

### Experience in Tile Draining.

SIR,—The following experience I have had with drain pipes may be of assistance and benefit to readers of the *HORTICULTURIST*. In 1891 I tile-drained four acres of heavy clay land. These drains emptied into a six inch sewer pipe running from centre of land to the lake. the shoulders of sewer pipe being put together with blue clay. In 1892 the drains worked well, in 1893 very badly, and the present year they would not work at all: my cellar, which also had a pipe to the sewer, being flooded with back water. Feeling sure there was some stoppage of the main pipes, I had drain examined, and it was found that the roots of two willow trees that stood outside the grounds had gone down eight feet into the clay, sent rootlets through the blue clay in shoulders of sewer pipes, and filled up the drain completely for a distance of 25 feet, making it impossible for water to escape. The roots of these willows were found in the drain for a distance of 108 feet inside of pipes. The outside of the pipes were so encircled with the roots that they had to be cut away. One of the trees was 7 feet away from the pipe, the other 18 feet.

It is not unusual for willows to send roots long distances for water, and I expected this, but supposed the sewer pipe shouldered with blue clay would have been sufficient protection. They are now put in with cement, and the willows cut down. I send you to-day by post section of rootlets as taken from pipe.

CHARLES HUNTER, *Toronto.*

### Non-Fertilization of Grape Flowers.

SIR,—I have had a little experience with some grape vines that I am sorry I did not relate at Orillia, as it substantiates Prof. Beach's contention. Four trellises of six vines each were planted side by side: two trellises were Rogers' No. 9, the other two were Niagara, Worden and Moore's Early. I removed the latter two, after which Rogers' No. 9 never bore another grape, but fell off when as large as No. 8 shot. I dug them all up.

STANLEY SPILLETT.

### Plum Growing, Etc.

Where can I get a good book on plum growing? What plums are the hardiest and best? What soil is best for the plum? What fertilizer is best? What are the hardiest varieties of peaches and apricots?

ALVIN STOWE, *Cedar Springs, Ont.*

### Question Budget.

*Replies to these questions are solicited from our readers.*

1. I have the Glass seedling plum, which I received from the Association. It has grown to be a large tree and hardy, standing the severe winter of some dozen years ago, when most other varieties of plums perished. It bears a large bluish purple plum, but with me it is a very shy bearer, perhaps from ten to twenty plums in a year. Now I see other accounts, that it is a very productive variety. Now my tree is standing in an apple and pear orchard, away from any other plum trees, and perhaps it requires some other variety of plum near it, to fertilize it. Can you throw any light on the matter?

JOHN M. McAINSH, *W. Nissouri, Co. Middlesex.*

2. What is the best kind of artificial fertilizer for raspberries, and what quantity should be applied per acre to plants on strong clay loam?

W. J. R., *Oshawa.*