LIVE FOR SOMETHING.

Live for something, be not idle—
Look about thee for employ!
Sit not down to useless dreaming—
Labor is the sweetest joy.
Folded hands are ever weary,
Selfish hearts are never gay,
Life for thee hath many duties—
Active be, then, while you may.

Scatter blessings in thy pathway!
Gentle words and cheering smiles
Better are than gold and silver,
With their grief dispelling wiles.
As the pleasant sunshine falleth
Ever on the grateful earth,
So let sympathy and kindness
Gladden well the darkened hearth.

Hearts there are oppressed and weary;
Drop the tear of sympathy,
Whisper words of hope and comfort,
Give, and thy reward shall be
Joy unto thy soul returning,
From this perfect fountain head;
Freely, as thou freely givest,
Shall the grateful light be shed.

Planting "in the Moon."

Mr. Schwabe, a German astronomer, in the *Astronomische Nachrichten,* has published the result of some of his observations, to show that the numerous streaks or narrow lines seen on the moon's surface (supposed by some astronomers to be the representations of the beds of ancient rivers; by others thought to be streams of lava, thrown out by lunar volcanoes and which reflect the light of the sun with more intensity than the adjacent regions) are caused by vegetation on the surface of the moon. If the surface of the moon be attentively examined, says Mr. Schwabe, with a good telescope and a proper illumination, we discover between the lines or luminous furrows of the high mountain called Tycho and on different other points, a quantity of very delicate parallel lines of a greenish tint, which were not visible some months before the observation, and which disappeared a few months after, to return again in the proper season. These lines which are darker than the adjacent parts, are clearly the result of vegetation; and it is this vegetation that makes the sterile parts of the moon appear as bright luminous streaks.

According to M. Schwabe, these lines of vegetation are more particularly visible on the very bright parts of the moon which are circumscribed by the mountains Hipparcus, Albategnius; Werner, Stoeffier, Maurolycus, Gemma-Frisius, Picolomini, Catharina, Aboufeda, Regic-Montarius, Hell, Gauricius, Wurz Elbaner, Heinsins and Count Wilhem.

Should the above views prove correct, there may, after all, be more than some are willing to admit, in the theory of planting "in the moon." Some of our old and experienced farmers tenaciously hold to the doctrine that all those varieties which yield their fruits above ground should be planted in the *new* of the moon; while the root tribes, such as potatoes, beets, carrots, *onions* and all vegetables fruiting beneath the surface should be planted after the full moon, or in the *old* of the moon.

We might also include other matters of every day occurrence wherein it is deemed profitable to observe the phases of the moon. For example, it is held by some that beef or pork butchered when the moon is on the increase, will become more plump in the process of cooking; while, on the other hand, that butchered when the moon is waning will have a tendency to shrink and shrivel up. Perhaps, however, some of our butchers could inform us further on this subject. Doubtless this question could be solved by a few very simple experiments.

That many of the vague theories and old sayings existing have had their origin in false tradition and superstitious notions we cannot deny; notwithstanding, we cannot at once decide to totally condemn any allowable theory or practice, however apparently frivolous or ill-grounded it may appear to us, which is adhered to by practical men of acknowledged good judgment, penetration and experience. Such men are among the advocates of the practice of planting "in the moon."

That fertility of soil and thorough cultivation will almost certainly guarantee a suitable return for the labor and means expended, none would question; and that the careless culture of exhausted or ill-used soils is a prolific source of poverty and want, has been attested by the miseries of multitudes, in all countries. We, however, while incessantly urging the farmer to spare no labor of his hands that will artificially and permanently enrich his lands, also exhort him to apply his mind to the study of agriculture as a practical science, which, tho' yet in its infancy, comparatively speaking, remains to be developed to a degree of perfection at least in no wise inferior to that of any other known science.

Agriculture, in our humble judgment, when it has received its due share of attention and a more full development, must be classed among the foremost on the list—the science of sciences—to which all other sciences, when justly directed, must become directly or indirectly tributary. Chemistry will unfold to the scientific agriculturist the elements of soils and the various offices of fertilizers. Geology and mineralogy, while they furnish keys to unlock the treasures of the earth for his benefit, will also facilitate the judicious appropriation of lands and their adaptation to the numerous species of fruits and vegetables; astronomy, while it teaches the youth the laws, motions and relative distances of the planets, will furnish the tiller of the soil with data wherewith to determine the various influences of the heavenly bodies upon the globe we inhabit—upon the water and upon the land—upon animals and upon vegetables; for, that the heavenly planets have an influence one upon another is as susceptible of comprehension as the fact that mind operates upon mind in the physical and spiritual existence.

Now, if the statement of M. Schwabe be true, of which we have no doubt—that vegetation exists upon the surface of the moon—is it not reasonable to suppose that in its various stages, it would, through the aid of the rays of light, effect in some manner the vegetation on the surface of the earth? In physical science, rays of light passing through or striking upon a green or blue texture are said to be promotive of health to the eyes; hence, these colors are frequently prepared for curtains, blinds, &c. It must therefore be inferred that the particles of light, coming in contact with those composing the green or blue become impregnated with some element possessing healing properties for the eye. May it not, therefore, be inferred that, as the sun's rays are more or less charged with the particles reflected from the moon's surface, in the various seasons and stages of vegetation there, they may have some influence, either for good or evil, on vegetation upon the surface of the earth?

THE DOMESTIC GARDENER'S CLUB TRANSACTIONS.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FRUIT.

CLASS 1.—CULTURE OF POMONIFEROUS FRUIT.

Division First—Culture of the Apple.

The apple thrives well in this Territory on most soils with good culture, and deserves a general and extensive cultivation; indeed, we have evident proof of the adaptation of this excellent fruit to the soil and climate; from the practical results of more good varieties produced from seedling trees than is usual where the apple has been introduced into a new country. We may also add that several varieties of imported apples have produced fruit of good quality, quite equal to that of its native home. The trees generally bear good crops of fruit when young, appear to be quite hardy and grow thrifty, with good culture.

PROPAGATION OR INCREASE.

The apple is most generally increased by seed, which should always be procured from healthy, free growing trees. The system often adopted, of procuring seed at the cider mill from the pumice of cider apples and those of an inferior quality, is a bad method, owing to the fact that such seed produces trees of an inferior stock, either for grafting or raising seedling fruit.

It may be laid down as a general rule, that inferior seeds generally produce inferior trees and good seed, produced from good fruit, grown on healthy, vigorous trees, generally produce healthy, free growing stocks. It should always be a rule to reject the seed of fruit from any variety of a tree in a sickly state.

RAISING SEEDLINGS.

As a general rule the seed may be sown in the fall. For this purpose choose a cool, rich, mellow piece of ground, which should be well dug before sowing the seed.

IN PREPARING THE GROUND

Two drills may be drawn one foot apart and two feet between the double, about an inch deep. The seed may then be thinly sown in the drills and lightly covered with fine earth. When the young plants come up they are to be well cultivated by hoeing and keeping the ground in good condition during the season.

ROOT GRAFTING AND BUDDING.

In the spring the strong, healthy plants may be taken up for root-grafting; after being grafted they may be planted out in nursery rows, or the trees may be planted in the place where they are to remain for bearing trees. The small plants may be transplanted out into nursery rows in the fall or spring one foot apart in the row and three or four feet between the rows for budding, which may be done from the middle of July to the middle of August—(the time of budding will depend in a measure on the state of the tree). The rind or bark should part freely from the wood, so that the bud can be neatly inserted in the stock. The rule for budding young trees should be to insert the bud six inches above the ground, and the stock should be from a quarter to a third of an inch through.

EARLY BUDDING.

The method often adopted of budding early in the season and cutting off the shoot an inch or two above the bud in order to make a summer growth is a bad practice. By this system the bud, instead of remaining dormant until the next spring, is forced into an unnatural growth before its proper time, and the consequence is that the shoots do not possess the strength or form so good a top as when the bud is allowed to remain to its due time of starting; by cutting off the top or main branches in midsummer, the tree is also in a measure paralyzed, by retarding its growth and the free circulation of sap; besides, by depriving the tree of the leaves for a certain time, a free respiration, so much needed, is for a time suspended.

In transplanting apple trees we refer the planter to the article on "PLANTING TREES," No. 15 of Mr. E. Sayers' Horticultural Treatise, published in the Deseret News, and adopted by this Club.

PREPARATIONS FOR SETTING OUT TREES.

One principle object should always be borne in mind by the planter; namely, to well prepare the ground one year before planting, by applying a good coat of rotten manure and plowing the ground deep and mixing in the manure well with the soil. Another item is not to plant too deep; a fault which is often prevalent, and the consequence is that the tree never thrives well. The rule for planting trees is to place the tree in its new home at the same depth as it grew in the nursery rows, never allowing the roots to be more than an inch deeper than its natural growth.

WATERING THE TREES IN PLANTING

is also in some cases necessary, in order to settle the fine earth close to the fibrous roots. This may be done by dashing into the hole (when about two-thirds filled) a pail of water, which will serve to fill in all cavities around the roots; for want of this precaution many trees are lost in planting.

The mulching the roots of trees is also a good system before planting; particularly if there is fear of the small fibers becoming too dry. For this purpose either make a hole or have a tub; then prepare some well-rotted manure, make it fine, put it into the tub or hole, and add as much water as will make it, when mixed, into a consistence of thin mortar, plunge the roots into the mortar, which, by clinging to them, will keep them fresh and serve to fasten the fine earth to them in planting. When apple trees are to be planted, where the subsoil is of a hard, poor, gravelly nature, it is a good method to take out the hole two feet deep and replace the subsoil or bottom of the hole with one foot of good surface soil, in order that the roots may strike freely and be well established in their new place.

GENERAL CULTURE.

After planting, the ground should be well cultivated and care should always be taken not to plant either vegetables or grain too near the tree. It should always be a rule to allow each tree three feet all around uncropped. It is also an excellent system to mulch around trees in the spring with manure, old straw or anything that will keep in the moisture during the summer, which will add much to the free growth of the tree. Green weeds that are pulled up in the season are also excellent to place around the stem of trees in summer, which keep in the moisture and guard the trunk from the influence of the sun, which often proves injurious to it during the hot season.

DIGGING AROUND THE TREES.

Caution should be taken in the culture not to dig deep around the tree. In fact the hoe is the only tool that should be used within three feet of a tree after planting; the working deep near the trunk of a tree is often the cause of the upper roots being cut off and much injured. The bark of the tree is also frequently injured, particularly when worked by horses. When the bark of a tree is bruised, it seldom heals and is often a great injury to the tree for many years.

WATERING.

In planting trees, the ground should be so managed, that in watering it is not flooded so as to be much saturated. In order to preven the trees from being saturated near the stem the earth around the tree should be a little above the level and the water drill or furrow may be made from two to three feet from the tree. By this means the water will penetrate into the soil and come in contact with the fibrous roots. During the summer, if the water drill becomes hard, so that the water cannot penetrate into the ground, it should be broken up either with a spade or plow, so that water can pass freely into it and come in contact with the roots.

The above may be held as a general rule for watering trees when they are well established.

IN THE FIRST YEAR OF PLANTING,

Young trees will require to be often watered so that the roots are kept in a most state; the ground should also be well attended to, by keeping it clean from weeds and in a free, mellow state. For the want of good management trees often die the first year of planting, and little good may be expected by the planter unless due attention is paid to the above items.

Before the watering of young planted trees, it is an excellent method to mulch around the roots on the surface, with some well rotted manure, which will serve to keep the earth moist and the roots will receive a benefit from the nutriment of the manure that is washed into the ground by watering.

WATERING NEWLY PLANTED TREES.

A great failure often occurs in new planted trees by deferring the watering until the time of general irrigation, in which case the earth about the roots of the tree becomes dry and the consequence is that the young, fibrous roots die and hence the tree either dies or makes but little growth the first season. To avoid the above evil, young trees should be carefully watered by hand with a waterpot so soon as the earth becomes dry about their roots; this may be continued during the season, in order that the tree may be well establish in the ground.

PRUNING AND FORMATION OF THE TREE.

In pruning trees it should be an invariable rule to form a low, dwarf tree, so that the top should as much as possible shade the stem or trunk from the influence of the sun, which, in the hot dry season, often effects materially the system of the tree. In this climate it is well understood that dwarft trees invariably thrive better than those which are trained to standards of six or seven feet high. Such trees are more subject to be injured by the wind than dwarfs, and the tops being further from the ground, the nutriment from the soil is not so readily conveyed to them in a tall tree as in one of a low growth.

FORMING THE HEAD OF THE TREE.

In forming the head of the tree, a clear stem of about two feet will be a good height. At this point the head may be formed by allowing from three to five leading branches to remain, which should form a regular head, being careful to cut out any upright branches that fill up the centre of the tree too much, which should always be open so that the sun and air have influence on every branch. When a tree is well pruned it should form a regular top so that every part is well balanced with the centre or main stem.

GENERAL PRUNING.

The best time for pruning the apple tree is about the middle of May, as at that time the wounds callous over and heal freely, which is one great point to be observed in pruning trees. Another great point in pruning is to have a good sharp knife or other instrument so that the cut from the part amputated is left smooth