

## DESTROYING THE DOGS.

### A LARGE NUMBER OF CANINES DROWNED— SCENES AT THE POUND—THE SUFFERINGS OF THE DOG-CATCHERS.

Yesterday was the first day set apart for the destruction of unlicensed dogs in this City, and great crowds were about the pound at the foot of East Sixteenth-street all day. The pound is 150 by 40 feet; and it has about 300 well-built stalls, very much resembling short church pews on the outside, not only in their general appearance, but in their arrangement, being placed in aisles, double rows on each side of the middle aisle, and single rows on the wall sides of the side aisles. The place was opened on Tuesday morning, and was kept open on that day and yesterday. There were 759 full-grown dogs and 23 pups yesterday morning in the pound, about half of the latter having been born there since its opening. The keeper is an experienced dog fancier, and he is required by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to keep all dogs 48 hours for redemption, to feed and water them twice a day, and to allow no really valuable dog to be destroyed. Officer George H. Lambert, of Mr. Bergh's force, was detailed to remain constantly at the place, and see that these requirements were carried out. Twenty dogs were selected and retained out of the whole lot yesterday, and the rest were drowned. The destruction began at 7:40 in the morning, and it took until 4:30 in the afternoon to drown the 762 canines that were thus disposed of. A large crate, seven feet long, four high, and five broad, made of iron bars set three inches apart, was rolled up the aisles, and the dogs, about 48 at a time, were dropped into it through a sliding top door; the crate was then wheeled out to the water's edge, where it was attached to a crane, elevated, swung out and dropped into the river, where it was kept submerged 10 minutes; then it was lifted up, emptied, and returned for another load. The carcases were disposed of to the rendering establishment at the foot of Twenty-eighth-street, where it is said, their hides have an average value of \$1 apiece. The dogs seemed to know their fate, and most of them sullenly submitted to it; but many crouched down desperately in their corners, and made a most ferocious and dangerous resistance, and it required the utmost courage and dexterity on the part of the catchers to secure these and get them into the crate, and steel "dog-forks" had to be often brought into use to do it. There was one female with eight puppies that was especially hard to handle, and when she was finally got into the crate with her litter, she actually forced the other dogs within to crowd upon top of one another and give her little family plenty of room. While the dogs within the pound were being drowned, the wagons of the dog-catchers were gathering outside with the results of the day's captures, and at 4:30 there were 15 very full loads waiting for delivery, averaging 45 dogs to the wagon, making a total of 675 to be drowned on Friday. The pound has not accommodations for any more, and if the catchers make much of a "haul" to-day, it is intended to drown all the worthless dogs without waiting the full 48 hours required by law.

The dogs drowned yesterday were of the very meanest kind, and most of them must have been horrible nuisances on the street. Several of them were literally raw all over their bodies with the most loathsome forms of mange, and the body of one of them was perfectly rotten with cancers. The dangerous character of the dogs destroyed is shown by the treatment the dog-catchers have suffered. THE TIMES reporter saw 46 of these officials and their assistants who had been severely bitten since Tuesday morning by the dogs they had handled. The total number of bites received by these 46 men is 240, or a little more than an average of five bites a piece. But six of them received one bite each, and one of these was clear through a thumb; one clear through the palm of the left hand; one clear through an under lip; two of the others each had bites on the stomach. One who suffered from three bites was also bitten clear through his right cheek. Another got five ugly bites, three of which were on his nose, one going all the way through it. Another got a dog's long teeth entirely through the middle of his wrist, besides one through a nostril and another through his upper lip. Another got the end of his nose chewed into a pulp, besides receiving four other bites. Another got his left calf bitten through, and three places on his right hand badly torn by a blood-bound. Many of the catchers have got 4 and 5 ugly bites each upon different parts of their bodies; several have got 6 each; three, 7; one, 8; one, 12; one, 13; three, 15, and two, 16. It was reported at the pound that "Rocky" Moore, who had got 15 dangerous bites, had to be taken to Bellevue Hospital. James McLaughlin, who received 16 bites, most of them upon the right hand and arm, was in a bad condition when seen by the reporter; his arm was so swollen that he could no longer button his shirt-sleeve, and the skin of it was as black as the leather of his shoes. Upon investigation among these wounded men, the reporter learned that the dog which is the most vicious, doing far more biting than all the others together, is the Spitz. Of the 46 men seen who have been bitten, 39 of them were bitten by Spitz dogs, although the number of Spitz dogs captured is very much smaller than the number of any other species taken. Of the 240 bites reported, 200 are set down against the Spitz dogs, or 5 to 1, although among the pounded canines the other dogs stand about 15 to 1 in number against the Spitz.