

ARNAUTKA WHEAT FROM ODESSA, RUSSIA.

We extract the following from the *Country Gentleman*:

EDS. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—Last spring I received from the Department of Agriculture, two sacks of the above named wheat, most of which I sowed, but distributed a number of packages (about 1½ pints each) among farmers who have generally been successful in growing wheat in this section. By so doing, I thought a better test of its yield, quality, and adaption to our climate, and on different soils, could be ascertained.

In my haste to sow as early as possible, most of the land upon which the wheat was sown, was of a sandy and gravelly nature, upon which I grew good corn and potatoes in 1868, which was a very wet season. April 28, sowed about half a bushel; land in potatoes the previous year. May 6th, sowed about the same quantity on land in corn the preceding year. During the past summer we had a long and severe drouth, which caused a very great decrease in the yield of grain and growth of straw. But some portions of both pieces were of a more loamy and moister nature; there the wheat grew rank, stood up well, straw perfectly bright, heads rather short, with very long, barley looking beards or awns. There were two distinct varieties, in one of which the heads very closely resembled six-rowed barley, with black awns; in the other, the heads in shape resembled rye, with brown or reddish beards; I saved a small sheaf of each. The mixture of the two sorts appeared to be about equal. This day, Dec. 7, I rubbed out the grains of four heads of each variety. The black awned gave 144 kernels—an average of 36 to each head. The four rye shaped heads gave 90 kernels, an average of 22½ to each head, and I presume there would be a similar difference in the yield of the two sorts if sown separately. The grains of the black chaffed are large and nearly round; the other kind have much longer rye shaped grains, and appear to be very flinty. I obtained a little over six bushels from over a bushel of seed sown, and probably that is more than I could have raised from the same amount of any of the spring wheats grown here, under such adverse circumstances.

In the *Prairie Farmer*, 10th of last April, in substance I find the following: "A good word for the Arnautka wheat." The writer says, "I received a sample of this wheat from the Department of Agriculture in the spring of 1867, and was well pleased with the yield, and also the quality of the grain. I also sowed it again in the spring of 1868, and had a bountiful yield. I had four bushels of it ground to test the quality of the flour it would make, and am fully satisfied with both the quantity and quality, and unless it changes materially for the worse shall continue to raise it. It produced at the rate of fully fifty bushels to the acre the past two years, and has been carefully examined by many of the farmers, grain merchants, and millers in this vicinity, who are all satisfied from present knowledge of this wheat that it is a valuable acquisition for wheat growers."

I have received numerous letters from different sections in reference to the Excelsior oats and the Arnautka wheat; the writers wanting from one pound or quart, up to a bushel or more. If I had purchased these grains, I would not be bothered in sending them off at any price, as I should be glad to sow every oat I have. But as these

grains were imported by the Department of Agriculture for the "greatest good of the greatest number," I feel under obligation to aid the Department in its mission for good.

TAKING AGRICULTURAL PAPERS.

Why is it that so many who follow the noble and useful pursuit of farming are so diverse to studying the experience and practice of our best farmers, as published in our agricultural periodicals? When you urge the claims of our journals, and ask them to subscribe and thus help to sustain papers devoted to their interests, they will tell you that they cannot afford it, while at the same time they take one or more simple trashy story papers, which are poisoning and ruining the minds of their children; or perhaps they will tell you that they have not time to read, while at the same time they can, many of them, find time by the hour to sit at the store or bar room and jabber on politics. I often think that it would be far better for them to be at home with their families.

Others again will tell you that they want none of your book-farming—that it is all a humbug, and that they know as much about farming as those who write for the papers. Oh, profound wisdom! I cannot help thinking that, if they are really past learning, they are fit subjects for translation to some higher sphere. For my part, I expect to study and try to profit by the experience of my brother farmers, as found in our papers; and I desire no greater treat than, after the labors of the day are over, to take an Agricultural paper and read its valuable pages at home with my family. Now, brother farmers, let us sustain our papers; and let me also urge each one to contribute to its pages something of his experience on his farm, to prove all things and hold fast that is good. —W. WADE, IN COUNTRY GENT.

HOW A FARMER MAY LOSE MONEY.

By not taking a good home paper.

Keeping no account of home operations. Paying no attention to the maxim, "a stitch in time saves nine," in regard to the sowing of grain and planting of seed at the proper season.

Leaving the reapers, plows, and cultivators, &c., uncovered from the rain and heat of the sun. More money is lost in this way than most people are willing to believe.

Permitting broken implements to be scattered over the farm until they are irreparable. By repairing broken implements at the proper time, many dollars may be saved, a proof of the assertion that time is money.

Attending auction sales and purchasing all kinds of trumpery, because, in the words of the vender, the articles are "very cheap."

Allowing fences to remain unrepaired until strange cattle are found grazing in the meadow, grain fields, or bruising the fruit trees.

Disbelieving the principal of a rotation of crops before making a single experiment.

Planting fruit trees with the expectation of having fruit, without giving the trees half the attention required to make them profitable.

Practicing economy by depriving stock of proper shelter during the winter, and giving them unsound food, such as half-rotten and mouldy hay and fodder.

Keeping an innumerable tribe of rats on the premises, and two or three lazy dogs that eat up more in a month than they are worth in whole lifetime.

Miscellaneous.

THERE is 1 on earth I love, and that is K T P's; without her, whereso'er I rove, my heart is ill at E's. She dwells beyond the deep blue C, in lovely U-T-K, York State—3,000 miles or more from Cal-i-for-ni-a. Venus might N-V her full charms, when decked in her R-A; And then to paint her I's and O's 'twere idle to S-A. Her cheeks as R-O-Z as the morn, her teeth as white as pearl; to fill one's love with X-T-C, O! she is just the girl! The I-V green climbs at her door, the sweet P blossoms there; of all the flowers that ever blow, my K-T is most fair. I do not lavish M-T praise through wild X-S of love; but, O! I worship her next to the D-E-T above. Though former joys R dead to me, those once I held so D-R, I will not mourn their sad D-K nor shed a single T-R. And though N-F-I-G I am, as everybody C's I ask but 1 2 P-T me, and that is K-T P's. Her smile or sympathy would soon my N-R-G restore, and make me something like the man I used to B B4. Not given to Q-P-D-T, yet I've enough of pelf; My coat and vest R C-D now, my pants let in the breeze; life's turbid streams run I C cold, unwarmed by K-T-P's. X-Q's me K-T—as I live I hope you soon 2 C; and then, if "mother" don't object, Y—married we will B! And then prepare my charming 1, 2 vamous U-T-K; for we will go 2 O-I-O, or else 2 I-O-A.

MISTAKEN FRUGALITY.—Some men attach extraordinary importance to this virtue, and supposing them to commence practicing it at an early age, they will become parsimonious at middle life, avaricious soon after, and sordid in old age; this soon tells inversely with agriculturists, and it is often seen that penurious farmers will rob their land in every possible way to place the money thus obtained at interest, and while their niggardly souls are rejoicing over their money, the source whence it sprang is reduced till the stingy owner of the much-abused land, actually loses by occupying the very farm on which he began to be economical. By this time, covetousness has gained such an ascendancy, that the miserly spirit greedily seizes on every present available chance to turn a penny, and futurity must take its chance. Thus it is evident that a saving disposition should not be cultivated to an inordinate extent, and a check to the growth of it should be administered, for many fine, honorable minds succumb to the subtle poison, and a generous heart sinks lower and lower in the depths of meanness.—COUNTRY GENT.

BRAN.—Good sweet wheaten bran is in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred better than physic, if it is given in time. Let any animal eating stinking, mouldy corn-stalk or old brittle hay, making it look bad, have some bran to help its poor stomach, and it will soon appear in better plight. When a cow in milk does not do as well as she should on other feed, add some bran; no matter what ails the horse, cow sheep or pig, a little bran will do good—but don't feed bran alone for long.

A little girl sent out for eggs, came back unsuccessful, complaining that "lots of hens were standing round doing nothing."