men of his command an example of exceptional devotion to

duty and bravery and self-sacrifice, and in his life and death

has been a constant inspiration to his men."

In March 1919 he was posthumously awarded the

D. S. C. for: "extraordinary heroism in action in the Ar-

gonne Forest, France, October 3rd, 1918. Attacking

enemy machine-gun nests, he displayed the highest courage

when he led his company up a steep slope in the face of mur-

derous fire. Before he could accomplish his objective he

was killed."

He died as he had lived, like all true leaders, thinking

not of himself but of others, respected and loved by officers

and men alike. After Alfred's death his colonel wrote,

"I think he was without doubt the most beloved officer in

the regiment." This is the soldier's highest compliment,

"for a company knows what its leader is made of." "His

course was right and he fought to the end."

In his life and in his death Alfred Gardner typified the

very best of young American manhood, alert, eager, kindly,

thoughtful of others and full of that courage which finally

gave us the victory in this Great War. In the words of

his striker we find the key to Alfred's whole career, "His

course was right and he fought to the end." Who can

say more?

JAMES McVICKAR WHITNEY

1912-1915

The memory of James McVickar Whitney is a bright and

happy one. He may not have stood among the most ac-

complished scholars while at St. Paul's, but he was then

very young and we knew well then that though he was not

a "shark" at his lessons his nature was manly and his heart

was pure. It takes not very much perception in the school-

master to estimate true values, and Mac Whitney was val-

ued at his old school every day he was here,—just because

he was chivalrous and absolutely well-bred and always to

be depended on. One can see him now, his face splendidly

flushed with interest or exercise, his eyes crystal clear, his

hair tumbling carelessly across his fine manly brow,—a de-

lightful, companionable lad.
Little did we realize then the martial purposes that were lying just beneath the surface of our cherished boy companion. It was not long after he left the School before his virile nature urged him forward to a share in the Great War. From July 1917 to March 1918, he was a driver in the Norton Hurjes Ambulance Corps, along the French front. From March 1918, to July of that year, he drove an American ambulance on the Italian front, always, we may be sure, with the definite purpose of getting into active service with the American troops. In July 1918 his ideal was realized.

In the 345th Tank Battalion he was first corporal, then driver, and then gunner, serving in the Meuse-Argonne sectors. His tank was engaged in the battles at St. Mihiel and at Apremont. On October 7th, 1918, he was killed in action. Thus, in three months of active service, Mac Whitney offered his all to his Country, and not only offered, but gave himself.

From a letter of First Lieutenant Herbert J. Ellis, Commanding Company A, of the Tank Corps, we quote the following account of Mac Whitney’s last day:

“Corporal Whitney participated in the battle of St. Mihiel. He accompanied his battalion when it was ordered to the Argonne sector, September 3rd, and went into the attack with them. On the morning of October 7th his platoon advanced from Apremont along the Apremont-Binarville Road. About two hundred yards out of Apremont his tank was struck by a large caliber shell which struck the ammunition racks and burned the tank and its inmates—Corporal Whitney and Pvt. 1st Cl. James Casey. Corporal Whitney was buried by the members of this company at the spot where he fell. Two men of this company lie beside him.”