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# SUPPLEMENT TO 1902 CATALOG.

## J. R. Ratekin & Son, Nishna Valley Seed House, Shenandoah, Iowa.

ESTABLISHED 1877.

T. H. READ, Prest. E. A. READ, Cashier. J. F. LAKE, Ass't. Cash.

**THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK,**  
SHENANDOAH, IOWA.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$100,000.

SHENANDOAH, IOWA, Dec. 1, 1899.

To Whom it may concern:

This is to introduce to your favorable notice Messrs. J. R. Ratekin & Son of this place.

Mr. Ratekin, Sr., has been a valued customer of this bank for many years, and has always been esteemed by us as a reliable and trustworthy man in every respect.

He has now associated with himself in business, his son, J. W. Ratekin, who is an active, energetic, and worthy young man, and we bespeak for the new firm a large share of confidence and patronage of the business public.

Respectfully,  
T. H. READ, Pres. First Nat. Bank.

### What Our Postmaster Says.

I take pleasure in saying I have known Messrs. Ratekin & Son, of this place, for many years and can recommend them as trustworthy, energetic business men. Mr. J. R. Ratekin, senior member of this firm, has been engaged in the seed corn business here for many years and has sold and shipped large quantities of seed corn to all parts of the corn growing country, including many different states, and I have never heard any complaint from any customer.

Respectfully submitted,  
C. N. MARVIN, Postmaster.

### What Our Mayor Says.

This is to certify that I am well acquainted with the seed firm of J. R. Ratekin & Son of this city, and take pleasure in recom-

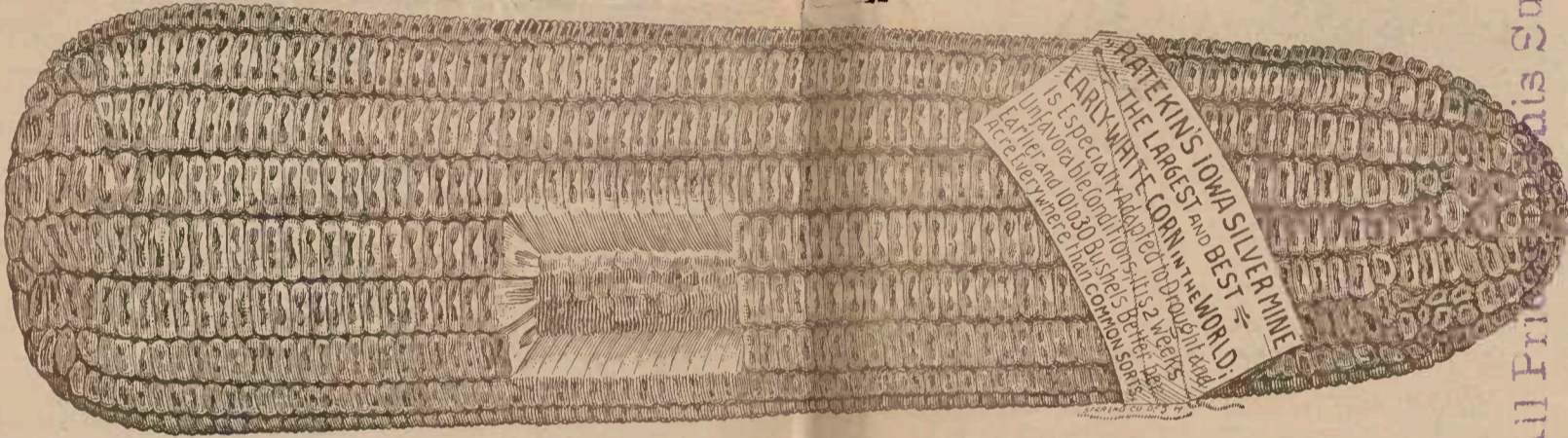
mending them to the public, as being reliable and trustworthy.

C. M. CONWAY,  
Mayor, Shenandoah, Iowa.

### From the Wabash Agent.

I take pleasure in saying that I have been acquainted with the seed firm of J. R. Ratekin & Son for twenty years, and during the past few years this firm has made more single shipments, many times over, from this point, over our road, than any firm or business house of this city. I have no hesitation in saying that I have found and believe them to be gentlemen of integrity and anyone having business transactions with them may be assured of fair and honorable treatment.

Respectfully,  
C. M. CONWAY,  
Agent Wabash R. R., Shenandoah, Iowa.



All Prices in this Supplement  
 are subject to change without notice  
 Write for our 1902  
 PRICE LIST.

## "Ratekin's Iowa Silver Mine White Corn."

Our "Iowa Silver Mine" white corn is unquestionably the most marvelous variety of corn ever before introduced, and has gained an enviable and unequalled record never before attained by any other variety of corn in the world. This corn was first introduced here in Iowa in 1894, only eight years ago, and today there is not, nor never was, any sort grown that has become so familiar to corn growers throughout the United States as our "Iowa Silver Mine." Since its first introduction, it has uniformly won first place, and first prizes at every county, state and national exhibition made in the United States where it has been exhibited, including the great national exhibitions at Peoria, Ill., in 1899-1900, and nineteen hundred and one. It also stands first as a white corn at every state experimental station wherever it has been tried and tested. During the past five years we have sold tens of thousands of bushels of this seed corn all over the United States where corn is grown at all, and we have thousands of letters from our customers all uniformly, almost without exception, saying that this corn has given them larger and more uniform yields than any other sort, and that it is of stronger vitality and withstands drouth and other unfavorable conditions better than any other sort in existence. It will make more big fat bushels of corn on the best of corn land, and will also make double the yield on poor or thin land than any other variety in existence.

Stalks grow to height of 7 to 12 feet, dependent on location and soil, and sets ears from three to four feet from the ground. One peculiarity of this corn is that it never has any barren stalks, but every stalk gives one good medium large sized ear and many of them two. This has always been characteristic with this variety of corn since its first origin. The type and character of this corn is very uniform, the ears usually measure and run from 8 to 12 inches in length and about seven inches in circumference, with from 16 to 20 rows of very deep grains solidly set on a small cob. It will mature anywhere where corn is grown in from 90 to 100 days from time of planting in ordinary good corn weather. The cobs being small, it thus dries out much earlier than most sorts, and is ready for gathering, cribbing, feeding and for market earlier than any other large field corn in existence. Seventy pounds in the ear will always shell from sixty to sixty-three pounds when dry to seven, eight and ten pounds of cobs. It is adapted to a wider range of soil and climate than any other corn in the world. During the past season it stood the drouth and burning heat better everywhere than any other variety, and made paying and profitable crops even where other sorts made out little or nothing.

Price \$1.75 per bushel. 5 bushels \$1.70. 10 bushels and over \$1.65. Bags free, aboard the cars here.

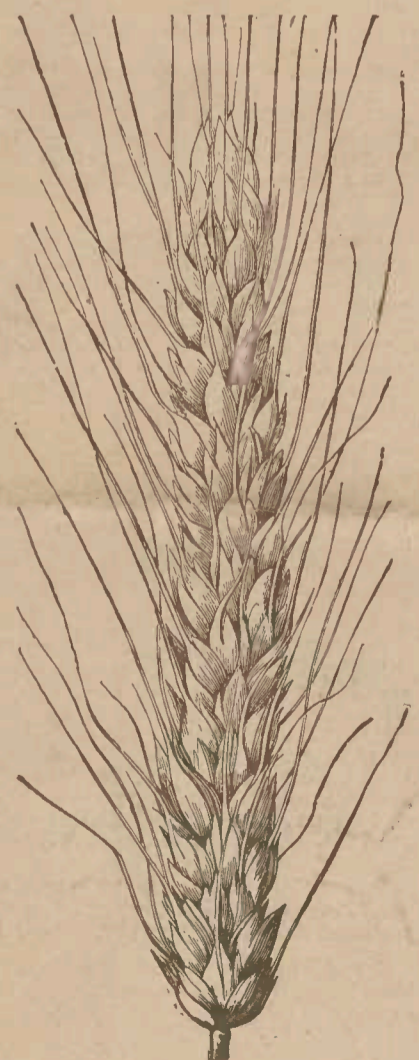


Dwarf Essex Rape, the best pasture and forage plant in existence.



Stowell's Evergreen Sweet Corn.

For Full descriptions and prices see large Catalogue; also condensed price list for 1902 for farm seeds on last page of this supplement.



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1902

# WHAT A FEW OF OUR CUSTOMERS SAY.



HON. OLIVER MILLS.

The subject of our sketch, Mr. Oliver Mills, has been a resident of Cass county fifty-five years. Prior to that time he was a prominent and honored citizen of Lee county for a number of years, during which time he was a popular figure in shaping the destiny of our great state of Iowa. Mr. Mills was President of the State Agricultural Society of Iowa for a number of years and helped put it on a firm and permanent basis while he occupied that position.

At one time he was the largest cattle feeder and shipper in the state of Iowa. Owing to his prominence and practical knowledge in lines of Agriculture he has repeatedly been appointed delegate by the Governor of Iowa, to the Farmers National Congress. For a number of years he represented Cass county as a member of the legislature.

Mr. Mills is a native of Ohio and a personal and intimate acquaintance of the late President McKinley in the boyhood days of the latter. Soon after Mr. McKinley's second election, the president shipped two barrels of apples from his Ohio farm to Mr. Mills, who in turn remembered his old time friend, John T. Stewart, of this city, with a part of these apples; and it is from Mr. Stewart that we have obtained this sketch of Mr. Mills. While Mr. Mills is a customer of this firm, and while we have known of him by reputation for many years, yet we do not have the privilege of a personal acquaintance with him.

While he is now in his eighty-third year he is owner and practically conducts one of Cass county's best farms and takes a deep interest in agricultural pursuits.

### What Mr. Mills Says:

Cass county, Iowa, Oct. 20, '01. J. R. Ratekin & Son, Shenandoah, Ia.—Gentlemen:—Your catalogue and circulars at hand. Accept my thanks for your kind remembrance. My health is still poor and while I am unable to look after affairs in detail, I drive about the farm every day, weather permitting.

The seed corn I bought of you last spring was perfect. We planted our corn from the 18th to 25th of May, fifteen acres on meadow sod and fifteen acres on stalk ground. Both pieces will yield from 70 to 80 bushels per acre, withstanding the terrible drouth we have experienced this season. Perhaps the credit of our wonderful crop should not be given your seed corn, but undoubtedly is due to vanity and perfect seed. I am greatly pleased with the "Pride of Nishna" as well as the "White Silver Mine."

I should be glad to visit your new seed plant, as well as my old-time friend John T. Stewart. Kindly remember me to him. Yours Truly,  
Oliver Mills.

Medina county, Ohio, Nov 10, 1900.—The "Pride of Nishna" seed corn ordered from you last spring was received promptly and on time. I got an excellent stand. Grew slow until July 1st when we had good rains followed by hot weather, which made it fairly leap until it was twelve feet high, earing finely and in proportion to the stalks. It yielded over 100 bushels per acre. It is just the kind of corn I have long looked for. C P Dickerman.

Bosque county, Texas, Nov 10, 1900.—This has been a bad corn year, but the seed corn I bought of you made much better crop than my neighbors and I am well satisfied with the investment made with you. There is no doubt but what it's the corn for the state, being much earlier than native sorts and will make itself before the drouth sets in. Several farmers have watched my experience and are now satisfied it's the corn to plant and all will want your seed next year. H D White.

P S—Mr. White was our first 25 bushel customer in Texas.—J R R & Sons.

Morehead county, La, Sept 20, 1900.—I am pleased to say that I planted four varieties of corn this year and the "Iowa Silver Mine" ordered from you takes the lead, making 60 bushels per acre. Other corn planted at the same time made 35 bushels per acre and some only 15 bushels per acre with the same work. C D Perry.

Warrick county, Ind, August 16, '01—Last spring I purchased from you two kinds of seed corn, viz—"Iowa Silver Mine" and the "Pride of Nishna" and at this period of the great drouth which has been so disastrous to the corn crop of the middle and western states, I have the finest field of corn in this part of the country. My only regret is that I did not plant my entire crop of these two varieties. If we had had a favorable season I would have had the finest crop ever produced in Warren county and I now thank you for the statements that led me to the purchase of this corn and a knowledge of its virtues. C. C. Ferguson.

Gordon county, Ga, Jan 25, 1901.—I am in receipt of your 1901 catalogue of seed corn, and "Little Book on Corn Growing" and have looked it through with much interest. I see a statement from myself with regard to results obtained from crop grown from your seed, "Iowa Silver Mine," and regret to say that your printer made an error with reference to yield obtained. I meant to say that results from "Iowa Silver Mine" averaged over 81½ bushels per acre, shelled corn, but if you are satisfied with what the printer made me say, I ought to be, for I would much prefer to understate the facts. J G B Erwin.

Ripley county, Mo, Oct 23, 1900.—I write to say that the "Pride of Nishna" seed corn I got from you last spring did well for me and I am well pleased with results obtained. Myself and boys were gathering some of it today and the boys said they never saw such fine large ears; they were as big as sticks of stove wood. I am equally pleased with the "Silver Mine," got at the same time. I commenced planting May 10th and on Sept 10th I gathered, shelled and took to mill some of the "Silver Mine" and had it ground into meal. I had a good stand but owing to unusual wet weather I was unable to give it as good cultivation as I would have liked, but I had a splendid crop, as it was. J C Miller.

P S—Ripley county lies in extreme southern tier of counties, the fourth west from Mississippi river, and Mr Miller lives in Arkansas; however, his postoffice is in Ripley county, Mo.—J R R & Son.

Grand Junction, Tenn.—Enclosed find money order for 2 bushels of your Iowa Silver Mine white corn. H I Patterson.

Ellsworth county, Kas, Jan 3' st, '00—Enclosed find order for 35 bushels seed corn. You will get a number of orders from here. Paul Reaume.

Nov. 1, '00—I will say that this has been quite an unfavorable year with us for corn, being struck with an early drouth about the time the corn was making itself. The seed I bought from you proved a profitable investment, as it is fully two or three weeks ahead of native sorts and made much better corn. Paul Reaume.

Ellsworth county, Kas, '00—At the time your letter was received we were just entering the worst storm of the season and we are now listing our land for corn. Know Mr. Reaume; he is a large farmer and cattle man. You may send me 35 bushels seed corn. F. G. Babcock.

Obian county, Tenn, '00—The seed corn obtained from you last spring did well. The last I got was planted July 1st and we had roasting ears from it today 63 days from day it was planted. My yellow corn made very large ears with but one plowing. C. A. Hendon.

Simpson county, Ky, '00—I take pleasure in saying the seed corn obtained from you last spring was first class and I got a fine stand. It matured fully two weeks earlier than native or common sorts. H. J. Boldry.

Hopkins county, Texas, '00—In regard to the seed corn bought of you last spring would say it is turning out well and giving good results. I have just finished harvesting my crop and have fully decided to plant no other varieties of corn. Your corn matures three weeks earlier than native sorts which is a great advantage in event of short season from early drouth. Thos F Vickers.

Gibson county, Tenn, '00—With regard to the seed corn obtained from you last spring I beg leave to say it was more than satisfactory. All planted from your seed was from 15 to 20 days earlier than our native sorts. In addition the yield was fully one-half more and better corn than from native varieties. I am delighted with all of it and it is hard to tell which I like best. W. Arthur Ayers.

Ellsworth county, Kas, '00—With regard to the "Pride of Nishna" seed corn I obtained from you last spring, would say this has been a bad season owing to drouth; however I obtained 35 bushels per acre from crop grown from your seed, which is double the amount grown from our native sorts. Jos W Hugging.

Farrant county, Texas, '00—I planted seed corn shipped direct from you last spring and will say that I did the right thing for this has been a trying season in this part of Texas, and some made a failure. The "Pride of Nishna" and "Iowa Silver Mine" did well and gave excellent results. I am well pleased with both varieties. J. W. Davis.

Office of Smith & Pickens, Livingston, Ala, Feb 18th '01—Enclosed find N. Y. exchange in payment for 50 bushels of your "Iowa Silver Mine," white seed corn. Please ship at once and follow with a tracer as it is of the utmost importance that it comes through without delay. Ship by the way of Birmingham, Ala. Smith & Pickens.

Lincoln county, Arkansas, Jan. 1, '01—I am pleased to say that my corn crop grown from seed of your "Iowa Silver Mine," white, that I obtained from you last spring, made an average yield of a little over sixty bushels per acre shelled corn, and was the best investment I ever before made in my life for seed corn. E. L. Ento.

Rapides Parish, La, Feb. 12, '01—I have received seed corn some days ago, and am well pleased with it. W. W. Maddox.

Rockdale, Texas.—The seed corn ordered from you was received this morning, am well pleased with it. P. M. Kolb.

De-Sota Parish, La, Feb. '01—I am pleased to say I received the seed from you all right this morning; am well pleased. C. E. Sebastian.

Gaudalupe county, Texas, Feb 13, '01—The seed corn I ordered from you came to hand today and I am well pleased with the looks of it. It is all O. K. R. W. Nickell.

Ouachita county, Ark, Feb. 26, '01. (County Assessor.)—The seed corn I ordered received. I am pleased with the way you do business. Enclosed find my order for some more of your "Iowa Silver Mine," white seed corn. J. H. Pickett.

Coryell City, Texas, Aug. 5, '01—Enclosed find \$122.10 to pay for seed wheat as per order enclosed. N. S. Rees.

Aug. 20, '01—Enclosed find M. O. for \$24.10 to cover orders enclosed. N. S. Rees.

Aug 22, '01—Find enclosed M. O. for \$11 to cover order enclosed. N. S. Rees.

Sulphur Springs, Texas.—The eight bushels of seed corn I bought of you was one of the best investments I ever made in my life for seed corn. I am now gathering fifty bushels of corn per acre grown from the "Iowa Silver Mine" seed I got from you. The corn is fully four weeks earlier than our native sorts and is certainly a salvation to this country to the farmers if they but knew the benefits to be derived from planting your northern grown seed. D A Connelly.

Lincoln county, Ark, Jan 1, '01—I am pleased to say that my corn crop grown from seed of your "Iowa Silver Mine," white, obtained from you last spring, made an average yield of more than sixty bushels per acre, shelled corn and was the best investment I ever made for seed corn. E. L. Ento.

P. S. Dec 6. Only a day or two ago we had inquiry from Mr. Ente for car load prices on our "Iowa Silver Mine" and "Imperial White."

Chickasaw county, Ind Ty, August 26, '01—I purchased some of your seed corn this year and am greatly pleased with it. Did not plant it until my other corn was two feet high and plowed once. The seed bought of you was planted on the poorest piece of ground I had; was never ploughed but once and produced fifteen bushels per acre more than native seed. I will plant nothing hereafter but your seed. Jas. H. Mathers.

Washington county, Texas, July 30, '01—The seed corn bought of you last spring was distributed among my neighbors and without an exception all are well pleased with it. This corn was safe when the drouth set in while native corn was just silking and the extreme dry weather simply annihilated the native corn, while the corn bought of you made a good yield. Numbers of farmers here will order seed corn of you next spring. W G Thornhill.

Milan county, Texas, July 27, '01—A friend of mine told me of some nice seed corn that he and a number of his neighbors bought of you and planted last spring. He also stated that the yield from this seed was double that of his native seed as it matures much earlier and before the drouth can effect it. We intend to buy our seed corn from you in the future and would like some of your printed matter and prices for another season. T. L. Grace.

Marion county, Iowa, March 4, '01—I had good results from "Ratekin's Nameless Beauty" seed corn bought of you last spring. It yielded meseventy-five bushels per acre of a nice golden yellow and uniform ears, while native corn given the same care and attention only yielded sixty bushels per acre. I will plant them again next season. M. M. Gainble.

Madison county, Texas, August 14, '01—I planted the "Iowa Silver Mine" seed corn bought of you last spring and notwithstanding the fact that we had the worst drouth in years, the corn looks well and is far ahead of native varieties. I got nice full roasting ears eighty days after planting. C A Lowry.

Independence county, Ark, Oct 9, '01—The "Iowa Silver Mine" and "Pride of Nishna" seed corn purchased of you last spring are certainly world beaters. I planted it three weeks later but it stood the drouth and made at least 25 per cent more than the earliest native corn. Will want seed again next spring. Y M Mack.

Chickasaw county, Ind Ty, August 5, '01—We have undergone the most severe drouth for years and the corn growing people all over this country are fast becoming convinced that your "Early Dent" and "Nameless Beauty" is the corn for this drouthy climate, owing to its early maturity. The yield is wonderful compared with other early varieties. G O Walthol.

Montgomery county, Iowa, August 29, '01—We are pleased to state that while we have passed through a very dry season we will be able to gather an average of fifty bushels per acre from the seed purchased of you last spring, which is a decided increase above the yield of corn planted from our own seed. Worley Bros.

Harrison Co., Iowa, Dec. 2, '01.—The two bushels, "Pride of Nishna" seed corn I bought of you last spring was planted on fair upland ground. I had a fine stand and yielded fifteen to twenty bushels more per acre than any corn I ever planted. To say I am well pleased is expressing it mildly. Ambrose Mansfield.

Mitchell county, Kansas, Oct 10, 1900.—Find enclosed New York Exchange for \$10, for which please send me Turkish Red seed wheat. The seed corn ordered of you last season has given entire satisfaction. G. S. Battery.

# WHAT A FEW OF OUR CUSTOMERS SAY.

Republic Co., Kas., June 10, '01.—The seed corn received of you has proven entirely satisfactory and I am under many obligations for the prompt manner in which my order was taken care of. I have a fine stand of corn, and will want more of your seed next spring. D. Dool.

Gasconade county, Mo., April 12, '01.—The seed corn I bought of you last year gave entire satisfaction. It yielded twice as much as other corn planted from native seed. A great number of my neighbors will send to you for seed next spring. H. F. Giedinghaden

Clay county, Neb., August 9, '01.—I am delighted with results of the "Pride of Nishua" seed corn bought of you. I got a fine stand and your corn is at least eleven feet high and heavily cared, while my native corn is not half as good. I will buy all my seed of you next spring. B. B. Cronin.

Stoddard county, Mo., August 14, '01.—I take pleasure in writing you relative to the seed corn bought of you last spring. It stood the drouth well; in fact it is all the corn that will make any showing in this country. My neighbors will send with me next year for seed. Jno. A. Miller.

Whiteside county, Ill., Jan 11, 1901.—I received seed corn ordered from you and planted some May 9th, harrowed once and cultivated four times, and obtained an average of 70 bushels per acre. I am very well pleased. Wm F Clark.

Newton county, Mo., Nov 28, 1900.—The "Pride of Nishua" and "Iowa Silver Mine" seed corn bought of you last spring gave perfect satisfaction. It out yielded native sorts by far, also matured much earlier. My neighbors will order with me next year. W T Ford.

Ellsworth county, Kans., Feb 14, 1901.—Received your catalogue and have talked with my neighbor who bought seed of you last year and he recommends it very highly. He joins me in the enclosed order for ten bushels for his own use. P M Grubb.

Lucas county, Iowa, Nov 14, 1900.—"Pride of Nishua" seed corn got from you last spring was planted May 24th; have just gathered it; obtained 74 bushels per acre, 15 to 20 bushels more than from my common sorts, under same conditions. Samuel L. Boyd.

Falls county, Texas, Nov 28, 1900.—Regarding seed corn obtained from you last season would say that notwithstanding chinch bugs, bad cultivation and a poor stand, I obtained over 40 bushels per acre and am well pleased with results. It's the corn for this country. B F Priddy.

Scott county, Ill., Jan 10, 1900.—The seed corn bought of you last spring proved to be all right and gave good results and I feel much pleased with my investment. Ninety per cent of the ears are large and fine. This corn made double the average for this state this year.

Clark county, Arkansas, Nov. 26, 1900.—I shall always be pleased to recommend your seed corn. The "Pride of Nishua" yellow obtained from you last season. It yielded fully one-fourth more per acre than our common sorts. It is the only seed for southern planters. A W Johnson.

Crittenden county, Ky., August 4, '01.—I like the seed corn bought of you last spring so well that I will try your seed wheat this fall. A. H. Cardui.

Donley county, Texas, Oct 3, 1900.—I want a few bushels of your Turkish Red wheat. I like your Silver Mine Corn fine. A number of my neighbors will send to you for seed next season. W A Guin

Gasconade county, Mo., Nov 30, 1900.—I planted the "Iowa Silver Mine" white corn and "Pride of Nishua" yellow corn bought of you last spring and am well pleased with it. L S Miller

Saint Charles county, Mo., Dec 5, 1900.—I planted the seed corn I bought of you last spring and it gave me entire satisfaction. It matured well and averaged a yield far in excess of native sorts. V D Deiken.

Baraboo, Sauk county, Wisconsin, Oct 27, 1900.—The seed corn I got from you last spring proved all right. Planted May 19, cultivated shallow four times, making a splendid crop. Wm Saxe.

Sedgwick county, Kan., Feb 2, 1900.—The seed corn ordered has come to hand and I am well pleased with it. I endorse order for double the amount. C D Darrington.

Jasper county, Mo., July 19, '01.—The "Turkish Red" seed wheat I bought of you is entirely satisfactory. It yielded much heavier than other varieties I sowed at the same time on similar soil. W. A. Bigger.

Chickasaw county, Iowa, April 12, '01.—Seed corn ordered received. Am well pleased. One of my friends wants me to send to you for 2 bushels for him. Peter Brommenscheukel

Boon Co., Ill., Apr. 22, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Received seed corn O. K. Am well pleased with it. Thanks for prompt shipment. Thos. Fairgrieve.

Alamance Co., N. C., Apr. 23, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—It gives me pleasure to acknowledge receipt of the best seed corn I ever saw. I. H. Adkisson.

Blackhawk county, Iowa, June 7, '01.—I have a good stand of corn from the seed bought of you last spring. H. J. Lichty.

Jefferson county, Iowa, May 23, '01.—I am much pleased with the "Pride of Nishua" seed corn received today. W. R. Houston.

Vermillion county, Ill., Jan 11, 1901.—The seed corn I got from you proved first-class and excellent results for me. W V R Ludwig.

Monteau county, Mo., Feb 6, '01.—The seed corn ordered of you has arrived and I am well pleased with it. W. M. McDonald.

Hill county, Texas, March 19, '01.—Seed corn came in due time and am well pleased with it. W G Atwood

Trumbull county, Ohio, April 2, '01.—Received seed wheat in due time. I am well pleased and thank you for your promptness. D. H. Lepper

Hamilton county, Texas, March 29, '01.—The "Iowa Silver Mine" seed corn arrived in good condition. Creek Brown

Chillicothe, Texas, '01.—Enclosed find \$25 for which send me Turkish seed wheat to Chillicothe; Ft. Worth & Denver City R. R. S. C. Dale.

Itasca, Texas, '01.—Enclosed find draft for \$66 for which send me Turkish seed wheat. Send at once. M. L. Brockett.

Horton, Mich, '01.—Ship 15 bushels Turkish Red wheat to Jno. Sullivan. He is a neighbor of mine. My seed has arrived all right. Abel N. Howe.

P. S. Mr. Howe is one of our most valued customers and has sent us a large number of orders. J. R. Ratekin & Son.

Norwalk, Ohio, '01.—Ship me 20 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat at once. E. W. Hawks.

Forest City, Ill., '01.—Ship us 20 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat at once. Enclosed find draft. J. M. & F. M. Gilmore.

Rhone, Texas, '01.—Enclosed find \$25 to pay for seed wheat as per order enclosed. J. G. Roberson.

Waxahachie, Texas, Aug. 8, '01.—I have your favor of 31st. Send me 60 bu. of your Turkish Red seed wheat. I want it by Sept. 10. J. E. Wyatt.

Lewisville, Texas, Aug. 16, '01.—I have your favor of the 7th. Book and send me 50 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat. I will go to Dallas after it. I want it by Sept. 10. Hamlyn Morgan.

Farmersville, Texas, '01.—I have deposited \$25 in bank at Dallas, for which please send me 24 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat. N. J. Jordan.

S. Omaha, Neb., Sept. 6, '01.—Enclosed find draft for \$18 for Turkish Red seed wheat. Send to Hartington Neb. My ground is ready and I want to sow as quick as possible. Jos. A. Bent.

Sept. 12, '01.—Send me 10 bushels more of your Turkish Red seed wheat. Enclosed find check to pay for same. Jos. A. Bent.

Franklin, Tenn, '01.—Enclosed find exchange for \$4 for seed wheat. Ship quick. Jno. Atwood.

Newburn, Tenn, Sept. 4, '01.—Send me 6 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat at once. Enclosed find money to pay for same. Biffle Bros.

BANK OF EMMETT.

Emmett, Mich, '01.—Enclosed find draft to pay for 10 bushels seed wheat. Ship at once. Martin Banden

New Madrid, Mo, '01.—Enclosed find M. O. for 20 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat. Ship to Madrid, Mo, quick. C. A. Brauch.

Wauseon, Ohio, '01.—Enclosed find draft to cover order for 30 bushels seed wheat. Ship at once. C. A. Burr.

Mt. Pleasant, Cobanas county, N. C.—Please send me 2 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat. A. C. Barrien.

Madison, Ind, '01.—Please ship 32 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat. Enclosed find check to pay for same. Henry Craig.

Duncans Bridge, Mo, '01.—Send me 25 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat, also 3 bushels Timothy seed. Ship to Clarence, Mo. W. F. Alexander.

DEPARTMENT AGRICULTURE.

Potomac, W. Va, '01.—Send me 100 lbs of your wheat for experimental purposes. S. W. Alexander, Pres.

Kiowa Co., Kas. Apr. 9, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Seed corn received today. A. Anselment.

Cayuga, N. Y., Apr. 11, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Seeds arrived all right. Clinton Smith.

Woodbury Co., Ia., Apr. 10, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Oats arrived on the 5th. Thank you very much. R. C. Hayden.

Bexar Co., Texas, Mar. 22, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Corn arrived in good shape. Will report results. Jas. P. Newcomb.

Shelby Co., Ky., May 20, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Just received seed corn and am well pleased. G. H. Jackson.

Kankakee Co., Ill., May 15, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Seed corn arrived this P. M. E. S. Kriebel.

Erie Co., N. Y., Apr. 11, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Received the seed corn all right. W. I. Stewart.

Henderson Co., Tenn., Mar. 14, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Seed corn came the 9th. O. K. Other parties are inquiring about it and I gave them your address. E. F. Boswell.

Shelby Co., Ind., Apr. 12, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Received seed corn in good shape. H. E. Bruner.

Jefferson Co., N. Y., Apr. 10, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Oats arrived in good shape. E. W. Bretch.

Marshall Co., Ala., Apr. 12, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Last shipment of seed corn received this A. M. Dr. J. M. Jackson.

Sharkey Co., Miss., May 18, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Seed corn was received and entirely satisfactory. T. T. Orendorf.

Nemaha Co., Neb., May 16, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Seed corn arrived in good condition. Thanks for prompt attention. H. D. Yeikin.

Buchanan Co., Ia., Apr. 21, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Seed corn arrived yesterday in fine condition. E. F. Weston.

Jasper Co., Tex., Apr. 23, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Seed corn and potatoes were received yesterday. Both are very nice. Oliver Mills.

Hendricks Co., Ind., Apr. 21, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Received seed corn in due time and well pleased with it. Jas. A. Hadley.

Randolph Co., Kas., Apr. 22, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son.—Enclosed find draft for seed corn. Am well pleased. W. M. Wright.

Columbia, Tenn, '01.—Enclosed find draft to pay for 5 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat. Ship immediately. C. F. Alexander.

Charleston, Mississippi county, Mo, '01.—Please find order and draft enclosed for 10 bushels of your seed wheat. E. L. Brown, Sr.

Ripley, Tenn, '01.—Please send 5 bushels of Turkish Red seed wheat. W. B. Campbell.

Malta Bend, Mo, '01.—Please send me 10 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat and 2 bushels Timothy seed. Enclosed find draft for same. Wm. Baker.

Bauble, Ky, '01.—Enclosed find exchange and order for 15 bushels of your seed wheat. Sam'l B. Cecil.

North West, Ohio, '01.—Send me 26 bushels of your seed wheat. Enclosed find draft to pay for same. Jacob Coolman.

Newton, Ind, '01.—You may send me 40 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat for which I enclose M. O. to pay for same. Isaac W. Coon Sr.

Menden, N. Y., '01.—Enclosed find order and check to pay for 10 bushels seed wheat. Ship at once we want to sow soon. N. H. Cole.

Westville, Ind.—Enclosed find order and draft for 20 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat. D. M. Crumpecker.

Boise, Idaho.—Enclosed find draft to pay for 15 bushels of your seed wheat. Send by freight over Denver & Oregon Short Line. E. C. Cook.

TELEGRAM.

Peru, Ind, Sept. 23, '01.—Your letter rec'd ship me 60 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat at once and follow with tracer. J. O. Cole.

Newmanville, Tenn, Sept. 16, '01.—Enclosed find \$20 for which send me 20 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat. Jno. H. Collier.

FARMERS BANK.

Keithsburg, Ill, '01.—Please ship me at once by freight 18 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat and 3 bushels Timothy seed. Enclosed find draft to pay for same. Thos. W. Davis.

Longmont, Colorado, Sept. 9, '01.—Please ship us 10 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat at once. J. W. Denio, Manager.

Oswego, Kas, '01.—Enclosed find draft for \$50; send me 50 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat. I want you to see that it is very thoroughly cleaned and have it run through the cleaner 2d time. Send at earliest possible date. Robt. O. Denning, Pres.

Jones, Mich, '01.—Ship me 21 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat. Rauey A. Evans.

GERMAN AMERICAN BANK.

Emerson, Neb, '01.—Send me by freight quick 10 bushels "Pride of Nishua" seed corn. David Smith.

Belmont, Kas, '01.—Ship us by freight 20 bushels seed corn. Enclosed find M. O. to pay for same. Plush & Son.

Geneseo, Kas, '01.—Enclosed find draft for \$10. Ship 10 bushels of your seed corn to Burton, Kas, quick. M. M. Sherman.

Mansfield, Texas, Sept. 29, '01.—One of my neighbors is going to Dallas today for 25 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat. Quite a number of others will be in after their seed wheat in a day or two. C. W. Bowman.

Ft. Wayne, Ind, March 25, '01.—Find enclosed my check to pay for 5 bushels seed, 3 of "Pride of Nishua" and 2 bu "Iowa Silver Mine." J. C. Peters & Co.

Mayersville, Issaquena county, Miss.—Find enclosed check for \$10 for which send me 10 bushels of your "Iowa Silver Mine" white corn. Send me catalogue. R. B. Phipps.

Hornellsville, N. Y., March 11, '01.—Enclosed find \$2 for 2 bushels seed corn. Ship at once. Praugen Bros.

Cade, Texas, '01.—Please send me prices on seed oats for fall sowing. The seed corn I got from you was very fine. Your orders from this country will be large the coming season. Johnie Powell.

Malden, Dunklin county, Mo, Oct 4.—Enclosed find check for \$31.25 in payment for seed wheat ordered and received from you. Allen Store Co, per L C Stevenson.

Mineral Wells, Texas, Oct 2, 1901.—Enclosed find \$22.00 for seed wheat. I ordered from your quotations, and trust it is all right. Send seed at once. D M Howard.

Garden Prairie, Ill, April 15, 1901.—Enclosed find express order to pay for 15 bushels "Pride of Nishua" seed corn. Be sure to ship good seed. Send by freight promptly. A Gates White.

Anita, Cass county, Iowa, March 30, 1901.—Please ship me at once 30 bushels "Pride of Nishua" (yellow dent) seed corn and 10 bushels Iowa Silver Mine. G W Vorhees.

Rockdale, Milan county, Texas.—Enclosed find \$18.75 for which please send me Turkish Red seed wheat. Capt P M Kolb.

Mills Point, Texas, Aug 24, 1901.—Send me 16 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat. The money is ready for you on receipt of it. Ship to Mills Point on the T & P R R. Jno W Curtis.

Rhea Mills, Texas, Feb 5, 1901.—Enclosed find my order and check for your Iowa Silver Mine white corn. Ship at earliest convenience as I want to plant by March 1st. W A Rhea.

Duncanville, Texas.—When the seed wheat arrives at Dallas notify me and I will come after it with a wagon. Fred J Shutt.

P S—Mr Shutt is one of the most substantial farmers and stock raisers in Dallas county. He has frequently bought farm and garden seeds from us, always with the best results. J R R & Son.

Blodgett, Scott county, Mo, Sept 9, 1901.—Please ship by freight at once 20 bushels of your best selection of Turkish Red seed wheat. The Johnstone Land Co.

Maple Brook Stock Farm, Charleston, Ind, Sept 6, 1901.—Please ship to me at once 27 bushels of your Turkish Red seed wheat. James D Kiger.

Norbourm, Mo, Aug 3rd, 1901.—Enclosed find our draft 5461 for \$35.00 for the seed wheat you sent me on the 29th ult. Please ship me at once 30 bushels more. This is for a friend of mine, Mr Geo W Thomas. Bill and ship to me. J N Haines, Cashier.

Auburn, Neb, May 6, 1901.—(Telegram.) Ship me at once 25 bushels of your seed corn, equal parts, Pride of Nishua and Iowa Silver Mine. I am now ready to plant. J M Armstrong.

Pine Bluffs, Jefferson county, Ark, Sept 14, 1901.—Enclosed find post office order for 5 bushels Turkish Red seed wheat. Better ship from Dallas, Texas, as freight will be cheaper from there than from Iowa. J W Hudson.

# WHAT A FEW OF OUR CUSTOMERS SAY.

Douglas Co., Neb., May 23, '01.—Received seed corn O. K. J. W. Day.  
 Mahaska Co., Iowa, April 29, '01.—Seed corn arrived all right. Thanks for prompt attention. Vernie Welch.  
 Guthrie Co., Iowa, May 4, '01.—My neighbor Hager received his seed corn, "Pride of Nishna" and it is fine. Ship me two bushels at once. J. A. Cline.  
 Saint Joseph Co., Mich., May 6, '01.—Received seed corn this morning. John Cochran.  
 Macon Co., Ill., May 6, '01.—Received seed corn Saturday in good condition. John Newsham.  
 Pawnee Co., Neb., May 11, '01.—Seed corn came in good time and shape all O. K. Reuben Lipp.  
 Lenawee Co., Mich., May 11, '01.—Seed corn arrived in due time. E. R. Allen.  
 Cerro Gordo Co., Iowa, May 10, '01.—Seed corn came all right and is very fine. E. O. Gregory.  
 Rock Co., Wis., May 10, '01.—Received seed corn and am very much pleased with it. Oscar Kneedson.  
 Platte Co., Mo., May 10, '01.—Corn received in fine shape. Fred Wilhoit.  
 Hinds Co., Mo., May 10, '01.—Corn received and well satisfied. W. D. Henderson.  
 Fulton Co., Ohio, April 16, '01.—Seed corn arrived in due time. W. B. Lewis.  
 Jones Co., Iowa, April 18, '01.—Seed corn came yesterday. Thanks for your promptness. L. J. Adair.  
 O'Brien Co., Iowa, April 16, '01.—Received seed corn. Please send price list of other seeds. N. H. Farnham.  
 Buchanan Co., Iowa, May 14, '01.—Seed corn arrived all right. Bert Smith.  
 Payne Co., O. T., May 13, '01.—Potatoes planted and satisfactory. Corn looks well. David Straub.  
 Marshall County, Ala., April 12, '01.—Shipment of seed corn received in perfect condition. Dr. J. M. Jackson.  
 Johnson County, Kas., April 1, '01.—Seed corn ordered arrived in due time and in good order. C. W. Steiney.  
 Grundy County, Ill., April 13, '01.—Seed corn arrived in good condition. W. H. Murphy.  
 Wyandot County, Ohio, April 15, '01.—Seed corn came O. K. A. C. Ward.  
 Clay County, Mo., April 1, '01.—Seed corn came all right. Wish I had ordered more. W. E. Merrill.  
 Monroe County, Tenn., April 9, '01.—Seed corn arrived O. K. C. A. Lowry.  
 Sedgwick County, Kas., March 25, '01.—Seed corn and Rape arrived and am well pleased. Alexander Ferris.  
 Butler County, Neb., April 9, '01.—Corn received in first class condition. S. M. Keller.  
 Jay County Ind., March 16, '01.—Received seed corn today O. K. J. L. Fening.  
 Lee County, Texas, March 20, '01.—Corn arrived the 16th all O. K. W. H. Coffman.  
 Erie County, Ohio, March 3, '01.—Corn received. It is fine quality and all right. H. Wallrabenstein.  
 Union County, Iowa, April 8, '01.—Received the "Pride of Nishna" seed corn O. K. Like the looks of it very much. J. T. Bally.  
 Callaway Co., Mo., April 22, '01.—Received seed this morning. H. S. Holt.  
 Clinton Co., Ind., April 22, '01.—Received seed corn and oats in good condition. W. P. Sheagley.  
 Payne Co., O. T., April 17, '01.—Seed corn arrived today and am well pleased with it. Daniel Vollmar.  
 Weakley Co., Tenn., April 8, '01.—My seed corn arrived O. K. E. P. Rose.  
 Cuyahoga Co., O., March 28, '01.—Received seed ordered O. K. C. C. Lowe.  
 Polk Co., Ia., March 30, '01.—Seed corn received and am well pleased. C. E. Comegy.  
 Washington Co., Kas., April 19, '01.—Received seed corn O. K. I am well satisfied. W. H. Fischel.  
 Kendall Co., Ill., May 2, '01.—Received seed corn in good shape. Phillip Henker.  
 Johnson Co., Ind., April 17, '01.—Received seed corn O. K. J. D. Whitesides.  
 Porter Co., Ind., April 27, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Received the seed corn in good order. Hy. Lemster.  
 Hillsdale Co., Mich., May 20, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Am well pleased with seed corn. Send sample of wheat. B. G. Allen.  
 Belmont Co., Ohio, April 23, 1901.—Received seed corn and find it all right. W. M. Dewar.  
 Saline Co., Neb., April 23, 1901.—Received seed corn in good condition. W. B. Stevens.  
 Shawnee Co., Kas., April 22, '01.—Received seed corn O. K. It is fine. H. P. Coursey.  
 Cherokee county, Texas, July 30, '01.—The seed corn bought of you last spring did extra well, considering the severe drouth. If it had been planted two weeks sooner I would have had a good crop. A W Pouncey  
 Grant County, Ind., April 9, '01.—Corn arrived safe. I am well pleased. H. Steelman.  
 Chase County, Kas., March 26, '01.—Received seed corn today and well satisfied. H. Oxford.  
 Livingston County, Ill., April 10, '01.—Seed corn received in good shape. F. M. Winters.  
 Jones County, Texas, March 13, '01.—Seed corn arrived all right and like its looks. R. M. Hine.  
 Buchanan County, Iowa, March 23, '01.—Seed corn I ordered received and am well pleased. Chas. E. Maythaler.  
 Ottawa County, Kas., March 30, '01.—Received seed corn in good shape. Henry Hahn.  
 Crawford County, Ohio, April 11, '01.—Received seed corn and well pleased. S. G. Kurtz.  
 Franklin County, Neb., April 12, '01.—Seed corn received. Thanks for prompt shipment. W. F. Humphrey.  
 Filmore County, Neb., March 28, '01.—Received seed corn all right. S. D. Owens.  
 Jackson County, Mo., March 28, '01.—Received seed corn and am well pleased. E. E. Beck.  
 Madison County, Kas, Feb 24, '01.—Received seed corn and find it O K. J. A. Reed.  
 Harrison County, Ind, March 2, '01.—Received seed corn and like its appearance. Penn Newson.  
 Morris County, Kas, March 29, '01.—Seed corn arrived O K. Thank you for promptness. E. M. Kohl.  
 Norton County, Kas, April 15, '01.—Received the 10 bushels seed corn Ship me 3 bushels more "Gold Standard" A. W. Grove.  
 Jasper County, Ind, April 2, '01.—Seed corn received and am very proud of it. T. F. Clark.  
 Adams County, Ill, April 4, '01.—Received seed corn in good shape and am well pleased. Send catalogue by return mail. Wm Cassens.  
 Labette county, Kas, March 20, '01.—Seed corn ordered of you received and am well pleased with it. J. T. Dremer.  
 Alamakee county, Iowa, May 11, '01.—Received the seed corn today. Louis Narum.  
 Spencer county, Ky, May 13, '01.—Seed corn ordered of you received O. K. Patrick O'Leary.  
 Sedgwick Co., Kas., April 17, '01.—Seed corn ordered arrived in excellent shape. William W. Thomas.  
 Pottawattamie county, Iowa, April 8, '01.—Seed corn arrived O K today. N. C. Birchard.  
 Shawnee county, Kas, April 8, '01.—Received seed corn O K and I am well pleased. Wish you much success. J. S. Banks.  
 Nemaha county, Kas, March 21, '01.—Seed corn duly received. Jas Gregg.  
 Marion county, Kas, April 1, '01.—"Pride of Nishna" seed corn received in good condition. Samuel P. Noll.  
 Adair county, Iowa, March 23, '01.—Seed corn arrived and is all right. R. H. Walters.  
 Mercer County, Ky., April 11, '01.—Received corn in good order. Am well pleased. W. H. Bunnell.  
 Ogde Co., Ill., April 20, 1901.—Seed corn arrived all right. E. J. Ward.  
 Muscatine Co., Ia., May 2, 1901.—Seed corn was received in fine condition. Jas. Q. Beatty.  
 Garrard Co., Ky., April 25, 1901.—Seed corn arrived and am well pleased. Jas. Spilman.  
 Brown Co., Kas., April 19, 1901.—Seed corn arrived all right. J. E. Rader.  
 Republic Co., Kas., April 20, 1901.—Received the seed corn in good shape. J. G. Brown.  
 Westmoreland Co., Pa., Apr. 23, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Seeds arrived O. K. yesterday. Will want seed wheat this fall. Elizabeth Ritter.  
 Effingham Co., Ill., Apr. 29, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Seed corn ordered came in good order. Thanks for promptness. Geo. White.  
 Dubuque Co., Ia., May 21, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Received seed corn O. K. Jno. Permantier.  
 Pottawatomie Co., Kas., Apr. 13, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Received corn on the 6th. It is very fine. Wm. Erickson.  
 Clarke Co., Ia., Feb. 28, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—I received seed corn all right and find it better than expected. Jonas Hunt.  
 Chickasaw Co., Ia., May 16, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Seed corn arrived in good condition and am well pleased with it. Geo. R. Drewelow.  
 Marshall Co., Ia., April 28, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—The seven bushels of seed corn received in splendid condition. C. W. Smith.  
 Marshall Co., Kas., April 27, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Received seed corn today O. K. A. E. Graham.  
 Westmoreland Co., Pa., April 27, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Seed corn arrived on the 23d. Thanks. Jas. Hazlett.  
 Ellsworth Co., Kas., Mar. 20, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Received seed corn and find it as nice as sample. R. S. Mischny.  
 Henry Co., Ind., May 6, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Received seed corn on the 4th and am well pleased with it. Marion Howe.  
 Monona Co., Ia., May 20, 1901. J. R. Ratekin & Son:—Seed corn arrived all O. K. Send prices of millet seed. Nels Nicolaisen.

The above are but an index of the general tone of thousands and thousands of other personal letters which we have received during the last eighteen years in our business.

**Seed Corn.**  
 Iowa Silver Mine, white.....per bu. \$1.75, 5 bu. 1.70, 10 bu. and over 1.65  
 Pride of Nishna, yellow.....per bu. \$1.75, 5 bu. 1.70, 10 bu. and over 1.65  
 Imperial white, red cob corn.....per bu. \$1.70, 5 bu. 1.65, 10 bu. and over 1.60  
 Queen of Nishna, 80 day corn.....per bu. \$2.00, 5 bu. 1.95, 10 bu. and over 1.90  
 Ratekin's Extra Early, 80 day white.....per bu. \$2.00, 5 bu. 1.95, 10 bu. and over 1.90  
 Stowell's Evergreen Sweet Corn.....per bu. \$3.00, peck 1.00, 1 lb 25c, 3 lbs. 50c

**Rape Seed.**  
 Dwarf Essex Rape, Pure, Imported,.....5 lbs 50c, 10 lbs. 90c, 25 lbs. and over 75c



**Seed Oats.**  
 "Mammoth White Russian" Oats.....per bu. 75c, 10 bu. and over 70c  
 "Early Champion White" Oats.....per bu. 75c, 10 bu. and over 70c  
 "Lincoln" White Oats.....per bu. 75c, 10 bu. and over 70c

**Seed Potatoes.**  
 Improved Early Ohio, Red River Stock.....per bu. \$2.00  
 Early Rose, Red River Stock.....per bu. \$2.00

The above prices are Free on board the cars at Shenandoah, Iowa, Bags included.

This is the way all of our seed corn looks before shelling and sending out. IT IS SEED CORN AND NOT ELEVATOR CORN.