

When he had made a beginning, and could already show his acres of land reclaimed, producing a heavy burden of grass, it was prophesied that it would not last—it would go back again, the coarse grass would appear, &c. But notwithstanding these prophecies and remarks, he still persevered, and now nearly the whole 30 acres have either been subdued, or so far drained, that the remainder to be done is comparatively small to what has been accomplished. He has already cut at least three miles of ditches, and so far drained it that most parts of it are accessible. Four acres were turned over with the bog-hoe the last season, and large piles of wood have been taken from the swamp, which had been burned perhaps for ages. Some parts of the meadow were scarified and seeded down to grass without being ploughed, and have produced good grass for a number of successive years. Sure enough the coarse grass had made its appearance in some spots, but this only indicated that the cold springs that saturated the soil had not all been reached and cut off, and it was found necessary to do over some of the work in a more thorough manner. Ditches were cut on the margin of the upland; the main branches were sunk deeper, so that the water was reduced a foot lower throughout the whole meadow, and at the present time, the greatest difficulties appear to be overcome, and the proprietor has the satisfaction of feeling that his labor has not been in vain, and the time is not far distant, when he will cut on every acre of this land $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons of good hay, that is to say, 75 tons, where very little was produced before. "But the expense is very great, and we cannot afford to lay out so much on our meadow," is the cry with some, and at the same time they will purchase upland, that at its best state, will not produce more than two tons to the acre, and pay at the rate of 75 or \$100 per acre for it. Now why not be at the expense of 50, or even 75 dollars per acre in reclaiming a swamp, which is not worth \$10 per acre in its original state, and that will never fail, when well done, rather than purchase the upland, that produces less hay at greater expense per annum than the meadow? By draining swamp lands, also, you abate a nuisance to the community, and cut off one of the sources of disease from the noxious vapors exhaled from their surface. We noticed immense compost heaps, in course of preparation for the upland, the materials of which were taken from the ditches, so that part of the expense of draining the meadow must be charged to improving the highlands.

As this gentleman keeps account of expenses incurred in draining the meadow, and as he is disposed to give the public the benefit of his experience, we shall be enabled, no doubt, at some future time, to publish the particulars of his operations.—*N. E. Farmer.*

COMPOST MAKING.—Joseph Mangle, in the *Boston Cultivator*, says:—"I conscientiously believe that no expenditure of capital can at all compare in profitable return with money put out at interest in the accumulation of articles with which to form compost heads. Every farm out to have three of these heaps, at the same time—one being formed, one just finished, and a third ready for carrying abroad after the necessary turnings and mixing and pulverisations, have been given to render the mass fit for the immediate food of plants; then it might be employed either as a top dressing for meadow or pasture lands, or be plowed lightly in for corn, grain, &c., thus adding a staple to the soil and operating at the same time

both chemically and mechanically; and no one would really believe the ease and facility with which about a couple thousand loads of compost could thus be collected together, if the business were to be regularly conducted through the whole year. But here is a statement which exhibits the fact in a light that strikes every one at first sight.

Suppose, then, a man and ox-cart should be employed for 250 days in the year, collecting bank earth, tussocks, leaves, weeds the parings and scrapings of highways, swamp mud, openings of ditches, and refuse articles of every kind, and to carry but six loads a day, throwing up the materials and spreading them completely over the heap at the close of every day's work. Why here would be an accumulation of 1500 loads at the year's end. And allowing 50 cents a day for the man, and as much for the oxen, the cost would be \$250 or 70 cents a load; carrying, mixing and piling included. Now if we consider that this enormous accumulation would be an addition to the means afforded by the barn and cattle yards what can more clearly prove, that capital so expended is money at compound interest? And again, if as the carts were emptied the mass were mixed with the stable manure, in the proportion of one load of dung to three loads of muck, &c., and after fermentation, the whole were turned over and pulverised, and mingled with a good solution of lime, why, the advantages could scarcely be calculated. And it may be inquired whether this mode would not be far preferable to sending the team many miles to town for a load of stable dung the cost of which and carriage would be equal to about 10 loads of this compost.

It may be safely laid down as an axiom, then, that the aforesaid man and yoke of oxen would yield more profit by their labor than any half dozen teams otherwise engaged on the farm.

Few persons are aware of the fact, that the oftener the compost heap is turned over and pulverized, the richer its contents become. To carry abroad muck from the heap before it has been properly amalgamated by frequent exposure to the atmosphere by turning and mixing, is to throw away more than one-half the profit to be derived from the system of composting."

HEALTH AND COMFORT.—To prevent cold feet, wash them frequently, and rub them thoroughly with a coarse cloth; this removes obstructions from the pores, and produces a healthy state which is conducive to warmth. When the feet appear clean, the pores may be obstructed and the perspiration impeded so as to produce discomfort, and in some measure injure the health.

To prevent cold feet at night, in addition to the above cleansing process, take off the stockings a short time before retiring, and with them rub the feet hard until they are not only warm but begin to feel hot. This will greatly add to pleasure and health, which, in many cases, greatly depend on things which may to some appear trifling.

To keep the feet dry, use good stout boots or shoes, and stuff the leather, upper and lower, full of some water-proof composition. Tar is a good ingredient, as it will bend and not break. Two parts of tar, two of beef's tallow, and one of bees' wax, make a good composition for boots and shoes. Apply it quite warm, and warm the leather that it may penetrate. As farmers are frequently exposed to wet, they should be careful to keep their feet dry and warm, for on this their health and comfort in a great measure depend.