

"That the disease is of a fungoid nature increased in virulency by atmospheric causes. That all manures are injurious, saving only lime and salt. That the earliest Potatoes in ripening should be exclusively grown. That earthing up repeatedly with fine earth is the only effectual preventive to the ravages of the disease."

"These opinions," says the London Gardener's Chronicle, "are much the same as those which have been repeatedly expressed by ourselves, with the exception of recommending lime and salt as a manure, and trusting to frequent earthing up. But we must express our entire dissent to the author's statement that disease never originates in the lower portion of the stem where it adjoins the root. We can only say that during 13 years that we have studied the phenomenon of this singular malady we never saw an instance to the contrary."

MANAGEMENT OF WOOD LOTS.

This wintry weather reminds us both in city and country, that fuel in some shape is an article of the first necessity. And whether our thoughts go back to the open fire-place, and reminiscences of sober comfort there enjoyed, or fly away to the mines of carbon stored so many ages for after use, there is no question that the management of wood lots deserves consideration. The high prices of this product everywhere throughout the country, save in the wilderness itself, incites us to thought on the sources of supply, and the best means of its increase and preservation.

Dense forests once covered our State, and in the march of the pioneer, his sturdiest enemy scemed the old thick standing trees which hid the fertile valleys from the sunlight. His work and his true policy was to clear away a portion of this growth that he might plant and sow and gather food and wealth from the virgin soil. Through the long winter he plied the axe, and the towering trees crashed often to the earth, and the skies of spring and summer were hazed by the smoke each day, and reddened by the glare each night of burning logs, which would have sufficed to heap the hearths of a city with fuel. Only the most valuable lumber was saved, and year after year the work went on as long as the forests dared cast their morning or evening shadows on his humble roof-tree.

Now, a different state of things prevails, and there are thousands of farmers who buy far more wood than they sell—thousands to whom the value of our forests are coming home, as timber for lumber, fences and fuel yearly rises in value. There has unquestionably been some mis-management of our resources, and we will devote the remainder of this article to a few practical hints on the time of cutting, as related to the sprouting and after-growth of wood lots, and also to planting the same.

The season of the year when forests are cut off has long been known to influence the after-growth, and it may be observed by any farmer that certain stumps in his wood lot sprout again freely, while the stumps of other trees send out few or no shoots, and soon decay. This fact is found to be little influenced by the kind of timber, but seems to depend mostly on the time of cutting; and experiments show that trees cut in spring when the sap flows most freely, almost invariably sprout again and send up a flourishing growth.

If one would bring on, then, a new growth of trees, let him cut the old at this season, and cut them near the ground, that the shoots may have a better chance; while if it is desirable to clear off a forest, it should be cut when the sap does not flow, and at that time it is said the timber proves most durable.

Whether it is best to cut only the full-grown trees, leaving the young and