

wood is tough, odourless, not very liable to crack, and, provided the cases are kept under cover and made up within a reasonable time after cutting, it retains a fair degree of whiteness. For these reasons I am devoting myself to *Pinus insignis*. This pine seems to thrive and grow quicker, locally, on the poorest barren knobs and steep faces from which all the soil has been washed.

HOW THE TREES ARE ESTABLISHED.

The problem, then, of how to economically establish trees on these steep faces and ridges presented itself. Undoubtedly if the land can be broken up and kept cultivated the trees come away much quicker.



PLANTING *PINUS INSIGNIS* ON MOUTERE HILLS WITH MINERS' PICKS.

But usually that course is impracticable, and even if it were possible the cost to an impecunious orchardist would be excessive. At the commencement we used two-year-old trees, but the cost, both of the trees and of planting them on rough country, was too great, especially when large areas had to be planted.

Three years ago I decided to strike out on my Pigeon Valley property with yearlings planted in the scrub, and the results have exceeded expectations. In the first place, the percentage of misses was no greater than with two-year-olds, and the trees have grown very satisfactorily. After the first year or two it is doubtful whether there is much difference in the rate of growth between these and those planted on cultivated ground. I certainly think that at the end of five years no appreciable difference could be noted between