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ROOT-KNOT.

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ROOT-KNOT, or crown-gall, has been familiar to orchardists for the past half-century, and perhaps longer. It was originally looked upon as a mere malformation due to some special conditions to which the affected plants were subjected. In the United States, however, the affection was considered a disease, owing to the unthrifty appearance and ultimate death of numbers of trees on which galls were developed on the roots. Peaches appeared to be the worst sufferers, and some thirty-odd years ago Professor Toumey carried out a series of investigations on the etiology of the disease. He appeared to prove fairly conclusively that the causal agency in the production of root-knot was one of the slime fungi, a group of lowly organisms one member of which is the cause of that destructive disease club-root, so common amongst the Brassica family.