

border of flowers finishes the whole. Across the distant end a rustic bridge spans the pavilion, and overlooks the grand central whale-tank. This latter is a circular structure, thirty feet in diameter, composed of light iron frames sustaining the grand plate-glass panes behind which his majesty, the whale, swims and blows as only whales can; a rockery for the sea-lion, and a pond for the seals, complete the central view.

Standing upon the platform, over the reservoir, we perceive at our right, and extending to the furthest limit of the pavilion, a series of compartments which are the great wall-tanks. These are the homes of the larger species of fresh and salt water fish, and, with an average height of ten feet, vary in length from sixty to six feet. These tanks are literally founded upon a rock, as the construction of the inclosed walls was preceded by deep excavations, and the subsequent laying of stone foundations over the whole area covered by the tanks. At stated and varying distances, the several dividing walls were built, being each two feet in diameter, and composed of pressed bricks laid in cement. The interior faces of these walls are lined with rock-work, so arranged as to heighten the natural effect. The fourth side—that is, the side toward the pavilion—is composed of a graceful framework of iron, into which great panes of plate-glass, one inch in thickness, eight feet high and five wide, are carefully and firmly fixed. It will thus appear that the fish, though confined, are not imprisoned, since they have ample room in which to display their native grace of motion, as well as their beauty of form and colour.

At proper distances in front of these glass walls, and below the rustic arches already described, depend a series of heavy curtains, thus separating the tanks from the main pavilion by a dimly lighted corridor. This exclusion of direct external light from the faces of the tanks is an essential precaution, since it enables the visitor to view the fish without being seen by them, and to accomplish this a series of sky-lights admit the sun's rays to the surface of the tanks by day; which need is met at night by a series of gas-jets and reflectors. But for this arrangement the fish, naturally timid and shy, would attempt to conceal themselves from the view of the visitor by retreating to the rear of