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Consumption

Consumption is caused by germs. It takes one to three hundred germs to cover the head of a pin. We should not spit on the side walk because ladys are libe to get germs on their dresses and carry it into the house And get it on the carpent. And if they have any babies in the house it may get it on its finger and put it in its mouth and may cause consumption. it can be prevent if they do not spit on the side walk, but spit in the gutter.

Dr. kooh¹ a franch man prevent consumption. We are trying to cure it, but it is a hard thing to do. You can see on the walks around the town, signs,

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find² one to five dollars for spiting on the side walk.

These last two³ are the worst ones in the class Our baby⁴

Emerson v an Sant

¹ Likely referring to Dr. Robert Koch, the German (not French) physician who discovered the bacteria that causes tuberculosis.

² i.e., a monetary fine

³ The original order of these compositions is unknown, but the “last two” may refer to van Sant and Thomas Onesti.

⁴ The italicized text on this line is in a separate hand from van Sant’s. The underlined text may be in a third hand, but there isn’t enough information to say conclusively.