

may answer for a while, but it will decay, and cannot be permanently depended upon.

As an experiment, without risking any large outlay, we would suggest for the consideration of our correspondent, to lay in, during the approaching summer, two drains across the upper portion of the field, one at the juncture of the clay and sand; and the other at some fifty or sixty feet distance, as deep into the sand as the outfall and other circumstances will admit; using the precautions above stated for protecting the drain by clay, &c. By carefully observing the action and effects of these two drains for a couple of seasons, some judgment might be formed of their relative efficiency, and adaptation to the case in question. Pipes, of not less than 3 inches diameter, with a good fall, would be the best form of material to be employed. The month of August, when the ground is generally in the driest state, is the most favorable time for draining quicksands. If the water prove troublesome, the drain can be deepened by degrees before putting in the pipes, giving time for the water to drain off, and taking care, when necessary, to protect the sides against slipping in. If these few hints shall prove of any service to our correspondent, and lead to any practical result hereafter, we shall feel obliged by his communicating the particulars.—*Ens.*]

CULTIVATION OF FRUIT-TREES.

(For the Canadian Agriculturist.)

It is a fact that must have attracted the attention of every person who has travelled through the inland counties of Canada, that as we recede from the Lakes Ontario and Erie, Northward, orchards begin to diminish, more especially after crossing that well known watershed the "Ridges," and at length in the most northern counties, as North Simcoe, North Ontario, and Victoria, they almost entirely disappear.

The superficial observer may have attributed the fact entirely to the newness of the country, and thought that as time is re-

quired for the growth of fruit trees, it only required the necessary time to elapse when the inhabitants of our northern townships should also be blest with their wholesome and nutritious fruit, and their farms ornamented with productive apple orchards.—Very many farmers farther south, who have an interest in the prosperity of the northern townships—who perhaps have purchased farms in them for their sons—or may be intending to do so, have also, with many of the residents, consoled themselves, nearly up to the present time, with the same belief. The necessary time for raising orchards, since the land has been cleared, has passed, but none, comparatively speaking, are to be seen. It has at length become evident to all that there is an enemy to the apple amongst us. Many farmers have planted orchards, but only to see most of them die after the first and second winters; and even the scattering trees that have come to maturity appear somewhat stunted and neglected, and do not bear well. Whilst other persons, seeing the bad success of the attempts that have been made, decline incurring the risk of trying for themselves. And the majority, I fear, have come to the conclusion that apples will not grow in so uncongenial a climate. Wherein consists the difficulty, and in what way can it be obviated, is a question that every farmer amongst us should make his study, and upon which he should gladly receive information. Does the extreme cold of winter kill the young trees, or is it the late spring frosts, or is bad husbandry the principal cause? It is my opinion that with proper precaution, and with the necessary information, every farmer in Simcoe, Victoria, and North Ontario, might raise a good thrifty orchard. He might not always be sure of a good crop of fruit—occasionally a frost, like that of last year, would wholly or partially destroy his crop, for the same thing takes place in the front townships and on the south side of the lakes.—Yet he would, with good management, have his fair share of apples and other fruit, and would not be under the necessity of buying from the "Yankees" at exorbitant rates, or of doing as very many are now compelled to do, make their pies of pumpkins and berries, and when these fail go without! Now what are the precautions which the farmer must take, and the information required, in order that this very desirable object may be attained?—Theory may do much towards answering the question, but there will remain a wide gap that can only be filled up by practical observation and experience. Those who