

1. Deportment and Academic scholarship.
2. Theoretical and practical military knowledge.
3. Natural ability to command.

This basis of appointment has been in operation during the present year. Previous appointments were made more with reference to military knowledge than deportment; and did not, therefore, represent the most distinguished scholars and soldiers, as is the case with the present appointments.

In the choice of officers, preference is given to members of the first and second classes in the Academic Department.

GRADUATION.—Cadets who have honorably completed the Academic Course of Study will receive a certificate of graduation at the close of the academic year.

### MILLS' SEMINARY.

The Young Ladies' Seminary of Benicia was founded in 1857, and after various vicissitudes of fortune, became the private property of Rev. C. T. Mills, in 1865. Under his control, the school became exceedingly prosperous, and the old and inferior buildings were no longer serviceable. It was decided to remove the seminary to a tract of land near Fruit Vale, in Brooklyn Township, and in June, 1870, work was commenced upon the new building. On April 8th, 1871, the structure was completed, and accepted from the contractor. From one of the circulars issued, we copy the following description :

"The building is an imposing structure, presenting a front of 218 feet, with a wing of 130 feet, and is two stories in height, surmounted by a Mansard roof. The outline is well broken; the center and end wings project well forward; the main building, somewhat higher than the wings, is surmounted by a cupola, from which there is a splendid view of the surrounding country. The great size of the structure, its fine proportions and details, give it an air of solidity, as well as an inviting and home-like look.

"The seminary is intended to accommodate about 175 pupils. On the main floor are parlors, reading-room, library, and recitation-rooms. In the east wing are two very large school-rooms, besides a parlor, several rooms for recitations, music, and the various purposes of the seminary. In the west wing are the apartments of the principals; adjoining them is a suite of rooms intended for use in case of sickness. The upper stories are devoted to sleeping apartments. Each room—arranged for two pupils—has a toilet apartment off from it, with stationary wash-bowl, and each room is lighted with gas. The bath-rooms, &c., are ample and complete. Every room is frescoed neatly and handsomely; those of the first story, the parlors, reception and school-rooms, dining-hall and music-rooms being very elaborately decorated, making them remarkably attractive and cheerful. The dining-hall, a fine room thirty-six by seventy feet, and the kitchen, are connected with the main building by a corridor, and the laundry, servants' room, &c., are apart from the main building. The halls are very spacious, and stairways numerous and ample, special