

and let it pass through one of the side walls and up to the outside of the evaporator to the height of eight feet. Beneath the trays and above the furnace suspend by wires a strip of sheet iron, three feet wide and ten feet long. Bend this in a semi-circle so that the edges of the sides will be two feet apart. Place this sheet iron as near to the trays and as far as possible above the furnace, with its convex side downward. It will then direct the currents of hot air into the air chambers on either side of the evaporator. From thence the heated currents pass underneath and over the trays to the opening in the centre of the trays; from thence upward and out through the ventilator at the top of evaporator.—S. A. LITIMER, *before Missouri Hor. Soc.*

FARMERS AS FRUIT-GROWERS.

A farmer on one hundred and forty acres of land asks me what fruits he can raise and not have them interfere seriously with farm work. He has two small boys whom he wishes to interest and keep contentedly on the farm if possible, and he further asks whether he couldn't make fruit growing pay as a sort of annex to his farming. As to the latter part of the inquiry I would answer decidedly no, if the farming is done as it might and should be. I know a number of farmers with farms of half that size who are wholly occupied in managing and working them in regular farm crops. I have a neighbor with less than 100 acres who paid 25 cents each for grubbing up a ten acre orchard of apple and pear trees just coming into bearing, that he might devote the ground to a rotation of crops. The neighbors all considered him crazy but the outcome has proved that the land has been more profitable in farm crops than in orchard. The last season six acres of this land produced 800 bushels of potatoes, worth \$1.18 per bushel. This man is an enthusiast in farming and not in fruit growing, and more successful in some of his farming than the majority. When he was grubbing his orchard it seemed to me that it would have been wiser to have grubbed two rows and left two rows alternately, and this would have left long strips capable of unimpeded cultivation, while it gave an extra chance to the remaining trees. There are many orchards where such a course would give new life to the trees left and possibly result in no diminution of the crop.

Either farming or fruit growing will fully occupy the energies and brain of any cultivator of the soil, and it is better to push business in the way of increased yield and reduced expense than to add another pursuit requiring a different outfit of tools and a different line of experience. There are some fruits that succeed tolerably well in drained, rich ground without much cultivation, especially if they are where fowls run, and of these no farmer ought to fail to have enough to supply his family. These, in the order of ease of growth and minimum of care, are cherries, grapes, blackberries, pears, summer and fall apples, quinces and currants.—*Vick's Magazine.*