

light below with clay or planks ; and in autumn a thick layer of bog mud, or loam, should be placed on it, to absorb the drainings of the manure,

3. When the manure is drawn out to the field, it should be covered as soon as possible, either in the soil, or, if it must stand for a time, with a thick coating of peat or loam,—a pile of which should be prepared in autumn for this purpose. All unnecessary exposure should be avoided.

4. Where gypsum can be procured cheaply, it should be strewed about the stables, and on the manure heap for the purpose of converting volatile ammoniacal vapors into *fixed* sulphate of ammonia. This will also render the air of the stables more pure and wholesome.

5. It must be borne in mind, that the richest manures are the most easily injured. For example, many farmers think horse manure to be of little value. The reason is, that when exposed, it rapidly enters into a violent fermentation and decay, and its more valuable parts are lost. Such manures require more care than others, in protection and covering, so as to moderate the chemical changes to which they are so liable, and to save the volatile and soluble products which result from them.

6 The liquid manure should be collected, either in the pit or hollow intended for the other manure, or in a separate pit prepared for the purpose. The latter is the better method. If a tight floor can be made in the stable, it should be sloped from the heads of the cattle, and a channel made, along which the urine can flow into the pit. If the floor is open, the pit should be directly beneath it or, the ground below should be so sloped as to conduct the liquid into the pit. In whatever way arranged the pit should be tight in the bottom and sides, and should be filled with soil, or peaty swamp mud, to absorb the liquid. Gypsum may also be added with great benefit ; and the urine pit may very well form a receptacle for door cleanings, litter which may accumulate about the barn and every other kind of vegetable or animal refuse. These additional matters may occasionally be protected by adding a new layer of peat or soil to the top. The pit for liquid manure should be roofed over. A method much followed in Britain and the continent of Europe, is to collect the urine in a tank, and add sulphuric acid to prevent waste of ammonia. When used, the liquid is diluted with water, and distributed to the crop by a watering cart. This is too expensive for most of our farmers, but when it can be followed, it will be found to give an astonishing stimulus to the crops, especially in the dry weather of spring. Gypsum may be put into the tank, instead of sulphuric acid.—*Journal of Ed. and Agr. Nova Scotia.*

RAISING POTATOES UNDER STRAW

MESSRS EDITORS.—In the May no. (151st page) of your excellent "Cultivator" I requested your subscribers to try the experiment of raising potatoes under straw promising that I would do so and give the result. On the 8th June I put about half a bushel of very small potatoes in a corner of the field, on the sod, and covered them with about 8 or 9 inches of straw. A few days after we had rain, and the potatoes grew astonishingly, so that this fall I collected about a bushel of large and sound potatoes. I was obliged to take them up early, on the 5th Sept., as the field was cleared of grain and stock turned into it. Four persons of this county have tried the same experiment, and succeeded beyond their most sanguine expectations. This is certainly a cheap way of raising potatoes, and pieces of land, which, from stones or stumps, would be lost, are thus turned to profit N.—*St. M., Canada East.*