

If the dung of other stock besides horses be put into the same yard, it should not be thrown in at random, but each kind should be taken from the stables in dung-barrows, and be uniformly distributed over the area. Besides, in an uneven heap there will be vacancies which become mouldy, to the injury of the manure.

The more solid the mass of the manure, by being trodden down, the better, so as to prevent too rapid a fermentation and consequent waste of both ammonia and humus.

If there be cow stables or hog pens adjacent, the drainage from them should be conducted into the manure.

When, as is most usually the case, the manure is to be principally used for the wheat crop, care must be taken that it should not become too dry, and be seriously injured, during our hot, and often dry summer. This can easily be prevented (if there be water at or near the barn, as there always should be) by pumping and distributing it in the same manner as the liquid manure from the tank.

Even with all these precautions the manure will be more or less injured by exposure to the direct rays of the hot summer suns of our climate. These, of course, we can only avert by the use of sheds, except where the manure heap happens to be shaded by large trees. In Europe the cost of lumber, in most cases, forbids the use of sheds for this purpose, and in fact they are not much troubled with hot suns, except in Italy and parts of Spain and France. There are, however, numerous locations with us in which sheds might be most advantageously erected at little expense.

We learn from the direct analysis of Boussingault that manures, *properly fermented*, actually contain more nitrogen or ammonia than the dung, straw, &c., of which they are made up. This proves that there is no loss, but, on the contrary, a gain in the use of fermented manures, provided the process has been properly carried on.

It has long been known that the efficacy of farm-yard manure was increased in a remarkable degree when a very small proportion of gypsum is mixed with it, and there is abundant proof of this. It was noticed by French agriculturists in the last century, that the yield of potatoes was much increased when gypsum was added to the manure in the drills, and I have confirmed this in my own experience. More recently M. Didieux, who practices this method of using plaster, informs that his plastered manure never becomes mouldy, which is an important fact.

M. Didieux states that he uses twenty litres of calcined plasters to 2,500 kilogrammes of manure, which is equal to a fraction over one-third of a bushel to the ton of 2,240 lbs.

This small addition, he assures us, increases his crops at