

courged because the operation was not completed in a day. For large whole bones two months is often required for the complete solution, and it is better not to try to dissolve the whole. Keep the liquid filled with them, and the portions undissolved can be used in the next batch.

To use the liquid, pour it off from the remaining bones and mix it with a large quantity of dried muck, or dry swamp mud, pulverized. Almost any kind of earth, except sand, will answer to dry the liquid with, and sand might be used. The more dark colored vegetable matter it contains the better. A cart load of earth to a bushel of bones, dissolved, will be better than a smaller quantity, though one fourth of this amount may be used. Mix the mass thoroughly together and work it fine with a shovel, hoe and rake. This may be done on a floor, or on a hard ground surface. When finished, pack away into barrels or boxes to be used weeks or months afterwards.

We know of no better manure than a material prepared in this way. It is better and cheaper than any fertilizer you can buy, not even excepting Peruvian guano. It can be applied in the hill or drill, with all kinds of seed, and will speak for itself. If the dissolving process be continued until the acid is all used up, and plenty of earth be thoroughly mixed in, there is not the slightest danger of its injuring seed or tender roots, though placed in direct contact with them.

The Potato Rot of 1857.

MESSERS. EDITORS—We are well aware that, after all that has been said and written upon the causes and means of prevention of this disease, we are still lamentably deficient in such a knowledge of it as may be relied upon, or made the basis of

effectual efforts to arrest it. That the fruit of a dozen year's observation and speculation should be of so little value is truly discouraging. Some are so much discouraged, indeed, as to turn from all investigation of this subject with utter hopelessness, as if they believed that Providence had purposely placed a true knowledge of the causes and cure of potato-rot beyond the reach of the most prying and persevering researches of man. We cannot, however, see any good reason for such an amount of discouragement as this. The researches of the past have not been entirely without some valuable and well established results; and the general neglect of accurate observations, and of a strict logical method in arriving at conclusions, is a sufficient explanation of the little progress which has, as yet, been made in the attempts to discover the causes and the means of preventing this vegetable pestilence. We cannot yield our assent to the assertion that the knowledge sought is beyond the reach of the human faculties, and that all observing and recording of facts, are of little or no avail. We cannot but cherish the hope that more accurate and unbiased observations, and a more logical method of arriving at conclusions, will eventually lead us to as correct a knowledge of the potato fungus as we have of other diseases, whether animal or vegetable.

With this apology for venturing to present to you and your readers any addition to the vast amount that has been said and written upon this subject, we proceed to submit a summary of certain observations which have been made as to the phenomena of this disease, as it has presented itself in Great Britain during the present year. There, as here, the potato disease has very extensively prevailed, and assumed a very virulent form. The general features and