

*Causing Grafts to take Root.*—Mr. A. J. Downing, an able and experienced horticulturalist of Newburg, N. Y., recommends, in the *Magazine of Horticulture*, a mode formerly practiced, of causing grafts that were put into stocks near the ground, to throw out roots. He says when this is well done, the roots of the stock decay, become decomposed, while the graft becomes a tree on its own roots, and much more likely to endure a greater length of years than a common graft. He observes that at the time of planting the trees, the grafts should be inserted a few inches below the surface of the soil.

Two or three years afterwards, during summer, and at the time when the descending sap is most abundant, which is usually in July, the earth should be removed at the foot of each tree, so as to lay bare the swelling of the graft; after which several incisions should be made with a sharp gouge raising up from below several tongues of the thickness of the bark and alburnum.

This operation will give them a concave form, of which the length will be at least double of the width. These incisions should be multiplied according to the size of the trees upon which the operations are performed; but more than a quarter of the bark should never be removed. These wounds should be immediately covered with the richest soil; one-fourth cow manure, to three-fourths of fresh loam, well mixed, is the best and simplest application. One or two shovelful are sufficient to cause the tree to throw out a large quantity of roots, which, shooting down into the natural soil, sustain the life of the roots during a considerable time.—*Maine Farmer.*

#### CANKER WORM, AND CHEAP REMEDY.

Mr. Editor,—For several years past some of the finest orchards on the banks of the Ohio have been rendered totally valueless by the destructive ravages of the canker worm; orchards which have heretofore yielded an income to their proprietors of from one to two thousand dollars per annum, not producing enough fruit for family use. These worms are extending rapidly, and many orchards some miles back from the river are this year affected. The means of prevention heretofore recommended, if they would answer at all, are so troublesome and expensive as to render their use out of the question in large orchards.—In a recent conversation with J. C. Eggleston, Esq., who resides six miles below Vevay, and

whose orchard of forty acres of apple trees has for the last four years been stripped of every leaf, and bud in spring by these worms, he informed me that a neighbour of his, Mr. John F. Cotton, has adopted a method of preventing their ascent, of easy application and trifling expense, which promises to be perfectly successful. It is this: A roll, or bat of wool, evenly carded is applied round the body of the tree and tied tightly to it, by applying a twine carefully all round on the middle of the roll. The wool above and below, rises above the twine; and thus it is buried and hid in the middle of the roll. Mr. Eggleston says he visited his neighbor last spring, and with him carefully observed the result. The worms crawl up the tree until the roll of wool is encountered, then making persevering efforts to push through it, but failing in this, they carefully hunt all round for a gap through which to pass, and finding none, they will not retreat, but get as close under the wool as they can, and there deposit the egg.

This remedy, to be perfectly successful, must be applied about the first of November as some of the worms ascend at that time, but most of them in February and March. Mr. Cotton applied the wool to his trees in February. Some worms had ascended previous to that time, but not enough to destroy all the fruit on the trees. The trees in the same orchard to which the wool was not applied, are entirely braven. Mr. Eggleston intends applying the wool this fall to his whole orchard, and expects by this simple expedient, to entirely save his fruit in future from the ravages of this insect.

He has carefully observed the habits of the insect for the last three years, and compared his own observations with those of Professor Peck, and coincides with him in every particular save one, which is, that according to Prof. Peck, this worm does not enter the ground at a greater distance from the tree than about three feet, whereas Mr. Eggleston finds them entering the ground as far out as the limbs extend. After eating the leaves and buds, they let themselves down to the ground by spinning their thread for that purpose, and enter the earth at the place where they first touch it.

If persons whose orchards are infested with the canker-worm, will adopt the method of Mr. Cotton with care, I doubt not that in time the insect will be exterminated. The eggs hatching on the trunk of the tree where there is nothing for