

SIBERIAN SPRING WHEAT.

This variety of wheat is now pretty generally cultivated in the central districts of the Province, though it may be had in the largest quantities in the vicinities of Cobourg, Port Hope, and Peterborough. We expect that thousands of bushels may be purchased in the neighbourhood of the above towns, for about the same rates that good fall wheat commands. We sowed 47 bushels of Siberian wheat last spring, which has given a return of about 25 bushels per acre, and its flouring qualities are nearly equal to red chaff winter wheat. Our average was not equal to many of our neighbouring farmers, who only sowed a few acres upon land prepared in the best possible manner: notwithstanding we have no reason to complain, as it yielded a much more profitable return, than about an equal number of acres of autumn wheat, which was summer fallowed, and prepared with the greatest care. We also sowed about 30 bushels of white chaff, called spring wheat, and acre for acre, the Siberian will yield 25 per cent more than the common variety, and will bring 2d. or 3d. more per bushel in the market for grinding purposes. We have met with a number of instances in the neighbourhood of Newmarket, where from 40 to 45 acres of Siberian wheat has been harvested the past season; and those large yields have been grown without an exception after potatoes, with no other preparation than autumn ploughing, and a thorough spring harrowing. Potatoe fallow, we believe to be the best preparation for spring wheat, and if the ground be properly managed in the autumn, it will require no further trouble in the spring than a harrowing to prepare it for the reception of the seed. The sooner it is sown in the spring the better, but the land should in all cases be allowed to get dry, before it be harrowed. To facilitate the spring work, it should be ploughed as deep as the strength of the team will admit. Many inquiries have of late been made, relative to the peculiar appearance of this wheat, which we shall briefly answer. The chaff and straw are red, and, if free from rust, are beautifully transparent. The diameter and length of the straw are considerably under the common varieties, and the straw is much harder, and of a more wiry appearance, like the straw of chess, than other kinds of wheat. The heads are remarkably long, and the grains are placed at a considerable distance asunder; notwithstanding we have frequently counted ninety grains upon a single head, but the average number is about sixty. The grains are short, plump, and of a light colour; and the bran is very thin and light when compared with the common kinds. The high character which we gave of the Siberian wheat, has been fully borne out from numerous and repeated trials; and from this fact, we feel an additional confidence in soliciting the Canadian farmers to sow this valuable variety of wheat, in preference to all other varieties of spring wheat. We trust that merchants and millers, who are interested in this matter, more than even the farmers themselves, will purchase this wheat from the present holders, and retail it out to the farmers in their respective neighbourhoods, for seed for the coming season.

BLACK SEA SPRING WHEAT.—Messrs. Gaylord and Tucker:—Believing it will be beneficial to the public to have this wheat reserved for seed, I make this communication. It is believed in this quarter, to be superior for seed to any other spring wheat. First, because it requires but about two thirds the usual quantity to sow an acre.—2nd, it yields better in a good season. If it lodges, it generally

fills well—but its great superiority consists in its hardness to withstand the rust.

Our thrasher, Mr. G. Farnum, of this town, says he threshed in Cornwall, about 500 bushels of this wheat, of 1842 crop, and did not have a rusty bundle, whereas, three fourths of the other wheat was very materially damaged by rust. Of the 1843 crop, he threshed about 3000 bushels of this wheat and found its yield superior to any other spring wheat; and also, that it filled well where it lodged.

I learn that the wheat raised in Cornwall, came from a peck of seed, procured near Boston in 1839 or '40. Some suppose there are two kinds, and that the red chaff is the best. It is dark colored, hard and heavy. Until our millers learned how to grind it, it was supposed to make inferior flour.

Homer Wright, of this town, got 44 bushels from 1½ bushels of seed; Mr. Elmore, 26 from 1 bushel; Orval Smith, 29 from 1 bushel of seed; Hiram Foster, of Whitney, 42 from 1½ bushels B. Simonds, 41 from 1½ bushels of seed.

I am surprised that our farmers should send so much of this wheat to the mill to be ground, considering the estimation in which it is held, and that there is not more of it than ought to be sown in two counties.

Shoreham, Vt. 1844.

CLARK RICH.

CART WHEELS.—There is still, I apprehend, not only in Ireland, but in Great Britain generally a deficiency in the formation, or rather in the height of cart-wheels. From frequent observation of the power of those which are used in France which enables a very feeble horse to draw great weights, I am convinced that the average height of the cart-wheels we employ in road and farm labour ought not to be less than from five feet six inches to six feet. The wheel of the common Irish farmer rarely exceeds three feet six inches; for he is impressed with the notion that, if it were higher, the pressure would be too great on the horse when going down hill, having no knowledge of the simple contrivance of the Frenchman, who by means of a piece of wood which can be pressed from behind by a simple sort of screw, causes a degree of friction which retards the action of the wheels so as to relieve the horse in the descent. In a level country, there can be no doubt whatever of the mechanical advantage to be derived from a very high wheel, and still more on ascending ground; and though it often from want of a friction-break, or the neglect of the carter to apply it, there is on the average of work a decided advantage obtained from the use of the high wheel provided that it does not exceed the elevation which will admit of an horizontal shaft, or still better, allowed a trifling declination from the fore point to the other extremity; and, I may add, from a narrow axle, which causes a lesser friction than a wide one.—*Martin Doyle.*

LOOK OUT FOR CATERPILLARS.—These little *varmints* came out early this spring, and you will find their silken tents spreading in the forks of the branches of your fruit and other trees. Crush them "in the bud," or rather, before they get hold of the bud.

If let alone, they will destroy a whole tree in a short time, and not only destroy the tree, but prepared trouble for your long hereafter, by laying the foundation of thousands of similar colonies which shew themselves from year to year, rendering it very difficult to extirpate them.—*Maine Farmer.*