

—that all things being alike, as regards shape, texture of skin, &c., cows with well developed escutcheons, will in a large majority of cases, be found to be the best milkers, and above an average; while on the other hand, those with very small escutheons, will be found under, or at most, not above an average in their milking properties.

In calves the escutheons show the shapes which they are afterwards to assume. They are more contracted only because the parts which they cover are slightly developed. They are easily perceived after birth, but the hair which forms them is long, coarse, and stiff.—After this hair falls off, the escutheons of calves resemble those of cows, though of less size. This will enable the farmer to save such calves as will probably serve him as good milkers.—*Farmer and Planter.*

#### AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE—MANURING.

It has been taught by Professors of Agricultural Chemistry, and apparently on reasonable grounds, that the very worst way to apply manure was to spread it out on the field and leave it exposed. It was argued that this exposure caused a loss of ammonia by evaporation, hence farmers were taught to plow their manures under as soon as they were spread upon the soil, under the penalty of losing a great deal of their fertilising properties. An essay on this subject, by Dr. Voelcker, Professor of Chemistry, in the Royal Agricultural College, at Cirencester, England, contains statements that will surprise our farmers. He asserts that no loss arises from spreading manure on the surface of a field; on the contrary, he asserts, that if spread upon the field and allowed to lie until it is washed with rains, it is more beneficial than to plow it in at once. When spread out on a field, fermentation is stopped, and volatile matter ceases to escape. In the case of clay soils, he remarks, "I have no hesitation to say, that the manure may be spread even six months before

it is plowed in, without losing any appreciable quantity of manuring matters." This is important information to our agriculturists, if correct.

The foregoing is from the *Scientific American*; but we are pleased to say, that the statement of the "Professor of Chemistry" will not surprise our farmers. The system favored by Dr. Voelcker, is not new here in Pennsylvania, at least it is a good deal older than the Doctor's lecture. It has been pursued here, as we have repeatedly stated in our columns, for a number of years, by our best farmers, who are convinced, by careful experiments, that the application of manure broadcast, in late autumn, to the ground intended for spring crops, is better than any other mode of application. It produces larger crops as a rule, and leaves the land in better condition for succeeding crops. A communication in our paper last week refers directly to this mode of manuring. The *S. A.* is "behind the light-house" for once.—[*Editor Telegraph.*]

#### BLACKING FOR HARNESS.

Melt four ounces of mutton suet with twelve ounces of beeswax, and twelve ounces of sugar candy, four ounces of soft soap dissolved in water, and two ounces of indigo finely powdered.—When melted and well mixed, add half a pint of turpentine. Lay it on the harness with a sponge and polish off with a brush.

ANOTHER RECIPE.—Take three sticks of the best black sealing wax, dissolved in half pint of spirits of wine; to be kept in a glass bottle, and well shaken previous to use. Applied with a soft sponge.

Another receipt for black varnish is the following:—Best sealing-wax half an ounce; rectified spirits of wine, two ounces; powder the sealing-wax, and put it with the spirits of wine into a four ounce phial; digest them in a sand heat or near the fire, till dissolved. Lay it on warm with a fine hair brush. Spirits of turpentine may be used instead of spirits of wine.