If the bark of twigs that bear the discoloured leaves and blossoms be cut and examined the affected area will be found to be shrunken and discoloured a dark reddish brown, or purplish. Sometimes the bark will be blistered and often on such blistered areas there will be present the somewhat dried remains of a gummy exudate. This gummy exudate bursts through the blistering areas or oozes through the pores of the bark when the disease is actively progressing in an area that is well charged with sap. On first appearing, the exudate is transparent and almost colourless, but as the moisture evaporates from it, it becomes first amber colour, then brown, and finally a dark reddish brown when dry.



Fig. 10. Recently blighted pear twig. Disease very active; exudate on surface of bark. Note the small exudate globules scattered all along the stem.

(Fig. 25.) This exudate is literally crowded with the germs of the discase, and if by any means, either by insect, workman's tool, or careless handling of diseased parts of trees, it finds entrance to the bark of a healthy tree, there the disease will develop.