

and 9th ribs, close to the cartilages, or gristle. Diuretic medicines, such as increase the discharge of urine, and tonics should be given. Turpentine combined with linseed meal; or powdered rosin in doses of half an ounce—nitre and digitalis—sweet spirits of nitre; and cream of tartar, have all been given as diuretics. The sweet spirits of nitre may be given in doses of three or four drachms or as many tea spoonfuls in gruel or water. The cream of tartar may be given in ounce doses, dissolved in water or gruel.

A NEW DISCOVERY IN AGRICULTURE.

Extracted from the London Phalanx, of Sept. 18, 1811.

"WE have before us some beautiful ears of wheat, which have been obtained by a new process of agriculture, i. e., without either tillage or manure, and from land of the worst quality. The straw is of more than ordinary length, and the grain is of the best quality. Some of our friends at Brest, who farm their own estates, being one day in conversation, observed to each other that agriculture, although the most important branch of industry, was suffering more from want of capital and enterprise than any other sort of industry, and one of them observed that nothing could be done without manure, and that was now becoming more and more expensive to obtain. On this, the conversation turned upon the relative importance of capital and science in obtaining agricultural results, when one of them observed that much might probably yet be discovered to facilitate production by a less expensive process than that of constantly applying artificial stimulants, which rendered agriculture a laborious, unattractive, and unprofitable industry. In continuing the conversation, they referred to Fourier's views of general progress, and his method of investigation and discovery, in which he quotes the maxims of philosophy which lead to truth in practice when attended to in

theory. Among these maxims are the following:

1. All things are perfect in original existence.

2. The duty of man is to observe nature, and follow her indications in production and re-production.

3. Not to suppose that man's knowledge is perfect, and that nothing can be known of nature beyond the common practices of daily life.

4. To leave the beaten tracts of prejudice, and follow nature in her various developements.

"In accordance with these maxims our rural philosophers observed that nature in the wild luxuriant regions of the earth is vigorous and active in the reproduction of vegetable life, while barrenness seems limited to spots where man has ravaged, and exhausted her resources in his vain endeavors to assist her in her efforts: and it then occurred to them, that probably a closer imitation of the natural method might be more productive and less unattractive in the sphere of vegetable reproduction.

"In observing nature unassisted, or unthwarted rather, by the hand of man, in vegetable reproduction, it is found that when the seed is ripe it falls upon the ground, and when the plant which has produced it sheds its leaves, or falls itself upon it in decay, and covers and protects it from the weather, until germination has commenced, and the young plant is able to grow up in health and strength, and full developement, to recommence the same routine of seeding and reproduction.

From this it follows that—

"In nature every plant produces its own soil, or humus; and, that—

"The earth, properly speaking, or the mineral substance of the earth, only serves to bear the plant, and not to aid or nourish it in vegetation. The nourishment of plants is thus supposed to be derived from *air* and *water*, *heat* and *light*, or electricity in different proportions, adapted to the different varieties of general nature.