

Apples and pears were greatly damaged ; and from that time to the present, there has been a constant decay and falling off ; so that we may safely assert that in number there is from one third to one half less than formerly, with a still decaying tendency ; and the probability is, that our entire orchards will have to be renewed by young and healthy trees. This country is well adapted to the growth of fruit, especially along Lake Erie and the Long Point Bay. The fruit crop was abundant and of excellent quality for many years previous to the time of which we have spoken ; since then there has been a great failure both in quantity and qua ity.

Your Board would suggest some improvement in the management and development of the capabilities of our soils ; and these suggestions will be drawn from the experience of men of science and practice. It is a fact which needs only to be mentioned, that the different nature of soils require different treatment, in order to make them productive. Soils which are loose and friable freely admit the influence of heat and air, and only require fertilizers, with a moderate degree of tillage to bring out their capabilities ; while soils of a more tenacious nature require a very great degree of tillage in order to loosen and pulverize them, and render them susceptible of absorbing warmth and moisture. Soils of a sandy nature require constant renovation, else the vegetable ingredients which they contain are soon absorbed, and the soil becomes sterile and unproductive. All soils require food in order to restore their exhausted energies, after having produced crops ; and here the knowledge and skill of the farmer will exhibit itself. From the fact that soils require food suited to their natures, the farmer must know something of the nature of the soils in order to know what kind of nourishment they require, to supply the particular ingredients needed ; and after all it will be found that a judicious rotation of crops is the only way to develop their resources. With us the clover crop is the farmer's sheet anchor, as a renovator. It is also the cheapest and most efficient manure to any great extent within our reach. In addition to this it is our interest to make all the manure we can from our yards and stable. It is a fact patent to all, that in this respect we are shamefully negligent. We allow the liquid and solid excrements of our animals to go to waste, instead of preserving and applying them to our fields. We have

trusted too long to the strength and fertility of our virgin soils. The effects of this negligence are every day becoming more apparent ; and unless there is a speedy reformation, barrenness and blasted hopes will be written on our once fertile fields, and it will take many years of labor, attended with immense expense, to restore them to their wonted fertility. Your Board dwell more earnestly upon this part of their report, because they cannot feel indifferent to the fact that unless we once commence a thorough system of manuring there will be a constant depreciation of our crops until we shall not be able to supply the demands upon our productions ; and consequent destitution and suffering must follow.

We fear that our brother farmers do not as they should avail themselves of the necessary and desirable information in regard to what has been said in the foregoing report, and of matters and things in which they are vitally interested ; therefore we would cordially and respectfully request, that as you desire to be successful in your occupation, and to de-ire to make your sons and your daughters useful members of society, that you should gain all the knowledge you possibly can pertaining to the profession in which you are engaged. Agricultural books and periodicals are abundant and excellent, and aside from your general information, it is as important to your success as a Farmer that you read the books and periodicals, as it is to the success of the Physician that he reads books and periodicals on medicine, surgery, &c., or to the Lawyer that he studies books relating to particular profession. It is also our duty to make our buildings as comfortable and convenient as possible, and to make their surroundings beautiful and attractive ; remember that a rustic arbor, a clump of evergreens, trailing honeysuckle, or arbor vitae, a border of roses or violets will produce the most powerful influence on the minds of our children, will lead them to see and admire their Creator in the loveliness of His works. Home influences have more to do in forming the character of our children, than all other influences combined. If their minds are properly imbued with a knowledge of their social duties and moral obligations while under the parental roof, you may safely commit them to the vicissitudes of life ; although they may for a time seem wayward, yet be assured that hallowed influences of Christian homes will never be effaced from their memory.