



CRESWELL GARLINGTON

1906

Creswell Garlington's first contribution to the *Horae*, published in December, 1903, the year after he entered St. Paul's School as a Third Former, is an enthusiastic account of a visit he made with his father, Major General Ernest A. Garlington, to West Point. Garlington's subsequent contributions to the *Horae*, of which he became Associate Head Editor, were numerous and excellent: stories of life in the West and articles about such subjects as the new federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, the reception of immigrants at Ellis Island, the long and finally successful search for the grave of John Paul Jones. Meantime, Garlington was Secretary of the Library Association, Vice President of the Cadmean Literary Society, President of the Missionary Society and President of the Sixth Form. Weighing only 120 pounds, he was Captain of the 2nd Halcyon crew, on which he rowed No. 2. He was twice Ferguson Scholar and on graduating *summa cum laude* in 1906, he was awarded the School Medal.

Garlington graduated from West Point second in his class in 1910 and was commissioned Second Lieutenant, Corps of Engineers. After graduating from the Army Engineer School in 1912, he was assigned to duty with the Fortification Division of the Panama Canal, of which he became Chief in 1916. He was an instructor at West Point from July, 1916, to May, 1917. He was detailed to the General Staff Corps and, after a brief period in Washington, became chief of staff of the eastern department at Governors Island, N. Y. He went overseas with the 77th Division in January, 1918, and served on its staff during action in the Baccarat and Vesle sectors and in the Oise-Aisne

offensive. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action near Merval, September 14, 1918, and also the Purple Heart, for gallantry, and the Belgian Order of the Crown. He served for a while in Washington at the Office of the Chief of Engineers; also with the G-5 section of the General Staff at Chaumont. He studied and taught at the Army General Staff College at Langres.

After the First World War, Garlington graduated in 1923 from the Ecole Supérieure de Guerre in Paris; two years later from the Command and General Staff School, where he was designated a "distinguished graduate"; in 1928 from the Army War College. He commanded the 8th Engineer Battalion, 1925-1927, was assistant secretary of the War Department General Staff 1928-1932, and in 1936 was appointed Assistant Commandant, Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He received various engineer assignments during the rearmament program and on October 18, 1941, was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Engineers. He served also as liaison officer between the War and Navy Departments. In July, 1942, he was appointed Brigadier General. In January, 1943, he left Washington to take command of the Engineer Replacement Training Center at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Illness forced him to give up his command November 30, 1944. He died at the age of 57, March 11, 1945, at Savannah, Georgia, while on leave awaiting retirement.

Garlington was posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit, and cited: "For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services as Commanding General, Army Service Forces Training Center,¹ Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, from 20 January, 1943, to 30 November, 1944. General Garlington through able aggressive leadership, broad professional knowledge, inspiring example, skillful planning and efficient guidance developed the Army Service Forces Training Center at Fort Leonard Wood into an installation of efficiency and effectiveness. The ability to maintain high standards of instruction, to develop qualified training personnel, and to produce well-trained loss replacements and Engineer units, displayed by General Garlington has contributed materially to the successful prosecution of the war."

Garlington was married in 1921, to Elise Alexandrine Fitch. Their children were a daughter, Sally, and twin sons, both of whom came to St. Paul's. Creswell Garlington, Jr., died before his father, of wounds received in action in Germany and was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. Henry Fitch Garlington, a fighter pilot in the U.S.A.A.F., was a prisoner of war in Germany at the time of his father's death.

¹The Engineer Replacement Training Center was so renamed after the Engineers were put into the Service Forces.