

or two's difference may make all the difference in fertilizing. You will see that from the list I sent you about mango flowers that there is a considerable difference in flowering.

"I have had outlined, life size, drawings made of the fruit of all of our varieties, and I have pleasure in sending you a set. Mr. W. Popenoe has also taken away a set with him. These fruits are on the whole, probably below the average size.

"I am trying to arrange for a similar investigation to be made of mangos all over India, and have enlisted the cooperation of the various Economic Botanists. I hope that in time we shall be able to get together a fairly complete set of drawings and descriptions of the majority of the mangos of India. It is a subject that will well repay the trouble that it involves.

"I have interested Mr. Popenoe in our so-called Country Plums. He has seen specimens in spirit and says that as far as he knows there are nothing like them in America. I have tried to find out where these plums came from, but no one seems to know. Royle called them *P. Bokhariensis* so they probably came from that direction. Mr. Howard, the Imperial Economic Botanist at Pusa, suggests that possibly your explorer, Mr. Meyer, I think, may have found them in his travels in Northern China.

"I am taking up the peaches and plums next season and will have them done out in a similar way as I have done the mangos.

"We went into the question of the avocado and Mr. Popenoe thinks that they will do well here. We have 2 or 3 trees here that we got originally in 1883 from the Agri-Horticultural Society, Calcutta. They are I believe of average size but so far have not fruited very readily. Their edible qualities have never been properly tested, but I fear that it will not readily "catch on" as it is not a fruit that the natives will take to. At the same time I would be very pleased to extend the experiment, as Mr. Popenoe thinks that we have not a good variety. About 3 years ago I got some Cuban avocado from Reasoner Bros. and these are growing well. Mr. Popenoe has made arrangements for one or more Wardian cases of fruits to take back with him in February or March, some of which he intends for you. If the Wardian case of avocado would come before then, it would be utilized in sending the plants he selected.

"Amongst other fruits that I have drawn Mr. Popenoe's attention to is the China pear, or as it is often called here, country pear. They were taken up with its superior qualities as a stewing or canning pear. Infinitely superior to the Keiffer. I cannot find that the China pear (at least the