

### Observations.

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We are here a crowd of boys a year or two, a month or a week and we were entire strangers, coming from different parts of the country. If we have observed, say nothing of what has been told us, we ought to know something of each other by this time. Boys how well do you know your fellow cadets? I venture that there are some who have been here a year or more and have hardly spoken to others than perhaps a half dozen early made friends; other "fresh fish" as they are called, have hardly been here a day until they know everything, disgusting or irritating us by trying to address us in the most familiar terms when probably it is the first time that we have met them. There are timid, close observing boys hardly known outside of the circle of their duties that probably have more insight into the character of their fellow-students than those of apparently more general acquaintance. Of course the larger class take a matter of fact course and in the course of time becomes more or less acquainted with the entire corps.

The voluntary seclusive set are generally of limited knowledge, know little of books and men, in short the ways of the world and care less. Can they be said to be drifting? No they are not drifting, they content themselves to crawl in some old abandoned shell and there with no neighbors save the parasitic inmates or a few scattered ones of the same species, pass their time away in ignorance and blissful innocence and when they die the world is none the wiser or better by their having lived.

As for the big "blab mouthed know-all" his days at college are generally few. He is purely a surface creature, his knowledge is purely superficial, he is like the foam of the waves, light and airy, it rides upon the crest seething, blustering, bubbling, menacing, everything but really incapable of doing harm, it is cast into crannies, holes or crevices or absorbed by the sands simply for want of weight.

The modest boy may and more often does possess true