

## FERTILIZERS.

**Potash for the Peach Yellows.**

On the 4th of February last Mr. J. H. Hale, of Connecticut, read a paper before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society on the Cultivation and Diseases of the Peach. With regard to the points of careful cultivation, annual shortening in of the young wood, etc., nothing was elicited that is new to us; but it is worthy of notice that in his experience muriate of potash had proved almost a specific cure for the Yellows. That part of his orchard treated to liberal doses of this fertilizer was free from the disease, while that not so treated was sadly affected. Indeed one tree which was sick with the yellows, was cured by it. He applied 10lbs muriate of potash, and five pounds of nitrate of soda, and in the following spring cut back the top one-half, and as a result, by the month of August this tree was the pride of the whole orchard. He said further: As to the yellows, the advice generally given is to exterminate the tree as soon as the disease is noticed. Yet in the case of a tree of his own, the essayist would no more think of cutting it down than he would a friend who had malaria—a disease of which the doctors know as little as we do of the yellows, yet they brace us up with quinine, and we are able to go on and do a portion of our share of the world's work. A tree affected with yellows is sick—not dying—and should receive the treatment which has been before described as having proved an apparently effectual remedy.

**Clear Potash as a Fruit Manure.**

I HAVE used within the last few years a good deal of potash in connection with the trees in my orchard, usually buying it by the cask for this purpose. I simply break the potash into small pieces, not larger than egg size, using about eight pounds to an average sized tree—which is equivalent to two bushels of good unleached ashes—scattering it upon the ground about the tree, in a circle extending half way from the trunk to the extremity of the branches. When this is done in the fall or early spring, the rains and snow dissolve the potash, which will be absorbed and spread through the soil, thus bringing the fertilizing properties directly to the small roots of the trees without the slightest injury to the vegetation. The future crops will show remarkable results, both in quantity and quality of the fruit. In 1885 my trees bore, as did everybody's that year, a heavy crop of apples; and again this last year, I have had, what few others had, a crop nearly as large as the previous year, which proved of a remarkably fine quality both in appearance and freedom from decay. This I can only attribute to the free use of potash on the soil about the trees, proving, I think clearly, what has been so often asserted, that potash is a fertilizer essential to the growth of fruit. It has been very efficient in my orchards, more so than anything else I have used. One pear tree which for a long time had small and imperfect fruit, the spring following the application of potash produced pears of extraordinary size and singularly free from blemish. I esteem potash as admirably adapted to all kinds of fruits, large and small.—*Farm and Home.*