

At Kursk we still find it their leading market fruit, and on the Bogdanoff estates, find it being planted in quantity as about the best investment the proprietors know of. Such investments scatter broadcast innumerable little dividends in the form of food and labor. What a blessing to a country is a horticultural aristocracy—it begets a horticultural peasantry, a home-loving, peace-loving, law-abiding peasantry. In Horticulture, we find the safest anchorage for a peasant population. We asked, at the Bogdanoff estates, why they specially chose Antonovka, and were planting it so largely, and were told it was because it was always a cash article, wanted in quantity for the northern market, for confections, for drying, for bottling in water, &c., and, a tree, in good soil, and in good seasons, can produce its twenty-five poods.

At the Forestry Convention, in Moscow, Mr. Budd asked one of the members, who was from Kiev, what were their best commercial apples. He called three others, also from the Government of Kiev, and after consulting together, named Antonovka first. The second upon the list was the Winter Citronen Apfel, a German apple of good quality, but not hardy farther north.

At Warsaw, where the climate is a cold North German rather than a steppe climate, we find the Antonovka one of their leading apples, but not their best, and there not a late keeper. Throughout this vast steppe region, the Antonovka is "the" commercial apple, noted for its average annual bearing, its hardiness in extreme climate, its length of life, and fruitfulness in old age in these climates. It is, also, a first-rate nursery tree, a good straight grower. In nurseries, when we found a number of rows of straight-growing healthy trees, all of the same kind, it was sure to be Antonovka. Hence it has "a nursery run," just as the Ben Davis had in Wisconsin a few years ago, and likely thus to be over-rated; but in Central Russia it has been a century on trial, perhaps several centuries, and the quantities of it to be found in the Russian nurseries are grown to meet a known demand. It is a prairie apple suited to rich prairie soils it would seem. It does well on clayey soils and likes moisture. On dry sandy soil the fruit is said to fall from the tree and to be small in size. The