

the removing of old, decayed or lodged fruit from the limb, such as apples, pears, and "mummied plums." These should be destroyed, as they furnish storehouses for germs of fungous diseases living through the winter. Great care should be exercised in winter packing of apples to destroy all refuse, old apples, leaves, etc.; inspecting cracks of barrels for pupæ of insects, such as codling moth, which often hibernate in this manner.

Trees should be inspected for the bark-louse, and scraped,—exercising care with young trees,—letting the scales fall upon the snow; using a hoe on large trees. The black knot that infests the plum and cherry trees should be looked after and the knots cut off and burned at once, as they are now filled with winter spores inclosed in little sacks, which burst open in the spring and are distributed by the wind. The cut surfaces should be treated with an application of kerosene or turpentine, rubbed on with a cloth. When trees or limbs are badly infected, they should be removed and burned.

The manure heap should never be neglected during the winter. An amateur fruit grower writes that his horse-manure heap was destroyed last winter by burning. This is remedied by mixing other manures with the heap, or by adding earth. Watering thoroughly and often will serve the same purpose. Too many permit their manure heaps to suffer. This is wrong, as stable manure is one of the great agents in profitable orcharding; its presence in the soil regulates to a large extent heat and moisture, which commercial fertilizers will not do. All the manure possible should be applied, and then, if necessary, pieced out with commercial fertilizers. The cutting of apple scions for winter root-grafting should be done now, and stored away in a cool cellar, in leaves or sand, until ready to be grafted upon the roots of seedlings grown from apple seeds. These seedlings can be easily raised, or can be purchased from nurserymen for from three to four dollars per thousand, and every fruit grower should do his own root-grafting, the process being easily acquired, thus keeping down the nursery expense. These are a few of the many points that enter into profitable winter orcharding—PROF. E. E. FAVILLE, in *Farmer's Advocate*.

**Tender Plants.**—The skilful gardener will find a place for many tender plants, especially for the gladioli, dahlias and tuberous begonias, which have been stored in the dwelling house during the winter. A place can also be found for the large flowered canas, not in isolated groups on the lawn, but in small groups in the margin of a shrubbery where their stiffness will be concealed yet their fine colors will be useful. Phlox Drummondii, sweet peas, asters, calliopsis and tall nasturtiums can also be added. The most important thing we have to consider in gardening with hardy plants and shrubs is their arrangement. We must study to produce a pleasing effect at all seasons—to have a succession of bloom, that the garden shall never be dull or uninteresting.