

our apples from the markets of Great Britain, even allowing that the quality and quantity from that small island were to compare favorably with the Canadian. The freight charges are high from Canada to England, but from Tasmania it is at the exorbitant rate of 5s per bushel.

Just now, however, there is no need for us to export our long keepers, for the prices at home are unprecedentedly high, choice Russets and Spy bringing \$4.00 to \$5.00 in Toronto, and have even brought as much as \$7.00 per barrel in the city of Montreal, for extra fine samples.

USEFUL TOOLS.

AMONG all the tools for pruning trees there are none so useful as the large pruning knife and the fine-toothed saw. In pruning his three-year-old peach trees this spring the knife has been the only instrument needed by the writer. He has found indeed that he can prune out the dead wood and shorten in the young growth much more quickly with the knife than with any other instrument.

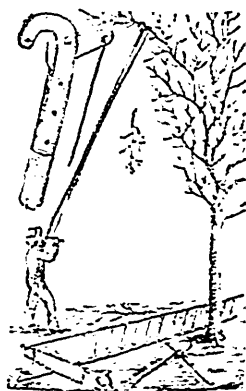


FIG. 45.

By climbing a light step-ladder one can grasp several of the small boughs in one hand and with the other lop them off, and the work is soon done. With older trees, of course, the knife is out of the question, and with them the writer has found no instrument equal to the Water's tree pruner (see fig. 46), for with it one can stand upon the ground and shorten the branches very rapidly. This is a very

important operation with the peach tree, for if it is allowed to grow its own way, as is advocated by some growers, the new growth will all come at the extremities of the branches, and the tree die of premature old age owing to the long distance through barren and sickly old wood, which the sap must travel to reach the growing parts.

We very strongly advocate the shortening in of the peach wood from the first year after planting, thus keeping the tree as much as possible in bush form; for in this way the tree will live to greater age and at the same time give the greatest amount of fruit. Some even contend that they find trees so treated less subject to the ravages of the yellows than those not so pruned, and we are experimenting with this in view;

but whether it will accomplish so desirable an end or not, certain it is that the trees well shortened in are the hand-

somest ones in the orchard.

For the apple orchard, especially in the work of removing the suckers and of cutting out small limbs that cross, the combination pruner and saw, called the "Little Giant," is a very convenient tool, and will save a great amount of labor or climbing, and thus reduce the cost of the work. (See fig. 46.) By kind-

ness of Messrs. Johnson

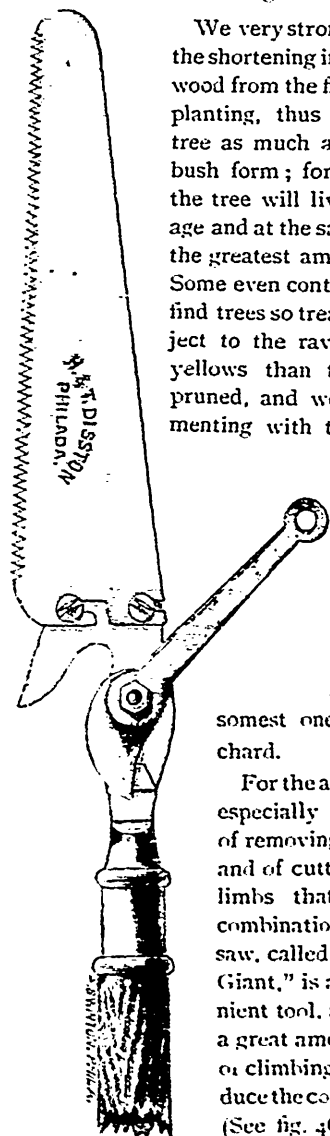


FIG. 46.

& Stokes we are able to give our reader engravings of two of these instruments.