

different places in the gulph, that proper trials may be made of its efficacy as a manure, to be communicated to the public, if it succeeds, recommending to those who may be employed to procure the Gypsum or plaster stone, to distinguish that which may have been exposed to the spray of the sea or overflowed by the salt water, from that which has never been wet but with the rain.

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### AGRICULTURAL OBSERVATIONS.

As the improvement of agriculture ought to be the object of every country, so the knowledge of every useful discovery should be communicated to the people :—the following extracts of letters, received from a gentleman of veracity, and a considerable farmer for many years in Pennsylvania, may therefore deserve particular attention.

*Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated Sept. 16, 1788.*

“ For the information of the farmers in Great-Britain, I acquaint you, that nine bushels of Plaster of Paris, ground fine, and sowed on grass-ground, proves in this country preferable to any other species or quantity of manure : on sandy or loamy land it answers best ; hundreds of our farmers make use of it. I have made experiments on upwards of fifty acres in different parts of my farm, and all have succeeded beyond any manure I ever saw. The spring of the year has been esteemed the best season for sowing it ; but I have sown it in March, April, May, June, July, August, and I know no difference in its effect. You will observe it is only a top manure, therefore must be sown on a sward of grass : it is peculiarly good for white and red clover : it may be broke by hand, and afterward sifted, but we stamp it, and then pass it through our mill-stones ; it must not be calcined. The effect is truly astonishing, and baffles both the farmer and the philosopher. An old field of mine, in which I had wheat last year, was sown with the Gypsum about ten days after harvest ; early in September I cut from it upwards of two tons of clover per acre, which was sown on the wheat in March. Pray prevail on some of your gentlemen farmers to make the experiment.”

*Pennsyl-*