

which he could have accomplished his purpose without danger of interference. But Brown did not or does not want to die, he wanted to be clothed, housed and fed for the rest of his days, and his experience of prison life in Canada satisfied him that serving a life sentence would be the easiest way of passing the remainder of his earthly career, hence his criminal acts and subsequent game of bluff. The Minister of Justice lately quoted Brown's case in addressing a meeting, but from his remarks it was evident that the report of the commission studiously avoided any proof of Brown's sanity. It would be interesting to know if the Dominion Government caused any inquiry to be made as to the truth of the story given in the Telegram concerning Brown's antecedents. It appears that his fellow prisoners in the penitentiary said he was insane, but it is well known that a strong fellow-feeling exists among criminals, and if they can do a good turn for one of their fraternity, without injuring themselves they will readily do so, therefore, their mere statement cannot carry much weight, and it is but natural to suppose that those who knew him from boyhood would give him a helping hand, when in the clutches of the law, and that of a foreign power under such circumstances the truth would not be easily arrived at.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

DANGERS IN LEAN MEAT.

Practical experience, as well as theoretic consideration, lead to the conclusion that a lean meat diet continued for any length of time is incompatible with health. Leading medical teachers in France are now sounding the note of warning against the use of an exclusive meat diet in diabetes, a disease of which lean meat was formerly supposed to be almost a panacea. A close study of the history of these cases has shown that an exclusive meat diet is not infrequently a cause

of death, through the accumulation of so great a quantity of ptomaines within the body that the kidneys are unable to cope with them. Professor Boofelt says:—"It is the duty of the physician who places his patient upon a lean meat diet to inform him of the fact that he is living close to the border line, and that his situation is like that of a man walking along the brink of a precipice; that he must on no account submit himself to the influence of an anæsthetic without first undergoing a few days' preparation, including an entire change of diet; and the truly wise physician will further instruct his patient that it cannot be safely adopted as a continuous dietary without the risk of constitutional injury."

DARK HOUSES.

People who keep their houses dark for fear of the sunlight spoiling their carpets and furniture have no idea of the disease-destroying influence of sunlight and air. Recent experiments made in the Pasteur Institute have shown that bacilli exposed to the sun and air were destroyed in two hours, while those exposed to the sun, the air being excluded, were alive after fifty hours of exposure. Dr. Palermo, of Naples, made an interesting experiment with cholera bacilli. While he found those protected from the sun killed guinea pigs in eighteen hours, as usual, those exposed to the sun, although not killed, were rendered entirely harmless. As to the influence of sun and air on bacilli, it was ascertained that the oxygen of the air had a marked effect in assisting the sun's rays, and that the bacteria suffered more from the sun's rays if the supply of oxygen was increased than if it was diminished.

THE CONTAGIOUSNESS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Moussu, of Alfort, who has made a special study of the conditions under which tuberculosis is transmitted by contagion, reported his results to the Congress on Tuberculosis held in Paris. He made an experiment which consisted in exposing to direct tuberculous contagion, several animals of different species by placing them in the same