

### Course of Training and Instruction at the Annapolis Academy.

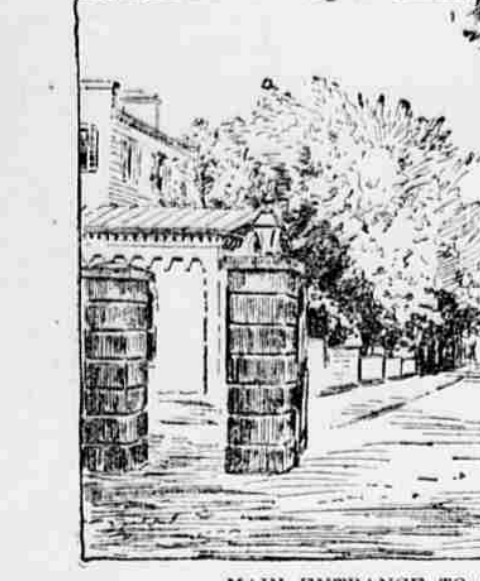
### GLORIOUS RECORD OF THE INSTITUTION

The answer involves an account of the Naval Academy of Annapolis and of the system of education pursued in that justly famous institution, which did not come into existence under its present name until 1850. To George Bancroft, the historian, who was secretary of the navy under Polk, belongs the credit and honor of its foundation; and it is a curious fact that he had no express legal authority for his action. Back in the "thirties," the method of obtaining officers for the navy was by the appointment of lads from twelve to thirteen years old to be midshipmen. These boys spent most of the time at sea, learning the practical duties of sailors and young officers. Before appearing for examinations that should prove their qualifications to be commissioned, they received instruction in navigation, etc., at different places on shore from teachers appointed for that purpose.

In 1845, Mr. Bancroft invited the War department to turn over to him the useless old Fort Severn at Annapolis. There he installed all the naval instructors, and, without asking an appropriation from congress, started a naval school. The utility and necessity of the establishment gradually became apparent to the legislature and, in

1850, it was reorganized, placed on a footing similar to West Point (founded in Washington's day), and called the Naval Academy. That reconstruction of the old naval school was one of the wisest and most beneficial acts ever performed by congress; for to it is due in large measure, the superb training of the men who are in the foremost positions of command in the navy at the present time—the Deweys, Sampsons, Evanses, McCallas, Chadsleys, Conyerses, Ludlows, Taylors and scores of others.

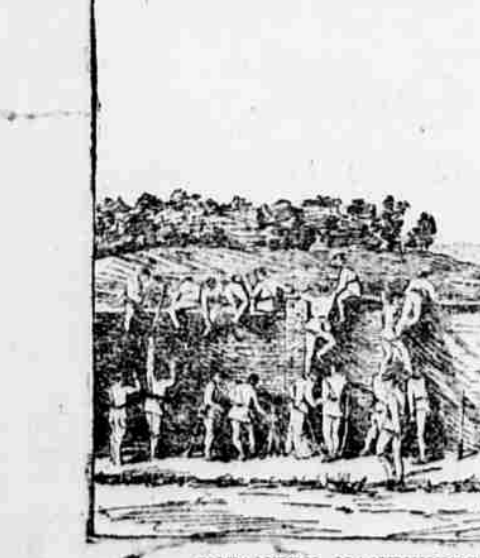
**Selection of Cadets.**  
The raw material for the manufacture of the country's naval heroes and defenders is furnished by the president and members of congress; that is to say, the selection of candidates is by law vested in their hands. Each congress district is entitled to have one cadet in the academy, while the president appoints one and the secretary of the navy one for the District of Columbia. The presidential appointments are generally reserved for the sons of naval or army officers, many of whom have no fixed legal residence. After a candidate has received an appointment to the academy, he is ordered to report there early in May and, on his arrival, is subjected to a rigid physical examination. He must not be under 15 years of age or over 20. Then follows the educational test. Although the qualifications required for admission are high, those of the leading colleges, not more than 60 per cent of those presenting themselves succeed in passing. As a result the academy never has at any one period the maximum number of cadets on its rolls. Those who get through the ordeal must deposit \$100



MAIN ENTRANCE TO ANNAPOLIS ACADEMY.

year, in any branch falls below that point is set down as deficient and must be confined in the academy for a period of three months. The discipline is of the most rigid character and the slightest infraction of the rules and regulations, which are legion, is punished by so many demerits. The scale of punishment for offenses is graduated. For instance, a cadet of the first class having more than 150 demerits in this year is open to the penalty of being dropped. A cadet of the second class must not have more than 200, a cadet of the third class more than 250, or a fourth class man more than 300 demerits. If he has he is reported to the secretary of the navy as "deficient in conduct," which is as bad as "deficient in studies."

**Naval slang.**  
The "slang" of the cadet is different from that of all other students, some words and phrases having naturally a flavor of the sea. "Belay," for instance, the regular nautical term for "tie" or "fasten," is used in the same sense at the academy. "To bill" is to do a thing well, "to bust" to make a failure. "Pomme" means a "young lady," and to "drag a femme" means "to escort her to a hop." "Dorcy is Annapolise for a swell," "here" expresses the superlative degree of anything; "wooden" means "dull," while "saves" is the synonym for "intelligence." A "stair" is a wild guess, "a bluff" a "gag" or a "blatant lie," "franching" means "to go beyond the limits of the academy without permission," "to fume" and "to push" both mean "to smoke," while a "tendency" signifies that there is a favorable breeze or draft which



INFANTRY MANEUVERS, "SCALING THE WALL,"—ANNAPOLIS.

will carry off the odor of tobacco, so that it cannot be detected by some vigilant officer. The chaplain is irreverently called "Holy Joe." "Jimmy Legs" is the "master-at-arms," "Doc" the "secretary of the navy," and "supp" the "superintendent" of the academy, always an officer of high rank. The "Christmas tree" is a list of cadets posted in December, who are in danger of being dropped at the coming examinations. In January, and in May, the "Maypole" is a similar list posted in May, prior to the June examinations. A cadet in either of these lists is "on the tree." "Spooning" means "associating with the fair sex." "To spoon" on a "plebe," the term for a cadet in the lowest class, is to befriend him, and "to spoon" on an instructor is to befriend him. A cadet who has been one year at the academy becomes a "youngster" during the second year, when he is a third class man. "To pull the doctor's leg" is to get on the sick list when ill; the daily conduct report is "copy" and the regulation book is the "Plebe's bible." A complete list of the academy's slang phrases would fill over a column.

While cadet life is, as a rule, strict and even harsh, it is not without its compensations. A list world in itself, the officers' families at the academy are delightful entertainers and they all have their favorites among the cadets to whom their houses are ever open. Then there are the academy "hops" which are attended by young women from Annapolis, Baltimore, Washington and visitors from all parts of the country. These "hops" are really part of a cadet's education, intended to fit him for any social function to which as an officer he may be bidden. Uncle Sam wisely insists that the men who man his ships shall be not only first class mechanics, but accomplished gentlemen in every sense of the word.

A bottle of Cook's Imperial Extra Dry Champagne with your dinner makes it complete. It pleases every one.

### LATEST CREATOR OF FORCE

### Amazing Possibilities of the Power of Liquid Air.

### DISCOVERY PORTENDS A REVOLUTION

### Facts About a Scientific Triumph Equaling in Importance the Revelation of Electricity's Potency.

For ten years past Charles E. Tripler, an American explorer in the domain of chemical science, persistently sought the secret power of air, and his labors have been rewarded with what is pronounced a revelation and a revolution. The product of his investigations is liquid air, a marvelous creator of force. The story of his discovery is told in the Cosmopolitan magazine. It reads like a fairy tale in which he occupies a very small part. But the experiments which he has made with liquid air already change the seeming fairy tale to a reality and leave the observer in a bewilderment of surprises.

Liquid air is air such as we breathe from which the heat of the sun has been extracted. This heat once removed a liquid is the result, one cubic foot of which represents 800 cubic feet of ordinary air. This liquid is a heavenly blue in color, a hazy blue in explosive power, yet it can be handled as safely as a globe, the book on the table or your hat.

The commercial world is already astounded by a sight which what liquid air may do when rightly applied. For instance, its use in the propulsion of a vessel using 400 tons of coal a day would reduce the coal necessities to 100 tons per day and increase the speed capacity of the vessel 85 per cent.

Liners like the St. Paul and the St. Louis, making the run from New York to Liverpool in five and a half or six days, would find that with liquid air their time would be cut to three or three and a half days. A vessel now steaming at eighteen knots per hour could with the new liquid air propel 30 knots. Commercially this gain to the world in time would be represented by millions of dollars.

### Some Things It Will Do.

With liquid air the steam engine ceases to be a necessity, the submarine boat becomes a possibility, a navigable agent for transportation is discovered, excess heat in close places is done away with, an explosive is provided so deadly that the force of Atlas, dynamite and the deadly gun cotton pale into insignificance. Distance is annihilated as it was before, conditions of men are elevated and a new instrument of progress is delivered to man.

English scientists paid \$3,000 for the production of the first ounce of liquid air ever experimentally secured by them. Charles E. Tripler, an American, produced an equivalent ounce and then spent the money in application to the necessities of man and found the way.

Liquid air when produced has a temperature 312 degrees below zero, Fahrenheit. When expanding to return to its gaseous state the power is developed which makes it the wonder of the century. Two distinct fluids are found in it—liquid nitrogen and liquefied oxygen. It can be dipped up with a tin cup and poured into a dish like so much water.

The intensity of the cold of liquid air makes iron and steel extremely brittle, while it increases their tensile strength, temporarily. Copper, gold, silver, aluminum, platinum and most other metals are not so affected. Drop an oyster into the liquid and it is frozen solid instantly. Beefsteak is made so solid that it may be cut by a knife and it may be then pounded into powder.

### Mercury becomes a solid bar of metal when immersed in the liquid.

Once created, liquid air simmers like a kettle on the range. The pot in which it boils is heavily coated with frost. The harder it boils the more intense becomes the cold produced. Placed in a tea kettle the fluid boils without fire. Wood saturated with the fluid burns like gunpowder.

As an explosive there is no thickness of armor which could resist a shell or torpedo charged with liquid air. It is so sensitive that it explodes with a loud report. A wall of oily cotton waste, first wet in turpentine and then saturated with the fluid, becomes of greater explosive force than gun cotton. Gas tubing charged with this wad explodes in fragments, windows go out, plaster falls, the building rocks and a miniature earthquake is produced.

### Safely and Easily Carried.

Still the liquid may be safely packed in cans and conveyed considerable distances without the slightest danger to human life. So far experiment has proved that it may be produced and stored for a period of thirty-six hours before complete return to the gaseous state sets in. Future advances in knowledge of the product will undoubtedly extend that time as much as practical use demands.

The liquid is not a mere production of the laboratory for professors to do peculiar things with. One of the practical uses to which it may be put is refrigeration. Transportation of fruits, fresh meats, with its use, becomes a problem so simple that cars having it as an attachment may stand in the Mojave desert for a year, cooled and not suffer from the terrible heat of that spot. The power which operates elevators, runs engines, raises hoists, may at the same time be cooling rooms. The liquid is comparatively inexpensive in production, so much so that its use in private families for the cooling of sleeping apartments is directly practicable. The air given is absolutely pure, the wind of the mountain peaks, sweet from the touch of ice and snow.

### OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Alexander Belleville of East St. Louis, Ill., has just buried his seventh wife. A silk factory in which only women are employed has been opened in a suburb of London.

The yearly premium of George W. Vanderbilt's life insurance for \$1,000,000, taken out just before his marriage, amounts to \$75,000 a year. A gold weighing machine in the Bank of England is so sensitive that a postage stamp dropped on the scale will turn the index on the dial a distance of a yellow journalist comes from San Francisco, where Mun Shu, editor of a Chinese paper, has opened a subscription for the Red Cross society among his countrymen and his circulation in the columns of his paper.

While congress was debating over the president's war message, Mrs. Davis, wife of the senator from Nevada, visited the gallery, although it was against the rules, and secured the only photograph in existence of some highly exciting military scene. F. B. Mayer's painting of the "Burning of the Peggy Stewart." The picture is to be hung in the hall of the House of Delegates.

A Kentucky woman, whose maiden name was Alving Jackson, recently buried her seventh husband. The dear departed all lie in a row in the cemetery at Bolivar, and the room in which he is buried is a monument to the whole lot. It consists of a marble band with the index finger pointing upward. On the base, instead of the usual names, dates, ages, etc., are the two words, "Seven Up."

### THE OLD-TIMERS.

Mr. Deaire, a tallow chandler living at Epsom, England, saw Mammoth take the Derby in 1827 and has never since missed seeing the great annual event on the English turf.

Rev. William Howe, the well known Baptist clergyman of Cambridge, celebrated his ninety-third birthday last week. He is enjoying a serene old age and is in good health, body and mind.

Dean Hole of Rochester, England, will have been a Free Mason fifty-six years on April 23, the day war was declared, instead of reaching there May 25, one month later.

No secret is involved in the process of producing liquid air, and its cost being comparatively slight, it appears to be a very command for the commercial as well as the military world. Its potency is very much like compressed air, although far cheaper of production. Compressed air, when at a temperature of over 100 degrees below zero, Fahrenheit, will reduce an iron bar to molten drops, and if the air is reduced to 200 degrees, it will vaporize the iron.

Liquid air may be bottled and carried around in your pocket, provided you increase the bottle in another and have a vacuum between the two. Otherwise you will find a large block of ice in your pocket, which, if you touch it, will freeze your hand. You may take a coffee cup and pour liquid air into it. Boiling and sizzling the air increases the cup with ice. Insert a steel wire in this and it will be consumed. Four hours in and more ice will be formed. Put a tin under the cup and ice forms on the bottom.

Liquid air is a denial and an assertion, a paradox, a contradiction and an affirmation, as simply produced as water, as easily controlled as a child, as dangerous as any certainty, a navigable agent for transportation is discovered, excess heat in close places is done away with, an explosive is provided so deadly that the force of Atlas, dynamite and the deadly gun cotton pale into insignificance. Distance is annihilated as it was before, conditions of men are elevated and a new instrument of progress is delivered to man.

### TOLD OUT OF COURT.

"Gentlemen of the Jury," said the prosecutor in a Washington case, "we will show you that at 2:25 in the morning of the 30th day of October, A. D. 1897, the defendant got up from his bed, took a two-quart tin full of beer, and went to a saloon where he got it filled with beer." "Gentlemen, we will show you by competent evidence, which is what is commonly known as 'rushing the growler.'"

The collection of cases with suggestive titles grows apace. Since our last issue the following cases have been called to our attention: *Guess against Amis*, 54 Ark. 1; *Locke against Smith*, 10 Johns (N. Y.) 250; *Sick against A.H. Association*, 49 Mich. 50; *Sick against Sheets*, 4 Black. (Ind.) 275; *Just against White*, 147 Mich. 511; *Eye against Eye*, 5 Watts (Pa.) 329; *Mittan against Smock*, 3 N. J. L. 470; *Pocket against Pool*, 11 Manitoba, 279. An old case with a very considerable present significance is *Fitzhugh against Lee*, 4 Amb. (Eng. Ch.) 67. A correspondent sends us a recent Iowa case, *Gray against Sillman*, and wishes to know if the defendant's chances are sixteen to one.

The Boston Record narrates an incident which occurred when Associate Justice Gray of the United States supreme court was chief justice of the Massachusetts court. One of the savings banks which had suspended was before the court and the question was in reference to the appointment of a receiver. The gentleman whose name was proposed in the case of those triple-jointed names which were never filed by Judge Gray. In filling out the decree Judge Gray wrote: "Let Smith act as receiver." Then turning the decree over to the counsel he said: "You may fill in the rest of the alphabet."

A correspondent sends from Alabama an account of an amusing incident which recently occurred in a Birmingham court. F. S. White, esq., had introduced a negro witness for the plaintiff, whose testimony on the direct examination was of a nature calculated to fill the plaintiff with great joy. When, however, Hon. J. E. Webb began the cross-examination the witness exhibited symptoms of uneasiness, and, being unable to meet the eagle eye of the attorney for the defense, he hid his gaze on some faint distant portion of space. The attorney, seeing his advantage and wishing to pursue it, rose from his seat and said in a sharp tone: "Look at me, sir, look at me."

"I object, your honor," cried the attorney for the defense, "to that line of cross-examination." "What, sir," said the court, "is the ground of your objection?" "Why, your honor," he replied, "it is contrary to law and humanity to torture a witness."

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of the Atchison (Kansas) Municipal band, who has been supposed to be playing the bassoon for the last five years, has been simply drawing his breath with the proper motions and, of course, his play and blowing the former through his instrument without making a sound. In five years he has not learned to play a note.

Frank Swain of Bridgeport, Mass., employed as an electrician at the power house of the street railway company, while repairing some machinery received a severe shock from an electric current. From that time until midnight he suffered intense pain, but when the power was shut off at the power house the pain disappeared. At 5 o'clock the next morning, when the power was again started at the power house, the pain returned.

A steamer was cleared from Boston for Avonmouth, England, recently, including in pulp, six packages soda ash, 300 boxes and 3,421 packages leather.

The total exports of green and dried apples from the United States last year amounted in value to \$2,700,000. Of these apples only \$738,000 worth went to Germany. Great Britain took \$2,169,000 worth. A very small portion of the total exports in other articles of fruit was sent to Germany, Great Britain taking by far the larger part.

An American syndicate has received imperial authority in China to construct a railroad from Hankow to Canton, a distance of 900 miles, through a region containing 10,000,000 inhabitants. The company will buy 200 locomotives, 2,000 cars and an immense amount of material in this country. American industries are becoming quite cosmopolitan.

Last year China took \$7,436,000 out of a total export of \$17,281,000, or almost half of all our cotton cloths shipped abroad. The Chinese, especially those of Manchuria, prefer the American drills and sherings, as they are heavier. The great bulk of these cottons are shipped from the New England mills to New York, and then via the Suez canal to Hongkong and thence to the west by way of San Francisco and Puget sound. The export of American kerosene oil to China now ranks second in importance to that of cotton goods.

The women teachers of London are aroused by a just grievance and have presented to the school board of that city a memorial with regard to the proposed increase of salaries of assistant masters, the objection being that the salaries of the mistresses (as they say in England) are to remain as they are. The memorial points out the fact that at present the maximum salaries paid to assistant masters amounts to \$150 a year more than those paid to women doing similar work and these women therefore petition that the maximum be made equal. The memorial, signed by 1,163 women teachers, has been referred to the school managing committee.

The oldest living railroad conductor is Edward Miller, who is still in active service on the Westchester division of the Pennsylvania railroad. He was born in 1824, and has been punching tickets in the "presence of passengers" for fifty-one years.

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James Ashworth, a former member of the city council of St. Louis, is now an inmate of the poor house in that city. When a councilman he was offered a big bribe for his vote and says if he had not chosen poverty to ill-gotten wealth he would not be a pauper today. He is 81 years old.

Old Gerillon, the most noted Indian in America, chief of the Apaches, is 90 years old. He is straight as an arrow and his eye is piercing and keen. When at the post at Fort Sell he plays monte, but when he gets permission to leave the reservation his

### THE PICKET GUARD

time is spent in hunting, of which he is still very fond.

**LABOR AND INDUSTRY.**  
American stoves go to China.  
Holland buys American copper.  
China buys Alabama pig iron.  
Compressed air runs a Maine sawmill.  
We make 9,000,000 false teeth annually.  
A well known New York firm is exporting large quantities of mining apparatus to Australia.  
The work of constructing a huge raft, which is to contain 4,000,000 feet of lumber, has been begun in Portland, Ore.  
Recent exports of electrical machinery from New York to Holland, Mexico, London and Argentina were valued at \$60,000.  
The value of all the gold, silver, copper, iron, coal and lead mined every year in America is exceeded by the products of the forests.

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"All quiet along the Potomac tonight," they say, "except now and then a stray picket is shot as he walks on his beat, to and fro.  
By a rifleman hid in the thicket.  
This soldier, a private or two, now and then,  
Will not count in the news of the battle;  
Not an officer lost—only one of the men,  
Mourning out, all alone, the death rattle."  
All quiet along the Potomac tonight,  
Where the soldiers lie peacefully dreaming,  
Their tents in the rays of the clear autumn moon.  
Or the light of the watch-fire gleaming.  
A tremulous sigh as the gentle night wind  
Through the forest leaves softly is creeping,  
While stars up above, with their glittering eyes,  
Keep guard—for the army is sleeping.  
There's only the sound of the lone sentry's tread  
As he tramps from the rock to the fountain,  
And he thinks of the two in the low trunk of the tree,  
Far away in the cot on the mountain.  
His musket falls slack; his face, dark and  
Grows gentle with memories tender,  
As he prays for a prayer for the children  
Asleep.  
For their mother—may heaven defend her!

The moon seems to shine just as brightly as then,  
That night when the love yet unspoken  
Leaped up to his lips—when he murmured  
Words  
Were judged to be ever unbroken;  
Then drawing his sleeve roughly over his eyes,  
He dashes off tears that are welling,  
As if to keep down the heart-swelling.  
He passes the fountain, the blasted pine tree—  
The footsteps are lagging and weary;  
Yet another goes through the broad bolt of light,  
Toward the shades of the forest no dreary.  
Hark! was it the night wind that rustled  
The leaves?  
Was it moonlight so wondrously flashing  
And glimmers his gun closer up to its place,  
And the life-blood is ebbing and pulsing.  
All quiet along the Potomac tonight—  
No sound save the rush of the river;  
While soft falls the dew on the face of the dead—  
The picket's off duty forever.

**The Best Lintment for Rheumatism.**  
Mr. P. Ketcham of Pike City, Cal., says: "During my brother's late sickness from sciatic rheumatism, Chamberlain's Pain Balm was the only remedy that gives his any relief." Many others have testified the prompt relief from pain which this liniment affords.

While the war is a damage to business in general, there are some branches which and their advantage in it. A Rockyville, Conn., silk mill, for instance, has "rush" orders for months to come manufacturing sewing silk for the government.

# Pictures of the Complete American Navy

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