

To every one who gives the subject due consideration it must be evident that for two grand reasons, one as affecting public health, the other a matter of economy, it is absolutely essential to utilize human excreta by disposing of it in the earth.

The carbonizing process has not been very extensively tried. A Mr. Hickey, C. E., of Bengal Presidency, in 1859, proposed to carbonize sewage in retorts, either with or without previous admixture with charcoal. It is similar to the plan referred to in the last number of the *SANITARY JOURNAL*, now in use in Glasgow, and which was proposed by Mr. Sanford about the time of Mr. Hickey's proposal. The great cost of the necessary apparatus and the low price obtained for the resulting ammoniacal products, are said to have been unfavourable to the success of the plan in India. In Great Britain, however, Parkes says, it may be commercially successful; and, that "there can be no question that it is an excellent plan in a purely sanitary point of view." It does not, however, return to the soil that which has been taken from it.

This leads to the consideration of the third method of disposing of and utilizing sewage excreta, namely, that of employing it as a fertilizer of the soil. A good many manufactories have been established and carried on in different countries for manufacturing from excreta and sewage manure that would be easy of transport and readily applicable to the soil. None of them, however, appear to have been very profitable, and the works have for the most part been abandoned. In England, one manure manufacturing company was obliged to wind up partly by reason of actions for nuisances, on account of the effluvia created. Now if the excreta can be disposed of by the dry earth plan, or any of the dry methods, this difficulty will usually be in a large degree obviated; and then too the amount of sewage water will be very materially lessened and the sewage may be treated and manipulated with less expense.

The *Corentry Sewage Works* appear to have solved in a great measure the difficulty of disposing of sewage. The town