

CAN any readers reply concerning the tarred paper? The plan of starting bon-fires throughout the vineyard on frosty nights has been tried in America as well as in France, and carefully managed, may succeed if the material is at hand and set on fire just at the right time.

#### Cutting back Peach Trees.

95. CAN you give me some information concerning the proper time for pruning or cutting back this year's growth of peach trees. Some recommend its being done now, in order to throw them into full bearing the next year. Mine have grown most rampantly. The trees are some I set out two years old, three years ago, and others the same ages were taken up a year ago last spring. If it be safe and beneficial to cut this year's growth back, how much should be taken off? Any further information or suggestion you will kindly afford me, will greatly oblige.—WILLIAM McMURRAY.

THE *shortening* in system of pruning the peach tree has been long practised by the most careful peach growers both in the United States and in England, with the most evident benefit both in prolonging the life of the tree, and in the increase of the size of the fruit. Everyone knows what an ugly object an unpruned peach tree soon becomes: its black ugly trunk, and straggling branches bare of foliage, except at the extremity, are an eyesore to its owner: but this mode of pruning will keep the tree in a healthy, vigorous state, with abundance of fresh young wood, and dense foliage. It consists simply in cutting off one half or more of the last year's growth all over the tree; or if a tree has been neglected, it may be cut well back into the old wood. This should be repeated year after year, and thus the tree kept in a well rounded shape, and a luxuriant growth result each season.

We have never practised cutting back the peach trees in the fall, because too occupied with the fruit harvest and other important fall work at that season. The usual time is in early spring, but we see no reason why it should not be performed in October, as soon as the summer's growth is completed.

#### Morse's Seedling Harvest Apple.

DEAR SECRETARY.—I mail you here to-day a package containing specimens of my Seedling Harvest Apple, picked on the 8th inst., average size, neither the largest nor the smallest, but not equal in flavour to those grown on original tree which I removed in the spring and therefore not in bearing this year. The fruit sent is from buds inserted in another seedling which I suspect has reduced the flavour. The Seedling Harvest is superior to the old in size. It is a regular good bearer. Has never through all our "Test Seasons" shown the least "spot," when the old was regularly and utterly ruined. Never anything like "Leaf Blight." It is a very vigorous grower. Time of ripening, same as old variety, earlier if any difference. We are a week or ten days later than generally.—S. P. MORSE, *Milton*.

JUDGING from the samples sent us by Mr. Morse, his seedling is all he claims for it. The fruit is above medium size, and round in form, while the Early Harvest is medium in size, and roundish oblate. The skin is very smooth with obscure white dots of a straw color, but not so bright as the Early Harvest. The stem is shorter and stouter and set in a deeper and more irregular cavity. Calyx closed, set in a round basin, deeper and more regular than that of the Early Harvest. Flesh white, tender, juicy, sub-acid, but lacking the crispness, and the sprightly flavour of the Early Harvest.

However, its fine size, its earliness and freedom from spots, commend it to the notice of fruit growers with whom the Early Harvest does not succeed; coming, as it does, in advance of the latter, it should command a high price in our markets.

#### Aylesworth's Seedling Apple.

I send by express to you to-day a small box of my Seedling Apple. The season is late here and it has been very dry. Yet I have been eating them—mostly such as had been stung about a fortnight. I send a sample to you for your opinion. We are all (I suppose) inclined to a favourable opinion of our own. Hence the use of the opinion of others after searching us out. Any way I have eaten of them without harm a larger number these two or three years, from the hand, than I did of all kinds in twenty years before that.—J. B. AYLESWORTH, *Collingwood*, 16 Aug., 1888.

THIS apple is also above medium size, and rather larger than the preceding,