

look; the hair in some parts of the body stands on end; the respirations are quickened, as well as the pulse; yet the appetite is not impaired, in fact there is no complaint made about an animal's appetite except when the disease commences in the form of pleurisy, in which case very little food is eaten, and if the animal be pressed in the spaces between the ribs it shows signs of pain. It will generally be found that in the acute stage there is considerable tenderness all along the spine, and the moment a person's hand is placed in that vicinity the affected creature will shrink. The horns and extremities are alternately hot and cold; urine dark colored and scanty; faeces darker than usual. Yet when the disease takes on the incipient form, the work of destruction goes on in so mild a manner that it eludes detection, until auscultation or percussion reveals it."

### THE CURCULIO.

Every one knows that it is with great difficulty that a good crop of plums, at one time so easily and plentifully produced, can now be obtained in almost any part of Western Canada, owing to the ravages of the Curculio.

So soon as the fruit is fairly set—while the trees are yet in blossom—the curculio commences its attacks by making a crescent-shaped wound in the fruit, into which it deposits one or two eggs.

These eggs soon hatch into small grubs, which eat the pulp and seed, and soon cause the fruit to drop off from the tree. The grub now crawls out of the decayed fallen fruit, and burrows in the ground, where it soon passes through another transformation, and comes out another curculio to follow up the work of devastation and death that was commenced by the parent.

These insects continue to prey upon the fruit all through the season—there being this difference, that when the fruit approaches maturity and the stone or pit becomes hard, the injury done does not cause the premature fall of the fruit, but the ripened fruit will be much injured by the working of the grub inside of the delicious pulp.

We have seen many remedies proposed for the mischief, but the only really reliable one yet discovered appears to be that of shaking the insect off the tree, and despatching him there and then.

The curculio will, if surprised by a sudden jar or the like, instantly curl up his legs and fall as if dead, and thus he will remain for some time like an inanimate speck of dust. In order, therefore, to dislodge him from your trees, lay a sheet or other cloth under the tree, and with a mallet or hammer, covered with cloth to prevent bruising the bark, give sudden raps upon the limb so as to jar it, when the little rascal, true to instinct, will curl up and fall upon the cloth, from which he may be taken and crushed between the forefinger and thumb, or thrown into a vessel of hot water, or into the fire.

There are several contrivances recommended for facilitating the work of catching the animal. One is that of a large umbrella, made expressly for the purpose, with a slit in one side to admit the trunk of the tree. This is placed under the tree in an inverted position, when the tree is jarred, and the umbrella then immediately closed, by which the insects which have been shaken down, are all collected in the top of the umbrella, and emptied into the vessel of hot water. Another plan is to have a pair of large sheets stretched upon frames, and connected at the centre and one end by hinges. These are placed under the tree and used in nearly the same way as the umbrella, being closed quickly after the jarring, and the insects thus readily collected together and destroyed. But probably for a few trees the simple sheet, or two or three of them, are quite as good as any more complicated contrivance. The work should be done every morning, from the time of the setting of the fruit, and persevered in faithfully for at least six weeks. This may seem a great deal of trouble, but it does not take much time, and we do not think that any one would consider his labor thrown away when he found himself rewarded in autumn, with a plentiful crop of sound delicious plums. We know of no other plan by which that result can be depended upon where the curculio is established.

A correspondent of the *Michigan Farmer* writes on this subject as follows:—

"One thing more in regard to raising plums. I have raised a good crop of plums