

should be done by the inspector himself. When diseased meat is roasted it emits a strong and offensive smell. The fever odor is particularly marked in the case of animals which have suffered from peritonitis, charbon, morbid symptoms following parturition, or with ordinary acute disease. In such cases the smell is recognisable at once, and it is unnecessary to make any incision.

A NEW DEODORIZING MATERIAL for earth closets has been found out, in the form of pulverised common slag. It is said to be (*Lancet*) extremely porous, rendering the soil more absorbent, and is of manurial value. The following additional advantages are claimed for it: (1) The cheapness of the material, the cost being roughly estimated to be from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per ton, including crushing and carriage; (2) its supply being practically inexhaustible; (3) its porous property, which independent of (4) its manurial qualities, renders it valuable to clayey soil. A sample was exhibited which had been in use five weeks before, in which it was impossible to detect the slightest smell. The method of using it is similar to that adopted in earth-closets. The total quantity necessary being a third less than ordinary dry earth—six persons requiring one third of a hundred weight per week.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.—Professor Hamilton, at the opening of his practical pathology class in the University of Aberdeen, last month, took for the subject of his introductory address the question of pleuro-pneumonia. He said this disease or poison, judging from their knowledge of other infectious diseases, might be supposed to be of the nature of a vegetable micro-organism, whose natural habitat was in the system of the cow; but here, as in the majority of other cattle-diseases, little care had been expended in the search for results. Compulsory slaughter was the most bland confession of ignorance and helplessness, and savoured more of the work of a nation of savages than of rational and enlightened individuals.

BOUND TO HAVE A CLEAN FLEET.—Surg. Gen'l. John B. Hamilton, of the Marine Hospital Service, Washington, D. C., has issued the following regulation:—1. When a vessel arrives at any national quarantine station from any infected port, and requires disinfection, she will be subjected to ordinary disinfection, as provided in former regulations. 2. When any vessel shall arrive at a national quarantine station in such foul condition as to render her dangerous from a sanitary point of view, and is found to require cleansing and disinfection, having at any former time with-

in one year been subjected to ordinary disinfection, such vessel will be required to undergo extraordinary disinfection, which, in addition to the ordinary measures, will include a holy-stoning, scraping, the taking out of rotten wood, a second disinfection, and interior repainting, all of which will be required before granting a certificate of free pratique.

DEATHS UNDER FIVE.—In Norway the proportion of children dying under five years of age is 204.5 per 1,000 born; while in England it is 338 per 1,000, and in Italy 567 per 1,000. In fifty-one so-called "healthy districts" of England and Wales the mortality under five is 175 per 1,000 born, while in the Liverpool district, representing the most unfavorable sanitary conditions, it is 460 per 1,000. In the State of Vermont, which contains no large cities, the number of deaths under five, for the year 1883, was 23.8 per cent. of the whole number of deaths; in the State of Massachusetts, in which there are several large cities, for the twelve years ending in 1884, it was 34.74 per cent.; and in the City of New York alone, for the seven years ending in 1873, it was exactly 50 per cent. of the entire mortality.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.—The percentage of illegitimate births in the various countries of Europe is given as follows: Holland, 4.0; Switzerland, 5.5; Prussia, 10.0; England and Wales, 6.5; Sweden and Norway, 9.6; Scotland, 10.1; Denmark, 11.0; German States, 14.8; Wurtemberg, 16.4; Italy, 5.1; Spain, 5.5; France, 7.2; Belgium, 7.2; Austria, 11.1; Ireland, 3.

NUTRITIVE VALUE OF CERTAIN FOODS.—Speaking roughly, a quart of oysters contains, on the average, about the same quantity of actual nutritive substance as a quart of milk, or a pound of very lean beef, or a pound and a half of fresh codfish, or two-thirds of a pound of bread. But while the weight of actual nutriment in the different quantities of food material named is very nearly the same, the quality is widely different. That of the very lean meat or codfish consists mostly of what are called, in chemical language, protein compounds, or "flesh formers"—the substances which make blood, muscle, tendon, bone, brain and other nitrogenous tissues. That of the bread contains but little of these and consists chiefly of starch, with a little fat and other compounds, which serve the body as fuel and supply it with heat and muscular power. The nutritive substance of oysters contains considerable of both the flesh-forming and the more especially heat and force-giving ingredients. Oysters come nearer to milk than almost any other common food, their values for supplying the