

tion of "the profit question" very largely depends on "the man question."

Here, also, however, a few calculations made by individual fruit-growers may be given. One man, for instance, puts the profit of his peaches at £54 per acre. He reckons that he spends £17 on spraying, manuring, pruning, cultivating, picking, packing, and hauling to the station. He estimates the revenue at £71, or 50 cents each for 700 baskets.

A grape-grower states that an acre of vineyard costs £15, including the erection of trellises, before the vines come into full bearing. From that time onwards—and the vine has a long life—the annual profit is estimated at £11. The value of the average yield is put at £23, being 3 tons, or 750 baskets, at 7½d. per basket; the average annual expenditure he estimates at £12. Another grape-grower puts his profit at £7 12s. per acre, allowing £1 for "management," which his neighbour does not bring into the account. A third grower says he often gets as much as 5 tons per acre, or 1,500 baskets, which, at 7d. per basket, will bring in £43 gross.

A strawberry-grower, who takes two years' crops from the same plants,—which come into bearing the year after planting,—estimates the three years' expenditure at £124 and the two years' revenue at £254, leaving a profit of £130, or an average of £43 a year per acre. Another man calculates his annual profit from strawberries at £36 per acre.

THE FARTHEST SOUTH.

The square Niagara Peninsula at the eastern end of south Ontario is matched at the western end by a peninsula of somewhat similar shape,—the County of Essex. Between the two, along the north shore of Lake Erie, lie the Counties of Haldimand, Norfolk, Elgin, and Kent. For the most part, these are given up to general or mixed farming, dairying, and the raising of pigs and beef cattle, with a good many light horses.

A certain amount of fruit is grown, however, especially apples, and this industry is likely to develop considerably. If an experienced fruit-grower, after learning all he can from the highly specialized industry of the Niagara orchardmen, desires to experiment for himself where land is cheaper, he would do well to travel westward through this lake-side belt, which is traversed by more than one railway.

If he gets as far as Kent, about the middle of that County's southern coast he will enter a region, stretching away to the south-west extremity of Essex, not unlike the Niagara district in its capacity for raising the tender fruits. That it does not rival the County of Lincoln in actual production of peaches and grapes is due partly to an unfortunate experience with those fruits and partly to the fact that certain other lines are found to pay as well or even better. Several years ago many of the peach trees here were killed by an exceptionally severe frost. Fresh peach orchards are now being planted, and, as the growers now take care to protect the roots, there is little fear of loss by frost in the future. But meanwhile tobacco and early vegetables have proved themselves so successful and so profitable that peaches and grapes find it hard to win back their commanding position.

You are only 42 degrees from the Equator on the Essex shore, which is the most southerly part of Canada. That is, you are in the same latitude as Rome, and very little farther north than Constanti-