

The manufacture of moss litter has been attempted at Musquash, in New Brunswick, and it is now being produced in Welland county, Ontario. From the latter locality I was supplied with several bales of the moss litter for experimental purposes, and Dr. LaBerge, of Montreal, undertook to superintend the carrying out of an experiment to determine its deodorizing and absorbent qualities. He reports that 100 lbs. of moss litter were sufficient for drying 800 lbs. of ordinary excreta from privy pits in Montreal, and rendering it entirely inoffensive. A sample of the product remained for days in my office without attracting notice and, indeed, it was quite devoid of odour. Its analysis gave the following results:—

	p. c.	Lbs. per ton.	at 13c.	Value per ton.
Nitrogen.....	1.31	26.2	at 13c.	\$3 41
Phosphoric acid.....	0.90	18.0	" 5	0 90
Potash.....	0.14	2.8	" 5½	0 15
Water.....	65.47			<hr/> \$4 46

The valuation of ordinary fresh barn-yard manure with 75 per cent of water is about \$2 per ton; with 67 per cent water as in the case of the average given above by Dr. Gossmann, the value is nearly \$2.25. Therefore, much better results might be expected agriculturally from a 'moss manure' of the composition just described.

Moss litter might also be applied with great advantage in public urinals. When a sample of it was supersaturated with urine and dried, and this process repeated several times, no offensive odours were developed and the product was found on analysis to contain 12.41 per cent of nitrogen, which is equal to a valuation of \$32.26 per ton.

These facts are reported in order to show that Canada possesses in her waste lands abundance of material which might be used in our towns and villages for the production of a very valuable manure, with the simultaneous introduction of very many sanitary advantages. It is not to be expected that cities or towns which are advantageously situated for the water carriage system, or which have already adopted it, will make any changes, but there are many towns and villages in the Dominion where the application of the moss litter system would be very suitable, and the authorities of which, by selling the product or giving it gratis to the farmers of the neighbourhood, might confer a great benefit on agriculture.