

nursery. This gives them a fine appearance with their large handsome tops, but frequently the roots are few and straggling and even these in "lifting" are often cut short, leaving few, if any, fibrous rootlets to be seen. When a tree of this description is planted, it requires at least the whole of the first season to recover its balance, and even then has received a serious check which it will require a considerable time to overcome. Much more reliable and satisfactory will be found the medium size stocky trees, with short jointed, well ripened wood, and a fair proportion of short fibrous roots which have been preserved by dipping in "Grout" (*i. e.*, mud and water) at the time of lifting. Such trees will be generally found to come into bearing earlier than the others, while they are less liable to disease and injury from frost, &c. It is further to be observed that the younger and smaller the tree, the better the proportions of roots to branches can be preserved, and for this reason many large planters prefer trees of two and three years from the bud to those of much larger size and greater age. When receiving trees from a distance, on opening the cases first examine the roots, and all that have been cleanly cut with the spade and are forming *callous*, *i. e.*, showing a protruding fleshy ring between the bark and wood, should be carefully *let alone*, but all broken and mangled or dead ends of roots, must be cut back *with a sharp knife to sound healthy wood*, so that they may also form *callous*, from which springs the little rootlets or fibres which take up the food requisite for the growing tree. Should the trees be found dried up or shrivelled in the bark, open a trench in the shade on the north side of a building or wall, lay them in bodily, covering altogether over with the moist earth and leave them in that position until the bark swells out and regains its natural state and appearance, then they may be removed as fast as planted.

HEADING IN OR CUTTING BACK.

This is a subject on which a great diversity of opinion prevails, and many persons contend that the top should be cut back in the same proportion that the roots have been mutilated, else the tree cannot carry its foliage, and will dry up and wither. This may be more or less the case where the summers are very much hotter and drier than ours, but I have never found it necessary. My