

A DAY AT WEST POINT



IN Revolutionary days West Point, which is now in the public eye because of the hazing episode, was known as the "Gibraltar of the Hudson." Washington saw the strategic advantages of the place, and it was through his urgings that it was fortified and held. After the war he outlined the plan of a military academy there, but it was not until the beginning of Jefferson's term that the school was actually opened. Even then it had little discipline or efficiency, and it was sixteen years later, in the presidential term of James Monroe, that the West Point of today began to take form. Monroe appointed as superintendent Colonel Sylvanus Thayer, who is justly known as the "father of the Military Academy." Thayer remained superintendent for nearly sixteen years, and under his able management the West Point of fame came into existence.

On a June morning recently the writer took a boat at Cold Spring and chugged across the broad river to West Point. I had previously made an appointment by telephone and was told that I would be placed under the charge of Captain Charles, the acting adjutant for the day. There were so much sunshine and scenery on the river that by the time the boat was across my civilian mind had forgotten just what office Captain Charles was supposed to be holding and finally concluded it was officer of the day. On landing I found bunches of cadets all along the way surveying. There were about forty-seven of these squads out on this particular morning. West Point is the most surveyed spot of ground on earth.

On inquiring where Captain Charles, "the officer of the day," could be found, I was informed that he was probably over at the summer camp, which was up a very tall hill and across a very broad ground, about a mile as the crow flies, but about three miles and a quarter as a man walks it on a hot morning.

On my way to the summer camp I was waylaid and halted several times

at museum building, which lies at the far side of another very broad plain. I was told that I was to go to this building and enter the first "sally port." I did not know exactly what a sally port is, but by that time I had my ignorance somewhat under control and knew better than to ask dumfounded questions. So I marched in as dignified a manner as possible across the long parade ground. I could not do it in as proud and imposing a way as my



CADETS AS DARING HORSEMEN.

poster pigeon friend, the cadet, but still managed to cover the distance. Arriving at the museum, I found that a sally port is really harmless if you know how to get along with it and approach it in an unconcerned manner, as though you had been used to sally ports all your life. I could do this all the better inasmuch as it looked like a tunnel under the subway with which I had been on terms of enforced intimacy.

To describe the museum itself and to do justice to its wonderful historical collection one needs an entirely fresh supply of adjectives out of a dictionary that has never been soiled by the hand of man. In it are trophies from all our wars; also a large collection of guns whose brothers are not yet pulled off. There is the flag reared by Ellsworth at Alexandria; there is a part of the flag staff at Sumter; there are old wooden cannons taken from the Philippines; there are two handed Chinese swords, captured at Peking; there are relics from Santiago and Manila; there are civil war relics, Mexican war relics, Indian war relics and relics from the two wars with our "hands across the seas-cousins," the English, which they are trying to forget as much as we are trying to remember. The museum at West Point is well worth any man's time to see. If he takes it all in, it will give him a headache and a higher appreciation of his country's glory.

On this particular morning, however, I had a stern duty to perform. Captain Charles was still undiscovered. Parading back to the guard tent in my best form, I was told that he had not yet shown up, but an orderly who just then happened along said that the captain was probably down at the batteries, where a lot of cadets were shooting cannons at the side of a nearby mountain and were occasionally hitting it. This was down near the dock, and on walking back I found the distance had increased from three and one-quarter miles to three and seven-eighths, doubtless due to the expansive power of heat in the middle of the day. Upon reaching the barracks we found that Captain Charles was not there had not been there, and nobody acted as though he knew or cared whether he was going to be there or not.

The target practice is really very interesting, especially to the people at the other end of the line. The West Shore railroad had to construct a tunnel so that the trains could dive into a hole when the cadets became too enthusiastic in shooting at the loco motive and the passengers. One of the biggest guns was trained on the top of a mountain and made the dirt and stones jump up in a most exciting manner. The only reason the top of that mountain had not been all shot away was that the gunners had not hit it often enough. I asked them what happened to the people on the other side of the mountain when the ball missed the entire landscape and went tearing up the atmosphere beyond. The orderly told me he did not know, but as there had been no complaints he supposed either that nobody had been hit by the stray shots or, if they had that they had been killed instantly, so that they did not know what had struck them.

I still had to discover Captain Charles, and, having marched down the hill, I marched up again in reverse order from the famous king of France. The distance to the guard tent had now grown to four and five-sixteenths miles. One must be accurate in his

figures at West Point, where mathematics is the chief study. The increase this time I found to be due to the fact that it is a longer distance up a hill than in a straight line. At the guard tent nothing had been heard of Captain Charles, and a cadet was again sent to his tent, making the maneuver in the same splendid fashion as before. It was all in vain. Captain Charles was not there. I began to have doubts of that officer's corporeal existence, regarding him as a myth, like William Tell or the man who landed on that other celebrated William, surnamed Patterson. Most famous people, I find, are named Bill.

The guard officer told me that my last chance of finding a trace of Captain Charles was to go to the officers' clubhouse, which he pointed out across a parade ground in another direction. On the door of this building I found an admonition to keep out, on pain of death or the guardhouse. I do not remember which. Just then a colored mail carrier hove in sight, however, and as mail carriers, like policemen and editors, are supposed to know everything I asked him and at last was set right. Yes, there was a Captain Charles—he was an actual flesh and blood person and was acting adjutant. He would be found at the headquarters, seven buildings up and four to the left.

Upon discovering Captain Charles my troubles were over. Doors that had before been shut suddenly opened. I was shown all over everything, from the clean and up to date kitchens to the clubhouse and the library. Better than all, I was invited to lunch and met the other officers, from Commandant Howze, whom I had roasted editorially in a New York newspaper the year before, down the line. I was even thawed out to the extent that I told the commandant about having roasted him, and he did not seem to mind it at all. What is the use of abusing anybody if he doesn't know about it or pays no attention?

At the West Point library are manuscripts and famous letters that would set the average collector crazy. There are autograph letters from Frederick the Great all down the line, including the original of General Grant's "immediate and unconditional surrender." There are original full length paintings of Presidents Jefferson and Monroe. Most notable of all, however, are memorial tablets to James A. MacNeill, Whistler and Edgar Allan Poe, both of whom were students at West Point, but neither of whom graduated nor became a soldier. Yet it may well be that the fame of Whistler and Poe will be kept green after that of all the war heroes turned out at West Point has faded, so much greater is it to create, even though it be but a painting or a poem, than to destroy.

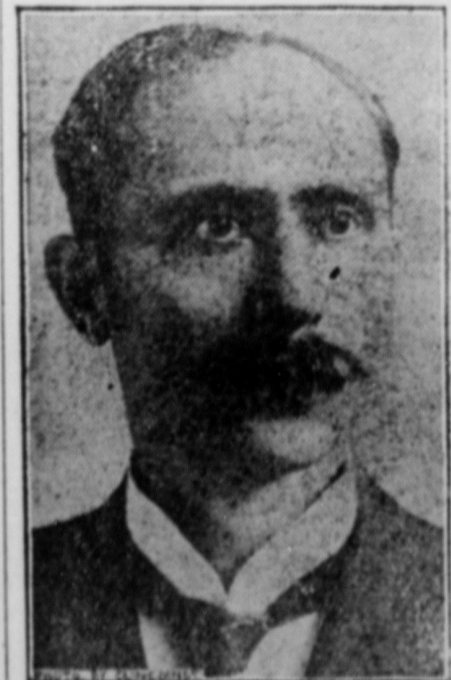
J. A. EDGERTON.

BRISTOW FOR SENATOR.

Postal Fraud Investigator Named by Republicans of Kansas.

Joseph L. Bristow, the investigator of postal frauds for the United States government, who has been made the Republican candidate for United States senator from Kansas to succeed Chester I. Long after a bitter fight in the primaries throughout the state, has a striking record as a public official. Mr. Bristow first gained national fame because of the able and impartial manner in which he investigated the great postal frauds in Cuba. The result was the prosecution of Neely and Hathbone. Three years later, and still a fourth assistant postmaster general, he was named by President Roosevelt to rip out the fraud believed to exist in branches of the post office department in Washington. And Bristow ripped, no matter how many high and mighty statesmen or politicians sought to protect their friends. As a result Bristow, six feet two and as thin as half a fence rail, loomed up pretty big as a national figure, even as a vice presidential possibility.

During McKinley's administration Bristow incurred the enmity of Mark



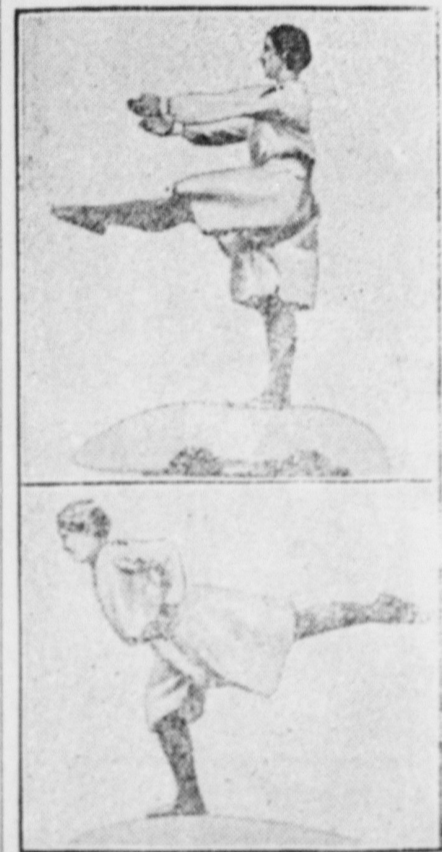
JOSEPH L. BRISTOW

Hanna, and everybody in Washington said Hanna would get Bristow's scalp. But McKinley stood by Bristow and said to Hanna, "I guess I'll try Bristow awhile longer," which meant that Bristow could stay in the postoffice department as long as McKinley was president. When complaints were made to Roosevelt about Bristow by powerful politicians Roosevelt said, "The one thing against Bristow is that he is so infernally honest." Bristow has long had senatorial ambitions. He was for years a newspaper owner and editor. After editing the Salina Republican he became publisher of the Ottawa (Kan.) Herald. Born in Kentucky, Bristow is now fifty-eight years old.

Dianas From Denmark.

DETERMINED efforts are now being made to bring to America members of the company of Danish girl gymnasts which created a decided sensation by their exercises in the stadium at the Olympic games in London. Several eastern educators who witnessed these performances of the Danish girls agree that American school children would be vastly benefited by following a similar course of work, and it is their desire that the fair performers be brought over and allowed to give exhibitions in various sections of the country.

The Danish girls—many of them were full grown women—attracted attention from the first moment they gave drill exercises at the stadium, and so swiftly did their popularity increase that thousands of people attended the games solely for the purpose of watching



ON THE VAULTING HORSE.

them. They received protracted applause from the representatives of every nation.

Known as the "Danish Dianas," the damsels were acknowledged to be the best developed and most symmetrical formed young women ever seen in any assemblage in London. They performed the easiest as well as the most difficult gymnastic maneuvers with surpassing ease, grace and technical finish. The sight of a squad of them

ADMIRAL SAITO OF JAPAN.

Mikado's Navy Chief Working Hard to Impress Sperry's Men.

The forthcoming visit of our big fleet of battleships and cruisers to Japanese waters is looked on by some of the Japs as an effort on our part to show them our stock of brass knuckles and blackjacks. So on Admiral Saito, Japan's minister of the navy, has fallen on the pleasant duty of arranging a fleet of no less than 200 warships in fighting array to parade before your Uncle Samuel's blood shedding pen-



ADMIRAL SAITO.

makers to show America that the mikado is a considerable flock of "pumpkins."

It would appear evident that some of the 200 warships will be in the nature of emergency makeshifts, but at a distance this peculiarity will pass unnoticed, and Admiral Saito and the mikado will probably have a good laugh over their little joke on those thick-skulled, impudent Yankees.

However, the Japanese fleet is growing rapidly and is a far better navy than the Russians faced.

Admiral Saito is considered one of the ablest and most resourceful members of Premier Katsura's cabinet. He is a merciless disciplinarian and is considered largely responsible for the striking efficiency of the Japanese navy.

performing spectacular movements with the precision of a body of trained soldiers proved worth going miles to see. These Danish Dianas when interviewed stated that the perfection of their figures and symmetrical development of the muscles were not peculiar to themselves alone, but that practically all native Danish women were similarly developed because of the fact that most of the exercises through which they had gone at the stadium were made compulsory in their native land for all young girls.

The beautiful ensemble effects of the exercises were greatly enhanced by fetching costumes. These costumes were of spotless cream color, and the girls wore amber silk stockings. When Queen Alexandra saw the Dianas perform for her special benefit in the stadium, she turned to Lord Desborough, the British director of the games,



THE HIGH JUMP.

and exclaimed: "They are truly wonderful! They are physically perfect!" But as England's queen has Danish blood in her veins it is only natural that she should have taken great pride in the display.

The great value of the Danish exercises lies in the fact that they are not designed to perfect any particular part of the body or any one particular set of muscles. But they aim to develop the entire body from neck to feet, and that is exactly what they accomplish. And beyond the process of muscular development is that of giving poise or balance to the body. Poise or balance in this particular sense does not mean merely that a person stands or walks straight. It means that in addition to walking, standing, sitting straight a person walks, stands or sits so that the lungs get their fullest expansion with the least effort, the other vital organs are not cramped or crowded out of their natural position and the backbone is not twisted.

A Misplaced Pin.

"I was in an uptown tea room where the scenery is all out of proportion to the amount served you," said a New York clubwoman. "I was dallying with some ice cream when my spoon struck a common, everyday pin in the bottom of the frozen stuff. I gave a little wave, and a waiter slipped to my side. 'See, a pin in this ice cream,' I said. 'Why, I might have swallowed that. He took the glass and disappeared. When he returned he reminded me of an undertaker, he was that solemn.' 'That pin has lost a man his job,' he said. 'Well,' I replied, 'I am sorry for that, but it might have cost me my life, when you come to think of it.' 'Yes, sir,' said the waiter meekly. Then, 'You see, sir, most of the folks that eat here just sip their ice cream and don't chew it.'"—New York Times.

Growth of Pity.

No one ~~was~~ looked on with any pity or ~~even~~ ~~shown~~ at punishments which are now round too dreadful for description. Men were broken on the wheel, were burned at the stake, were racked, were cut up alive. No one seems to have felt any pity for their agonies. Men were put into noisome prisons, where, with bad air and insufficient food, they died unnoticed and unpitied. It is very different now. Human hearts are more tender.

Reminders.

Counsel (to witness)—Now, allow me to remind you of what happened to Balaam. Witness—Certainly. But allow me to remind you that it was the ass that warned him.

Let us be of good cheer, remembering that the misfortunes hardest to bear are those which never come. Lowell.

An Acrobat's Dilemma. The acrobats of the music halls have no end in view except to cause amusement. But suppose one should meet them in ordinary life? Mr. Berkeley, the proprietor of a London hotel, was in his office about 6 o'clock one evening when he heard a knock at the door, while a voice, which seemed to express pain, cried "Open!" Mr. Berkeley obeyed, but a cry of horror escaped him, and he almost fell backward. He saw before him, rolling on the ground, topsy turvy, a kind of human ball which was walking upon its hands, with the head twisted round, eyes protruding and neck contorted. "I did not wish to alarm my neighbors," gasped this extraordinary being—it was a contortionist from a circus who had been practicing in his room—but I cannot unhook my leg from behind my neck, and unless you can help me I am afraid it is all up with me."

Mr. Berkeley disentangled the acrobat, who fell exhausted on a chair. He had descended twenty stairs upon his hands in this position.

We Save You Money

The worst part of being sick is often the medicine bills. You feel you're paying too much, but you're helpless—you have got to have good medicines.

Learn now that you don't have to pay high prices for high quality. Well-known ways sell the finest and best drugs at very reasonable prices.

Trade with us and you can save enough to swell your bank account.

Rexall Order—These are the surest, easiest, most economical bowel regulators you ever used. Tasteless, gently laxative, never gripe. Sold with the Rexall guarantee of twelve tablets, 10c., and thirty-six tablets, 25c.

Get it at Green's The Rexall Store

Banner Lye



is easy to use

No other lye is packed so safely and conveniently, or is so economical—not a bit wasted. No other lye of soap cleans and disinfects so easily and thoroughly as Banner Lye. It is not old-style lye. Odorless and colorless; the greatest cleanser and disinfectant the world has ever known. Use it for cleaning your kitchen, collar, sinks, dairy, milk-pans and bottles, for softening water, and the labor of washing and cleaning will be cut in half.

Makes pure soap

and saves money besides. A 10-cent can of Banner Lye, 2 1/2 pounds of kitchen grease, ten minutes' easy work (no boiling of large kettles), and you have 15 pounds of best hard soap or 7 1/2 gallons of soft soap.

Banner Lye is sold by your grocer or druggist. Write for a free book, "Uses of Banner Lye." The Penna. Chemical Works, Philad. 12th St. P. O.

BULBS
BUCKEE'S BULBS SUGGEST
SPECIAL OFFER:
Made to build New Business. A trial will make you a regular customer. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money refunded.

Souvenir Collection—All these Bulbs in special packages for the following: Boston, Providence, R. I., New York, Philadelphia, Pa., Baltimore, Md., Washington, D. C., St. Louis, Mo., Chicago, Ill., Cincinnati, O., Cleveland, O., Detroit, Mich., St. Paul, Minn., Portland, Me., New Haven, Conn., Hartford, Conn., Albany, N. Y., Syracuse, N. Y., Rochester, N. Y., Buffalo, N. Y., Newark, N. J., Philadelphia, Pa., and all other cities.

SEND 25 CENTS—In some packages and getting and receive the valuable collection of Bulbs, Souvenir, together with our Blue Book, containing beautiful facts, and all about the best varieties of Bulbs, Bulbs and Plants.

GUARANTEED TO PLEASE—Write to-day. Mention this Paper.

H. W. Buckee
77 ROCKFORD ST.
ROCKFORD, ILL.

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL
Encampment and Exhibition
of the Patrons of Husbandry of Central Penna.
Grange Park, Centre Hall, Sept. 12 to 18, inclusive
Encampment opens Sept. 12. Exhibition opens Monday, Sept. 14.

THE LARGEST and BEST fair in Central Penna., by farmers and for farmers. Twenty-four acres devoted to camping and exhibition purposes. Ample tent accommodations for all desiring to attend.

ADMISSION FREE.

GEO. DALE,
GEO. GINGERICH,
G. L. GOODHART, Com.

A LARGE DISPLAY of farm stock and poultry. Fine implements in lights, crocks, and every possible item of farm and garden.

The P. A. State College will make a large display of all the work of the College and State Experiment Station.

LEONARD RHONE, Chairman.