

during the season, a height of some two feet has been attained. If the successive alternate layers have been thin, a great deal of subsequent intermixing will not be necessary, and this may be easily and cheaply accomplished by the use of a large plow attached to a yoke of oxen, beginning at the sides of the heap and plowing down successive slices of the mixture, using the harrow between each plowing, until a most thorough pulverization is accomplished. This may now be drawn off and spread from the cart or waggon in an even and perfect manner, being entirely free from lumps. Such a material as this is admirably fitted for preparing wheat land.

A western farmer keeps his yard perfectly clear of stable accumulations by drawing out every morning a waggon load when the team goes out to plow or to other work. This practice is pursued more particularly during the times of spring and fall plowing. In summer but little accumulates; and in winter there is little difficulty in keeping the coast clear. During the sharp frosts of winter, however, a difficulty exists in consequence of the earth being frozen and incapable of being applied in successive layers. Those who are so fortunate as to possess a drained muck, or peat swamp, may draw from it without hindrance any time of the year; but others may secure a supply of turf by the plan lately mentioned in the Country Gentleman, namely, plowing up a turfy or mucky pasture early in autumn, and piling the sods when dry like cords of wood, under a large coarse shed made for the purpose. These will become so free from moisture as to be easily used any time during the winter. But in the absence of either of those provisions, an imperfect substitute may be found in spreading a layer of old straw, chip dirt, &c., upon the manure.

This mode of forming the heap in the field possesses two especial advantages. The stable yard is at all times kept clear of those accumulations, which are never any ornament to the establishment, and which in wet and muddy weather are a serious inconvenience; and the manure being nearly accessible to the land requiring its application, it is drawn on and spread without that large consumption of time usually required at the exceedingly busy season of preparing for crops.

One of the largest and best farmers in the country, whose stables are arranged in an oc-

tagon, with the animals' heads towards the feeding room in the centre, saves a vast amount of labor by a covered cartway running round the whole, by means of which the stable cleanings are shovelled immediately into a passing cart, and drawn at once to the field without a single transfer or reloading; and it would prove of great advantage in all cases could the same provision be made for carting off the accumulations of stables without the labor of wheeling them first out into the yard, except in those instances already named where the fields are closely contiguous, and the materials for compost are as easily accessible here as at other parts of the farm.

We are by no means confident that we have pointed out the best mode for accomplishing the great saving needed in this laborious farm-process, but if we have afforded suggestions for further improvements, an important end will be attained.

FLAX CULTURE.

The Earl of Alhermale, as President of the Norfolk Agricultural Association, has called the attention of the members of the Association, and of the public, to the consideration of the question, 'How are the Agriculturists of Norfolk (and of England) to be supplied in future at a moderate price, with the necessary articles of linseed and oil-cake, if we continue at war with the chief producing nation of those articles?'

This is a question deserving consideration in England, which imported last year 94,000 tons of flax, of which Russia furnished 64,000, and also, 63,000 tons of hemp, of which Russia furnished 41,000 tons.

These importations cost, at peace prices, five millions of pounds sterling, and at present war prices, would be of the value of nine millions. Here is a premium on the growth of flax and hemp of four millions sterling. The Earl then proceeds to state other considerations which tend to make it obvious that flax might be advantageously raised at home. Such of these considerations as are applicable to the condition of things in America as to that in England, we shall submit to our readers with as much succinctness and brevity as possible.

One of the great merits of flax culture, according to the Earl of Albemarle, is the necessity for the exercise of skill in its cultivation. It is therefore a crop better adapted to the present advanced state of agriculture than it was in former times. As the present high prices of