

campus and his heart set on making this first among the military schools of the land. As we think of them all, fondly and reverently, our hands twitch involuntarily to render them the "right hand salute" of respect and our eyes moisten as we remember, that one of their number has long ago passed over to the silent shores beyond.

That this faculty did not succeed in creating an agricultural school or a mechanical school either, may readily be admitted without any discredit to its members. They had entered a strange sea without map, or compass, or pilot. They had no guide but an act of Congress, which has been interpreted in forty different ways in as many states of the Union. But few colleges had yet been established under this enactment and these were all too young to serve as models. Europe furnished colleges, technical schools and experimental stations in abundance, but no attempt had been made to combine in one institution literary training and practical training in husbandry and the useful arts. You may give lessons in philosophy or logic by word of mouth alone, but you can not teach agriculture or mechanics without experimental demonstrations and you can not experiment without a laboratory, without machine shops, tools and appliances of a hundred kinds. The college then owned a few chemicals, a few glass tubes and crucibles, but not a plow, nor a plane, nor a surveyor's compass and when we wanted to build a bootjack or a woodbox we had to borrow saw and hatchet from the college carpenter.

If the teachers were ill prepared to conduct an agricultural and mechanical institution, many of the matricu-

lates were apparently unprepared to enter on school work of any kind. But few had climbed that "grammar-tree," whose climber knows, "where noun, or verb or participle grows." They had come, some from unpretentious village schools, some from so-called academies, colleges or universities of the cities, all differing widely in their curricula, for then our public school system was yet in its swaddling clothes. Some were men in years, others were striplings, but differences in mental attainments and habits were far more striking than the disparity of years. There were a few, whose names I shall not call to spare their blushes, who were shining models as moral young men and as students; others came near being the exact reverse. Many were better accustomed to chasing the catamount or the wild mustang in tangled wood or chapparal than to study, and others who had enjoyed all the educational advantages that money and indulgent parents could procure, were still more impatient of restraint and had come apparently "to have a good time" and wear uniform. Hazing, which has caused so much trouble in other schools, was in full blast, before a lecture had ever been delivered, or a book opened for study. I am glad to know that this practice, in which, though in some instances it may prove a harmless boyish sport, or even call forth all the young freshman's innate manliness, yet danger ever lurks, and which has served to humiliate proud spirits and murder noble aspiration, has at last, thanks to the earnest endeavors of your faculty and the better judgment of your students, entirely disappeared.

That these six professors under such