

opposite is generally the case and we often see a wall going up that looks hardly able to support its own weight.

For want of space we minimize the structural members of our buildings and this cannot help but change the appearance of the same.

But we must not think that Architecture is degenerating, we are further advanced in the science to-day than ever. We may not have the patience, time or money to build such colossal structures as did the ancients but we can take the same amount of material that they used and get twice and three times as much out of it. These buildings consisted of giant works, seldom more than one story high; they labored over stones and columns, twenty, thirty, fifty, and seventy feet in length. We of to-day take a pile of bricks each containing about eighty square inches of material and run them up thirty stories.

The huge monolith may look grand and imposing but it lacks that certain form of beauty given a structure by the symmetry of well formed joints.

These obelisks and monumental columns of solid masonry were indeed worthy of much praise, but what do we find to-day? We find that when a monument is reared, a stairway is placed inside for the purpose of ascent. We have all the ancients had and something more.

The Eiffel Tower even had a Post Office at its very summit.

The Romans invented the arch but they confined it to windows and doors, triumphal arches and the like. They would be surprised could they awaken to-day and see their arch spanning a river or a harbour, with steamships passing underneath.

Our advance lies chiefly in construction and it is in this that the intellect shows itself.

We have said that Architecture is not degenerating and yet there is a style of building going on throughout this country upon which the Greeks and Romans would surely pronounce the sentence of death: death not only to the building itself but also to the builder. Of course there is a certain class of buildings whose homeliness is accounted for by the restrictions placed upon the Architect, lack of money, the rush and bustle of the time, but there is another class for which our so-called "Art Schools" must be held responsible.

Here is a student who is somewhat adapted to free hand drawing; he goes to an Art School and at once considers himself an artist and because artist then Architect. Many a man has made a most unhappy mistake at this very point, and to-day we find the cities and towns of our country overrun with these so called "Artist Architects"

Because a man is an artist is no reason why he should be an Architect. An Architect may be an artist just as he must be a designer, but it never follows that because he is a designer or artist that he is an Architect.