

is deemed by the gentlemen stationed at the Post as a very unwarrantable piece of injustice. He left this Post giving the impression to all, that he had no cause to visit the Post with a general disapproval," which I must protest against as in the highest degree unjust, and which can only be accounted for from the fact that his inspection was informal and cursory, not critical.

As to the buildings--the impression given by the report is that they are magnificent in extent and structure, <sup>1/2</sup> "with the exterior faces of the stones as smoothly dressed as if they were designed for the national capitol." If anyone examines critically the masonry of these buildings, <sup>they cannot</sup> but consider the above quoted expression as a hyperbolism calculated to deceive as to true character of the buildings. The stone is not as smoothly dressed as stated. The upper and lower faces of the stones are nicely fitted so as to give each stone a full bearing throughout its exterior, which does certainly improve the appearance of the buildings but chiefly designed to give strength and durability to the structure. It is only the fronts of the buildings that have any pretense to finish, the balance of the masonry is rough. There is no extravagant ornamentations, no more certainly than the simplest ideas of neatness and "good taste" <sup>1</sup> 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~~ based upon simple glances which lead to "add captadum" assertions which can hardly be <sup>otherwise than</sup> ~~and~~ unjust. It was