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and as in these cases they are consigned to a firm at Liverpool, we can not demand their disinfection here.

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I have called with the consul on most of the officials here, and will see the others next week. I have also visited some of the hospitals.

I will make a separate report later on my visit to the Government quarantine station at Frioul and any other matters of importance which may arise.

Respectfully,

G. M. CORPUT,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MARSEILLES, FRANCE, *January 13, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the following report of transactions at this port for the week ended January 13, 1900: No immigrants have departed from this port during the week and there have been no transactions worthy of mention.

I have inspected and passed three vessels during the week. The *Patria*, French steamer, and the Italian barks *Maddalena G.* and *Venezian.* The last-named vessels were in ballast and carried no cargo, the *Patria* had a small general cargo and was bound for New York via Bastia and Naples.

The smallpox epidemic is abating and the death rate is lessening considerably and is now but little above the normal death rate of this city.

I find that my greatest difficulty is in getting from one wharf to another, as the wharves are very much scattered and means of rapid transit are limited. Cabs are the most satisfactory means of getting about, and these are not exactly what might be desired.

Should anything worthy of note transpire I will report at once.

Respectfully,

G. M. CORPUT,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

GERMANY.

Extermination of rats at Bremen to prevent the spread of plague.

BREMEN, GERMANY, *December 22, 1899.*

SIR: Referring to my No. 82 of the 4th instant, relative to measures being taken at this port to lessen the danger from plague, I have the honor to inclose a clipping from the *Weser Zeitung* showing that an attempt will at once be made to exterminate all rats within the territory of the Republic at Bremen.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. MURPHY,
Vice-Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure.—Translation from *Weser Zeitung*, December 22, 1899.]

BREMEN, GERMANY, *December 22, 1899.*

The medical department earnestly requests the citizens of Bremen and the surrounding country districts, in view of the danger from plague, to destroy by means of dogs, cats, traps, etc., the rats in their houses, especially in warehouses, barns, and stables.

For every dead rat from the city of Bremen or its country districts delivered at the port bureau of the Freeport, a premium of 5 pfennig (1½ cents) will be paid. Such rats will be received on working days from 9 to 11 a. m., and from 3 to 5 p. m.