PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

SHORTENING-IN THE PEACH TREE.—We have, for many years, favored the shortening-in of the peach tree. There appears to be everything for it, and nothing against it except the labor. The following reasons favor the operation:

1. Preserving the tree in a handsome, compact form.

2. Limiting the space occupied, so that more trees may be planted on an acre.

3. Increasing the shriftiness of the tree and its shoots, and, as a consequence, increasing the size and flavor of the fruit, like that on young trees.

4. Thinning the fruit by the most convenient and economical process.

It is not uncommon to see old, neglected, and unpruned trees, extending their long and nearly leafless branches to a distance of ten feet on each side of the tree, the fruit being borne on the extreme ends of these poles, and being much less in quantity, smaller in size, and incomparably poorer in quality, than crops on young and much smaller trees, or on those kept in proper form by pruning. Good cultivators find thinning necessary for attaining a high flavor in their fruit; crowded crops cannot become perfect.—But to go over the tree and pick off the surplus peaches, is a slow and laborious process, while by pruning, it may be accomplished in about one-tenth of the time, and at the leisure season of winter.

We have, however, discarded the mode at first recommended, of cutting back each individual one year's shoot; this is too slow and minute. The substitute adopted is to cut off and thin back two or three years's growth, or more if the form of the tree requires it, always cutting where another limb branches off, so as not to leave a stump. Care is taken to avoid the error, sometimes committed, of cutting all back of an equal length, like shearing a hedge, which causes a thick outside growth, excluding the light from the interior of the tree. It will be understood, that in connection with the pruning here recommended, the trees should receive good cultivation at all times, or the success will be imperfect.

We have been induced to offer these hints at the present time, in consequence of having recently seen in a work of some pretensions, an attempt tod iscourage the practice.—COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

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JOHN H. MELLOR, the exclusive and only Agent for Pittsburgh, &c. for the sale of CHICKERING & SONS' Boston PIANO FORTES, begs to return his most sincere thanks to the citizens of Pittsburgh, for the liberal patronage, and the confidence reposed in him during the last year, by the latter, and assures them that, by the increased facilities afforded in the new and splendid Piano Forte Warerooms, recently erected at the corner of Wood and Fifth streets, he will be enabled to keep a full assortment of their celebrated Pianos, from the most splendid Grand and Square Piano Fortes, down to the plain and low priced Piano Fortes, all of which will be sold invariably AT BOSTON PRICES.

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