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Early and late he toiled in the bowels of the earth and suffered with his comrades all the privation of long hours and low wages.

Rev. Mr. Matthews says that among other evils suffered by miners, none is more dangerous and harder to overcome, notwithstanding the improved conditions under the inspector system, than the injury to health. The miners spending so much of their time underground, in dampness and dust, causes many to become broken in health long before their time. These conditions cause wasting away of the body, miners' asthma, sore throat, bronchitis and serious throat and lung troubles. To overcome this condition nourishment for the blood and food for the tissues of the body are needed, and Rev. Mr. Matthews says: "I have no hesitation in recommending Father John's Medicine as the best remedy prescribed for the ailments referred to above. Its purity and wholesomeness and nourishing qualities are exactly suited for building up and restoring to health those exposed to the conditions existing in Pennsylvania and for all suffering from miners' asthma, throat and lung troubles, colds, grip and debilitated systems, I have used it in my family with wonderful success."

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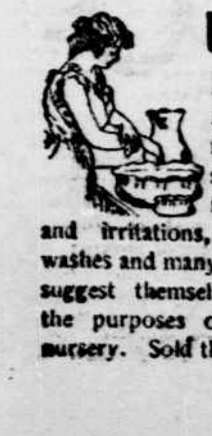

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TO SUPPLEMENT ARMY

In War Must Depend on the Volunteers.

COL. SANGER'S REPORT

MERIT AS THE BASIS FOR ADVANCEMENT.

Spanish War Experiences the Result of Employing Incompetent and Untrained Officers.

Three years ago Col. William Cary Sanger, then inspector general of the New York National Guard, and now assistant secretary of war, made a thorough inspection of the reserve and auxiliary forces of England and the militia of Switzerland. This work was voluntary, for, though President McKinley greatly desired it, there was no appropriation available, and Colonel Sanger defrayed his own expenses.

The result of this investigation is embodied in a remarkable report just issued from the government printing office, which is bound to be a text book for the military student, not only because of the technical value of the author's observation, but also by reason of the compact and interesting collation of historical events intended to point the principal argument of Colonel Sanger touching the absolute necessity for America to prepare at once, and systematically, for war.

Unpreparedness of the Militia.

Says the author: "The story of the Spanish-American war has much which Americans must read with pain," and then he tells how seriously the government was embarrassed in its efforts to make use of its cumbersome and refractory state militia. After all the millions paid out to maintain the National Guard, says Colonel Sanger, everywhere there was doubt as to how it could be used. "Some of the volunteers left their states without proper shoes, others did guard duty wearing civilian clothes and derby hats, and carrying sticks and clubs while waiting for their uniforms and arms. * * *

"There were times when the sanitation of some of the camps was disgracefully bad, when the hospital accommodations were inadequate and when there were not enough doctors or nurses to properly care for the sick. * * * If the state forces are maintained with a view to national defense in time of need, there can be no excuse for not devising in time of peace the best plan for utilizing their services * * * and if it is admitted, as it must be, that the army and state forces combined will not be numerically strong enough to carry on any great war, it is our plain duty to decide in advance what is the wisest and best plan for expanding our fighting force when such action is necessary."

Having sounded this warning at length, Col. Sanger proceeds to state in detail the result of his investigations in England and Switzerland, the former country being chosen for inquiry because it resembled the United States in having no system of compulsory military service. Col. Sanger's conclusions are stated as follows:

Incompetent and Untrained Officers.

"A study of the armies of the world will show that when a country makes merit and capacity the basis for the selection and promotion of its officers it gets better results than if it were to let favoritism or political influence control.

"If the military forces exist in order to do in the most effective manner possible the work which an armed force must do when war begins, it is absolutely necessary to make proved merit the basis for the selection or promotion of officers. When a people has for years regarded many of the positions of a civil nature connected with the administrative work of city, county, state and nation as the legitimate and proper rewards for those persons who have strong political influence, it is hardly to be expected that in time of war the whole temper of the nation should change and that they should apply a totally different principle to military positions.

"Yet it is hard to understand why a generous and noble people should be willing to trust the feeding, transportation and the command of those citizens who volunteer to risk their lives for their country's defense to incompetent or untrained officers. The history of every war in which this country has been engaged shows that this course has sometimes been followed. While the men are suffering there is much indignation, but when the war is ended, and the thought that lives have been needlessly squandered has, by lapse of time, lost its horror, the people have shown themselves indifferent to these great questions, and have permitted conditions to continue which were certain in the future to entail needless suffering and useless death.

The Example of Switzerland.

"The little republic of Switzerland sets us an example which we may study with profit, and as we contrast the conditions of their military forces with those of our own it must be apparent to every one that they have embodied in their system the true principles of democracy. No political influence, no social backing, no financial power can take a man from civil life and make him an officer of any rank without his having gone through the ranks and having completed with credit the work deemed necessary to qualify him for a commission.

"The truth should be recognized by the American people, that if they want the best and most efficient military system which it is possible to have it is absolutely necessary that merit and efficiency should be the basis of selection and promotion.

"The German general staff, which has produced a most competent and efficient body of officers, has made merit an absolute prerequisite to appointment and promotion, and this has been done, not because those high in office did not enjoy the privilege of recommending their friends and relatives for high positions, but because it was plainly recognized that the most effective fighting machine could only be secured by eliminating those influences which were opposed to the efficiency of the forces. In the same way Switzerland, with its strongly democratic principles, the very antithesis, in its political and social life of Germany, has adopted a system which precludes the possibility of selecting untrained men to lead their soldiers or to perform the administrative work of the forces in time of war.

The Question for This Country.

"It is for the American people to decide whether they will perpetuate a system which was partly responsible for the awful record of the Crimean war and for some of those phases of our last two wars which we prefer to leave hidden by the mist of intentional forgetfulness, or whether they will so organize their fighting forces that merit, training, and efficiency shall be the stepping-stones to success, in accordance with the true principles of American institutions."

The Size of a Standing Army.

"It will be admitted by every one that no army which the American people may maintain will be strong enough numerically to carry on any foreign war. It is probable that the maximum strength of the American army in time of peace will never exceed 100,000. The guns for harbor defense which, in accordance with the recommendations of the Endicott board, are being placed along our coast will require for their service over 80,000 artillerymen. That our army will be inadequate for all our needs in time of war admits of no doubt, and it should have a reserve of its own.

Must Depend on Volunteers.

"It would be comparatively easy to lengthen the term of enlistment, so that after the completion of an enlisted man's service with the colors he would be liable for a certain number of years to return to his regiment in time of war. But even if this were done, the force would still be inadequate, and it should be inadequate, for the United States will take a downward step when it plans to do all its fighting with professional soldiers; the people must rally to its defense in time of war, and any plan of military organization which does not recognize this is un-American; the people should and will demand the privilege of fighting for their country if it is attacked, and it is for every reason proper that a plan should be formulated in accordance with which the citizens of the country will be allowed to volunteer.

"The time to decide what that force should be, how it is to be organized, and how its officers should be selected, is when the country is at peace. It is practically certain that in our next war, as in our last two, a volunteer army will be organized, and all the necessary questions connected with the organization of this force should be settled now, not only because of the importance of deciding in advance such vital questions, but also because it directly concerns the status and obligations of the existing state forces.

"It is only just to the officers and men of the existing National Guard or state militia that the relations of those forces to the army in time of war should be so clearly settled that the citizens who enlist in these forces in time of peace should know exactly what obligations and responsibilities they incur. * * *

Col. Sanger's Suggestions.

"In conclusion I beg to submit the following suggestions regarding the action by Congress which would give us a military system based upon sound principles, which would make that system conform to the spirit and traditions of our institutions, and which would materially increase the usefulness of the state forces:

"First. The principles upon which the best and most efficient general staffs of modern armies are organized should be applied to our military forces.

"Second. The army should be given a reserve of its own.

"Third. A plan should be adopted in time of peace for organizing the volunteer forces which must supplement the army in time of war and for selecting the officers of these forces.

"Fourth. The militia should be organized by Congress, and the status of this force and the character and the duty which it could be ordered to do in time of war should be clearly defined."

OUT ON POINT OF ORDER.

Proposed Naval Hospital Stricken From Naval Appropriation Bill.

During the consideration of the naval appropriation bill in the House yesterday afternoon a point of order was made by Mr. Hemenway against the paragraph of the bill providing for the construction of a naval hospital in this city. The chairman, Mr. Gillett of Massachusetts, sustained the point of order and the appropriation, $125,000, was stricken from the bill.

In arguing against the point of order Mr. Mudd contended that the land where it was proposed to locate the hospital—at the foot of 23d street northwest—is owned by the Navy Department, that there was now a museum at that place and that the appropriation simply made provision for continuing the improvement.

Mr. Lessler urged the appropriation as one of the most important in the bill. He described a visit which two members of the naval committee had made to the present hospital on Pennsylvania avenue southeast.

"We found," he said, "it to be an old building about forty years old, looking out upon three streets, with the noisy street cars running in front of it. The hospital—an old mansion—is badly adapted for the purposes of a hospital. It shows the constant use it has had. It furnishes very poor provision for taking care of the physicians who are in charge of that hospital. Its plumbing is old.

"If you go to the top floor you get the odor of the cooking going on down in the basement. The inmates are poorly provided for. There is but one room for sick officers. It is desired to build a new hospital upon ground at the other end of the city in a pleasant location.

"This question has been carefully investigated by the committee, and I think that no provision can be more necessary than this which looks to caring for our sick and ailing sailor boys. They should be taken care of in modern buildings, with modern sanitation, with modern methods of conducting a hospital, instead of being placed in that old building, sending out its foul smells, right in the heart of the city of Washington. I hope the gentleman from Indiana will not insist on his point of order."

MINISTER POWELL TO INSIST.

Will Press Demand Upon San Domingo for Settlement of Claims.

Instructions have been sent by the State Department to United States Minister Powell to insist upon his demand upon the government of San Domingo for a prompt settlement of the Clyde and Ros claims. The Dominican government has suggested a postponement of the consideration of these claims until the return from the United States of one of its agents charged with the negotiations, but as several delays have already been permitted without sensible advance of the negotiations it has been decided to press steadily forward.

The Clyde claim is founded upon the action of the Dominican government in permitting port dues to be paid partly in paper money instead of entirely in gold, thus reducing the value of the special concession granted the Clyde company in return for the establishment of steam service.

The Ros claim arises from the failure of the Dominican government to comply with the terms of a concession granted to Salvador Ros, a naturalized American, in return for a large expenditure by him in harbor improvements.

SEVENTH DEATH AT CORNELL.

Typhoid Epidemic Has Driven Half the Students Home.

An Ithaca New York dispatch dated yesterday says: The executive committee of the board of trustees of Cornell University last night flatly refused to accede to the request made by the senior class that distilled water be furnished in unlimited amounts to boarding house keepers in Ithaca, and that until such action were taken all students be allowed to leave the university without jeopardizing the university standing.

The refusal on the part of the trustees has aroused great indignation among the students remaining, and bitter editorials and communications have appeared in the college daily and the Cornell Sun.

A mass meeting has been called for Friday, and it is quite likely that the students will decide to leave in a body unless their requests are granted. Barely 50 per cent of the students remain in Ithaca, and daily scores are returning to their homes. The women of the university, among whom no serious case has occurred, are also on the verge of leaving in a body.

Today the seventh student fell a victim to the disease, and several are so critically ill that the end seems only a matter of time. The total number of deaths in Ithaca now has reached seventeen, and in most cases the crisis has not yet been passed.

President Schurman has issued an order requesting no student to drink any water whatever unless boiled.

RIVAL OF THEATER SYNDICATE.

Lafayette Opera House Said to Be in the New Circuit.

A dispatch from Toledo, Ohio, says that Frank Burt and Stair & Havlin have completed a circuit of high-priced theaters which will compete with the syndicate theaters in eighteen of the principal cities of the country. They are promised the co-operation of Harrison Grey Fiske, James K. Hackett and the Henrietta Crosman management. Among the theaters mentioned as being in the new circuit is the Lafayette Opera House.

Morgan's Offer Refused.

A special cablegram to the New York Herald from The Hague says:

Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan has just made an offer of $100,000 to Dr. Breduis for his famous Rembrandt "David and Saul," but the owner refused it, as he does not wish the picture to go to America.

No picture by Rembrandt bearing the title "David and Saul" is found in published catalogues of his works.

GONZAGA ALUMNI

Seventh Annual Reunion Held Last Night

IN COLLEGE HALL

ATTENDANCE LARGER THAN EVER IN ITS HISTORY.

Toasts Responded to by Mgr. Rooker, Justice Gould, Fathers Quill and Fink and Commissioner West.

The largest and most successful reunion the Alumni Association of Gonzaga College has ever held during the history of the organization was that of last evening, when with music, speeches and good things to eat the seventh annual banquet was celebrated in Gonzaga Hall. The decorations were the college colors, purple and white, American flags being used as wall decorations. An orchestra under Prof. Samuels rendered an elaborate musical program.

Mr. Leon Tobriner acted as toastmaster, and introduced first District Commissioner Henry L. West, who responded to the toast, "The District of Columbia and Its Growth." Mr. West was enthusiastically greeted, and spoke in interesting vein on many of the points of the District's history.

The next speaker was Mgr. Rooker, the secretary of the papal legation, who responded to the toast, "The Holy Father."

"To speak tonight," said Mgr. Rooker, "of the closing of the twenty-fifth year of the greatest pontificate that ever ruled the church, and to speak of the man who has so ably ruled it, would be a theme so vast that I would not dare to undertake it.

"A quarter of a century ago he had reached the allotted age of an ordinary man's life, three score and ten almost, sixty-eight years. At that time of life the majority of men have done all they could or expect to do. At that age Leo XIII was called upon to occupy the greatest post that can be occupied by a man. Everywhere men predicted that he was to be a transitional pope, and was to bridge over a transition of the church. If he was a bridge he has been a long one, now a quarter of a century.

"Leo XIII found the church stripped of earthly glory. The governments and nations that had bowed down before the vatican had turned their backs and left it. The poor old man has gone on wielding only spiritual authority, without power or armed strength, but only the wonderful characteristics which the representative of God can claim; and today every ambassador and minister who twenty-five years ago left Rome has come back to the papacy. This is but the beginning of such a theme.

"A quarter of a century ago, when Leo XIII succeeded Pius IX, the spirit of the people was such that the body of Pius was attacked on the way to its burial place. Who today is such an idol of the people of the world as Leo XIII? Go to Rome and see him at some public function."

His First Public Appearance.

Dr. Rooker told of the first appearance of the pope among the public masses in 1888. This was the first time in twenty years the pope had entered St. Peter's Church at Rome and blessed the populace. He told how the crowds thronged to see him, and lost all interest in viewing the magnificent and brilliant pageant, so anxious were they watching the scarlet curtain from which the pope was to come. He graphically recited how when he came, borne aloft on a scarlet canopy upon the shoulders of men, every one wondered whether the still figure felt the apprehension of the moment as the crowd did. Leo's eyes were raised in blessing, and his hand held aloft in a gesture of benediction; his eye was bright, and an almost celestial smile was on his pale, emaciated face.

"Every one there," said Dr. Rooker, "felt that as the pope passed up the aisle he had looked into every eye with a great expression of love and tenderness. Seventy thousand persons roared and tears streamed from every eye. They loved him. It is the same today. Without a shadow of power or armed strength or force he has guided their destinies for twenty-five years. No man can receive such unselfish, sincere tribute as that poor old man, nearly ninety-three years of age."

The pope will complete his twenty-fifth year of the papacy day after tomorrow.

Judge Ashley M. Gould responded to the toast, "The President;" Rev. Patrick Quill responded to the toast, "The Alumni," and Father Fink, president of Gonzaga, spoke of "Our College."

Those Who Were Present.

Among those present were:

Rev. E. X. Fink, S. J.; Rev. J. J. O'Connor, S. J.; Monsignor Diomede Falconio, archbishop of Garissa; Judge Ashley M. Gould, Monsignor F. Z. Rooker, Leon Tobriner, Jno. Doyle Carmody, Allison Nailor, Henry Litchfield West, Dr. Franklin T. Howe, Chas. B. Bailey, Wm. A. Shreve, J. Harry Buscher, J. F. McKaig, M. D.; J. P. Bergen, J. Wise Byrnes, H. I. Quinn, W. I. Plant, O. T. Carrigan, Wm. A. Crawford, Chas. L. Ferry, Jas. A. Petty, Jno. E. Fenwick, F. J. Diemer, Wm. M. Deviney, Owen J. Cleary, B. F. Saul, J. Frank Ferry, H. G. Thyson, jr.; J. Vincent Coughlan, Harry A. Hegarty, Geo. A. Ferry, Ed. J. Quinlan, J. Edw. Conolly, Chas. E. Ardmore, J. Albert Kummer, Fred. L. Devereux, J. J. Fuller, jr.; C. W. Mattingly, J. J. Kennelly, C. L. Eckloff, Jas. P. Ryder, P. T. McCartin, F. P. Sheehy, Jas. H. Forsythe, Vincent A. Sheehy, Jno. W. Schaefer, Milford Fishman, J. Blake Clark, Chas. W. Floecker, E. J. Devitt, S. J.; James E. Toomey, Jos. J. Murphy, Thos. H. Crook, W. M. Wallace, H. F. Gloetzner, Wm. P. Normoyle, C. W. Downing, D. M. Gatti, Edw. P. Swartz, Rev. M. A. McLaughlin, S. J.; Rev. W. J. Tynan, S. J.; C. C. Willard, Rossa F. Downing, Rev. John A. Chester, S. J.; S. J. Kubel, Rev. J. H. Hann, S. J.; Daniel O'C. Callaghan, James F. Oyster; Rev. Samuel Cahill, S. J.; Ambrose L. Shaffer, J. J. Repetti, M. D.; Henry A. Mullan, Rev. J. Fleming, S. J.; Wm. L. Soleau, T. Barret, S. J.; Rev. Wm. Brownrigg, S. J.; Monsignor Marchetti, papal secretary; Dr. Geo. J. Lochboehler, Dr. Johnson Eliot, Rev. Patrick Quill, S. J.; Louis E. Cross, Aloysius J. Mudd, Claude V. Colford, Frank G. Boswell, F. T. Neerbeck, Jno. E. Burch, Thos. Hagan, John J. Foley, Thos. P. Kennelly, Clarence F. Donohoe, Maurice A. Wolfe, Matthew F. Halloran, John S. Moran, Geo. T. Kolb, B. M. Bridget, E. Voigt, W. L. Chamberlain.

The Alumni Officers.

The officers of the Alumni Society are as follows:

Allison Nailor, president; Rossa F. Downing, vice president; William L. Soleau, treasurer, and Henry A. Hegarty, secretary.

Banquet committee—W. L. Soleau, chairman; J. V. Coughlin, Milford Fishman, J. H. Forsyth and E. P. Schwartz.

Reception committee—J. D. Carmody, chairman; Joseph I. Weller, Francis Ferry, Vincent Sheehy, W. H. Lepley, S. J. Kubel, L. A. Walker, C. L. Eckloff, Thomas Kennelly, G. L. Magruder, Charles Ferry, Francis Sheehy, Charles Floecker, Clarence Donohoe and B. F. Saul.

CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE

Not to Administer Antitoxin to Diphtheria Patients, Says Doctor.

The New York Herald today says:

Sounding a note of alarm as to the negligence of physicians in administering injections of antitoxin to patients suffering from diphtheria, Dr. J. H. Raymond, assistant sanitary superintendent in Brooklyn, yesterday issued a statement, in which he declared that if anti-toxin were generally and early used, 7 per cent should be the highest mortality from diphtheria.

In Brooklyn the mortality from diphtheria during last year was 18 per cent, which largely represents, declared Dr. Raymond, an almost criminal waste of life.

"The physician who does not promptly use antitoxin as a diphtheria remedy is almost criminally negligent," said Dr. Raymond. "Before the introduction of antitoxin the mortality from diphtheria for children under five years of age was 40 per cent. But there is no tenable reason why so many little ones should die."

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Portieres and Lace Curtains.

—Small lots to go at smaller prices.

THE bigger the selling, the bigger the opportunity for more selling. Since we took stock last month the selling in these departments has been beyond all records for this season of the year. To be sure we reduced prices—materially—and that now results in another reduction—to close out the small lots that have been left.

Silk, Mercerized, and Tapestry Portieres, in 12 Shades of Red.

	Were.	Now.
3 pairs Portieres..	$6.50	$3.75
2 pairs Portieres..	$5.00	$3.95
2 pairs Portieres..	$6.00	$4.50
2 pairs Portieres..	$15.00	$11.50
1 pair Portieres..	$12.50	$9.50
4 pairs Portieres..	$6.00	$3.75
1 pair Portieres..	$5.50	$3.90
1½ prs. Portieres.	$9.00	$6.75
1 pair Portieres..	$3.25	$2.75
1 pair Portieres..	$8.00	$5.00
1 pair Portieres..	$10.00	$7.00
1 pair Portieres..	$7.50	$4.25
Nine Shades of Rose.	Were.	Now.
4 pairs Portieres..	$6.50	$4.75
1 pair Portieres..	$11.50	$8.90
1 pair Portieres..	$3.75	$2.50
1 pair Portieres..	$7.50	$5.75
1 pair Portieres..	$13.50	$10.50
1 pair Portieres..	$7.50	$5.50
4 pairs Portieres..	$5.50	$4.50
1 pair Portieres..	$9.00	$5.90
1 pair Portieres..	$5.50	$4.25
Twelve Shades of Green.	Were.	Now.
4 pairs Portieres..	$16.00	$13.50
1½ prs. Portieres.	$6.50	$5.00
1 pair Portieres..	$7.75	$6.00
1 pair Portieres..	$8.00	$5.50
6 pairs Portieres..	$5.00	$3.95
1 pair Portieres..	$11.00	$8.75
1 pair Portieres..	$4.50	$3.50
1 pair Portieres..	$9.00	$6.75
1½ prs. Portieres.	$3.75	$2.75
2 pairs Portieres..	$6.50	$4.75
2 pairs Portieres..	$7.50	$5.75
2 pairs Portieres..	$9.50	$7.25
2 pairs Portieres..	$6.50	$3.75
Five Shades of Blue.	Were.	Now.
5 pairs Portieres..	$5.00	$3.90
1 pair Portieres..	$6.00	$4.25
4 pairs Portieres..	$4.50	$3.25
1 pair Portieres..	$18.00	$12.50
4 pairs Portieres..	$4.50	$3.50

Brussels, Renna., Irish Point, Nottingham and Ruffled Net and Muslin Curtains.

Brussels Curtains.	Were.	Now.
3 pairs Curtains..	$9.00	$7.50
2 pairs Curtains..	$28.00	$17.50
2 pairs Curtains..	$11.50	$9.00
2 pairs Curtains..	$7.50	$6.50
Renaissance Curtains.	Were.	Now.
2 pairs Curtains..	$4.25	$3.00
4 pairs Curtains..	$4.50	$3.75
3 pairs Curtains..	$4.50	$3.50
2 pairs Curtains..	$8.00	$5.50
3 pairs Curtains..	$20.00	$16.75
3 pairs Curtains..	$15.00	$12.00
2 pairs Curtains..	$18.00	$14.50
2 pairs Curtains..	$14.50	$12.00
2 pairs Curtains..	$16.00	$12.75
2 pairs Curtains..	$30.00	$19.50
Irish Point.		
2 pairs Curtains..	$13.50	$10.00
2 pairs Curtains..	$22.50	$16.75
2 pairs Curtains..	$12.00	$9.25
3 pairs Curtains..	$10.50	$8.25
4 pairs Curtains..	$8.50	$7.00
2 pairs Curtains..	$4.50	$3.75
4 pairs Curtains..	$4.50	$3.50
2 pairs Curtains..	$5.50	$4.50
2 pairs Curtains..	$5.50	$3.75

Nottingham Curtains.	
2 pairs Curtains...	$2.25 to $1.75
6 pairs Curtains...	$1.25 to $1.00
5 pairs Curtains...	$2.75 to $2.10
4 pairs Curtains...	$1.75 to $1.25
4 pairs Curtains...	$1.25 to 95c.
5 pairs Curtains...	$1.50 to $1.00
2 pairs Curtains...	$2.75 to $2.10
3 pairs Curtains...	$2.25 to $1.65
3 pairs Curtains...	$2.00 to $1.45
2 pairs Curtains...	$2.50 to $1.95
2 pairs Curtains...	$4.75 to $4.00
3 pairs Curtains...	$3.50 to $2.75
2 pairs Curtains...	$3.50 to $2.80
2 pairs Curtains...	$3.00 to $2.25
3 pairs Curtains...	$3.75 to $3.00
3 pairs Curtains...	$3.50 to $2.50
4 pairs Curtains...	90c. to 70c.
4 pairs Curtains...	90c. to 75c.
4 pairs Curtains...	$1.50 to $1.10
Ruffled Curtains.	
3 pairs Curtains...	$1.50 to $1.15
3 pairs Curtains...	$1.75 to $1.25
2 pairs Curtains...	$1.50 to 95c.
2 pairs Curtains...	$2.25 to $1.45
3 pairs Curtains...	$1.25 to 90c.
3 pairs Curtains...	$1.75 to $1.35
5 pairs Curtains...	$2.00 to $1.40
2 pairs Curtains...	$2.25 to $1.65

W. B. MOSES & SONS, F St., Cor. 11th.

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Public Schools Criticised.

To the Editor of The Evening Star:

One cannot fail to be much interested in your interview with Mr. James H. Fitz Simon of Argentina, in your issue of this date. But that interest needs be sadly mixed with shame that it is possible, and justly so, for him to so severely score this land for its widespread ignorance of geography. Were Mr. Fitz Simons' criticisms only applicable to us because of our ignorance of his adopted land it would be bad enough; but it is a fact that that sort of ignorance is to be here found on every hand and regarding all lands. And I am quite sure that Mr. Fitz Simon will finally have to go to Germany to get the class of teachers he is looking for.

Our much vaunted public schools are at the bottom of this. The High School graduate, here in Washington, leaves that institution with a "diploma," less thoroughly informed in geography, political, physical or commercial than was the average private school boy at ten years of age in my boyhood days. In a recent conversation with a lad just ready to enter one of our high schools, I was surprised to hear him refer to the German river Elbe as though it were spelled Elb. On correcting him, he very confidently assured me that so he had been taught to pronounce the name. The next day I called up on the 'phone a "professor" at the High School to which this lad expects to be admitted and, without giving my name, asked if he could tell me the name of the river or estuary on which was situated the German city of Hamburg. He asked me to "hold the 'phone," evidently while he looked it up (!), and in a moment informed me it "is on the Elb river."

Since then an article in one of our papers, written by a Washington High School graduate, has contained eleven misstatements of fact, in a total of fourteen regarding German seaports.

I have been an employer of youth, mainly as stenographers or clerks, for the past quarter of a century. My experience in that time has convinced me of the unwisdom of employing in such capacities any graduates of public schools.

Newspaper ranks are now largely occupied by public school young men and women. Who is so hardy as to deny that in any issue of any American daily it is easily possible to find a half-dozen glaring errors in or exhibitions of stupendous ignorance of geography?

While we are content to pay public school "marms" less than we pay scrubwomen at the Capitol, and the latter are not overpaid, and leave the selection of text books to committees not at all capable of judging their respective merits, we can hope for nothing better. Some time ago there was a great bubbling in the educational teapot because a text book had been found in which its author had tripped up regarding his facts as to the battles around Lookout mountain, back in the sixties, or some other wretched slip of like nature. Yet the same authorities now sanction a school history in which there is no reference to the possibilities of earlier discoveries of this continent than those of Columbus and his followers, and in which, regarding his exploits there is a series of positive statements quite one-half of which are either untrue or open to serious doubt.

While hours are consumed studying the literary style of Richard Harding Davis (who but a schoolmarm would imagine him to have a style?), while other hours are wasted analyzing the works of Hugo or Balzac in poor translations, and still others are frittered away on mathematical problems of no reasonable applicability to everyday life, the poor misguided youth is being "finished" in a manner that will not even fit him to compose, spell and punctuate a simple business letter.

EUGENE MURRAY-AARON.

The Waste Paper Nuisance.

To the Editor of The Evening Star:

Last week there was published in your paper a letter, wherein some one gave expression to their righteous indignation regarding the great amount of greasy, unsightly paper which, at all times, garnishes our parkings, pavements and streets, and I think a little experience of mine in that direction might, if thus aired, give a little helpful suggestion.

A short time ago a large apartment dwelling was built in our immediate neighborhood, and at the noon hour some fifteen workmen came to sit under our shade trees to eat their luncheons. This was a matter pleasing in itself; but alas, after the men had gone back to work, they had, thoughtlessly, strewn the papers, made greasy by the eatables wrapped in them, all over the place, and how it did look! Well, what kindly breezes did not carry away I picked up myself at night, and a few times paid some boy to gather them up for me, but this thing was to last the whole season. I finally asked the contractor to please furnish a barrel and request the men to deposit their waste paper in this barrel. Well, after this I had much less trouble, and since there is at all times much building going on in the city, this waste-paper barrel, once established—insisted upon—I am sure that a goodly portion of such unsightly paper would vanish from our streets. Of course, this is not the only source of the trouble, but it is an important one, and should be done away with. TIDY HOUSEKEEPER.

Anacostia and Vicinity.

J. Adam Bede, congressman-elect from Minnesota, has been visiting former friends in Anacostia, by whom he has been shown places familiar to him a number of years ago. Mr. Bede conducted a newspaper in Anacostia when a resident of this place. He made many friends here, all of whom united in extending to him a cordial welcome on his return.

The condition of Rev. M. Porter Snell, who was attacked by paralysis while preaching at Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church, on Minnesota avenue, in Anacostia, last Sunday, was stated last evening to be favorable. Hopes are entertained that he will recover.

Rev. Williard G. Davenport, the rector of the Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church in Anacostia, who was taken ill following his return from a vacation, spent at his old home in Vermont, has recovered, and is now able to be about.

Miss Florence Brumfield of this section died Monday at the residence of her brother-in-law, William W. Conner, on a farm below Anacostia.

Lorraine Craig, a young colored man, who is said to live in Hillsdale, was arrested several days since by Officer Whalen on complaint of a number of residents of that place concerning the prisoner's acts. It was charged that he had visited places for the purpose of committing thefts and that he was a vagrant. In the Police Court he received a six months' sentence.

Extradition With Mexico.

The Senate committee on foreign relations has authorized a favorable report on the extradition treaty with Mexico, and also on an agreement with France extending the provision of the French reciprocity treaty to Porto Rico.

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