and he would gladly sell it and "move to the West." He wonders why he does not get along as well as his neighbor Thrifty, whose buildings are painted, whose barns and storehouses are full, and whose cattle cover the surrounding hills. He works as hard as his neighbor, but after all, things will go the wrong way with him. He is short of money and wishes to borrow, while Thrifty always has some to lend—to every body but him.

Now, there is neither poetry nor caricature in this representation, but simple, sober truth; and if it should chance to fall under the notice of any tiller of the soil, who is conscious that he sat for the picture here sketched, I would in all seriousness ask him, whether his want of success is not to be attributed to his following *the beaten track of his fathers*? Do you not cultivate the acres they did, *in precisely their way*? Have you taken the pains to inform yourself, whether some at least of the alleged improvements in farming of the present day, are not real, substantial improvements, and worthy of your imitation and adoption? Do you take, pay for, "read and inwardly digest" the "*New England Farmer*," or some other agricultural Journal, and keep yourself always well posted up, in regard to the progress which agriculture has made, within the last twenty years?—*New England Farmer.*

HOUSE ASHES.

The value of house ashes as a stimulant of vegetable life, is now happily too well understood to need any illustration. On corn, wheat, garden vegetables and root crops in general, the highly beneficial effects of wood ashes, have probably been witnessed by every one. In compost, they are also of great value; and as a top-dressing for grass land—especially where the land is cold and inclines to the production of moss, or has become "bound out," ashes are of the greatest service. In the cultivation of fruit trees, no application is of greater efficiency or productive of more immediate or obvious results.

The effect of (steeped or washed to take out the lye) leached ashes upon the crop may be as good, perhaps, for one or two years as that of the unleached, but it cannot be as permanent, as most of the potash is washed out by the process of leaching. "Wood ashes may be used to advantage to almost every class of crops, but especially as a dressing for grass, grain, millet, and Indian corn; but they are the most perceptible upon leguminous plants, such as clover, peas, beans, &c. As a top-dressing to grass lands, they root out the moss, and promote the growth of white clover. Upon red clover their effects will be more certain if previously mixed with one-fourth of their weight of plaster.

But there is a remarkable difference in the quantity of potash produced by equal weights of different trees and plants. In Sir HUMPHREY DAVY'S Lectures on Agricultural Chemistry, we find a table showing this difference in several kinds of trees and plants, which we give below as a matter of interest to the curious. Potash was once called "salts of wormwood," and the reader will perceive that the name was not inappropriate when he notices that while the oak has only 15 parts in 10,000 of potash, wormwood has 730.

	PARTS OF POTASHES.
10,000 parts of the poplar produce	15
beech	12
elm	15
oak	39
vine	55
thistle	53
cow thistle	195
bean	200
wormwood	730

There is no doubt, now, among any agricultural people of the great value of ashes as a fertilizer. It was held in as high estimation among the Romans, and the ancient Britons, as it is at this day. A German counsellor, HERRESBACHIUS, in his *Treatise on Husbandry*, published in 1570, tells us that "in Lombardy, they like so well the use of ashes, as they esteem it farre above any dung, thinking dung not meete to be ised for the unholsomnesse thereof." Their use as a manure is also very general in England at this day.

With this concurrent testimony, therefore, of the value of ashes, we hope to see less of it in the gutters and highways, and more upon the gardens and fields.

CARROTS FOR HORSES, MILCH COWS, &c.

BY ONE WHO HAS HAD THOROUGH EXPERIENCE.

The value of the carrot, as an article of food for horses and milch cows in winter and spring, is very far from being universally appreciated, else its culture for that purpose would be more general. There is nothing grown by the farmer that yields more abundantly in proportion to the labor, nor is there a production of the soil that will furnish a greater amount of nutriment to the acre than this root, for the use above named. They are a most admirable food for horses, in winter and spring, as they possess the peculiar qualities necessary to promote health and vigor in the animal, during the period of the year when there is no grazing. They are, indeed, they best of the known substitutes for grass, as regards horses; and if given in sufficient quantity, with as much straw and salt as the horse chooses to consume, will keep him in as fine condition in every respect. A medium sized horse requires, from two to three pecks a day, when standing in the stable, and an additional peck when put to labor; though if the labor be very severe and constant, corn meal may be profitably added. (*a*.) One hundred and eighty days, or from Nov. 1st to May 1st, is the average time during which there is no grazing. A horse will, in that time, if put to hard labor, and fed upon straw and oats, consume at least ninety bushels of the latter, or half a bushel a day; and thirty bushels per acre being an average yield, it requires three acres of ground to produce the amount. Now for the carrots. One thousand bushels per acre is less than an average crop when properly cultivated, though I have grown at the rate of two thousand, on highly manured ground, and two bushels of them contain rather more nutriment than one of oats; therefore less than one-fifth of an acre of carrots is equal to three acres of oats. The expense of tillage for this fifth of an acre is about the same, all told, as for the three acres of oats. It also requires about double the labor to feed them, that it ordinarily does grain, as they should be chopped or cut, with a knife, in small pieces, for feeding. But this additional labor, together with the extra cost of enriching the soil, beyond the usual condition of oat-ground, is but little in comparison with the more than *fifteen hundred per cent. increase* of nutritious matter on the same quantity of land. Carrots are almost universally a favorite food with horses; but should one refuse them at first, an appetite is soon cultivated, and he devours them greedily. The effect of carrots upon horses, always is, when fed liberally, a bright eye, a glossy coat, and an energetic, healthful appearance.

As a regular food for milch cows, through the winter and spring, carrots are very valuable. They increase the flow of the milk, give it a delicious flavor, and always insure yellow butter in a *legitimate way*. They are without doubt, preferable to any other root, all things considered, for cows giving milk through the winter, or for new milch cows before grass. They are said to fatten on them, when boiled, much faster than on potatoes, and sheep are usually very fond of them.

Carrot tops, fed to horses and cattle in November and December, are worth their weight in good meadow hay, and an acre of them is equal to half an acre of ordinary meadow. (*b*.)

When the enormous yield of this root, and its value as a healthy diet for stock in winter is duly considered, it is somewhat surprising that its culture is so generally neglected, especially by those having a few acres. Every farmer and kitchen gardener knows how to raise a bed of carrots for family use, and they have only to enlarge their space and apply the additional labor to extend the benefit to the yard and stable, and throughout them to their own pockets.

Phil. Dollar Newspaper.

REMARKS.—(*a*) "Two or three necks a day" would probably "scour" any horse so that he would be unfit for labor in one week.

The clovers are not legumes but a distinct germ.—ED.