

tion die in the district in which they have contracted the disease. Men and women in very destitute circumstances will sell all their belongings and without second thought start to their native towns."

Since the Medical Department of the Italian Commission d'Immigratione began to keep records in 1903, it has been found that "the proportion of tuberculous immigrants returning to Italy from North America has been increasing steadily every year."

In 1903 the proportion was 2.92 per 1,000

In 1904 the proportion was 2.75 per 1,000

In 1905 the proportion was 5.66 per 1,000

In 1906 the proportion was 5.61 per 1,000

"But this average only takes into account the advanced bedridden steerage passengers,"—so many return second and even first class to avoid supervision, and for social reasons, that Dr. Stella ventures the statement that 50% of the returning second-class passengers are suffering from tuberculosis. In 1906 the Italian reports showed 81,412 immigrants to have returned home, of whom 2,477 were sick, and of whom 441 had tuberculosis. Compare this with the fact that of 309,503 emigrants who left Italy for the United States in 1903 and 1904, there were only two cases of tuberculosis treated in the ship's hospital, while amongs, 169,729 homeward bound from the United States during the same two years, there were 457 in hospital on ship, besides 17 who died at sea. Yet more exact in their bearing upon the problem we are considering are the details of a series of 800 cases specially studied by Dr. Stella on the basis of the number of years in America before the cases came to his notice. They were as follows:

Average from Arrival	From 1 to 3 Years	From 5 to 6 Years	From 6 to 10 Years	Total
Women.....	95	340	140	481
Men.....	74	87	155	319

Allowing for the usual anomalies in the sex and age of patients coming under the medical care of a single physician, the figures are valuable, since, as Dr. Stella says, "the shorter period (from one to three years) applies chiefly to young girls employed in tobacco factories, to seamstresses at home, and to young dressmakers or tailors. Two or three years of this existence in the workshops or tenement houses of New York are enough to render this human material a fertile soil for the growth of the tubercle bacillus."