

used with advantage as a top-dress for the young wheat crop; and with shell-sand, it is the general manure of the potatoe crop among the Western islanders. It may also be mixed with farm-yard manure or even with peat moss, both of which it brings into a more rapid fermentation. In some of the Western Isles, and in Jersey, it is burned to a light, more or less coaly powder, and in this form is applied successfully as a top dressing to various crops. There is no reason to doubt that the economical method is to make it into a compost with absorbent earth and lime, or to plough it in at once in the fresh state."

P O T A S H .

This substance in its pure state has been but little used in agriculture. It has the same influence as lime in rendering substances soluble, which may be present in the soil, but not in a form capable of being used by the plant, and in decomposing organic matter. It acts more speedily, and in much less quantities than lime, being very soluble. To soils that need it, and but very few of those which I have examined do, it should be applied in the spring. It is found very abundant in wood ashes, in the stalks, of corn, the grasses, wheat, oats, &c. These being generally consumed on the farm, and not exported, is the reason why a deficiency is so seldom found. I have not yet completed my observations in regard to this substance, as to the smallest quantity which is necessary to the acre, and therefore refrain from urging, except in a few particular instances, its application.

C H L O R I N E A N D S O D A .

I mention these substances together because when one is deficient in a soil the other is also, and so in the substance cheapest to supply either we find both; this substance is salt. It should be applied, when needed, in quantities of from two to four bushels per acre. It is most usually found deficient in soils of a loose porous texture, which are a great distance from salt-water. Besides supplying material for the straw, stalks and blades of grass, wheat and corn, it increases the weight of grain and proves destructive to many insects; it strengthens the straw and renders the wheat less liable to rust. As it can be purchased very cheap, (from fifteen to twenty cents a bushel, as a refuse from packing establishments,) it should be generally used on the wheat crop in places not adjacent to salt-water.

The above manures are those concerning which I felt it necessary to direct especial attention. I have mentioned many things which to some are already known; certainly I have introduced nothing but what all should know and understand.

In duly considering their constituents, it will be seen that they