

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## ROTTING OF TOMATOES.

Will you or some of your correspondents inform the readers of the *HORTICULTURIST* what caused the rot in tomatoes this year and last. In this section more than half the crop was thus destroyed. Is it caused by insects, or is it atmospheric? I see by the papers that the disease, or whatever it may be called, is not an endemic, but an epidemic, extending over a large area in Ontario. It has proved the most destructive where planted on rich land. Before the fruit has attained its full size it begins at the flower end with a black spot, a kind of gangrene, and spreads very rapidly, making the fruit useless.

Can a peach tree be successfully grown by grafting on a plum stock? Will it be as hardy, and stand the winter's frost, and bear fruit, or will it be sterile? Hoping to see an answer to these queries in your next issue,  
I am, dear sir, yours, &c. THOS. COATES.

The peach is often budded on plum stocks, and is fully as hardy and productive as when grown on the peach stock. The Editor has not any experience in the rotting of tomatoes. Can any of our readers answer?

DEAR SIR:—I send herewith one dollar to renew my subscription. I consider the *HORTICULTURIST* well worth the money, and look out for it every month with great interest. Saunders' Hybrid Raspberry did well. It made five or six canes of about five feet each in length. I use a liquid manure prepared from the parings of horses' hoofs steeped in water for a week before using. When the liquid is drained off add more water. In this way a bushel of parings to a barrel of water will produce an abundance of manure for vines, small fruits and plants for six months. I used it with good success. This manure is excellent for plants in pots, but is objectionable on account of the smell it produces in a house. I think that a solution of copperas sparingly used would cure the smell; and I learn that fuchsias are very fond of copperas.—JAMES STEPHEN, *Toronto*.

The Downing gooseberry and Salem grape both did well with me. The Swayze Pommé Grise apple tree was as dry as an old stick when received; couldn't bring life into it. Flemish Beauty pear did well. The Glass Seedling Plum I did not get until the plum blossoms had all fallen off my trees. It was well packed, and several shoots had made a growth of three or four inches long, the shoots quite white. I nursed it very carefully, but it did not do well. Had it planted in a nursery row with others, and the deep snow of '78 and '79 broke it off close to the ground, so that was the last of it. The Diadem Raspberry did pretty well, but in moving from the town to my farm it got lost by some means. The strawberries were not of much account. The Burnet grape did well. The Ontario apple was a splendid tree, received in good condition, and has made great growth. Saunders' raspberries did very well, especially No. 50.—WALTER HICK, *Goderich*.