

V. M. I.
Sept 18, 1918.

Dear Dad! -

Just got three letters, yours, mother's and mamma's. They sure made me feel good. Much obliged for the three dollars which I needed very much. I am feeling very optimistic just now because of much talk of a X-mas furlough. Met M. E. David today. He is a fine fellow and is really related to Lutie. He also knows Luke and is a nephew of T. O. Smiths. All three letters were full of news and put me in "Coward" as to Athens. I am getting on fine. Tell Dummy to come up here next year and I'll give him. I am finding much to laugh at here as this is a funny place after all. I suppose I'll get the Democrat in a day or two. Was so surprised to hear of Peyton's suicide. Tell Charles "hello" for me. Tell him I'll be ready

for his job whenever he gets ready to quit.
I am having a fine time and getting my
share of it. As to temptations up here
"they ain't no sich animals". Absolutely
no chance to do anything bad. Higgins
is treating me fine. Thursday morning -
just got a chance to resume writing. More
talk of a Xmas furlough. West Point and
Annapolis are giving them this year and
the Government will take over the school
Oct. 1st. This, coupled with other reasons,
makes us all very optimistic. If we get it,
it will probably be for ten days or two
weeks and I'm coming home if I have to
ride the "side-door Pullman". Another thing
has happened. They have discarded Latin.
This changes my course completely for Latin
is absolutely essential to a lawyer. Tell
Mr. Greene about this and ask him what
to do. In its place I am to take Spanish.
When we matriculated we had our choice
of any two of the following languages, Latin

French, German or Spanish. I took Latin and French. Now Latin is discarded and more changes may be made on October 1st. This doesn't seem to be a good preparatory school for lawyers, altho very good along technical lines. I'm not hammering the school because I don't like it or because I'm homesick either. There are several other boys in exactly the same predicament. Up here the military part is stressed far more than the Academic. As my time in school is probably limited, I should like to learn as much law as possible. Next summer I intend to read and study some law, ^{in my spare office} utilizing every spare minute. Tell Mr. Greene that I am studying exactly the same European History that I had last year and am in "Fraser and Squair's Elementary French Grammar." They are going to have the opening "hops" here Friday and Saturday nights but I don't think I'll go as they cost \$2.50 for the two together.

It is very cold up here now and the leaves
are fast turning brown. Please oil
up my two guns and put the shot-gun
in its case. I suppose you know how
to take it apart and run a cloth thru
the barrel. Tell Mother we are permitted
to have boxes up here and I'll be glad
to get one. One of my roommates is 18,
Burdean, of St. Louis. I don't like him
very much tho. Coffee, the nicest in the
lunch, is not quite 18 and Rainey is
almost the same age. They are all "rats".
Tell Mr. Greene that I would like to be
there at his opening as I have been for
5 years heretofore. Please tell me the names
of my relatives, the Ryans, in Lynchburg.
Next Saturday I think I shall take a bike
out in the surrounding hills. The country
around here is very beautiful but not so
pretty as the Hushy Place. So glad to
hear of your big fat commission on the
place belonging to Uncle As Hughey

Jennings would say, "Attahoy!" Please
Mail me a copy of the "Age-Herald"
every once in a while. We hear absolutely
no Alabama news up here except from
Alabama newspapers which are scarce.
Don't forget to develop my films and send
them on if they are any good. Tell Ryan
to send me some snapshots of you and
the family, including the baby. Well I've
written almost a volume now so I will
go to class, remaining,

Your Devoted Son,
William.