5.21 As shown in Fig. P5.21, at the entrance to a 3-ft-wide channel the velocity distribution is uniform with a velocity V. Further downstream the velocity profile is given by $u = 4y - 2y^2$, where u is in ft/s and y is in ft. Determine the value of V.
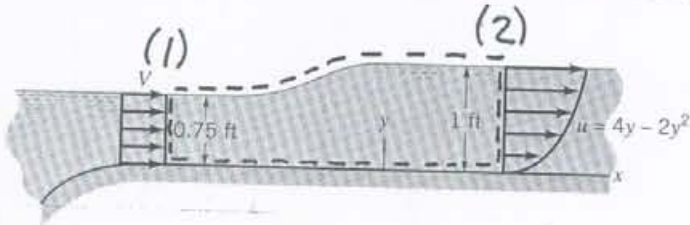

■ FIGURE P5.21

Use the control volume indicated by the broken lines in the sketch above.

From the conservation of mass principle

$$Q_1 = Q_2$$

$$V_1 A_1 = \int_{A_2} u \, dA \qquad \int_0^{1\,ft} (4y - 2y^2)\, b\, dy$$

$$V(0.75\,ft)\,b = 3\left[\frac{4y^2}{2} - \frac{2y^3}{3}\right]_0^{1\,ft} b = \frac{4b}{3}\,\frac{ft^3}{s}$$

$$V = \frac{4}{3(0.75)} = \underline{1.78\,\frac{ft}{s}}$$