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### THE FARMER'S ORCHARD

WHAT IT USUALLY IS AND WHAT IT OUGHT TO BE

*By R. W. Shepherd Jr., Montreal.*

Almost every farmer can grow good apples, if he tries. Few succeed however, many give up in despair after a very limited trial. That the farmer should make the attempt, fail, and not try and persist until he has succeeded as well with his apples, as with his crop of potatoes, corn or peas, can only be explained by the fact that in the former case, more time must elapse before a result is obtained, which is scarcely ascertainable in a season like other farm crops. A few years must necessarily pass before any result can really be known. If he fails he is discouraged. Time is money, he thinks, and having failed once he is too impatient to lose more time in trying again.

Patience and perseverance, therefore, are the first principles of successful orcharding. The old proverb says "*Patience is a virtue*," who can say that the farmer is not blessed with this most excellent virtue? But by patience and perseverance combined with the same degree of intelligence used in cultivating the other crops of the farm, he must succeed. The Farmer's Orchard usually consists of a few dozen sickly or half dead and alive trees, planted *near* the house (without regard to fitness of soil or exposure) as if the one great object in view was to