

In our practice we have worked out a method of girdling that may be applied to any system, but is most satisfactory where one cane is allowed to grow ungirdled on one side of the vine, but not permitted to grow fruit, while the cane of the previous year has been girdled and is producing fruit.

In our illustration *a* represents the cane that is to bear the fruit, while *b* is the spur made by cutting the girdled cane off. The girdle should be made three or four (3 or 4) buds from the main cane or arm so as to insure enough good buds for a good cane. After fruiting the girdled cane is cut back to a spur, and the opposite cane is allowed to bear. By this system there can be no possible fear of injury to the vine.

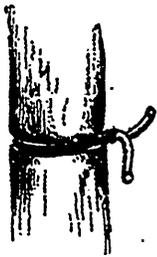


FIG. 2093.
GIRDLING WITH
WIRE.

The wire must be twisted so as to almost cut into the wood, and if the vine is growing slowly, no very marked results will follow, but if they are growing very fast, or if the wire is given about all the twist it will bear without breaking, it will be found almost as effectual as the knife.

We had a knife made from one solid piece of steel, but it was not properly made, and did not do as good work as one made in the same form of thin steel might. I think if two pieces of thin knife steel were riveted to the cleaner point it would do very satisfactory work. The two blades should be set about 3-16 of an inch apart.

Some one has suggested a knife and cleaner made like pruning shears, with blades side by side, and cleaner to follow the cut. Here is a chance for some inventive genius.

BRACING GRAPE TRELLIS.

A very simple plan of bracing the end posts of the trellises in our vineyards is by a wire attached to a stone sunk into the ground. We have practiced it for some years and find it most convenient and satisfactory. Miller, of Ohio, describes the method thus: "The letters *a, a, a*, show the wires fastened to the end post *b*, which is inclined outward from the row. Near the top of this post is also fastened a piece of medium weight galvanized wire *c* of a sufficient length to reach below the surface of the soil beyond the reach of frost; the buried end is fastened to a good sized stone, that will keep the inclined post and also the wires in their proper position. The ground about the stone and wire should be well firmed."

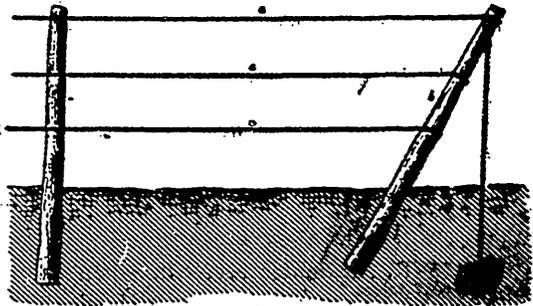


FIG. 2094. VINEYARD TRELLIS BRACING.

CO-OPERATIVE COLD STORAGE.—A writer in American Agriculturist wonders that farmers do not unite and take the advantage of cold storage for their apples. They sell at 75c. to \$1.00 a barrel apples which would bring in late spring \$3.00 a barrel; and

thus allow the speculator to make greater profit than the grower. A private cold storage plant might be too expensive for the ordinary fruit grower, but if several would combine the thing would be practicable and most remunerative.