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s. DAVIS,

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 W. J. CROCN: a soms, Ioute 3, Greenbbore, R. C.

## How to Control Surface and Subsoil Water.

## A USEFUL DRAG.

(Two-Dollar Prize Letter.)
SEND the readers of The ProgressIVe Farmer a plan of a drag for making ditches and terraces.
Procure a plank one and one-half inches by 12 Inches wide, six feet long. Get another plece one and onehall by eight or 10 inches wide five feet long: cut these sloping so as to fit at an angle, or $V$ shape, spacing

the zear ends three and one-half feet apart, bracing across with a two by six inch, two feet long. Fasten a strong piece of one and one-half by kix inch, five feet long, on top parallel with landslide 16 inches from outside. It should have a bolt-an old wagon box strap fron rod will answer-through centre. In front end four holes for mitch. The bot-
tom back edge of wing should be tom back edge of wing should be
beveled off so as to give it a sharp, cutting edge or a plate of fron would be better still.
The slopes of wing and landslide at front end should be cut so as to give top of wing some backward slanting to give suction to ground.
Hitch two good horses to this and drive standing on, you can make a fine terrace by running once or twice in furrows ofter having plowed it first.
This can be made into any size. For cleaning ditches it should be made smaller

## J. M. CORNELIUS

Sherrill's Ford, N. C.
The Poor Man's Drain Tile.
$I^{N}$ draining wet lands I have al1 ways used poles, usually three, but two years ago got tired of cutting and handling so much timber and fell on this plan: Cut ditch with good outlet, as deep as you have fall, lay off straight and cut with straight slope to bank, so bottom will be about 10 tinches. Let stanc open as long as possible to drain Cut pine poles aix or elght inches in diameter and eight feet long. One good straight tree will make several. Start at openfing of ditch distributing poles. Use larger ones first. Having poles in place, begin your work. Split poles as for old fashioned house-logs, except you press them open abou four inches and tack a strip at each end to hold open. Leave bottom untouched, it will be top when placed in ditch- Strips should be one by two, long enough to take up space in bottom of ditich, the strips hold poles up it bottom of ditch is muday.
One hand and mysele split and put in, ready for covering, over 400 feet in one day. When you ge poles in, it will look like one straight pole. This ts much easier than join ing three poles and saves tumber Poles in place, covering comes next. Use leaves, ptne straw, grass and briters off the altches. Put in besfde the pole, tramping them down, shovel off the bank so a horse can walk on it, take a good turning-plow and the job is easily finished.

This lind of drainage is for the poor man, unable to buy timber or tiling, but who has poles at hand. It fo better than Iumber if he had it, especially for small ereek or branch land. You can have one main ditch
nd use under drains to hills and where it fe wet and seepage.
Until two years ago I worked some braneh land for nine or 10 years, making almost a fallure every year. I consulted Demonstration
Agents, but- the laud beins buck Agents, but- the laud belng buckshoty, they gave me no encouragement. I tried my one pole tdea, and in 1910 made a bale of cotton per aere, and some land fin 1911 made 40 bushels corn per acre. These two years were very wet throagh June and July.
T. J. BEACH.

## How Best to Lay Tile.

T $T$ IS all right to start laying tile 1 at the upper end of a drain, prowill yot cove but it wonld not do in our section, as our soil varles so that some part would surely cave ahead. of the work and complicate it. This method has the advantage of eliminating the danger of tile being choked by sand from caving or washing, but, plainly, it is necessary to keep drain clear to its mouth, so that there will no accumulation of water, which would of cource the work and I heve ha a caving hantil the a ainefoot aitch cavo until the gorge was 80 feet wide. Grading is a most important feature of tile drainage: it should be as nearly uniform as possible. With but one inch fall to 100 feet, the thle will surely choke from the silt, which will gradually settle in the tile umtil it is entirely choked where there is less than five inches fall to each 100 feet. There should be side-wells into which the silt will settle, they being regularly cleaned out to a depth of 12 or 15 inches below the tile. These wells can also be used to flush out the silt, by stopping the water antil it rises in the wells, then letting it go. The total fall of a proposed drain can be found by nailing a lath two feet long across nother six feet long one foot from another six leet long, one foot from ne ond, an at inen place a lever on the short lath, stand the cross at elther end of the proposed drain, and with the cross arm level, sight along the top, and with a lath take the bearing at the other end of the drain and substract the maller from the greater and you will come near having the fall, divide the total by the distance, and there is your grade.

Mr. French's plan to dig the dram as deep as it will-stand without cavfig is right as it facilitates the work and requires less personal supervision. I would not take the bark from poles used for under-drains, as the bark will help to keep them continuously sobbed, which is necessary to keep them from rotting. I have some such drains working, that were put down in 1878 . T. J. HAMLIN.

Mt. Pleasant, S. C.
How To Terrace With Dynamite. MAKE a land level of three pteees of scantling or any cheap, rough straight-eage stuif; one for your
bench to be eight feet to 12 feet bench to be eight feet to 12 feet
long and two pleces of equal lengths long and two pieces of equal lengths
two and one-half feet to three and two and one-half feet to three and
one-half feet long. At a hardware store buy a 75 cent carpenter' spirit level. Secure it on tap of bench in the middle by 10 -penny nails partly driven A more simplo and securate devies conld not be Imasined But if you prefer buy land level for $\$ 10$ or $\$ 15$. Two men can level 50 or more acres a day. One takes the level and one follows with a hoe, chopping out one hoefu of dirt at each end, thes fadtenting your terraces. Or $a$ man may fol low with a turn plow or twister, dis carding hoe. Throw weveral deep furber of onfe and ote-halthinelt fro

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(Other Soed Adr on page 85.)

