

they belong to different genera. No. 16 is an admirable pasture grass, relished by cattle above all other grasses. It succeeds admirably at Mr. O'Hear's cattle farm, and on our whole seaboard. It is, however, a short grass, only fit for grazing, and is said not to flourish beyond the atmosphere of the ocean.—No. 17. This species has for many years existed on the plantation of Mr. Mathews, on James' Island.—He represented it as green in winter and an excellent winter and spring grass. Elliott says: (vol. 1, p. 102) "This plant appears to be worth cultivating as a spring grass. I have seen it on James' Island in a dry soil." No. 18. *Arrhenatherum Avenaceum*—Beam's Common Oat-like Grass—(Lindley's System, p. 305.) *Holcus Avenaceus*, Scop.—(English Botany, t. 813. *Avena elatior*, Linn. *Avena elatior*—(Muhlenburg's Catalogue, Dr. Eaton's Botany, p. 48.)—*Arrhenatherum avenaceus*—(Hooker's British Flora, p. 39, Dr. Gray's Botany of the Northern States.)—This is one of the species cultivated by Mr. Stanford, Mr. Cloud, Mr. Peters and others, and highly recommended. By some Botanists it has been supposed to be a species differing from the European. I have compared specimens, with those from Pennsylvania—those found in an uncultivated state on the borders of the Santee, and also those sent to me by Mr. Stanford, and can find no characters by which they differ. One Botanist, I am informed, has expressed an opinion, that, although of the same species, it may have originated in America, from the fact of its wide diffusion. To this may be remarked that we have no evidence that the same species has in any instance been created in two widely separated localities. The fact that this species is only naturalized in a few localities in the Atlantic States and the rapid manner in which seeds are spread, will easily account for its general extension, and leads to the conclusion that it was brought to this country among other seeds. It was, therefore, a rare species in Pennsylvania in the time of Muhlenburg, and is expressly given as cultivated—(p. 183.) I regard it, therefore, as the European species transplanted at an early period into America, having become naturalized, and flourishing most in soils best adapted to its growth, more especially in the far West.

I regard Nos. 9, 14, 17, and 18 as winter grasses that are deserving of the careful cultivation and the patient experiments of the Agriculturist. In conclusion, I cannot but express the hope that it may not be regarded as too presumptuous if a gentle hint should be given to planters not to condemn hastily, any grass if it has not succeeded on the first trial. Soils and culture differ. The man who, with a poor, badly cultivated soil, should pronounce the cultivation of Corn a humbug, because he has only succeeded in making 2 bushels to the acre, might be

regarded as having pronounced a hasty decision.

Yours truly,
JOHN BACHMAN.
Walesa, Whitfield Co., Ga., Sept. 14, 1855.

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Charleston, S. C., Oct. 3, 1855.

EDITORS SOUTHERN CULTIVATOR: Having arrived at home and received the proof sheets of the above, I have had leisure as well as an opportunity of consulting authorities, and comparing specimens, I believe my designation of the species as given above, which was nearly all I intended in the article, will be found correct.

If I have not already trespassed too much I will yet crave your indulgence whilst I make a few suggestions that may be of some benefit to farmers, more especially those who are desirous of cultivating the grasses for pasturage and hay, and of renovating their soils by a rotation of crops.

1. *Preserve specimens of the various grasses*, in order that you may, at all times, know what you are cultivating, and that you may be saved from imposition or other disappointments. For this purpose prepare a volume of folio size, with alternate leaves of soft, spongy and common writing paper. On the soft paper, on the right, attach your specimens of grasses. On the top border, the breadth of the paper, paste a strip of writing paper an inch broad, on which the name of the genus should be written. The specimen having been pressed for a week between several folds of spongy paper and changed once or twice into dry paper, must now, in its dried state, be carefully fastened on the right page of your book—a strip of paper with the name of the species attached fastens the stem of the plant to the paper near the bottom. On the opposite, or left side, containing the writing paper, you make your notes on the species—your experiments in cultivating it, &c. The book must be paged. An alphabetical index of each genus directs to the page where the specimen can, in a moment, be referred to. I have seen in England, Germany and France small volumes in which the various grasses were pasted on one side of the page, and on the other, printed descriptions and directions in the language of the several countries, giving the names, qualities and mode of cultivation. A work of this kind, like that of Ravenel on the Musci, would be invaluable in our country.

2. *Let the South raise her own Grass Seeds*.—This will save them not only expenses, but secure them against many impositions and disappointments, as the seeds when old, have lost their vegetable powers. There is in raising our own grass seeds another advantage which appears to have been, in a great measure, overlooked. You will, in this case, by successive sowing of Southern grass seeds, produce varieties of grasses springing out of European or North-