

## **Historic, archived document**

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# J. C. SUFFERN, VOORHIES, ILLINOIS

Breeder and Grower of and dealer in all kinds of

## SUPERIOR PEDIGREE FIELD SEEDS.

Telegraph and Money Order Office: Bement, Ill.

### Indian Corn Varieties,

- Sweet " "
- Pop " "
- Broom " "
- Winter Wheat " "
- Spring " "
- Flax " "
- Oats " "
- Rye " "
- Barley " "
- Irish Potatoes " "
- Sweet " "
- Artichokes " "
- Watermelon " "
- Muskmelon " "
- Pumpkin " "
- Squash " "
- Gourd " "
- Sorghum Seed " "
- Tree Beans, etc.

—AND— FLOWER & GARDEN SEEDS  
DEALER IN

I offer all the tried and true varieties of hardy

## SEED WHEAT

Such as Tasmanian Red, Golden Amber, Penquite's Velvet Chaff, German Amber, Buckeye, High Grade, etc., at reasonable prices.

1888 (3)  
Seed  
Bement

### CUT STAMP

and see inside pp. also see other side for valuable information.

## CHANGE YOUR SEED

Some farmers keep sowing old run-out varieties, because they have the seed handy. They do not figure up their loss by so doing.



This cut is photographed from life, and is a correct representation of my Golden Amber Wheat.

What's  
on the  
Back?

YOUR POSTMASTER HAS PLACED HEREON THE NAME OF

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

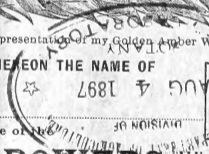
Who is considered one of the

## BEST WHEAT GROWERS

AND WHO LIVES

Near \_\_\_\_\_

Ask your P. M. to show you his sample of my wheat before you leave the office.



who Sends off for Seeds.

P. O.,

County State of \_\_\_\_\_

## DIRECTIONS FOR ORDERING.

**ORDER EARLY.** And then you will be sure to have the seed just when you want it. Send your order **TO-DAY.** Before you lose my address. Unless my trade is very much larger than I expect, I will have plenty of seed of the varieties herein advertised until Oct. 15th.

**THE NEW LAW.** Under the "Inter-State commerce law," passed in last session of Congress, Railroad freight rates have been reduced on short hauls—50 to 400 miles—to much less than what they have been heretofore. I advise my customers to have their seed sent by freight, as it is much cheaper than by express. I can generally reach most points in Ohio and Kansas, in 5 to 8 days, and in Ind., and Mo., in 3 to 6 days. By freight, from here, And from where my supplies are in Ind., Mo. and Ky., much quicker. I cannot send seed to a station which has no freight agent, as the freight charges must be prepaid to such stations. Please give me the name of your Rail-road. Also how far, and what direction you are from the nearest of the cities named in the "freight rates." I guarantee safe arrival of the seed at your station.

**MY TERMS** are cash with the Order. Send money by registered letter, money order, or by Chicago draft. At my risk. Telegraph, and money order office Bement, Ill. Vooories is not a money order office. No seed sent C. O. D. by express.

**MY REFERENCES.** Believing it due to my customers and patrons standing in the community to show some evidence of my respect for you to the persons named below, but in making inquiries always enclose stamps for reply: Postmaster, Vooories, Ill., and Pacific express agent, Vooories, Ill.; Washab freight agent and Pacific express agent, Bement, Ill. I earnestly request you to write them (enclosing stamp) for full information as to the way I do business.

**SEAMLESS BAGS.** Send 20c. extra for a new extra heavy seamless bag, in which to ship each 2½ bushels, or less, of wheat that you order.

**NEW OFFER.** I will agree with responsible farmers, within 100 miles of Vooories, Ill., to furnish a reasonable amount of Tasmanian Red, Velvet Chaff, and Nigger Wheat, at 80c. per bushel, freight charges prepaid. If they will agree to give me the surplus of crop which they produce, over old Flutz wheat. All conditions of soil, cultivation, time of sowing, etc., being equal. Please correspond.

**SAMPLES.** I have always thought that the most efficient and business-representing larger shipment of seeds for sale, is by samples, which represents larger shipments than any other mode of advertising my wheat. Ask him to show it to you. If you desire to see samples of other kinds, ask your P. M. to write me for them. When they arrive, take a look at them, and leave them with your P. M. to show to others. Tell your neighbors to ask to see samples.

**THIS PRICE LIST.** Do you wish to receive it regularly, from time to time, to that effect. As I am continually revising my list of prices, it would not wish to mail it to any one to whom it is of no use. Please show it to your neighbors, and then put it away with your valuable papers. So you can get it quickly, when you wish to order. Tell all your friends about my seed wheat. And get them to order with you. If the price list should become misplaced, or lost, write at once for another copy, which will be sent in haste.

**TRACING.** I now start one of Foster's new commercial tracers with each shipment of my tracer is a series of transfer blanks, which begins with the bill of lading, in my index, and ends with my signature in my freight office, when it is returned to me. I thus trace ahead, instead of after shipments. Delays are thereby quickly discovered, and the goods pushed through with all possible dispatch.

When letters are mailed in Ohio, Ind. Mo. and Kansas, today, fast mail generally delivers them to me on tomorrow.

## THE GENERAL SOIL WHEATS.

### PENQUITE'S VELVET CHAFF BEARDED WHEAT.

This valuable new variety of wheat, was originated by Mr. Abram Penquite, in Clinton Co., Ohio. There are several varieties of wheat having a velvet chaff. Among which I may mention: White velvet chaff, smooth head, red wheat, Brown velvet chaff bearded, red wheat, Brown velvet chaff smooth head, amber wheat, etc. After 3 years rigid testing, in all parts of the country,

Penquite's velvet chaff has proved to be a very distinct, sure crop wheat. And is, or soon becomes, adopted to a great variety of soils. It has a Golden velvet firm chaff, Bright amber colored, hard, plump grains. Weighing 63 lbs. per level bushel. It is a good stooiler, and a good yielding wheat. Many fields of it yielding 23 to 32 bus. per acre. This is the best general soil, bearded wheat, of which I have any knowledge. It has a purple, medium tall, very stiff, good standing straw. And is the earliest wheat I know of. It ripens here fully 10 days before Flutz wheat. On the Ind. Agric. College farm in 1836, it proved the hardest in 49 varieties. It weighs 1¾ bus. per acre, and is recommended this wheat. Where one farmer tries it, all his neighbors want it.

**GOLDEN AMBER WHEAT.** It is the best smooth head amber colored soil, of which I have any knowledge. But it is best adapted to grey, reddish clay, and white sandy soils. It has a golden close fitting chaff. Very long smooth head. Bright golden amber colored, plump grains. It is known as a soft wheat. But is somewhat harder than the Flutz wheat. Weighs 62 lbs. per level bushel, and makes a good quality of flour. It has a medium stiff, yellow straw, which grows a little taller than the Flutz. It ripens very early. And is about 6 days earlier than the Flutz on the same soil. It has a good ground, it has yielded 46 bus. per acre. And can be relied upon to yield 10 to 15 bus. more per acre than the old varieties. This is also a very hardy wheat. And is a good stooiler. Requiring but 1 bushel of seed per acre. The grains are very firm in the chaff. And do not shatter out in the harvesting and stacking, like some other varieties. My seed of this variety is very narrow and that 6 days earlier than the Flutz. But not so hard as it is from being a good crop. No difference what kind of wheat you have you should harvest it at least twice in the spring. It will increase the yield 20 to 30 per cent. Try it.

**NEW MONARCH WHEAT.** This new variety, only recently introduced from Canada, has proved to be an immense yielder and perfectly hardy. Heads smooth; 4 to 6 inches in length; 3 to 4 grains to the mesh. Yielding, on poor soil, 42 bushels per acre. The straw is very strong, medium length, standing up on very rich sod land. Parties desiring some of this variety should order at once, as the demand is great and supply limited. This is, beyond a doubt, one of the best wheats of the market.

**HYBRID MEDITERRANEAN WHEAT OR MICHIGAN BRONZE WHEAT.** This very valuable new wheat, is called by some, a Hybrid Mediterranean Wheat. It is a good soil, and a good yielding wheat, long, very thick head. On this account, it is very productive. It is a firm chaff, bearded wheat. The grains are extra large, plump, and solid. Weighing 64 to 66 lbs. per level bushel. The grain is of a bright amber, or light red color. It is, or soon becomes adapted to a great variety of soils. It is a very hardy, great stooiler wheat. And requires but one bushel of seed per acre. The great peculiarity of this wheat, is that it is adapted to very late sowing. Making a good crop when sown as late as Nov. 15th. In 1837, at Ky. Agric. Experiment station, it proved much the largest yielder out of many varieties tested, and was ripe 5 days before the Flutz. The straw is stiff, and stands well.

**THE HIGH GRADE WHEAT.** This fine new wheat, has given satisfaction everywhere, on black, brown and grey soils. It is a smooth-head, white chaff, long, bright amber, hard grained wheat. Weighing 64 lbs. per level bushel. It is a fine stooiler, and 5 ft. high. This is a fine Roller Mill wheat. It is a fine stooiler. Requiring but one bushel of seed per acre. In is an early, heavy yielding wheat. Has yielded 45 bus. per acre. My stock of this wheat, came direct from the introducers in Indiana. And is pure and nice. Try it. And you will be pleased with it.

**THE FULCASTER WHEAT.** This wheat, from its appearance and its mode of growth, makes all who have seen it and given the subject any thought, believe it to be the best of two of our most celebrated, time tested and hardy wheats, viz.—Flutz and Lancaster—as it has the straw, chaff and peculiar eight-row head of the Flutz, with the hardness, long berry and beads of the Lancaster, really possessing all of the good qualities of the two, with none of their defects. This wheat has a stiff, white straw that will stand up, and under almost any circumstances, a white bearded chaff that clings to the grain, and is not so hard as the Flutz. long and massive, with eight rows to the head, filled with the large, plump, flinty, red, long berry grains, that grades the very best in elevators and mills and weighs about 64 pounds to the bushel. From the small quantities that our mills have been able to obtain they unhesitatingly say it will have no superior, if any equal, in the market for flour.

**POOLE.**—A very prolific variety. Straw, medium length, fairly strong. Head, large, well filled and beardless. Kernels red, kernels well filled. The largest field of forty kinds tested at the Ohio Experimental Station in 1886, yielding at the rate of over 61 bu. per acre.

**PALESTINE MAMMOTH.**—This remarkable variety is said to be the largest grained wheat in the world. Kernels 7 to 7 1/2 inches long. It has done remarkably well in some instances, and has produced the largest yield of any other variety in the U. S. Having yielded over 70 bus. per acre. It roots very deeply. Consequently does not resist freezing and thawing. And so cannot be relied upon as a sure crop wheat.

## THE BLACK SOIL WHEATS.

### TASMANIAN RED WHEAT.

In the South Pacific Ocean, 5 years ago. Has stood the tests, the past 5 years, of the most careful wheat growers, in all parts of the country. It is now generally admitted to be a very fine wheat. It is a soft-headed, very hard, large, long, light red grained wheat. Weighing 64 lbs. per level bushel. It has red chaff, bright yellow straw. Which is not so strong as the straw of some other varieties. But the grain stands very weather better than any variety I have ever seen. It is a shallow rooting, very hardy wheat. And is best adapted to black loam, brown and grey soils. Where it grows best, and in winter, and in spring, freezing and thawing almost unknown. While Fultz, Lancaster, etc., are killed almost entirely out. It is A. No. 1, hard, long-berry wheat. roller mill men pay from 5c. to 8c. more per bushel for it, than for Fultz. It also resembles the old Red Mediterranean. But is much larger grained. Also earlier. Being fully 6 days earlier than Fultz. It is a very heavy yielder. One field of it sowed as late as Oct. 12th, 1886, yielded 31 bu. per acre. It is a good stocker. It is well adapted to 1 1/2 bu. seed per acre. I do not prefer to raise this seed so highly as some seed men are doing. But I do assure wheat growers that it is a genuine good wheat. Try it.

### BUCKEY WHEAT.

This fine black soil wheat, was originated in Northern Ohio. About 5 years ago. It is the best smooth-head red wheat, for black soils, I have ever seen. It has a red firm chaff. Medium sized, very hard, bright soil, long grain. Four grains to the mesh. If has stiff, medium-long, blue, extra good standing straw. It is a shallow rooting, hardy wheat. It is a good stocker. It is well adapted to 1 1/2 bu. seed per acre. I do not prefer to raise this seed so highly as some seed men are doing. But I do assure wheat growers that it is a genuine good wheat. Try it.

### NIGGER WHEAT.

This fine new wheat was originated in northern Ohio. About 7 years ago. By an old colored gentleman, named Sampson. It is the best bearded wheat for black soils I have ever seen. And on which, it is yielding this year, an average of about 25 bu. per acre. It has white chaff. Very large, long, hard, dark red colored fat grains. Weighing 63 lbs. per level bushel. It has stiff, purple, medium-tall straw, of very uniform height. Being almost as level over the top, when headed out, as a floor. It is a pretty sight, to see a ripe field of this wheat. It is also a shallow rooting, very hardy wheat. Sow 1 1/2 bu. per acre.

### GERMAN AMBER WHEAT.

This excellent new wheat was imported from Germany, to St. Louis Co., Mo., in 1881. It has now been tested in all parts of the country. And has given very fine satisfaction. It has large, long, smooth heads. White chaff. Dark amber colored, large, plump, hard, very heavy grains. Which weighs 64 to 66 lbs. per level bus. Straw yellow, long, stiff, and stands well. Does best on black, brown, and grey soils. It is a shallow rooting, very hardy wheat. And goes through freezing and thawing almost unharmed. It is some-what earlier than the other varieties of the Louis 46. It is a good stocker. This is an extra good wheat. Sow 1 1/2 bu. per acre. This wheat has proved very hardy in Southern Ind., Southern Ill., and in Ky.

**DEITZ LONGBERRY.**—Recommended by G. A. Deitz, of Pennsylvania, as being a great acquisition. Strong, straight, long, and heavy. Bearded heads, well filled. Kernels red. It yielded at the rate of over 58 bu. per acre at the Ohio Experimental Station in 1886.

**MARTIN'S AMBER.**—Originated in Pa. in 1878. It is said to be the greatest thing growing in the world. It has a large smooth white chaff head, containing a plump, light amber colored grain, which is rather late in ripening. The Landreth wheat is similar to, if not identical with this wheat. It is the best adapted to white sandy, and red clay soils. I do not recommend sowing it on black soil.

This meritorious new wheat, was imported from the Island of Tasmania. It is now untried experiment. But has stood the tests, the past 5 years, of the most careful wheat growers, in all parts of the country. It is now generally admitted to be a very fine wheat. It is a soft-headed, very hard, large, long, light red grained wheat. Weighing 64 lbs. per level bushel. It has red chaff, bright yellow straw. Which is not so strong as the straw of some other varieties. But the grain stands very weather better than any variety I have ever seen. It is a shallow rooting, very hardy wheat. And is best adapted to black loam, brown and grey soils. Where it grows best, and in winter, and in spring, freezing and thawing almost unknown. While Fultz, Lancaster, etc., are killed almost entirely out. It is A. No. 1, hard, long-berry wheat. roller mill men pay from 5c. to 8c. more per bushel for it, than for Fultz. It also resembles the old Red Mediterranean. But is much larger grained. Also earlier. Being fully 6 days earlier than Fultz. It is a very heavy yielder. One field of it sowed as late as Oct. 12th, 1886, yielded 31 bu. per acre. It is a good stocker. It is well adapted to 1 1/2 bu. seed per acre. I do not prefer to raise this seed so highly as some seed men are doing. But I do assure wheat growers that it is a genuine good wheat. Try it.

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## TESTIMONIALS.

Mr. Fritz Moeller, Fredericksburg, Osage Co., Mo., says: The Tasmanian red wheat, I raised 27 bu. per acre. My Michigan amber yielded 22 bus. and my Fultz 15 bus. per acre. I sold all the Tasmanian I had to spare, at the machine, at \$1.20 per bushel.

Mr. E. C. Summers, Anchor, McLean Co., says: I have three varieties of wheat this year. The Tasmanian red is best of any. And Royal Australian is 2d best.

Mr. H. J. Merck, Gasconade Co., Mo., says: The one bushel of Tasmanian wheat I got of you last fall, promises to yield 35 bus. There are about 30 farmers around here who want to change their seed wheat.

Mr. K. B. Moorhouse, Champaign Co., Ill., says: The velvet chaff wheat is the earliest and best wheat we have in this country. McCadden's No. 1, Mason Co., Ill., says: We have several varieties of wheat in Mason Co. The golden amber is the hardest, and best yielding wheat, we have.

The two bushels of High Grade wheat I sowed on a little more than one and a fourth acre and harvested 41 bushels nice plump wheat. I think it will yield 40 bushels per acre in good wheat season. It beats all other wheat in our section. I will save all I raise for seed. I wish to plant for 10 more bushels, which would have furnished me enough seed for my next crop.

J. E. SAMPSON, Iowa.  
CAMBRIDGE CITY, Ind., July 15th, 1887.

Dear Sir: I only had three-fourths of an acre of the Fulcaster wheat. I got 30 bushels nice wheat: is very hard, stiff straw, and well pleased with it; will sow all my seed. I think it is well adapted to this climate. Our millers think it will make a splendid flour.

JOHN H. KEPLER.  
Peter Sheer, Slater, Saline Co., Mo., says: The Buckeye is the daisy wheat. It stood well, stood the winter well, stands straight as a single, and bids fair to yield 30 bushels per acre. My neighbors are well pleased with it. William Klags, Eynolds, White Co., Ind., says: Wheat was badly winter-killed. German amber is the best I have. I think it will make 20 bus. per acre. I will sow all I raise.

Mr. Theo. Lentz, Beverly Sta., Mo., says: I sowed the Nigger wheat I got of you, to late, Oct. 6th, on poor sandy land, which has been in wheat for 15 years. It will yield 60 bus. per acre.

Mr. C. J. Graham, Confederate, Ky., says: The 3 varieties of wheat I got of you last fall, have all proved satisfactory. And promises to yield 30 to 40 bushels per acre. The farmers are much pleased with them. I think I will be able to send you some more orders this fall.

I have tried to give as near a perfect and impartial description of each variety as is in my power to do. I use all possible precaution to keep my wheat pure and free from mixtures; yet in changing the machine from one variety to another, occasionally, a few grains of the latter variety threshed, will appear in the next. I speak of this, that my patrons may not be dissatisfied on seeing a few heads of some other variety than that which they ordered.

## SCALE OF PRICES

Nicely Cleaned, Ready to Sow.

NAMES OF VARIETIES.

	Price pr. bu. of 60.	In lots of 5 bu., per bushel.	In lots of 10 bu., per bushel.	In lots of 20 bu., per bushel.
Buckeye Wheat.....	\$2 00	\$1 55	\$1 45	\$1 35
Deitz Longberry Wheat.....	2 00	1 65	1 55	1 45
Master's Wheat.....	2 00	1 60	1 55	1 45
German Amber Wheat.....	2 00	1 60	1 45	1 40
Golden Amber Wheat.....	2 00	1 55	1 45	1 40
High Grade Wheat.....	2 00	1 65	1 55	1 45
Hybrid Mediterranean Wheat.....	2 00	1 60	1 50	1 40
Martin's Amber Wheat.....	2 00	1 60	1 50	1 40
New Monarch Wheat.....	2 00	1 55	1 45	1 35
Nigger Wheat.....	2 00	1 55	1 45	1 35
Palestine Mammoth Wheat.....	2 25			
Penquite's V. Chaff Wheat.....	2 00	1 55	1 45	1 30
Poole Wheat.....	2 00	1 60	1 50	1 40
Tasmanian Wheat.....	2 00	1 55	1 45	1 35

Express or Freight Charges always to be paid by purchaser. Do not forget to remit for sacks.

For larger quantities than twenty bushels write for special prices. Any of the above varieties sent in lots of 50 bushels or more, can also furnish: Deitz Mediterranean, Democrat, Early May, Early Red, Egyptian, Extra Early Oakley, Finley, German Emperor, Gypsy, Golden Pro-

lico, Hicks, Landreth's White, Ontario Wonder, Red Fulz, Red May, Kellable, Red Russian, Red Sea, Turkey, Valley, Wyandotte Red, and any other meritorious varieties of Wheat, at correspondingly low prices. Please correspond.

## FREIGHT RATES.

For the benefit of my customers, and to save them time in writing "about how much the freight charges will be," on a particular quantity of wheat, I hereby quote you protected rates to the principal and most practical transfer points, and get, from your freight agent, the rate from your town to the nearest to you, of the following named cities. Then add this to my rate, and you will have the correct rate. At distant points, the charges will be at least 50c., on amounts of 100 lbs. or less. To obtain rates named below, your shipment must, in most cases, exceed 200 lbs.

	Rate per 100 lbs.
Cairo, Illinois.....	36c.
Chicago, Illinois.....	15 c
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	21c.
Columbus, Ohio.....	21 c
East St. Louis, Illinois.....	21c.
Evansville, Indiana.....	21c.
Indianapolis, Indiana.....	11 c
Kansas City, Mo.....	30 c
Lexington, Kentucky.....	32c.
Louisville, Kentucky.....	29c.
Logansport, Indiana.....	12c.
Moberly, Mo.....	25 c
Springfield, Ohio.....	14 c
Toledo, Ohio.....	14 c

## TURNIPI SEED.

I offer Buist's fine American Ground Turnip Seed, as follows:—  
 1. White Flat bruch Turnip, which can be sown as in the teasAugt 20 and make a good crop. 5-1/2 bu. 30c. 1b. 50c.  
 2. Purple top, strap leaf, flat Turnip, 4-1/2 bu. 30c. 1 lb. 50c. postpaid.  
 3. Mammoth red top globe Turnip, 5-1/2 bu. 30c. 1 lb. 50c. postpaid.  
 Write for special prices on large quantity.

## MY PRICES, SUPPLIES, ETC.

In comparing trade prices, it occurs to me, that they are the greatest jumbled-up, and discordant piece of business, that there is in the whole arena of the trade. Many self-styled seed growers, seem to have almost entirely lost sight (if they ever had sight) of the quality of seeds, and are terribly bent on cutting price, for very low prices quoted on the market. They are tempting bait for some wheat growers. I do not care to compete with a certain class of seed dealers. I have placed my prices as low as I can afford to sell seed at, and make a fair profit. And low enough so wheat growers everywhere, can afford to order at least 10 bu. or more of seed. Especially when they consider a profit of \$7 to \$12 per acre in increased yields and quality to be obtained by a judicious change of seed, in addition to selling seed to neighbors, at good prices. Figure on it with sharp pencils, for yourselves. My profit per bu. is not large, but my profit is in the large number of bushels sold. I have made my prices on a basis of the market price of No. 2 red winter wheat in Chicago, and St. Louis, on August 1st. Whether the markets decline, or advance, after this date, I will in either case, send you my prices in addition to quoting you low prices. I have provided stocks of seed wheat in Ind., Mo., and Ky., from which places, it will be shipped direct to my customers in those states. And to states nearest them. Making the freight charges a mere trifle, and the receipt of the seed quicker. Send your orders direct to me. If you desire further information, do not hesitate to write me, or to trouble me. I will be glad to trouble me. It is my business, and a pleasure to answer all letters sent me.

It is ever my constant aim, to supply my brother farmers with new "tried and true," and the standard varieties of all kinds of field seeds. Of the highest possible merit. And at fair and reasonable prices. A bountiful patronage has rewarded my years of hard labor. Orders from distant points, especially from Ind., Mo., and Ky. name thick and fast. My largest order came from a farmer near Moberly, Mo. For 62 bu. of seed wheat, and my 1887 orders averaged over 5 bu. per order. I am fully prepared this Fall, for a much larger trade than I expect.

# MY 1889 SPRING CATALOGUE + OF ALL KINDS OF

Superior Pedigree Field, Garden & Flower Seeds will be sent free, to all applicants. Write for it. Ready about Jan. 15th. I desire all my readers to write me their experience—Their opinions on subjects. How they manage. What new ideas they have. What fine varieties of wheat, oats, corn, or potatoes have you this year? Which kinds have done best for you? Where did you get your start of them?

## CHANGING YOUR SEED.

It has become a fact well known to all good farmers, that our older varieties of cereals are constantly running out. And that a change of seed is very important, in order to secure good crops. Those varieties known 100 years ago are forgotten. And those grown 25 years ago are now nearly forgotten. Cultivation, whether man has any notice, when the Falls, Lancaster, Red Mediterranean, and Clauston Wheat were first introduced into the West, from the Eastern States, have seen, that in many instances, their yields were almost double those of the older varieties then grown. After having produced several good crops, they too, have almost run out. And are fast going the same road that all the old varieties are now taking. The quality of the grain, and the change of man's knowlege of old machines, cereals, etc., are continually giving way to new and improved ones. In one short life, we can see the practical developments of human ingenuity. And become convinced, that we are not only subject to laws of gradual advancement, but that our forward strides in the Sciences, Agriculture, and Mechanics, have been great indeed. Many of my former farmers know that great increases in yields and quality of the grain, were anxious for a change of their seed wheat. And that their Fulz wheat only yielded 5 to 16 bu. per acre. While the few who had the newer varieties, had obtained yields of 20 to 35 bu. per acre. I feel confident that on two-thirds or more of the farms in the West, where wheat is grown, that a change of seed would increase not only the yield, but also the quality of the grain. Many farmers know that great increases in yields and quality of grain may be obtained by sowing "tried and true" new kinds of wheat. In addition to the profit in selling seed to their neighbors at good prices. Would not a change in your seed wheat, this Fall, pay you? See testimonials on an another page.

The highest price of No. 2 wheat, in Chicago, was in May, 1867—\$2.55 per bu. Lowest price, in Chicago, was in Oct. 1857—\$1.55 per bu. The average price of No. 2 wheat, for the last 25 years, has been \$1.071 per bu., for the last 11 yrs. 98 3/8 cents.

The highest price of No. 2 corn, in Chicago, was in Nov. 1864—\$1.40 per bu. Lowest price in Sept. 1861—30c. per bu. The average price of No. 2 corn, for the last 11 years, has been 44c. per bu.

The average yield of wheat in 5 bushels per acre; in the U. S. it is 13 1/2 bushels per acre; in Great Britain it is 25 bushels per acre; and in Tasmania it is 50 bushels per acre. This information was taken from a table compiled by a Chicago Board of Trade Statistician, and is correct.

## CROP PROSPECTS AND PRICES.

The last 20 years have seen the widest extremes. Both in production and prices. When, in some years yielding an average of about 25 bushels per acre and selling at \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bu., and some years yielding an average of 10 bu. per acre and selling at 50c. per bu. We find this condition of affairs existing at recurring intervals, every few years. As the past winter has been a most disastrous one, and has brought on the wheat crop, in the states of Ohio, Mich., Ind., Ill., and Ky., unprecedented in the history of wheat growing in these States. The unusually late seeding of last fall, together with the excessive drought, prevented the young wheat plants from getting a good start. The result is—many fields were an entire failure. Many farmers are so situated that they will not be able to get a good start for their communities for seed, and that they will send off for seed. About 20 years ago we had a similar series of crops to what we have had the past few years. Crops were so poor, that many farmers seriously considered the question of abandoning the raising of wheat. But the lean years were followed by a series of years in which good crops were raised. Have you not always noticed that a good crop follows a failure? In history, we have seen that a good crop may expect a great change in wheat crops and prices in the years to come.

## WHY WHEAT WINTER-KILLS.

As every farmer knows, we have been very much in need of hardy kinds of wheat, in our winter wheat states. Most especially in all localities subject to violent freezing and thawing in the winter and spring. I have, for the past 5 years, expended much money and time, with the determination of finding the most hardy, sure crop, stiff strawed, firm chaff, long-lived, best milling, early varieties of wheat. That would go through repeated freezing and thawing without any injury to the grain. Indeed, to be able to insure a good crop, that I have succeeded in doing. I have not been disappointed as well. Wheat winter kills, not particularly because the roots are frozen, but because the steam produced by thawing, in escaping leaves the soil up. If the variety of wheat be a deep-rooting kind, sending down a stem root, it then has a sort of a "one light seed" which are firmly held deep in the soil, and another "one light seed" which are held near the surface, the up-blowing of the soil tears asunder the stem root. This leaves, but the upper light seed of roots. Which, with repeated freezing and thawing, are easily and soon drawn out of the soil, and quickly perish. While on the other hand, if the

variety of wheat is a hardy one, it sends down no stem root. But forms a large growth of fine roots, which are firmly held near the surface. So when the soil heaves up and settles back again, the large firm growth of roots settle back with it. Hardy wheat has but one set of roots. Near the surface, and no stem root. Look for yourselves. Did you ever know of rye to winter-kill, where it was sown at the right time? On what kind of ground does wheat do best in your locality, in corn, or on stubble ground?

### Wheat Varieties, Novelties, Etc.

The varieties of wheat are almost endless. In the varieties and characteristics of varieties of wheat, we have the following: The bearded and smooth heads. The yellow, purple, blue, white, soft, stiff, long, and short strawed varieties. The red, golden, brown, and white chaff varieties. The red, amber, white, and their intermediate colors of grain. Properly speaking, wheat may be classed as follows: Bearded & smooth. The white, amber, and red wheats. The hard, and soft wheats. The long grain, and round grain wheats. The early, and late wheats. And the deep rooting, and shallow rooting wheats. Each particular kind of soil selects from any wheat, a set of characteristics best suited to that soil, and establishes them in that wheat. Change a white wheat to a black loam or black, sandy soil, it becomes darker colored each year, until it becomes a red wheat. Change red wheat to a whitish sandy soil, and it becomes whiter each year, until it becomes a white wheat. The same law applies to the amber wheats. An intermediate (or grey) soil suits the amber best. On black loam soils they become redder each year, and on white sandy soils they become whiter each year. This is the common experience of wheat growers, everywhere. In addition to selecting color of grain, the soil also selects other characteristics. Such as hardness, or softness of the grain. Stiffness or softness of straw, color of the chaff, etc. It is, therefore, utterly impossible to establish all the desirable characteristics, in any one variety of wheat. Many varieties of wheat are almost (but not quite) identical. Because many kinds of soil are almost (but not quite) identical. Yet there are some distinct varieties of wheat. As there are also, quite distinct varieties of soil. The red, and dark colored amber wheats suits black loam, and brown soils best. And the white, and light colored amber wheats, suit yellow and white sandy soils best. The amber wheats are, or soon become adapted to almost all kinds of soils. Because their change of color is not so radical. All latitudes south of Chicago, Ill., and all localities subject to early drouths, should raise early wheat. For the reason that their grain forms and matures before the scorching hot weather sets in, and before they are ruined by rust. My various kinds of wheat have been grown this year, on the three above named distinct kinds of soil. I have made the adaptation of varieties of wheats to varieties of soil, a careful study. And have given it deep investigation. By my own experience, aided by the written experience of my customers, in all parts of the country, I think I am able to judge pretty correctly, what varieties of wheat suit particular varieties of soil, best.

I now wish to call your attention to a few remarks about the high-priced novelty business. Strong combinations have been formed in the East, to boom so-called new varieties of fruits, seeds, etc., which have been originated in a year or two. By crossing old varieties. Or in some other wonderful manner. As soon as the leading guns are sounded, they are repeated all along the line. Booming so-called wonderful new varieties off on the public, at wild prices, \$10 to \$15 per bushel. Don't buy from these swell-head commercial sharks. Who so loudly proclaim that they have the best varieties on earth. And whose only object is to prey upon the purses of their unsuspecting patrons. But notwithstanding all this, every year is adding some valuable new varieties to the standard list. I am at work, breeding up a score of new varieties of field seeds. By a careful, systematic selection. Aided by nature, this selection, extending through a series of years, keeping in view the ever-increasing ideal of excellence, is the only true way of the improvement of plants.

I shall not introduce a new variety, until it is worthy of introduction—in short, until it is an Actual and Practical Improvement upon the standard varieties,

### SHALL I INTRODUCE MYSELF?

To my old customers, that is unnecessary. They have tried my seeds And well know their value. To you, I would say—your Postmaster says you are a good wheat raiser. And with your permission, I desire a good, plain, common-sense talk with you. About seed wheat, new varieties. Why wheat Winter-kills. Changing your seed. High-priced novelties, etc. I am not going to bore you with any long-winded argument. But condense what I have to say, in the fewest words possible. And so ask your careful perusal of the following pages. Trusting your conclusion will result in your sending me your order. I am

Yours for Seed Wheat,  
 Voorhies, Platt Co., Ill. J. C. SUFFERN.  
 August 1st, 1888.  
 Established 1882.

