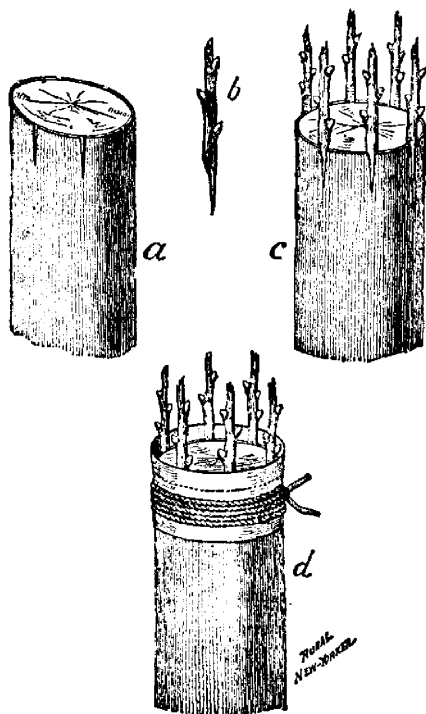


shellac dissolved in alcohol or white paint, but if a fine saw is used it will not require painting. Shoots will spring up in abundance from the stub of the branch left, which should be about fifteen or eighteen inches long, and these may be budded at the proper season.

This is a good plan, and quite practicable by any one who understands the simple art of budding; but a still better method of renewing old trees has been suggested by the *Rural New Yorker* and by favour of the Editor we are enabled to give our readers the following description of it with an excellent illustration.



CROWN GRAFTING.

"The following is an easy and effective method of grafting old trees. By it the percentage of failure is reduced to a minimum, and branches at least six inches in diameter, and, in the case of

pear trees 75 years old, may be worked with assured success. Last year we mentioned the case of such a pear having been grafted two years before with the Kieffer, that gave a full crop last fall. Saw off the branch at right angles to the stem to be grafted, as at Fig. 162 a. Then cut a clean slit in the bark through to the wood, as shown—a slit the same as in budding. Separate the bark from the wood and insert the cion b, one for each slit. The number of slits for each stock will be determined by its size. We will suppose the stock illustrated to be six inches in diameter, and that six cions are to be inserted. The stock after receiving the six cions is shown at c. Grafting wax is not needed. A thick paper may be wound about the top of the stock extending about one inch above it and securely tied with strong twine, as shown at d. The space above the stock encircled by the inch of paper may then be filled to the top of the paper with a puddle of soil and water, made so thin that it can be readily poured from any suitable vessel. This mud protects the surface of the wood of the stock, and excludes the air from the insertions. It gives every advantage of wax without its objections. Of course, stocks of any size may be worked in this way. One, two, or any number of cions may be inserted according to the size of the stock."

EXPERIENCE WITH GRAPES.

W. M. ROBSON, LINDSAY.

SIR,—I was much pleased with *Mr. J. H. Wismer's* description of the *Chinese Paeony* in February Number. It was short, captivating, and convincing. Its special merits seem great enough to create a desire to become a possessor of this beautiful perennial. But I was sorry to hear the unfavorable report of the *Prentiss Grape* received from the Association; for with me in Lindsay, among my different kinds, which number in the teens, it has been my special