surface. In spring they may be carried to the garden and planted. Soak seeds of locust and honey locust in hot water till the outer covering softens, and then plant. Soak seeds of evergreens three or four days in water, changed daily, and then plant very shallow in rows a few inches apart in rich loam, well screened by lath, brush or muslin. See that weeds do not rob the young plants of light, room and nourishment. Evergreens in small quantity, when small and two or three years old, can be purchased of experts more cheaply than they can be raised at home. These can be set in rows and cultivated for a few years like Indian corn. For further details you are advised to read copies of our State horticultural reports, take lessons of a nurseryman, or go to the Agricultural College.

White Oak.—It is of little use to plant seeds or buy trees, unless we know how to

handle them while moving.

Kentucky Coffee Tree (Hiram).—In taking up a tree, whether large or small, do not twist it about so as to break or bend the roots abruptly. Get all the roots you can afford

to, remembering that a tree will not grow without roots.

When out of the ground keep the roots constantly covered with soil, moss, damp straw or something else. The roots are far more sensitive to dry air than are the parts above ground. No one need wonder that trees carted into town with short roots exposed to dry air often fail to grow or lead a precarious life for years. Study the structure and the physiology of a tree and treat it as one who always makes everything thrive which he cares for.

White Oak.—How shall we care for the trees after planting?

Apple Tree (Hannah).—To set a tree se as to ensure its thrifty growth, place it but little deeper than it was while growing. Have the soil well pulverized and pack it closely about the tree.

After all this trouble, do not court disappointment in the slow growth or in the death of a favorite tree, but dig or rake the ground every week or two all summer for three to five years for a distance of four feet or more each way from the tree. If this is impracti-

cable, place a mulch of something covering the space above mentioned.

White Oak.—After planting, trees sometimes become too thick. What shall we do? Pear Tree (Andrew).—A tree, like a child, is a living, organized being and keeps changing as long as life lasts. It is not best merely to set as many trees as we expect to remain for a life time, but plant them more thickly with a view to removal. Here is where 99 out of 100 fail. They do not keep an eye on the growth and trim or remove trees until they have crowded and damaged each other beyond recovery. In most instances, a few large, well developed trees should grow where many small ones were planted years before. It needs courage and judgment to remove some favorite trees that others may continue to spread and make a symmetrical growth.

White Oak.—Next will follow something in reference to the flowers of trees.

Bitternut (Silas).—With rare exceptions, our trees bear flowers which are inconspicuous. The elms and the maples produce flowers in spring before the leaves appear. Most have the staminate and pistillate flowers on different parts of the tree or on different trees. The wind or gravity carries the pollen to the pistil, so there is no need of sweet odors or a gay display of flowers to attract bees and butterflies and moths to carry the pollen. Compensation is well displayed in nature. If the tree has not gorgeous or fragrant flowers, it has a large size and often a beautiful form.

White Oak.—We should learn to love tress and to associate them with the generous

hand who planted and cared for them.

Wild Plum (Ezra).—I will tell you something which was written by Washington Irving: "There is something noble, simple and pure in a taste for trees. It argues, I think, a sweet and generous nature to have this strong relish for the beauties of vegetation, and this friendship for the hardy and glorious sons of the forest. There is a grandeur of thought connected with this part of rural economy. It is worthy of liberal, and freeborn, and aspiring men. He who plants an oak looks forward to future ages, and plants for posterity. Nothing can be less selfish than this. He cannot expect to sit in its shade nor enjoy its shelter; but he exults in the idea that the acorn which he has buried in the earth shall grow up into a lofty pile, and shall keep on flourishing and increasing and benefiting mankind long after he shall have ceased to tread his paternal fields."

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