

meat are equal to 3lbs. of potatoes. This calculation is considered perfectly correct, and may be valuable in families where the best means of supporting nature should be adopted at the least expense.—*Scientific Journal, Dublin.*

**FARM YARD MANURE.**—The situation of the dung pit should be near the stables and cow-houses, and placed so low that all streams of urine should flow at once into it, so that nothing be lost. It may be 3 or 4 feet deep, and of a size proportionate to the stock of cattle usually kept by the farmer. It is not necessary that it should be built round with a wall, or have a perpendicular descent, as it may slope gently inwards, and deepen gradually towards the centre. It should, if possible, be covered by a roof, to prevent the action of the sun. If the bottom be found impervious, and capable of containing the juices, no farther trouble is requisite, and the work is complete; in many instances, however, it will be necessary first to puddle with clay, and then line the bottom with flag stones. Into this pit, earth, with refuse straw, should be brought and strewed over the bottom and sloping sides, to the thickness of from nine to twelve inches, and this will form an inferior layer to absorb all that portion of the liquid manure which naturally runs to the bottom. The pit is now prepared to receive all kinds of animal and vegetable manure, which when brought, should be always laid evenly over the surface. In Scotland, such pits are common, and in the course of accumulation, a young or wintering stock of cattle is allowed to go at large upon the whole; the animals being at the same time fed on a proper allowance of straw. Care is also taken to mix, in laying on, the dung brought from the cow house, stable and piggeries, so that the rich excrement of the well fed animals may be incorporated with that of a poor description from others. It is likewise of the utmost importance, though too frequently neglected, to convey to the pit the entire liquid refuse of the farm yard, provided the quantity be not so great as to make it advisable to have a separate pit for its reception.

It is customary to cart away the material of the dung pit at convenient opportunities (usually during the frosts in winter) to a place in the fields, near where it is to be used, and there pile it up in a quadrangular heap of about four feet in height. Dung carted out in this manner, is ready for the turnip husbandry in June, and the practice is otherwise convenient. It may, however, be stated, that for want of attention to principles already explained; such dung heaps, by exposure for months to the weather, must lose some of their valuable properties. In every instance, the dung heap in the fields should be placed in a hollow situation, with a substratum of earth, and should have a scattering of a few inches of earth over it, and around the sides, to keep in the volatile gases. When the dung pit has thus become emptied, it may again be progressively filled as before; and when it is carted out in any of the spring months, it will be found necessary to turn it once or oftener, for the purpose of accelerating the decomposition of the strawy part of the mass. It may be of use to know, however, that the dung required for fallows for wheat in autumn, may be less putrified than that for turnip crops.

**LIQUID MANURE.**—The urine of cats is of great value as manure, and this is so well known to the farmers of Belgium, that they use tanks for collecting the liquid from cow houses, and thence they pump it up and pour it over the land at the

proper season. When mixed with vegetable refuse, moss, or earth, it forms an excellent compost. It is deeply to be regretted that so little is known on this subject; and such is the carelessness of farmers, cottagers, that the urine from their cattle stalls is in most cases suffered to waste.—*Chamber's Information for the People.*

**CULTURE OF TURNIPS.**—*Mr. Brook*—Sir, I have seen several remarks in the Farmer lately, on the cultivation of turnips, and as they do not all agree with the methods adopted by us, I forward you our plan of operations. First, select a suitable piece of land, plough, cross-plough, and harrow well, so as to pulverize it thoroughly; then sow the seed far enough between the rows to allow the cultivator to work, for that saves much labour in the hoeing. We have a machine for sowing the turnip seed, that makes the drill, sows the seed, covers it up, and rolls it over. With this, a man can sow as fast as he can walk. The cost is very little, for a good smart carpenter can make one in a day. It is all made of wood, except the cylinder which holds the seed; that is made of tin, and it answers the purpose better than the patent machines which cost ten times as much, and have the extra quality of getting continually out of order. Now, as our seed is in the ground, we will wait till it is about 4 inches high, and then thin it all out, so as to leave a plant about every six or seven inches; if you leave more, the turnips will be small and not worth harvesting.

In gathering them, let two men begin with a row each, pull a turnip with each hand, strike them together, to shake off the dirt, and lay them down with the tops all one way, over the place where they were pulled. Then cut the tops off with a knife made in this manner: split the end of an axe-handle, and lash about a foot of the point of an old scythe in it, so as to leave the end projecting about six or eight inches. It wants to be just long enough to reach the ground without the operator's stooping. One man can cut the tops off in this way as fast as three can pull them. We then haul them to the barn floor, upset the cart, and push them down through small traps into the cellar.

In feeding out to milch cows, we chop the roots in a plank trough with a spade sharpened for the purpose.

This is for raising turnips in the cheapest and most economical manner, and they cost but half as much as the potato, at the same amount of profit. However, a farmer should not calculate upon one crop alone, because he fancies it is the most profitable alone, but some of one and some of another. Rotation is the word for farmers.—*N. E. Farmer.*

**PRESERVING TOOLS FROM RUST.**—To preserve scythes, sickles, reaping hooks, and other steel tools from rust after the season for using them, wipe them clean and dry, and hold them before the fire, and keep drawing them backward and forward until warm enough to melt wax; then take some beeswax and rub it all over. A half penny worth of wax will be sufficient for a scythe. Then put it in a dry place; it needs no covering. The usual method is to wrap a hayband round: but in the winter time this naturally attracts moisture, or the damp air strikes in betwixt the folds of the hay band.—*Farmers Magazine.*

**MODE OF INCREASING THE POTATOE CROP.**—An English writer says, by carefully removing the buds as they appear on the potatoe vines, the crop of large ones is very much augmented. The theory is plausible, and worthy a fair trial.