

and he ought not to attempt an orchard without having the ground plowed at least two years before setting out the trees.

BUYING TREES.—Orders should have been sent to the nurseries before this. Better to defer planting until another year than to purchase from the glib-tongued tree peddlers, who will furnish only the refuse of nurseries, impartially named. Order direct from the nurseries (*or from their authorized agents, but not tree peddlers—Comp.*)

Nursery trees, when long on the road, often dry and the bark becomes shrivelled. Bury such trees in sandy soil, root and branch, in a few days they will become plump.—*American Agriculturist for March.*

SIZE OF TREES.—The *American Agriculturist* says:—In selecting trees for planting the largest is not always the best. Medium sized trees are lifted with better roots, are easily handled, are less liable to injury from transportation, start quicker and grow faster than large old trees, which have wider spread roots, which are certain to be severely abridged in lifting. The top must then be pruned severely to correspond with the destruction of the roots. So there is nothing gained in the way of size. Two-year-old trees of the apple, pear, plum and cherry, and one-year-old of the peach, are the best sizes, and of these, stocky, low-branched specimens will be found to give the most satisfaction.

TRANSPLANTING TREES.—A correspondent of the *Williamette Farmer*, who claims to have had twenty-five years experience in orchard planting, says:—Having the ground thoroughly prepared, measure off the distance with a pole, and set small stakes right where the tree is to be set, (stake out the whole field intended for planting—when done properly they should be in line, looking from any direction. Drive these stakes down so they will not be disturbed in digging the holes.—Comp.) This done dig holes large enough to set the trees without the roots being cramped, *remove the stake and place the tree exactly where it stood, spread out the roots in their natural position*, throw in a small quantity of fine earth, move the tree up and down a little to sift the earth among the fibres, then put in more earth, tread gently till the hole is full, but in no case set the trees more than one inch deeper than they were in the nursery.