

ers, in order that man may be able to effect destruction. He proposes burning the grass dry where no danger can result from the fire, and thinks an acre of them worth more to a hog than an acre of potatoes. The practice of draining will also suggest itself to you.

MANAGEMENT OF MANURES.

At the conclusion of his address, the subject of Manure was taken up, and the best mode of saving and applying, discussed by the farmers present. President Geddes said the result of his observation and experiments, was, first, that the manure yard should be so situated that none of the manure should run off; secondly, that there should be plenty of straw to catch all the droppings of the cattle; and thirdly, that the coarse manure thus made should be placed in piles with square sides, and flat or concave tops, to catch the rains. The straw, the heaps should be made as high as the labourer can easily pile them, to induce fermentation, and the tops should be *dishing* to receive water. In July, the outside should be cut down with a hay-knife, and the outside parts on the top, these being the only undecayed parts, the rest of the heap being already well decayed. The manure will thus be in good order for wheat lands, and will greatly assist the growth of the subsequent crop of clover. This is the best mode of managing manure on grain lands, where an abundance of litter is used for the cattle. He has now a stack of straw containing about a hundred tons, (last year it would have cost \$300 to the paper-makers,) and not cattle to work it down; to put this under shed would be simple folly—where there is little straw much dung, a shed may be useful. Where there is much sheep dung, it would fire-fang if covered. Dairymen will want a shed; grain farmers, who have much straw, corn-stalks, &c., do not. As for his own mode of farming, he does not thank any man for furnishing a shed, however perfect, even with a slated roof, for if the manure were under it he would have to cut it out, and it would be of no use. He prefers to apply the manure to wheat or grass: if used for corn, it fills it with weeds. He applies it to the corn before the wheat, and always drills in the corn, remarking, in passing, that although he is opposed to drilling, he was now “converted to the faith,” and thinks it the best and most certain way. If the manure is applied to the corn, the rains carry it into the soil; but if it is too deep, it is difficult to get up again. He thinks clover manure of the utmost importance. It gives a crop of corn that needs no hoeing or horse cultivation only. He has thus raised seven bushels to the acre, and the land was cleaner than in other fields with hoeing.

Clover also forms an excellent manure for other grain crops, oats, barley, wheat, &c. He has had wheat on clover sod at the rate of 33 bushels per acre for 20 acres, and regarded the clover as at the bottom of this heavy product. But he wants the manure in order to get the clover. He sows plaster on wheat, oats and clover, evenly by a machine, at the rate of two bushels per acre.

Moses Eames remarked that most farmers largely wasted at least half their manure, by not securing the liquid parts. He saves all in winter by keeping his cows in stables, and absorbing the liquid by litter. He thinks a load of this manure as efficacious as a load of plaster, and applied to meadows has obtained from them over three tons of hay per acre. He prefers to apply it in the fall, but never when the ground is frozen, as the rains would wash much of it away from his hilly land to that of his neighbors. He usually applies thus five loads of 40 bushels each per acre. He prefers to compost it with muck or earth, to render it finer and more friable, and insure its spreading. Fresh and wet, it does not spread evenly. He remarked that farmers might as well attempt to raise crops without manure as bankers to bank without money. His top-dressed meadows have yielded him this year 240 tons of hay, at about two and a half tons per acre. In one case, he had four tons to the acre, on grass land seeded from the fresh manure, the cattle having eaten hay with plenty of seed in it—no weeds were thus produced but thistles, and these were all killed by mowing the first year. He prefers to apply his winter manure in spring, and plow it in not more than three inches with a gang plow—if buried deep, he never gets “its strength up to the surface again.”

In answer to a question, President Geddes said his preference was never to apply manure directly to corn, but for avoiding weeds, to manure his clover, and put on corn afterwards.

— Andrews of Conn., said that farmers in that state had scarcely enough straw to litter properly their cattle, and he applied it in spring, in a green state, to corn, which was planted on ridges made by throwing two furrows together. The manure is wheeled out during the winter under a shed, piled up, and is ready for spring application. A drain from his yard carries the liquid manure to the meadow, and the irrigation thus given has produced heavy crops. He sows half a bushel of equal parts of clover and timothy per acre; and has found that thick sowing produces fine fodder for cattle, instead of the coarse feed resulting from thin sowing.

A gentleman whose name was not heard, had never found any evil result from drawing out and spreading his manure during winter—his land was not hilly, and the rains did not wash it off, on a frozen surface. He uses muck, peat-straw, and other refuse matter for his hogs, and makes from them over twenty loads of good manure yearly; and whenever the supply of