



THE SPRINKLING POT BRIGADE AT WORK IN A "PARK" IN "LITTLE ITALY."

CLEANING "LITTLE ITALY."

WORK OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN DISINFECTING NOXIOUS PLACES IN THE SLUMS.

The Italian districts of New-York have received much attention at the hands of the Health Department in the last ten days, and if the germs of contagious diseases still lurk in the homes of the Italians or in the gutters and garbage heaps near their homes, it is because the disinfecting fluid with which the men in charge of Chief Inspector Blauvelt deluged the places was not sufficiently destructive to the germ world. Elizabeth, Mott, Hester and Grand sts. were visited on Monday and Tuesday by a gang of men in charge of T. H. White. Two wagons which looked like small street sprinklers contained the disinfecting fluid, and twenty men, each armed with a new sprinkling pot, followed the carts. Halting on a corner, the men filled the cans from the wagons and then entered the houses and flooded sinks, basins and areaways, sometimes against the protests of the occupants. On the first day it was necessary in some places to call in the sanitary policemen, but on the following days the people submitted quietly to having their places made clean and wholesome.

The general condition was better than the sanitary officers expected to find it, and although there are many families to whom cleanliness is unknown, and whose houses and apartments are a source of danger to the neighborhood, the majority of the habitations in the downtown district which were visited last week have been improved in the last few years.

The carts and the sprinkling pot brigade attracted the attention of the women and children, but the men looked upon them with contempt and scorn. In one place where the carts halted, in Elizabeth-st., six half clad, burly Italians who were sitting around an improvised table playing cards stopped playing long enough to point and laugh at the Health Department's outfit, and then resumed their play, never looking up from their dirty, bent cards while the health officers went in and out of their homes.

"Little Italy," at the other end of the city, the part bounded by the East River, Second-ave., East One-hundred-and-fourth and East One-hundred-and-seventeenth sts., received the attention of the officers of the Department on Tuesday. The conditions in this district were bad, and the thirty men with their disinfecting outfit were sent there in answer to a petition signed by hundreds of property owners in the vicinity.

The point which needed the attention of the health officers the most was the vacant district extending from One-hundred-and-eleventh and One-hundred-and-fourteenth sts., and First to Pleasant ave., which will some day be the "Little Italy" Park. When the buildings were removed from this district the Italians immediately converted it into a dumping ground, which was a convenience to them, but a source of discomfort and alarm to the people in the immediate vicinity. This park in embryo was thoroughly sprinkled, and then the officers turned the disinfecting stream into the houses. Dark hallways, backyards and cellars were flooded, and the inhabitants of "Little Italy" will not soon forget the invasion of the sprinkling can brigade.

INSURING THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

Paris correspondence of The London Telegraph. Insurances against loss by robbery and fire have been taken out in the case of various sections at the Exposition for very considerable sums. The largest policies are naturally those covering the exhibits at the Grand Palais de Fine Arts, where the French centennial and decennial collection of paintings and those of foreign countries are shown, and at the smaller palace, where it is hardly an exaggeration to say that every specimen of "applied art" on view is unique. The exhibits in these two buildings have been insured against loss by burglary and every form of robbery for 80,000,000 francs, or £3,200,000. Policies of the same class for a value of £180,000 have been taken out in the case of the pavilion of the City of Paris. Other sections similarly protected against loss are various retrospective shows in different parts of the Exposition, such as those of ancient coaches

and of historic costumes in the Champ de Mars galleries, and of warlike relics in the military and naval palace. The total figure for the policies in these cases is £800,000. This, with the above sum, gives an aggregate of £4,180,000 as the amount for which these official sections at the Exposition have been insured against loss by robbery. The fire insurance policies in the same cases represent a total value slightly over this figure, namely £4,220,000.

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE.

AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE INKS USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Of the many invisible and sympathetic inks that have been used for secret correspondence perhaps the best known are those composed mainly of salts of cobalt. Marks made with these fluids remained invisible until they were subjected to heat, and then were revealed in lines of pale green. The phenomenon was transient and entirely dependent on the temperature. As soon as the sheet of paper grew cool the writing would disappear. Now, to those who had occasion to employ such means of communication, it was desirable to know whether any one tampered with their letters or not. So long as the fact of the correspondence was kept secret, of course there would be no danger. But if that once became known the contents of a private letter might be ascertained by any one through whose hands the letter passed. Cobalt writing can be made to appear and disappear a dozen times without giving the least evidence of having been read. But a patent was recently granted in Germany which meets this difficulty and in some other respects, also, is an improvement on the old system.

In the first place, the paper used is soaked in the cobalt solution and is prepared in advance. The inventor aims to put his stationery on the market. The writing is done with a solution of common salt and behaves as the cobalt ink did formerly. It can be seen only when warmed and disappears immediately on cooling. Moreover, it reappears as often as heat is applied. Its color is a bluish green. But the German also provides what he calls a "control ink." This may be prepared by adding two grains of resorcin to eight drops of water and six drops of sulphuric acid. When a person has written his letter with salt water he makes a few supplementary marks, in a spot previously agreed

upon, with the control ink. So long as the letter remains cool these test marks are invisible, but when heat is applied they come out, and they come to stay. They are of a brown hue, different from that of the salt writing, and they will not disappear when the green writing does. If the authorized recipient of a letter finds these marks on a letter before he himself warms it he has reason to suspect that his secret is known. But if they are missing the opposite conclusion is justified.

AN OLD ESTABLISHED JOURNAL.

From The London Chronicle. No list of newspaper curiosities would be complete that did not include the "Kin-Pau," of Peking. Like most things in the Celestial King-

THE MOOSE HUNTER.

HOW THE SPORT OF THE MAINE WOODS TRIES A MAN'S METTLE.

From Forest and Stream.

There is no better test of what there is of a man than to strip him of the conventionalities and accessories of civilization and leave him to his own resources in the heart of a wilderness like that of Maine. Some of those whom the world esteems great and wise would starve forthwith, while many of those who live and die unknown to fame would "wax and grow fat." There is one denizen of the Maine woods that stands pre-eminent to all others which claim the attention of sportsmen—pre-eminent in size, pre-eminent in the uncouth grandeur of his gigantic bulk, pre-eminent in the time, patience, labor and skill involved in his capture, and pre-eminent in power to thrill the steadiest nerves and cause the blood to flow in quick throbbing beats like quicksilver in the veins.

The sportsman who has not confronted a bull moose in his native wilds has missed an experience which is well worth the best year of his life. I speak advisedly, for I have been there. Imagine, if you can, a huge bundle of muscular power, reared on great, stiltlike legs to a height of seven feet, with bristling mane, and eyes which gleam viciously from beneath broad, massive antlers which sway with the huge head eight to ten feet above the ground.

Imagine yourself standing, if you have strength to stand, in front of this frightful apparition, and only a few yards distant, with the knowledge that if you don't kill him he will very likely kill you, your heart throbbing so painfully that your ears fairly ache with its pulsations, the blood racing through your veins like molten lead, the sweat starting from every pore in your skin, while your brain labors in vain to regain control of the wild tumult which possesses you. Imagine all this, if you can, and then multiply the sensations which it calls up two or three million times, more or less, and you will have a result which approaches the reality in magnitude. The man who sends every bullet straight to the mark under such conditions as these should be excused if he brags a little about it afterward. He should also be excused if he does some very foolish things

FOR SORTING NEWCOMERS.

THE FINE NEW IMMIGRANT STATION ON ELLIS ISLAND—TO BE FINISHED BEFORE JANUARY.

The new Immigration Bureau on Ellis Island, which has been in course of erection since August, 1898, is nearing completion, and in its present condition makes an imposing appearance from the New-York shore. Although this is a United States building, it has not been erected under the direction of the Government Supervising Architect's office, but by the architects who received the award in a competition which was open to architects all over the United States. When completed, the new building will furnish roomy and pleasant quarters for the immigrants, where they may be examined, "assorted," forwarded or detained, and will be a great improvement on the present cramped and inconvenient quarters at the Barge Office.

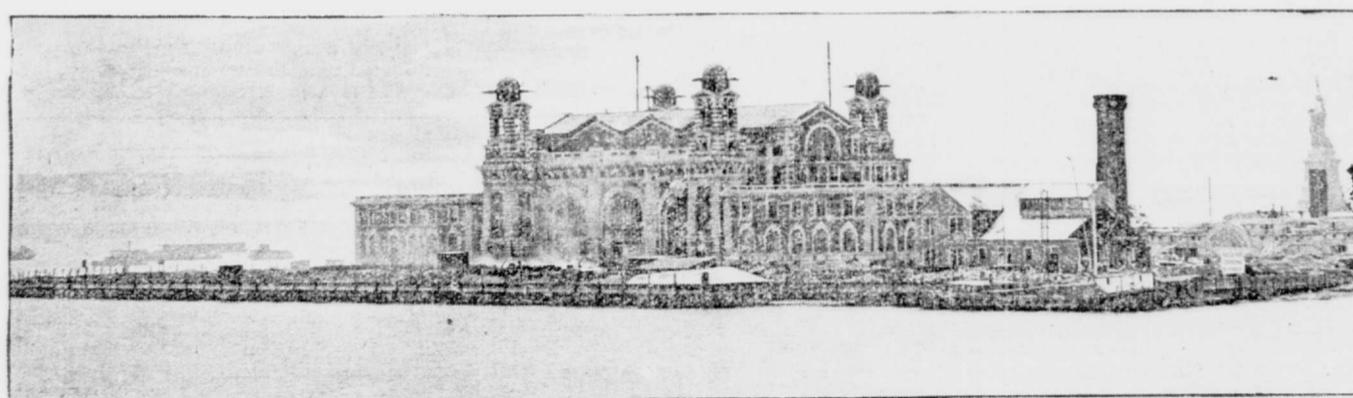
The building is about 300 feet long and 160 feet wide. The base is granite, and the building proper is brick, with limestone trimmings. The flat roofs are covered with tile and the sloping roofs with copper. The structure is elevated about fifteen feet above the landing pier, and the distance from the place where the immigrants are landed to the main hall is about one hundred feet. This space is a glazed porch which will serve as a protection to immigrants, as well as baggage, when they are transferred from the barges to the building. From this light and roomy vestibule the newcomers will go up a large stone stairway to the upper floor, where the inspections will be made. This room is about one hundred by two hundred feet in size, and its arrangement, the divisions by wire screens, rails and partitions, were made after careful study of the experiences at the Barge Office during the last ten years.

On the lower floor all the baggage will be taken care of. There will be a number of dormitories on the third floor, and the wings of the building will be occupied by offices.

In addition to the main building there will be a hospital, a building containing baths and a restaurant, a kitchen and laundry building, a boiler house, physicians' lounge and ferry houses, and these will all be connected by covered and protected walks. The buildings will all be uniform in style of architecture and material. The architects, Boring & Tilton, have provided for roof gardens in the construction of the main building. These are not positive features of the new building, but the roofs are so arranged that gardens may be built with little difficulty. The contractors are making good progress with the work, and hope to have it completed before next January. The cost of the structure will be about \$1,000,000, which is only about 25 per cent more than the cost of the wooden structures which were erected on the island a few years ago and destroyed by fire in 1897.

EXPANDING MAUSER BULLETS.

From The Hospital. Sir William Stokes, writing on the subject of the Mauser bullet and the wounds produced by it, points out that, notwithstanding all that was said in the earlier stages of the war as to the Mauser being a merciful and humane weapon, later experience has gone to show that the injuries produced by it have been of a much more serious character than those at first described. He specially refers to certain remarks made by Sir William MacCormac, Mr. Treves, Mr. Dent and others who advocate the desirability of "masterly inactivity" in this department of surgery, and goes on to say that his experience in the Maritzburg military hospitals and in the general hospital, Mooi River, compels him to hold opinions which differ largely from the views mentioned. He believes that the gunshot wounds met with in the earlier part of the campaign differed materially in character from those observed of late, and that the increasing gravity of the wounds has been the cause of the



THE NEW IMMIGRATION BUREAU BUILDING, ELLIS ISLAND.

increased difficulty which has arisen in keeping them aseptic. This change he attributes to two causes. First, the frequent conversion by the Boers of the Mauser bullet into an expanding one, either by removing a small portion of the case from the apex of the bullet, thus converting it into a "soft nosed" one, or by making longitudinal slits round the case, and he adds that when recently at Ladysmith he got ample evidence of the means which were adopted by the enemy to increase the gravity of the wounds they inflicted. Secondly, another cause for the greater severity of the wounds observed of late has been that the ranges have been much closer than they were formerly, it being clearly established that the closer the range the more serious is the injury likely to be. In illustration of his conclusions, he gives details of a series of cases in which such grave injuries were produced by these bullets as to necessitate amputation of limbs.

IT MIGHT SHARPEN IT.

From The Chicago Tribune. "One of the notes in my cabinet organ is a trifle flat. I wonder if there is any way to have it fixed." "I should think a good organ grinder might be able to do something with it."