

masonry is rough. There is no extravagant ornamentations, no more certainly than the simplest ideas of neatness and "good taste" would suggest. The only adornment that departs from the rigid right lines is in the eaves of the wings of hospital. A slight Scroll made to protect from the weather, but not extravagant.

I have no objection to submit the work performed under my administration, to the critical examination of anyone officially or otherwise--but if the work is to be reported upon I would wish the inspection to be thoroughly made and the report to be critical, and not based upon simple glances which lead to "add captadum" assertions which can hardly be otherwise than unjust. It was impossible for Gen. Marcy to inspect, as he did, and make a report which would convey a just estimate of the character of the work. He encamped one-half mile from the Post, stayed the next day without making any detailed examination and on the day after about one o'clock he left the Post. He scarcely gave an hour's examination.

I further respectfully state that the implied accusations contained in Gen. Marcy's report of recklessness and expenditure on the part of the AAQM or myself is incorrect and invite investigation.

On my arrival at this Post in December last I found the super-structures of several buildings partially completed. I thought it expedient, or tasteful and in the end more economical to raise the balance of the super-structures as they were originally designed: to have departed from the plan by continuing the super-structures in preference to the fronts of the buildings of masonry of a different character would not only have made in my opinion, a poor building, not worth the outlay but would have evinced on the part of the architect a lamentable want of good taste--if I erred in this I erred in judgement, not with unintention or heedlessness in regard to expenditure. It was and is my intention to put up the balance of the buildings, the foundations of which have not been laid, as rough as is consistent with strength, durability and comfort.

The estimated cost of completed company quarters included everything for \$18,242.14. This I think somewhat of an over-estimate. At least a very liberal