

Washington 16<sup>th</sup> June 1827.

Dr Sir,

According to your desire, I shall leave this place for W. Point on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> inst., and shall probably arrive there on the Wednesday following.

To day I reciev'd a letter from Bradford, a cadet of whom I am particularly fond, and of whom, I fear, you entertain an opinion too low for his merits. As to his talents, his standing at the Academy is a sufficient recommendation - his conduct too has been generally good, perhaps better than that of most Kentuckians who have been there. You supposed, judging from your letters last winter, that his advice to me tended rather to make me unpopular with the officers, and unfit to remain at the Academy - I assure you, if ever I had a sincere friend, Bradford has been one to me - My disposition which is naturally wild, he has in many instances, curbed by timely advice, such as friend should render to friend.

In this same letter he says "your letter contained nothing with which I was so much pleased as the expression of your determination to return to the Point, and your resolution to endeavour to graduate. I know you could do nothing which would gratify your father and the majority of your friends so much as to pass through with a respectable standing the several classes of the institution" - Yes frequently has Bradford spoken of the affair of last winter with sorrow, for he thinks that you have lost entirely your good opinion of him - I told him as often that you had not, that probably you had already forgotten it. As his letter contained excuses which to me at least, were amply sufficient to justify his conduct.