

gooseberries are hardy, Smith's Improved appears to be taking the lead; it has the finest berry of the American varieties, bears well, and is comparatively free from mildew. A good desert gooseberry, free from disease, in all parts of Canada would be a decided acquisition. And this will no doubt be produced by our hybridists within the next few years, if it has not already been obtained.

What apple trees there are, shew abundant promise of fruit. The bloom was magnificent, and so far as can be judged they have set well. On the whole the fruit prospects in this district are the brightest that have opened for many years.

P. E. BUCKE,  
*Director Ottawa Division.*

#### TO THE GROWERS OF FRUIT IN THE BLEAK NORTH.

We are told by the ancients that "the gods help those who help themselves." Would it not, therefore, be to our mutual advantage to unite and furnish to one another such information on the subject of fruit growing as we may have gleaned from time to time in our varied localities. I doubt not that you all have experienced the same difficulties that I have in securing fruits sufficiently hardy to withstand the intense cold of our northern clime. It seems to me, therefore, eminently desirable that we should every spring give a revised list in the *Horticulturist* of those trees, shrubs, &c., that have most effectually withstood the rigour of our northern blasts. In this way we shall soon be enabled to furnish a complete and reliable "fruit list" for the colder sections of our Dominion. Our southern neighbours are anxious and willing to give us the benefit of their varied experience, but, unfortunately, in many respects, it is not of such a nature as to be of very material service

to us. I shall therefore give you the benefit—if it can be called such—of my own experience, trusting that it may be the means of inducing others to "go and do likewise."

It is perhaps best to state briefly in the beginning, that I live in the county of Renfrew, in the Ottawa valley, in lat.  $45^{\circ} 30'$ ; that I am entirely removed from the ameliorating influence of any body of water, and being besides situated at a high level have to withstand the effects of the most rigorous winters—the mercury some seasons ranging as low as  $40^{\circ}$  below zero.

Notwithstanding these natural disadvantages, I have succeeded in raising a considerable quantity of various kinds of fruit, and though they are not of the very best quality, yet sufficiently valuable to make it desirable to grow them.

I shall confine myself in this letter to the varieties of apples that I have succeeded in raising, and should it be deemed advisable will give a list of the other classes of fruits that I have found sufficiently hardy to warrant me in recommending them to others. I shall endeavour to enumerate them as nearly as possible in the order of their hardiness: Wealthy, Duchess of Oldenburg, Yellow Transparent, Tetofsky, Peach of Montreal, McIntosh Red, and Emperor Alexander.

The White Astrachan, Northfield Beauty, Magog and Red Streak, and Scott's Winter, although very hardy, do not appear to be quite so vigorous in the spring as those first mentioned. Last winter was a particularly severe one, yet all those mentioned above came through uninjured with me. I have several other promising sorts under trial, but not yet sufficiently tested to pronounce upon with certainty.

A. A. WRIGHT.

The Editor would urgently request Mr. Wright to continue his notes on