

We mean by mineral manures, those which proceed neither from animals nor vegetables: such as plaster, lime, marl, &c. Lime, which is used chiefly to improve the soil, can be applied with advantage, either to mellow argillaceous soils, or to give more consistence to silicious land. Liming must be strong or weak according to want.

Baked or crude plaster is used as manure by applying it directly to the soil in artificial meadows, or as a stimulant, by scattering it at random on growing plants. In all cases, it should be well pulverized.

12. Object to be kept in view in the improvement of stock, and the best methods to insure success.

One should labor to improve live stock, for the purpose of having animals better adapted to the works for which they are designed, which yield the best and greatest quality of meat, and, for sheep, more wool, for cows, more milk.

To obtain the amelioration of live stock, it is important to have, in each county, fine reproductive cattle of middle stature, coming from countries similar to our own, and which the raisers can have at their will.

13. Choice of breeding stock;—care which should be bestowed on the sanitary condition of animals.

Cross-breeding is advantageous when the reproductive animals are well adapted to the country and climate, and of a breed whereof the maintenance is not too expensive.

The breeding stock should be moreover healthy, robust and well formed.

Domestic animals should be treated with kindness, receive healthy, abundant and well regulated food, be kept clean, finally, not submitted to excessive or useless work. Their habitation should be sufficiently spacious, high, dry and airy. Urines should be made to gather easily in a reservoir, or in the dung hole.

The number of live stock that should be raised on a farm, depends on the quantity of food that can be given to them, and on that of the manure which we need. In general, it is better to have only such a number as can be conveniently fed. The straw