face), then will the morning be angry with wind, storm and sand.—(Zuñi Indians.

Above the rest, the sun, who never lies,
Foretells the change of weather in the skies;
For if he rise unwilling to his race,
Clouds on his brow and spots upon his face,
Or if through mists he shoot his sullen beams,
Frugal of light in loose and straggling streams,
Suspect a drizzling day and southern rain,
Fatal to fruits, and flocks, and promised grain.
—(Virgil.

The circle of the moon never filled a pond; the circle of the sun wets a shepherd. If the full moon rises clear, expect fine weather.

A lunar halo indicates rain, and the larger the halo the sooner the rain may be expected.

If the moon shows a silver shield,
Be not afraid to reap your field;
But if she rises halved round,
Soon will tread on deluged ground.

A large ring around the moon and low clouds indicate rain in twenty-four hours; a small ring and high clouds, rain in several days.

The moon with a circle brings water in her beak.

The moon, if in house be, cloud it will, rain soon will come. (Zuñi Indians.)

If the full moon rise pale, expect rain.

When the moon rises red and appears large, with clouds, expect rain in twelve hours.

Therefore, the moon, the governor of the floods,
Pale in her anger, washes all the air
That rheumatic diseases do abound.
—(Shakespeare.

The moon, her face if red be,
Of water speaks she.
—(Zuñi Indians.

When the moon is darkest near the horizon expect rain.

When the stars flicker in a dark background rain or snow follows soon.

When the stars begin to huddle,
The earth will soon become a puddle.

Before the rising of a wind the lesser stars are not visible even on a clear night. Pliny, XVIII, 80.

When the sky seems very full of stars expect rain, or, in winter, frost.

Excessive twinkling of stars indicates heavy dews, rain or snow, or stormy weather in the near future.

THE COSTLY NEW CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH.

EDIFICE TO BE DEDICATED TO-DAY—ELEVATORS FORM AN UNUSUAL FEATURE.

The new edifice belonging to the First Church of Christ (Christian Scientist), at Ninety-sixth-st. and Central Park West, will be dedicated at 3 o'clock to-day. In many respects this church stands unique among all the churches of New-York City. It cost $1,185,000, and is wholly paid for. It has three elevators, one of the largest and finest electrically equipped organs in the country, reading rooms, reception rooms, thirty "treatment rooms," all expensively furnished and decorated; individual rooms for the readers and trustees, and several committee rooms.

The First Church of Christ is the oldest Christian Science organization in this city. It was started in 1886 by Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson, who stands at its head to-day. Mrs. Stetson came from Boston in that year to promote the interests of this faith in New-York. She is a graduate of the Massachusetts Metaphysical College, of which Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy is president. It has been said that practically all of the $1,185,000 necessary to pay for the present home of this society was subscribed through the influence and work of Mrs. Stetson, who, it may almost be said, has lived in the structure since work upon it began. She knew every workman by name, and she probably knows as much about the construction of the building as any individual who has had anything to do with the work.

One year after Mrs. Stetson came to this city the First Church of Christ was chartered under the laws of the State of New-York, with fourteen members. The first hall secured for meeting purposes was over a drug store at Forty-seventh-st. and Fifth-ave. A year later a hall at No. 138 Fifth-ave. was occupied. This soon proved too small, and Hardman Hall, at Nineteenth-st. and Fifth-ave., was leased, and occupied until 1894, when even these quarters were found inadequate to contain the rapidly growing organization, and the church was moved to Scottish Rite Hall, formerly a Presbyterian church, where they worshipped until their numbers compelled them to move. They then purchased All Souls' Church, formerly occupied by the Rev. Heber Newton, at No. 142 West Forty-eighth-st., for temporary quarters until they could build a permanent home. In 1899 the site at Ninety-sixth-st. was purchased, and work was started on the new structure. Thanksgiving of that year the cornerstone was laid.

Until 1895 the services consisted of a sermon written by the pastor, Mrs. Stetson. At this time Mrs. Eddy instituted the present order of services, which consist of a lesson sermon read from the Bible, with correlative passages from the Christian Science text book, "Science and Health, with the Key to the Scriptures," by Mrs. Eddy, read by the two readers, a man and a woman, officially appointed by the church, and known as the first and second readers. Last year a change was made in the bylaws, requiring the readers to be elected every three years. This made it necessary for Mrs. Stetson to leave the post as reader, which she had occupied for so many years, and Mrs. Laura C. Lyman, of this city, succeeded her. Stuart C. Rowbotham occupies the place as second reader. E. F. Hatfield is chairman of the board of trustees, and J. B. Whitney is the treasurer. Charles Henry Cottrell is chairman of the building committee, and it is upon his shoulders that the great bulk of the detail work has fallen.

The architecture and decoration of the new building is of the modern French school, rather tending to the Louis XVI period, but perhaps a trifle more conservative than that usually found in this country. The design was from plans furnished by Carrère & Hastings. The exterior of the building has been constructed entirely of Concord (N. H.) granite. The seating capacity is twenty-five hundred, the membership is twelve hundred, and the number of students studying the mysteries of Christian Science is fourteen hundred.

Coming into the structure from the street, the visitor does not realize the magnitude of the auditorium, because of the immense overhanging galleries. The first story and the gallery are so close together that it seems like one audience chamber. This is accentuated by the harmony of ceiling colors with the marble side wall and by the unusual combination of Circassian, Italian and French walnuts in the gallery, front and pews. The organ is one of the largest of its kind in America. It cost $25,000. It is really six organs in one. The echo organ, with chimes, is at the opposite end from the main organ. It is out of sight, and is heard through one of the six perforations which allow light from the clerestory windows to enter the auditorium.

The two large electric elevators connecting the main auditorium with the basement, gallery, Sunday school and reading rooms above are unusual for a church. They carry twenty persons at the rate of three hundred feet a minute. These elevators are only used on Sundays and Wednesday nights, a special one being provided for the use of the reading rooms, which is reached by the reading room entrance at No. 1 West Ninety-sixth-st. This car is run from 10 until 5 o'clock daily.

The unusual method of heating the structure also forms an interesting study. It is arranged with heating coils in the basement, and fresh air is drawn in by heavy fans through the coils, and distributed through the building. The main auditorium has a planum chamber under the entire floor, with small registers at the end of each pew. By an unusual method of cross dampering, the air in the building is passed over the fans a couple of times in severe winter weather, and then the plant is shut down until the audience chamber is required. By this method the loss of heating the outside air and exhausting it, making it necessary to start the plant hours before, is precluded. The system is so arranged that almost any of the many rooms in the building can be heated independently.

The electric fixtures are hand chased, and are made of bronze, quadruple gold plated. The six main chandeliers are ten feet high by five feet in diameter, and carry seventy-eight electric candles. They weigh something like half a ton each, and hang at the point where the side arch penetrations meet the ceiling. On the side walls there are forty-four brackets, carrying from ten to sixteen lights each, and made in proportion with the chandelier and of the same material and finish. The gallery lights are made in the form similar to the old sanctuary lamps. There are two of these at either side of each of the six side windows.

The glass in these windows has been designed after famous windows by Raphael and Michael Angelo. The ground of the windows is made of a warm, pearly amber, with a running border of soft, subdued green, red, brown and amber of the foliage type, and the centre motif, similar to the old Italian lantern, with a pictorial medallion in the centre, is placed about two-thirds of the way between the gallery and the top of the window. The large window over the main entrance facing the park and the east, represents "Mary Recognizing Jesus at the Tomb in the Early Dawn." The colors of the window are unusual, being made in accordance with the requirements of the Christian Science faith, which requires that all the building shall express brightness and cheerfulness, combined with dignity, which precludes the use of the usual sombre ecclesiastical coloring.

The organ front has been placed in the centre of a large perforated plaster niche, illuminated by a hidden row of lights behind the semicircular proscenium arch, which gives the warm golden tone required to make it in harmony with the walnut and gold organ front and pipes, the latter of which have been treated in such a manner as to give one the impression of Etruscan gold pipes inlaid with laurel and ivy leaves at the mouth of the pipes, in old gold, and is the culmination of Charles Henry Cottrell's work on this building.

The circular staircase at either corner of the building forming the corner pavilions, are of the old Spanish tile construction, without any iron supports being used. They are tested to carry without deflection over three times the weight required by the New-York Buildings Department.

The marble side walls, combined with the antique golden bronze and iron railings, form an interesting finishing point to the view of the marble vestibules and corridors, whose general tones have been fixed by the Cippolene marble panels and Istrian stiles, cornices, base and railing. The way in which the mezzanine has been inserted in the haunches of the arch over the main auditorium, the ceiling of which is on a level with the ceiling of the auditorium, is ingenious. To obtain this mezzanine it was necessary to deviate from the prescribed engineering customs of truss work, and also to hang the flooring for this story from the beams overhead. The problem was made doubly hard by the open space necessary to allow the light to pass from the six large circular clerestory windows down through the perforated sunburst into the auditorium. From the sides of this space the light is obtained for these rooms and passages.

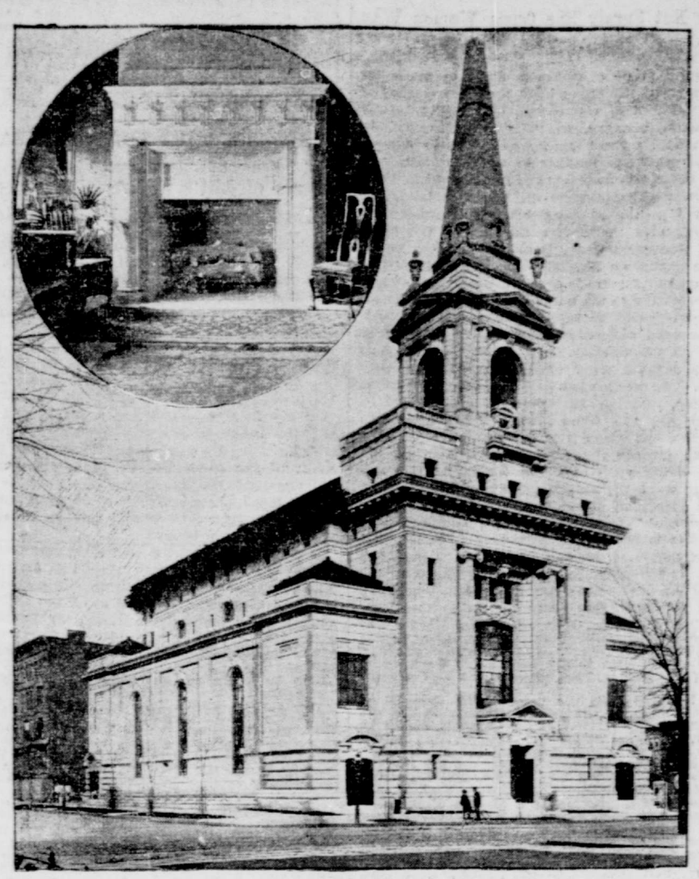
On the main floor above the auditorium, and taking up almost the entire width and length of the building, is the reading room, and off this are the rooms for the trustees, the first and second readers' rooms and that of Mrs. Stetson, as well as thirty treatment and three reception rooms. All these are furnished and decorated differently, and all in keeping with the sumptuousness of the entire structure. It is in the main reading room that the fourteen hundred students gather to study and receive instruction.

"The beauty of this whole structure," said a member of the church yesterday, "is that the entire $1,185,000 necessary to pay for this church has been given by the students of the New-York City Christian Science Institute and by members of the church. No outside contributions have been asked for or given. The church has been paid for by those who have been benefited by the treatment. The edifice has been erected as a tribute of love and gratitude to the leader, Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy, and will be consecrated to God."

Invitations to attend the exercises to-day have been sent out to representative Christian Scientists all over the country, and it is expected many will respond. Mrs. Eddy will not be present, but she has been invited, and it is hoped by those having the dedicatory services in charge that she will send a short address to be read upon this occasion.

The order of the exercises will be as follows: Dedicatory anthem, written especially for this occasion, sung by a choir of one hundred voices; a hymn, written by Mrs. Eddy, which will be sung by the whole congregation; selections from the Bible and "Science and Health"; solo, by Mrs. Charles Herbert Clark, soprano, entitled "Saw Ye My Saviour?" written by Mrs. Eddy; offertory and repetition by the congregation of the Lord's Prayer; dedicatory address, by Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson; anthem, "A New Heaven and a New Earth," by the choir, with George Ensworth as soloist; solo, by Mrs. Charles Henry Cottrell, and the "Hallelujah Chorus."

ONE OF THREE RECEPTION ROOMS.



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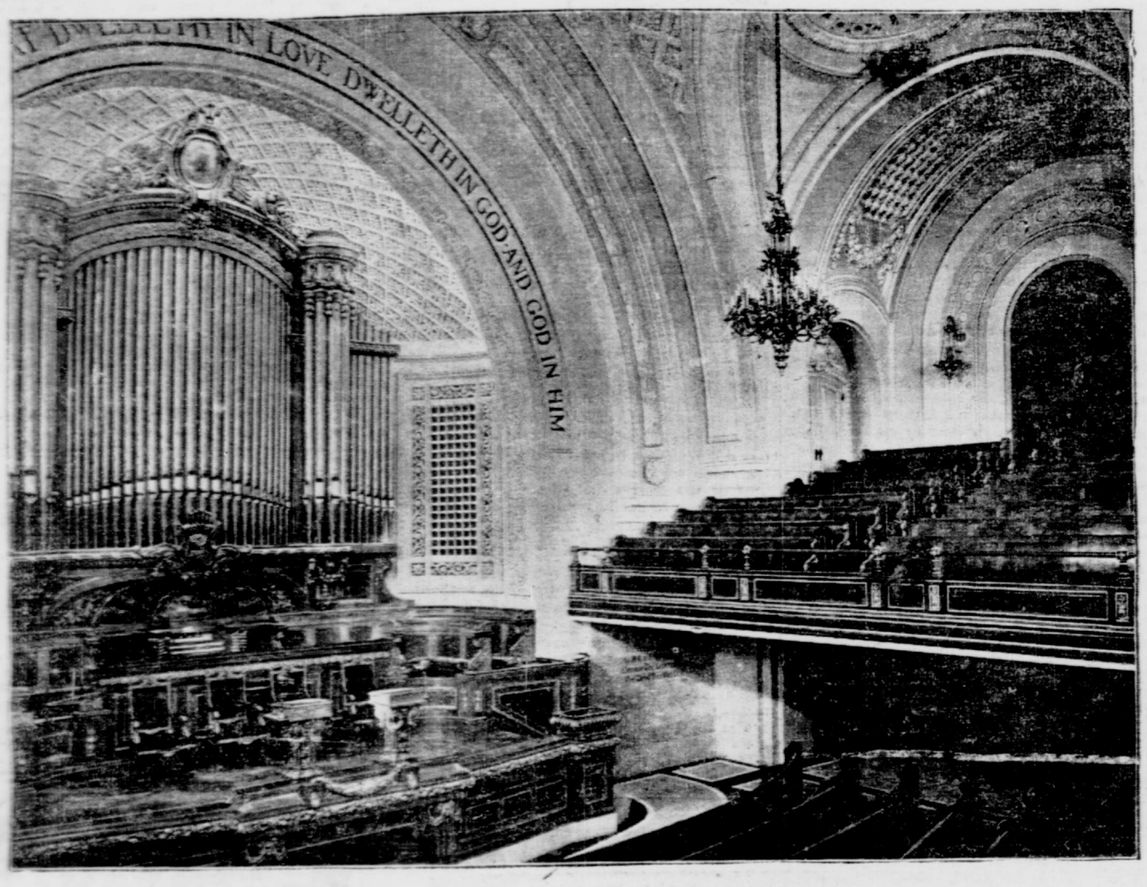

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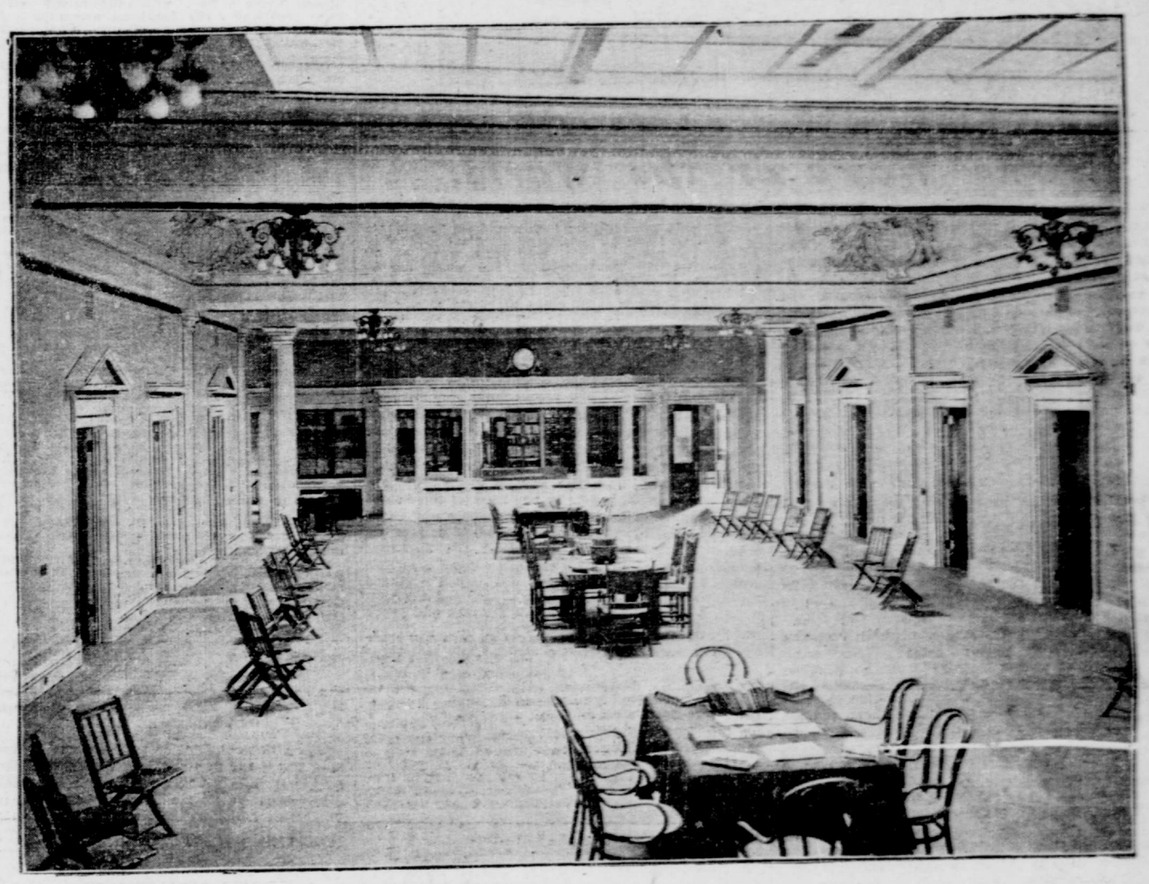

A VIEW OF THE READING ROOM.
Where fourteen hundred students are expected to gather for reading and instruction.

ONE OF THREE RECEPTION ROOMS.

INSPIRED WASHINGTON.

Military Career of His Elder Brother—Fought Spain.

In view of the present friction between this country and the Republic of Colombia over the isthmian canal and the secession of the State of Panama, it may be interesting to recall an almost forgotten and inglorious episode of the eighteenth century, in which Lawrence Washington, the elder brother of George, played a prominent part, and indirectly exerted a marked influence upon his brother's career. Wars were very frequent between the European powers in those days, and generally over some event of no great importance. But, as in the Boer war, beneath all the conflicts there was the struggle for racial existence or supremacy. When Spain happened to be involved the scene of conflict was usually shifted to the Caribbean Sea, because the treasure ships of the Spaniards, laden with gold and silver from the mines of Central and South America, were such rich prizes for their captors.

In 1739 some English trading vessels were seized by Spanish coast guards for carrying cargo which they alleged was contraband. This the English denied, insisting they had a right to carry it by the terms of a treaty which gave them certain trade privileges, such as the right to cut and transport logwood, etc. Anyway, they were determined not to submit to any trade restrictions, and, by way of reprisals, Admiral Vernon, the commander-in-chief in the West Indies, attacked and captured Porto Bello, on the Isthmus of Darien. The Spaniards determined to avenge the blow, and the French, eager to join in the fray, fitted out ships to help them. The British government therefore declared war. Troops were sent from England to the West Indies, and it was ordered that a regiment, consisting of four battalions, was to be raised in the North American colonies to join the expedition in Jamaica. The raising of this regiment caused quite an outbreak of military ardor. In almost every town and village recruiting parties were to be seen parading to the sound of the music of drum and fife. Lawrence Washington, who had just arrived at manhood, caught the military infection. He obtained a captain's commission in the newly raised regiment, and embarked with it for the West Indies in 1740. His young brother, George, who was then about ten years old, was an interested observer of all these preparations, and, boylike, was full of military enthusiasm itself.

Collecting his forces in Jamaica, Admiral Vernon set sail for Cartagena. The squadron under his command consisted of 8 three decker battleships, 28 ships of the line, 12 frigates, several fireships and 130 transports. The forces consisted of 15,000 soldiers and sailors, 2,000 negroes from Jamaica, armed only with machetes, and the North American regiment.

According to Colombian history, Admiral Vernon seems to have been another General Buller, thinking the war would be over in about six weeks, in time for him to eat his Christmas dinner in peace. So sure was he of an easy victory that he caused medals to be struck in advance, celebrating his triumph, the Governor of Cartagena being represented upon them in a kneeling position, offering his sword and the key of the city to the doughty admiral.

At first the British forces in their attacks upon the city were fairly successful, as they largely outnumbered their opponents. But reverses soon came. When troops to the number of 4,000 attempted to storm the citadel of San Lazaro, they met with a severe defeat, and 800 of them were killed and 200 wounded. The fortifications of Cartagena are exceedingly strong. It is estimated that $55,000,000 was spent in constructing the walls of the city and the different forts, and so well constructed are they that the concrete to-day, after the lapse of hundreds of years, is as hard and strong as it was originally. Upon such fortifications the primitive firearms of those times could make little impression. Besides, the Spaniards were brave soldiers, and when rendered desperate would fight to the last ditch.

Among the assailants the North American regiment distinguished itself by its bravery, for several hours sustaining unflinchingly a most destructive fire. At length it was compelled to retire, having suffered a loss of about six hundred in killed and wounded. Misfortune continued to overtake the British. Disease broke out among the troops and wrought dreadful havoc. Admiral Vernon therefore determined to quit. After an ineffective cannonading of the city, the ships being too far off to do any real damage, he returned with the remainder of his troops to Jamaica. Altogether, about nine thousand of his men had perished from wounds and disease. Among those who perished by disease must have been the remnant of the North American regiment, as it was never more heard of. It is known in history as "The Lost Brigade."

Lawrence Washington returned home in the autumn of 1742, and if he had not fallen in love with Miss Fairfax would probably have devoted himself permanently to foreign military service. On the death of his father, in the following year, the family estate on the banks of the Potomac was left to him. He then gave up all thought of further military service, married, and went with his bride to live on the estate, to which he gave the name of Mount Vernon, in honor of the admiral under whom he had served in Colombia.

Incidentally, this event left its mark upon American history in more ways than one. The military career of Lawrence Washington, short though it was, made a deep impression upon the mind of his young brother George. Washington Irving says, "We have here the secret of that martial spirit so often cited of George in his boyish days. He had seen his brother fitted out for the wars. He had heard, by letter and otherwise, of the warlike scenes in which he was mingling. No wonder, therefore, that George's mind was filled with soldierly ambitions. All his amusements at Hobby's School took a military turn. He made soldiers of his schoolmates; they had their mimic parades, reviews and sham fights, and—coming events casting their shadows before—George was commander-in-chief. No doubt his military instincts and genius would have been manifested under the stress of circumstances, even if his brother had never gone to the wars, yet this early military enthusiasm may have had much to do with shaping the events of his later career.

BURIAL CUSTOMS CHANGE.

Gloom Relieved to a Degree—Variety of Colors for Coffins.

"It used to be thought almost sacrilegious to attempt in any way to dispel the suggestion of death and gloom at a funeral, and every cortege, no matter what the social or financial condition of the people, had to have its sombre hearse, coal black horses and general atmosphere of crape and black bordered handkerchiefs," said an undertaker the other day.

"Fifteen years ago such a sight as a funeral party dressed in bright colors accompanying a body being borne to its last resting place in a blue and silver hearse, as was the case in London recently, would have horrified staid Americans," he continued. "To-day, although they frown upon such an open lack of respect to the dead, the people here are gradually working up to a condition where such sights will be viewed with perfect equanimity, and it can be said with truth that the old fashioned funeral is a thing of the past.

"The absence of that depressing atmosphere and general suggestion of the tomb is nowhere more noticeable than in the house of death itself. Formerly it was the undertaker's duty to repair to the house a few hours before the time set for the funeral and drape everything in the room where the body lay—mirrors, pictures, mantel, windows and the bier—with black crape. Daylight was almost wholly excluded, and the entire place wore such a doleful appearance that a person of any imagination and susceptibility could not remain in the house long without having a touch of the blues.

"To-day almost no crape is displayed at the better class of funerals. Even the oldtime insignia of death at the front door is replaced in most cases with a wreath of flowers or ivy, while the interior of the house or church is made bright and attractive by the use of flowers, greens, etc. The immediate family of the dead may wear mourning at the funeral, but black or sombre colors are no more in evidence than on other occasions.

"The color of coffins, too, has undergone a change. It used to be the custom to bury in wooden coffins, and cloth covered ones are, therefore, of comparatively recent introduction. When cloth covered coffins came into use, for many years nothing was used for the covering except black and white. Gradually, gray covered ones were introduced. The change proved a permanent one, and to-day an undertaker's sample book contains black, silver gray, steel gray, moss rose, purple, lavender, pink, heliotrope and baby blue, all of which colors are used as coffin covers.

"All except the black and gray are generally embossed plush, and cost less than the broadcloth. Most of the wooden coffins are made of mahogany or walnut, but recently I have noticed a departure from the usual line in these, and coffins made of a wood resembling the green Flemish furniture now so popular are often seen.

"In some Eastern cities undertakers still use black horses for the hearse, but long black nets and plumes are relegated to the country districts. Hearses now have several sets of hangings—black to go with black coffins, gray for coffins of that color, and white for small children. Very often black horses are used when the coffin is black, but gray horses are seen as often as black ones.

"To my mind the most important innovation is noticeable at the cemeteries. Formerly a funeral party had to stand about the grave, no matter how inclement the weather, unprotected from the elements, and often bareheaded. Now things are different. Recently tents have been introduced, and these are spread over the grave and a good sized plot of ground surrounding it. Being enclosed on all four sides, those within are protected from the weather as well as from the eyes of the curious.

"Matting is spread on the ground, and delicate women can alight from the carriages at the entrance to the tent and enter the vehicles again after the service is over without having touched their feet to the ground. Again, flowers and greens have been called into play, and now the grave itself, the earth that is thrown out and the masonry are covered with evergreens or flowers."

SOUTH AMERICA AND THE FAIR.

Commissioner Wands Reports Success of His Mission.

Ernest H. Wands, one of the foreign commissioners of the World's Fair, to be held in St. Louis next year, speaks in the most enthusiastic terms of the exhibits that are being prepared in all the Central and South American countries, says "The Venezuelan Herald." Commissioner Wands reports an active interest on the part of the Latin-American countries to make their exhibits of an investment drawing quality. It is not the intention to ignore entirely such interesting exhibits as may be drawn from the large and valuable collections of aboriginal antiquities, old paintings, the work of the Indians of the present day, etc., but the instructions to the commissioners of the various countries provide for a more comprehensive exhibit of the great natural resources awaiting development and of the industries that have made progress in recent years than has ever been displayed in any former exposition.

Commissioner Wands has visited many parts of South America in the last few years. He has penetrated to remote interior places, rarely visited by the average foreign traveller, covering thousands of miles in his journeys, including nearly two thousand miles in the saddle. In the early part of this year he left Peru for the purpose of making a visit to Bogota. At Panama he learned the Magdalena River was so dry that navigation was impossible. Rather than go to Barranquilla and join the impatient crowd collected there waiting for the river to rise, Mr. Wands went on a small coasting boat to Buenaventura and from there overland to the Colombian capital. "I was well rewarded for my long journey, however," said he, "because I found the Colombian government most enthusiastic over the exposition. In forty-five minutes I had assurances of the official participation of Colombia, and in a few days the work of collecting and preparing the articles for exhibit was actively begun in all of the departments of the country.

"Peru and Ecuador will also be admirably represented," continued Mr. Wands. "President Plaza of Ecuador, who is taking a great deal of personal interest in the exhibits from his country, probably will be a visitor to the United States next year. One of the most energetic and broad minded men in Ecuador is General Julio Andrade, Minister of Fomento. General Andrade has excellent practical ideas, and his instructions for the preparation of exhibits reveal a most thorough knowledge of his country's great natural riches.

"Senor Manuel Candamo, the new President of Peru, who was inaugurated on September 3, is one of the best presidents that country has had in many years. President Candamo has intrusted the work of preparing for Peru's participation in the exposition to Alejandro Garland, a gentleman well equipped for the work. Mr. Garland speaks several languages fluently, and he will be the official representative of the government of Peru at the exposition."