

## **Origin of the Name "Fuerte"**

When the original Carl Schmidt introductions from Mexico were received at the West India Gardens in 1911, they were all budded by me on seedlings of the Mexican race which had been planted in advance for this purpose. Some of the varieties "took" well; others were less successful. One variety was so much more vigorous than the rest that it attracted our attention before the buds were a foot in height.

One day when father and I were going over the Schmidt introductions, we commented particularly upon the high percentage of buds of this variety which had "taken," and the strong, vigorous start they were making. Father remarked, "That's the strongest grower of the lot. We'll call it 'Fuerte.' "

### **SPANISH FOR "STRONG"**

This word means "strong" and "robust" in Spanish, and is a word in common use in Latin America. Father had learned it during his stay in Costa Rica back in the eighteen-nineties, along with a generous smattering of other words, several of which were drawn upon to name the Schmidt introductions. "El Alto" and "El Perfecto" were two of these. Shortly after these names were given, I became a member of the American Pomological Society, and on studying the Code of Nomenclature, found that varietal names should consist of only one word; we therefore dropped the article "el," which had originally been applied to Fuerte as well as several other sorts.

Wilson Popenoe September 29, 1940.