

Our winter apples have emanated from an entirely distinct variety of *Pyrus Malus* or crab apple, indigenous to Asia Minor, the season in that country being longer would naturally make in our climate a winter fruit and their successive progeny the same. The principal reason why winter apple trees are as yet tender in this country even after centuries of acclimatization they yet hold fast to the original conditions under which they emanated.

Our fall apples have no doubt their origin from the natural wild crab of western Europe, another distinct variety, and subject to the same natural influences and geographical conditions as the preceding, and are better fitted for our climate than the winter. I can easily understand that a late fall apple may emanate from the fertilization of any of the Russian apples with winter varieties as producing a medium or late fall fruit, but not a distinct winter fruit.

I will not go the length in stating that the party who put the Pewaukee under the auspices of the Duchess of Oldenburg as a winter fruit did this knowingly, but he is undoubtedly mistaken.

I am yours truly,
SIMON ROY.

ORCHIDS.

SIR,—I am glad you are giving some attention to that beautiful class of the Orchid family, the *Cypripedium*. I think if florists gave as much attention to these as to some less beautiful foreign plants, they could be made to overcome any difficulty of culture that may at present exist, not that they could be made more beautiful for they are all that could be desired in that direction, its season of bloom might be extended, and if it were possible for you to have a coloured plate prepared of these lovely flowers for the front of the *Horticulturist* it would do much to awaken an interest in that

direction. I give my experience with some of these plants which is encouraging to myself at least, and I hope it may be so to others. I see a reference to these plants under the caption of Moccasin Flower in the June number, page 133. in which they are said to be difficult of culture. I took one from its native bed in a tamarac and cedar swamp, Oakland Township, Brant Co., with a piece of sod adhering to it containing ferns and other plants, this was *Cypripedium spectabile*, the large white and purple lady slipper. I planted it in a shady spot in the garden in rich soil; I stuck a few cedar boughs around it and watered it the first season, allowing the ferns to grow around it as before and kept the ground around well hoed. I kept a look out for them to make their appearance next spring when I discovered a small plant two weeks earlier come out of the clump whose roots had been heretofore unnoticed in the sod, this proved to be *Cypripedium parviflorum*, the fragrant yellow slipper plant. I at once made another search in said swamp and found them in full bloom, this was about the end of May whilst the *Cypripedium spectabile* had only sent up long shoots, it blooms June 22nd. I also found *Cypripedium acaule*, the pink or stemless lady slipper, this on higher land, more shady, black leaf mould, I planted them the same as before and they increased in size and beauty, and drew fourth exclamations of praise from those who saw them for three years, except the pink one, which disappeared and never came up in the spring. Last fall I took up a plant of each and packed them with my Dahlias and other plants and brought them to the State of Delaware, and after being in the case for over two weeks I set them out hurriedly, intending to have them moved to a more suitable location, but they remained and bloomed