

WORK ON THE LIBRARY.

GOOD PROGRESS MADE ON THE FOUNDATION WALLS.

THE ALTERED PLANS PROVIDE FOR SPECIAL READING ROOMS, ART GALLERIES AND STACKS FOR 1,250,000 BOOKS.

Behind the walls of the old Murray Hill reservoir, in Fifth-ave. between Fortieth and Forty-second sts., there is a scene of stirring activity which the average passerby knows little. He may re-

Distance of main walls from Fifth-ave. curb, 120 feet. Distance of grand central porch from Fifth-ave. curb, 101 feet. Distance of Fortieth-st. wall from curb, 50 feet. Distance of Forty-second-st. wall from curb, 55 feet.

DISPOSAL OF CITY WASTE.

CHANGES WROUGHT BY CESSATION OF DEEP SEA DUMPING—COST OF NEW SYSTEM.

Until within the last few days when the deep sea dumping of refuse was abolished by the Street Cleaning Department it was the usual experience of a transatlantic visitor upon nearing the entrance of New-York Harbor to be greeted by a flotilla of ugly scows, laden to the water's edge and reeking with the city's waste.

noisome smelling evening breeze. At morning, should he have sallied forth in bathing suit for an early, delightful and stimulating dip in the surf, he would have encountered a tangled mass of refuse which the ebb tide had heaped up knee deep on the sands.

This refuse is now used for land filling purposes, and is carried from the paper carts on scows to Newtown Creek, Long Island City and to the New-Jersey terminals of the Lehigh Valley Railroad.

THINKS CITY SHOULD SAVE BY CHANGE. A city official who was connected with the Department under Mayor Strong's administration, on hearing of the present means of refuse disposal, said:

There ought to be a great saving of the city's funds under the present system. Instead, it is that approximately the same rate is being charged now as before.

There are thirteen dumps along the river front of the city where the scows load. It is estimated that there is 50 per cent more refuse in winter than in summer, because of the greater use of coal.

It was Colonel Waring's plan to separate what was of utility from the worthless material and sell it by contract. His plan is now only partially adopted, but he hopes it can be put into full execution within the next two years.

Although all admit that the dumping of the city's refuse in deep sea waters much incongruous to shore dwellers, the abolition of this practice will by no means guarantee these people clean beaches. Much of the obnoxious refuse is washed up along these shores from fruit and passenger ships, which habitually clean up just upon entering the harbor.



PRESENT CONDITION OF THE OLD RESERVOIR AT FORTY-SECOND-ST. AND FIFTH-AVE. Where the New-York Public Library is to be erected.

member in a general way that the New-York Public Library will some day stand upon this site; he may be perfectly familiar with the history of the three great foundations, established by John Jacob Astor, James Lenox and Samuel J. Tilden; but the only evidence he has that the project to house in one marble palace the consolidated collections of literature and science is now nearing completion will be an occasional dirt cart hauled out through a small aperture in Fortieth-st., or a blast of dynamite as an old cavernous arch falls in ruin.

But should the visitor make friends with the watchman in Fortieth-st. and be permitted to enter the enclosure he would see a multitude of men and horses and carts at work. A closer inspection would disclose the fact that only a small part of these laborers are employed in tearing down the old structure, nine-tenths of which has already been removed.

The old walls were built 55 feet high from their base, and 48 feet high from the street. They were hollow, but braced within by partitions which were built crosswise, and joined above by arches. To tunnel through the embankment from the street one would first encounter a wall of stone five feet thick then the cavernous portion, then a central stone wall, then a vast bulk of puddled clay, and finally the inside facing of stone. The whole distance he would have to travel would be 75 feet.

It is estimated that the amount of stone, brick and puddled clay constituting the embankments of the reservoir which has been removed has been 20,000 cubic yards. The majority of the laborers now at work—there are about two hundred and sixty in all—are employed in building the walls of the new library.

These walls are about a quarter of the way toward completion. The material used in their construction is taken from the reservoir walls, which have thus been put to uses of a quarry. The small rock required for the concrete foundations was procured by breaking up the unwieldy stones in a crusher operated at one end of the enclosure.

The contractor in charge is Eugene Lenthion, who began the work on June 5, 1899. He is building the foundation walls on a bed of concrete, which has an average depth of two feet and which in many places is sixteen feet wide. The bottom of this concrete bed is eighteen feet below the level of Fifth-ave. The foundation walls, which are built upon this sub-structure, are therefore sixteen feet high. As their width corresponds to the width of the concrete stratum upon which they rest, in places of greatest width the walls are the same in height and thickness.

Mr. Lenthion said yesterday that these foundation walls are thicker than any now standing in this city. In places where the subsoil is found unusually strong the walls are narrower, having a thickness of thirteen and a half feet.

It has been the rule of the supervising engineers to test the quality of the subsoil before determining

by picture galleries, the art room and the department of prints. The main offices will occupy the south side of the building.

The architect, however, is now busy perfecting the plans so that bids may be received within the next few months. When a Tribune reporter asked the architect yesterday whether marble or Indiana limestone would be used in the construction of the building, it was said that "detail" had not yet been decided.

The cost of the new building is estimated at about \$2,000,000. By the first act of the Legislature authorizing the building its cost was limited to \$1,700,000. Because of the rise in the price of structural steel and of labor, an act was passed last winter, known as Chapter 47 of the Laws of 1900, which permits the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, at its discretion, to enlarge upon this limit.

This possible increase in the amount of expenditure was also in view of the fact that the entrances in Fifth-ave. and Fortieth and Forty-second sts. should be of a more imposing character, and that the lawn surrounding the building should be terraced down to the sidewalk.

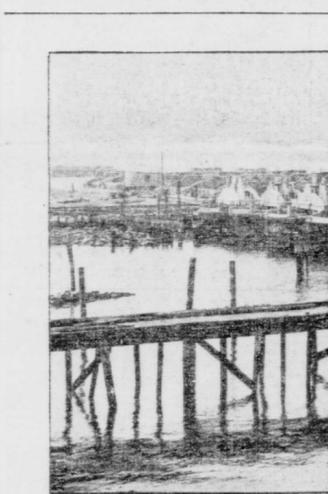
The act which gave the necessary authority to the city to issue bonds for the construction of the library building and to contract with the New-York Public Library for its occupancy was passed by the Legislature and approved on May 12, 1897. The plans, prepared by Carrère & Hastings, were laid before the Board of Estimate and Apportionment on December 1, 1897. The contract between the city and the New-York Public Library by which the building is to be leased to the library as long as the building shall be used for the benefit of the public was entered into on December 8, 1897.

Since the building is on park land its construction falls under the jurisdiction of the Park Department. On December 6, 1897, the Department adopted resolutions in the effect that it would proceed to construct the building in accordance with the plans approved by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. The present work on the site is accordingly under the supervision of the Department, which is represented by William McDonald, the Park Department engineer.

The officers of the New-York Public Library are John Bigelow, president; George L. Rives, secretary; and Edward King, treasurer. The Union Trust Company has the handling of the funds of the corporation. Dr. John Shaw Billings, the director, is at present out of the city.

DEATH OF AN AGED POLICEMAN. Policeman Felix McNally, for many years attached to the Grand Central sub-station, died at his home, No. 742 Columbus-ave., on Friday, after

comer's attention would be naturally diverted by what to him was an extraordinary sight. He would see that the fleet which had come to welcome him was composed of "dummers," each consisting of two boats tied together lengthwise. At a preconcerted signal he would see dummer after dummer apparently turn itself wrong side out as the two inner gunwales of the pair of boats were dipped to the surface of the ocean. Had he a philosophical mind it would find an inspiring subject of reflection on the utter wastefulness of man and the kind maternal economy of nature. Any too metaphysical flights of thought, however, would have



FLEET OF ABANDONED GARBAGE SCOWS.

been suddenly interrupted by an overpowering odor borne to him on the land breeze. Could he stand without staggering he would have soon seen the ocean's surface covered with floating objects, the "bad beans" that men cast off, carried away and then ruffed out to sea for final disposition. He might recognize old slippers, each doubtless with a manifold past, old hats, boxes, brooms, barrels and the infinite nondescript of the dump cart's contents. Indeed, the reception of many a traveller at the entrance of New-York Harbor was

putting arms on one of the rustic chairs in the manufacture of which he bustles himself in his vacations at the old home. This chair was left unfinished last fall.

"Johnny," said Uncle Zenas, picking up a splint and beginning to whittle, "when can we make plans for the annual meeting of the Custard Pie Association? We want to suit our time to yours. But we was sort of reckoning on next week—say a Saturday."

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The PIANOLA. An instrument by means of which any one can play the piano. Expression regulated by player allowing individuality in the rendition. Significant endorsements.

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MR. LONG AS A PIEMAKER.

ANNUAL MEETING OF A UNIQUE ASSOCIATION IN MAINE. Lewiston, Me., Aug. 18 (Special).—As soon as Secretary John D. Long arrived at the old home farm in Buckfield last Friday afternoon he was waited on by Zenas Longley, president of the Hartford (Me.) Custard Pie Association.

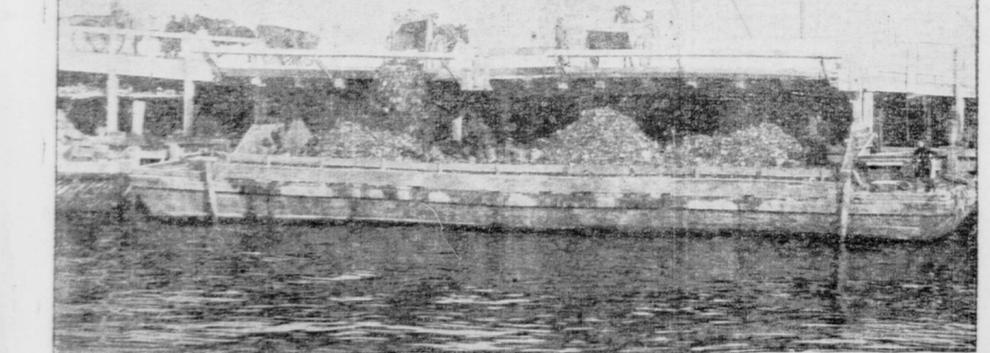
picnic grounds. When John D. Long was a little shaver he used to take his basket of good things and go over there from Buckfield for a day's outing with the little folks from his school. In later years, more decorously, but none the less with all the delight inspired by vacation days back at the old home, he has never missed a picnic on the old spot.

THE ORIGIN OF THE CONTEST. Up in Oxford, where the hens take a personal pride in every egg deposited in the nest, and where the cows give milk so thick that it clings to the side of the pail, custard pies are things to dream about. They are the favorite dessert at the Hartford picnic grounds. They are not thrown about so carelessly that they serve as cushions for the unwary. They are guarded as carefully as the ammunition below decks in "Johnny" Long's big ships. They are cut with the care of a gunner trimming a cartridge.

Years ago the folks that came to the Hartford camp ground got to bragging about their custard pies. There was quiet rivalry among the housewives. The families that picnic there do not sit by themselves. The Oxford County people are not of that selfish nature. All the food is unloaded from the hamper and the pails and the buckets, and set forth upon one long table. The cookery that is thus ranged in competition is just the best that each woman can produce; there is never any doubt about that.

It was natural to fall to discussing custard pies over that board—to discussing them orally as well as gustatorily. And out of the boasting over "marm's cooking" came forth the Hartford Custard Pie Association. And as the men folks did most of the boasting, it was decreed that the men folks should do the cooking of the pies. And the contests that have ensued have been notable and sloppy. That is, they were sloppy at first. The women protested that of all the ridiculous performances those early pie-baking contests were the worst. But now it is only some boys who falls down on the way to the oven with a heaving custard pie in his floury hands. The man who does such a thing in these days has his nose ignominiously rubbed in the puddle.

THE SECRETARY'S IMPROVEMENT. By dint of long practice, and in order to back up their boasts, the men of Buckfield and Hartford have trained themselves so that they can concoct custard pies that excel anything that can be met with anywhere in the great New-England pie belt. They used to say that "Johnny" Long couldn't cook a very good pie. He used to put up a pie that was symmetrical enough, but it didn't stand up when the tasters were applied. The committee of blindfolded women who used to do the tasting declared that it wasn't near as good as that put together by an old bachelor who owns a little forty-acre farm on the Huff Road, in the north of Hartford. The old bachelor had done his own cooking for thirty years, and so, of course, he started with a great lead over Mr. Long.



GARBAGE SCOW LOADING AT WEST FORTY-SEVENTH-ST. Garbage is taken to the reduction plant of the New-York Sanitary Utilization Company, at Barren Island, where grease is extracted and fertilizer filler made.

the width of the supporting wall. Much of the space which is still to be occupied by the foundation was covered by the slope of puddled clay constituting the interior facing of the reservoir's embankments. Hence considerable delay has been occasioned by the holding back of plans until the engineers were satisfied as to what was the necessary width of the supporting wall. Theodore N. Cooper, of No. 33 Broadway, is the chief consulting engineer.

The plans of the library building have been changed from time to time by Carrère & Hastings, the architects, since they submitted the draft which was accepted by the trustees of the library. As learned at the office of the architects yesterday, the dimensions of the new building are as follows:

an illness of nearly six months. Policeman McNally was one of the oldest men on the force, having been born in St. John's, N. B., on July 5, 1832. He was appointed to the force on February 9, 1882.

At the time he was first taken ill his wife went to the Grand Central police station to report his sickness and inability to do duty. It was a cold, Gilbert made two previous efforts to take her life in the course of the day, once by gas and once by carbolic acid. Taking a larger dose on the third trial, she succeeded.

KILLS HERSELF AFTER THREE ATTEMPTS. Mrs. Emily Gilbert, a widow, thirty-four years old, living on the second floor of No. 21 East One-hundred-and-third-st., committed suicide yesterday afternoon by taking a dose of carbolic acid.

very similar to that said to be accorded to a visitor at some farmhouse of a thrifty Missourian hog raiser. In the latter case the newcomer, on turning the street gate, must wade through a series of riotous pig sties, coming then to the sheep pens, then to the cowyard, then to the stable, next to the kitchen of the dwelling house, and finally to the sixteen-year-old bouncing daughter in the parlor.

RELIEF TO SHORE RESIDENTS. But the disagreeable experience of an occasional transatlantic traveller was as nothing compared with what the residents along the shores of Long Island and New-Jersey have had to suffer for the last twenty years. With them the nuisance was continuous. At nightfall in warm weather the suburban resident who sought a tranquil hour upon his porch was compelled to banish himself into some inner, almost air tight room to escape the

a year. A fair valuation of the Barney dummers as they are to-day, these men say, would be about \$750 each.

In regard to these statements Alfred S. Booth, president of the Barney Dumping Boat Company, said:

I would like to submit a few facts and figures in answer to the statement that the city will save nearly \$200,000 a year in disposing of the Barney dummers. Their removal from the city of New-York last year, which was the largest in its history, 1,730,000 cubic yards of ashes, street sweepings, rubbish and light refuse, for the sum of \$28,281.50, of which it paid \$6,175.50 for towing its boats to Sandy Hook Lightship and the sea beyond.

From a sanitary and economic point these figures are away below any method that has been so far introduced, and it may interest the taxpayers to know that the city is now paying nearly double for the removal of the balance of the material (about \$2.50 per cent).

The company has recently added new boats to its plant for the exacting work which it has been compelled to perform in disposing of the city's waste material beyond Sandy Hook Lightship at all times and in all conditions of weather.

INASMUCH AS THE contract between the Street Cleaning Department and the Barney Dumping Boat Company was on a twenty-four hour basis, the city officials found no difficulty in immediately transferring the work to another company.

SENT FIREWORKS AS BAGGAGE. ITALIAN WANTED IN NEW-JERSEY ARRESTED HERE AND HELD FOR EXTRADITION.

Detective Sergeant Murphy, of the Central Office, yesterday morning arraigned in Jefferson Market police court Nicholas Perpinanno, an Italian, who was arrested on Friday night at No. 60 Thompson-st. on a warrant issued in Newark.

The prisoner, with his brother Dominick, is engaged in the manufacture of fireworks at Newark. They sell most of their product for use in Italian celebrations. They recently sent a trunkful of fireworks to Trenton as baggage. In the baggage trunk at Trenton the fireworks exploded a week ago yesterday, and injured the station agent and two other men.

SAYS BOY BROKE MR. HEWITT'S WINDOWS. Isadore Levy, twelve years old, of No. 219 East Twenty-second-st., was in Yorkville Court yesterday in answer to a summons obtained by Anna Weeks, of the same address, who charged him with malicious mischief. The complainant told Magistrate Brann that the boy was the leader of a gang of stone throwers. The gang, Mrs. Weeks said, had done so far as to break the windows of a house of ex-Mayor Abram S. Hewitt, at Lexington-st. and Third-ave.

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