

orchard were broken up and cultivated, you will not only make your trees healthy, but I think you will have a crop of fruit. You may have unprolific varieties, which with us do not produce enough to pay for the space they occupy; but if the ground is broken up and kept fertilized, I think you should have no difficulty in getting a crop from trees of the age of yours.

Mr. DEACON.—I have a good many Russets. There are one or two trees of a dark green Russet, as large as my fist. There are some Northern Spies this year, and a few of the Maiden's Blush.

Mr. CROIL.—My orchard has given me a good deal of trouble, and I am at a loss to say whether cultivation is a good thing or not. I planted my four acres in 1869, and I continued to crop the ground with corn and potatoes until 1883. That is fourteen years. I find I have done more harm than good. All that time it bore well. The trees grew wonderfully. People passing along admired them. After a while, however, this spot set in, and all the softer varieties are worthless. I went up to another one of our places, and saw some fine Fameuse apples there, and on enquiry I found that the orchard had all along been in grass. The trees had not been trimmed or cared for, and there, his apples were sound and good. I had another piece of two acres planted two years after the one I have spoken of, and it has been in grass ever since. It is freer from spot than mine; but this does not hold out all through. I have a tree that was planted forty years ago. Every second year I have taken fifteen or sixteen bushels of Fameuse apples off it, and it has been cultivated all the time. The fruit is not spotted.

Mr. A. McD. ALLAN.—I should fancy that in the case of Mr. Deacon the trees would require pruning every year. In cultivating the soil, one point you would gain by, would be the wounding of the roots. If you want to bring about bearing, you cannot do so better than by wounding the roots. That is the only way I can get General Hand to bear a crop. I should think summer pruning in this gentleman's case would also be advisable, and I think a proper quantity of top manuring should be spread under the trees, where the rootlets could get it.

Mr. DEMPSEY.—Cultivation, certainly, has some effect. When you cultivate an orchard lying in grass, the first year you check its growth. There is no question about that. Some years ago I undertook to adopt the system of pruning laid down by Mr. Rivers, of England. He is one of our best authorities, and he recommended, that in order to induce any variety of fruit to bear early, to transplant it every alternate fall. This is very severe. We adopted that plan with some standard pears that some people said required sixteen or seventeen years to come into bearing; such as the Inverness. Even of that tardy variety, we proved that at the age of four years by this system of root pruning they could be made to bear. Strange to say, the tree will not be more than two or three feet high; but the fruit is of superior quality. During the whole period of root pruning, Mr. Rivers recommends high fertilization. I tried it with several varieties of apples and pears, and in every instance it worked perfectly. I had a little Hawthornden apple tree that produced a crop for several years when it was only twelve inches in height. This may look unreasonable, but it is true. Wherever you cut off an old root, a fibrous growth results. I am satisfied that cultivation is a good thing.

Mr. ALLAN.—I have seen some fine instances of root pruning in nurseries where they use the tree digger. This knife runs under the trees, and cuts the ground in a circle. After using this for a couple of years, I have noticed these little trees in the nursery row covered with fruit.

Mr. DEACON.—What time in the year should this be done?

Mr. DEMPSEY.—This is about the proper time. If you intend to be severe, do it the latter part of September or the beginning of October. Strip off the foliage and you will be surprised by the number of fruit buds that will mature. We cut a trench around the tree, at a distance, in proportion to its size, and thereby cut off the roots at a certain distance. By taking a sharp spade, then, we sever all the top roots. I follow Mr. Rivers' instructions. This spring we filled the trench with well-rotted manure, and you would be surprised by the quantity of fruit that was produced. There will be no spots.

The PRESIDENT.—It does seem that while some people take a great deal of trouble to keep trees alive, that others seem to succeed better by ill-using them.

Mr. YOHILL in the county of I find that his sy the failure to the of the year, and to prevent freezin Now, here we ge bed at all season that the celery r red celery is ahe rot does come th have for the rea that is frost pro and in the roof; forty it keeps pe of the root hou together as thic

Mr. WILSO but have not ha that the best pl celery between t so. I had a go plan of leaving and when I see plants so that y severe frost; b but I had celery

Mr. HANN sawdust instead

Mr. DEMPSE I prefer the red winter ours in much earth as cautious that it I think that it not rise above

Mr. BROCK quantity, with wide, fully the then I laid son little straw ove the celery durin taken out as m another plan i boards along tl these, and as I well too. I fi

Mr. BROCK name. I can g thing like rot Mr. SIBB successful with