

diagnosis, though some other explanation may be ventured of the improvement coincident with its use.—*St. Louis Medical Review.*

DEODORIZATION OF EXCRETA MOSS MANURE.

The first public mention of the usefulness of moss litter as a deodorizer and absorbent seems to have been made by Dr. Ludwig Happe, in Braunschweig, in December, 1880, since which time its application for the purpose has gradually increased until now, when the system has been introduced into several towns in Germany, and is also practiced in Congleton, Cheshire, England. In Canada this method of deodorizing human refuse had been in use for years at Caledonia Springs. It, of course, at once recalls the dry earth system regarding which great expectations were at one time entertained. The advantages of moss litter over dry earth for the purposes in question are, however, very decided. They consist in the perfect inoffensiveness of the moss litter product, in the fact that one part of moss litter will deodorize and dry at least six parts of mixed excreta, and in the greater agricultural values of the resulting manure. Dry earth (which is required in quantity at least equal to that of the excreta), is valueless from an agricultural point of view; but this is not the case with moss litter, which, as its analyses show, often contains as much nitrogen as ordinary barn-yard manure. Numerous analyses have been made of moss litter manure as produced in Germany, and its average contents from seven different towns may here be stated:

	Per cent.	Lbs. per ton.		Value per ton.
Nitrogen.....	0.664	13.28	at 13c.	\$1.72
Phosphoric acid.	0.350	7.00	5	0.35
Potash.....	0.285	5.70	5¼	0.30
Water.....	83.00			\$2.37

Numerous trials have been made on various crops with this manure, and very satisfactory results are always reported. In all cases it is stated to excel barn-yard manure even when the latter is used in much greater quantity.

Canada possesses in its bogs and swamps inexhaustible quantities of moss litter which is frequently found in beds, several feet in thickness, lying above the peat.

The manufacture of moss litter has been attempted at Musquash, in New Brunswick, and also in Welland County, Ontario. From the latter locality the writer was supplied