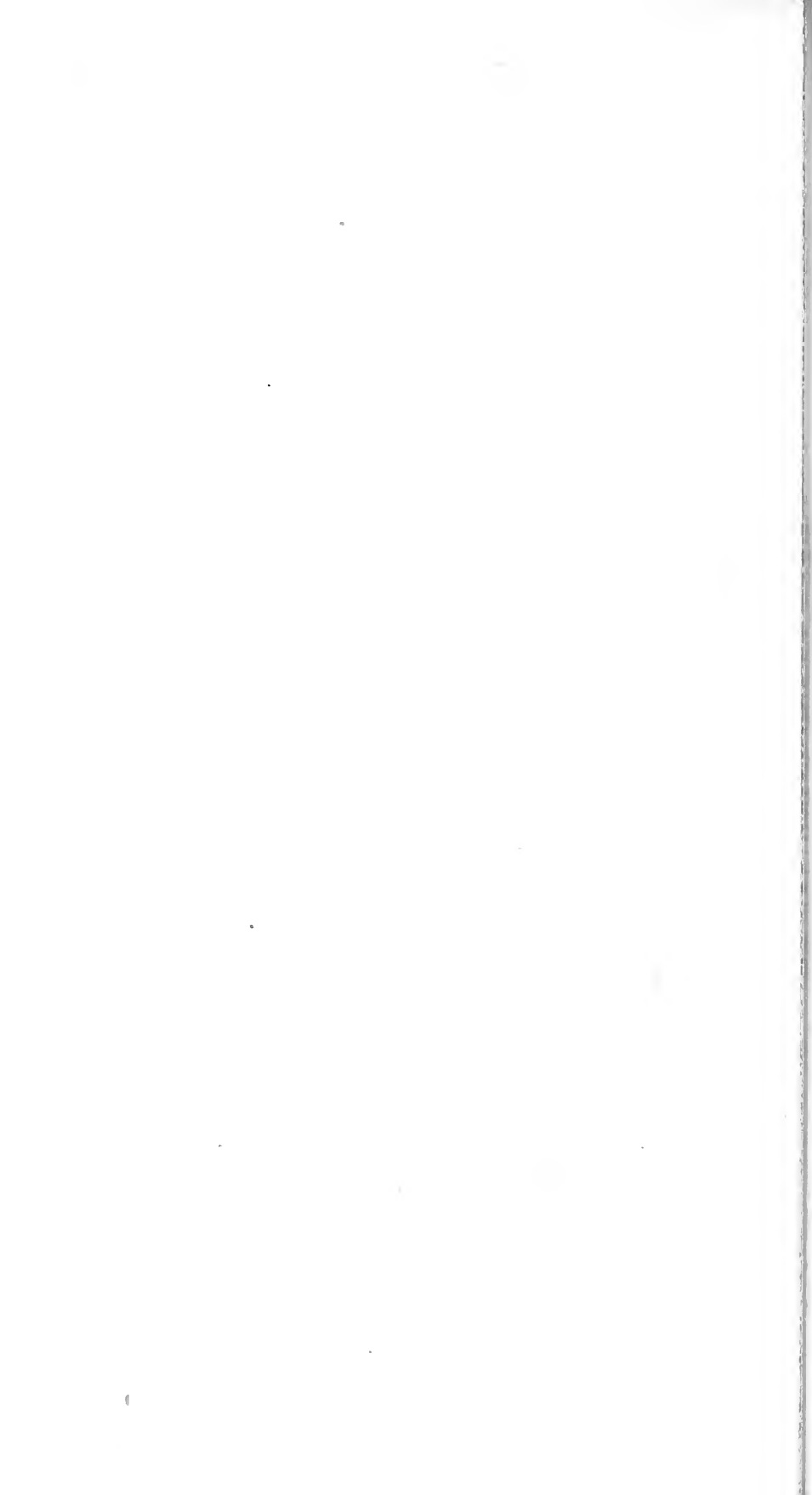
OF

HOUDON'S STATUE OF WASHINGTON,

IN OBEDIENCE TO ORDERS OF

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.

JULY 1856.

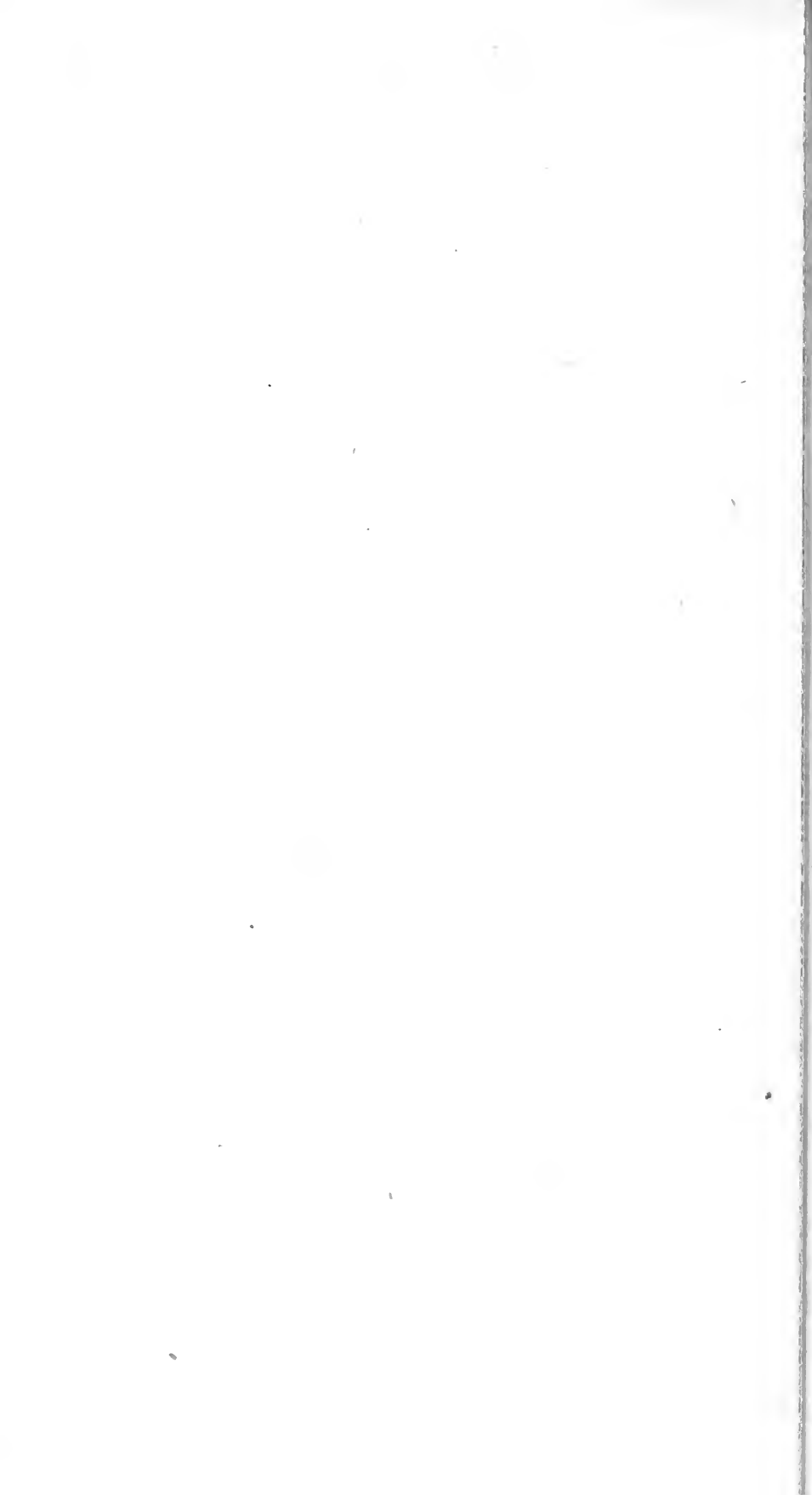


*Introductory Prayer by the Rev. John H. Boccock.*

Almighty and Eternal God—We acknowledge thee as our Creator and Preserver, and as the Author of every blessing which we this day enjoy. We approach thee through Jesus Christ, whom we here solemnly confess, as the coequal Son and our Redeemer. Only through him do we feel ourselves to be entitled to approach thee, O unsearchable God of heaven and earth, either as individual beings, or in the great concourse. We adore thee for the many inestimable blessings won for us, and transmitted to us, by our fathers in the great days of old; we bless thee for the gift of such men to the earth as our fathers were in those days; and for the many occasions on which thou hast wonderfully manifested thyself for that blessed OLD CAUSE, the civil and religious liberty of these confederated states. We thank thee for the high and noble examples left us by the great men of old; for the hallowed sacredness of their memories, and for every means by which their memories can be kept in the hearts of their countrymen, and especially for the deep and lasting peace in our memories of that great man whose image in brass is now about to be here erected in public view.

Great God—we pray thee, for thy Son's sake, to guard the liberties, the equality and the union of these states. Give thy choicest blessings to our own ancient, honored and beloved commonwealth. Send chosen blessings upon the honored head of the chief magistrate of this commonwealth, here present with us to-day. Give thy best blessings to the institution within whose precincts we are assembled. Sanctify all our enjoyments—and to the latest years of time, be thou our sun, our shield, and our everlasting portion.

And glory, and dominion, and honor and power be unto God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. AMEN.



Governor Wise's Oration at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, on the  
3d July 1856.

ellow—Citizens and Gentlemen, Professors and Cadets of the Virginia Military Institute:

We come up to perform the duty of placing on its pedestal a copy, in solid bronze, of Houdon's marble statue of GEORGE WASHINGTON, which the commonwealth has dedicated to her military institute.

As Virginia's chief magistrate—here in this beautiful mountain place, called by a name which reverberates the reports of the first guns of the revolution; this day of independence, a political Sabbath fit for the solemn rites—I devoutly inaugurate this ceremony of pious patriotism.

We come not either to bury or to praise a Cæsar—we come not like Romans to solemnize the apotheosis of an emperor, or the canonization of a saint; but as christians, as citizens of the United States—as more than citizens—as children of the family of the state where he was born and is buried—as sons and daughters of the liberty his valor and wisdom won—to bow reverently before the *virtue* which hallows and embalms the memory of our country's father!

Virginia was not unmindful of the grateful duty of transmitting to posterity the personal image of the greatest and best of her sons. Her legislature resolved as early as 1784 that her executive should be charged with the trust of procuring “a statue of Gen. Washington, of the finest marble and best workmanship, with an inscription on its pedestal in these words:

‘The general assembly of the commonwealth of Virginia have caused this statue to be erected as a monument of affection and gratitude to George Washington, who, uniting to the endowments of the hero the virtues of the patriot, and exerting both in establishing the liberties of his country, has rendered his name dear to his fellow-citizens, and given the world an immortal example of true glory.’”

This inscription, which we are told was written by James Madison, is as simple in its language as it is sublime in its sentiment. It was to be a monument of “*affection and gratitude,*” erected—not to the *man*—but to the “*endowments of the hero,*” and not to the *qualities* alone, but to their “*exertion*” also—the *labors*, the *action*. “in establishing the liberties of his country” and rendering his *name*—not immortal, not famous even, but—“*dear to his fellow citizens.*” That which it speaks of as “immortal” is not the man nor his name, but “the *example of true glory*” which he had given the world—that, that alone true piety and good taste could dare to call “*immortal!*”

The governor, Ben. Harrison, selected the two fittest agents, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin, then in Paris, to employ the best artist in Europe, and to ornament the monument with proper and fit devices and emblems. The eminent statuary, M. Houdon, was sent to the United States “to see Gen. Washington.” Nothing short of ocular inspection would suffice; no painting by Peale would do; the statuary alone, not the limner, could make the proper and fit devices and emblems to ornament the work of his own chisel. With the artist as well as the state the undertaking was not so much one of contract as it was “a labor of love.” The master of fine arts was a lover of liberty, and venerated him who was the greatest champion of the rights of man and the freedom of states. He retired from a royal court; declined imperial patronage and princely orders; denied himself the profits of the most extensive European orders for “every thing which was capital;” left a family poor and dependent; incurred a certainty of loss; and made a pilgrimage, purely of inspiration, to America, to perpetuate the mouldering form of him who alone among men had won the fair title to be called a country's father. His life was insured, and in the

event of his death before his return to Paris, 10,000 livres were secured to be paid to his father, mother and sisters. He was about 35 or 40 years of age; but he was an invalid, and this sum to his family was a *sine qua non*, for they had no resource but in his labor; and though without rivalship in his art, his chief excellence was that he was "disinterested, generous, candid and panting for glory—he was one of the best men in the world." These were the winning characteristics which made him "in every circumstance meriting the good opinion of Washington" in the testimony of Mr. Jefferson.

About August or September 1785 he arrived at Philadelphia, in company with Dr. Franklin. His materials not having reached Havre when the ship sailed, he was compelled to remain for a time to supply himself in Philadelphia, and thus did not reach Mount Vernon until after September. Washington saluted him immediately on his arrival. He said he was informed of the occasion of his visit, and, though his modesty disclaimed seeking the cause of it, he frankly expressed that he felt "the most agreeable and grateful sensations." He complimented him by wishing "his mission had been more worthy of the master genius of the first statuary in Europe; welcomed him to the seat of his retirement, and promised him every aid in his power." He was at Mount Vernon, probably, in the month of October or November 1785, and returned to Paris before the 4th January 1786. *There and then, he modeled the model man by actual admeasurement!* He applied the callipers and made a cast of the entire person. Washington, it is said, was annoyed by the particularity of the copy, but Houdon faithfully persisted, and the hero and the sage, the man of supreme dignity, of spotless purity and the most veiled modesty, laid his sacred person bare and prone before the eyes of art and affection. An actual, exact copy of the material man of Washington, was made by the master modeler, M. Houdon. Thus, the work was original and authentic in the highest and truest sense.

This, though, was but mechanical and mathematical. This was but art collecting its materials, drawing its outlines, framing its skeleton, measuring length of limb, clothing bone with muscle and muscle with skin, so that

"From lines drawn true our eye may trace  
A foot, a knee, a hand, a face."

But more was wanting; for, as in painting, the picture may want the coloring, the Titian stroke, the Guido air, the *je ne sais quoi* of beauty; so in statuary, the form may be there but it may not be a breathing form, it may not act, it may not speak, it may not glow with warmth. Deity had breathed into the man the breath of life and given to him the "countenance sublime," and the genius of the divine art had to give to the *marble* the countenance of the *man*. He, Houdon, did it, and *there* in the capitol of Virginia stands Washington. In Houdon's marble we have the form and feature, the limb and lineament, the configuration and proportion, the stature and posture, and we have, enlivening all, illumining all, the mien and manner and majesty of the man—the breath as well as the body, the grandeur and the moral greatness of the very soul and spirit of the living Washington! The very original person, so exactly moulded; the very spirit and intellect and moral man, so caught warm from flesh and blood and so transfused to marble as to make it glow with life and likeness, were taken; the cast of the body was left to the care of his workmen, to be carried to Europe, and that of the face was taken in his own care, he saying, as the story is, "that if that went down in the deep he would go along with it." The figure was in the nude state; it needed costume and drapery and to be decorated with emblems. This was inferred from the fact that Mr. Jefferson, in a letter of the 4th of January 1786, wrote to Gen. Washington to ascertain his wishes respecting the particular dress and attitude to be adopted. It was not until the 1st of August of the same year that the general replied. The letter is remarkably characteristic of the man. It is diffident—disclaims "sufficient knowledge in the art of sculpture to oppose his judgment to the taste of connoisseurs; he would be perfectly satisfied with whatever might be judged *decent and proper*." These were



words of peculiar import in his meaning: "He would scarcely venture to suggest the inexpediency of a servile adherence to the garb of antiquity as opposed to some little deviation in favor of the modern costume, if he had not learned from Col. Humphreys that this was hinted in conversation by Mr. West to Mr. Houdon. He understood that his taste, introduced in painting by West, was received with applause and prevailed extensively." This, doubtless, mainly decided the character of the costume, which has been so sadly criticised by a false taste. Houdon had seen Washington; "*decent and proper*" were his ideas of the mode. West has conversed with Houdon. Two genuine Americans, of pure, patriotic taste, Jefferson and Franklin, were superintendents of the work. These circumstances, and the fact that Houdon was a true master, determined the dress, the attitude and the emblems. The figure is preserved by the tight fit of the dress, so as to display the outlines of the body and of every limb. The state resolves were looked to, and the governor, it is seen, was ordered to procure a statue of "*General Washington*;" and in the order to Mr. Peale, he was to take a copy of the picture "of the late *commander in chief*," to be transmitted to Mr. Jefferson. The "*General*," the "*commander in chief*," was to be represented. The costume, therefore, is that of the *military man*. He is in the *regimentals of General Washington*. But he was more than military, he was *citizen too*—*citizen soldier* general and commander in chief. He, therefore, has not the sword belted on; but, though in military coat and epaulettes, though booted and spurred and gloved for service, he has a *citizen's cane* in his right hand, and the unbelted sword hangs in view but not on his person. *Peace* was the end of *his* warfare—the conquest of right his aim—the *word* was *irksome* to *him*, and he laid it aside whenever and wherever he could rest for a moment on a stay of civil life.

The costume is "*decent and proper*," and the emblems are as significant as they are simple. They tell their own meaning. I have not been able to find any record of their design, by Houdon himself or by Mr. Jefferson or other person, and I, therefore, am left to give my own interpretation of them. Washington stands on the mother earth, the plough-share placed on the left by his foot. These signify the idea of "*country*"—that most endearing and precious word of patriotism. They imply also the favorite, Cincinnatus-like occupation of the man, agricultural tillage, the arts of husbandry and humble industry and labor, the foundations of prosperity, of plenty and providence, and independence for the people; and they point higher up to God, reminding us of the source whence we came, and of our lot in life, and to what we must return; man's origin, his duties, his dependence and his end. Upright on the plough-share rests the baggage roll of a tent or *marquéé*, in a bundle of fasces bound around by broad canvass straps, forming a pillar, denoting *union and strength*—the idea of the "*E pluribus unum*." On that pillar hangs the sword at rest; over it is thrown Washington's military mantle, and over all he leans upon that pillar with his left arm. God! man! mother earth! country! dependence upon industry, labor and union! These are the ideas conveyed to me by these emblems.

The attitude of the person is that of a mood of high thought, calm but elate and roused to attention, taking a far-seeing survey of distance and expanse before him. His expression is grave, but serene; composed, but earnest and intense; still, but prepared for action; waiting, but ready at a moment; he is in standing repose and cooling the brow with bare front, with no chapeau in sight, but with sword within reach. Wisdom and providence are in his look, and a consciousness of collected strength in his whole posture and presence. Firmness sits upon his lip and chin, fortitude on his cheek, thought on his brow; and, yet, a surpassing sweetness pervades the whole face, which makes us feel

"How awful goodness is, and see  
Virtue in her shape how lovely."

In 1783 congress resolved upon a Washington statue, equestrian, in bronze. This M. Houdon expected to be employed to execute. In his letter of July 12th, 1785, to the Vir-

ginia delegates in congress, Mr. Jefferson presented Mr. Houdon, with the assurance that he would not have undertaken the voyage for the pedestrian statue, had he not been assured of his "recommendations for the greater work." The equestrian has never been begun. Another, which congress ordered to be erected on the spot of the surrender Cornwallis, at Yorktown, to be ornamented with the arms of France and of the United States in alliance, has never been more than resolved upon. The statue, by Canova, for North Carolina, was burnt. Chantrey's, at Boston, is like that of Canova, only the idea of Washington of the artist. The monument at Baltimore is but a magnificent pile of marble. The colossal, by Greenough, in Washington city, is *naked*—olympic, not earthly—heathenish, not christian—would not have done for Rome, because inscribed with bad Latin, and not fit for the capitol of the United States, because it is not American. It is a monstrous imitation of something mythological—what, no classics tell of. It is an undefinable "*Simpliciter Stud.*"\* Our statuary in the United States is curious in its history. The Italian who wrought the four basso relievos of the rotundo of the capitol, told a story of our settlement which he wotted not of until they were interpreted by an Indian. Over the east door is the old world coming to the new: an old man landing from a boat on a shore where stands an Indian offering him an ear of corn. Over the north door is William Penn treating with Indians under the oaks of the virgin forest. Over the west door is Pocahontas saving Captain Smith. Over the south door is Daniel Boone in the act of slaying one Indian warrior, with his foot upon another slain. "True, true, true!" exclaimed the Red man "there," pointing to the east door, "you came and we gave you corn."—"There," pointing to Penn, "you met us in treaty and cheated us of our lands."—"There," pointing to Captain Smith, "we saved your life; and there," pointing to Boone, "you take our lives as well as our lands!!!!" The "old man eloquent," Tristram Burgess of Rhode Island, speaking on Indian relations on one occasion in the house of representatives, alluded to Boone's contest with the two Indian chiefs; and in reference to the fact that the fallen chief is veered and crowded in posture for want of room in the panel, he said—"Mr. Speaker! the vestatuary of your rotundo shows that you have not left the Indian ground enough to die on." Persico, the sculptor of Peace and War, and of the Discovery by Columbus, told me that he once visited Richmond to see this statue of Houdon. A foreigner, and brought up in the meretricious school of Italian art, he was not prepared for the costume and drapery, which was thought "decent and proper" for America. He entered the vestibule of the State capitol where the statue stands, and whilst beholding it, turned to a friend and said in a foreign accent:—"Ah! that head is sublime, it is grand, magnifique! but it does not belong to that shad-coat—that head ought to be cut off from that body!" One of the *Virginia guard* standing near, thought an Italian or Frenchman was saying Washington's head ought to have been cut off, and he immediately and violently seized the supposed culprit and was forcing him out of the door, when an explanation was made which avowed a blunder in taste, but no bad motive. So let it forever be with the *Virginia guard*! whether enlisted in the service or always standing sentinel at the gates of her honor and renown, let it never permit an irreverent allusion to George Washington!

The Houdon copied nature and followed truth, and will bear comparison with any single figure of the Italian or Greek school. Whilst it is simple in its taste of costume, drapery and emblems, it is most cunningly wrought; it is original and real, not imaginary; it is christian, not heathenish; it is American, not classical; it is human, not mythological. Such is Houdon's Washington—so well did that one among the best of men and most eminent of artists transmit the form of the greatest human benefactor to posterity.

And its genius gave it attributive virtue. It has caused art in another. Houdon transmitted Washington, and our own Virginia artist, Hubard, has transmitted Houdon. The bronze copy which we this day put upon its plinth is exact, and but little lower in

\*The commencement of the Latin inscription upon it.

lignity of art than the great original in marble. Time and its mutilation had assailed the marble; pieces had already been broken off; fire was hourly threatening to destroy the work of the master's hand, and the only exact and authentic form of the mighty original, when the poetry as well as piety and patriotism of our own artist sought to insure the perpetuation to posterity, by a perdurable copy in bronze! Like Houdon's, Hubard's was a passionate performance. He is both a painter, and modeler in statuary, and artist-like, is poor, with a wife to cherish and family of children to nurture and educate. He too, "panted for glory," and saw the chance to snatch it in a cast from Houdon, as Houdon had caught it from Washington. The difficulties were almost insurmountable. No bronze statue had been cast whole in the United States. He had no furnace like that for the statue of Louis XV. There were no experienced men of Munich in our country to mix and melt and mould the metal; and to make the section moulds, such as Italians use, was itself almost an art. With these obstructions and but small means, nothing daunted, generously he essayed the pious undertaking. He superintended the making of the moulds in person, at considerable cost of labor, money and time. This was but the beginning of his expense. He had to build a furnace, now unfit for any other operation than that of the fine arts. This was not the end of the beginning of the trial, risk and outlay. He had to employ workmen who came from abroad, and to procure materials. The advances took nearly all of his available means. But at last the furnace was heated; the metals were mixed and molten; the moulds were embedded; the glowing flood was poured into them, and—the cast was a failure! The first was broken up, and again the same was done, with a like result—a *second* failure! This would have stopped the efforts of an ordinary man. Not so with Hubard. He had spent thousands; had lost all. His family was made anxious, and he was much embarrassed. But the word "*fail*" was not written in his vocabulary. A friend in Richmond—I wish I had permission to mention the name of this benefactor of the arts, for all honor as long as the bronze shall last! a friend in Richmond advanced the means of a *third trial*. The day, the 23d February, A. D. 1856, arrived for it to be made; the anxiety of the artist was intense; a few friends were present, to mingle their hopes and fears with his, and to witness the opening of the iron flood-gate of the furnace. Two failures had taught the necessary precaution; the mould of Washington lay firmly waiting, embedded solid under the lip of the lava spout; the vent holes were carefully opened for the flying gas and heated air; the ponderous lever in slings broke away the furnace gate; and the fiery current came red and rushing in and the liquid bronze poured on until the mould was full and laid a boiling lake, muttering and bubbling whilst it slowly cooled to a solid sea of brass with its jagged waves fixed. The cast was raised and lo!—there was the perfect copy in bronze of the Houdon, which we see before us! All hail thou triumph of Virginia's art and patriotic devotion, well mayest thou come out of the third trial, a perfect model of the form of him

Whom "Nature designed for a hero's mould,  
And e'er she cast him let *not* the stuff grow cold."

Virginia sends thee greeting to her rising generation of sons, with a mother's hope to see the example of thy greatest of originals give to our country and our kind, another and yet another, as the times arise, to be like unto her first born hero and sage, so that she may hereafter exultingly exclaim, not only—"Eccē homo!"—but, more magnified still in her progeny—"Eccē Meos filios!" As yet she has given the world but *one* Washington, though she has had a host of sons second only to her greatest and best. I am grateful that she has ordered another statue; one to him, who, to use his own language, took such "singular pleasure" in superintending the execution of this by Houdon, the author of the declaration of independence and of the act of religious freedom, and the founder of the university of Virginia; and I am proud that Virginia has yet another artist, who promises to give us an original of our own, a Jefferson in marble, to be no inferior counter statue of that of the great Houdon. Let him conceive the father of democracy as a great re-

former; his time, that of a revolution; his theatre, that of *a new country* with a primeval forest to be cleared away before the improvements of civilization and arts; stand him in the costume of a plain citizen, civil in every sense, by the huge stem of a giant oak, the body of which has just been cut down; strike a log-wood axe, the great emblem of American settlement and mighty leveler of the forest, into the stump of the tree; and place surveyor's compass on a Jacob's staff by his side, as an emblem of mental survey and science applied by the statesman and philosopher. Some such simple design as this will present to posterity a just American idea of Monticello's sage, and it will be the beginning of a Virginia school of art upon the new foundation laid for America by a great master. I trust to the poetical genius of Galt to make something still more appropriate and beautiful for the rotundo of the university.

The equestrian Washington, by Crawford, has not yet arrived, and the monument in Richmond is not yet finished. Like all *monuments*, it will be but allegorical. It will not like this statue, perpetuate the exact image of the man. The human form of Washington was all of *him* which *could* fade away. There was, therefore, need of a statue which should preserve his manly likeness. But monuments there was no need of for him. They are erected for memories which may be lost, for the fame which may be forgotten. Washington's fame is higher than any pinnacle which can ever be built of granite or marble—we may pile monuments to the clouds, and they will not reach the heights of his grandeur—and every stone shall moulder away, or like the "*Roma Eterna*," be broken in the very word "*eterna*," before the fame of Washington shall ever fade or begin to be dim. He liveth in the hearts not only of his fellow-citizens but of all mankind. The monument may be an ideal of the colonial state in a Lewis; of revolution in a Henry; of a written constitution and bill of rights in a Mason; of independence in a Jefferson; of the ways and means and action of the revolution in a Nelson; and of the adjustment of the times by judiciary in a Wythe or a Marshall; and the whole may be surmounted by the head of a crowning glory of all, in a Washington. It may be very grand and very beautiful, but still no monument can rise to a Washington in stature. His grandeur towers over all—rises not from earth—it bows down rather from the Heavens!

When the Creative Spirit brooded on the deep, its first product was *light*; then heaven then earth and the seas, and grass and herbs and fruit trees; then the sun and the moon and the stars also; then the moving creature that hath life; and then "*man* in our image after our likeness." This last sixth effort finished the heavens and the earth and all the host of them. Intellect, reason, will, the moral sense, to have dominion over all, finished all. The first impress of this image which Divinity stamped must have been very beautiful. We are told it was "*very good*." A

"Nobler shape, erect and tall,  
God-like, erect \* \* \* \* \*  
for in their looks divine  
The image of their glorious Maker shone  
Truth, wisdom, sanctitude severe and pure  
\* \* \* \* For contemplation he and valor form'd;  
His fair large front and eye sublime declared  
Absolute rule \* \* \*  
Simplicity and spotless innocence."

Such was

"Adam, the goodliest man of men since born,  
His Sons the fairest of her daughter Eve."

Since creation's dawn, but one other perfect incarnate form to earth descended,

"Altogether lovely among ten thousand."

"Beyond compare the Son of God was seen  
Most glorious; in him all his Father shone  
Substantially expressed, and in his face  
Divine compassion visibly appeared  
Love without end, and without measure, grace."

But since the "first disobedience and the fruit," oh! man:

"Thou resemblest now  
Thy sin."

And yet, of this son of fallen man, whose image we this day place upon a pedestal, we say without impiety exclaim:

"With grave  
Aspect, he rose, and in his rising seem'd  
A pillar of state; deep on his front engraven  
Deliberation sat and public care;  
And princely counsel in his face yet shone  
Majestic, though in ruin: sage he stood,  
With Atlantean shoulders fit to bear  
The weight of mightiest monarchies!"

Such his presence seemed, and the seeming was like the man. But, though so God-like, as our patriot father so unapproachable that his example is beyond the reach of imitation? As he so monstrous a shape of wisdom and virtue that we may not follow in his footsteps? As he and is he to be a mere myth whom actual, practical, living, moving men may not emulate? What is the mystery of his mighty greatness? Is it any one characteristic? Or, is it someondrous and undefinable compound or combination of elements? Are traits so inexplicably mixed in him, that we may not describe them to ourselves? To say no, no, no! to these questions, here to you to-day, I came. I came to call you, pupils of a Virginia military institute, to the study of his life, to search for the secret springs of his action and his success, and to make him the standard of human excellence—mere human excellence—which you can attain to if you will. Reverence for his memory has mistaken the uses of his name, until his example has been so extolled by almost impious errors of praise as to make imitation by our youth almost hopeless. He was but a good and great man. He was no demi-god. He was nought in virtue which you and I and all may not be. The simple, secret truth of his greatness was that by training, by moral discipline, he gathered together each and every particular virtue, and as so many fasces, bundled them in himself to form one great whole of manly strength and beauty, which made him what he was, "beyond compare," the first of men. But I like not this idea of virtue which divides it into parts. I regret that our thought and language do not usually convey the true sense of virtue as a whole, an entire principle—the same—wherever it pervades, and all-pervading. "Cardinal" virtues are errors of pagan moralists. The christian sense of "virtue" is "moral goodness," and importing "efficacy, power, force, bravery, valor" in itself to act and to achieve. It is not prudence, or temperance, or justice or fortitude alone; but it exerts itself in every act, and applies the same always and every where. Virtue is indivisible. To be virtuous in the true sense, one must always do that which is according to the dictates of right and right reason. We cannot be "prudent," and yet be intemperate, unjust or cowardly; nor "temperate," and yet be imprudent or unjust; nor just and strong, without being prudent and temperate. The man who relies on one, two or more particular qualities, and claims to be good for these alone, is not virtuous in fact, and may not be relied on for these, if he is indifferent as to any virtuous qualities or important acts. All qualities are important, and virtue does or does not pervade every act. It is the divine element in our nature, and pervades the whole man, or it does not truly and purely exist. In this sense of virtue Washington yielded to it his whole heart, and it went out in full measure into his every act. He was prudent, temperate, just, brave, truthful, dutiful, faithful, persevering, because

he was virtuous—not virtuous because he was any one or all of these. This key of life kept in hand, you may unlock all his motives and see all the secret springs of his action, and you find them so simple, like all truth, that a little child may learn of him. A rapid glance at his career will teach us the power of moral goodness in him.

He was born in Westmoreland, of Virginia, far from any town, city, or institution of learning; of a respectable family of people, who could boast of hereditary self-respect and good manners and good morals. His father was a gentleman, his mother a lady. At eleven years of age he became that precious person in the gospel—A WIDOW'S SON, and that widow was a remarkable woman. She was *stern* in her domestic rule as *mother and mistress of a planter's home*. No such women were ever known before or since as those of colonial times in Virginia and the other planting states. No other women like those of Old England and the United Colonies understood that potent, magic word "*Domesticity*" as they did. They had *homes*, and were provident, frugal, self-denying, sagacious, industrious, systematic mistresses of *homes*—*homes* of a people reared to endurance and to duty. Their lords were proud men, and they were proud dames. Such as Mary the mother of Washington had seen court life, but they were not taught in tender schools of fashionable effeminacy. They were ladies, and yet they knew their chief end of womanhood; they were "*strong minded women*" in the true sense, and yet were delicate, refined and modest to know their feminine duties and spheres—to be *helpmates* to *husbands*; to be *mistresses* to *households*; to be guardian instructors as well as mothers to children. Pure as Diana they were absolute in equal dignity with their lords and masters at home; and honored they were virtuous abroad, were supreme in the graces of personal attraction and command. By such a mother Washington was taught the lessons of virtue. She taught him the truth. When he had committed a fault, he went directly to her, and with uplifted brow told her all, fully. She said, "I forgive you, because you have the courage to tell the truth at once; had you skulked away, I should have despised you." There was no military institute, no university for him. His mother; his father's tenant Mr. Hobby and Mr. Williams taught him all he knew in the schools; and Adjutant Muse, a militia major, taught him the manual exercise, and loaned him his only books on the art of war; and Monsieur Van Braam instructed him in fencing. Next to truth he was taught to *love labor*, and to be careful to do well every thing he undertook to do. The purpose of a God is to create, to act, to do. We cannot conceive of Deity isolated and inert in a universe. From everlastings the creative power was creating. The Old Testament says, "God said, 'Let there be light.'" The New Testament says, "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God." The word was, "Let there be." Labor is Divine, labor is productive, and "labor was worship" with George Washington. He loved manly sports, and exercised his body in all the feats of agility practiced at his day. He was very strong and athletic, and developed his muscles by arduous toil, and seasoned his bodily health to severe endurance. He was *systematic* and *exact*. He was particularly attentive to the *minutiae of duty*. A *sense of duty* ever controlled him. He was not bound to fortune, but derived his means from the devise of his brother Lawrence. His condition, however, did not require of him to begin life prematurely. Yet when he was but five years of age, he was employed by Lord Fairfax as surveyor of his boundless and pathless wild lands in Virginia. The gentleman's son thought it not unbecoming in him to pioneer the wilderness, to practice the science he had learned, to become acquainted with the western lands, and thereby lay the foundation of a fortune; and he went, in the green trees of his youth, to the woods of Virginia's western forests, with his surveyor's compass and Jacob's staff in hand, and performed his work so well that the lands he located would in a day bring millions of dollars, and afterwards he received a commission as public surveyor. He remained not at home near the apron strings and ease and luxury of the nursery, but sported away his time amidst horses and fox hounds. Manly labor, with a purpose, guided by a sense of duty, made him follow the divine instincts of a noble nature, and approach nearer to the standard of excellence in the universe, by labor and endurance.

to occupation was too lowly for *him*, if it was the best about which he could employ himself. His dignity was not impaired by work; and his work, whatever it was, he always seemed worthy of his best care and attention.

Thus he was in his first casting embedded as it were in the very mortar of virtue. He became *early* fixed in his settled principles of action. This it was which prepared him for the mission to St. Pierre; which cast his soldier's eye over fort Duquesne; which brought him in contact with the Indians and their localities and life. This it was which carried him through the wilderness, alone, seventy-eight days; which bound his watch coat about him in a raft over a frozen river at Shanopin. This it was which made him tremble only when his modesty was complimented by the speaker of the house of burgesses on his return. This raised him a regiment for the defence of the frontiers. This it was which conquered Monroville, and taught him *how to surrender* fort Necessity. He obtained a vote of thanks for a defeat—any man could get a vote of thanks for a victory. This it was which made him resign a commission he could not hold with honor. This it was which made him “a spirit protected man” and a shield in war at Braddock's defeat. This it was which made him the subject of inspired prophecy. This it was which made him patient under contumely, neglect, injustice and insult, under the orders of the colonial government when charged with the defence of Virginia after Braddock's defeat. This which taught him to resign his commission a second time after he had entered fort Pitt in triumph. This which made him ever turn to domestic life and marry early. This which fitted him for the house of burgesses—that school for training so many men to be counsellors of a nation. This prepared him for the conventions of 1774 and 1775. This made him a man of experience, at forty-three years of age, in applied science, in practical duties, in a knowledge of the frontier, in military affairs, in adversity and trial, in the business of law making and of civil conventions, and made him ready for the revolution. This made him deny himself when appointed commander in chief, and declare, “But lest some unlucky event should happen, unfavorable to my reputation, I beg it to be remembered by every gentleman in the room, that I this day declare, with the utmost sincerity, I do not think myself equal to the command I am honored with. As to pay, sir, I beg leave to assure the congress that as no pecuniary consideration could have tempted me to accept this arduous employment, at the expense of domestic ease and happiness, I do not wish to make any profit of it. I will keep an exact account of my expenses; those, I doubt not, they will discharge, and that is all I desire.” Exact in accounts, nice and particular in expenditures, minute in every item of debit and credit; he was yet munificent in his bounty, and his services were “without money and without price.” What were *his services not worth*? Can the calculus—can Arabic figures—algebraic signs tell *their* price? Yet he gave all to his country, less only his food and raiment and his cost of locomotion! The same virtue taught him that self-denial can always afford to be most liberal and most gracious. This bore him through the siege of Boston, until that city was evacuated. This caused him to say to Massachusetts, “I only emulate the virtue and public spirit of the whole province of Massachusetts, which, with a firmness and patriotism without example, has sacrificed all the comforts of social and political life in support of the rights of mankind, and the welfare of our common country. My highest ambition is to be the happy instrument of vindicating these rights, and to see this devoted province again restored to peace, liberty and safety.” Oh! that now that devoted province has enjoyed peace, liberty and safety for nearly eighty years, her people would only remember that a slaveholder was her protector and deliverer!

This taught him a personal dignity and self-respect which would not permit himself to be addressed as “George Washington, Esq.” nor as “George Washington, &c. &c. &c.” He told Gen. Howe, “those who had committed no fault, wanted no pardon.” This made him rely on his cause and on God, and save an army of 13,000 against 24,000 after the disasters of Long island. This cheered him in the midst of the gloom which succeeded; and when General Reed exclaimed, “My God! General Washington, how long shall we

fly?" sustained him to reply, "Why, sir, we will retreat, if necessary, over every river of our country, and then over the mountains, where I will make a last stand against the enemies of my country!" This invigorated him to gather strength from weakness, and to turn retreat back upon victory, by crossing the ice of the Delaware, and thundering at Trenton and lightning at Princeton. This taught him the policy of rashness, revive hope against hope, and rallied a country's cause from the very depths of despair! When Cornwallis said, "He and his tatterdemalions are now in my power—they cannot escape to-night," Sir William Erskine replied, "My lord, Washington will not be there at day-break to-morrow!" The tatterdemalions that day shouted, "God save George Washington!" and bore down the flag of St. George. This made him say in tears to Governor Brooks, "My hope is in God only. Go back to Massachusetts and do what you can to raise men and money!" Not to rebel against the laws in Kansas—there were then no Sharpe's rifles for Massachusetts churches to raise!—but men and money were wanted to fight for real, true liberty, for American freedom and independence based upon a constitution and Union. Strange that there was then a Gov. Brooks of Massachusetts, and Sumner is now her senator! This taught him to bear one defeat at Brandywine; and another defeat again at Germantown failed to subdue him. And this made him too content to be dazzled by the successes of Gates, an insidious rival in the north. His equanimity was not disturbed, and he was driven to no desperate daring. He bided his time and saved his army. This made him a Mars at Monmouth, and to perform prodigies of personal valor whilst he stormed above the roar of battle that day of heat and of blood. This made him indomitable alike by defeat, or by the want of public credit, or by mutiny. He was inflexible, and hung the spy Andre and shot the mutineers of New Jersey. This made him ever vigilant; to send La Fayette to Virginia; to blind Clinton as to his own movements towards the siege of Yorktown by such masterly activity as to finish the triumph before reinforcements could be sent from New York. On the 19th October 1781 the whole British army surrendered, and whilst Cornwallis was marching out, with colors cased and drums beating defeat, Washington magnanimously said, "My brave fellows, let no sensation of satisfaction for the triumph you have gained, induce you to insult a fallen enemy; let no shouting, no clamorous huzzaing, increase their mortification; it is a sufficient satisfaction to us that we witness their humiliation. *Posterity will huzza for us!*" He then ordered divine service, thanks and praise to God!

Indomitable; suffering; enduring on; keeping up appearances which raised expectations he could not fulfill; bearing defeat upon defeat enough to destroy all confidence in him; never despairing; fighting battles against the foe, and envious intrigues in his own camp; without men, money or success; marching every way; retreating, turning back to fight and retreat again; unable to do any thing decisive, and doing nothing brilliant; what little he could do eclipsed by rival successes; he and his cause survived all; and by prudence, and perseverance, and patience, and fortitude, and continuance, and constancy, and courage, and inflexibility, and the exercise of every virtue, he finally crushed the invader and set an example of magnanimity and piety, for which posterity will huzza forever. There the ball of the revolution, to which Patrick Henry had given the first impulse at the Old Raleigh, just 12 miles distant, stopped. Well may the eloquence of Virginia's orator be expressed, by his statue, on the monument of Washington, holding the blade of a sword in his right hand, the hilt of which he presents to the hands of an oppressed people. Strange that the war blast had raged from south to north; from the lowlands to the mountains; had shot like the forked lightning in every direction of devastation; and at last ended near where it began, and both the beginning and the end of its track in Virginia near her very capital and not far from Washington's birth place and his home!

This was final; but even then his early training and his virtue taught him to remit his exertions. Victory made him only more cautious. He said, "My greatest fear is, the viewing this stroke in a point of light which may too much magnify its importance, the



may think our work too nearly closed, and fall into a state of languor and relaxation." He went back to the Hudson, still to prepare for any and every reverse. His duty and work never ended. The same virtue had to withstand the insidious addresses which were circulated when his army had to be disbanded; men and officers were excited about their pay, and he was tempted by the designs of some few to turn their swords against the country they had defended. But he was incorruptible. The greatest deliverance of his country, perhaps, he ever wrought, was from the mutiny which marched to Philadelphia, placed sentinels at the door of congress and kept the members prisoners some hours. He quelled the mutiny, denounced the "soldiers of a day," vindicated his veterans who had borne the heat and burden of the war," from the disgrace of rebellion; proclaimed peace; dismissed his troops from service; addressed to them letters of advice, and to the governors of the states valedictories, inferior only to his "Farewell Address" at the end of his civil service.

"Unmoved,  
Unshaken, uneduc'd, untterrify'd,  
His loyalty he kept, his love, his zeal;  
Nor number, nor example, with him wrought  
To swerve from truth, or change his constant mind,  
Though single.

A man of the deepest emotions, he was *affectionate* towards his troops, as he was loyal to his country. His parting scene with his officers was most touchingly tender. On the 4th Dec. 1783, at 12 o'clock, he assembled his companions in arms, raised a glass of wine, and, with a stifled voice, said, "With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous as your former ones have been glorious and honorable." He added, "I cannot come to each of you to take my leave, but shall be obliged if each of you would come and take my hand." He took the hand of each in silence and in tears; left the room, followed by the weeping band of heroes, to a boat which bore him away. He stepped into it, turned, waved his hat without speaking, received a silent salute in return, and he went away! *Where?* Alone, with a small bundle of papers in his hand, he went to Philadelphia. That little bundle contained the vouchers of his account, which he hurried to settle to the utmost farthing. Was there ever such a human example of truth, fidelity, continence, faith, self-denial, humility, common honesty, so simple, so pure, so unaffectedly natural as this! The regularity and minuteness with which he had kept his accounts amidst the roar of cannon, the fatigues of the camp, the clash of arms, the din of war, is actually miraculous. He took no pay, spent much of his own means, and yet with a scrupulousness that was jealous and nice to a cent item, hastened to the accounting officers, with his bundle of vouchers, away from a victorious army, alone, first and before going home to his wife, to have a settlement, and prove his title to the character of *an honest man!* That was more to him than any jeweled crown.

The same virtue hurried him on to Annapolis to redeem his pledge, made from the first, to the provincial congress at New York, to resign his commission. Congress received him with solemn ceremony. President Mifflin addressed him, and he replied, "I resign with satisfaction the appointment I accepted with diffidence." \* \* \* "Having now finished the work assigned me, I retire from the great theatre of action, and bidding an affectionate farewell to this august body, under whose orders I have so long acted, I here offer my commission, and take my leave of all the employments of public life." What a sword was that which he resigned! Other swords were stained with blood—other swords were steel, the edges of which had been turned on armor which hacked them to their hilts, or were turned on what they had protected; "but the sword

"Of Michael from the armory of God  
Was given him, temper'd so that neither keen  
Nor solid might resist that edge!"

This entitled him to go home, and the domestic man hurried to Mt. Vernon. Here he was patriarchal and provident for his household. No duties there were below his greatness, as none elsewhere had been above his capacity and his care. How mighty differed in this from the common herd of public men who neglect wives, children, servants, farm-homes, neighborhood and all domestic duties and ties, for the camp, or for the poor politician's life, in a congress or a legislature!

Just then, in the prime of vigorous manhood, 51 years of age, he was hale, and strong and seasoned. He had passed unhurt through the flames of war, and he had now to prove his virtue pure enough for peace. His forecast first saw the real wants of his country, state and federal. He gave the first impulse to the *internal improvements of Virginia*. He looked to her harbors and rivers, and under his influence the legislature formed the two first companies to extend the navigation of the Potomac and James rivers. Forty thousand dollars worth of stock, offered to his acceptance, he devoted to *education*, and partly, I believe, to the college called after him at this very locality. But above all, his wisdom saw the federal necessity, of "a more perfect Union of the States." Insurrection against weak confederation had already begun in Massachusetts—a state always among the first in patriotic devotion, and strangely always, in early times, by Shay's rebellion, and in the late war, by the Hartford convention, and now of late, by her nullification of fugitive slave acts, first in discord and rebellion. Virginia, led by Washington, was first to resolve upon the reign of *a constitution*. He headed the Virginia delegation; he presided over the convention; and as its president, he first signed the sacred bond of our Union, the constitution of the United States—a form of government, the length and breadth and the height and the depth of the wisdom of which no mind has yet fathomed. What now shall destroy this work of Washington? Shay had rebelled against a confederation, and Massachusetts did not suffer the infamy. What now if her "*higher law*" and her preachers of christian politics shall trample upon the faith and upon the oaths of organic law, and, madly rushing over the grave at Mt. Vernon, make a wreck of this master work of wisdom and virtue—more one of inspiration than of human thought and reason—new, original, unprecedented and unequalled in the system of just, equal and free government!! What of it!—Virginia will remain loyal like her leader, and will triumphantly, savingly, defend the holy places of the mighty dead and the glorious work of their master minds!! That is all of it—it shall not, it cannot be done!!! The Constitution and the Union shall be preserved!!

Wisdom and virtue called him, who had presided over the convention, to preside over the country. Writing to Gen. Knox, he said, "*Integrity and firmness* are all I can promise. These, be the voyage long or short, shall never forsake me, though I be deserted by all men; for of the consolations to be derived from these, the world cannot deprive me. But before he went to New York, he had a pilgrimage of *filial piety* to make. He visited his mother, to bid her farewell and obtain her blessing. In parting, he said, "As soon as the weight of public business, which must necessarily attend the outset of a new government, can be disposed of, I shall return to Virginia, and" "You will see me no more." Said his mother, "My great age warns me that I shall not be long in this world. I trust in God that I may be somewhat prepared for a better. Go, George, go, my son, and perform your duties, and may the blessing of God and that of a mother be with you always." O that mother! that filial tie!—that Virginia woman!—she never saw the son she thus sent to his duties, which she had so well taught him, again!

"Ah! soldiers! to your honor'd rest,  
Your truth and valor bearing;  
The bravest are the tenderest—  
The loving are the daring!"

Unanimously elected president, his progress to New York was a triumphal procession. The way was thronged by crowds, throbbing with veneration, love and gratitude. Over

he Assumpink, near Trenton, the matrons threw a bridge of evergreens and flowers, with his inscription :

“Dec. 26, 1776.

“The hero who defended the mothers will protect the daughters.”

Woman could not fail to honor him who was the gallant husband, and the son of filial piety. He met enough to intoxicate human pride and vanity; but when a guard was announced to him by a military escort, he said, “I require no guard but the affections of the people.” All this gave him pain, for he dreaded “a reversal of this scene, after all his endeavors to do good.”

His administration lasted from 1789 to 1797. Be it remembered, *that he put the new government into action.* He gave it its first direction. New, unexampled, its action was in every sense problematical. His wisdom solved every problem. He was a judge of men, and selected the best cabinet. His Indian policy was pacific, humane and parental; it opened fully the wholly new operations of the land ordinance of the United States. His foreign policy was as novel as it was supreme in success. No legerdemain of diplomacy embarrassed his directness of negotiation. No secrecy veiled it. His policy was *peace*, and *neutrality* was his safety valve against all wars of other nations, and he formed entangling alliances with none. His treaties with Spain and England, and peace with the emperor of Morocco; his non-intervention in the French revolution and contest with Genet; his suppression of the whisky insurrection, by a prompt application of force sufficient to prevent bloodshed or the rankling of bad blood; his third resignation and retirement; his example of but two terms in the presidency; his whole term and termination of civil service, exceeded all examples, ancient or modern, were based upon no precedents, and have resulted in a progress and prosperity which have proved his wisdom by the tests of time and fruition. And he concluded all by a Farewell Address, which is a political revelation of the experience of the past, of the truth of the present, and is a prophecy for the future of this country. Its advice has been neglected *in but two instances of our history, and we are now reaping the crop of dragon's teeth which was sown by these two violations.* Contrary to it, a sectional line was fixed by the folly of the Missouri compromise; and since then an entangling alliance was formed by what is called the “Clayton-Bulwer treaty;” and the effects of the two are all we have to dread in our present domestic and foreign relations. This is more than well worthy of the note of patriotism and statesmanship.

Bidding farewell to civil as well as military service, he again fondly turned, as he ever did, to his *home* at Mount Vernon. There was his haven. There he was the every day sort of a man; unaffected, simple, domestic. Strict and regular in habits, he saw to every minute detail of plantation operations. When Colonel Meade asked Mr. Custis, his stepson, how he should know General Washington when he met him in the fields where he was riding out, the answer was, “You will meet, sir, with an old gentleman, riding alone, in plain drab clothes, a broad brimmed white hat, a hickory switch in his hand, and carrying an umbrella, with a long staff, which is attached to his saddle bow; that is General Washington.” “Thank you, thank you, young gentleman, I think if I fall in with the general, I shall be apt to know him.” Who would'nt at once have known him in the midst of a multitude! Personal neatness was a pre-eminent virtue in him. But his presence, though so very plain, at home, inspired more awe and reverence than did ever that of any other man. There, at home, he was as he ever had been in the field or cabinet, always acting under a controlling purpose, governed by a sense of duty, scrupulous in its performance, exact in its execution, and earnest in systematic labor. He was a patron of agricultural science, and a pattern planter. Above all, from beginning to end, he was a christian. Practically pious, he committed every thing, in peace and in war, in the camp or cabinet, or on the farm, to the guidance of God, to his assistance, in aid of second causes, which he was careful and industrious to exert, to apply and to improve.

Though he had finished the whole work set before him, yet to the very last he was called to the country's service, and he was ready and loyal to the last. The elder Adams gave to him the command of the provisional army, and he declined not to serve as a subordinate under his successor in the chief command.

There is in my maternal family an original letter, a copy of which I now have here present, to which I would draw the attention of the professors and cadets of this institute. It is on the subject of selecting proper characters to officer the twenty four regiments of infantry authorized to be eventually raised by congress for the French war in 1799. He speaks especially of what the *personnel* of army officers should be. It portrays the care with which he caused the selections for the provisional army to be made, and inculcates the inestimable truth that it is "*a delusive hope that men of bad habits, by being transplanted into the army, will become good men and good officers.*" To you I dedicate this truth, and the publication of this letter, worthy to be preserved as a monument of history and morsel of Washington's moral philosophy. This letter was written on the 17th day of the June before he died.

But with all this perfection and performance about him, so worthy of the highest admiration and gratitude, let us not fail to remember that in his day and time of action and trial he had bitter enemies, who maligned and enviously criticised both his conduct and his motives. There is a great lesson in this remembrance to all who would prepare themselves to serve mankind. They must expect persecution and ingratitude, and must not be deterred by malice and uncharitableness. No man was ever more traduced, at home or abroad, than George Washington. The minions of despots derided him, as with the satire of Tom Moore. Traitors and Tories, renegades and refugees at home aspersed him with contempt for his pretensions to ability, and with slanderous imputations of a design to become usurper and autocrat. Jealousies beset him on every hand in the army, and afterwards in the civil administration. He was too good and great not to be the object of envy, hatred and malice, and he was not so god-like either as to be unaffected by the shafts aimed at his reputation and sensibilities. He was but a mere man, of like passions with ourselves. His excitability was immense and his anger was awful. When aroused by passion he stormed like thunders amid the Alps. Panegyric as well as detraction has borne false witness about his character. He is usually pictured as so completely under the restraint of self-command as to be like a cold, snow-capt mountain among his range of peers; isolated, grand, alone, chilly in the upper regions of his exaltation above the ordinary herd of men. No such idea is true of him. He was no northern iceberg, which repelled by coldness. He was the very opposite rather, a Mt. Sinai of a man, who glowed with the fervent heat, and was guarded by the thunders and lightning of the deity. If not like Moses alone, allowed to take the tables of the law from the very God, he was allowed to take the law from the very tables; and his wrath was almost divine when roused against errors which deluded the people he governed! Though grand in his passions, even he was sometimes weak in their indulgence. There are memorable instances of his tremendous outbreaks of temper. He stormed anathemas louder than the battle, at General Charles Lee, on the field of Monmouth. History admits mildly that he rode up and said "In the name of God, Gen. Lee, what has caused this ill-timed prudence?" Lee insulted him with the reply, "I know no man blessed with a larger portion of that rascally virtue than your excellency!" He rode furiously that day over his equanimity; and sad was the fate of the miserable man who was the only officer under his command unfortunate enough to offer him insolence. He withered from that time forth as a limb blasted. Virtue hat that power, silently to scathe whatever willfully assails its moral might, without arms to strike down its enemy at once. When the news of St. Clair's sad defeat reached him whilst he was president, he raged for many minutes without restraint; and called aloud upon Heaven's wrath against the neglect of a command which was caught in an Indian ambush. After he was president, he had a mortifying scene with the then Mr. John Ma

hall, at Mount Vernon, with whom he was trying to prevail to run for a seat in congress. He healed the wound so handsomely as to prevail in his request, and the speech on Jay's treaty and the eminence of the chief justice afterwards were the fruits of obeying the counsels of one whose very anger and reproach were productive of good to the country, and were turned to proofs of private compliment and confidence. And later still, during the canvass, for that very congress, between Gen. Harry Lee and Col. Peyton, in the Fairfax district, Washington became so warm, that for some personal insult he was actually tricked in the face, in the market house at Alexandria. He protected his antagonist from the violence of popular resentment; saw the man safe, and then went home to his closet, as was his wont, to regain his equanimity. In the same canvass, Gen. Lee, to prove that he was not so exclusive as to rebuke a friend for taking a liberty with his person, familiarly walked up to him in a crowd and tapped his shoulder. He received a look never to be forgotten, and shrank away in confusion, saying, "It is the first time I ever took a liberty with his person, and it will be the last!" No man ever inspired so much reverence and awe. He commanded himself, but himself was very strong and required constant watch and ward, as all truly strong and great natures do.

It is fashionable to admit that he was *not a man of genius*. What *genius* is, the world is hardly agreed. I concur with Pascal, who, in his essay on "the strange contrarieties discovered in human nature," distinguishes between the "*reasoning power*," and what he calls "*perception and a bright and lively act of immediate intelligence*." Perception and consciousness act before reason—quicker than reason, and often pass and surpass her on the way. He says—"Nor is it less ridiculous for reason to demand of those perceptive and intellectual faculties a proof of their maxims before it consents to them, than it would be for the said faculties to demand of reason a clear perception and *intuition* of all the problems it demonstrates. This defect, therefore, may serve to the humbling of reason, which pretends to be the judge of all things, but not to invalidate our assurance, as if reason were alone able to inform our judgment. On the contrary, it were to be wished that we had less occasion for rational deductions; and that we knew all things by instinct and immediate view. But nature has denied us this favor, and allows us but few notices of so easy a kind, leaving us to work out the rest by laborious consequences, and a continued series of argument." With this choicest and best definition of genius borne in mind, I challenge all history to show an instance of an actor who required and exerted more the *perceptive* and *intellective* faculties combined with the *reasoning* faculties, than did George Washington in the American revolution. The whole action of the time, at every turn, put the actor to the severest tests of every power of the human mind. He was found deliberate, yet often differing from his council of war; cautious, yet surprisingly practicing the very policy of rashness; slow, yet moving at a moment with the celerity of light; minute in detail, yet comprehensive in the largest sense of survey and combination; a man of all work and regularly trained to none; with but few elements of knowledge for any; doing all surpassingly well, in every variety of untried scene, and without even ordinary means and instruments of execution; always doing the most with the least; never failing where means approached equality to the end; never losing an advantage for want of forecast, and so quick in perception that he was never surprised; a soldier, yet no polytechnic; a civilian of the highest order, yet no scholar; nor lawyer, nor metaphysician, nor historian; nothing in preparation, yet everything in accomplishment. And this unerring course of conduct, successful alike in military and civil life, kept on in its even tenor for fifty years out of little more than sixty-six of his human existence. Reasoning and judgment will not account for it. It was genius and inspiration. His works themselves inherently show that they were constructed by no "step by step" of mere ratiocination. Instinct and intuition made them pregnant. He was commander in chief, commissary general, correspondent of congress; reasoning constantly and patiently, and anon rushing with sudden celerity to seize a moment as it flew. He was pre-eminently gifted with

“immediate view,” and no less with power “to work out the rest by laborious consequences and a continued series of argument.” Let others boast, then, of a Cæsar, or Charlemagne, or a Cromwell, or a Bonaparte. After all heroes and sages and the intellects and their acts are measured and summed up to their fullest magnitude of greatness, we still may claim that Washington’s

“Greatness will appear  
Then most conspicuous, when *great things of small,*  
*Useful of hurtful, prosperous of adverse*  
We can create; and in what place soe’er  
*Thrive under evil and work ease out of pain*  
*Through labor and endurance.”*

And chiefly, the Spirit of God did prefer before all temples his “upright heart and pure and instructed him. *That was his genius!*”

He died as he had lived; and what a beautiful economy there was in his death. Not faculty was impaired, not an error had marred the moral of his life. At sixty-six, not quite three score years and ten, he was taken away, whilst his example was perfect. He too cold, slighted the symptoms, saying, “Let it go as it came.” In the morning of the 14 December '99, he felt severe illness; called in his overseer, Mr. Rawlings, to bleed him. He was agitated, and Washington said to him, “Don’t be afraid.” When about to tie up his arm, he said with difficulty, “More.” After all efforts failed, he designated the paper he meant for his will, then turned to Tobias Lear and said, “I find I am going—my breath cannot continue long. I believed from the first it would be fatal. Do you arrange and record all my military letters and papers; arrange my accounts and settle my books, as you know more about them than any one else; and let Mr. Rawlings finish recording my other letters, which he has begun.” Between 5 and 6 o’clock he said to his physician, Dr. Craik, “I feel myself going; you had better not take any more trouble about me, but let me go off quietly; I cannot last long.” Shortly after, again he said, “Doctor, I die hard, but am not afraid to go; I believed, from my first attack, I should not survive it; my breath cannot last long.” About 10 o’clock he made several attempts to speak to Mr. Lear, and at last said, “I am just going. Have me decently buried; and do not let my body be put into the vault in less than two days after I am dead.” Lear says, “I bowed assent. He looked at me again, and said, “Do you understand me?” I replied, “Yes, sir.” “Tis well,” said he, and these were his last words; and ’tis well his last words were “Tis well. Just before he expired he felt his own pulse; his hand fell from his wrist, and—George Washington was no more!

Washington no more!—Never! He yet liveth! His name is a talisman—his home country’s haven of affections—his tomb is an altar for patriotism’s sacrifices—his example of “true glory is immortal!” John Marshall wrote the words, “The man, first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his fellow-citizens!” Here in our bosoms he yet lives and reigneth. His love of country shall still inspire us, his wisdom shall still guide us, and his paternal spirit shall still protect us—a free, independent, equal and United People! Tell me not that the virtuous man is not immortal. Of him there is *more*—he is never more—he will ever be *thought and truth*. Did a Milton expire with his breath? Take up his Paradise Lost. His thoughts still exist—not in the paper and printing, not in the sign of thought—never, but his *mind* is living and will live when types shall be no more. And so the wisdom and virtue and actions and example, and genius and goodness of Washington live—live on and will live ever whilst his example is diffused by divinity throughout the universe! He now presides over us, more potent than ever to prevail with providence the guardian genius of the United States of North America! He guards Virginia, and Virginia guards the Union! We may yet look to him—we may follow his example—we may imitate his pure and simple life, and his plain, manly virtues—his pious patriotism and disinterested devotion to liberty are not beyond our reach; and if we do but heed him

our father and best friend, we too may ever say in life and at last, as persons and as a people, "Tis well! Tis well!"

His image is placed here to teach you, military youths, a lesson, and

"Son of heaven and earth  
Attend; that thou'rt happy, owe to God,  
That thou continuest such, owe to thyself,  
That is, to *thy obedience*; therein stand!

"MOUNT VERNON, June 17, 1799.

SIR,

Was I not well assured of your patriotism and firm attachment to the government of your country, I should think it necessary to apologize for the trouble I am about to give you.

The secretary of war has signified to me that the president of the United States thinks it highly expedient that no time should be lost in selecting proper characters to officer the twenty-four regiments of infantry authorized to be *eventually* raised by a law of the last congress, and has requested me to furnish him with a list of the names of such persons as are best qualified and willing to serve in the respective grades of four of these regiments, which is the portion allotted to Virginia.

Having been absent from home for almost twenty-five years, with short intervals only, and in those intervals a necessary attention to my private concerns confining me almost entirely to my own estate, I find my acquaintance with the citizens of this state, particularly with the rising generation, very limited indeed—and, therefore, ready as I always am to do any thing in my power to promote the public weal, I find it impossible to perform this task without the assistance of others on whom I can place a reliance.

As these troops are authorized to be raised only in case of actual war with a foreign power, or of imminent danger of invasion of our territory by such power, it is to be presumed that, in such an event, every good citizen would hold himself in readiness to take the field, if necessary, whether belonging to the eventual army or not. I therefore flatter myself that when the president's intention of appointing the officers of this army shall be fully known, we shall find many of the valuable officers who served with reputation in the revolutionary war, as well as others, step forward and *offer* their services in grades which they would not accept if their object was to pursue a military career for life, or to continue in the service beyond the exigency which might call them forth. This leads me to hope that instead of *seeking* for those who are willing to receive appointments, we shall find the best spirits of our country *offering* their services in those grades where their talents and influence can be useful without feeling themselves bound by the scrupulous punctilios of rank which officers observe when arms are assumed as a profession.

But in order to place the matter upon certain grounds and to pursue it with system, it becomes necessary to make the selection before mentioned; and as the propriety of drawing the officers from different parts of the state, observing as nearly as may be a due proportion to the respective population, is obvious, I must of course obtain my information from various sources, and combine the result in the best manner I can.

I therefore, sir, take the liberty to ask if you will be so good as to furnish me with the names of such characters as are in your opinion qualified to fill the several offices in one regiment of infantry—a battalion, or part thereof—and who would be willing to receive their appointments, annexing to their names the respective grades and the places or counties of their residence.

To facilitate this selection, and to observe the proportion before mentioned, I have thought it best to follow the four grand divisions of the state, as laid off by the inspector

general, for the purposes of recruiting, and to endeavor to select the officers of one regiment from each. In that case, the division in which you reside, will comprehend the counties of Hanover, Henrico, New Kent, Charles City, James City, Matthews, Gloucester, York, Warwick, Elizabeth City, Accomack, Northampton, Caroline, King and Queen, Essex, King William, Middlesex, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, Westmoreland and King George. To these counties, then, you will be pleased more particularly to confine your attention. But if suitable characters are known to you in other parts of the state, I will thank you for the names of them also.

As these counties form a large district, and comprehend more valuable characters than the acquaintance of any one person in it may extend to, it is left with you to advise with others, or from such counties therein as your intimacy is greatest, to select a proportional part. In a word, sir, paying some attention to the policy of distribution to select in whole or part such characters as would do honor to the service and would be gratifying to your own feelings to command—a measure though if it cannot be asked, is highly to be wished and would have been gladly embraced in the arrangements of the twelve regiments now recruiting, if any thing had appeared at that time indicative of your inclination to re-enter the military line.

You will readily see that these names must be handed to the president of the United States for his approbation, and afterwards confirmed or rejected by the senate. It is therefore proper that no assurances of *appointment* will be given to the parties, which will render a change impracticable, without wounding their feelings too much.

Where you are not personally acquainted with such characters as are fit and willing to serve, you will be so good as to obtain the recommendations and such as you can rely upon—and every cautionary measure is necessary to guard against errors which frequently result from the ease with which recommendations are generally obtained, the partiality of friends and a *delusive hope that men of bad habits, by being transplanted into the army, will become good men and good officers.*

I have ventured, sir, to give you this trouble, because from your former services in the military line, I could confide in your knowledge and judgment of proper characters to be brought forward at this time, and believing that I might readily count upon your best exertions to render a service to your country.

I will thank you for an acknowledgment of the receipt of this letter as soon as it gets to your hands, and for your observations on the subject of it, so far as you may then be prepared to give them.

With very great esteem,

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON

COL. JOHN CROPPER."

Gentlemen of the board of visitors—It remains only to say to you, that the part assigned me by the general assembly, to see this statue *placed upon its pedestal here*, is performed. The bronze and the granite are placed erect, and they stand on the everlasting hills of the grand and beautiful Rockbridge!

I now commit it to *your* orders and to *your* care, to be preserved, perpetual as bronze and granite and the everlasting hills, as a monument of Virginia's gratitude to GEORGE WASHINGTON, of her munificence to the fine arts, and of her mother-like affection for the noble institute of military science and practice. May you guard it, and heaven guard the commonwealth!



*Response of Col. Wm. B. Taliaferro, President of the Board of Visitors.*

GOVERNOR WISE,

The board of visitors recognize in your excellency the representative of the sovereignty of Virginia.

They are proud to acknowledge in the man a type of the honor, the chivalry and the patriotism of her people. In her name you commit this trust to us, the executive of the military institute. We could not hesitate to obey any command of our sovereign mistress; but far above her mandate, we hail, in this tradition to our custody of the effigy of Washington, the most exalted privilege to which Virginians could aspire. Our mistress and our honored mother! does not command, but graciously permits and presents—it is sufficient. Brutus, kneeling before the oracle, kissed the earth, and while the sons of Tarquin sped to Rome, vowed, by country's common brotherhood, to avenge her wrongs.

We do Virginia that Roman reverence. We own Virginia's common motherhood. Far, sir, beyond the ties of private clan and kindred, we love to recognize it; for it guarantees to us the glorious right of claiming common brotherhood with Washington!

There he stands, less than a God, for he was mortal—but how far greater than a king!

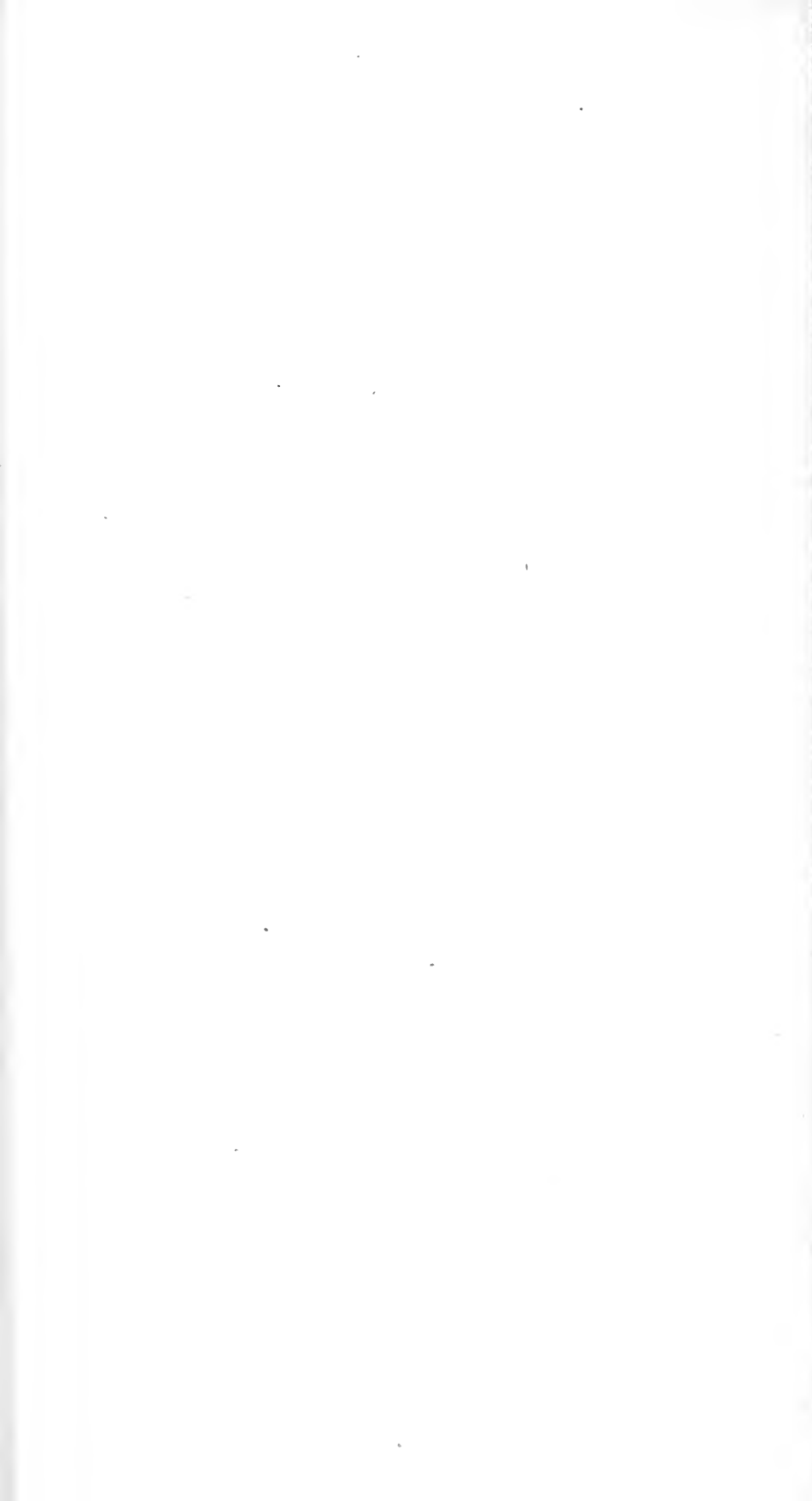
This glorious monument of his mother's love—how true a symbol of his nature—the peaceful citizen, surrounded by the rural insignia of domestic happiness and prosperity! the mighty captain, victorious through all the storms of war, the triumphant saviour of his country's liberties—how far greater than a king! He achieved a moral triumph the most illustrious in history. He set an example the most sublime to humanity. He crushed, with stern and generous patriotism, every ambition of kingly power, and rejected from his every thought the crown a victor might have claimed—a war worn nation might have yielded.

But, sir, now a sovereign over sovereigns! throned in the affections of a free and mighty people! the grateful throbbings of our hearts to-day proclaim him.

Bowing, sir, with filial reverence and thanksgiving, we accept from our mother the sacred trust.

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Academic Staff—We share with you this honored privilege. In that likeness of our common brother, we give another text-book to your institution. Instruct our youths to use it. Let them linger round that noble statue, and whilst they study Washington, offer constant homage to his greatness. Teach them the man; unfold to them his history and his nature. Your religion and your patriotism alike demand it of you; for when they turn from the contemplation of Washington, they will go to worship God.

Young Gentlemen—Read the book—guard it as you would your honor—emulate the illustrious example of the text—and cherish, beyond your riches, the ennobling reflection that Washington, like yourselves, was a Virginian, and as Virginia's son, your brother. There now he stands! an elder brother, the great Washington, always henceforth amongst you, to cheer, if you will heed him, and to guide and direct you to honor and to usefulness.



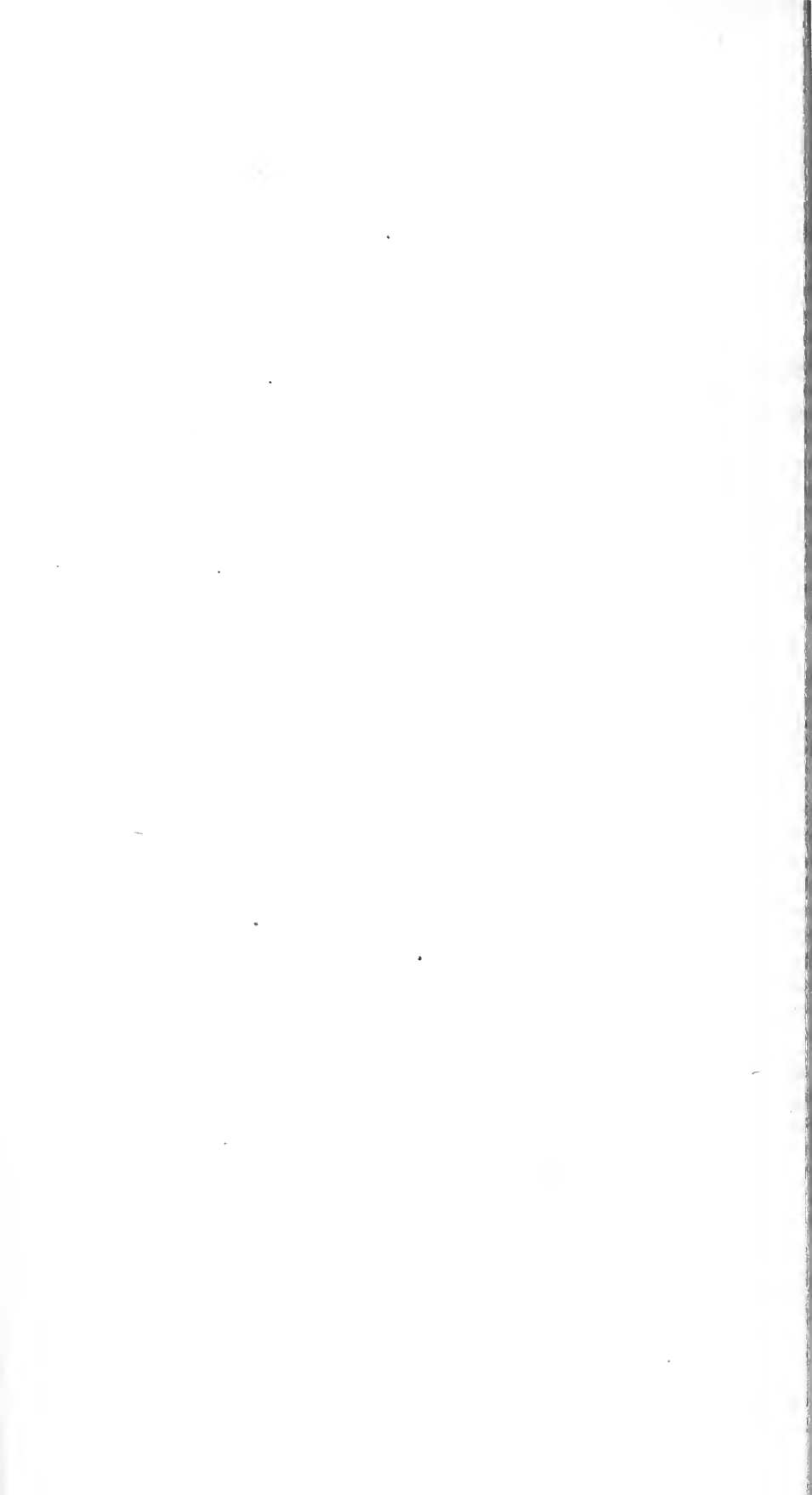
*Response of Col. F. H. Smith, Superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute.*

MR. PRESIDENT,

In the name and on behalf of the academic board, I receive from you the sacred trust of Hubard's cast of Houdon's statue of *Washington!*—a gift of affection, patriotism and confidence from the state of Virginia to this her own much honored institution. If any thing were wanting in the act itself to excite our emotions of interest and gratification, the impressive ceremonies of this day could not fail to awaken, in the breast of every Virginian, sentiments of profound attachment to his own *Virginia*, and pride at the contemplation of such a character as that of her own son, *George Washington*. What could more happily impress the minds of our Virginia youth with the lessons of patriotism and virtue, which the whole life of Washington exhibited, than by placing before them such a representation of the *man himself*, as this most splendid work of art presents? And how impressively have these lessons been enforced by the chief magistrate of the state, in the eloquent address with which he has honored this occasion! We thank the representatives of the state for the honor they have conferred upon this institution. We thank the governor for the labor he has taken to give dignity and solemnity to the ceremonies of this inauguration; and we assure you, sir, that we shall most gladly unite with you and the other members of the board of visitors, in guarding the sacred trust.

And now, to your guardianship, young gentlemen of the corps of cadets, I commit this trust. This perfect representation of George Washington is now a part and the most precious of the public property of the state, placed in your charge by his excellency, the governor, your commander in chief, by the orders of the general assembly of Virginia. I know you will guard it with pious care, and will ever protect it from the touch of every vandal hand; for it is a charge of which, as sons of Virginia, you are proud.

And what a contemplation, young gentlemen, have you spread before you! When walking your post at night as sentinel, your lonely watch will be cheered by a companionship with one whose image you are now to guard. Study his character—imitate his virtues—and ever remember that the crowning glory of Washington—and that which gave unity and completeness to his character—was, that he was emphatically a *man of God*.



*Reply of Cadet D. B. Penn, a Member of the Graduating Class.*

OL. SMITH,

The eloquent manner in which you have performed your part, makes me apprehensive lest I should fail to perform mine as it should be. But I would prove recreant to my duty, and fail in the obligation due to my fellow-students, did I not give utterance to the emotions which now animate their hearts and mine. It would I fear be presumptuous in me to attempt to eulogize the character of WASHINGTON. At the same time, I feel assured that even had the exercises we have witnessed to-day proved less effective, that the object which has called forth your commendation would not lack admiration from those who now hear me. Though the grim monster death has proved conqueror over this mighty chieftain—though he has snapped the chains that linked our hearts with the gifted patriot—rendered mute the lips from which flowed those glorious and living truths—deafened the ear which heard, in the “night of his country’s tribulation,” the first murmurs of discontent, and listened with eagerness to the whispers of freedom. Though in fact he is no longer among us—yet the memory of his deeds still lives in the hearts of his countrymen, and has cast around the very name of Washington a halo of glory as bright and imperishable as the light of yonder sun.

I have always been accustomed to associate with the noble and exalted mind of Washington, a lofty and dignified person—a majestic countenance—and a decision of character impressed upon his noble features—but never had that image appeared to me so sublime and that form so natural as when first I saw him standing upon yonder eminence, looking forth upon the enchanting scenery of our own beautiful blue mountains.

I wish then, sir, in the name of the corps of cadets, of which I am a feeble representative, to renew, through you, the assurance of our thanks to the legislature of Virginia, for the deep interest they have taken in our welfare; and while we owe them a debt of gratitude for all they have hitherto done for us, yet for this last crowning honor are our thanks pre-eminently due. The passage of the bill, without a single dissenting voice, shows with what confidence that body has committed to us the keeping of this sacred trust. Chaste and beautiful as it is, yet I feel assured that the legislature have been prompted by some higher and more worthy motive than that of mere ornament. Besides preserving it as a monument of him who so richly merits of his state, they have wished to teach by example what they do by precept in placing before Virginia’s sons the image of their country’s father—and thus tacitly, though earnestly, entreating them to go and do likewise.

But you may imagine, sir, what this occasion would arouse in the mind of every American citizen; but it would be unnatural were not we of the Virginia military institute—the citizen soldiers of Virginia, to whom the keeping of this statue has been entrusted—while the priceless value of the gift would cause us to shudder though not to shrink from the responsibility of the trust, did we not know that whenever it is necessary to resort to force to preserve it inviolate, that we will not only meet with a ready response from Virginia, but from the whole Union.

Sir, I have no fear that any hand will ever be raised to mar its beautiful proportions, or that any tongue will ever be so sacrilegious as to profane it. He who attempts it will obtain for himself as *infamous* an immortality as he who burnt the temple of Ephesus.

