

established fact most strongly urges the necessity of its application to all soils in which it is deficient, and also to the utility of applying it liberally to composts and manure heaps, it also materially lessens the odors from stables, privies, &c. whereby the health of man is promoted, as well as the domestic animals. Gypsum, like lime however, frequently contains a large proportion of matters foreign to it—most generally carbonate of lime, and the materials of which clay consists.

In this view of the matter, we take it for granted, that its use will be greatly extended, and how far the farmers interest is protected under our present system of inspection, in relation to the purity of this article, we know not. The subject, we think, merits public attention.

### *Concluding remarks.*

A few years since, the use of lime for agricultural purposes in the State, was almost wholly confined to a few persons in the vicinity of what is called the Gunpowder limestone districts, in Baltimore County, and fewer still in Carroll and Frederick Counties, on the Western Shore, and in Talbot, Kent and Queen Anne Counties, on the Eastern Shore. At this time, however, its use is rapidly spreading all over the State. The valuable beds of marl in the lower counties so long neglected, are being, we believe, more extensively used, although much less so than their intrinsic value merits. Their use should not be confined to the farms on which they occur, but all along the navigable shores of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, at least, if not along the lines of all our public improvements. Their existence, in many places, within a few yards of where vessels can ride, greatly favors their use.

Pure lime, however, can be more advantageously hauled by the farmer to greater distances, and consequently immense quantities of lime will be wanting in our tide water counties through all coming time. The cause of the great extension of the use of lime is attributable partly to the diffusion of more correct views in regard to its uses in agricultural operations, and the sanctions of experience greatly aided by a large reduction in price.

Formerly our tide water counties procured their stone lime from two sources, principally, viz: the Gunpowder district in Baltimore county, and Thomastown, in Maine, that from the former costing upon our bay and river shores, say from 30 to 40 cents per bushel, and that from the latter usually at a higher price. In the progress of time, however, avenues of cheap transportation have opened into the interior, bringing both the stone and the fuel for burning them, to tide water, at greatly reduced rates. It is now pouring into the Chesapeake Bay through the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, the Tide Water Canal, the Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad, and from the valley of Herring Run, near the city of Baltimore. Limestone also occurs along the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, between Baltimore and the Potomac, and is being distributed along the line of that road, as also along the Philadelphia,