

one foot. Then further on we met very good rye and beautiful woodlands, until on the 22nd of July, at 9:30 in the morning, we arrived in Kursk, changed cars and went on again at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Here rye is already being cut, the land is without forests, the weather is cool while the sky is clear, it is very pleasant in the railroad car. This side of Orel there is much buckwheat, oats and rye, not yet cut, poor houses, then again somewhat wooded, until at 8:30 in the evening we arrived in Orel. We went toward the setting of the sun, remained here overnight, changed cars, and proceeded on on Tuesday, the 23rd of July, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. When I had eaten and slept awhile, we found ourselves in a great virgin forest, magnificent woodland, spruces two feet in diameter. At 4 o'clock we saw a great forest fire on the right side of the railroad tracks, up close to the tracks. There are said to be 300 versts of woodland. The forest becomes thinner, the land yellowish and sandy, the water shallow, grain poor, the barley and oats quite small and green, beginning to shoot. Here I do not like it. Farther on, birch forests, highlands and lowland, the sun sets in front of us and we are in Roslavl. Then on Wednesday, the 24th of July, 3 o'clock in the morning, we arrived in Smolensk. Here the land is somewhat better, rye already --? and the grain still quite green. Then further on, still alternately forest and steppe, until on Wednesday, the 24th, 8 o'clock in the morning we were in Vitebsk, changed cars, and went on at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. There are many kinds of beautiful flowers in this city. It seems to be a beautiful part of the country. Twenty versts further on from Vitebsk bought blackberries on the train. The children were quite happy about it. Then further on, 170 versts, good rye is being cut with a sickle by the Russian women, spring wheat still green, good winter wheat, the hay lies in swaths, beautiful forests in the valleys, red and fawn colored herd of cattle and hogs. Here, for the first time, good potatoes are found, thus far very poor ones. We are 65 versts this side of Duenaburg. On Wednesday, the 24th of July, 7 o'clock in the evening, we arrived in Duenaburg. We changed cars and left Duenaburg at 13 o'clock at night, and arrived in Wilna on the 25th, at 8 o'clock in the morning. This part of the country is very hilly and mostly forest. After we had drunk coffee, we left Wilna at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon. Then further on, there are large highlands with forests, yellow ground, deep valleys with all kinds of vegetation, rye, potatoes, buckwheat, barley. For four minutes we drove through the mountains in pitch darkness, for a distance of $2\frac{1}{4}$ versts. When daylight appeared, the land was more level, with grain, but the ground yellow, somewhat farther on, very mountainous with deep valleys, on the mountains high spruces, here and there houses, some of stone, most of them of wood, in this whole neighborhood. We are 40 versts this side of Kowna. Here is good rye alternately with forests. Now we are going through the mountains in pitch darkness until I counted to 370. When daylight appeared, we were close to the city of Kowna, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. When we were through the city, we went over a bridge three times as large, I think, as the one at Alexandrowsk. Here is good rye. We are about 30 versts this side of Wirschballen (Werbalon) (Virbalis). We saw some fields of good wheat, then we saw a number of peat pits in the vicinity of Wittepsk. The land is green and level, shallow of water. The spring wheat is still green. The rye is tall in the straw and is already being cut, then always level land, until at 8 o'clock in the evening, on the 25th of July, our passports were examined and endorsed on the boundary at Wirschbalogo. They were returned to us at once, and we passed the border into the railroad station at Eydtkuhnen (Eidkuhnen) at 9 o'clock in the evening. By means of exchange we obtained some German money, for 100 Russian rubles we received 94 Prussian