APPARATUS FOR FLUSHING SMALL SEWERS.

For flushing the smaller sewers of New Haven, Conn., an apparatus has been devised by Mr. Dilben, formerly Superintendent of Sewers, and Mr. Chas. A. Ferry, C. E., of the city, which may be briefly described as follows:

A skeleton frame of wood with a circular hole in it is fixed at the bottom of a manhole. Through the hole is inserted the curved end of a sheet iron pipe which is made in two sections. The purpose of the wooden frame is merely to hold the pipe in position. The lower section of the pipe, which includes its curve, is slightly smaller than the diameter of the sewer, and the upper portion is telescopic, so as to admit of adjustment to the depth of the manhole.

The latter pipe is directly connected with a watering-cart placed over the manhole. In operating this flushing apparatus, a wooden float of ellipsoidal shape and having a shorter diameter somewhat less than that of the sewer-pipe, is passed down the flushing-pipe and is held a few feet in advance of the mouth of this pipe by a cord passing up the pipe and attached to a reel. The tank in the cart has a capacity of about 105 cu. ft. and can be emptied in 7 seconds. The ball forms a temporary dam which moves forward as the cord is paid out from the reel until another manhole is reached. At this next manhole a man is stationed to shovel away the sand, etc., cut out by the current coming from under the ball and carried down by the water. This apparatus works well and cheaply.

In describing this American device "Le Genie Civil" claims that the same principle has been in use in Belgian cities since 1888, and it describes what is a somewhat analogous process, as follows:

*1859, though not very high at Cairo, was a great flood below the mouth of the Aravans.