

appeared in 1898, during fruiting season. In each of the lower corners, says the Farmers' Advocate, in which this cut first appeared, will be seen a single tree loaded with choice peaches; on the right hand is a Barnard tree; on the left, one of the Golden Drop variety. The latter was taken from a tree in a block containing 300 of this sort; they gave a yield of about 2,000 baskets, which sold at an average of forty-five cents per twelve-quart basket: nine hundred dollars for this their first crop. These trees have been planted six years. The lower central picture is a view down the center of the orchard; at the top are two views looking diagonally across either side of the farm. The upper central figure is the residence of Mr. Hilborn, located on the opposite side of the road and directly in front of the central or leading road through the farm. It is built on a triangular piece of land containing three acres.

The orchard contains over 12,000 trees, not half of which bore a crop of fruit this season; nearly all will be old enough to produce a crop next year. The yield, of course, is not so great on these young trees, the average being about two to three baskets per tree. The quantity produced by a peach tree increases rapidly with age. This season thirty baskets were gathered from a single tree nine years planted. It was a sight worth going many miles to see the Brigdens, Fitzgeralds, Barnards, Crosbys, Longhursts, Golden Drops, Smocks, and many other kinds laden with their choice fruit. The finest grades sold for sixty cents to one dollar per basket. Although less than half of the orchard produced a crop, the net returns after paying all expenses was, we understand, between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

The trees are planted fifteen by eighteen feet apart, in blocks containing

twenty four rows of twenty trees in a row. These blocks are located on either side of the central drive, which is thirty feet in width. Between each two blocks a crossroad is left twenty-five feet wide for convenience in gathering the fruit, etc. The trees are pruned every spring. The first two or three years after planting the trimming consists in thinning out the superfluous branches and shortening in the longest limbs. After the trees come into bearing, thinning out is all that is required in the way of pruning. Every spring cultivation begins quite early or when growth starts. The land between the trees is plowed to a depth of three or four inches. This is done with a regular farm plow, as near to the trees as possible. A side draft is attached, which permits plowing quite close to them. An implement called a "grape hoe" is used to turn the soil that cannot be reached with the common plow. Cultivation is continued at frequent intervals, say once a week, up to the middle or last of July, with harrow and cultivator. It is then discontinued in order that the wood and fruit buds will ripen up properly to withstand the cold of winter. When the trees are young, crimson clover or rye is sown among them at last time of cultivating. This is plowed under quite early the following spring. The fruit usually begins to ripen about July 15th to 25th. One variety continues to succeed another until about October 10th to 25th, thus give a continuous supply for three months. The fruit is carefully picked into baskets by men and boys. All of the fruit is not in condition to pick at once. The trees have usually to be gone over three or four times at intervals of two or three days, in order that all may be gathered at the proper degree of ripeness, each time taking only what is sufficiently ripe for market. As fast