After being 'loaded,' the laths arc hung in special wagons fitted with frames in about the same way as the drying houses, though, on the carts, the laths are closer together to reduce the risk of bruising of the leaves during the hauling from the field to the curing shed. They may also be loaded in small heaps, the layers being put crosswise and the tops of the stalks inward, but when this method is followed, care should be taken to unload the wagon as soon as possible, as over-wilting might result from a long exposure in heaps.

Care should be taken not to leave the plants too long lying a too held. A proper wilting will ensure a good colour, as well as a greater degree of firmness and elasticity in the leaves, provided the euring be not carried on too rapidly at the beginning. An extreme wilting will reduce the elasticity of the tissue, and very often cause an appreciable loss of weight.

• When the priming, or leaf harvesting method, is followed, the leaves are stripped from the stems gradually as they become ripe. The work begins with the lower leaves, which are the first to ripen, and continues progressively until the top leaves are reached.

The leaves are strung on heavy twine, which is stretched in place of laths in the drying house, though the lengths of twine are closer together than laths would be. The leaves are put on the string back to back, to avoid too close fitting and thus facilitate passage of air between them.

Long exposure of the stripped leaves on the ground is still more objectionable than in the case of stalk cutting. A good wilting is sufficient. The curing should, at first, be conducted more slowly than in the case of stalk.

CURING HOUSES AND CURING.

Buildings specially fitted for the curing of tobaceo are termed euring or drying houses. Any clean building may be used for this purpose, except when the curing is to be done by means of fire or hot air, but the best results will be obtained in tight houses where æration may be easily controlled, increased or decreased, or even entirely suppressed.

Tight curing houses are therefore preferable. Small trap doors to permit entrance of air should be provided at the base of the building; and there should be air flues in the roof, for which there are various plans. The number of ventilators in a building is of course regulated by the length of the building.

The ventilation of the eentral part of the house will be more easily done if the building is only of a moderate width, say twenty-seven or twenty-eight feet. A building of this width will afford ample space for a central passage about four feet wide, and three strips or later in either side of the passage. The passage is necessary for convenience and ve. It permits of inspection of the hanging tobaceo, and facilitates the exit of warm and damp gases, which gather in the open space of the passage and escape through the ventilators in the roof.

The choice of location of the curing house is an important matter. The euring house should be built on dry ground. If necessary, the site should be raised in order to avoid dampness. Low places, situated near marshes or running water, should be earefully avoided, as well as hill tops or too high places where strong winds might influence the euring process. The best location will be a well drained site in an open space, but not exposed to the wind. The building should be placed lengthwise with the direction of the prevailing winds during the euring season.

In arranging for the hanging of tobacco, eare should be taken to have the laths far enough above each other, so that when the tobacco is hung there will be sufficient ventilation space between the tips of the stalks or leaves of the top tier and the ends of the stalks of leaves of the tier below. The space between the laths of the different tiers will be determined by the average size of the product, i.e., the length of the stalks or plants ; or by the variety of tobacco. If the leave are hung on twine, as has been