

the young worms to subsist upon, they will of course perish, or may there be easily destroyed.

Respectfully yours,

W. T. S. CORNETT.

—*Boston Cult.*

RENOVATION OF FRUIT TREES.

The following article deserves particular attention. Observation has long convinced us that the degeneracy of fruit trees, of which we hear so much, results generally from the exhaustion of the soil, or some particular element of it. We have ourselves witnessed the most miraculous effects produced by throwing out the dirt from the roots of old trees in the autumn, applying lime and ashes, and in the early spring introducing and mixing with the lime and ashes, new and fertile soil. If an old apple tree in an orchard dies, and a new one be simply planted in the old one's place, it will hardly grow at all, and never become a good tree, but if a portion of the old soil be carted off, and new soil substituted, and, with the addition of lime, ashes or bone-dust, dug in for a circle of several feet, the young tree will grow apace, and soon become large and fruitful.—*Dollar Farmer.*

Cultivation of Fruit.—In the contiguous counties of Westchester and Fairfield, and probably over a wider extent of surface, the Newtown Pippin tree has never worn the healthy and flourishing appearance of the other cultivated sorts. So generally, indeed is this the case, that cultivators are about abandoning it as one of the worn-out varieties, considering it stricken with the incurable degeneracy of age. That such an opinion, however, is not well founded, may be inferred from the fact that this fruit, when grown in the new and more virgin soils of the interior, is to this day fairer and larger than we have been accustomed to see it here. This fact would seem to indicate, not the degeneracy of the tree itself, but the want of something in the soil to enable it to bring out its fruit in full perfection. The white Doyenne or Virgalieu pear, until recently the only superior variety ever cultivated here, has for twenty years ceased to ripen its fruit. The tree itself seems healthy, but its fruit commences cracking when half grown; becomes woody, and scarcely a pear has ripened on these trees for nearly a quarter of a century, with the exception of the two last years.

Year before last a few, and last year a greater portion of these pears came to perfection. Here

again the soil has lacked something that this tree required in ripening its fruit; and the favorable change observed last year would seem to indicate that this material, whatever it is, which after a long period has been exhausted by the annual fructification, has, after a lapse of twenty years accumulated again in quantity sufficient to enable the tree to perfect some of its fruit. The Seckel pear, a most delicious fruit, having but recently been introduced here, ripens with us in great perfection; but at Philadelphia, in the vicinity where the tree originated about a century ago, (probably from a seed of the Rousselet de Rhemis, which it greatly resembles,) the Seckel has begun to suffer, from exhaustion of its appropriate food, and requires an artificial supply to restore it to its wonted perfection. This fact I learn from Mr. L. C. Ford, of Olkney Park, accompanied with the valuable information that the material wanted in this case was some ferruginous compound, as by giving a liberal supply of slag from the iron foundry to the roots of his trees, he has restored its fruit to more than its pristine excellence.

With regard to the Newtown Pippin, I am in possession of facts shewing that our soil requires only some compound of lime, probably the phosphate, to enable it to bring this apple to full perfection. The detail of this discovery would extend this article to an inconvenient length, but they will cheerfully be given to any gentleman requiring them. One of the facts upon which this opinion is based, goes to show that an old and decaying Newtown Pippin tree, which in 1840, bore chiefly small rasted, and valueless fruit, in 1842 presented a healthy and flourishing appearance, and commenced bearing large, fair, and beautiful apples, and has done the same every year since, under no other treatment than that of having the clam and oyster shells from the family table, deposited under it, which has been done from the date first mentioned up to the present time. It is worthy of notice that the very next tree in the row was a Newtown Pippin, which still continues to bear very inferior fruit, fit only for cider. The Rousselet pear, long so highly prized by the confectioners in France is now said to be rapidly failing in that country; but having been introduced into this town about 14 years since, in mistake for the Seckel, is found to be a vigorous and rapidly growing tree, producing excellent fruit.

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