

to act directly on the roots of the plants, without injuring them by being too concentrated. This is the great secret of the Flemings, by which they have converted poor sands into rich mould, and produced in the lightest soil crops of wheat as fine and heavy as we do in our best clay-loams. The total ignorance or disregard of the power of urine on vegetation cannot be better shown than by the fact that a large cow-keeper, near London, having built a reservoir for the urine of several hundred cows, thinking to make some profit by the sale of it, found so little demand for it, at a very low price, or even for nothing, that he destroyed the tank, and let the urine run into the common sewers, to add to the variety of rich impurities which daily flow into the Thames. A gentleman from Flanders, to whom this was mentioned, asserted that in his country there would have been many applications to contract for all the urine, at the rate of 2*l.* per cow per annum—a sum which would have amply repaid the cow-keeper for the expense of his tank, and put a large annual sum into his pocket. It is not that gardeners are not aware that urine is a rich manure, but they want experience in the management and application of it, and every Flemish farmer could teach him this, if he would: and a few experiments with common attention would enable any intelligent man to find it out himself.

It would be of little use to observe the various methods of cultivation in other countries, if we did not endeavour to apply them where it may be done to advantage. The practices of gardeners are always a good example to farmers, and wherever they can be introduced on a great scale they are always found highly beneficial; so the methods adopted by the small farmers, and by those who cultivate by the spade in Flanders, might be introduced on a much larger scale on light sands in England. Instruments may be invented by which the ground may be tilled as effectually as by digging, and much more rapidly. The subsoil plough, lately introduced, is an approach to a rapid method of trenching. The gradually mixing the subsoil with the surface is readily accomplished by its use. The manuring with liquid manure may be effected on a hundred acres as easily as on twenty, provided there be a sufficient number of beasts kept stalled to produce it. If one tank could not contain all the liquid, it is better to have several in different parts of the farm. There is nothing to prevent a man of capital from multiplying his farms; and if he applies the same quantity of labour, and keeps the same number of cows,