

prevent natives from throwing carcasses or emptying drains into it, and they also flush the canal every ten days with 500,000 tons of Nile water.

At high Nile the water is so muddy that it is necessary to mix with it alum and iron before it is pumped into the filter-beds. Also if chemical analysis shows an abnormal percentage of organic matter, permanganate of soda is mixed with the water before it reaches the filter-beds. There are three filter-beds, each 2400 yards square, and covered with wood. The beds are 2 ft. 6 in. deep, and consist of sand, which is brought from the sea-shore near Damietta, and of four different sizes of gravel, laid on bricks, and so placed as to make a ready communication between the lower layers and the pumps for cleansing purposes. The sand is well washed in water, and the beds cleaned every nine days. From the filter-beds the water is pumped into a reservoir, and thence into Alexandria, at the rate of 26,000 cubic metres a day.

Though the water-supply is so well cared for, the *drainage* of Alexandria cannot be commended. Since 1871 the streets of the town have been paved, like Naples, with slabs of lava from Catania, and the drains, originally laid down by the Paving Commission for storm-water, have been used as overflows for the cesspools under the houses. The culverts run out to the sea-shore, but some are