

sciable parts. On steep hill-sides, very leachy lands and over-wet clays, the practice would often no doubt, result in loss.

When the ground is locked fast with frost, the manure would run away with the water, that, unable to gain entrance, would flow over the surface in times of heavy rain. In the case of thin, sandy soils, there is danger that it will be washed down too deeply to have its desired effect. On steeply-sloping land, of course, the water of heavy rains would flow off, over the surface, and some of the manure would go with it.

To state the case simply: Wherever and whenever the water of rains and melting snows can find its way into the soil, the best way to use the manure of the stable, is to spread it broadcast over the surface, except on very light sandy soils. Where the inclination is too steep; where from springs or want of drainage, the water would be kept out of the soil and would flow away over the surface of the ground, such use, would, probably, be about the worst.

Where the snow lies so deep as to prevent the freezing of the ground, and where, as it melts in Spring, it will all, or nearly all, soak into the soil, it is a good plan to spread the manure upon the snow; but it is a very bad plan to do this when from the frozen condition of the ground, or from its rapid inclination, the melting snow would run over the surface.

The principle upon which the advantage and disadvantage of the practice depends, is, that the manure will go with the water in which it is dissolved. If it goes into a soil containing a fair proportion of clay and organic matter, it will be distributed in the best places and in the most complete manner; if it runs away over the surface, it will be lost.

Coarse, unfermented manure, should be spread upon the land before ploughing, and turned well into the soil, where its decomposition will be more rapid than if harrowed into the dry surface, while its best mechanical effect will be more completely and more lastingly exerted.

In the case of thoroughly rotted manure, although there are good arguments in favor of ploughing it in, I am inclined to very strongly recommend that it be spread upon the furrow—after rolling, if the roller is used at all; if not, after once harrowing, and then be thoroughly worked into the surface with the cultivator, Share's harrow, or common harrow. So treated, it will lie where the earliest roots of the crop will feel its effect, and its constituents will be more deeply covered.—*Handy Book of Husbandry.*

A LESSON FOR FARMER BOYS.

THE first and main step toward obtaining a competency of ten, twenty, or fifty thousand dollars, is the securing of one thousand; the chief difficulty in getting the one thousand, is in obtaining the first hundred and keeping it. Hackneyed as this may appear, it is a fact that is ever new, and one that ever needs to be drummed into the ears of the struggling millions who work hard, and look with straining vision, but in vain, for the coming of plentiful days. And especially does this homely philosophy of wealth need to be emphasized at the present time, and impressed upon the young men of this present generation, since the prevalent tendency, now more than ever before, is for begin-

ners in married or business life to adopt such a scale of personal and family expenditure as must render thrift impossible. The youth of our time seem likely to forget that easy circumstances in middle or mature age are, as a rule, only to be purchased at the cost of rigid self-denial in earlier years. The son and daughter are ambitious to begin life where their parents have off—in other words, they wish to reap where they have not sown, or before they have sown, and the result is, lives of make-shift, anxiety and failure. Most of those who are really industrious, and yet find themselves at the noon of life with only their daily efforts between their families and want, could have been in more comfortable circumstances had they early learned the lesson that the key to a competency lies in the practice of rigid economy at the outset of life.

He who does not begin to save when he commences life for himself, will rarely begin at all, for where not even the nucleus of a modest fortune has been early acquired, family expenses will, after a time, grow as fast as the income, and the two keep abreast ever afterward.

Some of the ways in which even a very small sum, actually saved and put aside in early life, serves as a stepping-stone to future competence, are these:

The saving gives the young man the reputation among his neighbors and business associates of being careful, frugal, and prosperous. It gives him what is called a good business credit. It is accepted as an index of his business character, and instead of his being forced to seek employment, opportunities seek him. Besides, his little ready capital enables him to take advantage of business openings which, if wholly empty-handed, he could not aspire to. It enables him soon to become his own employer—a most important consideration. Money begets money. Capital has a natural tendency to increase itself, and a very little capital in the hands of a judicious person, and combined with the labor of strong and skillful hands, is a vast help. The day laborer or the mechanic who has a few hundred dollars in the bank, or invested in a good interest-bearing security, is a capitalist as well as a working-man, and is prepared to reap the advantages of his double capacity.

But mainly, the saving and keeping of the first hundred or the first thousand dollars, is the key to future success, from the fact that it builds up business character; it compels the formation of habits of economy, and fixes them for life; it puts the young worker on the right road, accustoms him to keeping out of debt, drills him in the homely science of keeping his financial matters snug, and builds up a granite determination to force expenses below income.—*N. E. Homestead.*

A THREE ACRE FARM.

Ten years ago, an Irishman—who for short, we will call St. Nick—bought three acres of land, for which he paid, with a one-story new house thereon, four hundred and fifty dollars—counting the tenement three hundred and seventy five, and the land the balance.

Hiring a pasture, he purchased a cow, and with serene faith began to work in his new bought soil. It was worn out; a poor pasture: it would not summer