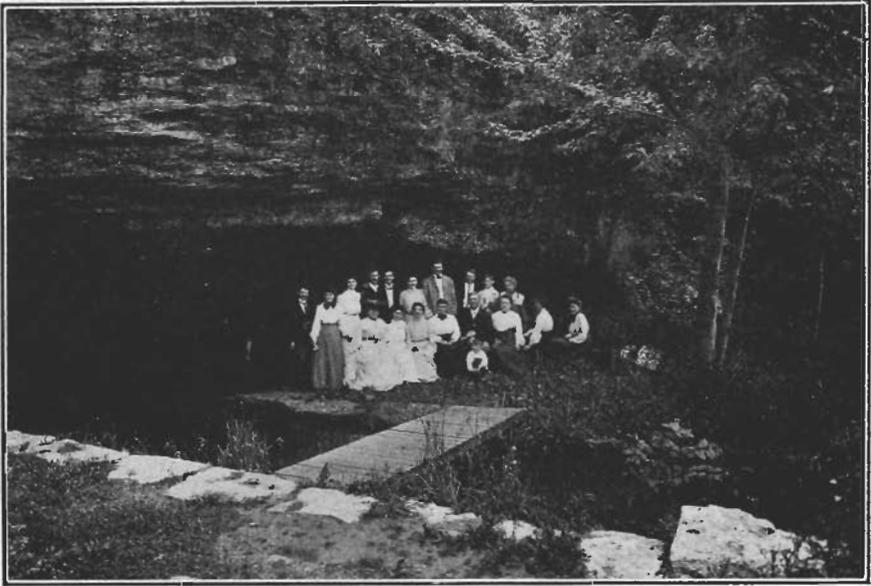


man, to this specially favored section of the great Southwest.

The farmer to be successful must have a good crop, and he must get it to market early in first class condition so as to get the best prices. In the Frisco territory, both of these conditions prevail. The crops are usually from two to eight weeks in advance of more northern and western sections, and the natural richness of the soil, coupled with an abundance of pure water, almost invariably assure a good crop. The Frisco System and its connections can always be

abundantly obtained, it follows necessarily that there will be found in that section an attractive and profitable field for the manufacture of food stuffs and staple products of the land. With a plentiful supply of cheap fuel at hand, the factory can always be operated at a minimum expense.

With villages rapidly growing into towns and towns into incorporated municipalities, there is a growing demand not only for the laborer, artisan and mechanic, but also for the storekeeper, merchant and manufacturer, the professional man, the capitalist and



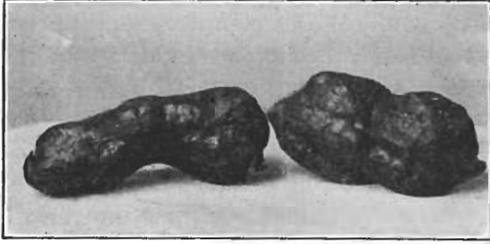
Fisher's Cave, Galloway, Mo.

relied upon to furnish adequate transportation facilities, not only to the commercial centers of the south and west, but also to the great markets of the north and east. Many new lines have recently been built, and others purchased, by the Frisco, which run through the most desirable farming and fruit lands of Southern Missouri. The equipment of its trains, both passenger and freight in the matter of construction and latest modern appliances, are strictly up-to-date, and its time schedules are so arranged as to place both the producer and the products of his labor within quick and easy access of surrounding markets.

Where raw material is so easily and

inventor. They are all needed for the successful and scientific development of the country along the lines of modern progress. And here in this fertile and, as yet, only partly developed section of Missouri, there is room for thousands of industrious citizens. Lumber, flour and cotton mills, canning, wagon, cabinet and furniture factories, iron, steel and brass foundries, boot, shoe and shirt factories, vinegar, pickle and preserve works, all have been established to a greater or less extent, but there is an urgent demand for more, and those who first avail themselves of the opportunities offered will reap the larger share of profits which necessarily must follow.

Agriculture, of course predominates over the other industries in Missouri, and appears to hold out superior inducements to those



Sweet Potatoes.

who wish to engage in it, yet there are still in this State hundreds of thousands of acres of good land that have never been cultivated. There are also many farms which have not been worked to their full measure of productiveness.

In Missouri, as in the world over, there is always to be found the disgruntled farmer who is ever complaining and has a score of hard luck stories to tell, and is willing to sell out if he can get his price. These are the drones that infest every community. The fault lies not in the rich and neglected lands they own, but in themselves. Yet, in the face of this, Missouri has increased in population from the hundreds of thousands to more than 3,000,000, and statistics show that nearly one-half the adults of the State who have grown rich must attribute that wealth directly to the products of the soil.

The cheap lands of the far West have always borne a peculiar fascination for the



Where Bass Strike.

immigrant. He has passed over thousands of acres of fertile land in Missouri and been

induced by grasping agents to make a home on a bare prairie, timberless and waterless, or left to seek a meager existence on rock-ribbed soil at the base of mountains. A man with moderate means can locate in Missouri, buy a good farm or other piece of productive property, and enjoy all the advantages of a modern social community, on payment of less comparatively than anywhere else in the United States.

The soil and climate of Missouri make it the natural home of nutritious grasses. Blue grass, which made certain sections of Kentucky famous, has been found to be particularly adapted to Missouri. It grows spontaneously wherever it is left free from the plow, and is invaluable for early winter grazing. In addition to this, however,



Ozark Bluff.

Missouri grows practically all other varieties for pasturage and hay. Orchard grass, timothy, reel top, millet, alfalfa and clover all thrive and are grown extensively for hay. In 1903, Missouri produced more hay than any other state in the Union.

It is generally conceded that Southern Missouri can now lay claim to being the garden spot of the middle west. In the growth and production of apples, pears, peaches and the smaller fruits and berries, such as plums, strawberries and the like, Missouri has no peer. The soil is perfectly adapted to all varieties. Her peaches in color and flavor are acknowledged to be superior to the best brands of the East, while her apples have taken so many first prizes as to entitle them to be ranked as the

best in the world. Fruit culture in Missouri has long passed the experimental stage. It has been shown conclusively that apples, peaches and pears of the higher marketable value are shipped annually from these farms. The peculiar adaptability of the soil, abundance of pure water and general climatic conditions, are all conducive to the production of the highest grades of fruits and vegetables. The Ozark region is the greatest fruit growing section of the globe. At present there are thousands of acres of fruit

grown to fruit or berries will support a family; 50 acres will insure a handsome profit for life. In 1902 one apple orchard of 80 acres in the vicinity of Springfield brought \$13,500 for the fruit sold on the trees; another tract of 80 acres brought \$12,000. These orchards included both old and young trees.

Truck farming is also very remunerative. Tomatoes will yield from 50 to 75 bushels per acre, while many garden crops give a much larger profit. There are about 40 tomato canneries in Southwest Missouri,



Payne's Orchard, Everton, Mo.

trees and berries in this section, whose products are shipped to all the leading markets of the country. Yet the fruit industry is only partly developed in Southern Missouri. The growers in this section of the State and in Northern Arkansas have formed a co-operative association for mutual protection in branding products, shipping and distributing in such a manner as to obtain the highest market prices. The most satisfactory results are expected by this organization.

Low priced lands have been transformed recently into productive farms and orchards. Those which brought from \$5.00 to \$25.00 per acre are now sold at from \$75.00 to \$150 per acre. Ten acres of this land properly

and numerous others for canning fruits, pickles and vegetables generally. A large part of the reclaimed lands of Southeast Missouri have recently been devoted to the culture of fruits, berries, melons and all kinds of vegetables.

Cattle raising in the far West and Northwest is a hazardous business. A summer of droughts or winter of blizzards will blast all hopes. Undulating lands with mild temperature supply ideal conditions for cattle raising. Missouri's rugged hills, fertile valleys and prairie lands, studded with groves furnish these conditions. The cost of raising and fattening cattle here and transporting them to the markets of the East and West is

necessarily less than in States not possessing these advantages.

Dairying is steadily on the increase, and shipments of milk, cream, butter and cheese are growing to large proportions from all points on the Frisco System to the profitable markets at St. Louis, Kansas City and Memphis. There are thousands of acres of lands yet to be devoted to this industry.

The raising of hogs is also attaining large proportions in this State, which now ranks third, with Iowa first and Illinois second. The number of hogs in Missouri the past year was not less than 3,000,000, and their estimated value was about \$10,000,000. It is said that ten bushels of corn will make

100 pounds of pork during the fattening process, and a hog that can be raised for from \$5.00 to \$7.00 will sell for from \$10.00 to \$14.00. As hogs can be marketed at an age of from six to nine months, while cattle should be two years old and over, the profits are

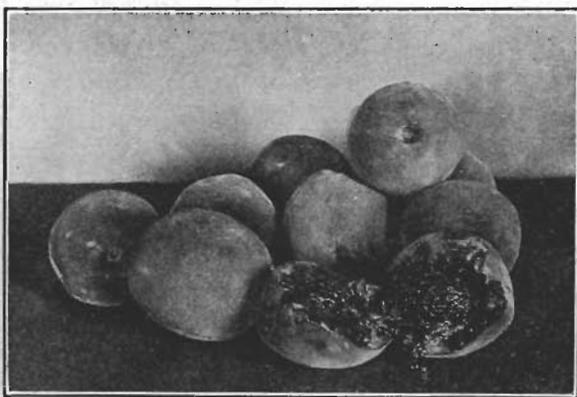
quicker and in many instances make a better showing.

Wool growing is rapidly developing into one of the leading industries of Southern Missouri. The hilly and undulating land, abundance of pasturage and pure water, with moderate temperatures prevailing the year round, are particularly favorable for raising sheep. Where proper care and attention have been given, the results have been not only satisfactory, but exceedingly profitable. The ranges are covered with grass for nine months of the year, and artificial shelter and protection is obtainable from timber on the same land. As a matter of fact, during the average winter sheep may roam at large during the day, requiring shelter only during stormy periods and at night. Wool from this section of the country

brings a considerably higher price than that from the large ranges in the far west, as it is much freer from sand and dirt.

No industry, perhaps, has proven more profitable in Southern Missouri than poultry raising. Some of the chicken farms in the southwest are marvels in their line of productiveness and their owners correspondingly prosperous. The Missouri hen may be said to vie with the Missouri mule for supremacy. No farm in the state is complete without its flock of fowl, be they chickens, turkeys, geese or ducks. They all thrive, are all productive and remunerative proportional to the care and attention given them. Scientific poultry raising has attained

a high degree of perfection in Missouri, and the enormous shipments of live and dressed birds, eggs and feathers have brought millions of dollars annually to the farmers. The soil, climate and unsurpassed transportation facilities produce this result.



Elberta Peaches.

The common-

wealth of Missouri represents a type of the most advanced class of modern civilization. It stands forth for all that is inspiring in higher education and noble and elevating in political freedom and religious liberty. The State is distinctively American, and the majority of her people are noted for those strenuous habits and progressive characteristics which are essential to the success and prosperity of every community.

The educational and eleemosynary institutions have been increased of late years, and many of them enlarged and modernized to meet growing demands. The public school system is not surpassed by that of any in the world. The hills and vales of every hamlet and village in the state are adorned with school houses, while the

larger cities have reared educational structures which are pointed to with pride and admiration by the leading institutions of the country. Free public libraries are rising up on every side. In short, there is no place in the world where a child can obtain a better elementary or liberal education than in Missouri.

The State of Missouri neither owns nor has for sale any public lands. On June 30, 1903, the United States Land Offices at Boonville, Springfield and Ironton reported 227,158 acres of public land open for homestead entry or for sale outright at \$1.25 per acre. The rules of the Interior Department relative to entry of public lands by homeseekers embrace the following conditions:

war are deducted from the five years required by homestead laws, but the land must be cultivated for at least one year after improvements are made before title can be perfected.

Lands may be purchased for \$1.25 per acre, the title thereto being vested upon payment.

Land office fees payable when application is made are: on 160 acres, \$14.00; 120 acres, \$13.00; 80 acres, \$7.00; 40 acres, \$7.00.

Land office commissions payable at time of making final proof are: on 160 acres, \$4.00; 120 acres, \$3.00; 80 acres, \$2.00; 40 acres, \$1.00.

Fees for reducing testimony to writing in making final proof are 15 cents for each



A Young Peach Orchard.

A man must be 21 years of age or over, or married, or the head of a family before he can enter these lands.

A single woman over 21 years old can make entry, but a married woman cannot.

Only 160 acres can be entered by one person, but 160 acres more may be purchased by the same person, title to be acquired on only 320 acres.

Final proof of homestead entry can be made five years after entry or actual residence on the land, and must be made before the expiration of seven years from date of entry. Time allowances for soldiers, sailors and marines, who served during the civil

war are deducted from the five years required by homestead laws, but the land must be cultivated for at least one year after improvements are made before title can be perfected.

It is impossible to set a fixed price for certain qualities of land in certain sections. Prices must vary according to improvement, degrees of cultivation and surrounding conditions. Aside from government lands which are \$1.25 per acre, raw lands owned by private parties will sell for from \$4.00 to \$15.00 per acre; partly improved from \$15.00 to \$30.00 per acre; good farms from \$25.00 to \$50.00 per acre and choice farm lands from \$50.00 to \$100.00 per acre. Lands near the large cities and industrial centers and those more directly favored