

WORMS IN TIMBER.

The worm that produces what is known as powder post in hickory or oak is not indigenous to the wood, neither is it the same insect as the borer, although operating at the same time and in a similar manner. The borer is the least troublesome, as it will not deposit its eggs where the bark is removed, but the insect that produces the powder post worm will deposit its eggs in the interstices of the surface, and, after the worm is hatched, it works in seasoned as well as partially seasoned timber, always following the porous strata of the wood. Experienced has shown that the ravages of these worms may be greatly checked, if not entirely prevented, by cutting the tree at the time of year when it contains the least sap. The practice is, of course, governed by the locality, the safest time being the two months following the fall of the leaves. At this period the wood is more compact than at any other, and there is less substance for the worm to subsist on. Some object to cutting the timber at this season, on the ground that it is not as tough and heavy as when cut in the early spring, and they claim that the ravages of the insect may be prevented by removing the bark and placing the timber in a dark place until it is well seasoned. Steaming will kill all in the wood at the time, but, if not properly guarded against, there is the same probability of the insect depositing its eggs as when the timber is filled with sap. The question as to what will entirely prevent powder post, although often discussed, is as far from being solved as ever; almost every person handling the wood has a different opinion, but we believe that if cut and treated as we suggest there will be but little difficulty experienced from these worms. — *Carriage Journal.*

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