

NEW WHITE HOUSE.

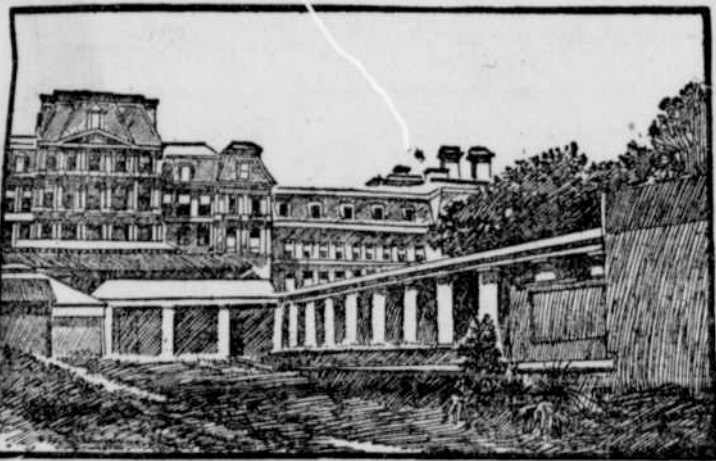
REVERSION TO ORIGINAL PLANS IN ITS RESTORATION.

Nearly Every President or President's wife Since Adams' Time Has Had a Try at "Improving" the Executive Mansion.

Washington correspondence:

It is a speaking commentary on the state of architecture as an art to-day that in the restoration of the White House now progressing the original architectural plans are being followed in almost every particular. In the first place, there has been a turning about, so to speak, of the White House itself, so that what we have for so many years regarded as the front is relegated to the rear and comparative obscurity and what has been looked upon as the rear portion of the executive mansion is now restored to its place of honor, as primarily intended. James Hoban, the architect, with whom President Washington consulted long and seriously, was a master of his art, as this tribute to his genius now shows.

It is 110 years since Washington laid the cornerstone and 102 since John Adams went to the White House to reside, or, rather, to camp, the mansion being so cold and damp that a literal house-warming was going on all the time. Up to that time its cost had been about \$250,000, but up to the present the total expenditure, including the



COLONNADE CONNECTING THE TWO "WHITE HOUSES."

last appropriation of \$500,000, will not fall short of \$2,000,000. Nearly every President or President's wife since Adams' time has had a try at "improving" the White House, and the



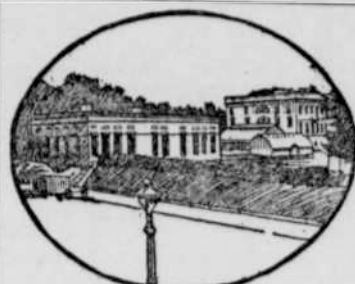
REPLACING FOUNDATION OF EAST WING

last to have this privilege is Mrs. Roosevelt, who shows herself more radical and far-reaching than any of her predecessors.

Talented Thomas Jefferson's influence was apparent in the White House restoration after it was burned by the British in 1814, and he was especially in favor of the colonnaded walks projecting east and west, which are the chief features of this latter day renovation. By means of these extensions and by the rehabilitation of the basement, hitherto devoted to ignoble uses in the domestic economy, the White House will be made to face about toward the Potomac, as projected by Hoban, and will present its back to Pennsylvania avenue. All the bigwigs of Washington, the ambassadors, Supreme Court Justices and diplomats in general, will be driven to the renovated east entrance and enter the basement before being admitted to the grand reception room in the second story. And this reception room, like

the grand east room, will be so thoroughly changed as to be hardly recognizable.

I confess to a feeling of amazement as well as of bewilderment when I entered the executive mansion the other day and gazed about me. In common with the rest of the world, diplomats, princes, servants and the public generally had previously been admitted at the entrance underneath the great north portico; but now all this is changed. Instead of elbowing your way through the crowds assembled at the public receptions and fighting your way out through the doorway which at the same time afforded ingress and egress you will be ushered in at one entrance and shown out at another. One will feel rather lonesome, of course, not to have his ribs punched and his



LITTLE WHITE HOUSE, OLD WHITE HOUSE

toes trodden on, but the behest has gone forth, and the fiat is said to be final. Prestige will count for nothing with the committee of abolishment, and relics hitherto regarded as somewhat sacred from association with Lincoln, Grant, Arthur, Hayes, Harrison, et al., have been ruthlessly swept away, even the opalescent screen that divided the great corridor and made the space so limited at receptions.

Half a million dollars is a goodly sum to be spent in the renovation of a single structure even if it be the

executive mansion of a big nation like ours, but it is hoped that this last overturning will suffice and that the next incumbents of the White House will accept the art and architectural decisions as final—at least for another decade or so. The conservatory has been taken bodily away, the state banquet room has been changed so that no former visitant to the mansion would know it, and as to the east room it has never had such an overhauling since the virtuous Abigail Adams hung up her "weekly wash" to dry within its walls. The red, the blue and the green rooms still preserve their prevailing tints inviolate—no pun intended—but otherwise they have undergone radical changes. Even the furnishings—chairs once sat on by Abraham Lincoln, mahogany beneath which a dozen Presidential occupants of the White House have bent their knees and china that erstwhile adorned the tables at many a festive board—are to be replaced by modern articles.

While the original plan of the structure has been adhered to—with its front facing Potomacward and its colonnaded wings stretching out east and west—there has been erected one building which is in every sense an innovation. I refer to the "little White House," already amply described in the columns of the press. It will be devoted exclusively to the President's executive business. By means of this building all business can be transacted without the confines of the White House proper, and the latter be reserved, according to the original intention, as a private dwelling place for the executive and his family, with an occasional throwing open of its doors to diplomats and the public at great receptions. It will be preserved as a show place, of course, as heretofore, but the sanctity of the President's domestic circle need not be invaded, nor need there be any repetition of the jams and mobs that the mansion has witnessed many a time in the past. The modernized White House will appeal to all lovers of the beautiful, but the future visitant, say at the President's public reception in January next, will need a guide, even if he be well acquainted with the mansion of old, in order to find his way about.

In chasing the ideal one often succeeds in catching up with the material.

The expected happens oftener than the unexpected.

Science and Invention

Human serum, contrary to expectation, has proven effective in counteracting effects of the tsetse fly bite in lower animals, and feebly active as a preventive.

The vibration of the diaphragm of a telephone receiver is not easily measured, but the best calculation is said to show a movement of about one twenty-millionth of an inch.

By the new electrical apparatus of Prof. C. W. Carmen, pictures on any opaque material are projected upon a screen. Even a view from the object itself, if the latter is not too large, may be magnified and thrown upon the sheet, without any lantern-slide.

Wood yarn, as now manufactured in Germany, is stated to cost about half as much as cotton yarn. It is supplied in the natural gray state and does not bleach well, but can be dyed almost any color. It is claimed to be well adapted for a variety of uses, such as linings for garments, bed ticks, blinds, crumb cloths, etc.

A new industry in Norway is the manufacture of peat fuel as a substitute for coal, the machinery being driven and the peat dried and pressed into briquettes by electric power derived from waterfalls. Peat in its natural condition contains 85 per cent of water. The heat needed to expel it is obtained from electricity. There is talk of introducing the system into Ireland.

A self-lighting cigar is tipped with a cap of ground glass, saltpetre, potassium chlorate and gum arabic, and a frictional igniter is placed on the surface of the cap. On scratching the igniter, the cap burns freely and cannot be extinguished by an ordinary wind. The cap is rendered incandescent and the ground glass fused, so covering the end of the cigar that no unpleasant taste results.

Starless parts of the sky are not dark. At the Lowe Observatory in California Edgar Larkin states, "the stellar floor," the background of the visible universe, has been proven to be a vast sheet of minute stellar points of varying degrees of brightness, with here and there a rift seeming to reveal the blackness of outer space. It is thought that the universe may be far larger than is commonly believed.

A mysterious loss of water is often noticed in boilers under steam but not in use. The valves appear to be tight, no escaping steam is seen, but in a few hours it is necessary to introduce more water. What becomes of the lost steam is a problem that could be thoroughly investigated with profit. In one case it was stated the loss was partly accounted for when windows over the boiler were opened, the cold air making visible a leak of steam from every valve.

Recent discussion of the future exhaustion of the coal supply leads D. E. Hutchins, one of the government forest officers in Cape Colony, to advocate the plan of cultivating forest timber for fuel. In Cape Town to-day, he says, it is cheaper to plant a forest of quick-growing trees for fuel than to import coal. The eucalyptus is an excellent wood for this purpose. Experiment has shown that, when planted on tropical mountains, it will produce fuel at the rate of twenty tons per year for each acre. But Mr. Hutchins thinks it would be possible to find some plant which, in sunny latitudes, with plenty of rainfall, would produce twice as much fuel as that. This, he calculates, would give the world the equivalent of at least thirty times its present consumption of coal.

The Pen Paramount.

A Supreme Court justice, a diplomat and a writer were talking of the extent of the influence wielded by each, and the New York Times justly credits the last laugh to the writer.

"I can govern by injunctions, as the Populists put it," said the Judge.

"I can involve nations in war," said the ambassador.

"And I could, if I would, make the world laugh at both of you," said the writer.

A Seller.

Playwright—I have here a German tragedy.

Manager—Don't want it.

Playwright—I was about to add, translated, adapted, dramatized, condensed, arranged and set to ragtime by myself.

Manager—I'll take it, sir. Pray name your own terms.—Smart Set.

Seeking Refuge in England.

Three properties in different parts of Hampshire have recently been sold to French religious communities who are taking refuge in England.

A young man who takes the time at noon to walk home with a pretty girl, is making himself solid with the wrong party; the girl, when it should be his employer.

The first day that a girl gets her new pictures home from the photographer's she doesn't do anything but look at them, and wonder if they are "good."

TREATY HELD UP.

President Palma Has Pigeon-Holed Cuba's Reply to the United States.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Contrary to the common understanding here, it appears that the draft of the Cuban reciprocity treaty has not yet left Havana on its return to Washington, but instead is now reposing in a pigeonhole in the desk of President Palma. The misunderstanding as to the location of the treaty arose from a statement from Minister Squiers at Havana that he expected the treaty to be sent the day following the sending of his message. The Cuban habits of procrastination, rather than any disposition to actually refrain from entering into treaty obligations with the United States, are supposed to be the reason for delay.

In view of the fact that the treaty has not yet come here, nor has Mr. Squiers had a look at it, it follows that the United States government is officially ignorant of the nature of the changes that the Cubans desire to make in the convention. Of course, generally, these are known to be connected with the increase of the rebate to be allowed on Cuban sugar and tobacco entering the United States, and there are indications that the administration may be willing to yield slightly on this point if no unreasonable delay is exhibited in the negotiations on the part of the Cubans. The rate of rebate proposed in the original convention is 20 per cent, and it is gathered that the Cubans want 50 per cent. This rate cannot be allowed, in view of the belief that congress would certainly not sanction such a cut in duties, but between these figures there is so wide a margin that there is room for compromise on a basis that might be acceptable to both sides.

The coaling station matter is, for the time being, held in abeyance, the 10,000 tons of coal belonging to the United States navy now lying in a warehouse at Tricornia is being diminished, according to the needs of the navy in Gulf waters, so that the Cuban complaint of the existence of an American naval station in Havana harbor is adjusting itself without friction, and, indeed, it is said that the matter has not been officially mentioned lately.

GUNBOAT TO HIS RESCUE.

United States Will Compel Release of Her Consular Agent by Venezuelans.

Port of Spain, Island of Trinidad, Nov. 8.—The United States gunboat Marietta arrived yesterday at Barcelona, Venezuela, in order to compel the revolutionists there to release the United States consular agent, Ignacio H. Baiz, who was arrested for refusing to contribute to a forced loan. Mr. Baiz is the richest man in Barcelona, and a man of high position. The treatment to which he has been subjected is only an incident similar to many others which have occurred in every part of Venezuela.

The seaport town of Higuera, Venezuela, was occupied for three hours yesterday by forces landed from the Venezuelan gunboat Crespo. The landing party is said to have caused great damage to property owned by Spanish and French residents, and the French warship D'Estres has left Guayara to investigate the matter.

The Dutch cruiser Holland and the Italian cruiser Giovanni Bausan have arrived at La Guayara.

DANISH ISLAND DEAL.

People Who Blocked Sale of West Indies Are Badly Disappointed.

Copenhagen, Nov. 8.—The time for subscribing to the stock of the Danish West Indian company has expired. Of the \$1,000,000 nominal capital only one-fifth was subscribed for, notwithstanding the advertisement given to the concern by King Christian and Crown Prince Frederick taking stock. The promoters, who are anti-salers, are downcast because of the weakness of the sentiment in favor of aiding the West Indian plan. The leaders of the movement intend to appeal to King George, of Greece, Queen Alexandra and the dowager zarina of Russia to buy shares. The banks and a few individuals will probably face the matter and stand the losses, since the treaty providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States was rejected partly on account of their promises.

Ladrones Are Very Active.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Manila papers received at the war department state that the ladrones are making more trouble than ever in the Philippines. They occasionally attack constabulary officers and prey upon defenceless natives. The paper says that all bona fide insurgents have returned to ways of peace and are maintaining at least a semblance of a law-abiding career. To remedy the evils, the constabulary is to be increased to such a number that the lawless band may be hunted down.

Robbers Blow Up Bank Safe.

Hutchinson, Kan., Nov. 8.—Robbers blew open the safe of the Tampa state bank near here and took \$3,800 in cash, escaping on a hand car. The safe was blown all to pieces.

WANT CANTEEN

General Corbin Declares in Favor of the Post Exchange.

SAYS GOOD DISCIPLINE DEMANDS IT

Annual Report of the Adjutant General Deals with Every Feature of the Army—More Amusements.

Washington, Nov. 10.—The annual report of Adjutant General Corbin, of the army, deals with every feature of the army, and begins with a statement showing that the army is to be reduced by December 1 to 60,020 men, of which about 2,877 belong to the staff departments. The report shows that during the fiscal year, 35 officers were killed in action or died of wounds or disease; 21 resigned, and 68 retired. Of the enlisted men, 1,277 were killed or died of wounds and disease; 35,806 were discharged on the expiration of service; 5,498 were discharged for disability or dismissed by order of court martial; 4,667 deserted; two were missing, and 203 retired.

General Corbin has the following to say regarding the canteen:

"The restoration of the exchange, as it existed before the passage of the act of February 2, 1901, prohibiting the sale of beer, is desired and urged by the great majority of officers and men, and by none more than those of pronounced temperance views. Numerous reports confirm the views long held by this office that the old exchange contributed to sobriety, health and contentment of the men. The increase of desertions, and of trials for infractions of discipline is, by those best informed, attributed to the abolition of the former privileges of the exchange."

In conclusion the report says:

"The instruction for men in vocal music would be a step in the direction of contentment and better discipline. Every regiment should have its marching song. Frequent practice in singing, particularly during the long winter evenings, would do much to make the men satisfied to remain in quarters and away from the baleful influence of the barrooms that exist in too great numbers in the vicinity of our military posts. These barrooms are under the protection of the license law of the several states, and are beyond the control of the military authorities."

FOR OREGON STUDENTS.

Society of Sons of American Revolution Offers Prize for Best Essay.

The Oregon society of Sons of the American Revolution at Portland offers three prizes of \$25, \$15 and \$10, respectively, for the best essay written by any student in any public school in Oregon, on any one of the following four subjects:

- The Battle of Bunker Hill.
 - The Burgoyne Campaign.
 - The Treason of Benedict Arnold.
 - The Partisan Warfare in the Carolinas; Marion, Sumpter and Pickens.
- Essays are limited in length to 2,500 words; must be written on legal cap on one side of the paper in the student's own handwriting and must be accompanied by the certificate of the principal of the school attended by the author, to the effect that the author is a bona fide student in the school and has been in attendance therein not less than six weeks during the school year of 1902-3. Essays must be forwarded to the chairman of the committee in charge, Wallace McCamant, 34 Concord building, Portland, so as to reach him not later than January 15, 1903. In awarding the prizes the committee will be governed by these considerations: Historical accuracy, manner of treatment, orthography, grammar, syntax and punctuation.

Any additional information relative to the competition may be obtained from Wallace McCamant, chairman.

OPERATORS PROMISE.

Coal Barons Will Abide by the Findings of the Peace Commission.

Washington, Nov. 10.—Colonel Carroll D. Wright and General John A. Wilson, members of the anthracite coal strike commission, held a brief interview with the president today. They reported that the individual operators in the anthracite region had agreed to abide by the findings of the commission and had so notified Judge Gray, the chairman. President Roosevelt was particularly pleased with this information, as it tended materially to simplify the problem which the commission has to solve.

New River Found.

New York, Nov. 10.—W. J. Wilson, an explorer of the Canadian geological survey, has returned with his party from a tour through the unexplored country to the southwest of James bay, says a Times dispatch from Ottawa. Mr. Wilson reports the discovery of a large river, hitherto unsurveyed and running between the Albany river on the south and the Ottawa-Pickett river on the north. It has a course of over 300 miles and near James bay divides into two branches, emptying into Hudson bay.