

recently has it been clearly demonstrated that a dead branch on a tree makes almost as much strain upon the main plant for moisture as does a living one. It is one of the most important discoveries of modern botanical science to the practical horticulturist, as by this knowledge he can save many a valuable tree. Any dead branch or any weak one should be at once cut away.—*Secty. Michigan State Horticultural Society.*

APPLE TREES SPLITTING.—Various devices or remedies are given in the papers from time to time to prevent forked apple trees from splitting. Iron bolts are inserted; iron bands are employed; ropes are used to draw parts together; branches are drawn together and interlaced, &c. Prevention is best; well formed heads will not split down. Two main branches, diverging from each other at an acute angle should not be permitted. An even and spreading head will not split, nor will any tree be liable to injury if not allowed to overbear. The practice of propping up the limbs of fruit trees indicates that the trees are not well trained, or they are allowed to overbear, or both.—*Country Gentleman.*

GRAFTING WAX.

I have used this wax for the past eight years. Take one lb. rosin, one ounce beef tallow, one ounce beeswax. Melt and stew together thoroughly. Remove from the fire and add seven ounces of alcohol and one tablespoonful turpentine, stir until entirely cold. Bottle air-tight in large-mouth bottles. Apply with a brush.—*W. S. B. in Fruit Recorder.*

After considerable trouble this receipt was obtained for grafting wax, and has proved satisfactory:

Take 1 lb. of rosin, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. beeswax, and a little less than $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of tallow. Melt together in a small iron kettle and stir thoroughly. Pour into a dish of cold water, and when cool pull like molasses candy until white and fine grained. Roll in oiled paper.—*O. A. O. in Country Gentleman.*