

tion, any additional quantity of water be added, it takes the place of that which previously existed; and forces out, not only the water, but likewise all of the substances which the water held in solution. That part of stable manure which the water dissolves, is most valuable, and when exposed, as it usually is by farmers, nearly all of its valuable matter will be carried away, by water falling on the heaps and then running off. So effectually does this deprive all substances of their soluble matter, that druggists use a process identical in principle with it, to obtain the active matter of many drugs and medicines. A quantity of rhubarb, ginger, &c., being first saturated with water is allowed to remain for a short time, an additional quantity of water then being added, the water first present, passes through, taking with it all the *strength* of the substances acted on, and leaves behind nothing but a worthless inert mass.

A little reflection will show, that the same thing must constantly occur in stable and barn yard manure.

The yards, then, for the accumulation of this kind of manure, should be so arranged as to permit no water to run off from them. If provender be scarce, then scrapings from the woods or ditches should be used to absorb all of the water which falls on them.

Should the bottom of the yards be sandy, clay should be used on it to prevent the water filtering through the manure. To sum up all in a few words:—*Sow gypsum, or copperas finely powdered, over the stable and barn yard manure, and let no water run off from it.*

Any farmer can easily, if he chooses, carry out all of these important directions.

*Lime*, neither quick, water slaked, nor air slaked, should ever be mixed with this kind of manure. The last can do no good, the other two will do very great injury to it.

The above directions are short, but they have at least the merit of being easily understood and carried out. When this is done, they are perfectly efficient to preserve this valuable substance from the slightest loss.

It is a much mooted question at present, as to whether this manure should be ploughed in with the crop or applied to the surface.

There is, and can be no general rule on this subject. To some crops it cannot be applied in the latter manner. The mode of application also depends on the degree of rottenness which the manure has undergone. When it is much decomposed and where its action is desired immediately, as on tobacco or corn, it is best to mix it thoroughly with the soil. Even when not thoroughly rotted, it is best to plough it under for tobacco. Tobacco land may be so manured, as always to retain its capacity for raising "bright tobacco:" such as is now produced on virgin soils or "new ground" alone.

One of the most respectable and intelligent planters in this State, by following out directions based on scientific principles,