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A FINE MILITARY POST.

IT IS TO BE ESTABLISHED AT NEWPORT, KY.

Gen. Sheridan's Remark When He First Viewed the Site of the Post—A Beautiful Location—The Present Menn and Unimpressive Barracks.

[Special Correspondence.]

NEWPORT, Ky., April 11.—When the late Gen. Phil Sheridan came here in the early part of last summer to view the site selected for the new Newport military post, he was amazed at the natural beauty of the location. Always bluff, sometimes profane, the immortal warrior's first exclamation, upon alighting from his carriage, was:

"A second West Point, by G—!" The sentiment expressed by the hero of the Winchester rifle briefly describes the general surroundings to those who have been fortunate enough to have seen the great West Point.

Ever since war times the old, unsightly Newport barracks have occupied a somewhat prominent location on a bluff at the junction of the Licking river with the Ohio. It is the headquarters of the Third artillery, now commanded by Col. Bainbridge. The grounds are small and the buildings mean. As a whole it has long been an eyesore to the trinity cities here, and some years ago John G. Carlisle, Queen and Col. A. S. Berry, now mayor of Newport, fathered a scheme to have the old post abandoned and new and better barracks erected.

At that time, it is possible, the gentlemen named had some interest in a tract of land which they intended disposing of to the government, and their plan was condemned by not a few as being purely mercenary in its object. While there is no doubt that they hoped to be personally benefited by an adoption of their proposition, there was also general good in the scheme, and it was successful so far as the abandonment of the old post is concerned. But the government selected land other than that intended by the projectors of the plan, and the new barracks are now in process of construction.

Projects such as this are usually proposed by interested local men, who submit their plans to the war department. If the idea is agreeable the war department reports favorably, and the congressman from the district in which it is proposed to build the post introduces a bill to appropriate whatever amount the estimate calls for, and it takes its chances with the balance.

For the new post here, which, curiously, has not yet been christened, \$80,000 was appropriated for the purchase of land and \$100,000 for buildings. Since then an additional \$50,000 has been allowed for the "completion" of buildings, and it is not unlikely the whole expenditures will exceed \$300,000, a sum quite small considering the extent of the new post.

About a year and a half ago the government purchased 111 acres known as the Bigstaff place, about three miles from Newport by wagon road, but fully eight miles by river, and detailed Capt. A. H. Young, A. Q. M., to take charge of the work of construction, beginning with laying out the grounds and making plans, and ending with the completion of the post. That the appointment was a good one is evidenced by the fact that not a single material suggestion has been made by Capt. Young that has not at once been favorably passed upon by the war department.

The site of the new barracks is a bluff 500 feet above the Ohio river, and overlooking the stream a distance of two or three miles in either direction. The commanding officer's residence is to be on the point of the highest bluff, from which, to reach a station on the Mayville, Lexington and Big Sandy railroad, at the base of the hill, 500 feet below, a serpentine wagon road, covering a distance of a mile and a half, is being constructed. From the brow of the bluff, on which the different officers' quarters are to be erected, the now famous western Coney Island can easily be seen, and with field glasses the sports indulged in there can be observed. Almost directly across the river is the village of California, O., and further down in the direction of Cincinnati numerous suburban villages greet the eye. About the grounds are many old homesteads and a few country residences of Cincinnati and Newport people. Particularly elegant is the new country place of J. Henry Hegeman, a veritable palace of Queen Anne pattern, which fronts the entrance to the barracks, and the Bloom place, a twenty-eight room stone residence, topping a bluff adjoining the new park site and overlooking the Ohio.

The park grounds, naturally beautiful, will be ornamented by the residences of the officers, three double and two single structures, a hospital, guard house, two barracks, water tower, and numerous minor structures.

The two barracks are to accommodate eighty men each, though it is not the intention at first to station more than one company here—perhaps seventy-five or eighty men.

Gen. Sheridan's exclamation, "A second West Point!" has in it much truth. In some respects the grounds are prettier, and certainly the officers will be better located. At West Point the more attractive part of the grounds is occupied by a battery and by walks, while here the residences of the officers are given the preference, and from them an enchanting view is obtainable.

While but one company of infantry will at first be located here, it is expected to from time to time increase the force, the idea of the war department being to mobilize the troops at a few eastern and central eastern points. The Indian question is practically done for so far as soldiers are concerned, and it is now deemed advisable to station more troops in the vicinity of the larger cities, so that they will be convenient in the event of the frequent labor troubles precipitating or occasioning violence.

With this idea in view Fort Sheridan

is being constructed at Highway, thirty miles from Chicago, where 1,000 troops are to be stationed. Atlanta, Ga., Fort Riley, Kansas, and a post at Denver are new barracks also now in process of construction, but the one at Fort Riley is intended more as a school for instruction in drill and practice than for any other purpose.

The new post here will be completed, it is anticipated, early next fall, and troops will at once be stationed here under command of a major, while the artillery now at the old barracks will, in all probability, be sent to California.

JOAN RISTITSCH.

The Eyes of All Europe Are Turned Toward Him Now—Dr. Wood.

BERLIN, March 28.—There is perhaps no man in Europe who from insignificance has sprung into greater prominence than Joan Ristitsch, upon whom at present the eyes of all Europe are turned, for he is the principal one of the three regents who during the minority of King Alexander I. of Servia, are to conduct the affairs of that state. Joan Ristitsch is a prominent party leader and statesman



JOAN RISTITSCH.

who has repeatedly been at the head of the Servian government, for even as late as from June 13, till Dec. 29, 1887, he was prime minister.

Ristitsch was born in the year 1831 in Kragujewaz, the son of poor parents. He completed his studies in Berlin, Heidelberg and Paris, where he studied history, philosophy and jurisprudence.

After the assassination of Michael Obrenowitsch, Ristitsch conducted the government until Prince Milan reached his majority. It was he who superintended the education of the young prince, who was then not quite 14 years old. In the spring of 1873 Ristitsch became prime minister and developed great activity in achieving the national wishes of Servia. He was a decided adherent of Russia, and convinced that only under the influence of that power it was possible for Servia to reach the goal. Marinowitsch, the leader of the opposition, conducted a different policy, seeking to draw Prince Milan into friendship with Austria and Turkey, in which he succeeded; in consequence thereof, Prince Milan having been received with open arms in Vienna and Constantinople, Ristitsch was compelled to resign.

But hardly three years had passed ere Russian influence was ascendant again in Servia, inducing Prince Milan to declare war against Turkey as a preparation for Russia's further machinations in the Balkan peninsula. This change took place when Ristitsch became prime minister again and brought many bitter experiences for Servia. Defeated in several important battles Servia seemed to have arrived at the end of its existence as a separate state, until the fall of Plevna changed the fortunes of war for Servia and the treaty of Berlin created its independence, and withal increased its territory to a considerable extent. On the 19th of October, 1880, Ristitsch ceased to be prime minister and Austrian influence became so strong that under its protection Servia could be raised to the state of a kingdom.

Rev. J. G. Wood, who recently died in England, did more to popularize the study of natural history than any writer of the present age. He was the son of a surgeon, and was born in London in 1827, and was graduated at Oxford. For two years he was attached to the anatomical museum at Christ's church, Oxford, and in 1853 was ordained a minister. In 1856 he was appointed assistant chaplain of St. Bartholomew's hospital. In 1862 he resigned this post, and from 1868 to 1876 he was preacher of the Canterbury Diocesan union. Among his numerous works on natural history are: "Common Objects of the Seashore," "Homes Without Hands," "The Natural History of Man," "Our Garden Friends and Foes," and his larger "Natural History," in three volumes, enriched by excellent illustrations from animal painters of the highest rank. He also for some time edited The Boy's Own Magazine.

In 1879 he projected a series of "sketch lectures" on zoology, illustrating them himself by drawings in colored pastels on a large canvas. These lectures were delivered in all the principal institutes of England and Scotland. His last lecture, on ants, was given in London only a few days before his death.

A Unique Plant.

The gradual extinction of a species is not an uncommon phenomenon. In most cases many individuals of the vanishing species are known to exist. One plant, however, seems to be perfectly alone in the world—the last of its race. This unique specimen is on the island of St. Helena. It is a tree about twenty feet high, and its botanical name is Paladia rotundifolia. Formerly this species seems to have been common on the island, forming large groves, but the woodman's ax and the ravages of goats have left only this single specimen. It is unique in another respect and of great botanical interest, for it bears flowers like those of the aster, being, in fact, the only known tree of the composite, a family which, with this exception, comprises only herbaceous plants. It is to be hoped that an attempt will be made to propagate the species from the seed of this plant.—Die Gartenlaube.

An Original Creation.
Stage Manager—Mr. De Howler, did you ever see or hear of an original count talking and acting the way you do?
Young Actor (proudly)—I should say not, sir. I pride myself upon the fact that the manner in which I perform this part is an original creation, sir—an original creation.—Detroit Free Press.

The Value of a Reputation.



"Why do you look so sad, Miss Ethel?"
"Sister Helen is going to marry Tom Barry."
"The worthless young reprobate! No wonder you are sad."
"Oh, it is not that. I wanted to marry him myself."—Life.

Two Strings to His Bow.

"No, William," she said coldly, with a sidelong glance to note the effect of her words, "I cannot be your wife. You smoke and you sometimes drink. I have registered a vow not to marry a man who has either of these vices."
"All right, Maria," was the humble reply. "And now will you please ask your younger sister Lulu to come down stairs a moment! She said, when she kissed me good-by last night, that she would gladly have me if you refused."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Blood Will Show Itself.

Mrs. Hyde Parkins (closing the recital of a domestic difficulty)—And then, of course, I had to advertise at once for a new cook. I got forty answers, and the only one who seemed any good forgot to put her address. (Ardently Irish, of course.)
Capt. O'Paddy (with a view to defending the honor of his "country")—Ah, then, why didn't ye write and ask her for it!—Judy.

A Very Intricate Plot, Indeed.

Aspiring Author—I have the MS. of a play which I would like to submit.
Manager—Has it a good plot?
A. A.—Good plot! I should say so! Why (waxing confidential), the plot is so intricate that the audience who sees it once will have to come every night for a week to find out exactly how things turn out.—The Epoch.

He Had Watched His Parent.

Bobby (whose father is a grocer)—Look, pa, what I got for my birthday—a regular little grocery store.
His Father (indulgently)—Oh, yes; that's very nice.
Bobby—Ain't it, though! Little pieces for coffee, and sugar, and spices, and— I say, though, pa, there ain't no sand drawer.—Harper's Bazar.

A Tender Chord.

Young Father—I am surprised that you should ask your grandma for a second piece of pie, Dick. You are allowed but one piece at home, and you always appear satisfied.
Little Dick—Grandma's pie is better than mamma's.
Young Father (with emotion)—Here, Dick, help yourself.—Philadelphia Record.

A Dull City.

First Little Girl (from New York)—Oh, Philadelphia is an awfully dull place.
Second Little Girl (Philadelphia hostess)—Dull!
"Yes, I've been here almost a week and haven't seen anybody killed yet—not even a street pavement explosion."—Philadelphia Record.

How He Was Raised.

"Don't you know that it's very impolite to puff and blow that way?" said a real estate man to a gentleman who had just walked up eight flights of stairs to his office.
"Can't help it, sir," replied the visitor between puffs; "it's the way I was brought up."—Yonkers Statesman.

A Horrible Discovery.

Professor roused by violent ringing in dead of night—Well, what is it? What's the matter?
Student—One of your windows is open.
Professor—Which one?
Student—The one you are looking out of.—Pick Me Up.

Didn't Want to Perjure Himself.

A negro who was giving evidence in a Georgia court was reminded by the judge that he was to tell the whole truth. "Well, yer see, boss," said the dusky witness, "I've skored to tell do whole truth for fear I might tell a lie."—Exchange.

Smart.

"Peg, don't yo' set down on dat dress ob mine on de cheer, dear."
"Missus, I seed yo' settin' on it yistidy."
"Wheah, yo' sashob yo'?"
"When yo' had it on!"—Harper's Bazar.

Natural Selection.

Duo—Miss Lu, if you'll bounce that pet poodle of yours, I'll marry you. I've \$10,000 a year.
Lu—Much obliged. I'll take my own choice of puppies.—The Epoch.

Due to Ability at Lying.

Johnny—Pa, when a man fails, what do they mean by his liabilities?
Papa—The amount for which his creditors will get left, my son.—Lawrence American.

A Long Wait.

Policeman—Here, move on! Why don't you go home?
Tramp (with dignity)—I'm waitin' for me coachman.—New York Weekly.

Easily Explained.

"I wonder why children cry when they are having the dirt removed from their faces?"
"Oh, I suppose because they want the earth."—Yonkers Statesman.

Cruel.

Clara—Did you notice how beautifully my dress sat at the Harvard assembly?
Bessie—Yes, I noticed it sat most of the time.—Harvard Lampoon.

An Absurd Question.

A correspondent writes: "How can I cure the roaches in my house?" We can't tell, unless we know what is the matter with them.—New York Journal.

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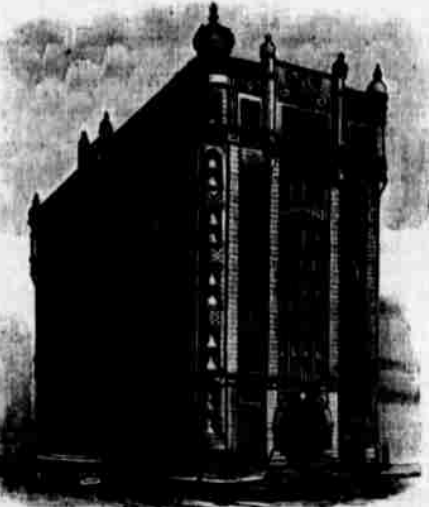
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