



Some Letters of Sarmiento and Mary Mann 1865-1876, Part I

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DOCUMENTS

SOME LETTERS OF SARMIENTO AND MARY MANN 1865-1876, PART I

ALICE HOUSTON LUIGGI

From the Will Seymour Monroe bequest of Henry Barnard papers to the Washington Square Library of New York University have been sifted twenty-four letters of Mrs. Horace Mann. Always a tireless worker for education of poor and rich, she marshalled her skill at writing, her knowledge of educational affairs and, most of all, her friends to aid Sarmiento's plan of giving grade-school training to every Argentine. These letters she wrote to the Mann family friend of many years, Henry Barnard, about her protégé, "Mr. Sarmy."

Minister Plenipotentiary Sarmiento wrote eleven letters to Henry Barnard, who in 1865-1866 was president of St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland, and during 1867-1870 was the first United States Commissioner of Education. Meanwhile he continued editing his *American Journal of Education*.

These letters were run to earth during a search for material about the seventy or more American teachers invited to found, or to teach in, the normal schools that were the base of Sarmiento's program. Professor Ernesto Nelson of Buenos Aires recalled hearing Will S. Monroe, traveler, author, and educator, mention years ago that he possessed Sarmiento letters.

The Mary Mann Papers in the manuscript division of the Library of Congress, a gift in 1916 of George Combe Mann, furnish eighteen letters written after Sarmiento had returned to Argentina. Mrs. Mann's letter of 1876 practically closes the pleasant interlude of eleven years. She had launched off American teachers of the best type to Argentina and two of their normal schools were already turning out teachers for grade schools. Now in her seventies she busied herself propagandizing the kindergarten movement, and as she said, "proclaiming glad tidings about all sorts of good things."

These two groups of letters supplement 156 from Sarmiento to Mrs. Mann written between 1865 and 1884 and published in seven issues of *Boletín de la Academia Argentina de Letras*, 1935-1936.

Six weeks after his arrival as minister from Argentina, Sarmiento read in New York newspapers of the unveiling on July 4 of the full-length, statue of Horace Mann by the sculptor Emma Stebbins. It faces that of Daniel Webster on the lawn of the State House in Boston.

Immediately he wrote to Mrs. Mann recalling his visit to West Newton in 1847 and she answered promptly and cordially.

"The Lord has appointed you my guardian angel," he delightedly assured her when, after writing in English for two months through his secretary, young Bartolomé Mitre, he learned to his astonishment that she had lived in Cuba and wrote and spoke Spanish, "and it is your duty to submit with Christian resignation." During the 1847 visit they had spoken in French.

In Mrs. Mann Sarmiento found a friend to whom he could write about his problems, whether educational, political or personal, and she always replied with the needed word of information or opinion or comfort. Yet they had met only half a dozen times: in 1847 when he came to the United States expressly to talk with Horace Mann; in 1865 over Thanksgiving turkey at 7 Sudbury Road, Concord, in the white house shaded by great pines, seeds of which he collected to take back to Argentina; at Cambridge in September, 1866, when fall colorings of maples and oaks enchanted the visitor from the treeless pampas (ten years later she sent him a painting of New England in autumn); in February and October of 1867; and finally to say *hasta la vista* in May, 1868, before sailing for Argentina as probable president-elect.

When Sarmiento had first explained that his purpose as minister was chiefly to look into schools—common schools, those for blind and deaf, correctional schools, agricultural, mining, military—she eagerly seized the opportunity to pass on the knowledge she had built up over the years with her husband.

"Her life, from then on, was linked to mine. She was quick to aid me in my work, and she put her hand to the task . . . Wherever I went, I found friends her forethought had made for me. When I read articles about my books in newspapers or magazines, I often found phrases taken from a letter of mine to her. Then I knew she had written it.

"The roots of her affection have spread to embrace Argentina . . . 'To me, you are not a man,' she said, 'but a country.' . . . Mary Mann is the grandmother of Argentine common-school education."

LETTERS

Concord, July 21, 1865

My dear Mr. Barnard,

I have of late had a very interesting correspondence with the Minister from the Argentine Republic, D. F. Sarmiento. He visited in West Newton many years ago where he gave us a great deal of information about Chili, from which kingdom [sic] he had been sent to Europe just two years after my husband went, to visit schools and colleges. He

followed very closely on his footsteps, and went still farther. We were very much pleased with him. He could not speak English then and I talked with him in French one whole day. He has accepted this mission for the purpose of doing still more about education, and wishes to know you, to whom I have referred him for every kind of information. He intends to see all the educational people while here and will undoubtedly seek you out in Hartford, but if you will call upon him in N. York at *58 W. 18th street*, it would give him great gratification I know as it would hasten his acquaintance with you, and he is now occupied there. He is acquainted with your Journal.

I hope you have received the memoir from me and found time to read it. I have very pleasant letters about it but there is a lament for the want of a portrait and an index, and more personal details. I could not give the latter. He¹ was too beautiful in my eyes for me to venture to do that. But you can tell how lovely he was, if you notice the work in your Journal. I hope to have both a portrait and an index before long.

Yours with great regard,

Mary Mann

Concord, July 21st, 1865

My dear Mr Barnard,

Allow me to introduce to you his Excellency, D. F. Sarmiento, Minister from the Argentine Republic. Mr. Sarmiento has accepted this diplomatic mission chiefly from his interest in education in America. He visited us many years since in West Newton, where he interested my husband exceedingly in his own labors for his country. I have requested Mr. Sarmiento to send you a very interesting letter he has written to the Argentine Consulate concerning that interesting Republic. It will be almost as grateful to you as to me to know that my husband's labors have even indirectly benefitted that country.

I know no one who can give Mr. Sarmiento such valuable information as yourself.

With much regard and affection,

Your friend,

Mary Mann

Henry Barnard, LL. D.

Hartford,

Connecticut

¹ Horace Mann.

New York, 28th of July, 1865
No. 58 West 18th street

My dear Sir:

I have the honor to enclose you a letter of introduction with which I have been favored by our excellent friend, Mrs. Mann. Some years since I had the pleasure of perusing your valuable works entitled: "Education in Europe" and "School Architecture."² I take this opportunity to beg of you to send to my address one copy of each of these publications, and to set me down for two subscriptions to your 'American Journal of Education' to date from the present month, besides a full set (bound) of the same periodical from its first number.

By this mail I put to your address one copy of my book entitled: *Barbarism and Civilization* (in French) which you will please give a place in your library as a souvenir from me.

Our common pursuits are, I believe, a sufficient apology to avail myself at once of your favors *sans ceremonie*. I should be obliged to you to make room in your Journal to a letter I wrote to Mrs. Mann and her reply, as well my article on the late Mr. Mann which I wrote in Buenos Ayres when the tidings of his much lamented dismissal arrived there. It is a poor, but deserved, tribute to the memory of this illustrious friend, that will make a suitable appendage to the great honor paid to his life by the erection of a statue at Boston. I hope, by the republication of my homage to Mann's memory, to obtain at the same time the favor and acquaintance of the educationists in whose hands your publications are usually found. When I may visit the schools of Boston and other cities, I shall expect, by this means, to be recognized as one of them.

Though I expect to find in your series all the information I am after, there is a data I wish you procure me as soon as possible. This is the tax-list of any school district in Massachusetts or Connecticut to illustrate your way of doing these things. I intend to make use of it in a publication I have under hand. The papers have published here the income tax of citizens of New York, and I presume it will not be difficult to do same with the school tax. Any expense incurred I will cheerfully pay here. You will equally please enclose bill for subscription and works called for.

Next fall I shall go to Boston, and, on my way, I will be glad to pay personally my compliments to you, as the worthy successor of Mr.

² *Principles of School Architecture*, published by C. B. Norton, 71 Chambers Street, New York, and Trubner & Company, 12 Paternoster Row, London, originally appeared in the *American Journal of Education*, with plans and illustrations of playground and furniture equipment.

Mann in the great undertaking of elevating the people, through education, to the image of his God.

I have the honor to subscribe myself,

Your Obt. Svt.

D. F. Sarmiento

To the Hon. Henry Barnard, LL.D.
Hartford, Conn.

New York, 5th of August, 1865

Hon. Henry Barnard
Hartford

My dear Sir:

I received with pleasure your kind invitation to attend the meeting of the American Institute of Instruction, and I will be at the appointed time on board the steamboat to greet you for the first time.

Your invitation could not come at a better time, and when it could give me more delight. I shall always be at your orders for any educational subject.

I enclose you a copy of my "Educacion Popular," the result of an educational tour through Europe and the United States from 1845 to 1848. It may be usefull to you to complete your library on educational subjects.

Since that time I have written a great deal and done more on Education. I am studying again educational questions in order to bring about a general movement through South America. My previous efforts were confined to Chile and the Argentine Republic.

I enclose you a check for seventy-four (\$74) on Mr. Hobson, value of books and subscriptions sent by you, and for which please accept my thanks.

Very truly your Svt.

N. York, 58 W. 18 st.

D. F. Sarmiento

New York, 30th of Agt. 1865
No. 8 Clinton Place [8th St.]

My dear Sir:

I enclose you copy of my article that was to be read at the meeting of American Institute, and was left out for want of time. Will you be so kind as to have it inserted in your 'Journal.' I am unwillingly to throw it away after the time and expense incurred to prepare it. Besides, it will show to your readers that we are not altogether out of the world in education matters.³

³ The American Institute of Instruction met August 8, 9 and 10 in New Haven. With Governor John Andrew of Massachusetts, Minister Sarmiento sat in the front row on

I see that you are preparing the publication of a "History of Schools and Education in the U.S." When will it be ready? Please set me down for *six* copies of it, and have them sent to me as soon as published.

Did you send me the *two* copies of the 'Journal' I subscribed for? I cannot find but one copy. I mean the series of 1865.

How is your health? I feel somewhat uneasy on this point, and hope you have recovered and returned to your usefull labors.

I remain very truly your svt & friend

D. F. Sarmiento

Henry Barnard, Esq. LL.D.

P. S. Please send me *ten* copies of 'Journal' containing my article, when published. Have you been paid in full of your previous bill?

New York, 5th of Sep.ber, 65

Henry Barnard, Esq. LL.D.

My dear Sir—

I am in receipt of your note requesting me to write the History of South American Schools. I do not know anything of consequence done in that line in that section of our Continent but what approaches to a general system of education that has been carried on in Chile and the Argentine Republic, and in both these movements I bore the principal burden. However, you may imagine that I don't wish to write my own history or the part I have played in this work.

Nevertheless I shall try to collect all data and information in my power and the best shape I can, and lay it before you to apply it to your own purpose. But I shall be obliged to do it in Spanish, the only language I can command.

I am completing my work or report on American Education, and expect to get it printed within the next two or three months. In this report to my Government I allude to your coming work, and recommend the convenience of subscribing for a number of copies. More than that: I propose that the whole of it be translated into Spanish. This recommendation is extensive to all the South American Governments and I sincerely wish it may be acted upon favorably.

I rejoice to know that your health is fast improving and that you are again at your work. Hoping you may succeed in all your undertakings for the benefit of all and of your own self, I remain,

Very truly your svt. & friend

D. F. Sarmiento

the stage. He spoke briefly in Spanish, Professor Greenleaf of Brooklyn translating. For lack of time, only part of his speech "The Dignity of the Schoolmaster's Work" was read by Mr. White, superintendent of schools for Massachusetts. The *American Journal of Education* printed it in full, March, 1866, D. F. Sarmiento, *Obras completas* (53 vols., Buenos Aires, 1884-1903), XXX, 79.

New York City, January 8th, 1866

Legacion Arjentina
en los
Estados Unidos
Henry Barnard, Esq.,
Dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your kind communication of the 6th of December last which has afforded me a great pleasure.

The article sent by you to my address, has not reached here, perhaps for wanting of exact direction. If, as it is probable, you receive it returned by the Post Office you must direct it to No. 8 Clinton Place in this city.⁴

The adaptations you have found convenient to make in the article referred to, deserve in advance my complete approbation.

I thank you for the Journal for 1865 which so kindly you have offered to me. The greatest pleasure will afford me your intended trip to this city, especially if you oblige me with your presence at my house.

With the highest regards, I remain Sir,

Your mst. obt. servt.

D. F. Sarmiento

New York, January 12th, 1866

Henry Barnard, Esq
Hartford, Conn
Dear Sir:

I have written to you before to answer your last and esteemed letter. I have just received from the Government of one of our States, the demand of a school model such in size to contain four or five hundred female pupils, and as I know that your work on *Arquitecture of Schools* is not to be found at the bookstores, and the modern schools of New York are rather large for that purpose, I would ask you the favor of furnishing me with some of the engravings of schools you have already published, adaptable in your opinion to those countries where the buildings are not higher than two floors, or one which with some modifications could be adapted.

It would be convenient in a great manner to publish in the Spanish language a *Manual of Arquitecture of Schools* of one or two stories, with models of eight or ten buildings of different proportions, to be scattered in all South America, which as far as this moment is in need of appro-

⁴ Minister Sarmiento preferred New York, nearer the center of education, to Washington. Clinton Place is now West Eighth Street, and number 10 is part of the Whitney Museum of Art.

priate houses, especially built for school purposes. You could help me in this enterprise, supplying me with the most popular models and the requisite indications.

This work and the *History of the Schools in South America* would constitute my second *Report* to the Argentine Government as I have rather advanced in the way of printing my first one corresponding to the year 1865 on the *present state of Popular Education in the United States*.

I will subscribe to six copies of *Educational Conventions and Associations in the United States*, four with the portraits and two without them.

In the hope of having the pleasure to see you soon in this city, I remain, Sir, your most obt. and sincere friend,

D. F. Sarmiento

New York May 12th, 1866

Hon Henry Barnard, Esq

Dear Sir:

I beg leave to hand you a copy of my Report to the Argentine Government which I have entitled "Schools, base of prosperity and republicanism in the United States."⁵ Some remarks about it in your Journal would oblige me exceedingly.

Having received authorization from my government for purchasing here those books which may be useful to have on hand in the Argentine public libraries, I beg you to send me four complete copies of your "American Journal of Education" bound in cloth. In the accounts of its value I expect to find the reduction of use in the bookstores when many copies of a work are taken.

I remain, Sir, with my highest regards, yours truly,
No. 8 Clinton Place
N. Y. City

D. F. Sarmiento

16 vols at \$62 50 x 4—250.00—25—\$225.00

10 percent

25.00.

⁵ Few copies exist of this report to Eduardo Costa, minister of instruction, containing accounts of his visits to schools, educational institutes and libraries, Dr. Gould's plan for an astronomical observatory, and a sketch of the life of Horace Mann. It was issued as a book, *Escuelas, base de prosperidad en los Estados Unidos* (Hallet & Breen, New York, 1866). The entire shipment was burned in a pier warehouse fire in Buenos Aires. A review appears in the *American Journal of Education*, December, 1866, pp. 532, 593.

Asking a 10 per cent discount for quantity, Mr. Sarmiento got tangled up in his English.

New York, May 16, 1866

Hon Henry Barnard, Esq
Annapolis

Dear Sir:

I am just in receipt of your kind letter of yesterday. You would oblige me very much by sending the books to my address in two different boxes, the one containing the four sets of the "American Journal of Education" and the other the publications and pamphlets so kindly offered by you. It would be very convenient to me to have the boxes in order to be shipped after being opened for the direction of the books.

With my thanks and highest regards, I remain, dear Sir, very respectfully your obt. svt.

D. F. Sarmiento

Cambridge, Follen St. May 25, '66

My dear Mr Barnard,

I have at last got hold of very interesting data in regard to the life of Mr. Sarmiento—the principal item of which is a biography of him printed in a S. American newspaper in a series of short articles by one of his old normal school pupils of Chili. I should like to collate from it a sketch for your journal, for it rightfully belongs among the notices of educational men—and a very striking and instructive story it is. Will you have it and how soon can it be published? and must I be limited?^{5a}

The subscription list of which I spoke to you is not yet filled up, for the agent has been ill and off the ground, but Mr. Rand on the strength of Mr. Walker's recommendations has begun to print. I shall put out one if not two educational volumes before the political one, on purpose to accommodate Mr. Sarmiento, who wishes to send educational and not political volumes to S. America, and for which purpose he has obtained a grant of money from his government.

I wish Mr. Sarmiento could find a man like yourself to take a hand in his South American University of San Juan. He hopes to get a liberal grant of money from his government to carry out his educational plans. The present minister of instruction is a fine man and his friend.

With the highest regard,

Yours truly,

Mary Mann

^{5a} Mrs. Mann's preface to her translation of *Facundo*, which she called *Civilization and Barbarism, or Life in the Argentine Republic*, contains her biography of Sarmiento. It is based on a reprint in the San Juan newspaper, *El Zonda*, of *Rasgos biográficos de los hombres notables de Chile*, by Don José Bernardo Suárez, a former pupil in the Chile normal school.

Cambridge, Follen st. June 21, 1866

My dear Mr Barnard,

I have received both your notes. I did not reply to the first, that you might have one less letter to read. The materials for Mr. Sarmiento's biography are of very great interest, and I shall soon set about my pleasant task *con amore*. I will be as succinct as I can. The facts are all sufficient, without any of my embellishing.

I am glad to hear of even a project of rest for you. The next thing they will do will be to put you at the head of the National Bureau of Education, and then where will the resting be?

Truly your friend,

Mary Mann

Cambridge, Follen St. July '66

My dear Mr Barnard,

I have mailed to Hartford today an elaborate notice of Mr. Sarmiento's book. I do not know how soon you want the biography—but it grows upon me as I read and write and I have a desire to make it very complete, even if I must wait till another number. I shall not be able to let you curtail it at all. You will yourself be astonished at the interest of it, and if you can not put it all in, I shall only let you make extracts and must save it for another mode of publication—but I much prefer that it should go into your Journal. I wish you would be so good as to let proofs of this notice go to Mr. Sarmiento as soon as they are printed, for he will undoubtedly have it reprinted somewhere in Spanish, and he never wants to lose any time, because he is in such haste to bring about the results he desires so heartily. He is trying to get 400,000 dollars out of his government for school purposes and teachers. He is at Lake Oscawana, near Peekskill, and I send to him there direct. Perhaps later it will be best to send to New York, where he requests me to address to the care of Edward Davison, Esq., Argentine Consul.

Please say how long you can wait for the other manuscript. I hope all this one can go in. It is impossible to tell the whole story in a short space.

I hope your family is all well. I address you at Hartford on a venture.

With great regard,

Mary Mann

Ben⁶ entered College very nicely. We are hoping for great reforms

⁶ Benjamin Pickman Mann, after graduating from Harvard in 1870, went to Brazil for the United States Department of Agriculture to classify insects useful or injurious to agriculture. On his return, he published several studies on economic entomology which were important contributions to that subject. Under the pseudonym *Hamaha* he acted as correspondent for the newspaper *El Nacional* of Buenos Aires.

here, proposed by Mr. Hedge⁷ and sanctioned by Ex-president Walker⁸ and Mr. Hill.⁹

Cambridge, August 23, 1866

My dear Mr Barnard:

Mr Sarmiento is at present traveling in the West¹⁰ and will be here in September. I have a very interesting photograph of him which he gave me and if I were in your place I would let J. Sartain¹¹ of Philadelphia (728 Sansom st) engrave it in mezzo-tint as he has done my sister's drawing of my husband. It is exquisitely done and more beautiful as well as cheaper than an engraving. He ought to have it immediately and if you wish it I will send you mine for it will be impossible to reach Mr. S. at present and I will get another from him for myself. You will not wish for the whole figure; the head will be sufficient.

What a gigantic plan you have. Heaven help you till you have accomplished it. I have no doubt I shall live to write your life—so please put all the materials in a box. I can be doing it now perhaps, so as to be sure to put everything in its right place, as I tell dear Mr. Sarmy—for thus we profane people call him—Mrs Gould and I—who love him dearly.

With great—[undecipherable]

Cambridge, Follen st. Sept 18, 66

My dear Mr. Barnard,

I take this huge sheet because I have no good note paper by me, but I hope for your sake that I shall not fill it. Mr. Sarmiento came

⁷ Frederick Henry Hedge, Harvard 1825, professor of ecclesiastical history in Harvard Divinity School. He had studied Transcendentalism in Germany and was leader of that movement in this country (*Dictionary of American Biography*).

⁸ James Walker, Harvard 1814, was president of that institution 1853-1860 (*ibid.*).

⁹ Thomas H. Hill, D.D. Harvard, and professor of mathematics. In 1859 he was president of Antioch College, founded by Horace Mann; president of Harvard 1862-1868. He went with Agassiz on a South-American expedition.

¹⁰ At Indianapolis, Indiana, on August 13, 1866, Sarmiento addressed the National Teachers' Association, the National Association of School Superintendents and the American Normal School Association at their joint annual meeting. This group was forerunner of the National Education Association. He was elected an honorary member, and appointed to the committee on the proposed World Educational Convention. He spoke on "conveying to South America the complete system of education in North America, with intelligent men who might carry it into effect." Here he met A. C. Shortridge, head of the Indianapolis Training School and William Franklin Phelps, head of the Winona, Minnesota, Normal School, who stimulated at least thirty teachers to go to Argentina.

Afterwards, he made a short trip to Chicago, his first.

¹¹ John Sartain (1808-1897), an English-born engraver, practised his art in this country after 1830, working for Thomas Sully and other leading painters. He may be called the originator of pictorial magazines, and is said to have done the largest and finest engravings made in the United States (*Dictionary of American Biography*, ed. by A. Johnson).

last Thursday and remained with us till Friday. He spoke English *beautifully*—not that he did not “suffer” for he ardently did—but his pronunciation, accent, and language are almost faultless. He read aloud to us a great deal in English, and in short we had a charming visit from him almost entirely to ourselves. I wished many times that you could have been with us.

While here, he received letters from home, one from his friend, Señora Aurelia,¹² in which she told him that he would undoubtedly be one of the candidates for the Presidency. And he told me quite an interesting story about a discussion he had had with the government ever since he was Governor of San Juan when in a military exigency he suspended the habeas corpus act, which was questioned by the general Government. The matter was complicated by the personal ill-will of the then minister of state and he has let the matter drop till of late, saying that after five years he should speak again. He has now written fully upon the whole subject, and it has made quite a stir. His book upon the schools also has made a forcible impression and it is to be hoped that things will look up after a while, especially if that school enterprise succeeds. I have now strong hopes of securing an additional lady to this enterprise, in which case Miss Corlies¹³ will go. Dr. Thayer goes very soon at all events. He has seen Mr. Sarmiento and to Dr. Thayer's enquiry of what are the people's views and plans in regard to education there, Mr. Sarmiento replied that they had not any decent ones and that the object of sending people from here was to carry some. The things they do there he can only speak of as “betises.”

Mr. Sarmiento asked me to tell you that he would pay for the plate of the engraving. I hope you will let Mr. Sartain do it in mezzotint. He has made an exquisite thing of my husband and may I suggest that I think the head is quite enough? Mr. Sarmiento's photographs are taken sitting and the figure is not particularly good—and it will be much cheaper if it is only head. Mine is so and cost \$75.00. I told Mr. S. we would have them in the book, too, at which he smiled and said “Do you think that book will sell?”

I wrote to Mr. Curtis and we have had a little correspondence about the Harpers. He is not in N. Y. now but he has conferred with Mr. Danton and when he returns to N. Y. he says he will be as eloquent as he can with the Harpers. He says I must “trust him to make the finest of noble statements” to them.

¹² Aurelia Vélez-Sársfield was the daughter of Sarmiento's close friend Dalmatio Vélez-Sársfield, an eminent lawyer and author of the Argentine civil code. She watched over Sarmiento's interests in Argentina as Mrs. Mann did in the United States, and to her astute political manipulations, it has been said, he owed his election as president.

¹³ Annie E. Corlies graduated in 1854 from the Framingham Normal School founded by Horace Mann. She never went to Argentina.

Judging by what the papers say, I am afraid you find yourself on a bed of thorns. I hope you will triumph, but I should not like to be in your place. Miss Corlies will think of your wishes if she finally concludes not to go to S. Am. but I am almost sure she will go.

Yours with great regard,

Mary Mann

P.S. This talk of the Presidency for Mr. Sarmiento must only be between him and me and you. I should not dare to confide it to anyone else.

Cambridge, Sept 21st, 1866

My dear Mr. Barnard,

The gentleman who is going to S. America as teacher, a very intelligent man,¹⁴ means to take his own books and is thinking about an arithmetic. Mr. Hill says those Chases & Manns arithmetics¹⁵ are the best there are, and now please tell me if you ever said anything about their republication to any publisher, as you prepared to do. It might be a good thing for me to have them introduced in S. A. by this gentleman. Mr. Chase stands ready to remodel the third part whenever a publisher will undertake it and on Pres. Hill's plan which he has designated in a note. The elementary parts might be published in English and Spanish also.

It will be of no use for me to ask a publisher about it. It must be an interested party that will induce any one to do it, on its own merits—Mr. Hill, say. He will vouch for its being valuable but he can say nothing about its being saleable, for he does not know. If you are too

¹⁴ The "very intelligent man" going to South America as a teacher was Samuel Storrow Higginson, Harvard 1863, A.M. 1866, and, during the Civil War, chaplain in the Ninth Regiment of U. S. Colored Infantry. He was a nephew of Thomas Wentworth Storrow Higginson, the author; and a cousin of Henry Lee Higginson, Boston financier and founder of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

With Dr. Foster Thayer he sailed from Boston May 31, 1867. Since he spoke Spanish well, he was appointed rector of the National College at Concepción del Uruguay. When a revolution broke out and the college was burned and sacked, he returned to Buenos Aires. His marriage to the beautiful daughter of a wealthy Argentine family caused considerable friction with the clergy.

Foster Thayer, A.B. Columbia, 1862, A.M. 1866, and M.D. Bellevue Hospital Medical College, was acting assistant surgeon in the U. S. Navy during 1864-1865. Sarmiento recommended to Adolfo Alsina, governor of the province of Buenos Aires, that he put Dr. Thayer at the head of the provincial schools, but his suggestion was not followed. After an unprofitable year the two men came back to the United States. "How much good these two fine young men could have done Argentina," Juana Manso wrote sadly to Mrs. Mann. See also Sarmiento, *obras completas*, xxix, 351.

¹⁵ Horace Mann was co-author of this arithmetic.

busy to think of it, say so frankly—but if it needs only a word from you, I am sure you will be glad to give it.

Yours with much regard,

Mary Mann

If the Harpers conclude to publish the Readers for the Spanish market, they can also publish the arithmetics, perhaps

A note to me about the republication of the arithmetics might be a good form for you to put it into and it could save you trouble.

Philadelphia Oct 30 1866
728 Sansom st.

Dr Barnard,

Dear Sir:

..... I called to see Mr. Sarmiento when in New York, taking the photograph with me. I have reason to be glad I did so, for I certainly understand better how to make a satisfactory likeness.

Very respectfully

Yours Truly

John Sartain

Cambridge, Mass. Dec 25, 1866

Dear Mr Barnard,

I imagine you to be at home today and as you will doubtless go through N. Y. on your return, I write to say that I have just received a most moving letter from Mr. Sarmiento's daughter (Madame Belin) and his sister, Miss Sarmiento, saying that they fear their father's mind will be disturbed by this sad event,¹⁶ as it was when his friend Aberastain¹⁷ was assassinated—and commending him to my sympathy, and begging me to promote his coming to live near me. This is of course impossible, but everything that sympathy can do should be done and I hope you will go to see him if you have not already done so and take him in your arms and comfort him if you can. He has written to me once in the deepest sorrow and keeps sending me letters from home, and

¹⁶ His only son, Captain Domingo Sarmiento—"Dominguecito"—just ready to graduate from the University of Buenos Aires when he went into the army, died aged twenty-one in the war with López, the Paraguayan dictator.

Bienvenida Sarmiento was his older sister, and a mainstay of the household. Faustina, his only and much loved daughter, married August Belin, a young French publisher whom Sarmiento had met in Paris in 1845 and induced to go to Valparaiso, Chile, and enter the publishing business. Belin edited the fifty-two volumes of Sarmiento's complete works, published by the Argentine government.

¹⁷ The political assassination of his lifelong and closest friend, Antonio Aberastain of San Juan, on January 11, 1861, caused Sarmiento to renounce in protest his first appointment as minister to the United States.

papers with a few sorrowful words upon them. I have invited him to come and see me— but I doubt if he will come. It would be very oppressive to be away from his duties, which are now his best friends. Still, my sister, who is in New York on her way home, may bring him home with her.

Yours very truly,
Mary Mann

Miss^{ss} Horace Mann

San Juan October the 21st, 1866

Dearest lady

Pray excuse us for addressing you this letter to beg of you a great service; and as we know you are endowed with the noblest sentiments we are sure that you will do your utmost. We are likewise persuaded that our brother Domingo admires and loves you and this is a security of success.

The fact is, that our brother's only son a captain in the Argentine army against Paraguay has been killed in the last battle and we fear this event being the most terrible blow to our brother's dearest affections, may reduce him to such a despair as perhaps to overturn his faculties. Something resembling to this, happened four years ago when his friend governor Aberastain was assassinated.

A person of high intellect and great experience like you Miss^{ss} Mann, who has seen in that country the most gigantic and bloodiest civil war of modern times; and its people bearing it with the greatest fortitude and dignity, is fit, better than any one else, to represent those examples to our brother's mind, and use such other persuasions you may discern as conducive to appease his confused imagination.

Therefore, we think it would be prudent that our brother should change his residence in order to have easier opportunities of frequenting your society and we shall write him about this.

Our house is reduced with this incident to mournfulness and grief as he was the dearest of our nephews, our hope and joy.

With this request, we subscribe ourselves yours, very obliged and truly affectionate.

Bienvenida Sarmiento
Faustina S. V. de Belin^{17a}

Mr Henry Barnard,
Washington

Washington Jan. 12, 67

Dear Sir:

You can send the XVI volume to Clinton Place as before. I will

^{17a} Mann Papers, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress.

remain here until F. next week and I will be happy to receive a copy of the last number of your Journal.

The volume for the Brazilian Minister must be addressed to Clinton place also, with the bill for all the account. I will write to this gentleman in order to get it settled.

What would be the price of 500 copies of my picture? I wish to send them to the *Analys of Education* of B.Aires.¹⁸

Yours respectfully,

D. F. Sarmiento

Cambridge

Jan 13, 1867

Dr Barnard,
My dear Sir,

.....

I hope you will have a few—a dozen or two, beautiful copies of Mr. Sartain's head of Mr. Sarmiento struck from the plate before the copies are made for the book—for his use—but now I remember that he is to pay for the likeness and so I suppose the plate will be put at his disposal. Is it not so? I know he will like to have some for his friends. I think it is a very successful and beautiful thing.

With many thanks, truly your friend,

Mary Mann

January 17, 1867

My dear Mr Barnard,

I have just received the Journal. I have never had any proof, but the publisher sent me back *my copy* entire. They have made one great mistake. They have published that Mr. Sarmiento disbursed in 1860 1,000,000 for school houses. It was 10,800,000, as you will see by the slip of copy I have put out and which I enclose. And they have *not* published Don Camillo Roza's letter, which is referred to.¹⁹ I thought the article was short and wanting in something when I read it this morning. I do not know how they can have been so careless. I hope your Journal is not full of such mistakes. You will find it necessary to call your employees to account.

I enclose a paragraph from poor Mr. Sarmiento's letter which I

¹⁸ *Anales de la Educación Común*, organ of the schools of the state of Buenos Aires, first appeared in November, 1858.

¹⁹ Don Camilo Rojo, governor of San Juan, warmly seconded Sarmiento's efforts to make San Juan the cultural center of Argentina. He founded the Biblioteca Franklin, the nation's first popular library. The missing letter did not appear subsequently nor did the editor correct the figures that seemed so important to Mrs. Mann.

received this morning. It was written from Washington. He identifies himself so completely with the country that he can have no happiness during its adversity, to say nothing of his personal sorrows.

I hope the correction of those figures will be put into the next no. of the Journal in a conspicuous place. It ought to be altered in the stereotyped plates *at once*.

Yours with much regard,

Mary Mann

Cambridge, Feb 6th, 1867

My dear friend,

.

I received a very distressing letter from Mr. Sarmiento today. He says that owing to the requisitions of soldiers for the war, the frontiers have been left unprotected, and the peasant barbarians, descendents of the Indians, whom he has combated all his life, have risen again, and he expects to hear by the next steamer that San Juan, where all his family is, has been sacked and pillaged—that perhaps the gov't is overturned! He says “What with my recent loss, my years, and the distance, I suffer that disenchantment which is the last form of grief. If these sad fears are realized, I shall have to think of some occupation for myself and a country in which to end my days. S. America is all in chaos, Mexico has not yet emerged from it, and I should not know how to live in the U.S. for want of a North American reputation, to open a sphere for myself. I await my next correspondence with anguish of mind.”

I only hope he will not be thrown off the poise. We must keep writing to him, and cheering him all we can, although there is little to found cheer upon.

He says he has never received from you his copies of the last Journal. He has at last procured one for himself but he was much disappointed not to send them home by the last steamer, which went about ten days since.

I know nothing that will do him any good but to be sent for home to give counsel. That might save him from despair, which he begins to feel for the country.

If you pass thro' N. Y. I hope you will always go to see him.

Yours with much regard,

Mary Mann

Excerpt from above-mentioned letter in handwriting of Mary Mann. (The event herein referred to took place in December 1866). “I have

sad news from my country. The party of barbarism which we have combated for so many years, taking advantage of the war with Paraguay, and of the weakness of the government, is beginning to rise again in the provinces of the interior. Mendoza has been the victim of a mutiny among the soldiery, and San Juan was threatened! If this movement continues, the election of a President would be impossible and we shall return to a civil war. You may imagine that at my age strength would fail me to undertake again the struggle against the barbarism of our ignorant popular masses."

Mr Henry Barnard,
Annapolis

New York, 6th of February, 1867

Dear Sir:

I had the pleasure to write you from Washington three weeks ago, since then I have not heard of you. In that occasion I told you to send me here the books of your work as well as those for the Brazilian Minister, Mr. Azambuja with his respective account, but till this very moment I have not received, neither the answer nor the books, what makes believe me that that letter did not reach you.

As the next steamer going to Buenos Ayres will start from here in in some days more I would like to have those books here as soon as possible, what would oblige very much,

Your obt Svt

D. F. Sarmiento

Dr. Barnard,
My dear Sir,

Cambridge, April 10, '67

I do not know where this will find you but I shall despatch it nevertheless. You will be interested, I know, in a little project of mine and Dr. Gould's. It is to procure a degree of LL.D. from Harvard for our friend Mr. Sarmiento. I know it will be invaluable to him at home. I have just been reading his commentaries on the Argentine Confederations, which resulted in their taking our government for their perfect model as well as our courts and all our administration of justice. He made a speech also in the Conventions, called to from the government, which prevented them from making Catholicism the religion of state but established perfect toleration. He was also the means of their throwing open all the privileges of their country to foreign immigration, as we do.

And then his work on Popular Education and all his labors—the periodicals he forwarded and supported, in which he treated all subjects of internal and external policy.

He sent me lately the "Recollections of a Province" which is in fact an autobiography. It was written in 1856 to defend himself from the appellation of trator, savage Unitarian, madman. It is perfectly charming, as frank and original as Civilization and Barbarism and gives me abundant material for my memoir.

Mr. Hill tells me a proper statement of his fitness and his work constituting his claim must be drawn up and presented to some member of the corporation the last week in May. I can draw it up and shall know very well all the things to put in—but it must not go from me. It must go from influential gentlemen! Will you deign it? [*sic*] If so, I will send it first to you. Mr. Agassiz is quite interested in Mr. S. and his name will go a great way, as the corporation has little regard to merit in their dispensation of favors, but depend very much upon the social influence of those who ask them.

He has established a periodical to be printed in Spanish and sent out there. The first numbers have gone to solicit subscribers. He hopes to have contributors here and will translate everything for it! He thinks he shall get subscribers in all the Republics and the project has quite taken him out of himself. You will soon hear from him on one point. Meantime we must be working for the degree, which when it comes, will give him indescribable pleasure, I know.²⁰

Very truly your friend,

Mary Mann

Where shall I send you the papers

Dr Barnard,

Dear Sir²¹

Dr. Hill, Prof. Agassiz and Dr. Gould have had a talk about the degree and send me word that I may consider it as good as done. Prof. Longfellow, who knows Mr. S. personally, also wishes it—but why not have a degree from Yale, too, since degrees are so valuable to him.

Two young gentlemen are going out to teach in B. A. I shall tell them to say always "Dr. Sarmiento" and express their surprise that he has not had a degree conferred upon him there! He says it will be more valuable to him than the Presidency!

.....

Truly your friend,

Mary Mann

²⁰ Harvard University archives show that owing to a policy change in awarding degrees, but not for personal reasons, that of Sarmiento was not finally granted, although on June 15, 1867, the Corporation had voted the degree of Doctor of Laws to him and to three other men. On June 20 a committee of the Board of Overseers recommended that the degree should be given only to the one academic man on the list.

²¹ Probably written in early 1867. See letter of April 10, 1867.

An adverse report was made to this memorial, but it is to be reconsidered and I think it will probably succeed now.

[Copy of a letter from Mary Mann to Senator Charles Sumner, regarding establishing a Commission of Education, with Henry Barnard at its head. Mr. Sarmiento had called to urge it on Mr. Sumner.]

My dear Mr Sumner:²²

.....

.....

Mr. Sarmiento was very grateful for the kindness with which you listened to him. He is a truly great man, and I hope you know it.

Henry Barnard

New York, Oct 14th, 1867

Dear friend:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter and circulars. I will send very soon to the several governments of South America a dispatch advising the opportunity to collect information about the Education.

Can you forward me *twenty copies* of each of your circulars, in order to give them some idea of your purpose, and the manner of fulfilling the object? As they are published at great numbers, an order of you to the office will be all the trouble.

I will start for Cambridge Tuesday of this week, where I will remain until next week. I will remain in Tremont Hotel, Boston.

With the highest re

I am tr

[mutilated]

Your

D. F. Sar—

Mrs. Mary Mann

Nueva York Nov. 7 de 1867

Mi estimada amiga

Le escribí solamente para decirle que no dé paso ninguno por mi causa, para publicar para Christmas el libro. Como V. me dijese que para entonces se esperaba imprimirlo, yo me entusiasmé con la idea, i propuse aprovecharla para mi país. No insista pues en ello, i deje venir los sucesos.

Cuando se pueda imprimir tendremos el gusto de *valorear* el libro. No se ocupe de ello ahora.

Descanse i mande a

Su affmo

D. F. Sarmiento

²² Probably early 1867. Sumner, Senator from Massachusetts, was chairman of the committee in charge of the Commission of Education.

Cambridge, Dec 23, 1867

Dr Barnard,
My dear Sir:

I have finished my Spanish book. It consists of the translations of Civilization and Barbarism, preceded by an introductory about the country and supplemented by a biographical sketch, all of which Col. S. has looked over and verified. I have tried five publishers in vain. Hurd & Houghton may possibly publish it. Mr. Houghton and Scudder of the Riverside Press have read it and wish to take it but Mr. Hurd at this busy time says *no* and Mr. Houghton says he shall bring it to his notice again at a less busy time and hopes he will say *yes*. So I am waiting, but they returned me the manuscript, that I might get it done elsewhere if I did not like to wait.

Col. Sarmiento will take 300 copies as soon as published, and I hope that fact, which I have now told Mr. Houghton, may decide them favorably. Everything is propitious for Col. Sarmiento's election to the Presidency next month, but one cannot be certain about elections till the time comes. It is the only salvation for them and they begin to see it. I see the Allies have sustained a large defeat—unless contradictory reports come—and that may be, as the Paraguayans have bought up so many presses that it is difficult to get at the truth.

Yours with much regard,

Mary Mann

Cambridge, Feb 7th, 1868

Dr Barnard,
Dear Sir,

I received today a very sad letter from Mr. Sarmiento, who says the advices from the Paraguayan war are very bad. If as bad as represented, probably the Republic will be dissolved, and Urquiza enthroned as tyrant, but I immediately sent him your message and have no doubt he will respond genially to it. I also send you an interesting document of what I have made still another copy for my book—describing in his own words his work in *embedding* the Department of Schools in the Government of his country. This will enrich your notes of his letter, giving it still more authority. My book is to be printed immediately, and then his whole history will be known. I am going to put into one of our papers a beautiful letter he wrote accepting Col. Mansilla's²³ offer to work in his cause—and also a manifesto from San Juan to the

²³ Colonel Lucio V. Mansilla (1831-1913) was one of the most brilliant Argentine writers and military figures of his generation. His best known book *Una excursion a los indios ranqueles*, is still widely read.

same effect. If I can make them put it in. Do you think a Washington paper would? The Chronicle perhaps. I had rather it would not seem to come through my agency.

Yours in very great haste—

Mary Mann

Cambridge, March 1st 1868

Dr Barnard,
My dear friend,

.....

I am expecting daily to hear from Col. Sarmiento about his election, if indeed they can have had any on the 10th of Jan. which was the day, for on the 13th they write, as I see by the papers, that 5000 people had died of cholera in the city in forty days! And that many of the villages were nearly depopulated. I dread to hear from Col. S.

Hurd & Houghton are actually publishing my S. American book, which consists of a translation of the Civ. and Barbarism and the sketch of the author. Dr. Gould thinks the latter the most interesting part of it.

My regards to Mrs. Barnard.

Truly your friend,
Mary Mann

Cambridge, July 10, 1868

Dear Mr. Barnard,

I have just received a letter from Col. Sarmiento about the publication of his letters in some newspaper. It is already published as you will see in the book I am just issuing, of which I send you the last signature. (I will ask the publishers to send you advanced sheets of the whole).

I send it to you as Col. S. may have left Washington. The Mass. Teacher is also to bring it out.²⁴ The book will not appear till the August sales—only Col. S's copies will be ready for him earlier. I think you might publish it in Washington with the reply in some newspaper. I send a copy of the reply. Please inform Col. S. if he is there that I send you this and let him see the signature. In great haste, *M.M.*

²⁴ *The Massachusetts Teacher* for August, 1868, contains three long articles about or by Sarmiento. One, by Mrs. Mann, discusses his "delenda est" as he called his belief in the importance of teaching Spanish in North American schools to aid in better understanding between the two hemispheres. His long letter to Senator Charles Sumner urges the continuance of the National Commission of Education for the same reason. The leading article is a biography of Sarmiento by G. B. Putnam, editor.

Cambridge
July 12, 1868

Dr. Barnard,
My dear Sir,

Mr. Sarmiento's two letters are sufficient to make the Congressional cheek blush. I think he could not have done a greater service to the cause.

The news from the Republic up to the date of the 1st of July say that the elections are still causing great disturbance in some of the provinces. Heaven grant that they may come out right.

I requested the publishers to send you the advanced sheets of my S. American book, hoping you will notice it. Do not think me cruel for suggesting another item of work, but I think it will refresh you to read the book and you may be impelled to a short and fervent utterance.

Yours with very great regard
Mary Mann

New York, Julio 21st, 1868

Hon. Dr. Henry Barnard
Commissioner of Education
My dear friend:

I am very sorry to baffle your expectation of something about education in South America. I have in vain endeavor to connect together the few notions I have. The *Relatorio* of Bresil, which I send you, contain only the higher education, without any allusion to the common or public education for the people. In my *Ambas Americas*,²⁵ and in some papers I sent you will find the common education at B. Ayres. In the 2nd and 3rd No. of *Ambas Americas*, about Chili, and in the 4th, about Mexico.

The remaining states do not care about this matter although at Peru there are three Universities. My connections with Nicaragua and the sister republics of Central America, and my vain endeavors to arouse some interest at Venezuela, Nueva Granada and for education have show me that there is no one interested, but when they have his personal profit engaged. In Ecuador, the Jesuits have some schools, and from Bolivia a young man who have volunteered to introduce *Ambas Americas*, write entreating not to send copies, because they are not read.

I conclude from all these sad facts, that only at Chili, and Argentine Republic there is some interest, and development, and it is warranted

²⁵ *Ambas Americas*, edited and chiefly written by Sarmiento, was a review of educational and cultural developments of interest to both North and South America. The first issue appeared in 1867 the fourth and last in 1868.

to suggest the doubt, if those countries had never bestowed any attention upon this matter without my action devoted so many years to this part of the public welfare.

I am almost sure that I have been elected President. My correspondence dates from a day after the election at Buenos Aires. I had 24 votes, against 4 lost; but not for any of the contending candidates from the Provinces, they had the certainty of the triumph; but if the majority were not decisive the Congress is to decide and then I have four 4/5 of the votes, 30!

The common school system carry the day at the opposed extremity of South America. You from here, and I from there, as San Martin and Bolivar of old, conquer the center.

Send me very soon the books (Reports) you promised me in so great a quantity as you can. They will aid me to accelerate the movement.

With my thanks for your kindness, and my warmest hopes of your success and mine in our common work,

I am truly yours,
D. F. Sarmiento

Cambridge, August 3, 1868

Dr. Barnard,
My dear Sir,

The full report of the election of Col. Sarmiento has come since his departure. I send a book to Washington and hope you will have time to read it. With much regard,

Mary Mann

Cambridge, Oct 4th, 1868

My dear Dr. Barnard,

Mr. Sarmiento did not go to his western home and is safe from the earthquakes. The papers say he has been duly installed, and I am expecting to have private intelligence all about it soon. Mr. Danton the Argentine consul, wrote me when he heard from him in Rio Janeiro that all went well. I had a previous note from himself written just on the Equator and sent by the steamship which met him. He was expecting to run into Para to learn the decision about the elections. They had celebrated his birthday on the steamer with fireworks and music, and he seemed to feel very happy and hopeful.

My best regards to Mrs. Barnard if she is already with you.

Truly your friend,
Mary Mann

Cambridge, Feb 7th, 1869

Dr Barnard,
My dear friend,

The enclosed letter is upon important business of Col. Sarmiento's. I have addressed one letter to Mr. Garcia to which I have had no reply. I think it was a fortnight ago. I have since learned that he has been to St. Louis to the wedding of his sister, and that may account for it. May I trouble you to make the enquiry whether he resides in Washington and where he is. He is a very intelligent gentleman and an excellent friend of Col. S. Col. S. writes me very cheerfully and hopefully about the war and his administration, but says he does not get much sympathy about education, and can only get a superintendent of schools by sending for a "general visitor of national universities"—which he has done. This letter is upon that subject, and about a gentleman, indeed it is *from* a gentleman with whom Col. S. had an interview upon the subject just before he left. He has not quite decided to go and therefore does not wish his name to be mentioned.

Do you know Prof. Carr,²⁶ once of Madison University? He is all ready to go to S. America to help Col. S. whom he knows and admires, in his educational work. If you know him, perhaps you can tell me whether he would do for the double post Col. S. wants filled of visitor of Universities and Superintendent of Common Schools.

.....

Your friend,
Mary Mann

Cambridge, Feb 27th, 1869

Dr Barnard,
My dear friend,

I have just received a letter from Don Manuel R. Garcia, Col. Sarmiento's successor. He has just arrived from France, and is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York. Please forward him Mr. Allen's letter.

If Mr. Sumner should send you a letter of Col. Sarmiento's which I sent him to read, please consider all he says about our minister and other agents as *confidential* and return it to me as soon as read.

Yours very truly, with best regards to Mrs. Barnard,
Mary Mann

(To be Concluded)

²⁶ Ezra S. Carr, M.D., Castleton, Vermont, Medical College in 1842, was professor of chemistry and natural history at the University of Wisconsin 1856-1868. He decided to go to the University of California instead of Argentina in 1869.