

Between five and six thousand a day were admitted and when we heard occasionally that only three thousand were coming in we nurses all breathed a sigh of relief. many were sick and uncared for. many like animals with no idea of cleanliness.

Very little gratitude was ever shown by the immigrants. they didnt want to come to the hospital because they thought it meant deportation and they could not realize that we were trying to help them, so they expected a lot of attention, but never expressed thanks.

Italians were the most tempermental, they would pull their hair and throw themselves on the floor and roâl. Coaxing did not help the best thing was to leave them alone as they would not hurt themselves and were only taking our time. when they realized they had no audience they stopped their tantrums and were all smiles.

As for the costumes of the immigrants. they would bring trunks and big bags on their back. many wore hoopskirts and was difficult to get to their bodies to give a bath. Many had never heard of an all-over bath. But the nurses had to examine for sores and baths were naturally compulsory. Shoes were of the roughest type and made with nails. Many had petticoats with money quilted into the design, and of course most of them were sewn right into their underclothes.

Scandinavians were very clean and could bear a great deal of pain very quietly

Jewish race required so much attention and carried on dreadfully over the most minor difficulties.

Few were from Ireland most immigrants were from Italy

Polish would try to kiss the Doctors feet and beg to be allowed to go to America, could not be persuaded that America included Ellis Island.

Many heads were unclean and fuul of vermin. we were not allowed to cut hair for years, but finally convinced of the necessity were allowed to cut hair.

Of course all clothing was sterilized and you may be sure we had to be careful to see that all their rags were returned intact.

Many ill mothers had many children and of course she wanted them all with her. and even wanted them in same bed at night, so you may believe they were a great ordeal to the nurses.

Of course many thought the nurses were the cause of all their trouble and would not co-operate in any way.

Syrian lady sent here with Trachoma had cheap red beads around neck which she would not allow nurses to remove. as Trachoma is a deportable disease she was sent to main building. One day the Inspector came to ouy