

others isolated, resembling in size and shape the half of a pea or bean. This is the black knot in the incipient stage of its growth. By the middle of the month it will have increased in size so as to be plainly visible. At this stage of its growth if an incision is made with a sharp knife around it, cutting quite through the bark—the supply of sap being cut off—it ceases to grow, and dies in a short time, as other plants when deprived of nourishment. If allowed to grow and mature seed, all trees in the plantation susceptible of its influence will, in a few seasons, be gone suckers. It is now so generally disseminated, that for one person to attempt its eradication would be futile, even should all who have Plum trees join in the contest; the result would be doubtful.

The most satisfactory course to pursue, and avoid the nuisance, is to exclude from the orchard all trees liable to be affected, and select such only as are known to resist this species of fungus.

In a plantation comprising some hundreds of trees and thirty varieties, the only exceptions among the blues were Ickworth Imperatrice and German Prune, (Quetehe); of the greens the Imperial Gage, and a common seedling, inferior as fruit, known locally as Frost Plum, but good for stocks on which to bud or graft. The yellow kinds appear to be more enduring, especially the elongated class, such as Coes Golden Drop, Princess Yellow Gage, Jefferson, White Egg, Magnum Bonum and its seedlings, Lawrence's Favourite, and McLaughlin. These varieties, so far, have stood the test, although in close contact with trees more or less affected. This parasite is calculated to give Fruit Growers the "blues" a little the quickest of all the nuisances they have to contend against. The bugs are bad enough, but they come up to the works, and go in for a fair fight. This black fungus, this imp of darkness, which no mortal eye can detect unaided, until too late for revenge, is at work unseen, and is certain death to a tree when once it takes a grip. Plum trees scattered through the country carrying a heavy crop of black wart, may be numbered by thousands—anything but graphic—fit subjects for cremation.

Of late years Plums have contracted the disagreeable habit of decaying in advance of the period of ripening, and a large portion of the crop is decimated in a few days. This is another parasitic fungus, no doubt twin sister to black knot. A solution of sulphate of iron destroys it. The difficulties in the way of a successful trial was in applying the wash, and a knowledge of the quantity of copperas the