

State of New York.

No. 135.

IN ASSEMBLY,

March 7, 1862.

REPORT

OF THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY ON MILITARY INSTRUCTION IN THE COLLEGES AND HIGHER INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING, IN THE STATE, IN RESPONSE TO THE RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF JANUARY 24TH, 1862.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, }
OFFICE OF THE REGENTS, }
ALBANY, *March 7, 1862.* }

The Regents of the University, in compliance with a resolution of the honorable the Assembly of the twenty-fourth day of January last, requesting them to indicate to the House their views as to the practicability of the introduction of a military drill and the manual of arms, together with the practice and theory of military engineering into the colleges and higher institutions of learning of this State, and if they should regard the same, in whole or in part, as feasible, that they report a method of carrying the same into effect, the total cost of which to the State shall not exceed the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars a year,

RESPECTFULLY REPORT :

That the subject of the resolution received their early and careful attention. The object proposed by the Assembly is presumed to be the preparation of a class of educated men competent for officers of the militia of the State whenever it shall be called into active service. Such preparation should embrace, besides general culture and scholarship, essential in the officer to secure respect from the soldier and influence over his conduct and character, at least so much of military engineering as is required for the construction of field fortifications and roads and bridges,

a thorough knowledge of military tactics in the school of the soldier; the company and the battalion; the principles of attack and defence; the general theory of war; and the laws which govern its conduct in all the relations of belligerents.

The Regents are confirmed in their opinion that such a course of instruction may be engrafted on our existing collegiate and academic studies, by answers which they have received to a circular addressed to the colleges and several of the academies of the State on this subject, several of which and extracts from others they herewith submit for the consideration of the Assembly.

In our National Military Academy more than half the time of the student is spent in studies which have only a relation in their application to military affairs. These branches are now taught in the colleges and best academies. Without injuriously affecting the character, or impairing the efficacy of the studies now pursued, their application to military purposes may be taught even by the existing faculties of instruction.

Tactics, in the limited sense in which the term is usually taken, has already been introduced into many colleges and academies. Its salutary influence is clearly seen in the improved bearing of the young men, in the strengthening of their physical powers, in the forming of habits of subordination and prompt obedience, and in directing to useful purposes the natural exuberance of youthful feeling. To the well furnished officer, the knowledge of military tactics in its more enlarged sense is essential. In this view it embraces the formation and disposition of armies, the modes of encamping and lodging them, and directing their movements in the face of an enemy. In this department of military education, the instruction of the thoroughly educated officer will be required, and for this, special provision must be made by the State. A professor competent to supervise the whole system of military instruction, and to lecture on the subjects above indicated, together with international law and the laws of war, should in the opinion of the Regents be provided for every two colleges. A subordinate officer whose duties shall be principally those of drill-master, will be necessary for each college and academy in which military instruction shall be given.

In an experiment entirely new in this State, the Regents would urge that so much should not be attempted as to hazard its success. It will be better that a limited system should be first

adopted which may be gradually enlarged in such ways and to such extent as experience shall dictate. It is therefore recommended that it shall at first provide for the education mainly of infantry officers, and that for such purpose six colleges, and also one academy in each judicial district, shall be selected. In organizing the system, some expenses will necessarily be incurred which need not annually be repeated. The necessary annual expenses will probably be somewhat as follows,

For the salaries of three professors.....	\$4,500 00
For the salaries of 14 drill-masters, at \$750.....	10,500 00
For annual additions to libraries, &c.....	1,500 00
For incidental expenses.....	1,500 00
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	\$18,000 00
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In this estimate, no account is taken of the expense of arms and equipments, as it is presumed that they will be in possession of the State and may be furnished without direct expense.

That the system of drills may be maintained uninterrupted by the condition of the weather, convenient rooms will be required. Some institutions are furnished with these. It may be necessary that others receive aid from the State for their erection. Small libraries of military books, both for study and reference, and maps, plans and models of fortifications must be provided. For these purposes, and to meet incidental expenses, unavoidable in the organization and arrangement of any such system, the proposed appropriation may be applied for four or six months, within which the system of instruction can scarcely be so fully matured as to be brought into operation.

There are many reasons in favor of an annual gathering of the pupils instructed in the several institutions, into an encampment in which they may be trained to some extent into the experiences of soldier life. Should the Adjutant General deem this expedient, it is believed that the expenses of such encampment, the necessary camp equipage having been furnished by the State, may be paid from the balance of the appropriation above the estimated annual expenditure.

In making the above recommendations, the Regents have not been unmindful of the great importance of artillery and cavalry exercise, but having been asked to propose a plan within certain limits of expense, they have been obliged to govern their recom-

mentations accordingly. If any part of the proposed appropriation can be made available for either of the objects referred to, especially for that of artillery exercise, the Regents most cordially recommend it.

Acting on the advice of the chairman of the committee of military affairs, the Regents herewith submit the draft of a bill for carrying out the objects contemplated by the Assembly.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of the Regents,

JOHN V. L. PRUYN,

Chancellor of the University.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, }
 OFFICE OF THE REGENTS, }
 ALBANY, January 27, 1862. }

The Honorable the Assembly, by a resolution adopted on the 24th inst., requested the views of the Regents as to the practicability of introducing a military drill and the manual of arms, together with the practice and theory of military engineering into the colleges and higher institutions of learning in the State, and if they should regard the same as feasible, that they report a method of carrying the plan into effect.

Before responding to the resolution of the Assembly, the Regents desire to obtain the views of as many persons connected with the higher literary institutions of the State as they can conveniently consult, in regard not only to the general question referred to them, but also the details of any plan which may appear to be desirable for securing the objects contemplated.

The early period at which it is manifestly necessary to respond to the resolution of the Assembly, if any legislation is to be based upon the report of the Regents, prevents any extended statement at this time of their views; but it is the impression of several members of the Board, who have consulted with each other informally, that our higher institutions of learning may readily, and usefully to the State and to themselves, be made, at a moderate expense, the effectual means of imparting the elements of a respectable military education to a large portion of the young men under their care, qualifying them at any future period in life to become efficient army officers. Had there been such a body of men in our State, from which officers for our present army could have been chosen, they would have had ample opportunity to render most valuable service to the country.

The Regents respectfully request your views on the following points:

First. As to the general practicability of the plan and the best mode of carrying it into effect.

Second. Would your institution desire to establish a department of military instruction?

Third. If so, would you prefer to make the military professorship a separate one, or would you add its duties to those of an existing chair?

Fourth. What aid, if any, from the State, would you deem necessary in introducing and maintaining a system of military instruction in your institution?

Fifth. As an actual life in camp for a few weeks every year would be desirable in almost any scheme for military education, would this in any way influence your general course of study, or your vacations, and to what extent?

We shall be happy to receive your answers to the above inquiries and your views on the subject generally, at an early day.

We are yours very respectfully,

JOHN V. L. PRUYN,

Chancellor of the University.

S. B. WOOLWORTH, *Secretary.*

UNION COLLEGE.

February 3, 1862.

HON. JOHN V. L. PRUYN,

Chancellor of the University :

Dear Sir—Yours of the 27th ult., in reference to military instruction in colleges and higher literary institutions in the State, has been duly received, and in answer I would say :

I have not any matured opinion of the expediency or practicability of introducing such instruction generally into the colleges and higher schools of the State, and would therefore only speak in reference to this college.

I think there are facilities for very favorably and effectively introducing military studies here.

Dr. Gillespie, our professor of civil engineering, gave last season instruction in field fortification, and he is now giving a course of lectures on the science and art of war, and which he is prepared to make as full and minute as may be desirable.

The regular college curriculum both for the scientific and classical studies is now arranged as favorably for general purposes of education as can readily be made, and as full as can be passed by average minds. It will not, therefore, be advisable to make changes for the admission of military studies here, and even if such change were here made, it would be impracticable to make the military studies obligatory upon all, and the necessary arrangement for optional studies would confuse the classes injuriously.

The civil engineering course among many other items of study, includes drawing, surveying, bridge building, and general construction, all necessary to a military education, and here it will be possible to combine all that may be needed. Dr. Gillespie gives the following general divisions of a course which he is prepared to superintend and fill out in detail, viz : *Organization*, or the manner of getting up an army ; *Logistics*, or the means and modes of lodging and moving an army *tactics, fortifications, strategy.*

This arrangement would admit such special students as desired to give attention chiefly to military studies; such as desired to combine military with civil engineering; such as would combine military with portions of the regular courses; and such in the full course as from inclination and superior talent might take both.

In this way much may be done with no hindrance to the present departments of study. The time thus taken from the professor's duties must be supplied by assistant professors, and would make an additional expense of at least one salary, (\$1500.00) annually, and should military drill and manual of arms be introduced, a drill master and assistants and arms used would so much augment the expense. As regards actual camp life, if any thing is done, it will be best it should come in and be restricted to the regular college vacations.

I have conferred with Dr. Nott and some of our board of trustees, and such arrangements as above will meet their approbation.

Yours, very respectfully,

L. P. HICKOK.

HAMILTON COLLEGE.

CLINTON, *February, 1862.*

Hon. J. V. L. PRUYN, *Chancellor:*

Dear Sir—In accordance with the communication received from you in behalf of the Regents of the University, after a full consultation with the faculty of this institution, I would transmit the following answers to the questions propounded in your circular.

First. It is our opinion that it is practicable to introduce military instruction so as not seriously to interfere with our present course, or diminish the attainments of our students in those branches essential to a liberal education. In regard to military drill and the manual of arms, we should have no difficulty. A portion of the time during the course, could also be devoted to the "theory" of military engineering. How far we could proceed in the practical application of the theory, we are not fully agreed. If this should be limited to the study of models, it would not be difficult to connect it with the theory. But we apprehend a difficulty in doing this to any great extent outside of the recitation room.

Second. The faculty, in the present state of our country and its probable future, regard it as desirable that such a department of instruction should be here established.

Third. In order to do this, it would be necessary as we are situated, to have a regular professorship of military science; but it might be desirable to connect with it some of the duties belonging to one of the other professorships in order to give the chair its due importance and influence.

Fourth. In answer to this enquiry, I send with this an estimate of the expenses of such a department made by our treasurer. The estimate of the parade ground and the enlargement of the gymnasium so as to make it suitable for a drill room, &c., may be somewhat reduced, but the expenses usually attending such enlargements oftener exceed than fall under the estimates.

Fifth. In answer to this enquiry, the faculty are not prepared to give a definite opinion. There are difficulties attending the camping out obvious to us, which we do not yet see how to avoid. If a general plan should be adopted in case this department is established, we should endeavor to work into it.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL W. FISHER, *President.*

Expenses attending the establishment and maintenance of a military department in Hamilton College.

FOR FIRST YEAR.

A building to be used as a drill room in bad weather, an armory and a guard room.....	\$750 00	
A parade ground.....	250 00	
Library.....	200 00	
Sundries.....	100 00	
Salary of professor.....	1,200 00	
	<hr/>	\$2,500 00
		<hr/>

FOR SUBSEQUENT YEARS.

Salary of professor.....	\$1,200 00	
Appropriations for library.....	100 00	
Sundries.....	200 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,500 00
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O. S. WILLIAMS, *Treasurer.*

Dated *February 4, 1862.*

P. S. The State to furnish arms and equipments, and the students their uniforms.

O. S. W.

HOBART COLLEGE.

JOHN V. L. PRUYN, Esq., *Chancellor, &c., &c., Albany :*

My Dear Sir—I have given attention to the subject presented by your circular of the 27th ult., and consulted with the faculty.

I think the military drill might be introduced without much difficulty, and that it would have beneficial effects aside from the exigencies of war.

I suppose that one of our present officers, with an addition to his salary might be willing, as he would be very competent, to teach the drill.

To teach military engineering would require a distinct professorship, which we have no means of establishing. But the college authorities would give every facility in this direction so far as the other departments of instruction could minister to the thorough education of military officers.

Our mathematical course is a very thorough one. We exact the calculus of all students.

We probably could not keep up the drill in winter as we have no hall to drill in. But we could maintain it, say five or six months of the year, which would be sufficient.

I do not see how we could get time for other than students in a military department to go into camp.

You may rely, my dear sir, on a cordial co-operation on our part in carrying into effect any well directed scheme for the attainment of the very desirable object you name.

I am, dear sir, very respectfully, yours,

A. JACKSON.

HOBART COLLEGE, *February 6, 1862.*

UNIVERSITY OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

The committee of the faculty to whom was referred the letter of the Board of Regents inquiring concerning the probability of introducing a system of military drill and instruction into our colleges and seminaries, respectfully report as follows:

I. In answer to the first inquiry, the committee would say that they regard the introduction of military drill and instruction as quite practicable, within certain limits to be hereinafter indicated. The methods of such addition to our existing arrangements will be described in answer to the subsequent inquiries.

II. Upon the second point they would say that the university will most cordially co-operate in the effort to establish such instruction to the extent of its means, and that the establishment of a professorship for this purpose would be altogether agreeable to our wishes.

III. Upon the third point they would suggest that the vigorous prosecution of the object would seem to require the use of both the means suggested in the letter.

The variety of subjects involved in any comprehensive system of military education would require both an adaptation of our existing methods of instruction to the proposed new department, and also the establishment of a separate chair. Our present course would require to be so altered that the professor of chemistry should teach, in addition to his present subjects, the important applications of chemistry to pyrotechny and the art of war.

The professor of mathematics and natural philosophy would need to discuss at much greater length than he now does, the theory of projectiles and gunnery.

Some additional instruction would also seem requisite in relation to the construction of bridges and roads, and the general department of military engineering.

When this has been done, and the application of existing means has been carried as far as practicable without abandoning our present objects, a wide field will remain, embracing all the practical, and much of the theoretical art of war.

A professor would be required to drill the student in the use of small arms and of cannon. Some knowledge of topographical drawing, and of the construction of maps, must be imparted. The whole department of tactics; of the management of troops in the field; of field works in their location, design and construction, together with a general idea of permanent fortifications must also be taught, with something of military history and criticism. These branches involve so many subjects and methods of discipline, that a competent instructor would be indispensable, in addition to our existing means of education.

IV. In regard to the fourth point the committee would say, that aid would be requisite so far as they can now perceive, to the following extent: arms and equipments must be furnished to the students, and some aid must be given in providing uniforms: many of our young men being in circumstances which would

render it difficult, if not impossible, for them to supply themselves. Besides these supplies, the salary of a suitable instructor in military science will require to be provided in addition to our present means. With these aids, the system could be introduced at once, and carried to an extent which would be very useful in imparting a familiarity with the elements of the subject.

V. With reference to the last enquiry it may be replied, that no change in our terms or vacations would be required in order to the adoption of the new system.

The daily exercises of the University terminate at 1 P. M., and the succeeding hour, when the students are already assembled, could be appropriated to the drill and to practical instruction. Our ample building would supply drill rooms in wet weather, and the parade ground at our door would be available when the weather was suitable for out-of-door exercises.

The chemical and philosophical instruction could go on in connection with the present arrangements. An hour daily, throughout the year, could be given to those who are anxious for proficiency, and be occupied by the military professor. To this extent no change need be required; and possibly a less amount of time might be found sufficient.

A camp, during the summer, might be formed in the neighborhood of the city, or perhaps in some park within its limits; and as our only vacation of any extent is from the latter part of June to the middle of September, this beautiful season would furnish abundant opportunity with us, as it has been found to do at West Point.

Such an arrangement, however, if thought necessary, would involve an additional expense. Tents and camp equipage must be provided, and some allowance, equivalent to rations, fuel, attendance, &c. must be made. With this additional provision, we do not doubt that the arrangement would be not only practicable, but very popular with large numbers of our young men, and would form them into the best class of officers for the troops of our State.

It may be added that the introduction of a thorough military drill and discipline has been found to have a favorable effect upon the habits of young men in several other respects. The use of a simple uniform tends to prevent the extravagance in dress to which they are sometimes tempted; the habit of prompt obedience is highly favorable to the order of a literary institu-

tion; the drill is serviceable in imparting a good physical development and bearing; and the gradations of rank among the students become the prizes of merit and act as incentives to diligence and regularity of demeanor.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. DRAPER,

BENJAMIN N. MARTIN,

Committee.

February 10, 1862.

University of city of New York :

Unanimously approved in Faculty meeting February 10, 1862.

ISAAC FERRIS,

Chancellor, &c.

MADISON UNIVERSITY.

January 31, 1862.

Hon. JOHN V. L. PRUYN, LL. D.,

Chancellor of the Regents of University of N. Y., and

S. B. WOOLWORTH, LL. D., *Secretary :*

Gentlemen—I have received a circular over your signature making certain enquiries in respect to the establishment of a military department in our colleges and higher institutions of learning. I have submitted your paper to the faculty of this university, and its subject matter was most respectfully considered. Though no definite conclusion was put into form, I think there would be a general concurrence in the following responses to the several inquiries submitted.

First. To the practicability of introducing a military drill, &c. We have had some experience already in this business. At the opening of last summer's term, some hundred of our students were formed into a military corps for daily drilling, under the instruction of a member of the senior class, who had been an officer in the Swedish service. They made great proficiency in knowledge and skill in the military art. Nearly twenty of them are now in the army of the Potomac, three of whom are captains of companies, and three first lieutenants, and others in subordinate offices. We learn that they are considered by their superiors, among the best and most reliable in the regiment. For the greater part of the time we could perceive no material falling off in their regular studies. The time for drill was that previously devoted to physical exercise, and was found to be an admirable

substitute, nay quite superior in its effect upon the health and upon the steadiness and grace of the general movements of the body.

Towards the end of the term, the interest became so great in this kind of exercise, a number having made up their minds to enlist, and others considering the matter, that we could clearly perceive a diminution of interest in their devotion to science and literature. Yet, on the whole, not much was lost in this direction. Still we were convinced that this element needed watching and restraint. Should it become, however, incorporated as a part of the regular programme of our curriculum, it might easily I think, be kept in its proper place. We have the men on the ground competent to take charge of such a department as the one proposed. Professor Brown, principal of the grammar school, has given much attention since the commencement of the war, to military tactics, and has spent considerable time in teaching and drilling a company of our citizens. Prof. Stone, a recent accession to our corps of instructors, has seen service, having been for some time a lieutenant in the army of the Potomac, and was wounded at the affair of Big Bethel. He left the army to accept a professorship here, it having been tendered to him while in the service without any previous intimation to him of the fact. Besides men, we have some material to carry out our plan. The State kindly loaned us (on the requisite conditions for security) last summer, for the use of the "university corps," 100 stand of arms. We have them in readiness for use. The practicability of the measure, so far as we are concerned, is not a question to be solved.

I am not prepared to speak with any positiveness as to the best mode of carrying it as a permanent arrangement, into effect. I am not a military man, and it seems to me considerable military knowledge and experience in military instruction would be essential elements in an enlightened decision on the subject.

Second. Should the Legislature of the State think best on the whole, to make special provisions for the suggested plan, we should desire to come into the arrangement.

Third. I am of the opinion that it would best accord with the character and organization of our university, to make the proposed measure an appendage to some of our existing departments.

Fourth. As we should even in such a case be obliged to enforce

at other points our system of instruction, and as our present resources are drawn upon to their fullest capacity, we should need aid from the State to accomplish this additional work in the most efficient manner. I speak for myself alone in saying an annual appropriation of about \$1,000 would guaranty a large amount of work in the new department. The matter of encampment I think could be managed so as not materially to interfere with the general course.

Thus I have cursorily replied to your inquiries. I have no room to discuss the propriety or expediency of the proposed measure. I should feel considerable diffidence in offering suggestions, but the extraordinary exigencies which have come upon us as a nation, require extraordinary expedients to meet them. We are forced by events to become a military people. We must educate our sons worthily to fulfil the enforced destiny.

I am, gentlemen, with profound respect,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. W. EATON,

President of Madison University.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE.

FORDHAM, N. Y., *February 7, 1862.*

Hon. J. V. L. PRUYN, &c., &c. :

Sir—In answer to your circular, dated January 27, I have the honor to say, that the object proposed to be attained cannot but meet with our entire approbation.

Our system of education should be such as to qualify our young men to become at any future period, if required, efficient army officers; but I doubt that the mixing up of military practice with scientific and literary pursuits in our colleges would secure the expected result.

The introduction of such a military system as has been suggested, would in a great measure endanger the improvement of the student in those branches of science and literature, which form the basis of our university education. Their attention would be engrossed by the very attractive amusement of drilling, camp-life and the like; order and discipline would suffer; and serious studies would be neglected.

Supposing that we take upon ourselves duties which until

now have exclusively fallen within the province of military schools, shall we be able to devote to them a time and a degree of attention sufficient to give us the hope of being in any reasonable manner serviceable to the country in this regard? On the contrary, if we look at the programme of studies followed in the colleges of the university, we shall see that the best preparation which can be given our young men, even for the army, is a thorough training in those studies. Their practical utility is not always acknowledged as it should be; their object is to develop the faculties harmoniously, and consequently to form men, a result which cannot be obtained by any other system. Let their function in the State be recognized; let them be encouraged more, perhaps, than they are, and we shall have men at the head of our army as well as in other avocations, for which the good of society requires more than what our common schools can give.

However, nothing prevents that our mathematical course should be strengthened and directed according to the requirements of our times; that the theory and practice of military engineering should be more particularly attended to; that linear drawing should be introduced; and when this is done, a short time spent in military schools, will, in our opinion, be more conducive to the end we have in view, than several years drilling in a college.

Yours, respectfully,

AUG. J. THEBAUD,

Pres. St. John's College.

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER.

Dear Sir—I beg leave to comply with your request to state, somewhat in detail, what we in the University of Rochester could do in respect to the matter of military education, as well as the expense which would of necessity be incurred by the State.

With our present number of men we should require one hundred and seventy-five muskets with their requisite equipments; we should need swords and belts for the instruction of tactics, and six or eight company officers. We should need provision for music when drilling in the field or marching. We should need a drill hall (the expense of which will be mentioned hereafter) in order to secure attention to drill in all weather, in summer and

winter. This should be one hundred and fifty (150) feet long and fifty (50) feet in width.

We should need a small sum, say five hundred dollars at first, for outlay in military works and models of fortifications and warlike engines of various sorts.

If the artillery drill should be added to instruction in infantry tactics, we should require the use of a section of artillery (two pieces) properly mounted and equipped with caissons, harnesses for horses, etc., and an appropriation to pay for the hire of horses for exercise three or four times a year.

We should require for this purpose, say one hundred and twenty-five dollars a year, (\$125).

We should require the pay of a teacher of tactics and superintendent of drilling, amounting, say to seven hundred and fifty dollars a year, (\$750).

Without seriously affecting the college course of literature and science we could teach in the

Freshman year : Infantry tactics—School of the soldier and school of the company, from a text book and by drill.

Sophomore year : Infantry tactics—School of the battalion. In artillery the elements of gunnery in connection with the theory of projectiles. Infantry drill continued.

Junior year : School of the piece—School of the section, accompanied by artillery drill. In chemistry, the composition and tests of powder and pyrotechny in its elements.

Senior year : Some elementary treatise on field fortifications and the principles of attack and defence, together with camp duties, method of making returns, requisitions, &c., to be accompanied with infantry and artillery drill and exercise in connection with junior students.

This course of study or what is equivalent to it might be interspersed with the college curriculum, and the course of study and instruction in it so given that it might conduce materially to the increase of interest in the study of history, and to furnish practical illustrations of the value of chemical and mechanical science. As a preparation for military life it would, of course, be meagre, but with the habits of study and mental discipline given by a college course it would furnish a foundation upon which, by practice and study, a man might become an accomplished officer in infantry or artillery. If it should be thought too much to attempt artillery the instruction might be confined

to infantry tactics and the artillery drill omitted. It is of the highest importance to the State that no more should be attempted than can be accomplished by all students without injury to their obtaining the full and adequate course of liberal education.

The expenses to the State for the introduction of such a course in the way I have described, for an average of one hundred and fifty to one hundred and seventy-five students, would be about as follows :

A drill hall 150 by 50 feet, one story high, on our college campus, (thus excluding cost for lot), could be erected in a substantial manner	
Of wood for	\$2,300
Of brick for	2,700
The cost of instruction (annually)	750
The cost of books and models, at first	500
Hire of artillery horses (annually)	125
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With brick hall	\$4,075
With wooden hall	3,675
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I have omitted the cost of music, as I am unable to specify what it would be. Apart from the instruments, which the State has already on hand, the cost would be trifling. After the drill hall shall have been finished and a foundation of a collection of military books and models established, it is my conviction that the whole expense to the State for the instruction of from one hundred to one hundred and fifty students, in the theoretical and practical course given above, might be carried through in the University of Rochester, at an annual expense to the State not exceeding *fifteen hundred dollars*. If our number of students should increase, some additional expense would be incurred.

Should the State wish to establish in one or more colleges a course of higher instruction in military science, it is the opinion of those who have investigated the subject, that a year's course substantially equivalent to the last year at West Point, might be given by a professor and assistant professor, with a riding school and apparatus in addition to what has been named above, for the sum of four thousand and six hundred dollars a year.

Such a course of study would assume the pupils to have gone through a college course respectably, together with the course of

elementary instruction named in the first or general plan herewith submitted. The number of students which could be taught at the above expense would of course be limited in number, say to fifty or seventy-five. Beyond this number an additional teacher might be required.

Very respectfully, your ob't servant,

(Signed.)

M. B. ANDERSON.

ROCHESTER, *February 20, 1862.*

HON. J. V. L. PRUYN, LL. D.

Chancellor of the University of New York.

I have read the above communication from president Anderson, and examined the details into which he has entered and fully agree with him in all he has said.

(Signed.)

J. F. QUIMBY.

GENESEE COLLEGE.

LIMA, *February 10, 1862.*

To the Honorable Regents of the University of New York:

Your circular of the 27th ult., has been duly received and carefully considered. You are aware that in this institution and the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, which might almost be said to be a part of it, we annually receive more than four hundred young men—not boys—for most of them are of quite mature years. The breaking out of the present rebellion at once aroused in these young hearts the most intense feelings of patriotism and at the same time a military taste. A fine company was formed, and is now at the seat of war, and those who remained at home were, as far as possible, put under military drill. The best works on military science became subjects of study, and we had hoped to do much in this direction, almost without aid from the State. We applied for arms, arms of any kind, but failed to secure them, and our drill has mostly ceased. Were this all that the Regents contemplate, we could, at no cost to the State but the loans of arms, keep some two hundred of men under constant and efficient drill. But in all likelihood, much more is intended. Already it can be distinctly seen that when the rebellion is over, we must be a more military people than heretofore; and it would seem to be wisdom on the part of the State to provide for giving to the educated young men of the State an enlarged and scientific knowledge of the military art. I believe it practicable to devise

a plan for this purpose. Already we give instruction in our college course that must ever form a part of such a course of study. For a very small sum, say five hundred dollars per year, we might somewhat extend it with a view to military engineering, and being favored with arms, light arms and heavy ordnance, we might do much to improve military science in the State. But it would, in our opinion, be most desirable to create a professorship for the purpose, and thus, by giving us the presence and labors of, say a graduate of West Point, we might amply repay the State for the expense incurred. Could the Regents or Legislature appropriate to us \$1,500 a year, all this could be accomplished.

As to camping out, it might readily be done in the summer time, and a certain number of weeks selected for the purpose when all our colleges have vacations. The chief danger here would be in the matter of expense. It seems to me that such part of the plan should contemplate giving to our young men an actual experience of the soldier's life. Both in respect to provisions and their preparation, this life in the camp should resemble the real one of the soldier in time of war. Certainly, were it made a time of feast and frolic, of gambling and intemperance, this period of camping could be productive only of ruin to our noblest youth. I would earnestly beg that if this part of the plan is adopted, the most stringent provision be made to secure our young men from injury. The camps, I suppose, would be at different points in the State, so that the expense of conveyance would be as small as possible.

We have in our possession about 70 acres of land, with some shade, enough I might say, and level fields just adapted for military drills. I cannot doubt but our trustees would be glad to place it at the disposal of the State for camping purposes. It is a short four miles from Honeoye Falls, on the Central railroad. I had at first thought of a visit to the committee, but my time is precious, and it has been no part of our policy to be trouble to the Regents or the Legislature. Hon. D. A. Ogden, of the House, is one of our trustees, and can communicate to you nearly as well as myself. We feel much interest in the proposition of your circular, and will be glad to aid all we can in the perfection of an efficient plan.

Yours truly,

JOHN MORRISON REID.

NEW YORK FREE ACADEMY.

February 4, 1862.

HON. JOHN V. L. PRUYN,

Chancellor of the University of the State of New York :

Dear Sir—I have had the honor to receive a communication from the Regents of the university on the subject of introducing military instruction into the colleges and the higher institutions of learning in the State.

In reply, I have the pleasure to say, that I deem it entirely feasible to introduce military instruction into our higher institutions of learning, and that it may, if properly carried out, rather prove serviceable than otherwise in the prosecution of the ordinary course of studies.

Military engineering as taught at the military academy at West Point, using the same text-books, was introduced into our course of study a few months since, and is taught as well and as thoroughly as any other branch of instruction in the academy. A certain amount of acquirement in military engineering has therefore become necessary to the attainment with us, of an academic degree.

Nor is this all, we have prepared in model, for the purpose of instruction, a correct representation of the several systems of fortification, both field and permanent.

Whether the Board of Education of this city, who are the trustees of the Free Academy, will decide on introducing military instruction further than they have already done, is more than I can say positively; yet I have no doubt from present indications that they will do so. A committee of the Board have the subject under consideration, and I learn that they will report in favor of the measure. As to my own opinion, I am decidedly in favor of extending the military department already established in the Free Academy so as to embrace infantry tactics, the bayonet exercise, military gymnastics, and the various artillery drills.

I should prefer, that the military instruction, to whatever extent it be introduced, should be connected with a chair already existing in the institution; it is, with us, connected with the department of mixed mathematics, and has so far, worked admirably well.

As we shall commence the drills, when introduced, only with

our upper class, we probably may not require more for the first year, than three hundred stands of arms and equipments. We shall require also two field pieces for artillery drills. All ought to be furnished by the State.

Encampments for a few weeks, as a most efficient means of instruction in the military art, might take place during the summer vacations without interfering with the studies during term time.

I am of the opinion, that military instruction can be introduced into our higher institutions of learning without interfering essentially with the course of study already established. The physical exercise which the military drill necessarily requires, gives great vigor to the bodily system, and enables the student to engage in his studies with greater efficiency.

Mental culture and the acquisition of knowledge do not depend so much on the time devoted to any given studies, as on the energy with which they are pursued.

We are fortunately situated in the Free Academy to commence a thorough course of drilling with the various military arms. We have had for some months past, a partial organization of two military companies, made up principally of our students, and drilled by individual members of the classes, who themselves were taught by some of the most skilful tacticians in the country. We have instances also of some who have seen active service in the field, and others again who belong to existing military organizations in the city. We need not, therefore, go beyond the institution to commence and carry out a thorough course of study and practice in the art of war as contemplated in the resolution of the Honorable the Assembly of the 24th ult.

I have the honor to be,

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

HORACE WEBSTER.

COLLEGE OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER.

NEW YORK, *February 4, 1861.*

Honorable Sir—I respectfully acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 27th of January, and in compliance with request made therein, I subjoin my views on the subject under consideration.

I heartily concur with the honorable members of the Board who are of opinion that our higher institutions of learning, may readily and usefully to the State and to themselves, impart the elements of a respectable military education to the young men under their care who have any aptitude for a military career. I deem this quite practicable in institutions wherein the course of studies for the seniors could be extended to two years, as it may in ours.

In our institution, one of the professors of higher mathematics being a graduate of the polytechnic school, and having served a long time in the army, could take upon himself the duties of the military professorship. But as our college has not as yet taken that development which it bids fair to have, and as the number of our undergraduates is still inconsiderable, it seems to me more conducive to its interests to defer for some time the establishing of a department of military instruction. When, however, its charter will be perpetual, the number of its undergraduates will doubtless increase, and such amelioration be introduced as may prove to the honorable Board that our aim will be to merit a continuance of their benevolent patronage.

May I add that a camp life, even for a short period, though of manifest advantage to those who intend to lead a military life, might be, in some respects, prejudicial to others, and not fully meet with the approbation of parents.

Yours, respectfully,

JOS. DRUTHALLER, *President.*

Hon. JOHN V. L. PRUYN, LL. D.,

Chancellor of the University.

HUDSON RIVER INSTITUTE.

CLAVERACK, N. Y., February 7, 1862.

Hon. S. B. WOOLWORTH:

Dear Sir—In reply to your circular of the 27th of January, I would say,

1. As to the general practicability of introducing military drill, &c., into the colleges and academies. We have not a doubt of its practicability and of its beneficial results to the State and the country.

2d. Our institution has established a military department. Its success has exceeded our most sanguine expectations.

3d. We prefer to make this military professorship a separate one.

4th. We think that the State should give \$2,400.00 to each academy that instructs one hundred pupils free in military drill, manual of arms, and the theory of military engineering. That is, give eight dollars for each pupil for each term, (one third of a year). The State should also furnish the arms and battery.

5th. An actual life in the camp for four weeks would not in any way interfere with our general course of study, or our vacations.

The encampment can be in July and August, when almost all schools are in vacation. Any school having the appointment, could arrange its vacations to conform to the law.

Our experience with a military class three terms, which has enrolled over one hundred names, enables us to give the following as a result of our experience.

1st. The pupils in the drill study more and recite better than those who are not.

2d. A stranger will discriminate pupils who are in the drill by their gait. Their general bearing is also marked as improved in ease and gracefulness.

3d. We find this an excellent mode of teaching submission to authority.

4th. Pupils do not weary of the drill after a few weeks. All who have dropped it have done so on account of the expense which they did not feel able to pay.

5th. Our military pupils have expressed a desire to go into camp a few weeks, and have the promise of being permitted to do so next summer.

6th. We require the pupils to do general duty, occasionally all night, and to allow no person to pass without the countersign. They perform this duty cheerfully, although they have had to make a great many arrests.

7th. We try and convict those who violate the strictest military law. We have not had a murmur against submitting to the decision of the court-martial or superior officer.

8th. We think it essential to sustain the department that the pupils dress in uniform and have arms and accoutrements.

Yours, very truly,

A. FLACK.

ONEIDA SEMINARY.

February 15, 1862.

HON. S. B. WOOLWORTH :

Dear Sir—The circular of the Regents relating to a military department in our colleges and higher institutions, was received this morning. To the subject-matter of the circular I have given considerable attention for a few months past. Early in September last I encouraged the young men of this institution to form a military company. Edwin Brown, a pupil, but at the same time our teacher of calisthenics and gymnastics, was elected captain. Our professor of languages, who during his course at Union College, gave considerable attention to military studies, took the company under his special charge. They have been drilled from one to two hours each day for five days in each week. The results that I have specially noted, are favorable in several respects, viz: in invigorating their physical systems, developing manly forms, adding grace and dignity to their manners, impressing them with the necessity of accuracy and promptness, in waking them to the importance of cheerful, immediate submission to the directions of their superiors in office. The experiment thus far has proved the military drill to be valuable and practicable in this seminary. It enables me to answer with some confidence your first enquiry.

1. It seems to me quite practicable to introduce a "military drill and manual of arms, together with practice and theory of military engineering into our colleges and higher institutions." The methods for carrying this plan into effect will vary probably in different institutions. To make it efficient, two things, it has seemed to me, will be essential. First, to secure a good drill-master, who shall be captain of the company. He may be a professor in the institution or a pupil, as may be convenient. It is not at all necessary that he should be a very scientific man. The main point is to secure one who is capable, efficient and acceptable for this single duty. The second thing is to have a regular course of study adapted to the military profession. It should be thorough and extensive; including the pure mathematics through conic sections at least. Descriptive geometry and drawing, surveying, civil and military engineering, mechanics and military tactics. Those who complete this course should be entitled to a degree of such name and import as the Regents might determine. This would both fit our young men for military life,

and elevate the standard of scientific education in most of our institutions, preparing youth for any pursuit they might wish to follow. These subjects could be ordinarily taught by regular professors. It could not be expected that all in the company would complete this course. But a sufficient number might be induced to complete it to form a large body of well educated young men for officers of almost any rank. Those who partially complete it could not pursue a course of study better adapted to fit them for the duties of active life.

2. As you will perceive, we have already a department of military instruction in our seminary. It was begun as an experiment and has labored under many disabilities, and is yet in its infancy, but has assumed a somewhat permanent form. I am directing our young men to a course of studies such as I have indicated above. We are desirous of improving and perfecting the department.

3. We should prefer at present to employ a pupil for drill-master. We have one who is capable and acceptable. The scientific instruction and general supervision of the company must be under the principal and regular professor. This plan it may be found expedient hereafter to change.

4. To make the department what it ought to be we need aid. For the company the institution should be furnished with arms and equipments; also text-books on strictly military subjects. I would recommend also that the State pay the tuition of graduates of the course for the last year. Besides a small appropriation would be necessary to meet the expense of additional instruction. These appropriations are the least that would be required for the success and the efficiency of the department. They might all be included in two items; first appropriation for arms, equipments and text-books, which would not necessarily be repeated often; second appropriation for additional instruction—so much per member of company—out of which graduates should have the last year's instruction remitted.

5. Camp life could be attended to in our vacations.

6. Let me call your attention to the importance of such a department in our academies. The young men connected with them do not generally expect to study a profession. They are to form our future soldiers and officers in the army. Nearly three-fourths of the students of our colleges look forward to a professional life, and will therefore seldom be found in military ranks. Even

if all should be educated for the army, the number would be too small to meet the wants of the Empire State in the future that is opening to us. For military services, we must depend to a great extent upon that mass of intelligent youth who are in our numerous academies and higher institutions of learning. If the State should do anything to encourage and establish departments of military instruction in any of our institutions, these assuredly ought not to be omitted in the list of its beneficiaries.

In the above, I have but indicated the methods for carrying into effect a department of this kind. The details of the plan, must depend to some extent, on circumstances. Hoping that the mighty events that are now passing may awaken the Legislature to some right and efficient action on the subject, I submit these suggestions to the Regents, whose views will undoubtedly have a controlling influence on the final result of legislative discussions.

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed)

E. M. ROLLO.

AN ACT TO PROMOTE MILITARY EDUCATION IN
THE HIGHER INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING IN
THIS STATE.

The People of the State of New York represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Regents of the university are hereby authorized to select and appoint six of the incorporated colleges of this State, subject to their visitation, and one incorporated academy in each judicial district in the State, subject to their visitation, in which a system of military education and training, and the use and practice of the manual of arms shall be established as hereinafter provided.

§ 2. The Adjutant General is hereby authorized from time to time, to furnish to the proper officer of any institution so selected, such and so many arms and such military equipments and equipage as he may deem proper, taking satisfactory security to the State for the proper use and safe return of the same when required.

§ 3. The Regents of the university may appoint not to exceed three professors of military instruction and tactics for the general objects and purposes mentioned in their report on military education presented to the Assembly on the seventh day of March, 1862, who shall discharge such duties, and in such institutions as the Regents may from time to time direct, and who shall respectively receive a salary at the rate of fifteen hundred dollars per annum, payable quarterly out of the sum hereinafter appropriated.

§ 4. Each of the institutions selected as aforesaid may appoint a drill-master (whose competency for the duties shall have been certified by the Adjutant General, or some officer whom he may have designated for the purpose), to take the charge and superintendence of drilling the students in the military classes of such institution, and in the manual of arms and other military exercises, under such regulations as the Adjutant General may

from time to time direct and approve, who shall each receive a salary at the rate of seven hundred and fifty dollars per annum, payable quarterly, out of the appropriation hereby made.

§ 5. The amount of the first six months of the appropriation hereinafter made may be expended by the Regents and the Adjutant General, or with their approval in aiding the institutions thus selected in making the requisite arrangements for conducting military education and drill, and in procuring libraries, maps and models requisite for the purpose. But the amount appropriated for a library and for maps and models for any one institution shall not exceed five hundred dollars, and annually thereafter the sum of one hundred dollars may be used for the same purpose. The books, maps and models thus procured, shall be the property of the State, and the same may be retained by the said institutions respectively until otherwise directed by the Regents and the Adjutant General.

§ 6. A sum not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars of the amount hereinafter appropriated may annually be applied under the direction of the Regents and the Adjutant General in defraying the incidental expenses attendant upon carrying out the provisions of this law.

§ 7. Any part of the sum hereby appropriated remaining unexpended after satisfying the aforesaid charges thereon, may in the discretion of the Regents and the Adjutant General be applied towards defraying the expenses attendant upon artillery exercise and practice in any of the institutions thus selected or otherwise, as they may deem proper in advancing military instruction, and also in the expenses of any encampment or encampments for drill and improvement in military science and tactics under such regulations as to such encampments as may be approved by the Adjutant General.

§ 8. If any institution thus selected shall at any time, in the opinion of the Regents and the Adjutant General, fail satisfactorily to perform its duties under this act; or if the number of students in military education be too small in their judgment to warrant its continuance, such other institution may be selected in its place as the said Regents may determine.

§ 9. The sum of twenty-five thousand dollars per annum for two years, is hereby appropriated for the purpose of carrying the provisions of this act into effect, to be paid by the Treasurer,

from time to time, on the warrant of the Comptroller, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

§ 10. The Regents of the University and the Adjutant General, shall make an annual report to the Legislature as to the manner in which the provisions of this act have been carried out.

§ 11. This act shall take effect immediately.