

residence. By this arrangement, both the barn and the men's cottage would be to the east of the residence. This is a matter of no slight importance as it is imperative that the two sexes should be kept absolutely separate. With the men's cottage east and the barn to the northeast, the men in passing to and from the barn do not pass in the vicinity of the cottage for the women. The women would of course have a yard to themselves to the west and north of the dining-rooms, so that the strict separation of the sexes would be carried out both indoors and out of doors.

The State of New York is taking the lead in the introduction of the cottage system. The Hon. W. P. Letchworth, L. L.D., for many years an active member of the State Board of Charities and Correction, and also the Commissioner for the Eighth District, has spent several years in the study of the poor-house question, both in Europe and in America. With the assistance of George J. Metzger, Esq., architect, Buffalo, he designed a model poor-house on the cottage plan, which was on exhibition at the World's Fair, Chicago, last year, under the auspices of the New York State Board of Charities and Correction. This model is now on exhibition at the State capital, Albany.

Fig 1 is a view of one of the first county poor-houses constructed on the cottage plan, namely, the Allegany County poor-house, in Western New York. It is designed to accommodate 80 inmates. Although it is constructed on the broad principle of the cottage plan, it does not include all the good features represented in the model poor-house above referred to.

In my next article I propose giving a ground plan of the cottage system and pointing out the many advantages the cottage plan has over the old style of county poor-house.

[The Prisoners' Aid Association of Canada are endeavoring to make arrangements with the State Board of Charities and Correction of the State of New York for the exhibition at the Industrial Fair, Toronto, Sept. 3 to 17, of the model of a county house of industry on the cottage plan. If they are successful they will be pleased to have it inspected by all persons interested in county houses of industry or industrial homes.—Editor.]

Under section 101 of the Assessment Act, provision is made for the return of statute labor lists before the 15th of August, and the clerk is required to enter the commutation for statute labor against the name of every resident, owner, tenant or occupant entered upon the assessment roll, who has made default in performing statute labor, or in payment of the commutation of the same. To make this complete, notify all pathmasters who have not made returns, to do so at once. This notice should be issued after the 1st of August.

### Indigent Lunatics.

In some counties the practice of confining lunatics in the county gaol interferes seriously with the accommodation therein provided for prisoners. Many of these are, no doubt, fit subjects for asylum treatment, and have been committed as dangerous.

The committal of lunatics to gaols is a matter that should, we think, be considered by the heads of municipal councils as provided in section 11, chap. 245, R. S. O., which provides that when an insane person is in destitute circumstances and is a fit subject for asylum treatment, application may be made to the head of the municipality for a medical examination of the person. The reeve or mayor is then required to notify two medical practitioners to make an examination. The local council have to pay all the expenses provided for in the said section, which are to be reimbursed to the municipality by the county, where the municipality is a part of the county.

If proceedings are taken under this section, not more than ten days will elapse before an order will be received to remove the patient to the asylum. The reason lunatics remain in the county gaols is owing to the delay occasioned by the preliminary proceedings required to be taken before they can be removed to an asylum, assisted somewhat by the apparent indifference of the asylum authorities, who, at all times, give preference to the applications received in reference to those who are not in any public institution where they can do no harm.

In the case of an application to the head of a municipality where the lunatic is not dangerous, the reeve should at once write to the medical superintendent of the nearest asylum, stating that he desires to make application for the admission of a lunatic under the provisions of section 11 referred to. He will then receive the preliminary papers which are required to be filled out. These, when returned to the asylum, are examined, and if satisfactory, medical certificates to be signed by two physicians will be received with instructions to remove the patient to the asylum within ten days. In the case of dangerous lunatics, application may also be made to the head of the municipality, who should proceed the same as in ordinary cases, and if the person is so dangerous as to require to be locked up, an information should be laid before a justice of the peace and the lunatic remanded to the gaol or lock-up for safe custody pending enquiry. Where this is not convenient he may be placed in the charge of the constable arresting him. This is provided for in section 14 of the Act referred to. In this way he may be remanded or otherwise detained from time to time until the certificates are received from the asylum when he may be removed the same as in ordinary cases.

We know from experience that this system works satisfactorily, so much so that in counties where this is adopted, all of the lunatics are cared for by the proper asylum authorities, thereby relieving the county of an item of expense which is very large in some counties.

Almost a hundred years ago Jenner accidentally discovered a means of sure and perfect protection against that loathsome disease, small-pox, and yet in his own country, in England, and elsewhere there is a society of so-called anti-vaccinationists, who in every way oppose vaccination as being dangerous to the health. In all this time vaccination has progressed, until almost every civilized country compels its subjects to be vaccinated and employs physicians to regularly visit and perform the operation when necessary.

Reliable statistics conclusively prove that small-pox can gain no foothold where vaccination has been properly carried out, and the difference in the occurrence of small-pox epidemics between those countries where vaccination is obligatory and where it is optional is very striking. The disfigurements from small-pox are so great, and certain varieties are so surely fatal, it seems strange indeed that many persons would prefer to run the risk of catching this loathsome disease rather than undergo the trivial pain of vaccination.

If the virus be obtained from reliable sources and the physician be cleanly in his performance of this most important operation, the chances of introducing disease into the system are practically nil. Persons should seek vaccination rather than be forced to it by laws and orders of local boards of health.

Some time ago the town of Chatham and county of Kent had an arbitration to decide amount of expenses of administration of justice to be paid by the city. The county authorities took up the award and now the county has issued a writ against the town for the payment of fees to the arbitrator, the stenographer and the jailor in arbitration amounting in all to nearly \$400. The town will defend the action.

The Ditches and Watercourses' Act forms supplied through THE MUNICIPAL WORLD office are giving entire satisfaction. They are complete in every particular and clerks requiring them cannot do better than take advantage of our offer of 300 assorted for \$5.00. This is cheaper than they can be procured for a printer. As many are no doubt in favor of procuring the forms in their own locality, we would suggest that they refer our advertisement to their township printer or stationer, and request them to write us for trade prices, and mention the quantity of blanks required. In this way all will benefit. Orders for blanks received by mail or telegraph will be attended to promptly.