

For field cultivation two ways, 12 ft. would be the proper distance, but if the mulching system is to be adopted they may be planted 8 or 10 ft. apart.

The usual mode of pruning is simply to thin out crowded or decaying branches, but we would advise a yearly heading back of one half the new growth in the spring. Mr. Jones leaves only four or five buds on each thrifty young shoot, and says that as a result "the entire outer surface of the tree is literally covered with fruit of good size and quality."

Regarding climate, we can only speak for the country south of the G. W.R. division of the G.T.R. We shall be glad to hear from members of our Association respecting their success with the quince farther north.

The variety of the quince which has given us the best satisfaction is the Orange. The Angus is too small; the Champion is larger, and more regular in form, but rather late, while the Orange colors up early in the autumn and sells when the price is best.

OPEN LETTERS.

Proposed Bill to Regulate Fruit Packages.

SIR,—I did not intend you to publish that "bill" of mine, or I should have taken more care to have been exact. My idea was that you would take the subject up and have it discussed, but as the deed is done I must make the best of it, even though some think the proposition worse than it is.

I have to ask space to make these explanations, and also to answer an objection or two. In mentioning quantities, my object was to fill out the sentence so you could readily see my intention. To me it makes no difference what the size of the package is, so long as it is *uniform*. I had no idea of changing the size. The proposition grew out of this: Passing a fruit store, I bought some plums, but when they were delivered the baskets did not seem as large as those I bought. Upon investigation I found the dealer had one sized basket for exhibition and another for delivery. That was a downright fraud and should not be allowed.

As to packing two kinds of apples in one barrel, there is no objection so long as the fact is made apparent and quantities are stated.

Your objection to having both a "standard" and quantities stated would be good if every person knew the standard. How many do you think know the size of a standard quart measure, or even that there is such a thing? I would not object to any sized package were the quantity it contained legibly stamped on it.

The objection to natural decay is all right so far as it applies to the goods after they are shipped, as natural laws and man's perverseness are factors too strong for any parliament. Could a packer prove his fruit in good condition when it was shipped, the effects of the proposition would cease. The difficulty is to reach the

packer over the middleman, who ought not to be responsible for the packer's frauds.—G. H. FAWCETT.—Ottawa, 15th Oct., 1888.

Grapes Tested in Essex County.

In looking over the Annual Report, which came to hand extremely late (why cannot it be brought out earlier—say, at least, February or March), among much that was interesting, I noticed one defect. It lacked that which in past years has given much interest to its pages, I mean the report of the "Committee on New Fruits." Our present President, as Chairman of that committee, in previous years gave us admirable sketches of the novelties in pomology, which did much to guide many in their purchase of new fruits for trial. It is to be wished that the present gap may not mean a permanent hiatus in this line of the Association's tasks. Meanwhile, may I forward a short communication to assist in supplying in part the lack. After a turn amid the vineyards and gardens of South Essex, a few words about some of the new grapes may be of some interest to your readers.

First, as to the Blacks:—

August Giant—Is early, very large, flattish round berry, small bunch, excellent flavor, poor bearer.

Bacchus—Is a true child of its parent, Clinton, rather smaller in berry, perhaps a shade better in quality, good only for wine.

Marion—Is first cousin, if not full brother to Bacchus; needs a long season to bring out its excellencies, extremely acid, otherwise a wine grape only.

Cottage—Very early (as early as Morris or Champion), hardy, healthy, good grower and bearer; cluster and berries average rather smaller than its parent, the Concord; the berries