

The latest naval ordnance fires frozen dynamite, but it is pretty hot stuff for the other fellow.

Sixty-five persons have committed suicide at Monte Carlo, the world's most notorious gambling resort, this season. The fool-killer couldn't have established better headquarters.

Robert P. Porter estimates the loss in income of railroads in the United States from reduction of rates between 1890 and 1895 at \$109,000,000, and the loss direct and indirect to wages at \$150,000,000 annually.

Russia is employing the schoolmaster to secure her conquests. Schools have been established in Merv and eight other towns in the region beyond the Caucasus where the Russian language is used in teaching by the side of the native tongues.

In a recent speech in New York, Lieutenant Peary, the Arctic explorer, said that with \$150,000 and a few picked newspaper men and Eskimos he could find the North Pole. Certainly he could. It was newspaper men who helped Nansen to find it.

The State of Arkansas claims to be first in the South in the production of small fruits and apples, first in the Union in quantity of uncut timber, second in the Union in coal, and second in the number of acres required to produce a standard bale of cotton, Louisiana being first, but only slightly in the lead.

According to a recent calculation there are now not less than 48,000 artists in the city of Paris, of whom more than one-half are engaged in easel work. The total number of pictures submitted to the hanging committees of the various exhibitions during the year just ended was somewhere in the neighborhood of 50,000.

The New Orleans Picayune exclaims: By gum! The spruce tree is not in it with the sapota. Chiclé, an exultation of the sapota tree of Mexico, is the basis of all the chewing gum manufactured in the United States. Over 4,000,000 pounds of this gum are imported into this country annually, the produce being valued at \$1,500,000. One factory made over 100,000,000 pieces of gum last year.

A university professor has testified in a damage suit that the popular impression that a rushing express train creates a suction calculated to draw under the wheels a careless bystander is erroneous, and that the air currents have a repelling rather than an attractive effect. In spite of this scientific evidence, very few persons will be inclined to test the matter, as a lightning express train in motion is an object to be viewed at a respectful distance, rather than close at hand.

London's population continues to increase rapidly, but recent census figures reveal a change in the character of this growth which has both surprised and puzzled the English statisticians. Up to times comparatively recent the city's increase was chiefly at the expense of the country districts and of other lands, the number of births within the metropolitan limits, when not less than the number of deaths, being not nearly enough in excess of it to account for the annual increment. Thus, in the period of 1871-80, the increase in population was more than 100,000 in excess of the births over the deaths. In the years 1881-90, however, the balance was the other way, the addition to the population being nearly 118,000 less than the natural increase. In the period of 1891-5 the excess of births over deaths was 239,000, but the actual increase in the population was slightly less than 200,000. From these figures, it appears that either London-born children are the victims of an excessive death rate, or else that the opportunities to be found in the great capital are no longer attractive enough to satisfy its native inhabitants, large numbers of whom, therefore, have been led to seek their fortunes elsewhere. The problem is a rather obscure one, and the new social current has not yet been flowing long enough to make easy a determination of its direction, extent, and cause.

Where Cousins May Not Marry. The marriage laws of the different states in this country are in general so liberal that to most persons it will be a surprise to learn that in quite a number of states the marriage of first cousins is forbidden. This is the case in Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming.—Boston Cultivator.

## WEST POINT LIFE.

### FOUR YEARS OF RIGID DISCIPLINE FOR CADETS.

The Pleb's Year of Servitude and Submission to Hazing—Programme of Daily Life and Study.

NO place exists in the United States the name of which is so closely interwoven with the history of the country as that of West Point. It was a conspicuous place in the days of the Revolutionary struggle, when its topographical situation made it desirable, and near and about it were enacted some of the deeds of heroism which will live to the credit of the patriotic Continentals while the annals of the Republic shall last. Its situation on the Hudson, says the New York Tribune, is one of the beauty spots of the country, and, while great changes have been made near it since the days of the Revolution and the restless hand of nineteenth century progress has transformed many districts near it into modern, prosaic towns, West Point remains undisturbed and majestic as it left the hand of the great Architect, and even the modern buildings which have been erected on the heights which overlook the river and the proud monument which recalls the names of departed heroes pale into insignificance before the picture of natural beauty which nothing can obliterate while the Hudson winds beneath the rocky cliffs and verdure and sunlight add their colors to the scene.

But to the American West Point is attractive beyond its association with the days of old and its natural beauty, because from the academy which the Government maintains upon the reservation came the men who wrote their names in imperishable letters upon the country's history and repaid in many instances with their life's blood the benefits which they received there.

The cadets come from all parts of the country; they represent all grades and classes of the community, and there is probably no educational institution on the continent in which a man's social, political or financial standing would count for less than in West Point, and where his advancement and final graduation would depend so thoroughly and exclusively upon his own personal work.

Cadets are appointed by members of Congress and by the President; and in recent years it has been the custom to give the places of principal and alternate to the aspirants by competitive examination. A candidate must be over seventeen years old and under twenty-two. If he is under five feet in height he is ineligible. He must be perfectly formed and must be of a "good moral" character. He must be able to read and write the English language correctly and to perform, with facility and accuracy, the various operations of the ground rules of arithmetic, of reduction, of simple and compound proportion and vulgar and decimal fractions, and have a knowledge of English grammar, of descriptive geography, particularly of the United States and of the country's history. The regulations provide: "No married person shall be admitted as a candidate; and if any candidate shall be married before graduation such marriage shall be considered as equivalent to a resignation, and he shall leave the institution accordingly." After a boy has passed the prescribed examination and has been found qualified mentally, physically and morally to become a cadet, he must report on or before June 15 following the examination to the Superintendent of the academy and sign an agreement for service in the following form:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, of the State of \_\_\_\_\_, aged \_\_\_\_\_ years, do hereby engage, with the consent of my parents or guardian, that from the date of my admission as a cadet of the United States Military Academy I will serve in the Army of the United States for eight years, unless sooner discharged by competent authority.

The cadet also subscribes to an oath to support the Constitution of the United States, and that he will bear true allegiance to the National Government.

The number of men in West Point is comparatively small, about 300 in all, and the new student becomes conspicuous at once by the manner of his carriage and his lack of military bearing. This is just as true of those who

camp season and comparative rest. It is particularly welcome to the men who are just completing their first year, who will emerge from their pleb-

prescribed order. He may not, according to the regulation, keep in his room any of the implements used in chess, backgammon or any other game, and he must obtain a permit before any map, picture or piece of writing can be posted or attached in any way to the walls of his room.

When camp season comes again many of the plebs of the last camp season have disappeared; some departed before the camp closed, others could not stand the strain of work during the winter months, some failed to pass the January examinations, and, with the others who fell by the way-side, they went back to their homes, smaller, possibly, than they were when they received their appointment, and, although in many instances it may have taken argument to convince people of the fact, ill-health is usually given as the cause for a change in the plans which had a generalship for their object only a few months before.

For those who have remained in the institution a new era is about to begin. At the June exercises the plebs are allowed to make their debut. Their bearing has become manly and soldierly by that time, they have acquired so much of the soldier in the year past that they do not resemble the boys of that time, and parents and friends who come to the Academy hardly know them. They feel a pride in the fact that they have lived through their year of plebdom, and no one greets them more heartily as they enter the domain of the upper class men than the yearlings who are about to shake the dust of their condition from their boots and enter the more dignified sphere of second-class men. With the graduation of the pleb's time of probation ceases. The

dom into full-fledged cadetship, who will throw off the galling yoke of underling, and will have a new lot of plebs with whom to get even for what they themselves have endured. And so, with every yearling standing in wait for him, the cadet enters camp for a season of about eleven weeks.

If his heart is not broken by the upper class men while in camp, and if he passes the examination which follows a few months later, he becomes a full-fledged cadet, with a prospect of being graduated from the school in four years. The camp trial is the

most severe test, and the man who goes through the ordeal of the peculiar hazing to which the pleb is subjected, who can control himself sufficiently to take it all in the proper spirit, who can keep up with his studies in the mean time and acquire sufficient rudimentary knowledge of military matters to satisfy his instructors, shows himself well qualified for the work which will follow and for the positions of trust and responsibility to which he may be called later.

It does not matter who the man is, whether he is the son of a Senator, a General, a diplomat, or a blacksmith, whether rich or poor, he as a pleb with the plebs, and no power can save him from making love to a broomstick in the presence of a lot of upper class men if they decide that he shall do so, no influence can gain for him the privilege of sitting in the presence of an upper class man unless that man asks him to do so, and his ancestry, station or future prospects would avail him little if he failed to "sit" the upper class man properly and respectfully.

The pleb is rigidly excluded from all the social functions, the little entertainments and jollifications. He has no part in the joys and sorrows of the older men, he can make no visits, although he frequently receives such, and at hours when they are the least expected. He is treated by men who were possibly his friends a short time before he came to the Academy in a manner which is worse than indifference, and many a poor fellow, thinking it all over, and realizing that for two years he must remain on the reservation, with no hope for one day's vacation, has clenched his fists in anger and consented to remain only because the hardship of it all was better than the brand of cowardice with which he would be marked if he left. When the man least expects it, a number of upper class men may come into his tent and sit down where they can find a place. He must stand, and then may come an order to tell a story about his travels in India or Iceland or New Jersey, to go through the manual of arms with a lead pencil, to stand on one foot while he names the principal rivers in South America or the capitals of the Territories in the United States. Then there are certain calisthenic exercises for which the upper class men have a great liking when they are performed by a pleb, and men have been kept busy performing these exercises by their tyrannizers until they were exhausted.

The new man worries along and works and plods to keep up with the required standard in mathematics, English studies, French and military discipline. He becomes a housekeeper, also. He must learn to take care of his room and his outfit. The rules prescribe that he shall have two pairs of uniform shoes, six pairs of white gloves, two sets of white shirts, eight white shirts, two night shirts, twelve collars, eight pairs socks, eight pairs summer drawers, eight pairs for winter, six handkerchiefs, six towels, one clothes bag, made of ticking, one clothes brush, one hair brush, one tooth brush, one comb, one mattress, one pillow, two pillowcases, four sheets, two blankets, one quilted bed-cover, one chair, one tumbler, one trunk, one account book and one basin. He is commanded by regulation immediately after reveille to hang up his extra clothing, to put such articles in the clothes bag as it is intended to contain, and to arrange his bedding and all his other effects in the

upper class man goes so far as to secure partners for him, and to release the smiles of pretty girls, and between from thralldom, the consciousness of having won the respect of the older men, and his anticipation of his good time in camp with the new men, the yearling's cup of happiness is nearly full.

But the hop lasts only a few hours, the camp season soon ends, and then begins the work again—harder than the year before and more of it. Not only drill regulations, discipline and all matters pertaining to the science of war must be studied and mastered, but higher mathematics, French and Spanish and literature must be grappled with and they keep every moment of the cadet's time employed. It is absolutely impossible for a man to keep up with his class unless he works hard, and the class as a whole would fall behind if the work were not continuous.

To be convinced of the prime condition of the cadets one must see them at a meal in the large mess hall, known as Grant Hall. The senior cadet captain is superintendent of the hall, and sits at a table facing the door surrounded by his staff. The cadets march to the hall and are divided when they reached there into squads corresponding to the tables in the mess hall. Each squad is accompanied by an officer, who is responsible for the behavior of the men at the table. It is a matter of course that the man who carves, who does all the work and who is served last is a pleb. The hall is decorated with the portraits of graduates who have won fame since they left the institution, and the pleb, looking upon these pictures, may console himself with the thought that the pictures represent men who in their day had to do what he was doing. A corps of men is kept busy waiting upon the cadets, whose appetites give proof of their fine physical condition.

To be a cadet and a late riser is an impossibility. The hours for daily duty are laid down as follows: Reveille at 5.30 a. m., and 6 a. m. on Sunday; police call, five minutes after reveille; surgeon's call, fifteen minutes after reveille; breakfast call, thirty minutes after reveille.

After breakfast the cadets have a few minutes in which to "brush up," and at 8 o'clock they are called to quarters for study and recitation. They have dinner at 1 o'clock. From 2 till 4 o'clock more study and recita-

tion, and then comes evening parade, after which the battalion marches to supper. After supper they have thirty minutes, and are then called to quarters for study until 10 o'clock, when "taps" is sounded, and the signal for "lights out" finds the cadets tired and ready for sleep.

On Wednesday and Saturday afternoons the cadets have no duties to perform, and unless they have been guilty of some slight infraction of the rules they may take a rest. But a

peep into the courtyard of the barracks on these afternoons will convince the visitor that all cadets are not angels. While their companions are at ease, those who have transgressed must pace up and down a certain part of the yard accounted and arched the same as a regular infantryman on sentry duty, and if the gray walls were transparent they would disclose to view also some who must suffer for their misconduct by being confined to their rooms. The strictest discipline, the severe course and the high standard required are the causes for depleting the ranks of the cadet corps, and it is estimated that about sixty per cent. of those who are fully accepted as cadets drop out before the four years' term is completed.

Those who remain and are graduated receive a cash capital of \$192 to start with. Out of the \$519 a year which is placed to the credit of every cadet \$1 is taken every month and kept for him, and at the end of his term at West Point he receives it in a lump sum. The purpose of the arrangement is to place the young officer out of need and to enable him to buy his officer's outfit. The \$519 a year which a cadet receives from the Government never reaches him in the shape of money. His account is simply credited with the amount, and against this charges are made for his clothing, books, board, laundry and all incidental expenses, and the great problem is how to keep out of debt. To buy anything with money of his own is an impossibility, because a cadet is kept penniless, and one of the regulations prescribes that no cadet shall apply for or receive money or any other supplies from his parents or from any person whatsoever without permission of the Superintendent.

The third and fourth years in the academy are equally severe; but the men who have outlived the hardships of the preceding terms are likely to survive and are finally graduated and their names sent to the War Department, with the recommendation of the Academic Board for commission in the army.

## MAPLE SUGAR CAMP.

### INGENIOUS WAY OF COLLECTING SAP FROM THE FOREST.

Wooden Gutters Are Run Through the Sugar Orchard—The Most Interesting Process Is "Sugaring Off"—Yield Per Tree.

IN 1850 the maple sugar production of Vermont was 6,349,357 pounds, and 5997 gallons of sirup. The production steadily increased, until in 1889 it amounted to 14,123,921 pounds and 218,252 gallons of sirup, valued at \$1,248,856. The improvement in quality has been most marked also, for, though there is a great deal of adulterated maple sugar, the makers stoutly maintain that it is adulterated by dealers. There are nearly 15,000 sugar makers in Vermont alone, and there are probably as many in the other States in which maple sugar is made. The industry, therefore, is one of very respectable dimensions.

A properly conducted maple sugar camp in Vermont is well worth seeing. Many improvements have been introduced during the last few years. In the centre of the "orchard," or "bush," as it is used to be called, is a commodious and well-equipped sugar house, in which the utensils are stored when not in use. The process of sugar making, as now conducted, is practically as follows: First, two or three men "tap" the trees. One goes ahead, and with a three-eighths-inch bit makes an incision about an inch deep on the lee side of the tree. A second man inserts a round, double tin spile or spout, about three inches long, in the aperture. The spout not only conducts the sap, but has an arrangement for suspending the bucket beneath it. Lastly a man hangs the buckets, which are either of wood or tin.

Gathering the sap has been much simplified. The old way was to hitch a team of stout horses to a short sled carrying the "holder," a large wooden tub, holding several barrels, in which the sap in the buckets was poured. Now leaders, or wooden gutters, are run all through the orchard, emptying into a large storage tank at the sugar house. In a brick framework in the sugar house is set an iron arch with a square, iron chimney. For a large orchard of 2000 trees the arch is about five by twenty feet in area, two and one-half feet deep in front, and ten inches deep at the chimney end. In this arch are set the evaporators, a deep boiling pan in front and four smaller and shallower pans farther back. The bottoms of the evaporators are deeply corrugated, nearly doubling the surface exposed to the heat. The boiling is done rapidly, as rapid boiling improves the quality of the sugar. The sap flows from the tank through a hose with a strainer attached into a regulator, which allows only a certain quantity to flow into the evaporator. At a certain point the sap is drawn by a siphon from the large evaporator into one of the small ones, the scum and settlings being left behind. In the last pan the liquid is evaporated to the sirup of commerce, weighing eleven pounds to the gallon.

The most interesting process is "sugaring off." The sirup is slowly boiled in a large pan until the experienced sugar-maker knows it is "done." The pan is then lifted off, and the mass is turned into tubs, holding from ten to a hundred pounds. If it is to be made into cakes it is stirred longer, till it becomes dry enough to retain its shape. The whiteness of maple sugar does not determine its price. It is due somewhat to the difference of soil and the amount of rain that has fallen into the sap. Pure maple sugar is a brownish amber in color, with a fine grain. If the grain is not fine, and if there are airholes in it, it has probably been adulterated by cane sugar, glucose or clay—by some wicked dealer, says the maker.

The average yield per tree is about two pounds per season, the season lasting from four to six weeks, until frosty nights cease and the buds begin to swell, when the sap tastes strong and ceases to flow.—New York Ledger.

The Brazil Nut Pod is a Puzzle. As the South Water street dealer in fruit and nuts scanned the object closely he thought that it might be some freakish cocconut. Its appearance was similar to a cocconut, and it was as hard as a cobble stone. Its exterior was made to assume an antiquated appearance by several earthquake-like cracks. There was an opening in it about the size of a hole bored by a gimlet. A peep into the hole revealed nothing but more mystery to the dealer. He shook the object and heard a dull, rattle box sound. Then he asked what it was. The representative of several large eastern grocery houses, who had offered the object for inspection, laughed.

Then he stopped smiling and said: "How little you know about things in which you are directly interested. You are the sixth nut dealer who has given up naming the thing. One fellow ventured the guess that it was a sham bomb. The thing is a pod, and came from 'Brazil' where the nuts come from." In fact, the nuts come right with it. It is a Brazil nut pod. The rattle that you heard in it was caused by eight or ten of the nuts coming together. The nuts are arranged inside the pod just like the sections of an orange, and if you would take one of them out it would take a month of Sundays to get it back. The pod as you see it is just as it was when taken from the tree down in 'Brazil'.

Over 400 diamonds are known to have been recovered from the ruins of ancient Babylon. Many are uncut, but the majority are polished on one or two sides.

## POPULAR SCIENCE.

### Absolute pure alcohol, a compound of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, can now be produced at greatly reduced cost by oxidizing the hydrocarbon acetylene.

We have seen mention of a new process of lithography, said to have been discovered in Germany, and in practical use. Thin plates of aluminum take the place of lithographic stones. The new process is called "algraphic."

A further study of the amount of argon in the atmosphere has been made by Schloesing, in which a remarkable uniformity appears in air from different sources. The average value is found to be 1.184 per cent. of the total volume of nitrogen and argon.

A French anthropologist, Dr. Bloch, has examined the records of Madagascar and come to the conclusion that until the middle of this century there existed on that island a race singularly corresponding in appearance with the American Indian of the Algonquin or Iroquoian stock.

The mistletoe is a true parasite, formerly never growing save on the branches of oaks in moist situations. Of late years it is extensively raised in greenhouses, the crushed seeds being placed upon slabs of bark in situations as nearly as possible approximating its original habitat.

Measurement of cloud heights by triangulation proves to be unreliable for certain forms. At the Blue Hill observatory, the theodolite gives the Nimbus or rain cloud an average height of 6814 feet, but kites usually reach the base of the same form of cloud at an altitude less than 1639 feet.

Starting with a knowledge of the facts that an electric current may be made to impress sensitive plate without the aid of light, and that currents of air charged with water particles or fine dust produce electricity on impinging on a solid substance, M. P. de Heen has obtained photographs by projecting an air current, charged with lycopodium powder, against a sensitive plate.

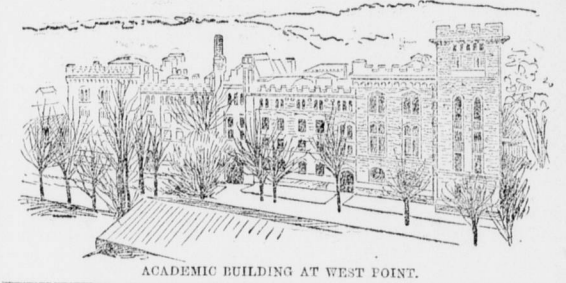
One of the most wonderful things about eagles is their power of vision. Their eyes are much better and stronger than ours, and they bear not only to look upon the sun, but they can see even more distinctly than we can. Even baby eagles can see their parents at immense distances coming to feed them, as they plainly show by their cries, before a human eye can possibly make them out in the clearest light.

Trees Growing on a High Tower. On the Courthouse tower in Greensburg, Ind., there is a grove of trees growing from the apex of the tower, high above all other vegetation and without apparent cause for existence. This is the only thing of the kind, so far as known, in the world, except in England, where there is a single yew tree growing from a parish church tower, which has to be constantly watched and nourished to prevent its expiring. The existence of the trees on the Greensburg tower is very puzzling, owing to the fact that there is none of their species within several miles, and their place of habitation is entirely devoid of soil. This building was erected about thirty-five years ago. It stands in the center of the public square, on a gradual elevation reaching about fifteen miles around. A grove of maple trees surrounds the building, making one of the most beautiful parks to be found in the section. Nature has, ever since the first tree in this lofty grove, 167 feet above ground, first made its appearance, afforded ample nourishment to the roots of the trees. Creeping through the narrow interstices, between the heavy layers of hard rock, the sprouts flourish. Even during the droughts of recent years, when all vegetation in the neighborhood was suffering and dying, these trees continued to thrive, notwithstanding the fact that their abode, devoid of moisture and so high in the air, was always hotter in the heated season than that of other vegetation, the large stones being occasionally so hot that the birds could not alight upon them. The seeds of these trees are like those of the willow and poplar, being small, with a long, silky down. It is supposed that the seeds were carried by birds from some distant place and dropped between the rocks, where they grew in the limited amount of soil and dust gathered there by the winds. The first tree appeared on the uppermost part of the tower about the year 1865, and soon manifested a speedy growth. About a year after, on a different part of the tower, a second one was observed to be growing, being followed by another. The roots wedged between the stones, the growth continued until the largest attained a height of twenty-three feet, and as they moved the stones considerably, the trees were condemned as a serious menace to the structure, and the two largest were removed. Now, amid the moss and what little vegetable matter can cling to the elevated place, others have continued to sprout and grow until danger to the structure is again feared, and it is thought that the time will soon come when they will all have to be removed.

A Remarkable Monument. Barre (Vt.) granite cutters have shipped to Daniel Moriarty, a millionaire of New Orleans, for a mortuary monument, the largest surface stone ever sent over a railroad. It is fourteen feet square, with a depth of three feet, and weighs 80,000 pounds. A special car had to be built to transport it, and as no weight above seven tons is permitted on roadways and bridges of New Orleans, a special track had to be run for about a mile there from the main line of the railroad to the cemetery. The slab is a part of a monument which will be seventy feet high.—New York Sun.



THE BATTLE MONUMENT.



ACADEMIC BUILDING AT WEST POINT.

### KISSING THE BIBLE.

Books Which Lips of Presidents Touched When Sworn In.

The Bible on which McKinley took the oath of office as President of the United States is an unusually handsome and costly copy of the Testaments made especially for the occasion in Ohio and presented to the new President by Bishop Arnett, of Wilberforce College, a colored institution in the Buckeye State, on behalf of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Its covers are of blue morocco with satin linings, white satin panels and gilt edges, with a gold plate in the center, and is engraved with the following inscription: William McKinley, President of the United States of America, Inaugurated March 4, 1897.

The book on which he was sworn in to the highest office within the gift of the people was a matter of quite decided sentiment with President Cleveland. Mr. Cleveland asked the privilege of being sworn on a little



BIBLE ON WHICH MCKINLEY TOOK THE OATH.

red Bible which had been given to him by his mother in his boyhood, when he first left the family roof-tree, and he took the oath at the beginning of both of his presidential terms on this book, which he treasures fondly.

The custom, however, has been for the United States Supreme Court to furnish the Bible on which the President takes his official oath, and this tradition has been carried out by the clerk of the court ever since that tribunal was established, except on the two occasions when President Cleveland was installed in office. Mr. McKinley, Clerk of the Supreme Court, who has held the Bible on which Garfield was sworn and every President after him, has always marked the verse which the President touched with his lips, and after the inaugural has presented the book made historic by this event to the President or his wife.

The first inauguration of George Washington in the Federal building in New York on April 30, 1789, was delayed by the failure to procure a Bible. Just as the arrival of Washington was announced to Congress, Chancellor Livingston discovered that there was no Bible in the building. He was Master of St. John's Lodge No. 1 of Free Masons, and happened to remember that there was a Bible in the lodge room. A messenger was quickly sent to bring the book, and it is preserved to the present day among the relics of the lodge.

### The Sea Gulls.

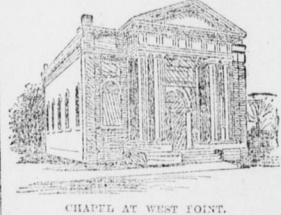
The big sea gulls, such as are seen about the harbor through the winter, come from further north in the fall, and late in the spring they go north again, or far out to sea when the weather is cooler and the fish upon which the gulls feed are more abundant. There are many fishes that seek deeper, cooler waters in the summer, and the gulls follow them. There are smaller gulls, however, commonly called bluefish gulls, that remain outside the harbor all summer.—New York Sun.



THE MESS HALL.

had some experience in so-called military schools before they came to West Point as of the boys who come fresh from their mother's apron strings. The "setting-up" is done by upper class men, whose apparent severity has caused many a young heart to beat rapidly and whose shout of "What do you mean by standing that way?" or "You, I mean, you there," or "Don't you know what your right foot is?" has caused a lump to rise in the throat of many a new cadet who until that moment fancied that he was letter perfect and with points to spare.

The new man comes to the academy at that time of the year when the hard work for those who remain is over, and camp life begins. Hard and exacting work has been the order of the day; unnecessary, tireless application to the studies which extend over a wide field has taken the time of the whole year, and the student hails the advent of June with joy, because it brings the



CHAPEL AT WEST POINT.