

The "Gim Hunter."

The above may be unintelligible to many, for whose benefit we will say that the "gim hunter" is the one who is always after an excuse from duty by being placed on the sick report.

I will not vouch for the origin of the term though it is said that it came from the name of an old horse that West Point cadets used to ride to the hospital.

We have had a class of boys, small in number I am glad to say, whose daily business has been to repair to the hospital immediately after sick call and there work all sorts of schemes, put up all sorts of pitiful talks in order to get an excuse from duty, all duty if they can, one class or period if no more. Sometimes they are "fired out," sometimes they succeed in deceiving the physician and again are given an excuse through mere pity.

A few excuses sometimes bring on disease with the boy; he becomes a chronic "gim hunter." If he does not succeed with the doctors, he hunts the president; he hunts excuses from every score. He spends more energy in hunting excuses than he would in studying his lesson. After awhile he is found out, he gets no more excuses, is behind in his classes and soon has to leave school. No doubt all through life he goes on hunting "gims" until at last he becomes a pauper or dies a dissipated wretch. Boys, be men, come out of the old rut. Never shirk duty. Life may be summed up in one word "work." Everything at which we turn our hands is work and it is useless for men to shirk.

Boys, let me not have a "gim" crowd this year: If you are sick do not hesitate to get an excuse but if you are able to do duty, manly go about it.

By the way we were amused at the way some of the "fish" take the word "gim." We asked one the other day if he "got a gim?" "Eh! yes" said he, holding up two or three capsules filled with quinine. Another one said that he took one (a "gim") but it did not have any effect.