

DR. DENNISON :—Is it not the effect of some parasite, or of some fungoid growth, and should not some of these trees, or sections of them, be submitted to microscopical examination by experts and reported upon.

MR. MILLER :—Some of my trees are affected with this disease but on the north side only. I would like to ask Mr. Blanchard if he has observed anything of the kind.

MR. BLANCHARD :—My gardener called my attention to the fact that the bark was always split on the south side.

R. W. STARR :—Last summer I examined an orchard in Cornwallis that was badly affected, the trees were of different ages and of several sorts, but the Gravensteins had suffered most. The soil is a heavy loam with retentive sub-soil, and highly cultivated. The previous season was wet and warm, inducing a luxuriant late growth followed by early and severe frosts in November. My theory is that the disease is owing to the action of frost on immature cambium, and may be, I think, compared to blood poisoning in animal life.

MR. BLANCHARD :—To sum up the facts, it seems that a strong late flow of sap, caused a deposite of immature cambium. Intense cold in November destroyed the new tissue, and where the bark did not burst and let in the air, acid fermentation set in, causing that distinctly sour odour that we have noticed.

MR. MILLER :—If this be true we can do nothing but pray for mild autumns.

R. W. STARR :—By no means, we must work as well. We must try to get such a system of cultivation as will induce early growth and perfect ripening of wood, by applying raw manure in the fall, so that it may become incorporated with the soil and ready for plant food early in the season, and above all things we must, where needed, thoroughly drain the land to get rid of the superabundance of moisture, when we have those occasional wet seasons to guard against.

The meeting by resolution requested Professor Hind to follow up this subject and report all the information obtainable at the Annual Meeting.

The Professor agreed to this on the condition that fruit growers generally should assist, by sending him all the facts coming under their observation.