

HINTS ON TRANSPLANTING, &c.

I cannot attempt to give complete directions on all points connected with Tree Planting, but simply a few hints on the more important operations. Every man who purchases a bill of Trees, should put himself in possession of "THE FRUIT GARDEN," or some other treatise on Tree Culture, that will furnish him with full and reliable instructions on the routine of management. Transplanting is to be considered under the following heads :

1st. **THE PREPARATION OF THE SOIL.**—For Fruit Trees the soil should be *dry*, either naturally, or made so by thorough drainage, as they will not live or thrive on a soil constantly saturated with stagnant moisture. It should also be well prepared by twice ploughing, at least, beforehand, using the subsoil plough after the common one, at the second ploughing. On new fresh lands, manuring will be unnecessary; but on lands exhausted by cropping, fertilizers must be applied, either by turning in heavy crops of clover, or well decomposed manure or compost. To ensure a good growth of Fruit Trees, land should be in as good condition as for a crop of wheat, corn, or potatoes.

2nd. **THE PREPARATION OF THE TREES.**—In regard to this important operation, there are more fatal errors committed than in any other. As a general thing, trees are placed in the ground precisely as they are sent from the Nursery. In removing a tree, no matter how carefully it may be done, a portion of the roots are broken and destroyed, and consequently the balance that existed in the structure of the tree is deranged. This must be restored by a proper pruning, adapted to the size, form and condition of the tree, as follows :

STANDARD ORCHARD TREES.—These, as sent from the Nursery, vary from five to seven feet in height, with naked stems or trunks, and a number of branches at the top forming a head. These branches should be all cut back to within three or four buds of their base. This lessens the demand upon the roots, and enables the remaining buds to push with vigor. In the case of older trees of extra size, the