

Late frosts have done considerable damage to all my fruit trees, and what at one time promised to be a good fruit year has been sadly injured.

Yours, etc.,

A. A. WRIGHT.

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IRRIGATION.

A paper on the subject of irrigation was read by Col. Henry W. Wilson, before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, which was received with marked interest and attention. The writer concluded his very exhaustive essay with the following summary:—

It is very evident from common experience that injurious droughts are increasing in frequency, and the careful consideration of the subject will develop the following simple but significant truths:

That whatever the cause of this deficiency of moisture, the simplest and cheapest remedy at the hands of the agriculturist is irrigation. That whenever a supply of water can be obtained, the cost of pumping it will not exceed three cents per thousand gallons for an amount of ten thousand gallons per day pumped to a height of fifty feet above the surface of the water, which cost will include the necessary repairs and depreciation and interest on the cost of the necessary fixtures and reservoir.

That should a brook or spring not be available, there are but few places where an adequate supply may not be obtained by sinking wells.

That the cost and arrangement of the work will vary so much with the different locations and circumstances that no schedule of cost can be given, but the cases will be rare where \$750 to \$1,000, discreetly expended, will not furnish ample water for the irrigation of fifteen acres of tillage land.

That the preservation of a single

crop, in a year of unusual drought, would reimburse the whole expense.

That the positive assurance of immunity from the effects of drought should induce all cultivators to secure at once the means of irrigating their land if possible.

That besides the security afforded in the case of an excessive drought, it will be found that water can be used very profitably in almost any season with a great variety of crops. And lastly—

The great wonder is that our farmers and horticulturists have disregarded the matter for so long a time.

EXPERIMENTS WITH CELERY.

N. V. AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.

One of the most popular, perhaps, with the exception of lettuce, the most popular of salad plants, is celery. It is not many years ago when celery-growing was one of the mysteries of gardening, so far as current opinion went, and the carefully-grown plantings were transferred to deep trenches at the bottom of which much manure had been spaded, while a laborious process of earthing up was successively pursued. Market gardeners, however, who are usually the first to introduce new processes of growing, on account of the competition they have to meet, found that the celery grown upon the surface and earthed up once for all at the latter part of the season, furnished profitable results, and this latter method seems now mainly the one pursued for commercial purposes. In the private garden, however, the trenching is in many cases continued, and it, therefore, seemed to us desirable to know the comparative merits of these two methods, for if surface planting is equal in its product to the trench planting, it is far to be preferred on account of the less labor involved.