

tent against the attack of fungus by absorbing some of the iron, or would plum or cherry trees not absorb it?

Again, would not iron sprayed on the trees in the early spring, before the foliage appears, be destructive to the fungus spores which might be blown upon them? SUBSCRIBER.

The plum and cherry trees would not be likely to absorb a sufficient quantity of iron to prevent the spores of the black knot from growing upon them, for trees will not take up more than a certain amount of this element from the soil, even though it be very abundant there; but spraying the trees with sulphide of iron in early spring has not only been highly recommended, but has proved itself to be a valuable remedy for black knot. This substance is used in the proportion of one pound to twenty-five gallons of water, and, although too strong to be applied when the foliage has developed, it can safely be applied when the trees are yet in bud, and will serve to destroy, not only a large number of spores of the black knot, but also of the scab, mildew, rust and other fungi.

KEROSENE FOR BLACK KNOT.

My next door neighbor had several plum trees bearing fine fruit, and all died covered with knots; but before dying I had secured a few sprouts and had some fine young trees, on which, when they were about six feet high, knots began to break out on the trunks, some six inches long. Having filled a small sewing machine oil can with coal oil, I gave the knots a dose; they stopped growing, but in about a month a few more made their appearance and some old ones began to swell again, then another dose finished them. The next year (last summer) a few spots appeared, they were treated before they broke out, and all the trees are now very thrifty, only scarred where the large knots were, all the knots died and fell off like loose bark, leaving dead spots over which the new bark is growing. If the trees are very badly affected, it is better to cut them down, they are so unsightly. The oil does not seem to have any bad effect on the sound part of the tree; but, like all other medicine, too much might be injurious, but I'd rather kill trying to save than let the disease have its way.— R. N. Y.

THE APPLE TREE BARK DISEASE.

A peculiar disease, the nature of which, as will be seen from the copy of Mr. Fletcher's letter below, is not at present understood. Complaints come from Messrs. W. H. DeWolf and J. Howe Bent, who are planting out a large orchard at Chilliwack (see copy of their letter). From Mr. H. D. Green-Armytage, of Nicola, who says:—