

PRUNING TREES.

If pruning is attended to annually, there will be no necessity for large wounds, which are as injurious to a tree as to an animal. A correspondent writes, that in his neighborhood all the orchards and trees pruned by an itinerant are declining and dying, while those not pruned then are still sound. The fault is in doing such severe pruning at one time, aggravated by leaving the wounds open to the cold drying winds. When a branch is already dead from any cause, and decaying, it is necessary to cut back to sound wood, and a coat of varnish, paint or tar, should be applied to prevent loss to the tree by evaporation of the sap from inside, and further decomposition by access of air from outside. Pruning should not be done when the sap is so abundant—as in late spring—that the wound cannot dry. It's continued oozing causes rapid decay, and injures the bark below the wound.—*Farmers' Advocate.*

A fruit tree to be grown in perfection *requires some pruning every year till it gets in bearing condition.* After that it may possibly take care of itself, though such cases are rare.

The fruit grower should have an ideal in his mind of what he wants as to size and shape. If he has this and will attend to the pruning at the proper time, there need be little cutting of large branches, to leave bad wounds or bring disease and decay. A tree should be so shaped that it will be strong enough to hold up its load of fruit, compact enough to withstand severe winds, and open enough to give a healthy growth to all leaves and fruit. A great many trees are neglected till their tops are so thick, and the growth so fine, that large healthy fruit is an impossibility. A certain amount of room for air and sunlight is required for the healthy development of every thing that grows. Large fruit can only be produced upon trees that have large healthy leaves, and where there are three or four twigs, or leaves, where there should be but one, the fruit must be small.—*New England Farmer.*

DEAD BRANCHES are usually looked upon as simply unsightly, doing no injury to the tree upon which they remain! but the *Gardeners' Monthly* urges their removal because of the draft upon the tree for moisture. It says: Our readers must remember that only

recen
tree
as do
mode
know
any w
Horti

Al
in the
splitti
are us
interla
down.
angle
not sy
overbe
indicat
overbe

I l
rosin,
togethe
alcohol
Bottle
B. in l

Aft
wax, ar
Tak
tallow.
Pour in
candy r
in Cour