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appropriate the fertilizing qualities of the manure ; but at this time care should be taken that it is more free from straw and other coarse matter, and it should be thoroughly pulverized so as not to be. in the way of the mower, tedder and rake. Another good time to top-dress, is just after the first crop is mown, but in this case it must be a fine compost, free from straw, and it would be well to go over it with a rake or bush in a day or two after it is spread to pulverize the lumps and spread it more evenly. If a rain falls at the time so much the better. But the spreading of manure, like all other work of the farmer, is subject to the action of the elements and weather, over which the farmer has no control, and hence no fixed rule can be laid down when or how to apply top-dressing, any more than any other work of the farm.

Let the farmer learn what he can from reading and observation, and then be governed by his enlightened judgment.

Farm-Yard Manure.

The results of preparing farm-yard manure in covered courts has been described by Lord Kin-naird. He observes :-- "I have no hesitation in recommending, as the result of a large practical experience, the adoption of covered courts in every point of view, whether for feeding in winter or soiling cattle in summer." He then gives the result of the trials with covered, and with uncovered prepared dung, on a field of 20 acres—a rich loam. Potatoes grown with uncovered dung—

Potatoes grown with uncovered dung-										
Tons.	cwt.	lbs.								
1 acre produced 7	6	8								
	18	99								
With covered dung-										
1 acre produced11	17	56								
1 " "	12	2								
The next year with wheat, the season produce was as follows, the stones be each. The wheat with uncovered dung	ing 2	t, the 2 lbs.								
Grain. Str	Straw.									
1 acre 41 bushels	2 stor	nes.								
1 " 42 "16	0 "									
With covered dung-										
1 acre 55 bushels	0 stor	nes.								
1 " 53 "		6								

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What Liquid Manure has Done.

The Husbandman gives the following instance of the fertilizing power of liquid manure :---

THE FARMERS' ADVOCATE

Flax vs. Corn, Oats and Wheat.

We call the special attention of our readers to the article below, from our friend, Mr. Watson. His figures can be relied upon, and show that our farmers are neglectful of their own interests by overstocking the market in cereals, not half as remunerative as flax, and allowing foreign growers to get away with \$25,000,000 of our hard money annually, for this production alone, though almost every part of the country is well adapted to its successful cultivation.

The last U. S. Agricultural Report shows that in 1876 the entire United States raised :--Corn, 1,-283,827,500 bushels, averaging 26.1 bushels per acre, at 37 cents per bushel or \$9.69 per acre; Oats, 320,884,000 bushels, averaging 24 bushels per acre at 35.1 cents per bushel or \$8.44 per acre; and Wheat, 289,356,500 bushels, averaging 10.4 bush-els per acre, at \$1.03.7 per bushel or \$10.86 per acre

Flax, which grows well on corn, oat and wheat lands (says the Columbus Flax Society), " is the best crop raised in Morrow county, Ohio, yielding \$27.08 per acre." Were flax as profitable in other counties as above, it would give double of wheat and thrice as much as corn and oats, annually adding millions to the country's resources

The United States annually imports about twenty-five million dollars flax and its manufac-tures. When will these baneful imports cease ?---Advocate, N. Y.

Clover on Grass.

I gave an account last year of my success in seeding a piece of sod to clover, the object being to fertilize the undersoil, and also as an experiment. The sod was a good one, made so by top-dressing, the land originally being very poor, so much so that, without aid, the grass would run out. I will here repeat what I then said. The clover was sown early, the usual quantity, and the roller passed over. In due time it sprouted and formed its leaves. But the grass, having the start, was too much for it and threatened to smother it, which it would have done without aid, as has often been demonstrated where old meadows are fesown. At this crisis the mower was passed over, cutting close to the ground. This took the grass, but left the little clover just discernible, which, now that the sun and air had full access to it. came right forward, added as it was by plaster, which affected the grass less. The grass, however, which was the stronger, required the second cutting, being a pretty dense crop. After this the clover had the field, though in one place where the grass was very strong and thick, it was neck to neck which should get the better. And this continued with some advantage to the clover through-out the season. In the fall a heavy growth was left for protection. And now for the present season. In the spring there was a fair start, the clover having the ad vantage, though the weather was unfavorab e early, there being a lack of moisture and warmth, old meadows particularly suffering, not altogether from the unpropitious spring, but also from close feeding in the fall. I should have stated that I gave the the sod with its coat of aftermath a dressing of road-dust late in the fall, which benefited it the present season. But it was not until after the first cutting, and a dressing of plaster freshly ground and of excellent quality was given, aided by timely showers and warm weather, that the growth really set in, and now there is a cloud of clover smothering the grass and the few weeds that strive for existence. Nothing can be finer than this—so acknowledged by all who see it – the roots of the clover penetrating the soil below. The clover is headed out, and I shall let it mature, so as to die out, giving the grass the benefit. I shall resow with grass early in the spring. The success of the experiment is so great, so decided, that I cannot refrain from recommending it. The soil was of the poorest, the grass kept on by repeated feeding, so that any land may be treated, the expense to establish the clover being the seed, rolling the land (so as to have the seed catch), and passing the mower over it; this last may be repeated if the grass is heavy and threatens to smother the young plant. If the ground is poor and the grass badly run out, a little manure will and the grass badly run out, a little manure will be required, to be harrowed in. This should be done in the fall, so as to have the ground ready early in the spring. I should have mentioned that the spot where the grass was heaviest, a mass of grass and roots resisting with some success the clover last year, is now to the eye all clover.

Nothing, it seems, can resist this vigorous plant if favored by plaster and good growing weather; the most obstinate quack has been subdued by it. There is another thing; clover thus introduced will have a lighter stam, being crowded, and with the grass mixed with it improves decidedly the hay made with it, as also the pasture. Who will give it a fair trial and report ?-Country Gentleman.

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Canadian Produce.

The London Telegraph, noticing some statistics of the export trade of Canada for 1876, says:-Though for several years universal mercantile: depression has operated in materially reducing imports to Canada, her staple exports appear to have augmented in a notable ratio. The proportion of the latter sent to this country was 52.78 per cent., to the United, States 36.95 per cent., and to all other countries 10.27 per cent. The culture of cereals progresses satisfactorily in the Dominion, and the total value of breadstuffs exported in 1876 amounted to \$19,804.331, showing a large increase on 1875. When the boundless prairies of the Saskatchewan valley are brought under cultivation, the supply of wheat, corn, peas, oats, and barley from that region together with Manitoba and the provinces bordering on the St. Lawrence, will be practically unlimited. The record of exports of dairy produce indicates a state of marked prosper-The prinflipal customer of Canadian butter is itv. Great Britain, which imported from the Dominion last year 9,571,177 lbs, and there was an increase of about 33 per cent. over the shipment of the same article in 1875. Of cheese 36,787,566 lbs. were exported to this country, and the shipment of the same commodity last year amounted to 14. 19 per cent. more than those of the previous year. One of the enterprises of the future in the Dominion is cattle, in which an increase is shown of 1,484 head; and it is expected that 1877 will witness an extension of the meat trade on a scale greatly in advance of any preceeding period. When we take into account the unrivalled physical advantages of Canada in rich and varied resources, and vast natural and artificial waterways stretching into the remote interior, and her situation in the line of a briliant destiny may be regarded as assured to. her.

AGRICULTURE OF ENGLAND .- At the Provincial Agricultural Exhibition of Noya Scotia the Hon. P. C. Hill thus spoke of the agriculture of Britain: -He held that agriculture was the bacis of all civilization, and a measure of its progress. England, while supplying half the globe with manufactures, still, notwithstanding her limited area, stands foremost in the value of her ag icu tural

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Mr. John D. Miller, of Southport, raised this year 4,500 pounds of mangel wurzels from a little plot of ground exactly four and a half rods in ex-tent. The best English crops are reported at 80 tons to the acre. It will be seen that the yield obtained by Mr. Miller is 821 tons. It was really something more, for in weighing the crop he made no account of the odd pounds above 75 bushels at 60 pounds each, the reported yield. There was enough excess to make, when multiplied by thirty-five and five ninths to bring it up to the acre, 83 tons. Full credence may be given to Mr. Miller's statement, for he does not merely use estimateshe gives the figures just as he finds them.

The treatment of the land is the chief point of interest in this case. In September, Mr. Miller had in his barn-yard a pool of liquid manure, which he very properly regarded as too good to be wasted; so he had it run on the small plot in manwasted; so he had to the on the small plot in main gels, with the result stated. The enormous yield was plainly due to that single application of liquid manure. The question now is—Will the yield on larger fields justify the expense of similar applications? Every farmer can decide the matter for himself. The lesson is worthy of careful thought, especially because Mr. Miller's statement is entirely reliable. It may be added that the variety of mangles was the ovoid, although it is not doubted that any other variety would feel the stimulus just as much.

At the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Manufacturers' Association, held 25th and 26th of October, the following resolution was carried :--That the great agricultural interest of Canada suffers grievous wrong through the present one-sided system of allowing American produce to enter our market duty free, while our produce has to pay heavy toll when entering the American market, and that justice to ourselves requires that we meet duties exacted on the other side of the border with equal duties on our side, no more and no less; also that the same measure of justice should be extended to our milling and mining interests.

products, the annual value of which is the write lions sterling (nearly \$15,000,000), double that of her textile fabrics, treble that of her for es, and four or five times that of her mines. he urged high farming, so far as regards fruit an grain growing, as essential to our progress, reuting a statement of the late Dr. Forester's, that wills d. owed her wonderful agricultural progress 1) ne. growth of turnips.

Practical Farmer on Phosphates.

We used to get phosphates in the East which, were made of bones, but now some of them seem to have very little bone in them. We value them more for a quick start of the crop; but when we at the same time long-continued results, we want either bone or else a phosphate that is made out of bone. In our former discussions here over our experience in using fertilizers we have settled down to about this conclusion: That the farmer who is settled on his own land had better use the best raw material he can get to put into his land, and let the elements in his land do the manfacturing of his phosphate or superphosphate, as you prefer to call it. In conclusion I would say to my brother farmers -buy good goods only and there will be less dis-appointment. My observation is that the fertilizers which are sold at the lowest prices per ton are in fact the poorest bargain. For my part I do not want to encourage adulteration in fertilizers by buying articles which are offered at less price than pure, honest goods can be furnished at. We had better buy a little of what we really need than large amounts of something our land or crops can-