How to Plant your Fruit Trees.

THE CLUE TO SUCCESS.

The plantation of a tree is a very easy matter; but yet we must know how to do it. For what would it serve to procure vigorous trees, hardy, of first choice quality and variety if they were to be planted in a midst or under unfavourable conditions? It would be better not to buy any rather than risk their plantation. How many hundreds of trees are lost every year because the care and the necessary operations required to make a success of their plantation are ignored? Even frequently, after repeated failures, the cause of which is at first attributed to the nurseryman, and afterwards to the climate, we get discouraged and we abandon the culture of fruit trees, when the failure is due solely to the unskilfulness of the planter.

So as to prevent these losses, it is of importance that all those who buy trees be aware of the attentic , to give them on receipt and when, where and how to plant them.

Receipt of the trees.

Before they are accepted, it is in the first place necessary to ascertain if they are in good condition, and if the quantities, species and varieties received are well in accordance with those ordered.

We will judge of the quality and of the condition of a tree by the roots, the top and by the appearance of the wood, of the buds and of the bark. If its rooting system is flexible, well developped, if it has a dumpy collar, a straight stem, free from knots, a smooth bark not covered with black moss, well disposed main branches, vigorous buds, the tree will be of first quality.

You will distinguish, to the contrary, that a tree must be refused or put aside, when the roots are dry brittle, when the bark is shrivelled, wrinkled, or again when in cutting the end of the branches you will notice that the heart of the wood is black. The plantation of such a tree is useless.

It sometimes happens that trees however well packed suffer from overheating owing to a slow delivery in the spring. In this case, the buds are generally opened. Also, will it be necessary to heel them in without delay and prune them severely at the time of their plantation.

Heeling in.

As soon as they will have been unpacked, the trees will be heeled in, that is to say that we will place them one along side the other in one or many trenches