May 28, on the Grand Banks, bark St. Cloud, from Liverpool for New-York.

Disasters.

HAVRE, May 16.—The bark Argens, Lindsey, from New-Orleans, which took fire at this port in the night of the 14th, and was filled with water and sunk, is being pumped out. The vessel has righted, and the discharge of the balance of her cargo will be commenced to-morrow.

The schr. O. M. Pettit, (of Boston), from Philadelphia for Portsmouth, N. H., put into Newport 7th inst., having carried away head of mainmast, six feet below crosstrees, on the same afternoon.

Memoranda.

The Bureau Veritas publishes a list of the losses of merchant ships reported during the month of April. The total number of such misfortunes is 189, comprising 96 English, 19 French, 12 Swedish, 18 Norwegian, 9 American, 9 Hanoverian, and 7 Dutch vessels. The total number of losses reported since Jan. 1 to April 30, is 1,196.

Notice to Mariners.

PORT OF ASPINWALL—NAVY BAY.—The iron screw steamship Fu-tsopan was sunk in this harbor on the 3d of April last, and is dangerous. The wreck bears from lighthouse S. 30 W.; distant one mile, 2,900 feet. Bears from Point Toro S. 6¾ E.; distant one mile 2,250 feet. (Bearings, magnetic; distance, statute.) Vessels entering the harbor by bringing Simon Point to bear S 14½ W., by compass, will be in line of wreck. A small portion of the bow and all the davits are visible. The wreck lies N and S, head to S; the stern in 6 and bow in 3½ fathoms of water. A large red buoy is anchored with a mushroom, 2½ tons weight, directly over the stern.

Port-Warden's Notice.

STATE OF NEW-YORK, PORT-WARDENS' OFFICE, No. 23 William-st.

NOTICE is hereby given, in accordance with section 4 of the act passed April 14, 1857, entitled "An Act to Reorganize the Wardens' Office of the Port of New-York," to all persons interested in, or having charge of the subject matter of such survey, examination or survey, that the following vessels are now under examination by the Port Wardens, and that the said surveys or examinations will be completed within ten days next succeeding this notice, on board said vessels:

Steamship Erin	47 N. R.
Steamship Niagara	21 N. R.
Ship Alexander Gibson	37 E. R.
Ship Anglo Saxon	38 N. R.
Ship City of Montreal	15 E. R.
Ship Senator Iken	26 N. R.
Ship John Bright	36 E. R.
Bark Constantia	Atlantic Dock.
Bark Cilmeno	Marble Yard.
Bark J. F. Post	Atlantic Dock.
Bark C. Staritz	Prentice's.
Bark Anna	52 N. R.
Bark John Atwood	45 N. R.
Bark Nymphe	41 E. R.
Bark H. D. Brookman	47 E. R.
Bark Nineveh	41 E. R.
Brig America	Atlantic Dock.
Brig Polly Jones	Union Stores.
Brig Alpha	9 N. R.
Brig Mary Wilson	4 E. R.
Brig Alpine	Lodovici's.
Brig Emma Deane	Empire Stores.
Schr. Abby Brackett	Empire Stores.

MINTHORNE TOMPKINS, President.
I. ARG'S GREENMAN, Secretary.

Printing.

CHAS. C. SHELLEY, No. 68 Barclay-st., STEAM JOB PRINTER.—Cards, Circulars, Billheads, Posters, Catalogues, &c., at the lowest cash rates. CYLINDER PRESSWORK done for the trade.

WM. EVERDELL'S SONS, No. 104 Fulton-st.—STEAM JOB PRINTERS and LABEL MANUFACTURERS.

THE CROPS OF 1866.

What are the farmers' prospects? is a question to a vast many people beside the farmers. It is a question of equal importance to a vast number of consumers. If the farmers' prospects are those of abundant crops, they generally rejoice, never taking into account that a half crop often produces the most money or greatest net profit. If the prospects are favorable for low prices, the consumers are apt to rejoice, without stopping to consider that low prices are not always most favorable to their interest. But whatever the prospects, there are numerous persons always anxious to anticipate certainty by guessing at probabilities; for, after all, it is but guessing whatever is said about crop prospects, at least so far as regards future prices. Our country is so large; our culture so diversified; our staple food crops so various, that whenever any particular condition of the atmosphere is unpropitious to one, it is apt to be favorable to another. Besides, there are every year a multitude of crop-croakers, who are morally certain that the great year of famine has arrived, who tell us of the total failure of seed-time and harvest, and consequent ruin of mankind generally.

THE TRIBUNE is not a croaker. It has, with but slight exceptions, withheld from publishing the guesses we have seen made about crops, particularly those of the so-called "agricultural department," at Washington. But as some of our friends are constantly asking the question—"What are the crop prospects this year?" we propose to answer, so far as we have certain information, in a brief manner, but at the same time advising readers that no man can tell what a day may bring forth.

We are well satisfied that the Winter wheat in the State of New-York, and several other States, is certain to be a very short crop. Of that we have trustworthy information. The season is so far advanced as to render the matter no longer guess work. Yet there are localities where the crop bids as fair as ever it did at this season, and the present cool weather is favorable. The best field of wheat that we have seen this year, and the best seen by any one of twenty other persons with us, some of whom had lately traveled from Maine to Missouri, was seen at Atlantic County, New-Jersey, where wheat growing has been supposed to be impossible, until within a few years. Indeed, this field of 100 acres was in the very midst of the great wilderness—"the barren sands of West Jersey." Upon the "true wheat lands" of that State, Pennsylvania, New-York, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, &c., we are well assured that the Winter wheat prospect is unfavorable.

Minnesota papers state that a much larger amount of wheat was sown this Spring than usual, and the prospect of a large crop is flattering. The same is true of the Spring-sown grain in other Western States. Winter wheat was badly killed out in many places. A gentleman, writing from Northern Indiana, says many farmers plowed up their Winter wheat and sowed Spring varieties. He estimated that taking a strip 50 to 60 miles wide, running across Southern Michigan and Northern Illinois, there would not be over one-fourth of a crop of Winter wheat. Seven-eighths of his corn was killed. Clover was also badly killed out.

A gentleman who has traveled extensively through the West gives it as his opinion that there will be about half an average crop of Winter wheat in Illinois, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky—not much more than one-quarter of a crop in Ohio and Indiana, owing to Winter-kill. He says that extensive sowings of Spring wheat were made in several of the Western States, and that in the western part of Illinois, up the valley of the Illinois River from Alton, the Winter wheat never was better, though nearly destroyed in the eastern part of the State. In some portions of Kentucky the farmers did not expect to get much more than their seed, and where labor could be had, plowed it up and put in Spring crops. The prospect is fair for a good yield in Maryland, Delaware and parts of Pennsylvania; but as a whole, the prospect of a full crop of Winter wheat in all the Northern States is certainly unfavorable. What it is in the late Rebel States will be seen by the extracts from Southern journals, which we print herewith.

Of Spring wheat it is entirely too soon to begin to guess. We are sure that large breadths have been sown, but it has many enemies between this and the last of July or 1st of August, when it will be harvested, and even after that we have known from 10 to 50 per cent of the crop lost by bad weather and bad stacking.

One of the greatest enemies of Spring wheat-growers is that little animal called the chinch bug, which comes in countless myriads, devouring, like the Egyptian locusts, every green thing in its way. Until a remedy is found for this pest, seed time and favorable growing time may come, but harvest will be always uncertain.

A Doctor Sherman of Illinois hopes that he has made the discovery that will get rid of these pests. He says:

The chinch bug having destroyed my wheat crop for a number of years, I was anxious to get rid of it, and I believe I have tracked it home, and can destroy it, root and branch. I believe that if the farmers will follow my advice, they may raise a good crop of wheat, and not lose a bushel from the ravages of the bug. This is the important secret. My investigation led me to believe that the seed wheat or kernel was used as a sort of "foster mother" by the bug, and I find by inspection through a microscope, that in all wheat grown upon land where there are bugs, there is deposited in the blow or fuzzy end of the kernel, a large quantity of eggs, which produce the bug next season. It follows, that if the kernel of seed wheat is the general depository of the eggs of the chinch bug, that our farmers have been sowing the pest each year as regularly as they have their wheat, and it follows that if such is the case, the eradication of the bug will be easily accomplished—either by sowing no wheat that has been in contact with the bug, or by steeping the seed in some solution before sowing, which will destroy the eggs.

If this theory is correct it will add many millions of bushels of wheat to the supply of future years. It can have no effect upon the present year's supply further than to enable Western farmers to sell off closer than heretofore; for, with the power to stop sowing and growing chinch bugs, the prairie farmer is pretty certain of a crop of Spring wheat.

We find that the South has discovered a new enemy of the wheat growers which, from the description, is unlike any of the Northern pests.

The Atlanta Intelligencer, in describing it, says:

"A new destroyer of wheat has made its appearance in the wheat fields in the shape of a small insect, which appears on the blade, varying from one to four in number, and which is producing sad havoc. The attention of Mr. Embry was first called to the appearance of the insect and its destructive powers by another old farmer of the same county, Mr. Henry Summerlin. The two together have watched the progress of this insect, and what with the present appearance of the wheat crop in this vicinity, and the destructive powers of the insect itself, have come to the conclusion that great damage will be done to the wheat crop in Carroll County if it be not totally destroyed. The insect, Mr. Embry states, has never before made its appearance in that county."

Of other grain crops, it is too soon to begin to guess, except of rye, which is pretty largely grown in New-England, Eastern New-York, and part of Pennsylvania and New-Jersey, and as a general thing bids fair for a good crop.

Barley is not a food nor feed crop in this country, and its condition principally concerns the brewers, and for their consolation we can state that it is not likely to be an abundant one.

For the good of the horses, we are happy to say that oats have never been more extensively sown than in this present year, yet we are sorry to say that the crop is not promising. The weather has been cold and dry, or at least has not been warm and wet, which is the condition needed to give a rank growth. Yet we have seen the heaviest crops of grain in just such seasons, when the straw was all short.

The same condition of the atmosphere which has prevented the rank growth of oats, has kept the grass back, and gives all the mowing fields an appearance of a short crop, though, as a general thing, the grass is thick at bottom, and has ample time with warm weather to make a full crop of hay. The harvest, however, will be later than usual.

Indian corn has been extensively planted—probably more acres than in any previous year—and although small in this section, it cannot be said to be unpromising. It has a good stand, and a hot July and August will make a good crop and prevent all possibility of want of food for man or beast.

The prospects for fruit are favorable and unfavorable according to locality and sorts. Peaches in this vicinity are an almost universal failure. Strawberries will be a light crop. Blackberries are very promising. Apples, pears and cherries are thickly set. So they were last year, but failed to make a good crop.

Of fruit prospects at the West we clip the following item from a letter published in *The Rural New-Yorker*. It is dated Indianapolis, May 14:

"Having traveled quite extensively in the Western States during the last few weeks, I am able to give you an estimate of the prospects of the fruit crop in some portions of the West. The cold last Winter was very severe upon all fruits, especially the more tender varieties, which are almost a total failure. There will be no peaches north of Centralia, Ill., and I have seen vineyards of two and three acres in this State in which full three-fourths of the vines were killed down to the ground. The cold weather of the past few weeks has nearly ruined the cherries of this region, and there will be a great scarcity of the small fruits generally. In Southern Illinois the peach crop was, two weeks ago, very promising, and, unless affected by the recent cold weather, the yield will be very large. Peaches are grown in that region very extensively. A resident of that section told me that peach orchards containing from 10,000 to 15,000 trees were no uncommon thing, and that one grower sold his crop of peaches last year for the snug sum of $25,000. 'Some peaches!' It is too early yet to form an estimate of the apple crop, though there are no very encouraging indications."

Of the prospects in the Southern States we give the following extracts from numerous Southern papers. We hope the people will be able to grow all they need, and a little to spare, which several gentlemen in New-York will be glad to receive, on accounts of long standing:

VIRGINIA.

The Winchester (Va.) Times says:

The late rains have so improved the wheat crop that there is every prospect of there being a much larger yield than was anticipated a fortnight since. Fields that looked hopeless at that time now present the appearance of an ordinary crop, while the opinion of farmers generally is that but few of the past years will exceed the amount of corn that will be planted or raised.

Our Lynchburg and other exchanges furnish most gratifying accounts of the wheat and corn crops. According to a writer in *The Richmond Examiner*, who says he has been over the principal tobacco growing regions of Virginia and North Carolina, there will be a small and inferior crop of tobacco made.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Wadesboro Argus says: "Most of the early planted cotton seed in this country is turning out very bad. This is owing more, it is said, to the rather cool weather we have had since the seed was put in the ground than to the quality of the seed. Many planters are plowing up and replanting."

A North Carolina paper says: "It is feared that the cool mornings and evenings in North Carolina for the past ten days will injure the growing crop of cotton. A fair yield is, however, anticipated. The prospect for grain is excellent."

A correspondent says: "Until within the past ten days the growing cotton crop in portions of North Carolina was suffering from continued drouth. Recent rains, however, have very much improved the appearance."

The Raleigh Progress, of the 1st inst., says: "The wheat crop of the State is said to be very promising. The farmers are planting large crops of corn and cotton."

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Blanford New South suggests to those who have been making predictions of a large yield of cotton to revise them, and take off 25 per cent for bad seed. The planters are in despair. Their crops have died out when a couple of inches high, and it is useless to plant again unless they obtain better seed, which is next to an impossibility.

From Greenville we learn that the recent heavy rains and continued damp, cool weather have injured the cotton seed which were planted to such an extent that but little cotton can be made this season, as it is too late to plant so as to raise even half a crop, if seed should be obtained of the best quality. As it is, fresh seed are very scarce. The low lands, too, have been washed and overflowed, and generally too boggy to be plowed.

The following is from *The Sumter Watchman*:—The work and prospects of our planters have recently been seriously interfered with by heavy rains, succeeded by severe winds. The young corn and planted and sprouting cotton have been much injured by the former, whilst the latter has necessitated log-rolling and fence-making the second time for the season. Notwithstanding these difficulties, our planters are applying themselves with a diligence which must secure at least measurable success. The freedmen, too, as a general thing, are working with a zeal and earnestness exceeding the expectations of our people at the beginning of the year.

GEORGIA.

A recent letter from Clark County says: "Every day shows a marked falling off in the prospects of the next crop of cotton."

A recent letter from Pulaski County says: "I hear great complaint from the farmers on account of the failure of the cotton seed to germinate, and I do not think there will be half a crop made."

We take the following from a letter to *The Macon Messenger*: "Since I have been in South-Western Georgia, I have learned much of the prospects of the planters throughout this section, and am sorry to say that the grass and other impediments are likely to destroy much of the cotton."

The LaGrange Reporter says: "It appears that we were in error last week in our statement that our planters had a good stand of cotton. Since then we have heard considerable complaint that seed have not germinated well, and, in many cases, where cotton has come up, it died after putting out two or three leaves."

The Macon Journal says: "The excessive rain of the past week injured cotton so little, while corn and wheat have had more moisture than was requisite. Complaint of cotton seed not coming up pours in from every quarter, and farmers look blue."

The Columbus Sun says: Farmers tell us that grass is rapidly gaining possession of the cotton fields. Continuous rains have prevented all out-door work, and the soil has been kept so moist that grass has quickly usurped in many farms the place of other vegetation. The prospects for corn or cotton this year are very dark at present, as can be told from the shadowy "phiz" of every planter.

A correspondent in the *Augusta Constitutionalist* says: I am sorry to say that the prospects in Elbert are very poor indeed. I don't think that there are three plantations in Elbert county that has a stand, or anything near a stand of cotton. I do not think that there will be more than half the cotton made in this section that was counted upon the first of April.

The Savannah Republican's correspondent at Madison says: There is general complaint of bad stands of cotton, but wheat and corn are very satisfactory. As a notable incident I may mention that two Northern gentlemen purchased from Col. J. B. Walker 2,700 acres of land in the spring at $12 50 and $20 per acre, ploughed 1,000 acres with two-horse turning plows, introduced all the improved implements for planting and cultivating, much to the amusement of many of those wedded to the trill tongue and shooter, and I am informed that their crop is the finest in all the region, and that, with no future calamity, they will make enough to pay for the farm this year.

The Southern Cultivator for June has come to hand since the above was written, and speaks thus of the growing crops:

The probability is that the wheat crop throughout the Union will be considerably less than a full one. It will be considerably diminished at the South by rust, besides the injury sustained by the severe winter; at the North it suffered greatly in many sections from the latter cause. Corn, though backward, looks well.

Winter Oats were badly killed out last winter, and are a very short crop in this section.

Cotton—We hear bad accounts from every quarter. Bad seed, planted in wet weather, worried and indifferent preparations, hail storms and beating rains make the prospects of the growing crop very gloomy.

The Federal Union says:

Farmers in this section had a good time all of the past week to fight General *Green*. We still hear a bad report about the cotton crop. The freedmen are, generally, in this county doing well. Wheat is not promising, yet a fair crop may be made. This crop almost always turns out better than was anticipated, and may do so the present season. Potatoes are looking well, and corn, though small, looks healthy.

A subscriber, writing to *The Macon Telegraph*, from Talbot Co., on the 26th ult., says: "Crops in upper Georgia are much injured by the incessant rains—corn looking badly. And, on account of the heavy rains and defective seed, very few planters have over one half a stand of cotton. I have not met, during a five weeks' absence, a calculating planter who estimates that the present crop will exceed 1,500,000 bales—and to make that will require timely showers, warm sunshine and a late Fall."

We clip the following paragraph from an article written by the editor of *The Macon Messenger*, on his return from Mitchell County:

The prospect of crops, now in cultivation, is the absorbing one. Mitchell County is not considered as "the grain growing country," but we saw some very fine fields of wheat and oats, which were then being cut, and without any sign of rust or other injury. Some complaint of this is made in Dougherty County, but it does not exist to any considerable extent, although in some places the crops do not present a very favorable aspect. This may be generally attributed to the quality of the land and want of cultivation. With the reverse of this, the crops of corn and cotton in all that section are very promising. The land planted is probably three-fourths of that of the better days of freedmen (now past), and a reasonable amount of it is in provision crops.

A correspondent of *The Savannah Republican*, writing from Scriven County, under date of the 20th ult., over the signature of "A Planter," says:

As far as I can hear, there is a howl for cotton seed—planters are in despair. Every man has planted his crop and has been waiting for the seed to come up until now, near the 1st of May, the fact is demonstrated that cotton seed which has been in the lint unginned any length of time will not germinate, or, if it does, the plant will die. Planters have all finished planting, and to their surprise find that they will not have any cotton to come up. Their condition is deplorable indeed. No more seed is to be had unless it can be purchased from other States.

A correspondent, writing from Griffin, says:

We have taken some rides into the country, and, from personal observation, predict the best crop of wheat this year that has been made in ten years. We shall not be surprised to see 25,000 to 40,000 bushels of wheat sold in the months of July and August.

A correspondent of *The Atlanta New Era*, writing from Dalton, 28th ult., says:

In the course of two weeks past I have seen and conversed with many gentlemen from different parts of this and Murray counties, and I feel quite sure that not more than two-thirds of the usual wheat crop will be made in the two counties.

FLORIDA.

The Tallahassee Observer expresses a fear that the late heavy rains have ruined the crops in that region of the State.

The Marianna Courier says that in consequence of the failure of the cotton seed to germinate, in many instances the planters, for want of fresh seed, have planted land in corn they had designed for cotton. "The crop in this county looks promising, and sufficiently advanced. The team is weak, and in some instances short; grass as a consequence will be abundant. The hired men altogether are doing as well as was expected—losing about one-fifth of the time, and about the same loss in the manner in which the work is done."

The Gainesville New Era says:

We hear of very many complaints about the stand of cotton. It appears that the fault is greatly in the seed, most of which is old. We hope, however, that the recent rains will produce an agreeable change.

ALABAMA.

The country in the vicinity of Tuscaloosa was flooded by a rise in the Warrior River last week, and serious damage done to the cotton crop. A great scarcity of seed was complained of in replanting.

The Brantville Independent states that the cotton crop in that section is not yet all planted, but owing to the wet weather the work on the plantations is entirely stopped.

From *The Uniontown Herald* we learn that that section of country has been during the last week deluged with rain. Of course cotton has suffered to a very serious extent.

We see it stated in *The Demopolis New Era* that the recent heavy rains have seriously injured the crops—especially in the slough lands. The crawfish is doing considerable damage to the young cotton crop.

For the past ten days, says *The Livingston Messenger*, we have had an excess of rain, which, we fear, will put crops awfully "in the grass." The cotton on all low lands is already suffering for want of hot, sunshiny weather.

One of the heaviest rains we ever witnessed, says *The Greensborough Beacon* of the 19th, has fallen this morning. The streams will be as high as they have been this season. The damage that has been done to the lands and the crops must be very great. Much of the cotton will no doubt have to be replanted, but it will be found difficult, if not impossible, to procure seed.

A correspondent of *The Union Springs Times* writes: On a recent trip to Montgomery, we were sorry to see that the prospects for a good crop were so unpromising. From Dick's store, by way of Cubihatchee to Montgomery, there were only two or three plantations on the road upon which there are good stands. The farmers are generally replanting, and in many cases planting over. Complaints of bad stands are general, and the young plants still dying out.

It is stated in *The Livingston Journal* that the extraordinary rains of the last two weeks have done much damage to the growing crops in that section. Along the creeks much ground that was planted has been overflowed, and will only be made productive this year by replanting—providing the weather will permit of it. The young cotton has suffered greatly, and, under the most favorable circumstances, the injury will be material. The scarcity of good seed will prevent replanting in many instances where it would otherwise be resorted to.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Thursday, May 24, 1866.

The prospect for a crop of cotton from Montgomery to Hayneville is exceedingly bad. The feeling among the planters is, that they will not make more than half what they expected on the 1st of April. If I did not know that no man can tell what a crop of cotton will do, I would place the amount at one bale and a half to the hand. GEO. W. GRIMES.

The Eufaula News says:

The crops in this section are looking remarkably well and already we have enjoyed quite a variety of garden vegetables. The freedmen are conducting themselves, as a general thing, in a highly creditable manner, and we now begin to think they appreciate their position, and will labor faithfully under the contracts they have made.

MISSISSIPPI.

From The Columbus Sentinel, May 29.

While at Tibbee station, in the western part of this county, a few days since, we made minute inquiries as to the crop prospects of the planters in that neighborhood—which includes the eastern portion of Oktibbeha County, and this is what we gathered:

One of our friends in Oktibbeha, had planted 380 acres in cotton. Owing to heavy rains and the growth of grass, he has been compelled to abandon the cultivation of 100 of these acres, and will plant them with corn. If favored with a good season, henceforward, and good luck, he hopes to raise 100 bales of cotton—although at present his crop "looks very bad." He planted old seed. His corn is doing very well and promises an abundant yield. No trouble with his laborers, to whom he pays $165 for men, and $100 for women, per annum.

A neighbor had planted 600 acres in cotton, a part of which he has been compelled to abandon to save the remaining portion. Used old and new seed. Corn prospect fine.

Another friend, working some 10 hands, and whose lands are eligibly situated, has a fine cotton prospect. He has succeeded in keeping the grass down, and having planted new seed, will probably raise a full crop to the extent of his laboring force.

Another neighbor planted 200 acres in cotton—prospect bad—grass heavy. Labor not trustworthy.

A planter of large means, and also of large confidence in his ability to work through anything he undertakes, planted 800 acres in cotton, and works between 50 and 60 hands. We learned that his cotton crop is heavily in the grass—but he says he will do well. So may it be.

Leaving Oktibbeha County, and coming east into Lowndes, we learn that a sandy land plantation of a friend of ours, near Tibbee, is producing cotton finely—he having planted about 300 acres—all of which, however, will not be cultivated in that staple. Corn prospect excellent.

Another friend planted 200 acres in cotton—of new seed. Stand of the plant excellent, and prospect as good as could be expected. If we are correctly informed, he works his laborers on shares of the crop.

Another planted 400 acres in cotton—mixed labor—white and black. The prospect is so bad that the whites are quitting, and the negroes won't work. With labor, the corn crop is fine on this plantation.

Another plantation adjoining one of those referred to above, has 100 acres in cotton, the stand of which is good, but the plant is heavily in the grass, and the rainy weather prevents its cleaning. Corn good.

Another old resident and planter of Lowndes County is getting rid of all negro laborers who are willing to leave him. He planted 200 acres in cotton—he says he will not save a bale from his planting—and his corn is destroyed by overflow. Maybe, he is a little too desponding, and may save something of both crops.

From what we can gather, the wheat in this section of the country is virtually destroyed. While the corn crop looks promising for the future, the wheat crop of the season will yield but little, and our people will have to purchase flour.

Where negroes are working on plantations, on shares, as a general thing, they are proving themselves worthless, as was predicted, and many of them are quitting labor entirely. Before the season comes for the gathering of the crop, the probabilities are, that on many plantations there will be no labor to gather it.

From Tibbee to Artesia, a distance of nine miles, on the line of the railroad, so far as we could observe, the cotton fields looked well, and the corn excellent.

From Artesia to Columbus, the cotton fields generally are in excellent condition, and the corn of larger growth than any we had seen in the county. Of course we refer to those plantations that are under cultivation. We passed many in which a plow has not been put this season.

On Sunday last a young tornado passed over the neighborhood of Tibbee, which did considerable damage in the way of demolishing fences and prostrating the young corn, and this was followed by the fall of more or less rain every day until Saturday morning. If this continues for a few days longer, those who had good crop prospects last week will find themselves greatly injured.

Since our return home, we have had no opportunity of making particular inquiries as to the crop prospects in other parts of the county, but learn that, as a general thing, our planters are more cheerful than they were some two weeks ago.

A member of a trustworthy firm in Columbus writes: The rains and cold weather continue, and we regard the crops as seriously affected; there can be no doubt or mistake upon this subject. The stand is defective, and what there is cannot do well, while much of it must die. Thousands of acres are already gone beyond redemption. If seed could be had—which in many cases is out of the question—it will be the middle of May, or later, before it could be planted. With the destruction of crops in the Mississippi bottom, and the great damage in the Tombigbee valley, the magnitude of the crops of 1866 must be largely reduced. Our object in writing is to give you accurate information, and not for effect, as you are aware we do not own a bale of cotton.

An old and most trustworthy practical planter in Newton County, Mississippi, writes to a friend as follows:

It is awful to think of our cotton prospects this season. We have had so much rain and the cold nights following are almost certain to give us lice; at best, the stands are poor, and the grass superabundant. I am plowing up some of my low-land cotton to give room for corn—feeling satisfied that old seed in picked ground, by reason of rains, will make a poor yield. Many of our neighbors are doing as I am, planting corn instead of cotton, in consequence of the miserable stands they have, and the difficulty of getting good seed. I am firmly satisfied that the yield of 1866 and 1867 will be rather under than over 1,000,000 of bales.

The Columbus (Miss.) Sentinel learns that the crops in that county are more promising than was hoped for during the late rainy season.

The Memphis Argus's Washington County, Miss., correspondent says:

The late freshets damaged the crops and kept them back very much. The amount put in, not only of cotton, but of corn and oats, is very large in proportion to the labor employed. Planters are bending every energy to clean out their cotton and corn. The latter looks finely, and is more than knee high. The cotton in some places had to be replanted, but planters say that they have a good stand, and look for a fine crop.

A correspondent of *The Memphis Bulletin*, writing from Central Mississippi, says the last two weeks have been wholly lost to planters in that section of the State. Incessant and excessive rains have kept the soil so wet that to work it would have been injurious, if not impossible. Grass has consequently taken so strong a hold in many farms that there is but little possibility of its being eradicated. The cotton from new seed seems to have endured the long spell of unfavorable weather remarkably well, but it is not so with that from the old. All bottom lands have been deluged, and the crops almost entirely destroyed. The Bigbee and Noxubee have been higher than ever known before. A failure of the cotton crop is rendered imminent.

LOUISIANA.

The Opelousas Sentinel says: A very small portion of the cotton seed planted has germinated, and what is up does not generally look well, owing to the heavy beating rains having packed the ground about it.

The prospects before us, says *The Louisiana Southwestern*, for making anything this year are gloomy indeed. With most of our river plantations under water, and the hill places washed away, we see but little encouragement for our planters.

Great discouragement exists among planters in the Ouachita country on account of the unpropitious weather. The young cotton, just protruding from the earth, has been, it is feared seriously injured, and as the seed is nearly exhausted, it will be impossible to replant much of the land. The stand of cotton thus far is not very good, and the proper season for planting has already passed away.

A planter from Lafourche writes to *The Crescent* of the 30th thus:

We have had abundant rains recently, which have been very beneficial to crops generally. The corn crop is good. The cotton, as I have remarked, is backward; and as for cane there is not much of it in our parish, but most planters have some, and hope in a year or two to be able to have as much as they care to plant with the present system of labor. This brings me to speak of the freedmen. I might say, in general terms, that they are behaving themselves pretty well.

The Monroe Intelligencer says: We have deliberately inquired into the condition of the cotton crop in this parish. In the months of January and February the weather was good, the freedmen appeared willing to contract and stand to their obligations, and although most of the plantations were in a dilapidated condition, the planters were hopeful, and began the year with energy. When planting time came, the rains began, the seed was found to be defective, and almost superhuman efforts were made to get the crop in, but it rained and hailed and stormed; the cotton on the hill lands was generally washed out of the ground; on the bottom lands it was too wet to work, and at the beginning of the week—when the weather cleared up—the planters found themselves with indifferent stands of cotton and their fields extensive pastures. In fact, the grass had taken possession, and such a grazing prospect has not been seen for years.

The Bienville Messenger of the 27th states that the recent heavy rains throughout the country have greatly damaged the interests of the planting community, not only in washing up the crops planted, but rendering the land untillable for a short time to come. It is liberally estimated that only a half crop, on an average, will be produced this year; some even doubt this. The river parishes are almost entirely overflowed, and little or no harvest is expected from that quarter.

The North Louisianian complains of the heavy rains, and says the cotton prospects were never gloomier in that parish at this season of the year. Our planters are unable to do anything in the way of planting or working their crops on account of the wet weather. The fact is, it appears to us that our planters cannot now make more than half crops this season.

The Iberville South of the 26th says: "During the past week we have visited the coast portions of Iberville and Ascension parishes, and a pitiable prospect there is, indeed, for the planters of those districts of country. Not over one acre in ten formerly in cultivation is planted the present year in any kind of crop; and as there has not been more than four or five days of work weather during the past month, and as there is great scarcity of laborers, the promise of crops hereabouts is daily becoming small by degrees and distressingly less."

A correspondent to *The New Orleans Times*, from Rapides, says: It has rained more here this Spring than I have witnessed for more than forty years. The crops are in a worse condition than I ever saw crops. They are almost taken with grass and weeds, and the fields are so soft no plowing can be done. And in trying to get the weeds and grass out the cotton is pulled up, rendering the stand bad.

The editor of *The Home Guard*, in a recent look along Bayou du Large, saw but few negroes. Hon. François Thériot has dispensed with them entirely. We walked into the fields and saw no laborers but the planters themselves, their sons, or, in a few instances, white assistants. All were in the fields, plowing, hoeing, harrowing or planting—men, women and children. They are, mostly, gentlemen; pleasant, intelligent, educated gentlemen, some of whom would put to shame some legislators we have seen. The crops were generally in fine order. Every field seemed almost like a garden, so clean was it kept.

The Courier of the Teche says of the prospects in the Parish of St. Martin: We gather from conversations we had with planters from several portions of this Parish, that the prospects of a good crop are not so bright as was to be expected at the commencement of the season. Heavy rains and frosts coming after them have nipped in the root all the cotton that has come out of the earth. The great scarcity of fresh seeds, consequent upon loss of the planted seed, will compel many planters to curtail their pretensions of raising a large cotton crop, and will be a cause of the increase of the corn crop. There are good reasons to hope that there will be picked a good crop of the snowy flakes next fall.

From The Baton Rouge Advocate, May 23.

Of East Louisiana we can speak knowingly. Not one-half of the land usually planted is in cotton this season. No planter has wasted time, seed and costly labor on the hill flats and tops that constitute the great proportion of the inclosed fields of our uplands. The attention of every one has been directed to the cultivation of the bottoms and new hill land. In addition, it is now almost certain that from the planting of old seed, unfavorable weather and the listlessness of the negroes, not more than two-thirds of a crop will be made on the lands that are now under cultivation. Our best informed planters say one-half a crop is the most that can be made. Taken all in all, there is a poor and forlorn prospect ahead. The crop is pitched, is up, and safe calculations can now be made. Leaving out all calculations of the dreadful army worm, whose visit this season is not expected, and there is no chance that Louisiana will produce a crop of cotton this year exceeding one-third of the crop of 1861. One-quarter would be a closer and probably a more just calculation.

UPPER RED RIVER OVERFLOW.—*The Natchitoches Times*, of May 23, says: "The river has for five or six days been rising at the rate of about eight inches in twenty-four hours. There has been no abatement whatever, and the fact of a general overflow is no longer a mooted question. We learn that the river is falling about the raft, and that the Mississippi is also falling, but it is still rising rapidly at this point. There are very few places on the Bon Dieu that are above water entirely at the present time, and the chances are that all will be under in five days more. Every planter on the Spanish and Kisatchie Lakes is overflowed, and but few of them have been able to get other suitable places to try the experiment of planting so very late in the season. This overflow, taking into consideration the circumstances of the people, is the greatest calamity, except Bank's raid, that has ever befallen us."

CROPS AND HIGH WATER UP RED RIVER.—*The Shreveport News* of the 19th says: The river continues to rise at this point. Families all along the Bayou have been compelled to quit their houses, and some of them are now camping on the streets. A rise of six feet is reported above. We may therefore look for disastrous times ahead.

The Alexandria Democrat of the 23d says: Our levee still holds good and is being repaired hourly and a good fight is going on with "old Red." The levee, 18 miles below here, gave way on Friday. The whole country in consequence is submerged, thus ruining all planters in that section.

The New-Orleans Crescent says: We would suggest to those who have been making predictions of a large yield of cotton to revise them, and take off 25 per cent for bad seed. The planters in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana are in despair. Their crops have died out when a couple of inches high, and it is useless to plant again unless better seed is obtained, as they, of course, planted the best they had. We do not see how they are to help themselves just now. Fortunately on the Sea Islands we have not been obliged to leave our cotton in the wool until it was ruined, and therefore have had a good supply of sound quality.

TEXAS.

Texas advices state that the crops generally are not in a promising condition. The continued bad weather, heavy rains and cold have caused a material change. In many places cotton has been washed up. The stand is bad and seed for replanting is scarce. If it should continue wet, considerable cotton will have to be turned out.

A correspondent from Middle Texas says: In this region, spring weather this season was cool and latterly very dry. Corn-planting was backward, but is now all finished. Winter-sown grain has a favorable appearance; wheat, especially, looks better than usual. There is fair promise of hay and oats. The report for April from the Agricultural Department takes no further notice of the growing crops than to mention that the accounts from the wheat region indicated a short crop over a large part of the country. Such are not, however, the indications in this section of the country.

The Summit (Texas) Commercial says: A gentleman who has recently traveled through the State says that he sees greater prosperity and more promise of an abundant crop in this vicinity than in any other portion of the State through which he has traveled. He says the freedmen, as a general thing, are conducting themselves better here, and making greater exertions for an honorable livelihood than in other portions of the State.

A Galveston paper says: A correspondent of ours writing from San Augustin, Texas, says: Planters in this State are just finishing planting their crop of cotton, five weeks behind the usual time of planting. The whole State has been literally covered with water, and there cannot be more than half a crop made at best, owing to bad seed and too much rain. The Texas crop of cotton will be very short to what was anticipated. Our freedmen are working well generally.

Private advices from this State assure us that unless the worm or some other unavoidable cause intervene, "the crops will be larger than made before."

The wheat crop has already been harvested and is the largest ever produced in the State.

ARKANSAS.

The planters throughout Arkansas began work early in the season with energy and spirit, and their laborers worked faithfully as a general thing; but the high hopes with which they started have been most cruelly dashed to the ground, and those who now manage to pay expenses will be fortunate indeed. Of the two-thirds of the cotton crop which has not been completely killed, one-half may make an average yield, but the remainder will be poor indeed. A great portion of this was also under water for a time, and although not killed the stand is badly stunted, and is not so far advanced by fully a month as it should be at this season.

We learned from several gentlemen that while a fair portion of the cotton lands of Phillips and St. Francis Counties are under cultivation, but a few plantations have what is known as a good stand. The seed planted has in too many instances turned out badly, being very deficient in the essential vitality necessary to germination; besides the late cold weather has injuriously affected even the healthy plants, and King Cotton just now looks very much like a second abdication. The people are, however, full of hope and energy, and look forward to better times ahead.

TENNESSEE.

The Winchester (Tenn.) Home Journal of the 26th inst. says: "Bad prospect of the corn, wheat and cotton crops seems to be a universal complaint."

The Memphis Avalanche of the 29th says: Crops in Tennessee are backward. Wheat will be about half a crop. Corn and cotton look promising. The cut worm has been very destructive in many portions in Sumner County. We also hear that the rust has attacked the wheat in many sections.

The Nashville Gazette of the 9d inst. says: We learned yesterday from an old resident of Rutherford County, that the cut worm is committing great ravages on the cotton crop in his section. The plant is destroyed immediately on its appearance above ground. A gentleman from Columbia gives a similar report from Maury County. We have already adverted to the ravages of this insect in Giles.

The Gazette News of the 30th ult. contains the following: The crops in our county are growing well, and promise a fair yield. Intelligent farmers estimate the yield of wheat at from one-third to one half a crop. Oats and corn are looking remarkably well. No cotton up yet.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

A Ship Wrecked by Her Captain—He Charges the Consignees with Complicity.

The Atlantic Mutual Insurance Co. agt. Henry J. Morris, before Commissioner Betts on Saturday. The complainants filed their libel against the master of the British brig D. Alberty for barratrously wrecking that vessel. The defendant allowed the case to go by default against him and the case was referred to the Commissioner to take proofs. The captain does not deny the wrecking, but says that he was directed by the consignees to put her ashore on the Bermudas, but he preferred to put her ashore on Long Island.

James W. Booth, the mate of the vessel, testified that they sailed from this port bound for Point Petre, Guadaloupe; when they took their departure from Sandy Hook, the weather was good, the wind in the southern board; at 10 o'clock they tried the pumps and found about two feet of water; at that time they were off their course; later the wind hauled more to the westward, which would have enabled them to lay their course for Guadaloupe; instead of that they kept on with the wind free to the eastward; the pumps were tried, and there was no difficulty in keeping her free; the next day the wind was light, and they took in some light sail on account of the rolling; Captain Morris represented to him that the vessel would never reach her port of destination; he said that his consignees had made advances on the vessel, and that he had $500 against her for wages, and that they told him the only way to get it was to strand the vessel; he said that they had spoken of Bermuda to him, and that it was his intention to lose the vessel there; the brig was finally put ashore on the south beach of Long Island, seven miles to the westward of Montauk Point; the weather was good all that morning she was put ashore; it was just before sunrise on the 9th of December; some of the light sails were in; the wind was on the western board, which made it a little free; our port-tacks were aboard; she had about three feet of water in her; up to that time there had been no difficulty in keeping her free by the pumps. The brig had in this voyage been farther east than Montauk Point, some twenty miles between Montauk and the east part of Block Island Channel. We did not go round Block Island. The weather then was foggy. This was some four days before the vessel was put ashore. When the fog cleared up the wind came strong from the northwest. We could then have gone into Newport harbor if there had been any necessity. There was no necessity. Previous to this the Captain had shown me a chart of the Bermudas. The South side of St. George, one of the Bermudas, was one point he spoke of to destroy the brig. He also spoke of the North Rock as a place to make a total smash of her, as he wanted no trouble with the cargo. I told him it was a poor way to get his $500. I was on deck when the vessel was put on shore. Captain Morris asked me if I knew a good place, and I told him I was acquainted through the reef. He asked me how to steer, and he told the man at the wheel to steer so and so. I never signed the protest. Captain Morris afterwards told me they had got a man to sign the protest, who imitated my handwriting to a shaving. I saw the Captain drive out about four inches of the oakum of the brig on the 2d or 3d day out. I told him the men would see the caulking iron go through, as they were on the forecastle. He said he didn't think they would. I told him if he got too much water in her she would cut a caper and might go on her beam ends. He said he wanted her to get enough to feel it. After she was beached, he said he wanted the wind to come on shore, that there wasn't half enough to break her up.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Lough, the consignees, were also examined and testified to the amount of insurance on the vessel. They denied absolutely any direction or authority or hint to the Captain to wreck the vessel. The Captain cross-examined Mr. Lough severely on this point, but failed to shake his testimony. The case was adjourned to Tuesday at 12 m.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—JUNE 9.—Before Justice GROVER.

DECISIONS.

The Hon. H. Hubert agt. Legrand Lockwood.—Motion denied with costs.

Before Justice INGRAHAM.

C. D. Myers agt John Van Wagner.—Motion granted with costs.

J. P. Bichton et al. agt. John Godamier.—Motion granted without costs on defendant stipulating not to sue.

John McCartney, &c. agt. D. C. Murray.—Motion granted with costs.

John E. Von Eisenberg agt. Samuel M. Pettinger.—Motion is granted on conditions.

SUPERIOR COURT—SPECIAL TERM—JUNE 9—BEFORE JUSTICE JONES.

Elizabeth T. Schenck agt. John A. Schenck.—Referred to a referee to hear and report, &c.

Sexton agt. O'Donohue.—Judgment for defendant with costs; defendant's counsel will prepare findings and give one day's notice of the settlement thereof for a day not later than Thursday next.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—CHAMBERS—JUNE 9—BEFORE JUDGE CARDOZO.

Aaron Brinckerhoff et al. agt. Robert Stewart et al.—Motion denied without costs.

John S. Trott agt. C. W. Goddard.—Default opened on terms.

SURROGATE'S COURT.—JUNE 9.—Before Surrogate TUCKER.

WILLS PROVED.

During the past week the Surrogate has admitted to probate the wills of the following-named persons: Nathaniel P. Wortman, John H. Raynor, Gabriel Van Cott, Huntley Sperrill, Edward Cutter, John Gallagher, Carl Frederick, Mary S. Smith, Garrett J. Hooper. None of the above wills contain any provisions of public importance.

COURT CALENDAR—THIS DAY.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT—PART I.—Nos. 373, 2703, 1115, 2019, 903, 497, 659, 981, 541, 1471, 1237, 1291, 1295, 1297, 425, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072, 1073. PART II.—Nos. 429, 1214, 614, 170, 14, 1246, 1224, 1316, 1326, 1374, 602, 866, 1306, 949, 1456, 1486, 1488, 984, 1936, 2540. SPECIAL TERM—Demurrers—Nos. 11, 20. Issues of law and fact.—Nos. 191, 182, 208, 177, 178, 183, 186, 188, 187, 198, 201, 202, 101, 169, 179, 184, 210, 211.

SUPERIOR COURT.—PART I.—Nos. 1739, 2145, 885, 2517, 2233, 1765, 731, 2089, 2261, 1437, 2263, 271, 2229, 2361, 2233, 2085. PART II.—Nos. 1324, 228, 2656, 2404, 2180, 2285, 2076, 1964, 2554, 1624, 2010, 1442, 2164, 1308, 2486.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—PART I.—1510, 1551, 1571, 1573, 573, 1305, 1566, 1577, 1564, 836, 1532, 1533, 1534, 1535, 1536. PART II.—Nos. 1400, 1604, 1607, 1608, 1565, 925, 1559, 940, 1116, 1582, 68, 1526, 1117, 1429, 930.

SOCIAL SCIENCE.

THE REFORMATORIES OF EUROPE.

From Our Special Correspondent.

BOSTON, June 5, 1866.

An instructive paper on the present condition of European Reformatories, as compared with those of America, communicated by the Rev. E. C. Holle, was read in the Social Science Convention to-day.

The revolutions of the earlier part of this century, and especially the revolution of 1848, renewed or awakened a general or deep interest in the condition of the poorer classes and the causes of crime. Reformatory institutions have sprung up rapidly since that time. In Bavaria alone, for example, 87 institutions of a distinctly reformatory character have been established since 1848, and, in Prussia, 18. There were, in Europe, more than 100 Houses of Refuge of the character of the Rauhe Haus in 1848, whereas, at present, there are from 800 to 1,000, over two-thirds of which are Protestant charities established and almost wholly supported by private individuals, societies, and churches. This list includes different asylums, institutions for idiots and cretins, agricultural colonies, associations for the care of vagrant children, and the like; but it is wholly exclusive of Orphan Asylums, Houses of Correction, thousands of Industrial Schools, Ragged Schools, and similar establishments, which the Governments control. A list of over 600 of the private charities accompanied Mr. Holle's paper.

IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The first reformatory institution for juvenile criminals in Great Britain was established in 1778, in London, by the Philanthropic Society. There are now about 120. In 1851 these Reformatories were capable of accommodating 15,000 children; but were quite inadequate to the demands. There was an international exhibition of the different branches of industry carried on in Reformatories held in London in May, 1865.

IN FRANCE, AUSTRIA, AND PRUSSIA.

The agricultural colonies or farm schools in France enjoy the liberal protection of the Imperial family—especially of the Empress. The agricultural colony at Mettray contains between 700 and 800 inmates. The Catholic charities are numerous and beneficent in their influence.

In Austria, the Reformatory institutions are all under the control of the Catholic Church or the municipal authorities. Little is known of them. We know of but four Protestant institutions for orphans and vagrant children.

In Prussia, there are now about 225 Reformatory Institutions in successful operation. Prussia stands foremost among Protestant nations in the great cause of Reformatory and Preventive Education. Nearly all these institutions have been established since 1848, and a large number are in charge of Brothers of the Rauhe Haus. Besides these permanent institutions, there are quite a number of associations for the care of vagrant children—in Westphalia, for example, eight, which have charge of about 800 children. These associations do not place the children in Rettungsanstalten, but put them out to private families, and have a vigilant care over every one of them.

IN WURTEMBURG.

Here there are 36 Reformatories and Orphan Asylums now in existence. Among them are 23 Rettungsanstalten, of which 15 have at present 876 children in their care. The support of these 15 institutions amounted in 1864 to 60,000 florins, or about $34 per head. The Central Committee of Benevolence for the kingdom, established in 1816, reported, as under its supervision, 180 Infant Asylums with 10,000 children, 1,400 Industrial Schools, with 45,000 children; 23 Rettungsanstalten, 18 Protestant, 4 Catholic, 1 Israelitic, with about 1,200 children; 11 societies for the care of vagrants in private families, 1 Institute for Juvenile Delinquents; 5 Deaf and Dumb Asylums, 2 for idiots, 2 for the blind; 5 hospitals for children; 1 Institution for Epileptics; 1 Deaconess Institution; 1 training school for servant girls; 1 association for the protection of discharged prisoners, and 1 training school for female teachers in infant schools. The agricultural schools of Wurtemburg begin their labors after the public and private Reformatories have done their work and discharged their inmates. "They take," writes Mr. Holle, "say from 12 to 15 of these boys, and put them either on some farm belonging to the Government, or into the family and under the care of an experienced Christian farmer. The latter has the control of the boys and the benefit of their work, but must clothe and board them. They also get regular instruction and have every opportunity to become good farmers."

IN BAVARIA, SWITZERLAND, &C.

The reformatory institutions in Bavaria are supported partly by the State. Before 1848 Bavaria had only three *Rettungsanstalten*; in 1854, 99 reformatory institutions, and now 120. Beside these, there are 170 industrial schools; in 1858 there were 18 only. In 1854 the Reformatories were divided thus: Catholic, 61; Protestant, 18; and "Mixed," 5.

In Switzerland there are 51 reformatory institutions and agricultural colonies. They contain, at present, about 1,800 children. In almost every canton, also, there are a large number of industrial schools for the poorer classes.

In other countries in Europe reformatories exist—thus in Hanover there are 11; in Holland, 3; in Belgium, 3; in Italy, 5; in Russia, 8; in Baden, 21; in Saxony, 23; in Hesse Electorate and Hesse Darmstadt, 8; in Denmark, 7; in Sweden and Norway, 15; in the Free Cities, 5; in German States other than those already named, 26.

THE METHOD OF GOVERNMENT.

By far the larger number of all the institutions enumerated here are established on the family principle. The Government Institutions, Houses of Correction, State or City Orphan Asylums and the like, in most of which the congregated system is still adhered to, are not included in this number.

The German family system has no room for legions or classes of honor. Nor are the elder brothers military drill-masters. Much less does the spirit of the Rauhe Haus admit of any public exhibitions in which the children are looked at as so many curiosities. The mark system of discipline, according to Mr. Holle, would be entirely adverse to that spirit.

It will be conceded, he says, by all who have ever been engaged in the education of vicious youth of both sexes, that it is not this or that system, classification, or arrangement, but the *spirit* which pervades the whole institution, which will give a character to it. Most of the European Reformatories were commenced on a small scale, and consequently had a natural growth and a more healthful development. The individual or society by which they have been established take a more direct and lively interest in their welfare than is the case in the State institutions, which are managed more or less by lifeless official forms, rules or regulations. European Reformatories deserve to be entirely independent of the State, and by far the larger number receive no support whatever from the public treasury; much less do they ever apply for any such support. These Reformatories have been very successful and are still progressing.

After speaking of the Central Committee of Inner Missions in Germany—a sort of ecclesiastical social science association—Mr. Holle says that one of the most striking features of the European Reformatory Institutions, both Protestant and Catholic, is the presence of a large number of male or female assistants in the large establishments. These young men and women belong to the different institutions of brothers and to the Deaconess Institutions of Germany and other countries. They are prepared, theoretically and practically, to fill the posts of the different branches of the Inner Missions; as, for instance, superintendents of reformatories, warders in prisons, managers in poorhouses, city missionaries, superintendents of orphan asylums, nurses in hospitals, teachers in infant schools, &c.

DEACONESS INSTITUTIONS.

The whole number of these institutions in the Protestant world is at this time 34—in Prussia, 10; in France and Bavaria, 3 each; in Switzerland, Baden and the United States, 2 each; in Great Britain, Wurtemberg, Hanover, Holland, Russia, Hesse Electorate, Hesse Darmstadt, Saxony, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, other German States and Free Cities, one each. The number of Deaconesses in active service at the close of 1864 was 1,600. They were engaged at 390 different stations throughout the world. The contributions for the support of these 34 institutions amounted to $280,000 in one year.

TRAINING SCHOOLS.

Besides the Deaconess Institutions there are about ten institutions for the training of female teachers for infant schools, and nurses in hospitals for children. There are in existence 16 institutions of Brothers or training schools for young men for the work of Inner Missions. Probably from 1,200 to 1,500 young men have been thus prepared for the work, and are all more or less in active service.

Thus, there are some 60 institutions in Europe in which young men and women are trained for future duty with infants, orphans, vagrant, vicious and criminal youth—with the sick and the prisoner, with the idiotic and the feeble-minded. [There are in Europe about 30 institutions for idiots, cretins, &c.] Of these 60 establishments, with one or two exceptions, all are Protestant institutions, and entirely dependent on private charity. "Out of them," says Mr. Hall, "have come from 3,000 to 4,000 laborers to enter the great contest with poverty, depravity, vice and crime: to pour the oil and wine into the wounds of our social life. Faith in Him who has given his life for all has supported and strengthened them. He also has crowned their silent labor with wonderful success. Eternity alone will reveal their work, who, out of love to Jesus, have spent their life in serving those in whom he was hungry and sick and a prisoner. Looking at the wants of society around us, with these facts before our eyes, he adds, "let us obey the words of our blessed Saviour, 'GO AND DO LIKEWISE.'"

OUR JUVENILE REFORMATORIES—THE CONGREGATE AND THE FAMILY SYSTEMS—THE STREET CHILDREN OF NEW-YORK.

From Our Special Correspondent.

BOSTON, June 6, 1866.

An able paper was read by B. K. Pierce, Chaplain of the New-York House of Reformation on the adoption of the Congregate System for juvenile offenders in dense communities. It was very long, but the great interest taken in this topic by earnest men everywhere, induces me to try to give all its leading points by the sacrifice of its rhetorical amplifications.

The family system for reformatories has been successful in Europe and America. It accords more with the order of nature. Private reformatories founded by men who have had a genius for this work, has always been successful. Such persons, when found, should be liberally aided. Local charities might profitably be aided in part from the public fund, leaving the remainder to be raised by voluntary benevolence. This would secure a more thorough and careful inspection of the whole field of juvenile neglect, and awaken and attract the sympathies and energies of the benevolent in all parts of the State. Orphan and Half-Orphan Asylums, Magdalen and Temporary Homes, News Boys' Lodging Houses, and the emigration of children to the West, are accomplishing an untold amount of good.

But the large influx of foreign poor, with poor blood, low moral culture, habits of indolence, and in want, will continue to increase the numbers of juvenile offenders after all these agencies have done their utmost to save them. These children, first brought to our notice as offenders, must be cared for in some way or the the sources of crime will never be closed.

Of those arrested there will be boys of 16, often of 18, but still wearing a youthful aspect, and giving some promise of redemption under wholesome influences; some of 12 and 14, who have committed quite serious crimes, such as grand larceny, burglary, arson, forgery, and assault with dangerous weapons. "*To send these boys to the Penitentiary is to deliberately give them over to ruin, and to entail upon the community the frightful tax of a life of crime.*" They cannot be sent to a family at once. They would escape if admitted. Positive restraint is necessary to prepare the way for the discipline of love, education and piety. The arrangement of various divisions readily secured in large establishments defends younger and softer boys from the possible injury of contact with those more confirmed in criminal habits. Many of the boys go forth from the Congregated Refuge to a life of crime and to the suffering of its penalties; but the overwhelming majority of even these mature boys turn out well. The evidence on this point is voluminous and decisive.

Another very considerable portion of juvenile offenders, not finding legitimate discipline in other institutions, are boys of from 14 to 18, of respectable parents, who have been led into positive crimes by vicious companions. To these unmanageable boys, the humble garb, the plain fare, the daily labor, the positive discipline, have in a large number of very trying cases been exceedingly efficacious. A year of such training with constant moral influences operating upon the mind, has often resulted in a permanent reformation.

Another and large class affording subjects for congregate institutions is the foreign childhood that floats along the streets and docks of the city—vagabondish, thievish, familiar with the vicious ways and places of the town; in rags, living in dirty and often vile resorts, having no education, knowing no Sabbath, and with lips friendly to oaths, but strangers to prayers. Their name is legion. They pass the night, many of them, in boxes and old sheds and wherever they can find a shelter. The money they earn or steal is expended in low theaters or in drinking saloons, and boys, of a most immature age, are found bearing the marks of vices that seem only possible to adults. Something more than shelter is necessary. Two-thirds of our (New-York) city boys have, at some time, availed themselves of the opportunities of the News Boys' Lodgings. Family institutions cannot be multiplied with sufficient rapidity near dense populations to meet the requirements of this class. These form the breeding sources of crime, but when these festering rags are shaken up, after a period of discipline, often bright, capable, and trustworthy boys are found to have been in them. Many of them have no love of country life, and would run away if placed on a farm, but do well when sent to a trade. The majority are distributed over the country and placed in the very best institution on the family system—in a farmer's family with this one boy to be trained in it.

The records of the largest institution in the country, and probably in the world, whose inmates have all been received through the country, show that the number of those known to do well after their discharge *far exceeds* the number that do ill. At this time, when its numbers are 50 per cent greater than heretofore, there are more perceptible evidences of the presence of a strong moral influence among the inmates than for many years since. In all this time there is no recorded instance of one dating his ruin to intimacies formed in the Home, or of combinations to commit crime after discharge. This plainly shows that what may be considered the incident evils of a congregate institution may be very largely controlled.

It is not, however, deniable that boys should remain long. In Europe they are expected to learn their trade here; but in America, where the demand for even unskilled labor is so great, they should be intrusted to farmers and others who are ready to receive them as soon as their habits are sufficiently formed—especially when, by the terms of the indentures, they can be recalled at any time. When children are intractable, a long stay in an institution rather confirms them in the temper than cures them of it. They should be given repeated chances of improvement by being tried in different families. Institution life should be as limited in all cases as it can conveniently be, consistently with the results it seeks to accomplish, and then the children should be sent forth to the best homes that can be secured for them.

Even the family system after all is a make-believe family. If the introduction of a step-father into a family circle so often breaks its power of love over a child, we can readily see how almost impossible it is, by any artificial arrangement, exactly to renew the natural relation.

Institution life should not be made so desirable that it should be preferred to an ordinary Christian home. A House of Refuge should be to the child what New Hampshire was to Webster—a good place to emigrate from, and a delightful place afterward to visit.

The positive advantages of a large reformatory in a dense community, are, that from its extensive resources—sanitary, educational, industrial, and moral—to receive a large number at any given time, a great diminution of juvenile crime may be secured in that vicinity; that it enables the reforming genius, when found, to have a large field for the exertion of his powers; and that it offers a great opportunity for systematic labor.

Mr. Pierce enlarged on each of these three advantages; but I have no space to present a larger abstract. One or two index sentences must suffice.

"If you give these boys simply a higher form of education, you have only increased their ability to improve themselves and the community; but if you break up that terrible habit of indolence (which they all have), start into life the sluggish blood in their veins, and turn the face and heart toward the Heavenly Father in prayer, you have surrounded them with the best defences against temptation. There are certain ruinous habits that prey like wolves upon this class of children, that yield to no treatment so soon as regular and hard work in connection with moral and religious instruction. Hard labor subdues the appetite and makes sleep welcome in the instant that the weary body touches the bed. If a love of labor is not formed the experiment of reform has failed."

A discussion followed on this paper. Several Boston gentlemen argued ably in favor of the family system, and sought to show that it accomplished every good result of the congregate system, while it also avoided its evils. "Young Arabs," under the family system, were taught to love the country. All the speakers (men of experience in juvenile reform) united in indorsing the excellence of labor as a reformatory agency. It came out that "genteel notions" put into the heads of Reform-School girls, had taught them to "feel above labor," and this led to their subsequent ruin. All agreed in the eminent practicability of reforming juvenile offenders of all classes.

To-day the Convention went to the Boys' Reform School at Westborough.

Bridging Broadway.

At the meeting of the Board of Aldermen to-day, the Special Committee of the Board appointed to receive proposals for building an aerial bridge over Broadway and Fulton-st., will, by their Chairman, Alderman Loew, submit their report on this matter, which has been before the Committee for over three months. The Committee having received a large number of plans and suggestions, have, it is understood, agreed upon one which will be at once cheap, neat and durable.

Below we give a plan of the bridge which the Committee have selected. There will be cast-iron posts on each side of the four corners of Broadway and Fulton-st., about 15 inches in diameter, with ornamental bases, &c., each forming lamp-posts. The posts are to be the main support of the bridge, by lattice girders made of wrought iron, crossing Fulton-st.; the girders will support three tension-rod girders, crossing Broadway at right angles to Fulton-st. There will be four flights of stairs, five feet wide, one at each of the four corners of the streets, with panels and lamp-posts at the bottom, and also fancy iron railings at each side, continuing up and over each street. The platform of the main bridge will have a slight curve to shed the rain-water to the four corners. This platform is to be made of chestnut plank, caulked and rendered perfectly water-tight, and will be 14 feet wide and run the full length of the bridge across Broadway, intersecting with the platforms crossing Fulton-st. The bridge is to be so arranged that pedestrians can cross either Broadway or Fulton-st. The hight from the curb of the street to the under side of the bridge will be about 16 feet. The bridge will be capable of sustaining a weight of 100 tuns, but should it be crowded to its utmost by pedestrians, the weight will not exceed 10 tuns.

The Legislature of last Winter caused the sum of $15,000 to be inserted in the Tax Levy for this work; the Committee have given the matter a long and careful consideration, and all that remains now is for the Common Council to push the matter forward rapidly.

DISHONEST CLERK.—Ludolph Friedman was on Saturday night arrested by Officer Tilton, of the Sanitary Police, on the complaint of his employer, Solomon B. Harnberger, the proprietor of a boot and shoe store at No. 197 Avenue A. The complaint states that he has recently ascertained that for the past two months the prisoner has at various times stolen ladies' gaiters to the amount of over $200, and disposed of them to one John Leittier, who would call at the store and take the stolen articles without exciting suspicion. Leittier was also arrested. None of the stolen property was recovered. Yesterday Friedman was committed for examination by Justice Mansfield. Leittier was held to bail in the sum of $500 to answer the charge of receiving stolen goods. He is a native of Germany, aged 36 years, a shoemaker, and resides at No. 235 Avenue B.