

leading apple over a larger section of country than any other in Europe, than any other apple I know of. No apple holds so high a rank above others in any large section of this continent; and yet if the Baldwin were equally hardy I would much prefer it.

We first meet with it in the cold climate of Tenki, in Kazan, where it is looked upon as the best of the "introduced" apple trees, and certainly the young trees we saw there were quite promising. In all the towns on the Volga we find the Antonovka noted as hardy as far as tried, and in some places, tried long enough to be thoroughly relied upon.

It is, however, in Central Russia that we find the Antonovka so highly prized. In the cold climate of Toula, in latitude 54, about 120 miles south of Moscow, yet 480 miles farther to the north than the city of Quebec, we find it considered their hardiest and most productive apple tree. A young tree, twelve years planted, is pointed out as having produced its eight poods, and old trees, long past their prime, twenty-five poods. In one peasant orchard we find the few scattered survivors of a previous orchard, nearly all of these were Antonovka; strange that this had stood while other kinds alongside of it, intermingled with it, had been killed, killed by a cold winter, I think in 1867.

In the Government of Tambof, half-way between Moscow and Saratof, there was a large orchard of 2700 trees, only 730 of which survived the winter of 1867, when mild warm rainy weather was followed by sudden cold. Antonovka, though injured, was not killed; it and Anis stood the best. That winter, at Orel, in February, the thermometer went down to 35 Rea., that is 46 Fahrenheit, and, in exposed places 37 Rea. or 51 Fahrenheit, and yet Antonovka there is above all others their leading apple, and the old trees we saw there were, as far as I can remember, in fine health.

At Veronesh we hear the same opinion, and hear of trees that have produced 27 *poods* or 972 *pounds*, nearly, half a ton, and are told that although "other apples have their faults this has none," It has its faults, but I quote this to show the widely spread opinion of those who grow it.