

**PROFITABLE FRUIT-FARMING:  
AN ESSAY WRITTEN FOR THE  
WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF  
FRUITERERS**

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Profitable Fruit-Farming: An Essay Written for The Worshipful Company of Fruiterers by  
Charles Whitehead

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**CHARLES WHITEHEAD**

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PROFITABLE  
FRUIT-FARMING

AN ESSAY

BY

CHARLES WHITEHEAD, F.L.S., F.G.S.

OF BARMING HOUSE, MAIDSTONE

WRITTEN FOR

The Worshipful Company of Fruiterers



LONDON  
LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.

1884

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'We have also large and various orchards and gardens, wherein we do not so much respect beauty as variety of ground and soil, proper for divers trees and herbs: and some very spacious where trees and berries are set, whereof we make divers kinds of drinks besides the vineyards. In these we practise likewise all conclusions of grafting and inoculating, as well of wild trees as of fruit trees.'—BACON'S '*New Atlantis*.'

'Good fruit and good plenty doth well in the loft;  
Then make thee an orchard, and cherish it oft.'

THOMAS TUSSEK'S '*Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry*.'

'Some, and not a few, even of the best have accounted it a chief part of earthly happiness to have fair and pleasant orchards, as in Hesperis and Thessaly. Now, all with one consent agree that it is the chief part of husbandry, (as Tully '*De Senectute* ') and husbandry maintains the world.'—GERVASE MARKHAM'S '*The Way to Get Wealth*.'

'I say that it is a great deficiency in England that we have no more orchards planted, and there is a great deficiency in the ordering of orchards in that they are not well pruned . . . neither will ill husbands bestow dunging, digging, or any cost on orchards, which, if they did, might pay half their rents.'—HARTLIN'S '*Legacy of Husbandry*.'

'Wassail the trees that they may bear  
You many a plum and many a pear,  
For more or less fruits they will bring  
As you do give them wassailing.'

HERRICK'S '*Hesperides*.'

'Next let the planter with discretion meet,  
The force and genius of each soil explore;  
To what adapted, what it shows averse.  
Without this necessary care in vain  
He hopes an apple vintage, and invokes  
Pomona's aid in vain.'

PHILLIPS'S '*Cyder*.'





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<sup>1</sup> Reproduced from the works of the Author in the *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England*, by the courteous permission of the Council.

# PROFITABLE FRUIT-FARMING.

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## CHAPTER I.

### THE PRESENT FRUIT PRODUCTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

**A**MONG the many quaint old customs in connection with the city of London there is none more interesting than the annual presentation of the finest fruits of all kinds in season to the Lord Mayor, by the Fruiterers' Company. The descriptions given in the newspapers of the luscious grapes, the melting peaches, and the well-flavoured pears and apples, and divers other tempting fruits, make one wish to be a Warden of this illustrious Guild.

This ceremony was rendered more attractive than usual last year on account of the practical remarks of the Lord Mayor, and the unusual interest which he took in the proceedings then, and at the banquet which he gave afterwards.