

THE BENEFITS DERIVED FROM THE USE OF ARSENIC WATER.

Two or three weeks since we spent a few hours in the immense orchards of A. R. Whitney, of Lee County, Illinois. He has recently had his orchards scourged with the canker worm. After trying various remedies the pests were wholly eradicated by sprinkling the foliage, by means of a force pump, with water poisoned with London purple. At once on entering the grounds, the unusual health, size, and perfection of each individual leaf attracted our attention. We had recently been over several large orchards in DuPage County, and in the Fox River section, where a perfect leaf was difficult to find. Insect enemies during the past dry season have increased to such extent as to seriously injure the vitality of the trees by injury to the foliage. While Mr. Whitney had aimed mainly to destroy the canker worms, he had evidently about eradicated all the pests injurious to the leaf. This is a subject worthy the attention of our orchardists. Only a day or two prior to this visit to the orchard of Mr. W., at the nurserymen's convention in Chicago, Mr. Woodward, of New York, made the statement that some of his neighbors had destroyed the codling moth by sprinkling the trees with a solution of London Purple at the time when the apples were just forming, and while the embryo fruit was yet in an upright position. It is true that this statement was received by experienced members with many grains of allowance, yet we have since learned that all orchards treated at this time with the poison were not only ridded of the codling moth, but of noxious insects preying on the foliage. We predict that the use of arsenic water and London Purple will become more general for fighting our insect foes in the very near future in agriculture and all divisions of horticulture.

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PAMPAS GRASS.

BY JOHN McAINSH, ST. MARYS.

This is a half-hardy plant, not being able unprotected to withstand the severity of our Canadian winters. I have successfully wintered it over the past two winters by covering it with a box one foot high without either top or bottom. I fill the inside with pea straw, and bank up the outside with earth.

This is the finest ornamental grass with which I am acquainted. In the autumn it sends up strong stems eight or ten feet high, on the top of which are borne beautiful plumes of feathery tassels, which when waving in the breeze have a grand effect. After the plumes are cut they can be preserved for a considerable length of time. It is propagated by seed or by division of the roots.