

To the Honourable

The Minister of Agriculture.

SIR,—I beg to submit herewith for your approval, the seventeenth Bulletin from the Central Experimental Farm which has been prepared under my direction by Mr. John Craig, Horticulturist of the Experimental Farm. The subject of this Bulletin is Cherries, and in it there is given much information regarding the hardier and more promising sorts which have been tested in the cherry orchard at the Central Experimental Farm, and especially in reference to those varieties which have been brought to America within the past few years from Northern Europe.

From the information here submitted, it would appear that there are among the newer cherries tested, varieties of special merit as to hardiness, vigour of growth and quality of fruit, which should now be disseminated and tried in a more general way. With the view of assisting to bring about this desirable end, buds of these cherries have been freely distributed during the past season among Canadian nurserymen and fruit growers, and a similar distribution will be made on application during the propagating season of 1893. It is hoped that through this action young trees of those sorts most desirable, may soon be available to the public through the usual channels of trade, and that thus a desirable impetus may be given to cherry growing throughout the Dominion, and especially in those districts where the winters are unfavourable for the growth of the more tender sorts.

The illustrations used in this Bulletin have been engraved especially for this publication from photographs of the fruit taken under the personal supervision of Mr. Craig.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

WM. SAUNDERS,

Director.

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