

planters would observe the following details, I think there could be no fault-finding with fall planting.

1st. Get your trees direct from the nursery, and don't allow someone else to do it for you, and leave them on the road or railway station for two or three weeks to freeze and thaw.

2nd. Never "heel in" but plant at once with care and without undue exposure; stake them.

3rd. Plant nothing too tender for the climate of your locality (except for experiment) because if it does not disappoint you the first year it is sure to do so some day.

J. H. WISMER.

Port Elgin.

**PRUNING THE QUINCE.**—Mr. W. W. Meech, who has achieved signal success in quince culture, reports the following system of pruning in the *Farm Journal*:

"After the leaves fall in Autumn and before they start in Spring I go over every tree and cut back every shoot. If a foot growth was made the year before, cut off half of it; if two feet, a little more than half, and if three feet grew, it will pay to cut off nearly two-thirds of it. A judicious thinning out of older wood will also be found desirable. Then when the new growth starts, rub off the weaker buds so as to let but one shoot remain at each. As generally grown, the quince is too weak to have more than one shoot at a bud, but as I handle my trees, two, three and even four shoots often seek to grow from the same place. This method of severe pruning has been condemned as being unnatural. But experience proves the wisdom of this severe pruning of the wood and of an equally severe pruning of the fruit."

I think the *Horticulturist* is gaining in value, giving with each number, a cheap fund of knowledge for fruit growers.

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## The Vineyard.

### ASHES AS A FERTILIZER.

For vineyards, all things considered, I regard unleached ashes the best fertilizer known. A ton of hardwood ashes contains 320 pounds of potash, worth \$16, 105 pounds of phosphoric acid (insoluble) worth \$5.25. Omitting all the other ash constituents, which have some value of themselves, the potash and phosphoric acid of a ton of such ashes are worth \$21.25, or nearly six times the value of a ton of fresh horse dung.—*President Phillips, West Mich Hort. Soc.*

### SHIPPING UNRIPE GRAPES.

I wish to say, and also to impress it upon the mind and memory of every grape grower present, that there is nothing so disastrous to the grape market as the shipping of green grapes early in the season. It is sure to bring prices down to a low point, and once down it is hard to bring them up again. The consumer who has been waiting patiently for the grape season to open, buys them with the expectation of finding them ripe and delicious; but instead finds them sour and unfit to eat. The consequence is it will be some time before he will try his chance again. Thus the market becomes seriously damaged at the outset.—*President Phillips.*

**ARTIFICIAL CLOUDS** were recently made for the protection of vines from frosts at Pagny, on the Franco-German Frontier. Liquid tar was ignited in tin boxes, and pieces of solid tar on the ground near the vines. Large clouds of smoke arose and protected the vineyard for two hours. Although vines in the neighborhood were injured by the frost, all that remained under the clouds were left uninjured. Of course