To say that the architects have not begun work does not mean that they are idle, for an architect never idles.

We have one or two problems to work on.

A sketch for the six-column problem is to be handed in immediately, and sketches of five or six dormers are to be ready for use as soon as we are settled.

The six-column problem appears each year, as regularly as the reddened leaves and white frost, and each year the accumulated energies of vacation are expended upon it.

"A certain wealthy gentleman,"—that starts out with the promise of a good novel, but there is nothing novel about it; would that all our clients through life were as rich as those we meet with before we leave school. Is it not quite a dangerous practice for the professors to always hold rosy-tinted glasses before our eyes,—"has six columns, ten feet long." We are left to conjecture where he got them; but then they are solid, tangible blocks of stone. Maybe he inherited them,—a very good way to get anything, for no man would be fool enough to buy such things, even at auction. Maybe some lady gave them to him for a birthday gift. (N. B.) To the ladies: This idea is copyrighted as quite original, so beware using without legal right.

"He wishes to use the columns, and wants a design for a fountain, gateway, monument, summer house, or boat house, or some building in which the columns will be the principal feature. Expense unlimited." Architect’s fees twenty-five per cent. We think after this we will all agree that it must have been some lady friend who gave him the columns. For if he had inherited them, they would probably have lain in his back yard, in their boxes, untouched, with weeds and grass growing over them, till perhaps in clearing his yard to build an addition, in a fit of generosity he gives them to the town, which receives them with thanks, and uses them for a porch to the new jail in course of erection. But as we have assumed them to be a touching birth-

The Washington Monument is still unfinished, but the view one gets from the top is well worth the elevator trip necessary to reach its summit. There can now be seen from the top, Round Top Mountain in Maryland, 40 miles north-northwest; Bull Run Mountains, foot-hills of the Blue Ridge Range, about 45 miles to the westward. The masonry is now 370 feet high and the iron work 30 feet higher. The engineers hope to have the stone work up to 400 feet before the snow flies. There are 168 blocks in one course of two feet, and it takes a month to cut three courses. When finished the monument will be 555 feet high. The engineer in charge estimates that it would take a globe about fifty feet in diameter representing the earth, for the monument when finished to be visible to the naked eye. For the benefit of the "Civilians," who will soon have to make estimates on masonry, we give the following prices: The materials heretofore used have cost, marble $1.35 per cubic foot, with 82 cents for cutting, and the granite 50 cents per cubic foot, with 75 cents for cutting. Under the last contract the marble cost $1.50 per cubic foot.