

AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The *Colo-*
Government Gazette published an extract
 he agricultural statistics of the last season,
 the detailed tabular statements have not
 been issued. It appears that the total num-
 ber of acres under cultivation in the colony
 season, inclusive of 56,266 acres in fall-
 was 361,884½ acres, showing an increase in
 land crop, as compared with the previous
 of 39,445½ acres. The area on which
 at crops were grown was 218,216 acres
 the total yield was 2,103,411 bushels;
 an increase over the previous year
 rea to the extent of 29,513 acres, but
 rease in the total produce of 6,133 bushels.
 flows of course that the average yield of
 at the last harvest must have been miser-
 small; it is stated in the abstract before
 9 bushels 36lbs. In barley there has
 a falling off in both area and yield, as com-
 with the previous year, to the extent of
 acres and 64,822 bushels. The average
 of barley is stated at 12 bushels 44lbs.—
 is also there has been a decrease, amount-
 o 74½ acres and 528 bushels. In potatoes
 has been an increase of cultivation with
 rease of produce—579 acres in excess of
 revious year having been put under crop,
 e the yield fell short of the previous year
 32½ tons. Hay stands in the same posi-
 the area under crop having been increased
 291½ acres, and the produce having fallen
 by 2,701 tons.—*Australian and New Zeal-*
and Gazette.

BLIND CORN.—As the subject of dibbling
 (wheat) is attracting considerable atten-
 at the present time, it may not be un-
 esting to some of our readers to have
 ht before them what was thought upon
 this point more than two hundred years
 Our extract is from the '*Systema Agri-*
 ' published in 1861.

OF SETTING OF CORN.

ides the usual manner of sowing of corn,
 ere several other ways of dispersing it, as
 sowing and hewing of it in, &c. This art
 tiling corn seems to be very antient, as ap-
 by Virgil, '*Unguibz infodiunt et ipsis*
 ' and hath been a long time attempted
 brought into practice again, as appears by
 lat's '*Adam's Tool Revived*, printed in
 ar 1640, where he doth very ingeniously
 be not only the way, but the great advan-
 hat accrues by this then new discovery.
 first part thereof giving you the reason
 why sown in the common way yields not
 at an increase as it doth by being set;
 e shews you the manner of digging the
 here you are to set your corn; then he
 ds to the description of his instruments,
 of some are only many pins, set at a con-
 distance in a board, which, compressed
 earth, make so many holes where the
 gains are to be dropt one by one; but
 these are very unnecessary and trouble-
 and that there are newer and better ways

found out, I shall decline any further discourse
 about them. Also, he gives you the distance
 and debth; where he observes that, at three
 inches distance, and three inches debth, *there*
hath grown thirty quarters of wheat on an acre of
 ground, and that four inches in debth and dis-
 tance hath yielded but twenty quarters; he also
 speaks of five inches in debth and five in dis-
 tance. It's probable the diversity of the land, or
 of these years wherein the experiments were
 proved, might beget some difference. After-
 wards he adviseth, in barren lands, to fill up
 the holes with some good mixture or fat com-
 post, or to imbibe the grain you set therewith.

Then Mr. Gabriel Platt succeeds with his
 newer and better composed method of setting
 corn, whereby he pretends to remedy all the in-
 conveniences of the former way by his two new
 invented engines,—the one for the more expe-
 ditious setting of the corn, the other for the
 laying up the land on ridges, just on the tops
 of the rows of corn, that neither surplusage of
 moisture might annoy it, nor frost in winter
 kill it: which way prevents the laying the land
 in high ridges before sowing; neither need the
 land be digged, only ploughed, arrowed, and
 then set.

Here follows a long description of these en-
 gines, which it is needless to give, as we have
 evidently much improved upon these old imple-
 ments; though we question whether, with all
 these advantages, we can grow 'thirty quarters
 of wheat to the acre.'

The Purik Sheep.

The following letter, describing this animal,
 was sent to the Society for the Acclimatisation
 of Animals, recently formed in London, by Dr.
 John Gardner:

SIR—A letter appeared in the *Times* a few
 days ago from Mr. E. Wilson, on the subject of
 the Acclimatisation of Animals. It stated that
 a great desideratum for England is an animal of
 size between the rabbit and sheep, and suggested
 the wombat. Two objections appear to lie
 against that animal—its burrowing habits, and
 the prejudice which would be certainly enter-
 tained against it as an article of food. Assum-
 ing that the subject would interest you, and
 come within the scope of your society, I take
 the liberty to point out an animal, the introduc-
 tion of which into this country would be a great
 public boon, and I cannot but think would amply
 repay your society by the great popular interest
 it would excite. The animal to which I allude
 is a very diminutive species of sheep, found in
 countries adjacent to the Punjaub—the Purik
 sheep. This creature is so small that when
 full-grown it is not larger than a lamb of a few
 weeks old. It has small bones, and full, fleshy
 carcase, and its mutton is excellent. It gives
 two lambs every year, and yields 3 lbs. of very
 fine wool. Its habits are as domesticated as the
 dog; it feeds on every kind of vegetable, grain,