

U.S. Military Academy
West Point May 3rd 1857

Dear Brother

I recieved your letter to day, and although it is now between eleven and twelve O'clock at night I have commenced an answer. You must not, however, expect a long letter from me, for I am too much fatigued to write a great deal. I am Officer of the Day to day and have had a great deal to do. I have to go on as Officer of the Day every sixteen days; and I find it the most disagreeable duty I have ever had to perform since I have been a cadet; I console myself, however, with the thought that I shall not have more than two or three tours after this.

If you can send me two hundred and twenty five dollars by Wesley Owens, I think I shall be able to get along. The remaining seventy five dollars I shall want for spending money after I get home until I can draw my pay. I will take your advice and get me a good gold watch while I am a cadet - it and do without a chain and seal for the present.

Tell Father that I leave it entirely to him whether my rifle is made with full or half stock. I am so tired and sleepy that I cannot

write any more to night. I will finish my letter and mail it, as soon as I can find leisure

May 8th

This is the first leisure time I have had since the third, as I am very busy with my studies at this time, I am more than half through with the general review in Engineering. I have finished my course in Artillery, & Infantry, and am well advanced in my review of Ethics. I shall commence the review of Mineralogy and Geology next week. I get a maximum in riding every week, and have been chosen together with about twenty of my class to fence before the Board of Visitors.

I went to New York about three weeks ago, and got me an eighteen dollar Bosh. It is a very fine one, but I do not think it worth more than fifteen or sixteen dollars. I expect the tailors whom the first class have employed will be on next week with our clothes. If they do come we will have a great time trying them on, I mean the clothes of course.

I am happy to say that my ~~stay~~ time at West Point is getting very short. I will in all probability be relieved in six weeks from next Saturday. I shall not, however, be at home much before the first of July, as I have promised to spend a few days with ~~my~~ my class-mate, Cadet Rose, at Canadogua.

heard some time ago of the marriage of
Geo. Wilson & Delf Holmes.

Merley Owens I believe is going to start
for New York City on the 20th inst. at least so
he writes to Cadet-Abbott.

I have not time to write more at
present. Give my love to Father Mother Mary &
Eliza. Write as soon as you can.

Very truly yours, brother
Chas. R. Abbott

P.S. You may tell Father that I think he had
better have my gun made with a half stock
As I shall have to travel about a good-deal,
and it may be necessary to pack it up in the
shortest possible space.

C R Abbott