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ABATTOIRS.

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Amongst those matters relating to public health which from time to time have engaged the attention of the Board of Health of this city, that of the erection of abattoirs has been, for several years past, somewhat prominent and pretty freely discussed. It is cause for regret, however, that, notwithstanding the frequent discussion of the question, and the almost general admission by the butchers of the need which exists for the erection and maintenance of such public slaughter-houses, yet, up to the present time, no definite steps have been taken towards the accomplishment of such purpose either by the butchers or on the part of the Board of Health.

Certainly, last year, the Council took an important preliminary step in that direction by authorising a deputation to proceed to the United States, visit several of the principal cities, and make inquiries regarding the character of their abattoirs, their mode of slaughtering, &c.

The report of Alderman McCord, the present Chairman of the Health Committee, one of the deputation, lies before me, wherein the Alderman clearly and concisely details his opinions regarding the question as it relates to this city, having examined the abattoirs at Jersey City, those on the Hackensack and at Brighton, in the suburbs of Boston, as well as many belonging to firms or private parties. It is impossible to do justice to the report by a simple reference such as I can make to it in