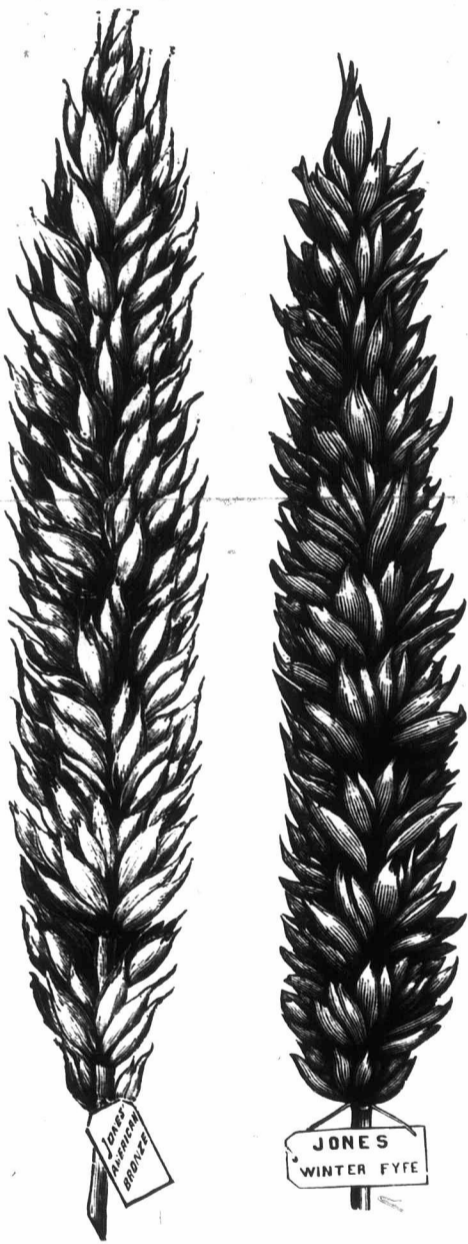


## JONES' WINTER FYFE

is not generally known in Ontario. Last season it was sold for \$12 per bushel, and only two or three one bushel lots were sown, also a few parties sowed small packets in different sections of the country. It is destined to become a popular wheat, and will, no doubt, give large yields. It is very hardy, stools out wonderfully, having a very handsome appearance when growing. It is spoken of in glowing terms by wheat-growers, seedsmen and millers alike, in the State of New York where originated, who describe it as follows:—

"In size and appearance the grain resembles spring wheat, and contains even more gluten than the noted Saskatchewan Fyfe, the pride of North American millers. It covers the ground early in the season, requiring light seeding on rich soil; straw, above medium height and very strong; heads, long and broad, with breasts overlapping each other, with from four to six grains each, and free from beards and velvet-like white chaff; grain medium size, transparent, hard and dark."



There is another variety of wheat which closely resembles this, viz., the

## RED VELVET CHAFF,

sold last year by Mr. Wm. Rennie, Toronto, both in appearance while growing and from the size and color of the grain. This last sort was sold last year by unscrupulous parties as Canadian Velvet Chaff, the grain of which it does not at all resemble.

The newest sort to be introduced into this country is the

## AMERICAN BRONZE.

Only a few small plots are now grown in Ontario. It is the most handsome wheat while growing in the field. The straw is long, stiff and very bright; the head long and square. From its appearance it should yield well. It is

quite too soon for the ADVOCATE to pass an opinion as to its merits. Wherever inspected it is most promising. When introducing it its originator wrote as follows:—

"Although especially adapted to poor soils, producing a good crop when most other sorts would prove a complete failure, it is also one of great value on rich, moist land, on which long and soft strawed sorts would go down. It is of medium height, and the thickest walled straw in cultivation, resisting severe wind storms without lodging. Propagated from a cross between Martin's Amber and Fultz. Being a very strong grower and of spreading habit, it requires light seeding if sown on rich soil. Heads are long and broad, free from beards; chaff white; grain large, and of a rich bronze shade, the color being very distinct when grown on light soils. It is early, very productive, and especially free from rust even in unfavorable seasons."

Its appearance when growing would appear to bear out the above recommendation.

## THE CANADIAN VELVET CHAFF.

This is indeed a most promising wheat; in fact it is now past the experimental stage; it does extremely well in all sections of Ontario, is almost as hardy as rye. The straw is very stiff and bright, the head long and square, free from rust, ripens early, and is very productive, tillering freely. On good soil it should not be sown thicker than one and a-quarter bushels per acre. Taking the eastern part of the province it is the best fall wheat now in cultivation, and calculating the area of this wheat harvested it will decidedly yield several bushels per acre more than any other sort now grown in Ontario. It is each year improving in quality and yield. Next will come the Early Red Clawson, then the Golden Cross, Surprise and Manchester. Jones' Winter Fyfe and the American Bronze being new wheats not yet fully tried, are not considered in the above order.

In order to give our readers the most reliable information concerning fall wheats, we sent experts from west to east over all the fall wheat growing sections with instructions to critically inspect and report to us. West of London they found Canadian Velvet Chaff, Jones' Winter Fyfe, Golden Cross, Early Red Clawson, American Bronze and Manchester all doing very well. The Early Red Clawson and Canadian Velvet Chaff were meritorious in the order named, leading all others, while Jones' Winter Fyfe made a fine showing. As yet Manchester is the most largely sown in this section, being much earlier introduced. One piece of American Bronze was seen here. Though too small an acreage to compare with the others, it was most handsome and promising.

In Middlesex county, on the extensive trial grounds of Messrs. John S. Pearce & Co., London, we found Early Red Clawson, Canadian Velvet Chaff, Jones' Winter Fyfe, American Bronze, Volunteer or Golden Cross, Manchester, Democrat, and some ten or twelve other sorts growing side by side on a heavy clay loamy soil, rather damp for wheats. In this trial plot we found the first four named sorts looking unusually well, and very promising. The American Bronze was probably the most showy, being very bright in the straw and beautiful heads. The Early Red Clawson, Canadian Velvet Chaff, American Bronze, and Jones' Winter Fyfe stood side by side, and after a careful inspection we had to confess there was very little choice in these four sorts on this trial plot.

Did time and space permit we would like to say something about the oats, peas and barley we saw growing on these grounds, but will have to defer this for another number.

Proceeding to Guelph they found sixty separate varieties on the Experimental Farm, each lot sown in a plot about one-third of an acre. The soil and conditions were similar. A number of German kinds are being tested, some of which are promising, but none good enough to recommend as fit for general cultivation. In time some good varieties may be found among them.

The same may be said of a number of English wheats which, on the whole, are more promising. The American Bronze was very fine, promising and handsome.

Jones' Winter Fyfe, sown on next plot, was not as good, though much better than any imported from Germany or England.

Canadian Velvet Chaff was very good, better than Jones' Winter Fyfe.

Early Red Clawson, thicker on the ground than the last; it had tillered more freely; the heads were shorter, straw not so stiff. It was a most promising crop.

Golden Cross very good, but not as good as the last three mentioned.

The Manchester was good but not as showy as any of the above. It frequently rusts badly in the Guelph section.

Surprise is a very promising wheat, being showy and handsome. Does well in the Guelph section.

The old sorts are also being tested, but they are all so well known, having been distributed over the whole country, farmers can therefore judge which is most suitable to the different localities.

The best sorts now on the Experimental Farm are American Bronze, Canadian Velvet Chaff, Early Red Clawson, Jones' Winter Fyfe, Golden Cross and Surprise, in order named.

From Guelph, our reporters proceeded eastward to Ontario county, visiting the farm of the Hon. John Dryden, Ontario Minister of Agriculture. Here was found the finest field of wheat inspected anywhere this season. It was pure Canadian Velvet Chaff, and was a superb crop, giving evidence that the wheat was peculiarly suited to the soil, and that it had received proper cultivation.

Near Mr. Dryden's is the farm of Mr. H. H. Spencer, who has a field of some ten acres, half of which was sown with Clawson and half with Canadian Velvet Chaff. The field is similar in all respects. The Clawson is good, but will not yield as much per acre as the Velvet Chaff by about nine bushels per acre.

Going eastward to the north-eastern part of Northumberland county, the farm of J. B. Stone, of Norham, was reached. Mr. Stone has several experimental plots of fall wheat. Here Jones' Winter Fyfe made a very poor growth indeed. The straw was short and fine and the heads small and drooping; would yield about eighteen bushels per acre. Golden Cross was stronger and better, but did not grow over two feet six inches high; the straw was fine and spindling. This plot would yield about twenty bushels per acre. Neither of the above sorts are to be recommended for this section. The Early Red Clawson was much better than either of the above. The straw was longer, stronger, and thicker on the ground, and heads larger; would yield about twenty-five bushels per acre. The Canadian Velvet Chaff was by far the most promising plot in his collection; would yield quite thirty bushels per acre. Here the Hybrid Mediterranean was a failure. The plots were the same size, and alike in all particulars. Mr. Stone's field crop consisted of Canadian Velvet Chaff, and was a very fine crop.

Near Mr. Stone's is the farm of G. B. Boyce, member of the Advisory Board of the Agricultural College, Guelph. This gentleman has a sixteen acre field divided into three equal parts, on which he has sown equal quantities of Clawson, Golden Cross, and Canadian Velvet Chaff. This field needed underdraining very badly, and was unfavorable as a place to grow wheat. A considerable portion of the field was killed out; not counting the parts killed, Mr. Boyce reckoned the Clawson would yield 25 bushels per acre, the Golden Cross 18, and the Canadian Velvet Chaff 30. He claimed the last named wheat was sown on the worst part of the field. It certainly was much the finest crop.

Farther east and north the observations of our reporters were similar to the above.

