

## STONE FRUITS.



STONE Fruits and their Propagation," is the subject of an interesting paper read before the Iowa State Horticultural Society, by Prof. J. L. Budd, of Iowa, which appears in its transactions for 1890. In speaking of the varieties of cherries which succeed in Iowa, he says that in the southern half of the State the varieties which have given satisfaction during the last ten years are the *Wragg*, *Ostheim Weichel*, and *Montmorency Ordinaire*. Of the dwarf Russians which have been tested, he says that the *Shubianka*, on hardy roots and on dry soil, has been successful as far north as the 44th parallel. It belongs to the Vladimir family, and grows in bush form. It bears well at Ames, and he believes that it will have the greatest value. For dessert, or canning, it is better than the English Morello or Wragg.

In speaking of the propagation of the cherry, he does not favor the use of the *Mahaleb* stock, which is largely employed by our Eastern nurserymen, in the budding of almost every catalogued variety. It is, undoubtedly, the most effective dwarfing stock, but on account of its being a distinct species, differing as much from the cultivated cherry in wood, cell-structure, and the habit of flowering as the common apple from the wild crab, or the pear from the thorn, the two woods never make any real union of cells. Some varieties may make very durable trees, if deeply set, so that the roots will finally be emitted from the scion, but nearly all colored juice varieties make such feeble union as to starve the roots within a few years.

The *Mahaleb* is a small wild tree found on sandy knolls and dry rocks over west Europe, with white bark, hard, close-grained, dark-colored wood; small, black, bitter fruit, and flowering in short racemes. The wood, the leaves, the flowers and fruit are so powerfully scented that it is known everywhere as the "Perfumed cherry."

The *Mazzard* stocks of commerce are from the wild red cherry of Europe, which is nearly allied to, and supposed to be the original form, of many of our cultivated varieties, and, in consequence, many of our cultivated varieties unite well with it when grafted or budded upon it.

The Morello stocks he commends because nearly all hardy varieties, so far as known, unite perfectly with its wood; indeed, so favorably is he impressed with this stock, that he has decided to employ it largely for his experimental orchard.

The *Sand Cherry* (*Prunus pumila*) of the North-West, under cultivation grows, on rich soil, with sufficient rapidity to make it a suitable stock for budding. It is the hardiest of cherries and is very closely related to our garden varieties. He commends this for trial.

Speaking of plums, Mr. Budd writes somewhat favorably of *Prunus Simoni*,