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A SURPLUS OF FRUIT need not be expected very soon, if we take the estimate given in a late number of the *American Garden* concerning the greater rapidity of increase in population in the cities than in rural places. The statement is as follows: "In 1850 we had eighty-five cities of an average of 35,000 inhabitants. In 1860 we had 141, and in 1870, 226 cities. A hundred years ago one-thirtieth of the people lived in towns; in 1860 one-sixth, and in 1870 one-fourth of our people were town dwellers."

FRUIT GROWERS' INSTITUTES are asked for by the fruit growers in New York State. Farmers' Institutes have been of such great value to agricultural interests that it is claimed that Fruit Growers' Institutes might accomplish similar benefits in developing the fruit industry, if placed in the charge of experienced and successful fruit growers. A special appropriation from the State is expected for their organization. It is a question whether this plan would have any advantage over ours of working in connection with the already existing Farmers' Institutes. The farmers of our country are the people who need to be instructed in horticulture as a branch of agriculture, and if a fruit growers' institute were called many of our farmers would think themselves left out.

A MODEL PEACH ORCHARD IN MICHIGAN.

IN the March No. of the *American Garden* Prof. Bailey, of Cornell, writes an article with regard to Michigan practices of peach culture, and says that the pruning consists in thinning out the small wood each year, that the shortening-in system is not practiced in Michigan, nor can he see any important reason for employing it when trees are properly grown. He also gives three illustrations showing model peach trees trained in what he calls the model system, at various ages.

Now, we are compelled to say that, after twenty-five years' experience in peach growing in the Niagara district, we believe we have made considerable improvement on this method of pruning. We find that by growing peach trees as described, without shortening-in, there is soon very little new growth except at the tips of the upper branches, the lower and interior limbs die out and the tree itself loses its vitality at an early age. On the other hand, by a vigorous shortening-in of one-half of the new growth every year, with a still more severe cutting back of the leading shoots, abundance of young and vigorous growth is continually produced, giving a larger amount of bearing