

APPLE TREE BARK DISEASE.

A peculiar disease, the nature of which, as will be seen from the copy of Mr. Fletcher's letter below, is not at present understood. Complaints come from Messrs. W. H. DeWolf and J. Howe Bent, who are planting out a large orchard at Chilliwack (see copy of their letter). From Mr. H. D. Green-Armytage, of Nicola, who says:—"The apple trees seem invariably to be injured in such a manner that part of the wood in the stem dies, and in time kills the whole tree." From Mr. Henry Woodward, of Alberni, who says: "Apple trees are liable to a bad disease which affects the bark." These complaints probably all refer to the same disease.

"WOLFDALF FARM, CHILLIWACK,

"26th December, 1891.

"To the Department of Agriculture, Victoria, B.C.:"

"GENTLEMEN,—We send by to-day's mail a small box containing a few pieces of limbs cut from our apple trees, showing how some kind of an insect is doing harm to our trees, and in some instances have killed the branch, or small tree, where they have stopped the circulation of the sap.

"From the appearance of the tree it looks as if an insect of some kind stung the bark and sucked out the sap.

"You will also find enclosed in the box a small bottle containing a few insects we found in the holes, but we cannot say whether these are the insects that do the work, or if they are some other kind that have crawled into the holes for protection from the weather, but we presume these are the insects as we found them on several trees.

"They do not attack the old trees, except in the branches, where the bark is smooth; but in the young trees they go for the trunk and branches also, and in some instances have almost girdled the young trees.

"We would be glad if you will look into the matter and let us know if there is any remedy to prevent them from destroying the trees.

"Yours respectfully,

"W. H. DEWOLF,

"J. HOWE BENT."

"CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM,

"OTTAWA, 9th January, 1892

"James R. Anderson, Esq.,

"Victoria, B.C.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of yours of 26th ult., enclosing letter from Messrs. W. H. DeWolf and J. Howe Bent, of Wolfdale Farm, Chilliwack B.C. The specimens of injured apple stems are also to hand. This injury has been submitted to me three or four times before from different parts of your