

down firmly with the foot. Two or three inches of loose earth should then be placed on the surface, and when all is done the tree ought not to set more than one or two inches deeper than in the Nursery, just sufficient to allow for the settling of the earth. No stakes are required—none should be used—as almost invariably they do harm by chafing the bark at some time or other.

TREATMENT AND CULTIVATION.

The soil should now be planted with root or other hard crops, and kept liberally supplied with manure, which ought to be applied to the entire surface, as it will not be many years ere the roots will occupy the whole area. Few persons are aware of the great distance to which the roots of even small trees extend in their search for food. One of the best writers on Fruits, J. J. Thomas, says: "It must constantly be borne in mind that the roots of trees usually extend as far every way, from the base of their stem into the soil as the height of the trees, and often much more. A tree ten feet in height stands at the centre of a circle of netted and branching roots twenty feet or more in diameter." Now when we consider that the small fibrous roots are the ones that gather and absorb the plant food, it is easy to understand why the manure should be spread over the whole surface, and not confined to a small circle near the base of the tree. During the first summer if the young trees have not been mulched with some material like half rotten straw or coarse meadow hay, the soil should be frequently stirred with the hoe for a distance of at least three or four feet from the tree; this will retain and attract the moisture, and prevent the foliage from withering, while it enables the tree to overcome the shock of removal much more expeditiously and safely than if neglected. In the fall after the crop is removed, a mound of earth should be banked around each tree to the height of twelve or fifteen inches; this will ballast the tree when the soil is soft from rain and the winds violent; it will also protect the roots from the action of the frost and prevent the mice from girdling the bark, which they will often do when the snow lies deep. This should be removed as soon as the frost is out in the Spring, and may be renewed each following Autumn for several years with great advantage. This, however, should be remembered in the