

600 miles further north than Quebec, there are twelve villages where the peasants are growers of this race of apples in large quantities. Another race seems to be designated by the name of Antonovka. It is the leading apple of the vast prairie region that stretches from Tula to the south of Kharkof and from Kozlof to Kiev. He found this apple in latitude 54° north, about 480 miles further north than Quebec, regarded as their hardiest and most productive apple tree, noted for its length of life, average annual bearing and fruitfulness in old age. The Aport is the name of another family, to which the apple grown here under the name of Alexander belongs. Arabka or Arabskoe is the name of yet another family, seemingly not quite as hardy as the two first mentioned, yet containing some members that are likely to prove valuable here.

THE PEAR. The wild pear he found planted in the public square at Simbirsk on the Volga, as an ornamental tree, where the soil is dry, the summer sun hot, the air excessively dry, and the winters very cold, because it maintained a dark green, glossy, healthy foliage better than any other. The pears were of two forms, one like a Bergamot in shape, small, and very variable in quality; the other pyriform, small and usually too astringent even for cooking. The most hardy variety which he found yielding fruit that is eatable, is the Tonkovieta; next to it in endurance is the Bessemianka, which is considered the best that is grown in the severer parts of Russia.

THE CHERRY. This also appears to consist chiefly of two families, the Vladimir and the Ostheim. Of these the most important is the Vladimir, which is probably so named from the district where it is most extensively grown, there being over a hundred

orchards, each containing fifteen thousand trees. The Ostheim is supposed to be a native of the Sierra Nevada mountains of Spain, much resembling the Vladimir in foliage and habit of growth.

THE PLUM. This fruit was found by Mr. Gibb in Vladimir and Kazan, some red, some yellow, but most were blue, much resembling the prunes of Germany. He thinks some of these Russian plums may prove to be valuable for us. It is doubtful whether they are any more hardy than the Chickasaw plums of northwest America, but they may be of better quality. Mr. Gibb mentions a dwarf variety of the *Prunus spinosa* which is very ornamental when laden with its small blue fruit, and advises its introduction as an attractive plant for our lawns.

THE APRICOT. There is a variety of this fruit growing in eastern Turkestan in great quantity, which though small in size is sweet and of fair quality. Also in the Province of Mantchuria there is yet another variety really good, which is brought in considerable quantity to the Pekin market. Mr. Gibb thinks we should give these a trial.

THE ROSE. Mr. Gibb learned that the Japanese *Rosa rugosa* was perfectly hardy at St. Petersburg and Moscow, hence we may be sure that it will thrive in our climate. Both the single and double forms are beautiful.

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF FORESTRY.

It is intended by the promoters of the exhibition, which it is proposed to hold in Edinburgh, Scotland, next summer, to make it the starting point of a National School of Forestry, an institution much needed in Great Britain. At present students have to go to schools on the continent for instruction, while there is ample scope for study at home.