

But the ripening season again comes round. The fruit of all others is again gathered; much of it rots shortly after being gathered, and some of it rots upon the tree before it is ripe. Our attention is again called to *Ne Plus Ultra*, which still hangs upon the tree, perfectly ripe and perfectly sound, and is now pronounced "very good."

Now, Mr. Editor, I have a kind of dreamy premonition that some others of the Directors of the Fruit Growers' Association, and perhaps yourself, sir, had the *Ne Plus Ultra* cherry sent to them. And I sincerely hope that no one has even whispered to himself naughty words about an excellent fruit because he did not like the name, as I begin to fear that I have done. And to make amends for not giving Mr. Mosely credit for producing what I now believe to be a great acquisition to our cherries, I will promise that if after another year's fruiting this cherry shall resist the rot, and all other cherries shall be injured by it, I will freely join friend Mosely in loudly proclaiming its praises. And if our friend is still desirous of using a latin phrase, I will join him in saying "*Optimates*," (of the first rank), or any other name that he chooses that shall express this meaning; but I do sincerely hope, that until the millenium shall come, no one will venture to name a fruit *Ne Plus Ultra*, because it is doubtful if fruit or anything else will attain perfection before that time.

The Editor did not have the pleasure of seeing Mr. Mosely's cherry, and hopes, if they both live until next cherry season, that Mr. Arnold will favor him with a small sample.—ED.]

THE ENGLISH SPARROW.

BY J. NEWHALL, TORONTO.

I have always been a great advocate of the English Sparrow, and have had many notices published for their benefit. My wife has been feeding them regularly, sweeping the snow away first when necessary, and many citizens of Toronto I know have treated them similarly, and now we have thousands chirping all over the city. Now it so happens that I have a red currant patch of about a dozen bushes, and I noticed that the sparrows paid a great deal of attention to them lately. Being curious to know what they were doing, I went to investigate. Lo! a