

THE NORTH SEWER

The City Engineer's Explanations in Reply to County Surveyor Smith's Criticisms.

The following, in reply to a communication of County Surveyor Smith...

GENTLEMEN:—In deference to your request, I submit the following in response to the criticisms and suggestions of Mr. Geo. Smith...

First of all these plans were not designed in a state chamber nor kept hidden from the public...

IN CONCLUSION, while Mr. Smith exaggerates the amount of brick in a section 364 feet long to the extent of 30,000 bricks...

1. "Dry digging." By this Mr. Smith intimates he has circulated the statements among people on street corners...

2. "A natural and secure foundation, upon which, only stability depends." By this Mr. Smith intimates the sewer has no good foundation...

3. "Dirt for backfill." By this Mr. Smith intimates we will need dirt for backfill to break down the sewer...

4. "About 300,000 brick saved." etc. Another error; even if admitting that 384 feet, as referred to by Mr. Smith, is saved in distance, it would be nearer 200,000 brick.

5. "Three hundred and eighty feet of 8 1/2 feet sewer unnecessary." In this objection Mr. Smith naturally would lead us to infer that the sewer is designed simply to discharge on the bottom, without regard to ultimate outlet.

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whereas by the way of Izard street it is only 89 feet, a saving of over 180 feet by the route adopted over the one he suggests.

5. "Two elbows." That is a term that may do for an unsophisticated laborer, but considering that the curve to which he applies that term has a radius of 100 feet, no practical engineer will consider the frictional resistance due to this curvature of such grave consequence as Mr. Smith would indicate.

Mr. Smith adds that he is satisfied there are many other objections, which can be found upon due investigation. This, considering the untenability of every objection actually cited and unreliability of allegations, is certainly a remarkable piece of advice, especially in view of the already stated fact of its being made after work had begun, and in the face of the fact that work was advertised before the letting of contracts, nearly six weeks upon the present plans, of which he had as much occasion to know then as he has now.

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tion that Conkling assumed thirteen years later, when he fought Garfield on the removal of Robertson.

"There is a sentence," said my friend, picking up the impeachment trial in my library. "The case," said Mr. Edmunds, 'is the removal of a faithful officer, neither accused nor suspected of any other wrong than adherence to the duty the law imposed upon him, because of that faithfulness and adherence to duty by a President of the United States who determined there by to counteract and defeat the law because he believed, or professed to believe in a different policy of his own. In my opinion, no higher crime nor greater violation of constitutional duty, no act more dangerous to law or to the liberties of the nation can be found within the reach of the Executive.' After reading this my acquaintance then turned to Edmunds' description of the senate of the United States, at the close of his opinion saying: "Angry, benignant and supreme upon the complaints of the people's representatives, it brings to its judgment seat judges and presidents and all the ministers of the law, no station too lofty or powerful for its reach, none too low to escape its notice, and subjects them alike to the serene and steadfast justice of the law. The mechanism of government can do no more for society than this. These great powers, at once the emblem, the ideal and the realization of that orderly justice which is the law, we must this day exercise with fear. And so acting there can follow no possible reproach and no detriment to the republic."

"These words," resumed my friend, "uttered by Senator Edmunds only the second year after he entered the senate, are a test, it seems to me, of his conservatism. The removal of President Johnson under the articles of impeachment would have inaugurated a system of revolutionary error to which the electoral count squabbles were a small matter. I cannot subscribe to the idea that he is a great lawyer if he gave that opinion as a partisan, and if he only gave it as a lawyer, he used the words of hypocrisy. His record in the senate confirms Johnson's conviction; second, of his support of Grant in every aggressive measure he took, even toward his fellow senators; and, third, the general services of Mr. Edmunds, which have been to the whole meritorious. It seems to me that he has learned since he came to the senate, and there are some indications that he has learned too much, for he is now hardly a leading quality in the senate, and it would seem that the presidential fever had got into his bones."

The Philosophy of Gloves. "It's a curious thing about gloves," said the proprietor of one of our establishments to a Washington Star reporter a few days ago, "but they will tell you a great many things about the character and habits of their wearers. Now, I have been in the business some time and handled a large number of gloves, and there is no doubt in my mind, from a pretty wide observation, that they become in certain respects like the wearers. For instance, I can tell the disposition of a person from looking at a pair of gloves that have been worn."

"Why, how in the world can you do that?" asked the reporter, curious to learn this new art of reading character. "Well, I look at this glove," said the philosopher, "and you observe that the fingers are straight and extended, indicating that the hand is carried in an easy open manner. Now take a look at these gloves," he continued, producing a pair of gentlemen's kid gloves, "here you perceive the fingers retain the bent, crooked shape in which the hand is usually carried, and you observe that the fingers are straight and extended, indicating that the hand is carried in an easy open manner. Now take a look at these gloves," he continued, producing a pair of gentlemen's kid gloves, "here you perceive the fingers retain the bent, crooked shape in which the hand is usually carried, and you observe that the fingers are straight and extended, indicating that the hand is carried in an easy open manner."

"But what does the habit of holding the hand indicate about the character?" asked the reporter. "Simply this," was the reply. "The open extended hand is an indication of a generous disposition, while the cramped, closed hand is a sign of an avaricious, parsimonious nature. Now, if you knew the owners of these gloves you would agree with me that they were truthful interpreters of the real characters. I have observed these differences in the shapes of gloves from handling such a large number, and they seldom mislead me."

"But do you not think that the delinquency of the color of a glove might be an indication of the refinement of the wearer?" ventured the reporter. "To a certain extent it is. But nowadays the color and shade of a glove is governed entirely by the costume. Still, you can tell a good deal about the physical condition of a person from the glove worn."

"You can," ejaculated the reporter; "well, I would like to know how?" "It is just in this way. We frequently find gloves of this color stained with black streaks, and by examination of the cause of the discoloration it is found that it is occasioned by iron coming from the blood through the perspiration. Then we find light streaks in the gloves, and that is an indication that there is a good deal of lime in the system. In the same way a great many other facts about the physical condition of people can be obtained. A person in the laundry business can always know the character, habits and physical condition of his customers," concluded the philosopher, as he turned to wait on a customer.

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