

TRANSPLANTING TREES.

Sir: In the Mail account of your late meeting I noticed a short account of transplanting trees.

Can you kindly oblige me by informing me how I can obtain full information for transplanting trees in this Province to advantage, its proper season, method, and machinery used?

Can I obtain full details of the discussion of the various topics brought before your Association? Such would be of great interest to me.

W. F. GRANT, Galt.

THE QUESTION of which is the BEST SEASON

for transplanting trees and shrubs is a much debated one, some claiming that fall planting is most successful, and others advocating the advantages of spring planting. The nurseryman would naturally prefer to make as heavy sales as possible in the fall, that he might be eased a little of the great rush of spring orders, and the unscrupulous tree agent, at this season, will assure intending planters that the fall is the only right time, just as earnestly as he a little time ago advocated the season of spring.

The fact is that we in Canada live a little too far north to succeed in full planting without the greatest care. Farther south, where the winters are milder, it is much the preferable season. There is more leisure for the work, a better selection of trees can be had from the nursery, the roots will become calused during the winter, and the trees well established in their places in good time to make the best of the growing season. But here, where the winter often begins in November and the thermometer often touches 30° or 40° below zero, fall planting is, to say the least, risky. If a hardy tree or shrub is moved about the time of the fall of

the leaf, and fine earth packed well about its fibrous roots, it will probably do well in Southern Ontario, if planted in dry soil; but, even here, the more tender sorts will certainly suffer badly, and perhaps be killed outright if planted at that time.

We speak from experience. On one occasion the writer planted at Grimsby, an orchard of Hale's Early peaches in the fall in the most favourable situation; they did not leaf out at all until the following July, and then made but a poor sickly growth. He planted a hundred Duchess dwarf pear trees once in the fall, in soil that had fairly good natural drainage, and only about twenty survived the winter; though in justice to the subject we must add that a hundred planted on high and dry sand came through all right. On another occasion he planted an orchard of Northern Spy apple trees early in the fall in well-prepared soil. The season was very dry after planting, and though put in most carefully, being removed directly from the nursery rows to the orchard ground, they leafed out very slowly the following spring, and did not make as good growth as spring-planted trees.

As to season, therefore, we advise the spring as the safest and best, except in exceptional cases.

The

MODE OF TRANSPLANTING

is simple, and yet a few points need to be impressed upon the mind of the amateur. In the first place the ground must be thoroughly pulverized and enriched. This can be best done by growing a root crop upon it the year previous. It must always be borne in mind that trees are living organisms that want room for growth under ground as well as skyward. One of our neighbours planted a pear orchard in a tough pasture field without any previous breaking up of the soil. He planted