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Mr. Wm B. Ward
Newark
Ohio



West Point June

Dear Brother

It has not been long since I wrote to you, yet I suppose you are quite anxious to know how I am getting ^{along} with my studies, I am happy to be able to inform you, that I am doing first rate. I see from the Mathematical report of the ~~section~~ ^{Section} to which I belong, that I stand as high as any one in the ~~section~~ section. There was some four or five besides myself which stands mine, I would have been marked higher, had it not been that mine was the highest, and indicates that all the lessons which I was called on to recite were perfectly gotten.

I have also done first rate in ethics. I recited four times in ethics last week, and was marked two and three quarters each time. had I got another quarter my lessons would have been perfect. I was marked eleven. There was only ~~three~~ who were marked higher than I was, and the highest lacked one fourth of being perfect. I have no doubts but that I shall ~~have~~ get into the academy without any trouble. Our examination will be on the first of next week, in all probability on Monday next.

The longer I stay here the better I like the place. Were I to be rejected my disappointment would be so great that I would be ashamed to return home.

however, I do not anticipate anything of the kind for they can not in justice send me away without sending about fifty other with me, and if we get along in the section, they generally take them in. There is certainly some of the greatest boobies here that I ever saw. One fellow in our section was called on to write two tenths on the blackboard and he could not do it, and it was some time after he was told by the Professor before he could get it written right.

We have to get up at five in the morning. I have not got but one report against me since I have been here, and that was for ~~losing~~ step in ranks, it was not my fault, however, for the fellow who was before me lost the step and threw me out. There is not one who has been here as long as I have that has not been reported six or eight times. When we get three reports in one day we are put on post with a sentinel and have to walk about three hours.

If I can get through the course I think that I shall be able to graduate high, and I have determined to do all that is in my power to come out among the first. If I am not

Give my love to all our family, and to all enquiring friends.

Yours
Wm B Woods

Truly your Brother in haste
Charles R Woods

B.S. I will write again as soon as the examination
is over. Please write as soon as you can conveniently