

more thorough knowledge of the subject has shown that idea to be erroneous, and a glance at an unpruned dwarf pear will at once convey to any intelligent mind the necessity of using the knife freely. Such a specimen could be found to be a perfect mass of leaves and wood at its extremities, and void of all spurs and branches in the interior of the tree, and the only well developed, properly flavoured and coloured fruit will be such as by their situation at the extremities of the branches have been enabled to receive the full influence of the sun.

Pruning, when properly performed, is intended to induce and counteract different forms of the tree; thus we prune to induce fruitfulness and to lessen it, we prune to throw more vigorous growth into a certain portion of the tree, and we prune to prevent a too full development of any particular branch or branches.

Pruning, when applied to a dwarf tree, should commence when the tree is one year from the bud, what is called in nursery parlance a maiden tree—which is simply a single long shoot, varying in length according to the strength and robustness of the kind. This at year old should be cut down to within 4 or 5 good buds at the bottom, thus causing a growth in diameter so to speak—that is to grow branchy and stocky at the bottom, and thereby preventing the upper part from overbalancing by keeping the height of the tree subject to the increase of the diameter. For the same reason and on the same principle an equal growth of the branches is acquired by checking the growth of any particular branch whereon it is found to usurp more than its proper share of room in proportion to the others, and by so doing allowing the weaker branches to receive some of the extra nourishment it was absorbing.

Pruning generally should be performed before the sap has commenced to rise, say about March, or any time after the severe frosts are over, and before any warm weather has excited the tree. In this pruning an eye should be had to the general appearance of the tree, making it as bushy as possible at the bottom, and approaching in shape as nearly as is practicable to a pyramid. This style of tree, which is called the pyramidal, is acknowledged to be the best form for the dwarf pear, as every part of it then gets the fullest benefit of the sun, &c., there being no one part of it allowed to outgrow another, and thereby abstract the direct rays of the sun from falling on each part alike.

Summer pruning or pinching with the finger and thumb is found to be of great importance in pear culture, not only to regulate any inequality in the growth of a tree at the time it is making such growth, but to induce fruitfulness. When it is intended to have the latter effect, it should be performed at a later period of the

year, than for the former, because if stopped too soon, instead of causing the bud left to throw out fruit spurs, they would most likely break and form shoots for wood again. Although the pyramidal is the shape in which the dwarf pear is generally grown, there are many others. In a recent number of the *Collage Gardener*, I saw mention made of a French work, by a Mons. Du Breuil, in which the author goes at length into six different methods of training the pear; the only one which I recollect as being likely to come into use generally, is what he calls the Double Contra Espalier in Vertical Cordons. It is described as a double row of trees six inches apart, planted zigzag, twelve inches from tree to tree. The trees are allowed to get one foot high, cut short back to spurs, and not allowed to get more than one foot through in the branches. Posts are put in every twenty feet and connected together by fencing wire, the wire steadies a nine foot path, to which each tree is fastened, making a perfect wall of foliage and fruit in the fall. The author claims that this method is twice as fruitful as the pyramid, and comes into bearing in half the time. It struck me it might be used in growing the pear along the walks of a garden, in the way that Espalier trees are now grown.

Pears which are sure to succeed well on Quince.

SUMMER

Osband's Summer.	Dearborn's Seedling.
Tyson	Rostiser.
Beurre Giffard.	

AUTUMN.

Belle Lucrative.	Beurre Deil.
Uraniaste.	" Langeleir.
Duchesse d'Angouleme.	White Doyenne
Howell.	Beurre Superfin.
Beurre d'Anjou.	Louise bonne de Jersey.

WINTER.

Easter Beurre	Figue d'Alençon.
Glout Morecan.	Seckel.
Josephine de Malines.	Vicar of Winkfield.

FOR DOUBLE WORKING.

Maria Louisa.	Doyenne d'Ete.
Beurre d'Arenburg.	St. Michael Archange.
Ananas d'Ete.	

A great deal more might be said about the diseases which the pear is subject to, and some of the remedies used; also about its culture in orchard houses. Not having had any experience in that way, I hope that some one of our members will ere long give us an article on the culture of fruits in orchard houses, and make the pear a speciality, combining its diseases and orchard house culture in one article.

Before taking my seat, Mr Chairman and Gentlemen, I have a few remarks to make in reference to our Society. The avowed purpose of our meeting is to enlighten each other as much as possible on the best methods of cultivating anything that comes within the sphere of any one of us. Now I think that object could