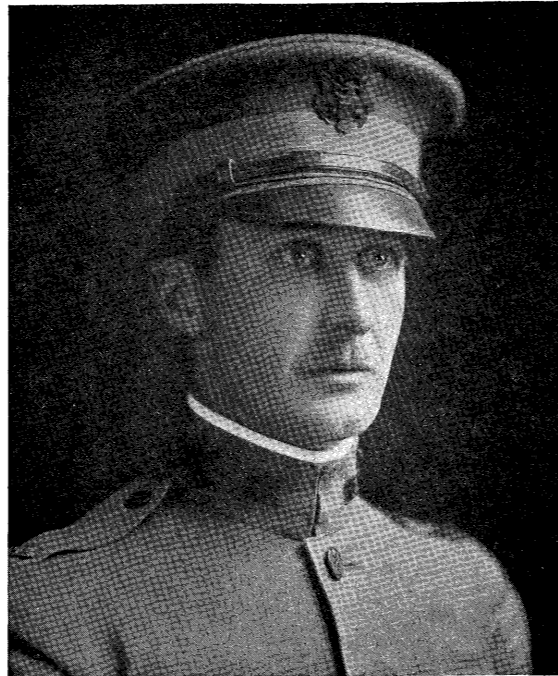


they are loyal to their School and its traditions. This majority of quiet, unassuming boys constitutes the background of the School, year after year, and such a boy was Albert Adams Sercomb, who was at St. Paul's from 1896 to 1899.

Sercomb was born in Chicago on August 9th, 1880, and after leaving St. Paul's he graduated from Williams College, where his record was an excellent one.

At the age of thirty-five years he enlisted, in July 1915, in Battery C, First Illinois Field Artillery and went to the Mexican Border with that command, rising through the ranks of Sergeant, Sergeant Major, First Lieutenant and finally to the rank of Captain. In 1917 he was ordered to Camp Logan, at Houston, Texas, and on January 8th was promoted to the rank of Captain in the regular army, taking command of Battery F, One Hundred and Fourth Field Artillery, 55th Brigade and 33rd Division. He was appointed instructor to officers and had special charge of all instruction on 3-2 inch guns. He also conducted a school for non-commissioned officers in the evenings.

On May 20th Capt. Sercomb embarked with his Regiment on the S. S. *Melita* for Liverpool. From Liverpool the Regiment crossed to Camp Valdahon, in France, where they were made ready for the front. On September 12th they took a prominent part in the drive on Montsec and its capture. From here, by forced march, they came to a position northeast of Neuville, near Paris, and took part in the great drive beginning September 25th. The battery had moved up to a position just west of Epinonville about 6 P. M. September 30th, while attempting to get his men under cover before seeking cover himself, Sercomb was wounded and died on the way to the hospital. He was cited by General Pershing "for gallantry in action and caring for the wounded while under heavy shell fire."



ALBERT ADAMS SERCOMB

1896-1899

IN the many years of its history St. Paul's School has been made up, year after year, of a limited number of boys who stood out prominently either in athletics or scholarship, and a very small minority who obtained prominence because of youthful escapades or folly, but the great majority of boys at St. Paul's, through the years, has been made up of normal, happy lads who do not distinguish themselves pre-eminently while at School, in any particular way. They are pleasant companions, they are fairly good students, they take an interest in the School sports and games, they win the affection of their classmates and of the older members of the School family, with whom they come in contact, and

Thus died a gallant American and a worthy Alumnus of his school and college and a man who, by his death, added honor to his family name. Captain Sercomb was survived by a widow and a brother, Henry H. Sercomb, who was at St. Paul's School in 1907-1911.