

again with the back of the hoe. The sticks, from four to six feet long, are taken and stuck in a line near where the holes are barred. They thus serve for the vines to coil about the first summer after setting out. I think hops thus set will not sucker; at any rate, my yard did not during the three years that I owned it, after setting out in this way.

The first year the ground must be kept clean, whether it requires as much or more working than corn. The best implements for corn culture, are, for the same reason, the best for working the hop-yard, and the square form of planting Mr. W. H. Brewer at Yale, to the contrary notwithstanding—will be found the most economical to manage and cultivate.

In England, it seems, or in some hop districts there, hops are cut in the spring. On this continent some cut in spring, others in the latter end of the fall. With us, growth, as naturally would be supposed, is much more rapid, though commencing later, after it does begin in the spring, than in the mother nation. I rather incline therefore, and for other implied reasons that will suggest themselves, such as bleeding, &c., to cutting in the fall. Cut off close to "the crown" or head of the original roots, smoothly and evenly, and cover with a little mold.

The second year hops are polled with poles from 12 to 18 feet long, according to the strength of their growth or quality of soil; 14 to 16 feet is long enough on ordinary hop land. They are ready to pole when two inches high. Some put two, others three poles to a hill; two will carry vines enough, if a permanent plantation is required. The poles are set about 15 inches apart, on either side of the roots, and in straight lines both ways—firmly and at one thrust. There is more art than theory in this. Experience with a bar and pole will supply a pretty good idea of the latter in a short time. The vines are tied three times, or ought to be. Old woollen stockings supply good tying yarn, woollen being more elastic than cotton string or yarn. Tie when 12 to 18 inches high; again at $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet, and the last time when they appear to straggle rather than climb and twine about the poles.

It is usual to allow three vines to one pole, and two stronger ones to the other, the vines of each pole being selected of as near the same size as practicable. Lateral branches are pinched off as high as six or seven feet, and it is a good policy to work the ground the last time, the ground being plowed twice *towards* the poles, besides being kept clean with cultivator and hoe—just when the blossoms begin to open. Working at this juncture, experienced brewers assure me, improves the flavor and quality of the product. Care must be taken, however, not to bruise the vine or shake the poles. I will offer some remarks on ripening, picking and curing, hereafter. The poles are piled soon after picking, when the vines are stripped off, about 200 in a pile; the earlier the better for the duration of the poles, which are in some places costly. Ash, Tamarack, and it is said in England, the White Huntingdon or Snap Willow, are all good for pole material.

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MAPLE SHADE TREES.—Those who think of adorning their farms with rows of maple trees along the roadside will find a valuable suggestion in the following from the Ohio Farmer:—"One mistake often made in attempting to plant out this beautiful tree for a shade, is choosing such as are too large, and that have grown in the thick woods. It is much better to dig up the smallest seedlings from the woods or fields, and give them the benefit of nursery culture for two or three years."