

For the Independent Republican.

Planting Fruit Trees, &c.
AUBURN, Sept. 13, 1859.

Mass. Editors.—Well, here I am again, and much sooner, too, than I expected when I closed my last.

I see by the *Republican* of the 8th inst., that Mr. McKinney is out again; restoring his old instructions, though I am happy to say, somewhat revised and improved; and inasmuch as he reaffirms his old position (less the modifications,) it presents to me an occasion to offer another, either two, which I shall most cheerfully obtrude.

"How does it stand? shall plant our trees is another question," he observes, and is subject to contingencies. "Is, the size of the tree, 2d, the shape of the roots, and 3d, the species of the plants?"

Really this is something now. I wish the gentleman had enlightened us in this respect a little. Shall a large tree be planted deeper than a small one, and, if so, how much? or shall a small tree be planted the deeper? Perhaps a large tree should be planted a foot or more below the surface, a medium sized one, six inches or thereabout; while a small one at or near the surface; or will this order of things be reversed? If the gentleman has a graduating scale, I wish he would give it in his next. And what has the shape of the roots to do with it? I would inquire? Shall those that have straight ones be planted near the surface, those with moderately crooked ones deeper, while those with angular or very irregular ones (so viciously crooked that they cannot lie still,) be thrust down a foot or more? or is this order of things to be reversed?

Now as to the opinion of the planter. Suppose that two planters with an equal lot of trees, some large and some small, wish to plant each an orchard. One says, "I will plant my large trees deep, my small ones shallow," and the other is of the opinion that it will be better to plant the larger ones shallow and the smaller ones deep. What then? Will the opinion of each planter save his trees or cause them to do equally well with those of the others? If so, if this doctrine be true, then the size of the tree or shape of the roots has nothing to do with it, being, after all, mere matter of opinion.

Nature is stern, unceasing, and imperious. She has established certain physical laws for the healthy growth and development of trees and plants, as well as for man or beast, and any deviation from or violation of them, will most assuredly be rewarded with a penalty; the opinion of the planter to the contrary notwithstanding. If we wish to be successful in tree growing, we must observe, study, think, for the more closely we follow, obey or act in accordance with these laws, the better for Nature. In the performance of its functions, will no more accommodate itself to the opinion of the planter, than will the sun adjust his hour of rising by the computations of some blundering astronomical calculator.

Observe, if you please, a tree that has had nothing but Nature for a tutor, and you will discover that the collar, or union of the lateral or horizontal roots with the stem or body of the tree, is at or near the surface of the ground. This is the point from which depth of planting is computed.

If you wish to remove the tree, be careful when you replant it, that the collar, or matter as to the size of the tree or the shape of its roots, be in or about the same position, it respects the surface of the ground, it was before removal, covering it—the collar—just sufficient to protect it from the direct rays of the elements.

The Isabella and Catawba, for the heads of the tree, are the best, and the roots will be most easily protected, if jammed together, but be allowed to lie in a straight, easy, natural way, and as nearly as possible in their original position. Do thus and my word it, all other things being equal, the tree will hardly know, if trees know anything, of its being removed; except, perhaps, the roots will find a mellow gold wherein to luxuriate.

At least, such is my opinion, and if found in reason and common sense, and in accordance with Nature's laws, the result will be good, but if it is not, I will guarantee that *WILD* will never swerve one jot nor tittle to accommodate itself to it; no, sir, tittle.

The gentlemen still insist upon his 3 by 3 holes and submit to the people etc. if he will underplant 24 feet subsoil and make the surface fertile as suggested in my former paper he may make his holes 3 feet across (or six feet for anything I care) and 2 deep, or just as deep as it is subsoiled and no deeper, and I will have no objections, but on the contrary rather recommend it, but the hardy grape, which I have had in my garden since 1840, and embossed by far the greater portion of the country, without any previous preparation by underdraining, deep culture etc. I fully object. Let us plant a tree after his method. Well, after a few years the roots fill the hole, and as they are strong believers in manifest destiny, they will make a strong effort to extend themselves beyond their present limits; and what success do you suppose they would have in penetrating the wall of hard dirt which surrounds them? "Not much," you say. But suppose they succeeded in extending themselves a few feet in every direction from the tree, do you suppose they would find food enough to pay them for their trouble? No, sirs, they would not get enough to pay them the first installment on their efforts, not at the rate of one half cent a month. I will quote here authority. "If the hole be small, and the surrounding land hard, the tree cannot grow; but if it finally survives, it creeps along with a snail's pace, masking little return to the owner."

Again he says, "My opinion is that a man who would plant an orchard upon such soil as he describes, would never make a good farmer." Permit me to say that I took the cue from him. If I am advised to dig a hole and throw away the clay, that I must do that now in the clay, becomes a self-evident truth and patent to all the world and the rest of mankind; there is no dodging that.

Joshua Salter says: "For quality the Delaware is the best, tasting like fine flavored sugar, and digesting completely in the mouth, leaving a delicious taste on the palate." Time of ripening first of September, have been gathered up the fifteenth of August, 1858. One of the hardest vines we have."

Wm. R. Prime says: "The Delaware is sweet, delicate flavor, delicious—the climax in flavor of all northern grapes."

The *Genesee Farmer* says: "It is almost impossible to say how much in favor of this variety (Delaware) it is in every part of the country. It is early and productive, the bunches and berries of fair size, and of most exquisite flavor."

From the proceedings of the American Pomological Society before referred to, I will quote: "The Delaware grape was highly recommended by some gentleman."

Mr. Prime was of the opinion that it would prove the most delicious native grape except, perhaps the Scuppernong of the South. Dr. Grant had grown it three years and found it perfectly hardy. Mr. Downing considered it one of the finest native grapes, and said it was very hardy with him. Dr. Brinckle said it first in 1850, and thought it finer than any native grape that he knew. Mr. Howe esteemed it an excellent fruit."

The Catawba has been approved and recommended by 6 State Horticultural Societies, and that of Canada West,

From the proceedings of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of the American Pomological Society, Clinton by 1 and C. W. Muscadine being under consideration:

"It was observed that it had been brought, before committees of which he was a member, and that it was very difficult for him that remained in the room to decide what will be the result of the experiment shown by some persons—the Shakers were hard, but ripened rather late for what is called the gentleman. Why, better for them to esteem their productions, the Northern Muscadine, too highly, and to recommend them so frequently to others, as to become at length themselves convinced that they are worth anything. I said ripened rather late, etc., and have proved that also by the above evidence and his own admission, for he says it 'never ripens' this, however, is more than I claimed. When a fruit is recommended for another question, he observes, and is subject to contingencies, "Is, the size of the tree, 2d, the shape of the roots, and 3d, the species of the plants?"

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The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society gave the following very flattering Report of it, through the Chairman of the Committee on Fruit:

"After a careful examination by the taste, etc., the odor could not be mistaken, they were clearly of the opinion that the plant is a seedling of the worthless Fox grape of our woods, and not deserving a place in any Catalogue as desirable for culture, and no more to be compared to our Isabella or Catawba."

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The Horticultural Society of 10 States, besides that of Canada West, have recommended the following to the public in their Catalogues:

"The President (Hon. Marshall P. Wilder) made some humorous remarks on the disposition shown by some persons—the Shakers were hard, but ripened rather late for what is called the gentleman. Why, better for them to esteem their productions, the Northern Muscadine, too highly, and to recommend them so frequently to others, as to become at length themselves convinced that they are worth anything. I said ripened rather late, etc., and have proved that also by the above evidence and his own admission, for he says it 'never ripens' this, however, is more than I claimed. When a fruit is recommended for another question, he observes, and is subject to contingencies, "Is, the size of the tree, 2d, the shape of the roots, and 3d, the species of the plants?"

Another word about the Strawberry, and I am done.

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tracted by new settlers, and easily cured by the use of a good tonic and the exercise of plain common sense, they may be able so to regulate the system as to secure permanent health. In order to accomplish this desired effect, it is necessary to have a state of things at the least hazard of vital strength and life. For this purpose, Dr. Hostetter has introduced to this country a preparation bearing the name of STOMACH BITTERS, which has been tried for years, giving satisfaction to all who have used it. The Bitters operate powerfully upon the stomach, bowels, and liver, restoring them to a healthy and vigorous action, and enabling the system to resume its normal course.

For the cure of Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Nausea, Flatulence, Loss of Appetite, or any Bilious Complaints, arising from a habitual intemperance in eating, drinking, &c., including Grapes, Peaches, &c., these Bitters have no equal.

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Fever and Ague.—This trying and provoking disease, which attacks the system, gradually reducing the patient to a feeble condition, and, in severe cases, reducing him to a skeleton in a short time, and rendering him physically and mentally useless, can be driven from the body by the use of HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS, which has been tried for years, giving satisfaction to all who have used it. The Bitters are used as per directions on the bottle. For this disease every physician will recommend a different remedy, but we would advise the use of this preparation.

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