

bium, that is to say, after it has been elaborated by the leaves, and is in the right condition to assimilate with, and add to the tissues, of which the tree is composed.

If a limb is cut off at any other season the wound has to be covered to prevent decay, and if there is nothing to replace the vital energy, suddenly checked by its removal, the bark will shrivel, dry, and never heal, because the cambium in its descent the following season will find nothing but dead tissue to act upon; whereas, if the amputation were made just at the time the active principle of life and growth was performing its office, is it not reasonable that healing of wounds would be at once effected? I must confess I am at a loss to conceive how persons who possess a full knowledge of the use and action of the sap of the tree can state that it is unimportant at what season of the year a tree should be pruned, especially as practice and results prove conclusively, that the theory as to the quick and certain healing of the incisions is without doubt the correct one.

I should be very grateful if some of our readers who have fruit trees, would make the experiment for themselves this summer, if they have not done so previously, and let us give the public the result; make a note of the date of the operation, and another of the date when the wound on the edges of bark in which the cut was made was healed over, whether any paint or wax was used to cover said wound, which, in my opinion, will be quite unnecessary, and whether trees thus operated upon were in any degree checked in their growth.

At any rate do not relax in your care of the orchard in the summer months, supposing that when you have done your spring spraying you need do no more until you gather the fruit.

While the husbandman slept the devil sowed the tares among the wheat, and the powers of evil are as rampant now as they were then. If we are to succeed we must lay wait for them and do that which experience shows us will counteract their devastating effects. It is no use locking the stable door after the steed is stolen.

The Grazier and Breeder.

ANTHRAX.

Anthrax is the result of the introduction into the blood of a minute rod like body, the bacillus

anthracis, which grows from spores or seeds. The spores are never developed in the animals' body but only when the blood of the victim and its contained bacilli are freely exposed to the atmosphere. This spore formation always occurs when the carcase of an animal dead of anthrax is opened or cut up. Any substance brought on a farm may act as a carrier of these spores. Blood and bone manures, refuse used as manure, hay or other fodder grown on an infected farm, may carry the spores to farms on which anthrax was previously unknown. Diseased animals do not transmit the infliction to others in the ordinary way by association. The bacilli or their spores must be introduced into the blood through a wound or abrasion, however slight, before the malady can be communicated. The carcase of an animal dead of anthrax is far more dangerous than a living sick animal. Where the disease has been known to exist on a farm in the past, one may sometimes, in the case of a sick animal make a happy guess as to the nature of the disease from which it is suffering. But there can be no doubt but that anthrax is often overlooked, for when making an enquiry into an outbreak for the first time one may find that some of the animals had been treated by a veterinary surgeon who never suspected the disease he was dealing with. To proceed to wholesale slaughter and compensation in the case of anthrax would bespeak deplorable ignorance regarding that disease. Even if we could in one day kill and dispose of every animal that harbours an anthrax germ, we should not be appreciably nearer the extermination of the disease, since there would still be spores that lurk in contaminated soil and water, and which are the cause of periodical outbreaks. Where such contamination exists, one invariably finds that it is owing to carelessness in dealing with the carcase of an animal dead of the disease. It frequently happens that an owner does not recognize the nature of the disease, and the carcase of an animal really affected with anthrax is flayed, cut up, and some parts of it given to the pigs and dogs. The bacilli in the blood, thus freely exposed to the air, proceed to form spores which, being almost indestructible may be the cause of further outbreaks for years to come. The most absolute security against contamination of the soil by means of carcasses would be, theoretically, obtainable by destroying them by heat or chemicals, but unless this can be done on the spot, without a preliminary cutting up of