

Agricultural.

How Deep do the Roots of Trees Extend?

The above question stands at the head of an article in the *Rural New Yorker*, of May 21, and as the writer entertains an opinion far different from my own upon the subject, I will present a few thoughts for consideration.

There is probably no class of men that adhere with such obstinacy to opinions once formed, as the farmers. The method of tillage practiced by the previous generation is believed by the great majority to be the true method, and if any have the presumption to recommend a different system and even furnish abundant proof of the advantages of the same, they are at once set down as novices who are attempting to instruct others when they have very little knowledge of the subject themselves. I have not taken up my pen to wage a war with your correspondent HARK, nor to defend Mr. REDPATH, from his attack—for, judging from Mr. R.'s writings in the *Rural*, and elsewhere, he is able to maintain the correctness of his theory and substantiate the truth of his statements—but to make an effort to show the falsity of the theory that the roots of a tree or a plant do not strike downward, but "run ramblingly off near the surface in search of their proper nourishment."

I am aware that most cultivators of the soil in this country believe that the roots of plants we cultivate do not take a downward direction, and hence pursue a system of shallow tillage. But, to my mind, this is an error that strikes at the root of all good farming, and is the means of placing crops in a situation to be seriously affected by every change of the weather—a little too much rain or a little too much sunshine, diminishing or perhaps destroying the crops altogether. It is astonishing that men will so tenaciously cling to an error, when countless subjects are before them for examination, that would, if examined, present proof sufficient to remove their erroneous impressions.

That the natural tendency of the roots of the plants we cultivate, fruit and forest trees, is downward, and they will penetrate the soil to almost an unlimited extent, if they meet with no obstruction in their progress, is a theory that I have long and earnestly contended for as the true theory. To satisfy my own mind and convince the unbelieving, the spade has often been called into requisition, and the result of every examination was that the roots of grass, grain, vegetable, fruit and forest trees, have invariably occupied all the soil, no matter what was the depth of the same. The proof that is brought forward by Hark to sustain his hypothesis, is inadmissible, and not of a character to convince an old digger that works with his eyes open—for within a few days I have taken out where the roots penetrated a hard clay more than eight feet, and have gathered wheat roots by the handful from the conduit and from among the stones of a drain more than three feet below the surface.

Although H. has labored to maintain, (by a strange course of reasoning it is true) that the roots of plants do not strike down, but "run ramblingly off near the surface," he still says that his experience has led "to the same conclusion with Mr. Cone, in regard to deep plowing and cultivation." Now, if this is so, will he give us the lights gained by his experience of the advantages of a deep soil over a shallow one; if, as he contends, the roots of grain, grass, &c., will not "strike down" and occupy it! But the views of the writer of the article under consideration are probably such that he can give no good reasons for deep cultivation, and has never practiced it, no doubt believing in and practicing with many others the "surface scratching" method—"licking" the surface, and calling that deep cultivation. LINTS CORN.

Troy, Mich., June 1853.

MULCHING.—Stirring the soil around the roots of newly transplanted trees, and all others in fact, and a liberal coating of well rotted tan, sawdust, litter from the chip-yard, or manure, will prevent injury from drouth during the hot and dry summer months. Before putting it on, however, if the soil is dry, it should be carefully removed to the depth of a few inches, and a good distance from the tree, without disturbing the roots, and a thorough watering be given; this will go immediately to the roots, and dampen the soil about them. When, if done without removing the earth, but little, if any water will reach the roots; the earth then should be replaced and the litter be put on.

In the spring the litter can be forked lightly in and as the hot, dry weather approaches, but before vegetation begins to suffer, and while it is in a thrifty condition, another light mulching should be given. Shrubbery in our own yard, planted last season, was badly injured by the late drouth, and from neglect of stirring the soil, after being treated in this manner, now looks bright and green. We believe that nine tenths of the trees that perish after coming into leaf in the spring, die from neglect of this most useful cultivation. Trees rightly planted and mulched, seldom need any further care during the season, except to keep down the weeds and grass.—*Farm and Shop.*

HOW TO RAISE FRUIT EVERY YEAR.—If rightly understood, few trees, unless absolutely dead or rotten, need occupy ground yielding a plentiful crop. After a long and varied series of experiments, I gradually adopted the following mode: As soon as the winter had sufficiently disappeared, and before the sap ascends, I examine my trees; every dead bough is lopped off, then after the sap has risen sufficiently to show where the blossom will be, I cut away all the other branches having none on, and also the extremity of every limb, the lower part of which bears a considerable number of buds, thus concentrating the sap of the tree upon the maturation of its fruit, and saving what would be a useless expenditure of strength. In the quince, apricot and peach trees, it is very apt to be luxuriant in leaves and destitute of fruit. You may think this injures the trees, but it does not; for you will find trees laden with fruit which formerly yielded nothing. Of course all other well known precautions must be attended to; such as cutting out worms from the roots, placing old iron on the limbs, which acts as a tonic to the sap, &c. Try it, ye who have failed in raising fruit.—*Suffolk Democrat.*

EVERGREENS.—These trees cannot now be moved too soon. The same rules hold good with them as with other trees. They require to be moved before they start to grow. Then the roots should by no means be suffered to dry. In the words of a contemporary, "the roots while out of the ground should be moist—they should never even for a moment, become dried in the process of transplanting." Hence a rainy day is recommended in all cases, especially where the roots are denuded. A few experiments are given. A long screen of arbutus were set out in a stormy week with the sod on. Six were set aside in a tub of water and four were left exposed to a drying wind. Those four only died, out of two hundred and ten. The six after three weeks neglect in the water, all survived. Again fifty Norway spruces were set out on a moist day. One by mistake was left, and received a few hours of sunshine—this one only died. We have succeeded well with some sorts, brought long distances, by insisting on the instant immersion of the roots in water, as soon as up, packing in wet moss kept soaked in water, the roots plunged in mud as soon as received; and laid in—and again mudded and the earth well settled with water when transplanted. Removing plenty of earth on the roots—an infallible mode.—*Prairie Farmer.*

Miscellaneous.

The British in the East.

By the arrival of the *Lord Warriston* we are placed in receipt of later and interesting intelligence from all parts of Asia. The news in relation to the progress of British operations in Burmah appears to be the most important.

It is well known that the English government has for a long time been seeking some excuse for a quarrel with the Burmese, in order that a fair pretext might be given for the annexation of that country to the British possessions in the East. Some eighteen months ago that excuse occurred. The circumstances were somewhat similar to those which now threaten a rupture between the United States and Spain. A British vessel was seized at Rangoon for a violation of the customs. No demand was made for apology or reparation, but a squadron was immediately despatched with troops. In a very short time fortifications were established, and the surrender of a slice of territory very large in extent was required of the Burmese authorities. Within this territory are comprised all the principal seaports. These gone, Burmah would be placed at the mercy of the invaders, and occupy a position similar to that occupied by the northern "Independencies" of Hindostan some few years ago. Like those "Independencies," Burmah would fall before foreign aggression, and be annexed to the British Empire in the East.

The following extract will show the present position of affairs in that quarter of the world:

"The British army continues to occupy Prome, an important city on the Irrawaddy, half-way between Rangoon at the mouth of that river and Ava, the capital of Burmah. The Burmese had ceased all organized resistance, although predatory bands still infested the country and harassed the British troops. The Rangoon Chronicle, a paper established since the capture of Rangoon by the British, says that in a skirmish with a band of Dacoits, Captain Barry, commanding the Aracan Local Battalion, lost his life; Lieut. Thompson received a wound in the arm; another officer (name not given) was also wounded; and seventy-three of our men killed and wounded. The cause of these casualties is said to have been in consequence of a treacherous guide having led the force into an ambush. The Chronicle states that Lieut. Proctor had two of the treacherous guides tied to trees and shot for their perfidy, for which act that officer has been placed under arrest by the British Commissioner on a charge of murder. The same paper states that another mission is about to be sent to Ava, where the Emperor of Burmah still holds his court, to make a final settlement of the dispute, and that Captain Pharye will be appointed to go as Plenipotentiary. The

Rangoon Chronicle notices that, in consequence of timber being required by the British for the erection of the new cantonments at Prome and elsewhere, its exportation down the river has been prohibited by government. Captain Latter, the Deputy Commissioner at Prome, had been murdered in his bed. According to the statements made by the Rangoon correspondents of the *Calcutta Journals*, it would appear that the unfortunate Deputy Commissioner had fallen from the jealousy of a native chieftain (a freebooter), whose family had been captured by Latter and a military party, and the females forced to accede to the Deputy Commissioner's wishes. In revenge the chief hired four assassins, who, for a reward of 4000 rupees, entered Captain Latter's residence dressed in female attire, and assassinated him whilst sleeping. General Cheape, the British Commander, had offered a reward of 5000 rupees for the discovery of the perpetrators, but without effect.

Burmah has become deeply interesting to the Christian world since the publication of the "Memoirs of Mrs. Judson," an American Missionary. That work contains a full description of the resources of the country, and the character of the inhabitants, together with a detailed account of the war of 1820, when Great Britain first turned her attention in that direction. The work has all the interest of a romance, and will amply repay an attentive perusal.—*San Joaquin Republican.*

TRUE POLITENESS.—Politeness is a just medium between formality and rudeness; it is, in fact, good nature regulated by quick discernment, which proportions itself to every situation and every character; it is a restraint laid by reason and benevolence on every irregularity of temper, of appetite and passion. It accommodates itself to the fantastic laws of custom and fashion, as long as they are not inconsistent with the higher obligations of virtue and religion.

To give efficacy and grace to politeness, it must be accompanied by some degree of taste as well as delicacy; and although its foundation must be rooted in the heart, it is not perfect without a knowledge of the world.

In society it is the happy medium which blends the most discordant natures; it imposes silence on the loquacious, and inclines the most reserved to furnish their share of conversation; it represses the despicable but common ambition of being the most eminent character in the scene; it increases the general desire of being mutually agreeable; takes off the offensive edge of rivalry, and gives delicacy to wit; it preserves subordination, reconciles ease with propriety; like other valuable qualities, its value is best estimated when it is absent. No greatness can awe it into servility, no intimacy can sink it into a coarse familiarity; to superiors it is respectful freedom; to inferiors, unassuming good nature; to equals, everything that is charming; anticipating and attending to all things, yet at the same time apparently disengaged and careless.

Such is true politeness, by people of wrong heads and unworthy hearts disgraced in its two extremes; and by the generality of mankind confined within the narrow bounds of mere good breeding, which is only one branch of it.

WHY CALLED ATTORNEYS?—Lawyers are called attorneys, because, in the time of our Saxon ancestors, the freemen met twice a year under the presidency of the shire-reeve, or sheriff, and this meeting was called the sheriff's term. By degrees, the freemen declined giving their personal attendance, and a freeman who did attend carried with him the proxies of such of his friends as could not appear. He who actually went to the sheriff's term was paid, according to the old Saxon, "to go at the term;" and hence came the word "attorney," which signified one that went to the term for others, carrying with him a power to act or vote for those who employed him. The distinction between attorney and solicitor arises from the latter practising in a court of law.

"DEAR MOTHER," said a delicate little girl: "I have broken your china vase." "Well, you are a naughty careless, troublesome little thing, always in mischief go up stairs and stay in the closet till I send for you." And this was a Christian mother's answer to the tearful little culprit who had struggled with and conquered the temptation to tell a falsehood to screen her fault; with a disappointed, disheartened look, the child obeyed, and then was crushed in her little heart the flower of truth, perhaps never again in after years to be revived to life. Oh, what were the loss of a thousand vases in comparison?

SCRATCHING UP A FORTUNE.—A poor Italian who a few days ago was begging for a dollar to buy a meal of victuals, the day after found at Yankee Hill, near Columbia a lump of nearly pure gold weighing twenty seven pounds. The lump lay about eighteen inches below the surface, and has the appearance of having been in fire; the outside being both black and burnt; The lump is quadrangular in shape and rather flat.

A gentleman from Florida assures the *Charleston Standard* that he has discovered a small Guano island upon the western coast of Florida.

All Sorts of Paragraphs.

No man who has once heartily and wholly laughed, can be altogether irreclaimable depraved.—*Carlyle.*

Many are great because their associations are small.

The larger the school fund, the less the prison allowance.

The wit of some of our modern writers is like gas, which lights at a touch, and at a touch can be extinguished.

It is estimated that if a pair of herring were left to increase in security, their offspring would make, in eight years, a mass larger than our entire globe.

MONEY AND HONOR.—A French officer said to a Swiss officer: "I would not fight as you do for money; we French serve for honor." "True sir," replied the Swiss, "we both serve for what we have least of." A mortal duel was the consequence.

ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A CAMEL.—The beautiful seedling *Camelia*, raised by Peter Mackensio, Spruce street, Philadelphia, named "Jenny Lind," has been sold to Messrs. Henderson & Son of London, for £200, or \$1,500, and will be shipped in the steamer City of Manchester, on her next voyage to Manchester.

How small is diameter of the human throat, and how short its measures! Yet it will give the same note with the pipe of an organ eight feet in length! and the valve which covers it, and plays with electric swiftness, (imitated by the reed of the organ,) is, as we all know, a very little thing; yet with the contractions and expansions of the throat it will utter a scale of seventeen degrees!

A western editor, in commenting upon the statements that diseases may be communicated by bank notes, remarks very coolly that his subscribers need not neglect to "pay up" on that account, as he is willing to run his risk of "catching" anything in that way. On the other hand, he fears that if the bank bills are not forthcoming, the sheriff will catch him.

The *Journal of Health* mentions the case of a lady, who has been severely afflicted with the palpitation of the heart, for several years, who finds immediate relief, by taking a small quantity of ordinary soda water.

The *Scientific American* contains a communication of H. A. Frost, of Worcester, in which he claims to have invented a "marine locomotive," which will cross the Atlantic in four days.

A Yankee boy had a whole Dutch cheese set before him by a waggish friend, who, however, gave him no knife.

"This is funny cheese, Uncle Joe, but where shall I cut it?"

"Oh," said the grinning friend, "cut it where you like."

"Very well," said the Yankee, coolly putting it under his arm, "I'll cut it at home!"

AMOS E. ROGERS,

EMPIRE CITY.

HAS on hand a well assorted stock of Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots & Shoes, &c., &c. He is anxious to sell, and wishes it to be understood that he is prepared to offer goods extremely low for cash. If any doubts are entertained about the matter, he will be exceedingly obliged, if persons doubting, will specify call, and at once put it to the test. Empire City, May 5, 1854-4f

ALLAN, MCKINLAY & CO.,

LOWER SCOTTSBURG.

HAVE always on hand at their store, there, a general assortment of Goods, adapted to the wants of the Country, and superior accommodations for packing. May 5, 1854-4f

WANTED.—At the Office, a good, honest, intelligent, industrious boy, between the ages of 14 and 17 years. A good situation may be obtained by applying soon. April 28, 1854.

JOB PRINTING.

OF every description, such as PAMPHLETS, CARDS, HANDBILLS, POSTERS, BILLS OF LADING, BOOKS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS, &c., &c., neatly and cheaply executed at this Office. Also, OPNMENTAL PRINTING, in Colored Inks and Bronzes. April 28.

ADDISON C. GIBBS,

Attorney at Law, and Commissioner for the State of New York.

GARDINER, UMPQUA CO. O. T. N. B.—THE partnership heretofore existing between GIBBS & STRATTON has been dissolved by mutual consent. May 5-5in

BROWN, DRUM & CO.,

NO. 28 COMMERCIAL ST., SCOTTSBURG.

HAVE constantly on hand a General Assortment of Merchandise, consisting of Flour, Pork, Bacon, Ham, Lard, Sugar, Tea, Coffee, Tobacco, Liquors, Farming and Mining Tools, Dry Goods, Boots and Shoes, Hardware, &c., &c. FARMERS, PACKERS & TRADERS are invited to call and examine our Stock, when visiting this City, as we will sell at all times at the lowest market rates. May 5-4f

FOR THE COQUILLE.

THE SLOOP "FLYING CLOUD," Captain RICHARD NARR, will sail for the Coquille River, on or about the 10th of May. For freight or passage apply to the Captain on board. May 5, 1854-4f

STORE TO LET—on Main street; suitable for a wholesale or retail business. Apply to WM. H. H. TORREY. Scottsburg, April 28-4f

SAMUEL S. MANN,

LOWER SCOTTSBURG.

OFFERS for sale a CHOICE assortment of Groceries, Dry-Goods, Boots & Shoes, &c., &c.

The above stock is ENTIRELY NEW, and having been purchased recently, at the present low prices of the Market, will be sold at figures that cannot fail to suit purchasers. CALL AND EXAMINE. April 28, 1854-4f

THE PLACE TO GET YOUR MONEY BACK

MERRITT, OPPENHEIMER & CO.

SCOTTSBURG.

WHOLESALE DEALERS in Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions, Hardware, Boots and Shoes, Clothing, Liquors, Cigars, &c., &c. April 28-4f

GEORGE HAYNES & CO.,

575 MAIN ST., CORNER OF YONCALLA ST., LOWER SCOTTSBURG.

OFFER FOR SALE

Flour, California and Chili, Bacon, Mess and Clear, Pork, do do do, Beef, "Fulton Market" Mess, in hf bbls. Hams, lard covered, Lard, in tins, Sugar, China, Nos. 1 & 2, Coffee, Rio and old Java, Candles, Soap, Liquors, Cigars, Dry-goods, Boots and Shoes, &c., &c. April 28-4f

ALLAN, LOWE & CO.,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

132 CLAY STREET,

SAN FRANCISCO.

ALLAN, MCKINLAY & CO., OREGON CITY, O. T. SCOTTSBURG, "

ap28-6m

THE undersigned has for sale large assortment of

Groceries,

Provisions,

Liquors,

Cigars,

Boots & Shoes,

Clothing,

Utensils.

TINWARE, &c. ISAAC N. HALL,

Main Street, Lower Scottsburg.

Ap28-14f

SCOTTSBURG HOUSE.

THE undersigned, having purchased this establishment, and feeling grateful for past patronage, takes this opportunity to inform his friends, and the public generally, that he is now prepared to accommodate transient boarders, and all travellers or visitors who may come this way. Terms reasonable, and accommodations as good as generally found in Oregon. JOSEPH PUTNAM.

Scottsburg, April 28-14f

W. N. WELLS,

House Carpenter and Ship Joiner.

MAIN STREET, LOWER SCOTTSBURG.

ALL kinds of the above work done on short notice, and on reasonable terms.

April 28-4f

B. F. JOHNSON,

Blacksmith & Gunsmith.

MAIN STREET, LOWER SCOTTSBURG.

HOUSE-SHOEING done on the shortest notice, and on reasonable terms. GUNS repaired and put in good order.

April 28-4f

HINSDALE & CO.,

Wholesale Dealers in General Merchandise

CORNER OF MAIN AND NELSON STS.,

LOWER SCOTTSBURG.

WOULD invite the attention of Traders, Packers, and Farmers to their large and well selected stock of Clothing, Dry Goods, Boots and Shoes, Hardware, Groceries, &c., which they offer for sale at prices which will be an inducement to those wishing to purchase.

Call and inspect our stock. ap28-14f

THE STEAMER

WASHINGTON

WILL make tri-weekly trips between Lower

Scottsburg and the mouth of the Umpqua

River, leaving Allan, McKinlay & Co.'s Wharf

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

A good room for the transportation of cattle is

always in readiness.

For freight or passage apply on board, or to

ALLAN, MCKINLAY, & CO.

April 28-4f

WILLIAM E. LEWIS,

BOAT BUILDER AND SPAR MAKER.

MILL CREEK, UMPQUA RIVER.

BOATS Repaired, and all kinds of Carpenter

Work done at the shortest notice and on the

most reasonable terms.

April 28, 1854-4f

FOR THE COQUILLE.

THE Sloop "MUCKSHAW," Capt. JOHN

WALKER, will sail for the above place, on or

about the 15th of May. For freight or passage

apply on board, or to the Captain at Scottsburg.

April 28-4f

TO LET.

The lower story of HARRIS' New

Buildings, on Main street, size 40x60, can

be occupied as a store-house, or would be divided

into two stores, suitable for any kind of business.

For particulars, apply on the premises, or to

JESSE U. HARRIS.

Lower Scottsburg, April 28-4f

CROSBY'S HOTEL,

LOWER SCOTTSBURG.

J. S. CROSBY, having again taken charge

of the above named Hotel, will personally

superintend the efforts to make those comfortable

who may have occasion to visit this place. The

table will be supplied with the best the market

affords; and choice Liquors and Cigars can always

be had at the Bar.

April 28, 1854-14f