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CHENANGO

(CHENANGO STRAWBERRY, SHERWOOD'S FAVORITE.)

BY THE EDITOR.

MANY years ago, when a boy visiting his grandfather's farm on the banks of the Chenango river, at Earlville, Chenango Co., N.Y., the writer remembers being shown an old tree, laden with apples, which the old gentleman called Chenango and of which he was very proud, counting it the finest eating apple in his whole orchard. We little thought then that one day we would be very much interested in knowing the history of the apple, or how near we were to the town of Lebanon, N. Y., the place of its origin.

Of late years this apple has been coming to the front in Ontario, and has recently been placed upon the model prize list issued under the authority of the Department of Agriculture as being worthy of cultivation, and good samples may be seen every year on the fruit tables of the Industrial Exhibition. Our Russian friend, the late Jaroslav Niemetz, horticulturist of the college at Rovno, Wolinia, on the occasion of his recent visit to Canada, accompanied the writer to the Industrial Fair with an especial eye to study the fruit exhibit, and no variety on the tables seemed to interest him so much

as the Chenango. He took careful notes of its characteristics and requested us to send him scions that he might propagate it in his country.

The apple is certainly a fine dessert apple for use in September and October, for it is beautiful in appearance and very agreeable to the taste. The flesh is creamy white in color, and, in texture, tender and moderately juicy, while the flavor is spicy and agreeable. The exterior is a delicate whitish ground, on which the light and dark shades and stripes of red show up beautifully.

The tree is fairly vigorous and productive, and has the special merit of being resistant to that plague of the apple grower, the apple scab, from which both its foliage and its fruit are free.

We do not advise the planting of this apple in the commercial orchards of Ontario, because it has too tender a flesh to be a good shipper, and we have other September apples which would probably give more certain returns; but for the home garden, to which, unfortunately, many people attach too little importance, a tree or two of the Chenango is very desirable.