

the wind, and if the tree is supported by being tied to a stake with some material which would not rub the bark, it will become all the more quickly fixed in the soil and will also have a straighter growth. When placed out the trees should be well pruned. Spare the knife and spoil the tree is a perfectly true variation of the old proverb. Many inexperienced planters are terribly afraid of the pruning knife, yet its judicious use is most essential. A tree requires at least a year to become thoroughly rooted in its new place, and all the nutriment it can get is needed to strengthen it in its early stages, and if this nutriment goes to leaves the tree is weakened and frequently dies. The branches should be well trimmed, and if the tree is not intended for timber, the top may be cut off, and in a year or two a luxurious growth of young shoots will take its place and the tree will spread out and have a thicker growth.

A good sized tree for transplanting is one from an inch to an inch and a half in diameter a foot from the ground, though, if care be exercised, those of larger size may be successfully planted. For ornamental purposes they may be placed about thirty feet apart. This may seem a great distance while the trees are young and small, but a few years changes all that and they will be better for having plenty of room.

We have gone into these details, as we think this subject one of much importance, and to ensure success, details of the nature we have mentioned must be attended to. We hope to see the attention of the several Provinces specially directed to this question of arboriculture. It is well within the scope of their duties, and they could, with little trouble, prepare and issue to the teachers short manuals or circulars giving instructions as to the simplest and best means of succeeding in tree-planting. Which Province will take the initiative in introducing the study of arboriculture into its system of education?

A. B. W.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.

For the REVIEW.]

ARBOR DAY MISTAKES.

As Arbor Day is approaching, when teachers, pupils, and many other interested ones are planning to plant trees, shrubs, etc., upon the school grounds throughout the Province, permit me to refer as briefly as possible to some of the mistakes which, in my judgment, were made last year. That mistakes should be made in engaging in an enterprise so new to most of our people, was to be expected, but let them be repeated this year in as few cases as possible. It involves much labor to take up and transplant trees.

If the work be done intelligently and patiently, it will in most cases be effectual; if done hurriedly and carelessly, it is almost sure to be lost. One common mistake was

1. In *Selection*. The tree having been in many cases

(a) Taken from the forest where it was tall and spindling, with little top and less root, instead of from open fields or pastures, where the tree grows short, with a considerable top and numerous roots and rootlets, affording sufficient vitality to overcome the shock of transplantation.

(b) In being too large, sometimes from two to three inches in diameter, requiring more root to insure its growth than is generally taken up with such large trees. A tree from one inch to an inch and a half in diameter is much more likely to live, and, overcoming soon the shock of transplanting, it will sooner become a larger tree than the bigger specimen.

(c) In planting short-lived trees, such as poplar, etc. In having been taken from poor soil instead of from good, also from soil very unlike that of the school ground. The tree out of good ground is more likely to grow, even though the place where it is set is poor. It has more rootlets to draw nourishment from the soil.

2. In *Removal*.

(a) In cutting off roots too near the trunk, instead of cutting a circle from four to five feet in diameter.

(b) In forcibly pulling the tree out and breaking and tearing the roots, instead of taking time to dig carefully, cutting off the main roots here and there, and thus taking up with the tree a good portion of earth and leaf mould as well as rootlets.

(c) In having taken the trees from very rocky ground where mangling could not be avoided, instead of finding a place as free as possible from such hindrances.

(d) In having taken up the trees on the morning of Arbor Day, or the night before, and leaving them exposed till the following afternoon, thus drying the roots of the trees and insuring their death, instead of removing the trees at once to the excavations already prepared for them.

3. In *Planting*. (a) In digging holes too low and setting the tree too deep. If soil is shallow with a sub-soil of clay, a shallow excavation is best, preventing as it does the accumulation of water beneath the roots. If soil is deep, a deep hole is better, but the tree must not be set more than an inch or two deeper than it was originally; the roots must not be placed beyond the action of the air or heat. (b) In leaving vacant spaces about the roots, instead of carefully and