raised. Pouring it over the compost heaps is perhaps as good a way as any of disposing of it. To this tank, the urine and suds from the house, water in which vegetables are boiled, &c., should be conveyed. This is a branch of economy seldom attended to by farmers, and the consequence is, as much valuable manure is wasted about most houses as would increase the product of the farm to a great amount.

According to Liebig, 100 parts of human urine are equal to 300 parts of the fresh dung of horses; and we learn from the same high authority, that the liquid and solid excrements of an individual, annually, contain nitrogen necessary for 800 lbs. of wheat, rye or oats, or 900 lbs. of barley. We are hereby enabled to appreciate the industry and sagacity of the Chinese in preventing the loss of this valuable species of manure.—*New Farmers' Journal.*

SAVING CORN IN DAMP WEATHER.

To the Editor of the West Briton.

Sir,—A field of ripe oats, near Mutley, cut wet, and the weather continuing the same, was at last carried, and stacked in layers, with dry straw between. On taking abroad the rick, the grain was found in excellent condition, not sprouted, nor injured in the least; and what answered with so precarious a grain, as white oats, will stand a better chance with wheat or barley. When dry straw or reed is all used up, other dry stalks or even shavings might answer. But where, as will sometimes happen, nothing of the kind is to be had, there is still a method of drying the corn in sheaf. In Russia and the north of Europe this is done by kilndrying, for which a very simple method is described in Brit. Husb. vol. 2, p. 206, improvable in this country, by the substitution of coke for their wood fuel; but still liable to the charge of fuel, and of a person to look after the fire, and to the danger of a few straws falling in, and kindling the whole pile. In the laboratory we are in the practice of drying materials, which do not bear heat, by aid of substances having strong attraction for moisture; one of which, LIME, being largely used in manure, might be employed for drying the corn at no other cost than the labour. If the rick be made hollow, with the grain turned inward, a sufficient quantity of fresh quicklime placed within, and then all closed in from bottom to top, and covered over to exclude the external air, the lime will rapidly dry the air within, which will as rapidly draw moisture from the corn, and so continue until the corn is dry, or the lime saturated. And as quicklime will absorb about one-third its weight of water, a ton of lime will take between six or seven cwt. of water, and thus probably dry six or seven tons of corn and straw; for all this water must come from the corn, if the external air is well excluded, and the lime raised from the soil by a bed of stones, gravel, or straw. The lime must not, of course, touch the corn; and therefore room should be left for it to swell in slaking. The intelligent farmer will understand better than I can the details of construction of such a rick; I need only suggest that it might be best raised in the stack-yard upon dwarf walls, with an opening to throw in the lime, which should then be immediately closed up, but opened occasionally to turn over the lime. If the latter be all slaked before the corn is dry, it should be withdrawn, and a second quantity put in. The rick might be steadied, to bear the wind, by poles across the inside; or when dry, might be filled in, from part of the same, or other dry corn. Or it might be raised temporarily on the field itself, where it would dry the better for being based on a bed of dry straw.—Yours, &c., J. PRIDEAUX.

ON DESTROYING THISTLES.

To the Editor of the Mark-Lane Express.

Sir,—In reply to your young correspondent, who wishes to be put into possession of the secret for destroying thistles, I beg to inform him the only way to do so effectually is to *eradicate* them: but as there is some difficulty in doing this, owing to the nature of the root, I advise him to adopt my plans, with either of which I guarantee him success. As the perfect extraction of the root is next to impossible. I find the only way to deal with them is to be perpetually cutting them down whenever they make their appearance on pasture ground, which eventually so weakens the root, that it dies: or if they appear on arable land, the subsoil plough will do their business for them; which I can vouch from my own experience of this year.—Your young correspondent should pay particular attention to his hedges and dyke banks, at this season especially, to see the thistles there do not ripen and shed their seed, otherwise all his labour to keep them down in his fields will be endless, and produce nothing but mortification and disappointment. This circumstance is not sufficiently attended to by farmers in general. I remain, Sir, your obedient servant, SALOPIENSIS.

VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY IN SCOTLAND.—A volume recently published gives the annual value of real or heritable property assessed to the income tax in the year ending 5th April, 1843. This return, when compared with the returns of 1815, affords authentic data from which a good estimate may be formed of the progress of Britain in wealth during the last twenty-eight years. The property assessed is classified under twelve heads, which we insert with their respective amounts. For the sake of simplicity we omit shillings and pence, and on this account the aggregate sums do not exactly agree with the details.

	England.	Scotland.	Total.
Lands.....	£40,167,088	£5,586,527	£45,753,615
Houses.....	35,556,399	2,919,338	38,475,738
Tithes.....	1,760,330	—	1,760,330
Manors.....	152,216	—	152,216
Fines.....	319,140	901	320,042
Quarries.....	207,009	33,474	240,483
Mines.....	1,903,794	177,592	2,081,387
Ironworks.....	412,022	147,412	559,435
Fisheries.....	11,104	47,809	58,914
Canals.....	1,220,202	77,891	1,307,093
Railways.....	2,417,609	181,333	2,598,942
Other Property.	1,466,815	309,480	1,776,296
	85,802,735	9,481,762	95,284,497
The annual value of the property assessed to the income tax in 1815 was.....	53,495,368	6,642,955	60,138,323

The increase in the twenty-eight years, from 1815 to 1843, is greater than it appears in the table. In 1815 the tax fell upon all incomes above £50, while at present all below £150 are exempted. It might be supposed that there are few proprietors of land entitled to exemption on this ground, but Mr. M'Culloch estimates the number of landed proprietors in England at 200,000, and their average income at no more than £170, from which it may be inferred that a considerable number who were taxed in 1815 now pay nothing.—*Scotsman.*

TO FATTEN POULTRY.—The following will be found a quick and excellent food for fattening chickens. Set rice over the fire, with skimmed milk; let it boil till the rice is quite swelled out, then add a spoonful of sugar.—Feed them with this three times a day, giving them at once only as much as will fill them. Give them clean water or the milk of rice to drink. By this method the flesh will have a clear whiteness, which no other food gives; and when it is considered how far a pound of rice will go, and how much time is saved by this mode, it will be found to be cheap. A quantity of charcoal, broken in small pieces, and placed within reach of poultry, increases