

**MILITARY MAP-READING,
FIELD, OUTPOST
AND ROAD SKETCHING**

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Military Map-reading, Field, Outpost and Road Sketching by Wm. D. Beach

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WM. D. BEACH

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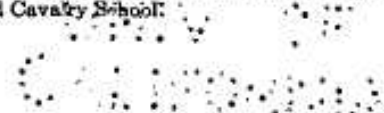
Military Map-Reading

Field, Outpost and Road Sketching

BY

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PREFACE.

In the preparation of this manual constant effort has been made to treat the subject briefly, and at the same time clearly.

In the order of usefulness, as well as of instruction, "map-reading" is given the *first* place, for the reasons that it is considered more important than "map-making," that it is more easily acquired, and that "map-making" is but an application of its principles.

Military men of all grades should know how to *read* topographical maps, while comparatively few will be required to *make* any except the very simplest—viz., the field or outpost sketch and the road sketch.

The manner of using the Field or Cavalry Sketching Case (which is now an article of issue) is carefully explained, as it represents the only valuable method of hasty sketching—namely, the "plane table method."

The laborious protractor and prismatic com-

pass method of mapping directions has, for rapid work, been entirely discarded, and contours are only discussed in connection with "map-reading."

W. D. B.

Washington, January, 1904.

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PART I.

MILITARY MAP-READING.

CHAPTER I.

A *military topographical map* is a drawing or plot on which roads, woods, streams, hills, marshes and other objects of military importance are shown by conventional signs in their true relative positions.

Difference between Civil and Military Maps.

Military maps differ from ordinary civil maps in many ways; for example, a civil map might merely indicate a road, while a military map and accompanying report would show whether the road is fenced or not, as well as its width, material and condition; a civil map might only indicate the more important streams, while the other