

and to the material advantage of agriculture. These parties some time since confided to me their secret, and asked my opinion as to the probability of forming a company to carry on the operation in Baltimore. In reply, I suggested that one of them should come on here and put their plan into practice in one fair case, which I could fully inspect, and that I would be a witness to the exact quantity of each of the ingredients, so as to be sure in regard to the cost. And that if they succeeded in completely destroying the smell, whilst the cost of the pouquette would not exceed its value as a manure, I had not the least doubt that parties here would enter into the business. And I promised also to aid them by calling the attention of enterprising persons to the subject. I have not since heard from the patentees.

Renewed efforts are also being made by some of the nightmen of this city in this direction, and it is my intention to encourage and to aid them as soon as I can find a little leisure.

I am strongly inclined to the opinion that a mixture of the peaty muck, (either dried or charred,) and gypsum, with the night soil, will answer the purpose, but some experiments are requisite to determine the proportions. The subject is important and every effort should be made to get the material into the condition of a commercial manure.

It does not seem necessary to quote the results of the numerous analysis which have been made of human fæces and urine. It may, however, be interesting to many to know that according to an estimate by Boussingault, the excrements of one human being will produce per annum $14\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat. The common opinion of the Chinese is that it is equivalent to the production of the food required for his support.

SUGAR REFINERS SCUM.

At two establishments in Baltimore, sugar is refined to the amount of forty millions of pounds per annum. In addition to the powdered bone black before noticed, which is sold to manufacturers of fertilizers in Philadelphia, they dispose of another article in still larger amounts to manufacturers in this city. This is the scum, as they term it, which is skimmed off from the boiling syrup and subjected to great pressure to separate it from the syrup.

It is packed in old sugar hogsheads and sold at \$1.50 per hhd., containing about 1,200 lbs. each, which is equal to \$2.50 per ton of 2,000 lbs. It contains—

Water and organic matter, with very little ammonia,	67.45
Sand,	10.16
Lime, with a trace of magnesia,	8.63
Iron, with some alumina,	2.20