

T. H. HOSKINS, Newport, Vt., Editor.

More Light on Fertilizers.

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When the chemists began to study this subject of plant-food—that is, of the things found to be useful in promoting the growth of vegetation—they went to work and took all these substances apart (that is, they *analyzed* them), to find what they were made of, for they were all compounds. They found that animal dung, which is a complete restorative of worn soils, contains chiefly three things, called PHOSPHORUS, POTASSIUM and NITROGEN. The first we have all become familiar with, because it is used to top matches. When pure, it is a white, waxy-looking substance, which is so inflammable that it has to be kept under water. When phosphorus burns, there arises from it a thick, white smoke. This smoke is really a fine, white powder, and is called PHOSPHORIC ACID. Phosphoric acid, if it is placed in contact with lime, will unite with the lime, and form a compound called phosphate of lime. In fact, it will form three different compounds with lime, and the more lime there is in the compound, the slower it will dissolve in water.

**Sabin's and Cutting's Reports on
Commercial Fertilizers.**

Secretary Cutting has published, with remarks, Chemist Sabin's report of analysis made of the fertilizers sold in this state. It appeared on the last page of the issue of THE WATCHMAN of April 16. Professor Sabin analyzed only a part of the samples, being prevented from finishing his task by sickness in his family and increased work. He estimated the nitrogen by a method which does not give the nitrogen present as nitrates, although this must be unfair to those makers who use nitrate of soda as the source, in full or in part, of the nitrogen in their fertilizers. Professor Sabin says this is "the common method." It certainly is not the method of the Connecticut Experiment Station, which in its report for 1883 gives in separate columns "Nitrogen of Nitrates," "Nitrogen of Ammonia Salts," and "Nitrogen of Organic Matters;" and this is the way it should be done. In the Quinipiac Fertilizer Company's Fish and Potash (Crossed Fishes brand) a considerable portion (1.38 per cent) exists as nitrates, and the same is true of the Mapes Complete Manure for light or sandy soil, and several other fertilizers on the list.

In the above remarks we have chosen to take Bradley's XL as a text, because it is the favorite fertilizer in this state and in our opinion the most uniformly made of any that has been sold here through a long series of years. With Dr

Railroad Injustice.

Corporations have no bodies to be harmed and no souls to suffer, yet they are sensitive to public opinion when it rises in its strength and makes itself heard and obeyed in legislative bodies. Generally, legislatures are "managed" by the railroad "strikers" who are hired for the purpose, but a legislature fresh from an aroused people is a different thing. They are finding it out in New York just now, and next fall they ought to find it out in Vermont.

Bowker's Fertilizers.

This analysis agrees closely with Professor Sabin's, and so far confirms the statement that the goods sold in both states are of identical composition. Mr. Bowker assures us that "as we have bu-

A Horticultural Society.

One of our postal card correspondents (and if you have no time to write more, your postals are always welcome), says, speaking of the proposal for a State Horticultural Society: "I hope we shall have one, for thousands of dollars are paid out in Vermont for worthless or unsuitable trees and plants which might be saved if one-tenth the money were spent in contributing to a society that would keep us posted." This is very true. Michigan as a fruit-growing state is an example of what a horticultural society can do for the people. Its orchardists, who formerly planted hit or miss in the selection of fruit, and filled up their ground with unprofitable varieties, now have the collected experience from all parts of the state as to what is best. The tree peddlars take vast sums of money out of Vermont that the farmers can ill spare, for worthless stock. In the village of Barton Landing, a few years ago, one peddler took \$600 for apple trees of sorts that were practically worthless.

New Advertisements.

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The children need the aid of a reliable Spring medicine as much as adults. The warm weather has upon them an equally depressing effect, which slight vexations and hard study at school aggravate, making them nervous, cross, and fretful. Pimples or scrofulous humors are apt to manifest themselves, adding discomfort to depression. Hood's Sarsaparilla has in thousands of cases proved a boon and blessing to suffering children, expelling all trace of scrofula from the blood, toning up the body, and giving to the digestive organs healthy and regular action.

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"Last Spring my two children were vaccinated. Soon after, they broke all out with running sores, so dreadful I thought I should lose them. Some one spoke to me about Hood's Sarsaparilla as a purifier of the blood. I bought a bottle and gave it to the children. Soon as they began to take it, they began to get better, till it cured them completely; and they have remained so ever since." Mrs. C. L. THOMPSON, West Warren, Mass.

"Hood's Sarsaparilla tones up my system purifies my blood, and seems to make me over." W. J. BLAIR, Corning, N. Y.

Mr. J. N. Ketchum, of Barre, Vt., says that his boy had several very ugly scrofulous sores on his leg. Hood's Sarsaparilla cured him.

Purify the Blood

"Hood's Sarsaparilla did me a great deal of good. I had no particular disease, but was tired out from overwork, and it toned me up." Mrs. G. E. SIMMONS, Cohoes, N. Y.

"About a year ago I commenced taking Hood's Sarsaparilla. I was all run down, had no appetite; my food would not digest, and I was troubled with nervous debility. On taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I commenced to feel the effects of it at once. Have now taken four bottles and can say I feel like a new man." J. H. McCALL, Rochester, N. Y.

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