

tons per acre. It is almost equally good on all kinds of soil, sand, clay, or mould, but it shews itself soonest on sand. Its continuance is from six to ten years, according to the nature of the soil, like other manure. Many experiments have been made; half of a field has been sown with this plaster, and the other half covered two inches thick with barn door manure, and the plastered has been found most productive; on Indian corn the increase by plaster has been eight bushels per acre, by only putting one table spoonful on a hill. There is no kind of doubt but it will equally well answer the purpose on wheat, if sown in the fall, or early in the spring, when veget. on has commenced. The utility of this manure, and the cheapness of it, has in Pennsylvania depreciated the value of barn manure, as it is found much cheaper to put on this plaster, than to cart the manure from the barn to the fields. On cabbages and turnips it is equally effectual.

By the use of this manure the uplands, which were worn out, and from their sandy texture, were abandoned, have now become more valuable than the finest intervals, or bank meadow lands. In Pennsylvania, from sandy heights they annually cut two crops of grass, the first yields two tons, and the latter one; and after six years the produce has not abated.

You well know the lands in Pennsylvania, opposite to Trenton, which are naturally sandy, and soon worn out; those lands, from the use of the plaster, now give the above crop, and some of them have been plastered upwards of six years past, and there is yet no diminution of the product.

The plaster used in Pennsylvania, as procured from hills in the neighbourhood of Paris, and when pulverized and fit to sow, is worth two-thirds of a dollar per bushel; some has been used there that was collected at Nova Scotia, which was found equally strong and good, while other parcels that were carried from Nova Scotia, was almost unproductive. The reason most probably was, that it was taken from the surface, where, by being exposed to the frosts, atmosphere, &c. &c. it had lost its virtue. What the properties are that give it this amazingly vegetable and nutritious quality, I must leave to you and other naturalists and philosophers to discover; the facts I give you, and leave you to assign the cause.

I hope