

names, however formidable they may sound in Russian, mean merely round white, white sweet, white transparent, &c., names without individuality. Fortunately, a few names have been fixed by commercial demand, and are known by the same names throughout Russia.

One great difficulty in Russian nomenclature arises from the strong family likeness of seedlings of like parentage. A hardy race of the apple, seemingly more nearly allied to the wild form than the cultivated apples of Western Europe, has been grown for many centuries by seedling production, and has been reproducing itself from seed. Yet this is not strange news to us. Some families of apples, even when surrounded by apples of other types, have a strong tendency to reproduce themselves in their seedlings. The Gilpin or Little Romanite, Mr. Budd tells me, has been producing seedlings like itself in the West. The Calville family, too, is a striking example. Our Fameuse has a large progeny of strong parental likeness, and many think that two or more distinct varieties are commonly propagated under this name.

In Russia there is no standard of nomenclature, no authority that answers to the American Pomological Society or Downing, yet fruits received from that country must be propagated on this continent, as far as possible, under fixed, unchangeable names. The collections of apples on the farm of the State Agricultural College at Ames, Iowa, already number over 400 varieties, inclusive, no doubt, of many duplicates; additions, too, are being made from different parts of Russia. The collections received a year or two ago embraced most, not all, yet most of the best varieties grown in Russia. We must have, on this continent, one fixed standard of nomenclature, and it would seem best that it should emanate from Ames.

The converting of the Russian names into English needs some thought. We have not the sounds in English to render them exactly. In this matter our aim must be simplicity. We need names our farmers can spell and pronounce rather than a labored but more accurate rendering of the Russian sound. We have usually fallen in with the spelling in the list published by the Department of Agriculture at Washington, especially where