

## Seeds.

### Spring Wheats—The Golden Globe Wheat.

(To the Editor of the CANADA FARMER.)

SIR,—Seeing in the January number of your valuable paper that you desire correspondence on the subject of spring wheat, I have thought that a short account of the spring wheats raised in this part of the country might be acceptable.

Three varieties of wheat, Fife, China, and Black Sea (Spring only is raised here), have taken the lead almost to the exclusion of every other for the last twenty years. The Fife would still be a favorite but for its liability to be injured by the weevil. The China, and its first cousins the Rio Grande, and McCarling, have the defects of being bad yielders, and very difficult to harvest, being apt to shed; while the Black Sea, which I suppose the red chaff condemned by the Waterloo millers as "inferior in yield and quality of flour to the Fife," has the objection referred to, especially if not cut in time, and another is that it is so weak in the straw as to be very apt to lodge. It has, however, one redeeming quality, which is its hardness.

Our business is in its nature uncertain; it should be our endeavour to make it less so, by sowing only the safest crops, one of which is Black Sea wheat.

We have a new wheat, introduced here two years ago, the Golden Globe or Redline, which, so far, appears to me to be as hardy and more productive than the Black Sea, while it is as great a favorite with millers as the Fife. I send you some heads and shall send you a sample of the grain; it is short and plump, and set close together in long heads, some containing as many as seventy grains. The straw is tall and strong, standing up well. We have had two instances of 25 bushels being raised from one sown, in this township, while in the adjoining township 30 to 1 has been raised. You will observe that the chaff is not pure white as in the China, and that it does not show the grain at the side of the head as it does in that variety, which it seems otherwise at first sight somewhat like.

S. GOING.

Wolfe Island, Ont.

The ears of wheat arrived in good condition. It is an open, fiercely-bearded, long-eared, small-grained, red variety. The grain resembles the grain of the Red Chaff in appearance, and probably in quality, though the ears are quite dissimilar. Mr. Rennie, of Toronto, to whom we showed it, classes it as a second rate wheat.

### The Extra Early Vermont Potato.

(To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER.)

SIR—In the January number you invite subscribers to give their experience with new varieties of potatoes. In 1873 I procured some Extra Early Vermont, and planted side by side with the favorite Early Rose, and found them to be as represented, viz. —earlier than the latter variety.

Last year, I planted in the same manner, and gave both varieties the same cultivation in every respect, and I found the Vermont superior both in quantity and quality.

It is not always advisable to discard such well tried varieties as the Early Rose, and others; however, as an early potato, I believe the Vermont to be superior.

I have also tried Compton's Surprise, but do not think so highly of it, and do not think it will hold the position assigned to it by some. Its color will detract very much from its popularity. Another variety I have tried, viz. —the Late Rose, (a sprout of the Early Rose), and believe it to be superior to any other variety under cultivation. In future it will be my favorite crop for market. The Early Vermont and Late Rose I believe to be the two best varieties grown at the present time. I purpose trying other new varieties this coming spring. If our reports do not come up to the Ontario standard, you will please remember that we live in the Dutch oven and dog-cart vicinity.

Lachine, Q.

A SUBSCRIBER.

### Potatoes from One Pound of Seed.

The results of the competition for Messrs. Bliss & Sons' prizes offered for the largest crops of Extra Early Vermont, Compton's Surprise and Brownell's Beauty, have been published. Some remarkable yields are reported. The conditions were that a pound of seed should be sown and should not have any unusual or forcing method of cultivation. The successful competitors resided in the following States: Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Minnesota, Kansas and Tennessee, and one in Nova Scotia.

The principal yields in pounds from one pound of seed, of each kind, were as follows: Extra Early Vermont,

708, 698, 690, 674; Compton's Surprise, 900, 874, 832, 811; Brownell's Beauty, 1,018, 811, 782, 749.

The competitors for premiums for largest crops produced from one-fourth acre were few in number, and the crops small in comparison with the yields reported above. The rates in bushels per acre were as follows: Extra Early Vermont, 416, 176, 172; Compton's Surprise, 490; Brownell's Beauty, 593, 537.

### Experience with Compton's Surprise.

(To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER.)

SIR:—In the CANADA FARMER for January you ask for information on the raising, or experimenting on, some of the new varieties of potatoes. I would say that, on the 8th of May last, I procured one pound of Compton's Surprise, price \$1.25, which I cut to single eyes and planted, two eyes in a hill, twenty-two hills in all, on a small patch of ground which had grown onions the previous year.

The hens scratched out and destroyed two hills. The others I kept well hoed and clean; but the Fall being too dry they did not do so well as they otherwise would have done. However, on September 23rd, I dug forty-five pounds good fair-sized, mealy potatoes, which I intend to cut to single eyes, and try again, two eyes to one hill. I have no doubt, that, with a favorable season, and fair cultivation, they will yield 100 per cent.

Logierait, Ont.

D. HOSEIE.

### Compton's Surprise and Brownell's Beauty.

(To the Editor of the CANADA FARMER.)

SIR.—We, last spring, procured one pound each of Compton's Surprise and Brownell's Beauty. They both did pretty well, the Brownell's Beauty yielding rather over sixty pounds from the one pound planted, and the Compton's Surprise about fifty-four pounds. They were both treated the same way—cut to one eye to a set, planted in a drill in the field, and getting neither extra manure nor care.

So far as one small trial goes, we like the Brownell's Beauty the best. The potatoes were more equal and larger in size, and to us they tasted better. They somewhat resemble the Garnett Chili in color and shape, but seem earlier, and scarcely so white flushed as the Chilis.

Cobourg, Ont.

J. R.

### New Potatoes—Brownell's Beauty.

(To the Editor of the CANADA FARMER.)

SIR:—With me, Brownell's Beauty, with which I have had two years' experience, is a complete success. It is of good quality, sound, yields well and keeps well, and is moderately early. The tubers grow close together, so there is not much trouble in gathering.

Stratford, Ont.

SUBSCRIBER.

A CORRESPONDENT in Nova Scotia asks for information concerning the *Egyptian* wheat which he has seen advertised as to be had in Ontario. Can any of our subscribers give the desired information?

OUR readers will see that this new department of the CANADA FARMER promises to be a most valuable one. It depends upon themselves whether it shall not more than fulfil its promise. Send on items of your experience with new varieties and facts tending to show decadence of present favorites.

SUCCESSFUL POTATOES IN NORTHERN ENGLAND.—According to an English agricultural journal the potatoes which have proved most successful in the north of England, are the Early Rose, Late Rose and Vermont Beauty, all American varieties, and quite free from disease.

MANGEL WURZELS AND TURNIPS CULTIVATED BY HARRIS LEWIS.—Harris Lewis, now President of the New York State Agricultural Society, is known to be a strong advocate of the economy of cultivating root crops. He is reported, after trying numerous varieties, to now cultivate only the Long Red, Ovoid and Yellow Globe Mangels (giving preference to the Long Red), and the White Sweet German Turnips.

A NEW SQUASH—THE BUTMAN.—The *Agriculturist* gives a description of a new squash, introduced, of course, by the father of squashes, Mr. Gregory, and named the Butman. The new comer is pronounced to be superior to any squash going. It resembles in appearance the Hubbard, and it is said to be as productive; it however differs in color, it being of a bright green, intermingled with white; some of the specimens might be described as white, mottled with green; in external color it is very distinct and striking; it has the thick shell of the Hubbard, and is thick-fleshed, the flesh being a very lively light salmon color. In keeping qualities it equals the Hubbard, but is in its prime from October to January. It had its origin in Maine, and was invented by Mr. Butman, who crossed the Hubbard with a Japanese variety.

DURING THE year 1873, 35,440 sheep were killed and 35,035 injured by dogs in the State of Ohio, and the aggregate amount of loss from this cause was \$156,318.

SALE OF PURE-BRED STOCK AT ALFORD.—The annual sale of pure-bred stock at Alford—the best place in Scotland to expose young bulls of the polled Angus breed—has been fixed for the 16th of March next.

THE 9th Duchess of Airdrie, calved January 6th at Woodburn, Ky., a fine roan bull calf, "25th Duke of Airdrie;" cow and calf doing well. The 25th Duke is by the 4th Duke of Geneva.

MR. I. T. DAY, of Martin Co., Oregon, furnishes his experience last season in fattening pigs on wheat, by which means he made a good pay for his stock of hogs, and realized \$1 per bushel for his wheat, though working at a disadvantage.

DEATH OF LORD SONDER.—Death is announced of Lord Sonder in his 51st year. The deceased nobleman was a distinguished breeder of Southdown sheep and of Norfolk polled cattle, and in both these departments of national showyards has long been a formidable opponent.

ONE OF OUR YOUNG MEN, remarks a Bloomfield (Conn.) correspondent, who earned as clerk in a Hartford store, at the rate of six hundred dollars in 1873, cultivated last summer on shares eight acres of tobacco, receiving for his half about three thousand dollars. He naturally thinks that this kind of farming is more lucrative than clerking.

A CORRESPONDENT of Massachusetts Ploughman reports that thirteen pigs of two litters, a mixture of Chester White and Suffolk, were fattened by ten different persons in the vicinity of a Vermont town, and averaged 315 pounds dressed, varying from 230 to 433 pounds. The age is not given, but from the account, they could not have been more than ten months old.

ONE AFTER THE \$40,000 ER.—On the 16th of January, died at the farm of Hon. T. J. Megibben, of Kentucky, the famous \$25,000 4th Duchess of Oneida, purchased at the New York Mills sale. She leaves a three-months-old bull calf by 14th Duke of Thorndale. She was not insured. Coming so soon after the loss of the 8th Duchess of Geneva, that brought \$40,000 at the same sale, it suggests that breeding superlatively fine stock is not so very paying a business after all.

IMPORTANT SALE OF ALDERNEY STOCK.—The Hargrave, Essex, herd of Alderneys, formed by Mr. Gilbey, was sold last month at Standstead by Mr. John Thornton. The fame of the herd, individual animals of which have won prizes all over England, attracted the leading breeders in the kingdom. The fifty animals brought to the hammer realized 3056 guineas. The Duke of Bedford was the largest purchaser, getting Tal (of Royal and West of England fame), Dorchy, Milk Girl, Daystar, Beauteous, Fancy, Dayflower, giving for them 770 guineas. Lord Chesham also bought several, and some were bought for America. One heifer brought 255 guineas and a cow the same. Eighteen cows averaged over £90 a head.

PROPOSED SHORT-HORN SOCIETY IN IRELAND.—The *Irish Farmers' Gazette* says:—"It has been suggested that an 'Irish Short-horn Society' should be formed, as an auxiliary to that which has been established in England, as it is believed that by working together Irish breeders will be better able to further the objects contemplated by the general society than they could do singly, and without communication with each other. It is proposed that there should be a dinner on the first day of the Spring Show, and that the judges would be asked to dine with the members. We are sure that the proposed society will be of the greatest advantage to Irish breeders, and it will be for their interest to give it their hearty support."

THE NORTH AMERICAN Ayrshire Register.—Messrs. Lewis and Sturtevant, South Framingham, Mass., have entered upon the preparation of this work. The first volume will be kept open for entries till April 1, after which date it will go to press, and be issued at \$1.00 by mail. A circular is issued entreating breeders to send entries promptly. The terms for entries to Vol. 1 are \$1.00 for the insertion of each pedigree of an animal owned by applicant, and 20 cents each for each pedigree of a living animal necessary for the carrying out in full of the pedigree of the animal offered. Those animals not living, and which enter into a pedigree, will be registered gratuitously by the editors.

SHORT HORNS IN NEW ZEALAND.—The most important sale of Short-horns ever held in the Colony of New Zealand is reported to have taken place at the farm of Mr. George M. Bell, Meadow Bank, Waimea, Otago, on Oct. 22. The herd was established in 1867, the purchase being made mostly in Victoria, but many of them of British extraction. Twelve bulls were sold, the highest price paid being 255 guineas; one brought 200 guineas, one 125 guineas and another 100 guineas. The lowest figure for a bull was 45 guineas. Two bull calves sold at 55 and 24 guineas. There were 30 cows and heifers sold, the highest price, 325 guineas, being paid for "Queen of Butterflies," the next highest price being 290, 205 and 200 guineas. The average of the cows and heifers was 111 guineas. Four heifer calves were also sold, the prices of which were from 35 to 75 guineas. The whole of the lots were bought by stock-owners in New Zealand, most of them being retained in the Province of Otago.