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THE SILLY SYCLOPEDIA

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CONTAINING "DAFFYNISHUNS"

OF THE

WORDS OF THE SLANG LANGUAGE SPOKEN BY MIDSHIPMEN OF THE

U. S. NAVAL ACADEMY

TOGETHER WITH A FEW ALLUSIONS TO

YE ANCIENT CITY OF ANNAPOLIS

"BILLY BILGER"

KC 13359



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BY

CHARLES G. FELDMEYER

DEDICATED
TO
THE NAVY GOAT

PREFACE

HE unofficial, everyday language of the Midshipmen is made up of most expressive slang words of uncertain origin without which the expression of their

ideas would be tedious. This latter fact, together with their incessant daily use, causes a Midshipman to disregard a "cits" unfamiliarity with these terms and unthinkingly include in their use during conversation.

A "Cits" idea of a Xmas Tree differs greatly from a Midshipman's, while some few girls who have attended one of the Naval Academy hops never appreciate the word "Gold Brick" as he does. Again to "Hit the Pap" without doubt reminds the "Cit" of the many times he has "Hit" the old man for a few samples of the "Long Green" and "Busting Cold" puts him to guessing, how.

In publishing this little volume, yours truly, "The Author," has attempted to define these slang words and expressions for the benefit and pleasure of those not familiar with them, and for those whose knowledge of these words and expressions equals or exceeds his, he has loaded the "daffynishuns" with the highest explosives of wit and humor to explode by concussion. As he realizes the shots that hit are the shots that count he hopes his aim will leave you a wreck, so to speak. Yet he will be gratified beyond measure even if the total concentration of fire and total explosion is required to capture your faintest smile of approbation.

A "Cit" may work from morn 'til sun But a Middi's work is never done.

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A is for the Army—Oh, Well!

Give them the "Cannon ball yell"

For six and ten

And the siren

Has again sounded their knell.

ACADEMY—Kennels of the future "sea-dogs." www.libtool.com.cn

ALPHABET-See W. O. Stevens.

Ambition—(am-bit). The Savoir's four and the Wooden-man's two-five.

Ancestry—What all of us have but not all that some of us have. The spirit that haunts Annapolis. Slightly disparaged by the Darwinian Theory.

Annapolis—(Anna—meaning how old is she and polis meaning town) Naval Academy Suburbs.

Suggestive of a "A-nap."

Ans—The Academic year's hot finish and as much of a mystery as Anne's age.

The annual examinations.

Eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow you may Bilge.

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B

B is for Bilger—a "past Middee'
But not the kind he wanted to be.
He was known as a bird
Which wasn't absurd
For he was often found on a tree.

A good "ole bugle" but she "done busted"!



'AT PHILADELPHIA"

BARGAIN-The Paymaster's delight.

BAT-To make a "three bagger" in academic work.

BAZOO—The literary attempts of a Plebe for the amusement of upper-classmen.

The home paper.

Academie !

BEAT IT-There is safety in flight.

BILGE—The great stunt of the academic Board.

The local "skidoo" meaning, "Adieu, Navale

BILGER—One who bilges. A result of the gentle siftings of the "Ana" and "Semi Ana."

Bluff—A winning game with a wooden prof; called with a one-five by a savy one.

BONE-The skeleton of a cold four. Fertilizer for the brain.

BONE-To dope it out. Hope of the wooden.

BOOZE ARTIST-He who paints everything red.

Boys-See Mokes.

Bulletin—Bully meaning good and tin meaning money. Hence good for the money a Midshipman pays for it.

The Naval Academy weekly publication.

Bust—When an instructor calls a bluff.
Worth less than a two-five.

Flitting visions of a future cit life.

Bust Cold—To approach the zero mark of absolute incorrectness. The wrong dope.

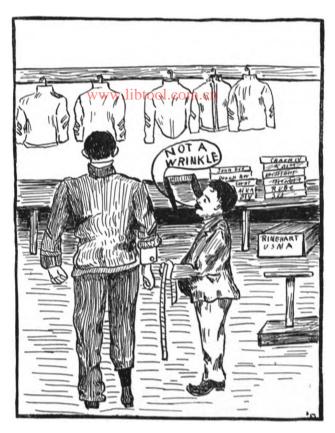
BUZZARD—A scavenger. Hence one who gets what the "stripers" leave.

A cadet petty officer.

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C

C is for Crabtown on the Bay,
Rip Van Winkle of towns they say.
After centuries of hope
It has shaken the dope
And really has cars underway.



"A GOOD FIT"

- CAB—See Chaney's assortment and examine well before hiring others. What you could buy for the same price you have to pay to hire one on a hop night.
- CANDIDATE—He's the Candi! An aspirant to naval fame and glory who is not familiar with the present pay system.

The life of Annapolis-see any Annapolitan.

- CAPITAL—By far the best daily paper published in Annapolis.
- Cash—The part a Midshipman gets of his 500 per. "Don't be rash with your cash."
- CIT—(Abb. for citizen.) A Bilger before and after. One on the outside looking in.

A civilian instructor.

- CLEAN SLEEVER—The foolish (?) few who failed to provide extra "oil." See parable of the foolish virgins. A first-class cinch!
- CLUB-In "Cit" life a means of getting soaked-figuratively or literally.
- COSMETIC—Cosmo meaning face and metic meaning to make.

 Hence to make a face. See any fusser before a hop.
- CROSS COUNTRY—What Sherman said of war.

 A Thursday afternoon practice march.



The modern Farragut—"Damn the D's, go ahead!"

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D

D is for Dago the language of Spain
In chorus they utter the sad refrain,
Hota—ka—é—elle
Thaytah—a—o—helle,
Again an' again an' again.



DAGO-The language that makes one pray for Esperanto.

Damn—The innocent word "dam" raised to the nth power.

Syn—Torpedoes.

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DAMSEL—Queen or Gold Brick.

DAM-SELL-Gold Brick.

DEAD-Philadelphia (except once a year.)

DEADER-Annapolis.

DEADEST—After an operation for appendicitis.

DELUSION—The four you get in your dreams.

Graduation as Ensigns.

DESTINY—That which governs the dispensation of "profs" and incidentally the marks one gets.

Dock-To lay up.

DOCTOR-The man who does it.

DRAG—Literally to tow a "Gold Brick" to a dance, figuratively the pleasure of escorting a "Queen."

A hurried draw off of another's smoke.

D's-(Abb. for demerits.) The cost of an offence but detection makes one pay the price.

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In the words of John Paul Jones—I have not yet begun to eat.

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E

E is for the entrance Exam

For which all candidates cram;

Thanks to Bobby or Buck

And political luck

For thru them a Middi I am.



"THE TOUGE MIDDI"

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- Есно-"Cannon Ball Yell" of the Army.
- EGG—(Good Egg.) Applied to some people but sometimes a goose-egg.

- ENCORE—(From the French, meaning again.) The return of the Bilger.
 - "Encore! Encore!" See Dago Dept.
- EPITAPH-Written above about one below.
- ESPERANTO—The result of studying Spanish, French, English and "Barton."
- ET-CETERA—An excuse for something you don't know. An excellent substitute for a poor Spanish or French vocabulary.
- Exam—An excellent system for discovering what one does not know.
- Excursionists—A bunch of wonder-struck, open-mouthed, eyepopping rustics or other "cits" hunting John
 Paul Jones, Battle Boats and the "Navel
 Ercadermy."

Fuss and get fussed.

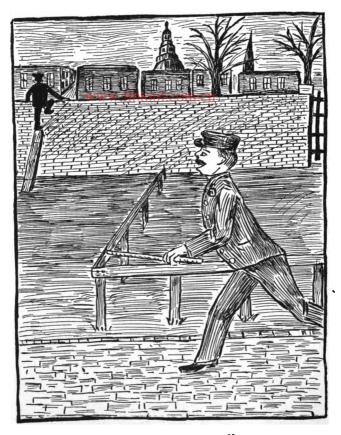
All will get smoking privilege some day.

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F

F is the Fusser who runs a big chance
For a Queen, or Brick unable to dance,
And if it is rainy
It is also Chaney
But he's a lover and this is romance.

He is a wise Middi who can fool the fever thermometer.



"FRENCHING"

FAITH—The way a Midshipman takes the works of Professor J—, placing all Hope in the Charity of the instructor.

FEMME-See Damsel or Dam-sell.

FIEND-A sharper. www.libtool.com.cn

FIRRCE-The superlative degree of anything.

FOOT-BALL-A game the Army used to play.

Four.—The target of a Midshipman's daily aims. To set your sights allow for a dyspeptic prof, his knowledge of the subject, your ability to bluff, your previous reputation and a slight consideration of your personal knowledge of the subject.

FRAP—(From the French, frapper meaning to hit.)

FRAP THE PAP-To get stuck on the conduct report.

FRENCH—An evil result of the conduct grades or a show in town with good looking chorus girls. Liberty over the wall.

FUDGE-What she promises but never sends.

FUME—(From the French, fumer.) To smoke.

FUSS-Enthusiastic association with the fair sex.

Fusser—A Midshipman having a girl in every port and \$5.00 laid away for Chaney on a rainy day.

One out for the Class Banner.

Great minds run in the same channels—if they are aboard ship.

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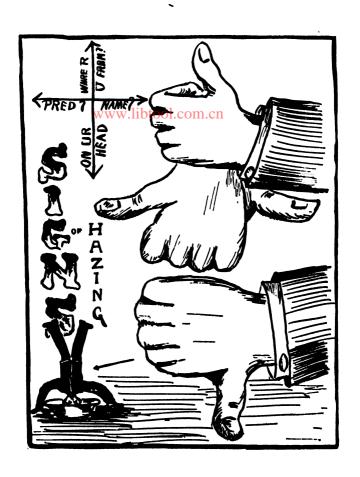
G

G is the Greaser and his greasy forte Of ostentatiously pleasing to extort,

A 3.9 in grease

And keep off the trees

While a just reward would be the report.



- GOAT-"The Army Mule." The Naval Academy mascot and the nth man of a class.
- GOLD BRICK—What goes to the wall—hence Wall Flower.

 An unfortunate "Femme" who would have a chance for a "Queen's" billet under laws of hereditary succession. The Femme who when you are laboriously maneuvering to bring her about on the gymnasium floor, is an inspiration to the wit and humor of some stag on the side lines and causes him to suggest that you get out an oar.

 A lemon in the garden of love.
- Gouge-The royal road to knowledge.
- GRADE—(Conduct.) The unpleasant result of too many demerits during a month.
- GRAFT—A corruption of grab. 500 per for somebody. Phonographs in the Dago Dept. A cinch.
- GREASE—To laugh at a senior's joke that is worth a Ha! Ha! Lubricant which destroys the friction of Academy Life.
- GREASE MARKS-Given for efficiency in greasing.
- GREASER—One who makes his mark in grease. He who wears the Oh-please-give-me-a-3.5-smile!

 One who plays with an officer's kid during the week to get an invitation to Sunday dinner.
- GRUB-What the U. S. N. A. cooks make a mess of-for Midshipmen.
- Gue-Food possessing great viscosity and asking the question, "Who was sea-sick?"
- GYRINE—The sea-going soldier or the land-lubberly sailor.

She Hops but never Dances!

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H

H is for Hop—the Fusser's delight

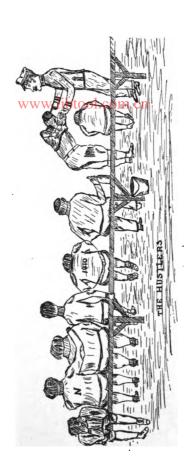
For there's where he's found every hop night,

If he's dragging a "stinger"

Don't let him make you a ringer

With the spiel—"My queen, she's out of sight."

Don't think a man a freak because he "Hatched" a cross-section.



HA! HA!-See Horse Laugh.

HAND OUT-"Grub" served at a hop.

HANDSOME-Meaning little.

"Dress up handsomely, Mister!"
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HASH—A combination of Navy Salt Horse, Canned Willie, Onions, Spuds and anything left over from the previous meal that the mokes would not put away. The ingredients lose many of their unappetizing qualities thus bluffing the hungry victim and tickling the steward.

HAZING-" Tain' no more."

Hero—Usually tagged with a medal but every man that wears a medal is not a hero. What success makes of a fool sometimes.

HIT THE TREE—(See Tree.) To perch thereon accompanied by less than a 2.5.

A good opportunity to turn over a new leaf.

HOPE—Side partner of a 2.5. Stimulus of the "wooden section" for there is hope.

HOPs—The Fusser's heaven but the Red Mike takes his in beer. That which the Plebes look down on—from the balcony. Called Hops because some are unable to dance.

Horse Laugh-See Ha! Ha!

HOSPITAL—The home beyond the grave.

HUSTLERS—The nautical name for a "scrub" foot-ball team.

The bunch who make the members of the first team hustle to keep their jobs.

Ignorance hath its reward—2.5 and less.

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I

I is for Ignorance—bane of the "Wooden"
Waterloo for him who tried and coulden'
For with 2.0 in "Mec"
And Worse in "Elec"
He'll find his departure extremely sudden.



"FUSSING PRELIMINARIES"

IGNORANCE-Bane of the "Wooden."

In Pawn-Most anything when you need the money.

IRONY OF FATE—To win a game and find your \$20.00 wasn't up; next Saturday to lose the game and the same twenty.

A Gold Brick and a Rainy Hop Night.

The Jay is not the only fellow who gets a Gold Brick occasionally.

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Who got the Four? I said the Greaser For I am a Pleaser, I got the Four.

Who saw him get it? I said the Wooden I tried and coulden', I saw him get it.

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- JAG-Sea legs on a \circ \circ it' itying to navigate with liquid ballast.

 All in but several dollars out.
- JOKE-If the suspected John Paul Jones is some ignoble Frenchman.

Rubber or pepper in the sack of tobacco turned in to the O. C.

JOHN PAUL JONES-Inspiration of the following few lines:

(TUNE—Everybody Works but Father.)

Everybody works but John Paul
And he lays around all day,
All pickled up in alcohol
On a permanent jag they say.

The Middis—they march around
And do honor to his bones.

Everybody works in "Crab-town"
Except—John Paul Jones.

The darned old loafer!

One usually knocks to be heard.

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K

K is for the Kiss, bestowed by the miss, More usually a miss or stolen kiss.

She likes to say
It was this way
I was unwilling but he swiped it, amiss.

K188-Osculation of lips.

KNOCK-To let others know you are around.

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"AT THE GYMNASIUM"

A little learning is a dangerous thing, Drink deep or you won't be here in the spring.

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L

L is for Leave—youngster year

Sans boning, sans pap, sans care.

With Taps, A. M. about three

And no such thing as reviellee,

Surely it's a time of good cheer.



"ON LEAVE"

LABOR-A "Days Work" in two hours.

LEAVE-What is left of the academic year at September.

LIBERTY—Permission to visit the city of Annapolis on Saturdays and Sundays. The privilege of the 1st "Conduct Grade" of going thru the gate—other grades go over the wall.

Love-Cupid's dope.

In love-under the dope.

Mask Balls are unpopular—some few midshipmen are from Missouri.

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M

Mis for the Moke who you must implore
And never order, as it makes him sore,
To bring you grub
Aye there's the rub
For invariably he says, "Tain' no more!"

A miss is as good as a mile if she is a Gold Brick.

The fortune of a man is the misfortune of men.

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"MESS HALL MOKE"

- MAY POLE—Erected once a year in honor of the faithful rear guard who brings up the rear of a class.
- MEDAL—What one gets for doing something someone else did not do. WW.IIblool.com.cn

If you want a medal join the rifle team.

Mass—Food prepared by Navy Cooks.

MESS HALL-Where Midshipmen make a Mess.

- MIDDI-"An amphibious pet of Uncle Sam, habitat Annap-
- Miser—The "busted" man who will not draw his monthly allowance.
- Mokes—(From Spanish Moke meaning servant.) The sons Ham with waiter's billets.

Blackheads on the face of the earth.

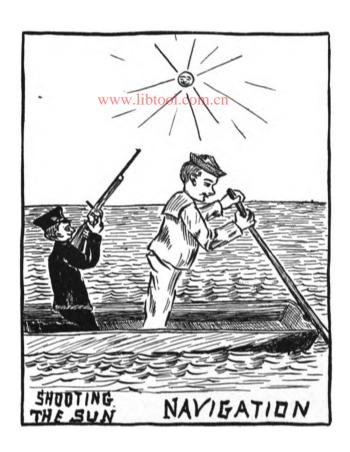
Mumms—The happiest way to go broke. Mumm's the word but it takes money to say it. An imported Jag.

Navigation is a cinch compared to what the "Cit" graduate is supposed to know to fix his worldly position in degrees.

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N

N is for Navy-veritable cinch,
For promotion is steady-inch by inch.
On a rainy day
You still get your pay
And of course that'll help out in a pinch.



N★ ★-What the Army saw at Philadelphia.

NAUSEA-A high-toned name for sea-sickness.

That all in, down and then out feeling which makes one long for terra-firma or wish that he had chosen West Point.

Nav-(Abb. for Navigation.) "A Day's Work" in two hours, twice a week.

Given anything you wish to find the rest.

NERVE—Required to go in the "Ans" or "Semi Ans" with a 1.5.

Non Reg-Not according to regulations.

Non Reg clothes look well even tho you are "ragged."

NUTTY-About half cracked.

One of the "40%."

The Easy Mark is a 1.5

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O

O is to Odenton—you know

If you don't Tip—"Don't ever go,"

For on the slate
"No. 'n' is late"

Or more truthfully one hour slow.



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O. C.-Officer in Charge.

The Czar of Bancroft Hall and Monarch of all he surveys.

Oculist-An excuse to go to Baltimore or Washington.

O. D.-Officer of the Day.

The O. C., Jr.

ODENTON-The Annapolis side track.

The song "Waiting, Lonely Waiting" was written at Odenton. The only time it looks good is when you tell it, good-bye.

P

P is for Plebe—the non-ratey Mid

Now having a cinch to what others did

For the Plebes of old

Were never so bold

As to do what tradition forbid.

"THE DEBUTANTE OF 1908"

PAP-The father of demerits.

PAP SHEET—Distinguishing flag of the Discipline Department displayed at every breakfast formation as a warning to others. Contains a record of offenses and voffenders. The prices of offenses, ranging between one and one hundred demerits, are found in one column while in another the O. C. lets you know if you have a "grease" with him.

PEACH—A fortunate "femme" possessing a love inspiring appearance, and endowed with the gift of gab, a taste in dressing and an ability to "hop."

PLEBE-(Obsolete.) Now Fourth Classman.

POETICAL LICENSE—A 200 pound Gold Brick labelled "dearie" or "little one."

Pull Sat—To grab the Academy life buoy, "2.5."

To weather a slight brain-storm.

In some departments the work of a hero.

Pull the List—(To hit the Sick List. Obsolescent.) Seldom done now except on days for which a stiff exam. is billed.

Quoth the moke—"Tain' no mo!"

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Q

Q is for a Queen—the real live winner
With temptations to make you a sinner,
For with rosy lips
And well rounded hips
She induces you by extras and dinner.



"ON LOVER'S LANE"

QUEEN-Opposed to Gold Brick. See Peach.

A "high card" of many decks and captures a "Jack" occasionally.

QUEER-Boxing the Compass. Shooting the Sun. Belaying the Stern-sheets. Head-earings on a Sail. Cap on the Head of a Mast. A Square Yard.

Quirren-One who "cashes in" before the cash is out.

Quoin-Friends of the leader.

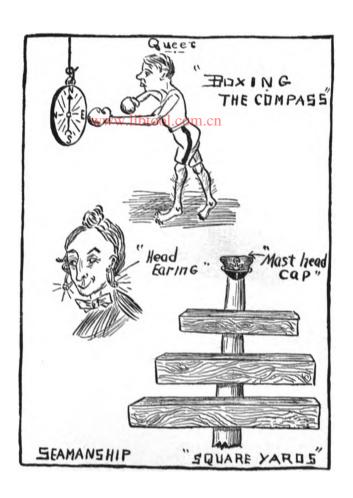
He who rises with the "sun" should not stay up too late with the daughter.

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R

R is for Red Mike—a bashful guy,
Who from Femmes and Fussing steers shy,
But when he does reform
Woe to Her in the storm
And excited she'll answer, "Aye, Aye."

There is a royal yard but no royal road to it.



RAG-To view the marks of an instructor surreptitiously. To snatch a drag.

Cheap chewing material.

RAGGED-Caught in the act. (See Pap Sheet.)

RARE-Good beef.

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RATE—Privileges unofficially enjoyed by the upper-classmen and created for their convenience.

RATE-To enjoy a rate.

RATEY—When one assumes that he is "it" for somebody to prove to him that he isn't.

An under-classman's making use of upper-class privileges.

RED MIKE-The wild game that Cupid is hunting for.

REG-Anything worn regardless of looks.

According to regulations.

REQ-Monthly requisition for the necessities of life.

A request.

Corruption of "wreck;" See any account after a "req." To make a request.

Special Req-Usually five demerits.

REVIELLE—The nightmare that butts into a pleasant dream about 6 A. M. Rendered by a bugler trying to blow his brains out with a bugle.

RHINO-Chronic grumbler.

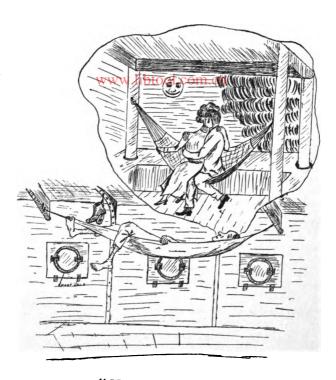
Run-A mild form of hazing.

Aim at a Star and you may miss the Tree.

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S

S is for Slush—the fusser's dope,
When used on Debutantes there's hope,
But some girls are wise
And will open your eyes
And play you to the end of the rope.



"HAMMOCKS!"

- SALT HORSE-Dead army mule.
- SAT-If you can show 2.5 or better.
- SAVOIR—The heaven born genius sighing for more 4.0s to conquer. He aims at a star.
- SCEPTIC-A Red Mike testing a kies for microbes.
- Scuppers—Drains aboard ship to carry off gore during a battle.
 (See Maclay's Naval History.)
- SICK QUARTERS-Where one goes to get sick or out of an exam.
- SKINNY—A polite way of saying, "She is as fat as the 'bunt-whip."

 The popular name for Physics.
- SLUSH-A superlative form of "grease" used on the fair sex.
- SOAKED—When one, thinking himself "savvy" and the profs incredulous, gets all that is coming to him.

 When you are "soaked" it is wise to dry up.

 Synonym—"Neused."
- Soirre—Usually a Saturday evening feed ran on the pound party plan. A success if the O. C. does not butt in.
- Spoon on—The formality of shaking hands with a Plebe and thenceforth treating him as if he were human.

 To spoon on a sofa is quite another game of hands.
- Spuds—The nautical name for potatoes. Most important article of diet in the Navy.
- SQUIDGING—Making strenuous efforts to keep "sat" or on the first conduct grade when nearing the limit.
- STAB-To bluff. An easy way to kill a good mark.
- STAR-SIGHT-The dress blouse collar of a true Savoir.
- ST. JOHNIE-The Annapolis West Pointer.
- 8т. Johns-The Annapolis West Point.
- STRIPER—One who is burdened with the responsibility and authority of a cadet office. Most stripes—most grease.
- SUN-SIGHT-A sight draft on the old man.

If the Tendency is bad on the inside get on the outside and smoke in.

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T

T is for Tecumseh—the god of two-fives

So wooden himself he always strives

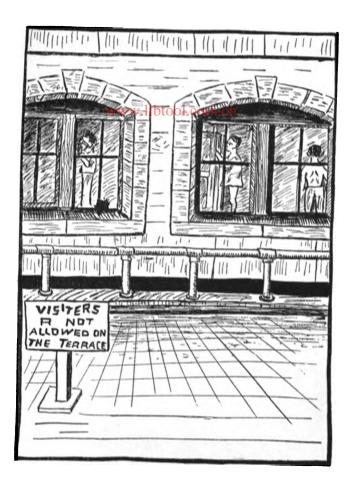
To return a salute

With a mark of repute

While his spirit, ambition and hope revives.

Tip-Bone Text more and Tips less.

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- TACT—The happy faculty of knowing when to laugh at a senior's joke.
- TAPS-Substitute for a mother's lulla-bye.

Signal to board downy couches and get underway for the land of nod.

TEA-The watch-word of Annapolis,"

Say "Tea" to any Annapolitan and he will tell you all about the "Peggy Stewart," and how his ancestors, bravely and without Indian costumes got rid of the English tea.

Ah, Boston! Stung!

- TENDENCY—A much sought after draft which will relieve a room of its tobacco smoke.
- TERRACE—(Ter-from, race—to beat it.) Hence to beat it from the terrace when the watchman sees you.
- To go split—Grand-stand efficiency. What happens when a man is a slave to his conscience in the line of duty.
- Touge—Almost "tough." A "non reg" Middi. or the Bowery type of cit.
- TREE—A lemon bearing evergreen where the unsat perches and turns over a new leaf. A posted list of those unsatisfactory in any subject during the week.
- TURN-BACK—A new member donated to a lower class by a relentless Academic Board. Syn.—"Frosty."
- Two-five—(2.5.) The life preserver for a fellow reciting like a man over-board.

The passing mark in any subject.

The wise team buyeth the umpire—the unwise cusseth much.

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U

Beware of the fellow who won't "buy" a "Gold Brick"—ten chances to one he "sells" them!



"MAY I HAVE THIS ONE"

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UMPIRE—What you can usually buy and get the game thrown in.

The n+1 player on some teams and the highest authority on diamonds.

Unsat—Approaching a 2.5 from behind.

To miss-stays on trying to round a 2.5.

It's a wooden stunt to belay the stern sheets.

The steam building hath many vices.



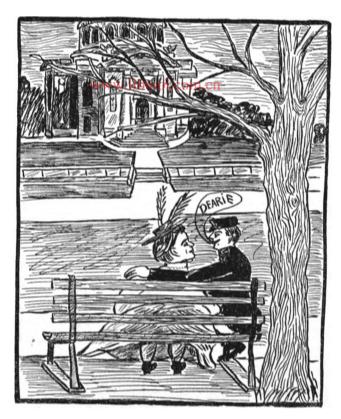


A rich wife beats a pay bill.

Oh! were there some power the gift to give us To see a "Brick" before she sees us.

Woodenman! Woodenman! Spare that tree!

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"Fussing"

VACCINATION—The scrape the doctor gets in when business is dull.

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VANITY—Taking one's self privately as a criterion and making a public self estimation.

The photographer's good friend.

VICE VERSA-2.3 instead of 3.2.

WAD-Something bum.

WAR-An excellent stunt for quick promotion.

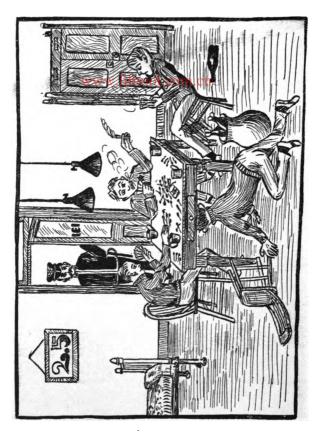
WOODEN-The fellow who would.

WEST POINTER—(Kadet) Uncle Sam's other pet, terrestrially inclined.

X Y Z

These letters may equal anything.

The Early Rising Squad should be fed on yeast cake.



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- XMAS TREE—The "Tree" appearing about December lighted with the not over brilliant lights of a class. A list of those nearing the lee shores of a 2.5.
- XRAYS—(X meaning from and ten—rays meaning to raise). To raise \$10.00 from a friend. If he is wise you won't see the X without an Xrays.

YARN-Spun in the Navy. The wool pulled down over somebody's eyes.

YEP-Abbreviation for "Yes, Sir." Try it!

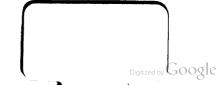
ZERO-See Zip.

ZIP-Absolute Zero.

THE APPENDIX HAS BEEN CUT OUT







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