

neighborhood detrimental to fruit-growing. Many things have to be considered, and if people are too negligent to give them sufficient attention, ought they to be surprised at an unprofitable result accruing.

I do not now enter upon the subject of the varieties of fruit and their different modes of culture, reserving these for future communications, I wish to confine myself to general considerations. First—that of soil. You will agree with me that its nature and condition ought to receive the first attention. All acknowledge that it should be rich and well drained, but I will add, as above suggested, it must to ensure the desired advantage be suitable to the kinds of fruit we desire. For instance, I have now about the sixth of an acre. The soil is a very heavy clay, almost destitute, as I find from experiment, of lime. Well, this soil I know to be admirably suited to the Dwarf Pear, the Plum, and the Gooseberry, with the simple addition of lime. But grapes are my favourite, my hobby—and these I must and will raise, although the difficulties resulting from the nature of the soil are many and great. But under-draining and trenching 20 inches deep, and the application of lime and sand will much lessen them. Yet I would not face these difficulties if I had a choice of ground, and no one should do so who has. Nor should any one do so, without being prepared for and almost expecting much disappointment.

Secondly—The peculiar influences arising from the atmosphere or exposure, or the neighborhood of streams, or large bodies of water. These influences are in some instances very detrimental, in others beneficial. Those instances you mentioned are in point. Gardens situated on the Niagara River, in which the trees blossom early, and then receive a severe check from the great coldness of the air, produced by large masses of ice floating down from the upper lakes, must yield fruit very precariously—while those upon the lake shore would not only escape this, but would be free also from late spring and early autumn frosts. Those who would be very successful should weigh these things well, and if they refuse, ought not to complain of subsequent miscarriages.

Then thirdly—To know the right modes of pruning and training is essential. I recently visited the cold grapery of a gentleman in which the want of this knowledge is very apparent. The grapery is about three years old, and already there are in some vines four or five feet of naked canes. These canes will every season be lengthened

until, by and bye, there will be nothing but these stems, and consequently no fruit. Even now it does not produce a third of what it ought. Still it is very possible that the gentleman may be disgusted with his failure, and with fruit growing altogether. But ought he to be? Why should people expect to succeed in Horticultural pursuits while ignorant of the proper method. No one does so in any other business. But ignorance here is no more a safeguard against loss than elsewhere. Because here and there you find a tree bearing bountifully seemingly by chance, without knowledge and without care of the owner, it is presumed that trees ought always so to do. Vain presumption. It is time for people to lay aside this idea, and to understand that to grow fruit on a large scale, year by year, knowledge and care and forethought and diligence are essential. To grow a few pears or a few grapes for one's own use is ordinarily indeed an easy task, but that is a very different thing from having a fine and profitable fruit garden. The latter I repeat cannot be had without pains, labor and expense, with these I know no more certain or delightful employment in which we can engage.

Yours,

CLERICUS.

THE APPLE CROP OF ANNAPOLIS, N. S.
—A correspondent of the *Maine Farmer* gives the subjoined statistics of the apple crop of this fine county. The figures are suggestive, and it will be well for other not less favorably situated localities in Nova Scotia to go and do likewise:—

“While our Maine farmers are deploring the failure of their fruit, our Nova Scotia neighbors can now supply them with a quantity of nicer apples than we often raise. I am informed that 60,000 barrels of apples were shipped from Annapolis county in 1852. This season the crop is said to be very light by those accustomed to large crops. I will here give the condition of one orchard which I recently visited in Bridgetown. The enterprising proprietor, Wm. Miller, kindly introduced me to the orchard, and furnished the following statistics of his crop. From 200 trees he sold 600 barrels of apples in 1851, at \$2.00 per barrel; in 1857, 240 bbls. at \$3.00; in 1858, 420 bbls. at \$2.00; this year estimated crop 200 bbls. just sold at \$2.25. In the spring of 1853, he received a quantity of scions from ‘Vassalboro’ Nursery,’ Maine, and engrafted them on old trees, which are now bending, and the branches even splitting