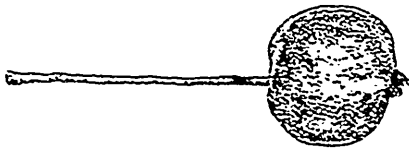


are distinguished from the apple (*P. malus*) by their long slender fruit stalks, often two or three inches in length, by their firm flesh, which never becomes mellow, and by their deciduous calyx, which falls before the maturity of the fruit. But this distinct type of crab is chiefly useful to us for crossing with more valuable apples, to which their hardiness is thereby imparted in a remarkable degree.

In this month's issue we give our readers photogravures of four varieties of these hybrids, which are already widely cultivated in the colder parts of Canada, viz.: Transcendent, Hyslop, Orange and Whitney, and we shall be pleased to receive notes concerning their value from correspondents living in our northern sections.

Fisher, in Montana Sta. Rept, 1902, has been testing ten of the hardiest varieties of crabs, and reports that the best were Whitney, Transcendent, Hyslop, Orange and Greenwood, the latter of which is not known with us.

Dr. Wm. Saunders, director of the experimental farms of the Dominion, who is a noted hybridist, has been making praiseworthy efforts in this direction, and has already succeeded in producing several new varieties of apples which promise to be of especial value in the Northwest Territories.

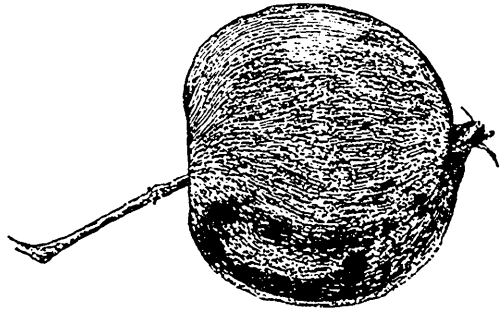


PYRUS BACCATA.

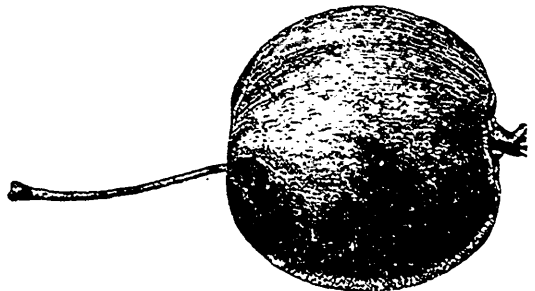
In this work Dr. Saunders used seed of the berried crab, *Pyrus baccata*, imported from St. Petersburg about ten years ago, and raised seedling trees at Brandon and Indian Head, which have proved perfectly hardy and productive, although the fruit was inferior and about as small as a cherry. (See Fig. 2694 after Dr. Saunders.)

In 1894 crosses of these seedlings were

made with Tetofsky, Duchess and Wealthy, and out of a large number of crossbred trees, which varied much in form and size, several have been found worthy of distinction in the Northwest, and all seem to retain the hardiness of the crab parentage. We give illustrations from the Doctor's report of two of his hybrid crabs, in order to give our readers some idea of the progress so far in this work. We also attach his descriptions of the same.



CHARLES.—*Pyrus baccata* female, with Tetofsky male, planted in orchard at one year from seed, April 28th, 1896. The tree has grown rapidly and wintered well. In the spring of 1899 it blossomed freely. The flowers were deep pink in bud, large when open, pinkish white, petals wide. The fruit set well and ripened about September 3rd. Size of fruit 1 9/16 inches across and 1 6/16 inches deep, distinctly ribbed, calyx persistent. Color a uniform yellow and very attractive. Flesh yellow, solid, crisp, juicy, with a pleasant flavor, mildly acid and very slightly astringent. Skin rather thin, fruit bakes well.



PIONEER.—*Pyrus baccata*, female, with Tetofsky, male. Planted in orchard as a yearling tree, April 28th, 1896. It has grown rapidly and it blossomed freely in the spring of 1899. The blossoms were pink in bud, large and pure white when open, petals wide. The fruit set well and was ripe September 21st. Size of fruit 1 1/2 inches across and 1 1/4 inches deep, slightly ribbed, calyx persistent. Color yellow, with a pink cheek. Flesh white, fine grained, firm, crisp, moderately juicy, subacid, with a pleasant flavour, astringency very slight.