



Colonel Samuel Stewart Pitcher
SMA Teacher, Post Adjutant, Acting Superintendent, Assistant Headmaster,
and Head of Mathematics Department 1912 – 1969
(1891 - 1979)



Samuel Stewart Pitcher was born in Charleston, SC, on July 4, 1891. He attended the Bennett School for his early education and graduated from the Charleston High School with honors.

Stewart (the name he preferred) was determined from an early age to enter the Citadel, and he enrolled there in 1908 and graduated as both a Cadet Captain and as Class Valedictorian in June 1912.

He joined SMA in September 1912 as Instructor of Mechanical Drawing rising to become Head of the Department in 1914.

He was absent from the Academy for several months in 1916 while he served as Regimental Adjutant of the First Virginia National Guard during that unit's deployment to the Mexican border.

After returning from that deployment in the fall of 1916, Pitcher left the National Guard and resumed his teaching position at SMA. He was made Post Adjutant of the Academy in 1920. He also filled the position of Assistant Headmaster from the start of the 1932 session through the end of the 1933–1934 school year.

In May of 1943 Colonel Warner McCabe, the Superintendent of SMA, was ordered to active duty by the War Department. Colonel Pitcher was named Acting Superintendent by the Board of Directors while a search was made for a permanent Superintendent. Colonel Pitcher requested that he not be considered for the permanent position so that he would be able to remain as an instructor. General Earl McFarland was appointed Superintendent in September of 1943 and Colonel Pitcher resumed his position as the Head of the Mathematics Department.

Colonel Pitcher continued teaching at the Academy until June of 1969. His 57 years of service at the Academy was the longest tenure of any person.

Colonel Pitcher died in Staunton, VA, in February 1979, and was honored by the SMA Alumni Association with a plaque on the SMA/VWIL Memorial Wall.

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