Sunday Globe.

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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

CEREALS AMONG THE CLOUDS

EUROPE Admits That It Has but Little Grain, and WE Must Supply the Impoverished Country From Our Groaning Granaries.

MUST Is the Word--Let It Be Repeated--It MUST Have Good American Grain, and We Are Willing to Let It Go.

HAVE No Fear That We Will Sell Too Much AND Run on the Rocks of Starvation at Home, Sweet Home.

OUR Northwest Has Millions of Bushels and WILL Divide With Its Transatlantic Neighbors On a Strictly Cash Basis.

GOLDEN Grain Is Worth Golden Dollars, and We HAVE No Conscientious Scruples Against Making an Exchange of Commodities.

GRAIN Goes Soaring on the Chicago Board, and ITS Movement Skyward Is Unchecked by Reports of Great Crops.

AND, All in All, Farmers Will Be Happy, and GOLD Will Flow Into Their Coffers in a Big Round Stream.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—The local dealers in cereals completely lost all control over the wheat, corn and rye markets this morning, and many times during the day they as clearly lost control over themselves. No such excited scrambles have been seen in the Chicago wheat pit since B. P. Hutchinson ran his corner in that cereal in the fall of 1888. Outside dealers were as much at sea as the Chicago speculators. Hundreds of messages were received by commission men from clients in the country, inquiring "what do you think of the market?" but the blind could not lead the blind, so each one was allowed to grope for himself. The story is only barely indicated by the closing quotations, which show 8⅝c advance in wheat, 8c in rye and 6¾c in corn.

Buyers Go Crazy.

The excitement which characterized trading yesterday was quadrupled at the opening to-day. December, which was being traded in at 99⅞c at 1:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon, was wanted by hundreds of bellowing bulls and roaring bears at from $1.01⅝ to $1.03¼ the moment the bell tapped for the opening of trade at 9:30 o'clock this morning. Business for about a minute was done on an enormous scale at from $1.03 to $1.02¾, and then for a matter of five minutes the crowd made a unanimous rush to sell, and the price tumbled to $1.01⅝. Its stay at the latter point was short. The same unanimity which had for a few minutes been in favor of the selling side now changed, and it rose to $1.02, at which point sellers entirely withdrew until apperently crazy buyers had advanced their bids to $1.05. Some sales at that time were made as high as $1.05¼ before it once more began to recede. The reaction following the latter bulge stopped when it had got down to $1.03¾. The market acted exceedingly firm, with an upward trend, reaching to $1.04½ and back again to $1.04 a few times, and then, as on the preceding bulge, the entire pitful of perspiring, haggard and excited brokers yelled their bids, and as nothing but higher and still higher prices could induce any one to sell, bids of $1.05, $1.06, $1.07 and finally $1.08 were thundered simultaneously from

500 Husky Throats

with very little secured as the price shot up. There was a feeling that after such a panicky advance the worst was over for the shorts, for this eventful day at least. Comparative quiet succeeded, and the prices once more began to sag, but short sellers had received such a cruel experience in the earlier stages that the only parties who offered stuff toward the close were those who had it previously bought, and thought well of the profit offered to them. Many of the most excited traders could not have given a coherent account of the cause of all the turmoil, but, sifted of the whirling clouds of dust which obscured everything except the fact that the market was in a tremendous state of nervous panic, the situation seemed to be this: Domestic and foreign markets were all feverishly higher; the short rye crop in Russia; the excitement in the German rye market over the Russian prohibition of rye exports; a report that the cereal crop of Austria-Hungary, was heavily deficient; the shortage in the wheat crops of France and India, all pointed to a shortage in the world's breadstuffs. London was up one shilling on cargoes for prompt shipment; Liverpool was one penny to two pence higher and quoted strong and advancing. Then a report was put in circulation that James R. Keene, of New York, backed by a big Eastern syndicate, was running a bull campaign in wheat. The memory of his last corner here in 1877-78, when he held wheat up in the neighborhood of $1.40 for a long time, came to

The Perspiring Shorts

as a frightful nightmare, and, rather than take any chances, they ran to the nearest cover, regardless of the cost. Early reports from New York that foreigners were selling heavily caused a change of sentiment; wheat was thrown overboard in blocks, and the price broke as indicated above. By the time $1.08 was reached the excited shouters began to lose their breath and to realize that the short Saturday session, ending at noon, was drawing to a close, and that it would be a good time to even up trades, in view of the intervening Sunday. During this process December declined to $1.05½, gradually recovered, and closed at $1.06⅛. At various times during the day it was said that B. P. Hutchinson was again in the saddle; that he had been right on wheat and corn for some time and that he had made a lot of money and was giving the boys in the pit another taste of his tactics; that Pardridge, after his recent heavy fall, had again plucked up courage and that he had been a heavy seller above $1.03. This would have been an exciting day for speculators in grain if even wheat had remained stationary. Corn was only of secondary interest to-day, because as a rule the crowd trading in it is smaller than that in wheat. The fluctuations were frequent and of sufficient severity to be called sensational, and, as in wheat, the trend of prices was strongly upward. September, which at one period of the session sold as low as 59⅝ cents, only

Reached Its Pinnacle

when it touched 65⅛c, and it stood at 62½c at the close of the session, or 2¾c above the point it stopped at yesterday. The advance was due for the most part to the excitement in the wheat market, and that was taken advantage of by those who are working the bull side of the deal. It was said that Hutchinson, now in New York, was on the bull side of the corn deal also. Oats hardly kept pace with other cereals, the net gain amounting to only ¾@⅞c. The news of the German excitement in rye set the market to jumping here. No. 2 cash, starting at 97c, sold up to $1.04, closing at $1.03½; September started at 99c and sold to $1.04. During the past week there has been 30c advance, and yet the demand is unabated. Since yesterday's closing cash rye advanced 10c; August, 10c; September, 8c; and October, 8½c. The provision market was firm, but appeared to draw its support mainly from the tremendous advance in corn and wheat. The receipts of hogs were lighter than had been looked for and the prices higher, which was the only other independent source of strength. The opening prices showed considerable advances. After half of that early gain had been dropped, there was another and a heavier advance toward the middle of the session, but in the end the price worked back to about the opening point and closed about so. The gains since yesterday are: Pork, 17½@25c; lard, 5@7½c; and ribs, 5c.

WILD AND HIGH.

Riches in Calls—Brokers Paralyzed by the Whirl.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—Wheat is indeed booming, as well as the crops of this country, with prospective shortage in all Europe. December, which reached $1.08 on the regular board to-day, sold this afternoon on the curb at $1.10. Later on "calls" were quoted at $1.14, and sold as high as $1.18. Of course, these are not marked figures, but they serve to show the frame of mind the traders are in after this exciting week. It was thought by brokers on the board of trade that Friday was a busy day, but before to-day's session was over the preceding one had sunk into insignificance. It was one of the wildest days ever known on the floor. December touched $1.08, greatly to the consternation of the bears. They were partially prepared for the great boom yesterday, but when the bulls took hold this morning and sent prices up with a frightful rush the "short" element was simply dumfounded.

The bears had said last night that $1 "must be the climax: now let's jump in in the morning and smash things." They did make any number of vigorous attempts to do this, but the final result was not very encouraging to them. With all sorts of good argument to advance, the bulls were not to be routed. Such jumps in figures as were witnessed to-day had not been seen since B. P. Hutchinson's famous September corner in 1888. It was only for a short time that the price maintained itself at $1.08. The bears soon rallied, and with a mighty onslaught bore down the price to $1.05½. They could not hold it there, however, and when the session closed at 12 o'clock the figures stood at $1.06⅛.

Before the board opened in the morning there was a great deal of suppressed excitement. On the curb at 9 o'clock $1.02¼ was freely offered, the cable bringing the information that the price had advanced 2 cents at Liverpool owing to speculation. The reports of short European crops and prospective famine in Russia, Germany's demand, and the confident spirit of all the bulls affected the curb dealers, while on the open board the price was $1.02½ before the big board opened. At 9:30, when trading began, the wheat pit was filled with traders and the excitement which characterized yesterday's session was quadrupled. When the gong, announcing the opening of the day's business rang out, a mighty yell went up.

It was impossible for some time to tell what the price of wheat really was, for there were a half dozen different prices yelled out in different portions of the pit, ranging from $1.01⅝ to $1.03½. "It was simply a matter of take what you can get, and take it quick," said one trader, as he emerged from the throng of screaming, struggling men. After a time the excitement settled down a little. The traders began to realize where they stood, and that the real prize was about $1.02½. For a couple of minutes business was done in an enormous scale and the bears made frantic efforts to push the figures down. They could not do it. European buyers at New York began coming in strongly; the bulls rallied with a whoop, and then came the wildest market seen in years.

Wheat went up and down in big leaps, going to $1.03½, and from that point to $1.05 almost in one bound. At $1.03½, "Ed" Pardridge came into the pit as a big buyer, but he could find no sellers. Nobody wanted to sell just then, and the price went at once to $1.05. There it hung; fell to $1.04 and bounded back and forth between the two figures for ten minutes. "Now the climax has come," shouted a gang of red-faced bears, "and we will simply knock the stuffing out of things." At it they went with battering rams. However, the climax had not come, and the battering rams did no good. Momentarily the price retreated, but then, like a balloon, it leaped to $1.05⅝, $1.06, $1.06½, $1.07, $1.07½, finally reaching $1.08, within half an hour.

All sorts of stories were flying about. A large number of traders talked about the shortage in Europe, and many others asserted their belief that "Jim" Keene, of New York, was responsible; that he was taking revenge for that experience in 1878, when his little flyer on the Chicago board of trade cost him several millions of dollars. Some said that Keene, Philip Armour and B. P. Hutchinson were responsible, and others that Keene was backed by a powerful syndicate of New York capitalists, and that Hutchinson is one of the leaders. There is nothing reliable about any of these rumors, and the fact remains that the market simply went wild to-day. During the last advance from $1.05 to $1.08 the scenes of confusion and excitement on the floor were indescribable. Every time there was an advance the bears got frightened and exerted every effort to unload at the top price for fear there would be a drop as sudden as the rise. Then, five minutes later, when the market had again advanced, the men who had sold were clamoring to buy back their wheat, and were willing to pay from one to three cents more than they had previously sold for. Over and over again this was repeated, and sellers lost enormous amounts, which they partly recovered by buying again.

From the visitors' gallery the wheat pit looked like an assemblage of dangerous lunatics. The men crowded together in a mass, discarded coats and hats and clawed each other like wild animals, while a constant and deafening roar, out of which no intelligible sound could be picked, rose to the lofty ceiling. Finally the bears made a last despairing effort and forced the price down to $1.05½. They could not, however, keep down the bulls, who were jubilant, and the close showed a recovery to $1.06½. After the market there were many traders who were frightened at the idea of holding wheat over Sunday at $1.06½. These timid ones do not seem, however, to have scared other traders for, as noted above, December went to $1.10 on the curb before 4 o'clock, and adventurous workers were slinging "calls" about at from $1.14 to $1.18. What Monday will bring forth is a matter of grave concern to many. The bulls are still talking of higher wheat and the bears are not saying much. One remarkable thing is that there have been no failures. Everybody got through the clearing house all right on Friday's business, but it is not unlikely that as a result of to-day's wild work some unlucky dealers may "go broke." Still, there was not even a rumor on the board at the close of trading of a prospective failure on the part of any individual or firm.

In corn and rye there was also much excitement to-day, largely in sympathy with wheat. September corn opened at 61 cents, and after dropping to a fraction over 59 cents it caught the fever and began toadvance. It got as high as 65½ cents soon after wheat reached the $1.08 mark, but before the close dropped back to 62 cents and closed a fraction over that figure. Rye had a celebration all by itself, the price being shot up from 96 cents yesterday morning to $1.04 at the close to-day. This is largely due to Russian prohibition of exports and Germany's loud wail over that and the shortage of their own crop.

One prominent wheat broker said this evening: "I can't pretend to predict what the future will bring forth. There are only 2,000,000 bushels in store here, but the past few days' dealings have spread over the lines from 7,000,000 to 8,000,000 bushels. The big selling is being done by foreign representatives at New York, and they appear to be ready to take every bushel that is offered. Yes, it would look as if the bulls were doing it all, but I can tell you very few bears are standing out, and the bulls are fooled about as much as the years. I think this flurry is due entirely to the condition of affairs abroad. However, ten days ago we laughed at our New York agent, who sent us telegrams intimating as much. His opinion has been fully verified." Another broker said during the excitement to-day: "Europe must have our wheat and we must and will have its gold."

NEW YORK GONE WILD.

Wild-Eyed, Long-Horned Bulls in Full Control.

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—The grain bulls went down into the produce exchange pit here to-day, and they butted the bears about until they felt weak and dizzy. To be sure, the latter braced up a bit at one time and ripped some streaks in the bovine hide, but they were sorry for it afterwards, for Mr. Bull would not have it. He got a horn in the bruin flank and tossed him up and around, and had fun with him until each was tired. On sales of 11,500,000 bushels in options, wheat prices to-day, in the short Saturday market of only one hour and a half, rushed up over five points at the produce exchange. The bulls were in full control. Cables reported all the foreign markets booming, too, on the news of the American rise. At noon, when the market closed, wheat for September delivery was selling at $1.13⅛ after a day of extraordinary nervousness. There was virtually no rye to be bought at any price.

The wheat market opened with shorts panic-stricken. They rushed and climbed, getting in out of the wet at 2⅝@3c advance from the close of last night. It was a short panic, started by disappointing cables to-day and Ernest Ford last night. He sent an order to St. Louis for 50,000 bushels on the curb and scared the shorts silly, thus advancing the price 1⅜c without a trade. This scare at St. Louis and an order to buy calls at Chicago scared calls thus from 97½c to 98½c. This morning the cables came in stronger than expected and the shorts could not hold themselves. It was the "now or never" act, and they all got in "now." There was a good deal of outside buying on the rise. The foreign markets were strong and two pence higher at Liverpool and six pence higher at London. Some rain was reported, but with all the foreign news foreign houses were not large buyers of wheat. In fact there was but fair trading for Europe on both sides of the market.

The advance in the price of rye abroad had some effect, and it is now over the price of wheat. There is a corner here, not artificial but natural, and rye has risen 30 cents per bushel in ten days. Parties here who have bought rye from the West on a c. i. f. basis at 25 to 30 cents lower price have been trying to get Western sellers to put up margins, but have not succeeded, and have invoked the power of the exchange to force this. Putting up margins has not been customary, however, and some doubt is expressed as to whether it can now be forced.

In the local markets September wheat opened with simultaneous sales ranging from $1.09½ to $1.10, as against $1.07⅞ at yesterday's close; all of the other options being similarly strong. December started at $1.11 to $1.12 against $1.09¼. Trading was enormous, and within an hour December touched $1.15, closing at $1.14¾, while September closed at $1.13¼. Corn and oats were not so excited as wheat, the more important cereal, but they, too, were firm to strong. The sales of corn in the one and a half hour's trading reached nearly one million bushels; oats, however, had sales of less than 100,000 bushels.

The most startling news of the morning was that Pardridge, who was short 10,000,000 bushels of wheat in the Chicago market, had been practically forced out of the business. Since he was compelled to cover, wheat has gone up five cents, and it was reported that he had barely escaped complete ruin. One of the largest exporters on the produce exchange, who returned last May from an exhaustive inspection of the grain fields of Europe, and has since been profiting by the information thus acquired, said to-day that the steady rise in values and the excitable condition of the markets was chiefly due to the ignorance of European commission merchants, who imagine that the deficiency in Russia would be made up by the American crop.

"We raise an insignificant quantity of rye for home consumption," he said, "and yet Europeans continue selling short for delivery on the false basis that they can get all they want from America. The next event will be an effort by the shorts to substitute wheat for rye and then, of course, wheat will go still higher. American speculators have also made a big mistake. Instead of acting upon the damage to crops abroad, they have been looking at the fine crops here. It is quite possible, however, that for the moment we are overdoing the market; that we will see higher prices before the season is over."

In some respects, it is said, the rye market during the past few days has never been paralleled. The bulls were losing money a month ago. Rye has gone up 20 cents a bushel in the past week, and of that advance 10 cents took place during the last two days. Five million bushels is the limit of possible exportation from this country. Wheat sold for export to Germany this morning at 196 marks, and rye at 210 marks per 100 kilogrammes. There is no price, said an old operator to-day, at which America can offer rye that Germany will not pay. The victims of the Russian czar's ukase must have it at any figure, and as proof of this fact it may be stated that one firm on the produce exchange cleared yesterday a profit of $8,000 on a single cargo of rye. This was on plain export trade and not on speculation. No such a thing was ever heard of before.

BALTIMORE WOUND UP.

Wheat From the West Cause the Excitement.

BALTIMORE, Aug. 15.—Offerings of Southern wheat to-day were much more liberal and considerably above the receipts the same day last year. The market, in full sympathy with the Western, ruled strong all the way from start to finish, three to four cents better, the trading accompanied with excitement, prices raging from 80 cents to $1.10. The sales were to shippers of bag and steamboat lots and cargoes to grade Steamer No. 2 red, $1.05; or No. 2 red, $1.09; fairly dry, $1.05 and $1.06; $1.03 for smutty and damp; rejected at $1 and $1.02; several lots and cargoes damaged at 80, 85, 90, 95, 97 and 98 cents.

The market for Western wheat was in a state of wild excitement—so great that it was at times difficult to tell what the prices really were. The market was compared to a runaway team, beyond reason, control or guess. This restricted business, as cool heads preferred to stop and wait a while. Cables were firm, but buyers held off and sent selling orders. Seaboard was simply wild, foreigners being big sellers, and commission houses and crowd got the wheat. The settling price was $1.12¼, against $1.06 yesterday. After call the market held very strong—spot, the month and September, $1.12½; sales of October at $1.13¼.

Corn, though heretofore neglected, received some attention, and with the advance, represents an increase of 3 cents. Rye, however, was almost unmanageable; sellors virtually making their own figures, which were decidedly higher, the rise being over 5 cents yesterday, making 20 cents advance for the week.

The excitement and movement in wheat were quite strongly reflected upon the market for flour, which was strong and higher, with a very decided improvement in the volume of recorded business. City millers promptly marked up their prices 25 cents per barrel; there is a fractional advance all through the list. But flour is still out of relation to the high price of wheat, and is really the cheapest breadstuff in the market.

QUAKERS AROUSED.

Wheat Sails Up to $1.12 1-2 and Closes There.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 15.—The wheat market was in a state of intense excitement to-day, and there was a scene at the commercial exchange of excited dealers who were watching prices advance five cents. This remarkable impetus given to the trade to-day was due entirely to foreign advices and to the shortness of the foreign crops. Cables constantly showed advancing prices and the New York market was reported "wild."

The combination of these several reports kept the market in a flurry, and everybody kept his eyes anxiously on the blackboard as the figures continued to rise from $1.07½ to $1.12½, at the latter of which figure the local market closed at noon. The New York market, however, advanced another cent after the noon hour, making the extraordinary jump of six cents during the day. "Up she goes" could be heard on the floor as the figures steadily advanced. The effect on the local market was to shut out the exporters who made very mild ventures on such an excited market. There is every prospect of a big business. The Pennsylvania railroad is making unusual preparations for carrying the big crop of the West, and Philadelphia will probably get a large share of the export.

EXCITED ALL AROUND.

New York, St. Louis and Kansas City in the Swim.

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—To-day was the most exciting day for a half holiday that has ever been seen on the produce exchange. There was only an hour and a half of business, and in that short time the sales of wheat amounted to 9,480,000 bushels. Trading all day was wildly excited. The first sales were small, at an advance of 1⅜ cents, and then jumped ⅛ cent at a time, and at the close an advance of 5⅜ cents was recorded.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Aug. 15.—The failure of John Thyson, an extensive operator on 'change, was announced after the close of the exchange to-day. "I do not know how I stand," said Thyson. "The trouble with me was I had too many contracts on hand and I fell in the gap. I am not short. This is only a suspension. When I find out how I stand the matter will be straightened out." Thyson is one of the most prominent traders on the exchange, and rumors are flying thick and fast that a number of other well known firms were caught short in the bulge to-day. So far none of these rumors can be traced to any definite authority, but there is not a doubt but that some were severely nipped.

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 15—The sensational advance in speculative grain markets caused almost a cessation of trading in the market here. The feeling among holders was very strong, and all sorts of prices were asked. The millers and elevator men both wanted to buy, but would not make the concessions demanded by the holders. On the call, cash No. 2 hard, which closed yesterday at 86½c bid, was offered at 97c, and 94½c was bid. The closing prices were: No. 2 hard, cash, 94½c bid; August, 94½c bid; September, 94c bid; No. 2 red, cash, August and September, 95c bid. Corn stronger; No. 2 cash, 54½c bid; August, 54c bid; September, 53@53½c. Oats higher; No. 2 cash, 27@27¼c; August, 27@27¾c; September, 27c bid.

A GREAT SHOWING.

Condition of Crops in All Parts of the Union.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—The following is the weather crop bulletin issued by the weather bureau: The week was warmer than usual, except in the upper Missouri valley and over the southern and central plateau regions. The excess in temperature was greatest in the Northern states east of the Mississippi, where the daily average temperature was about six degrees above the normal. In Montana and West North Dakota the week was cool, the daily temperature ranging from four to eight below the normal.

Rainfall—The rainfall was greater than usual over the upper Mississippi valley, in the lower lake region, the upper Ohio valley, in Northern Texas, and the southern portion of the South Atlantic states. There was also an excess of precipitation from Western Kansas northward to South Dakota. The seasonal rainfall continues in excess from Alabama northeastward to New England, and from Texas northward to South Dakota. In the central valleys the seasonal rainfall generally exceeds 80 per cent of the normal, except in south and west portions of Louisiana, where about 60 per cent of the normal rainfall is reported.

New England—Drouth is severe in central and southeastern portions; pastures suffering; wells and cisterns very low. Corn has grown well. Potatoes promise a large yield, and there is but little rot reported; tobacco promises an excellent crop.

New York—The oat and barley harvest is progressing favorably, with a large yield in prospective. Corn growing fairly well; potatoes locally damaged by rot.

Pennsylvania—The warm, bright weather has been partially favorable for farm work and has advanced all growing crops. Corn is excellent; potatoes are the finest for years. Fruit of all kinds has seldom been as plentiful.

New Jersey—Conditions have been most favorable for corn, vine truck and fruits. Some local damage done by hail and high winds, prostrating corn.

Maryland—The weather conditions have been generally beneficial to all crops, except to corn in eastern portion of state. Fruits and vegetables are abundant.

North Carolina—Favorable conditions prevailed. Cotton is large and thrifty and is fruiting better, though there is some shedding. Corn continues to improve and is excellent.

South Carolina—Early cotton is in fine condition in eastern and southern counties, but inferior in northern and western sections. Late cotton has little fruit.

Alabama—Cotton is opening rapidly in South and Middle Alabama, and is about the average, falling off from last year.

Mississippi—Conditions generally favorable, but cotton is late and needs warmer weather; it is shedding somewhat.

Louisiana—Cotton is in excellent condition and is opening in some sections; there is but little shedding. Corn is but little better than last year. Cane, rice and potatoes are doing well, and the outlook is exceedingly favorable in every respect.

Arkansas—Weather favorable for all crops. Cotton shows slight improvement, and corn and other crops in splendid condition. Continued warm, dry weather needed.

Tennessee—Late corn and other growing crops need rain badly. Tobacco is not developing owing to drouth; some early tobacco is being cut. Cotton is fruiting well, and the warm, dry weather was beneficial.

Kentucky—The hot, dry weather has been detrimental to corn and tobacco, and the latter will not be more than three-fourths of a crop. Fruit is abundant. Hemp promises well.

Ohio—Corn continues to promise well, but has suffered some from drouth, as have potatoes and pastures; the oats yield is large.

Michigan—More rain is needed for corn and potatoes. Young clover is suffering from dry, hot weather.

Illinois—Crop conditions greatly improved. Corn will be a heavy crop if not injured by frosts. The soil is in excellent condition for fall plowing.

Indiana—The rainfall was very badly distributed and was generally deficient. More rain is needed to insure a good corn crop in the greater portion of the state.

Iowa—Corn is improving rapidly. Grain in stacks is sprouting on account of excessive moisture; some damage is reported in localities by excessive rains, accompanied by hail and high winds.

Wisconsin—In the southeast and central counties potatoes and corn are almost a total failure. The drouth is also severe in the eastern and northwestern counties. In the northeast counties everything promises well. Tobacco will be a fine yield; corn is rather poor.

Minnesota—Harvesting has commenced north, and is under way or dearly completed in southern portion. Rain is needed in southeast counties for corn, flax and potatoes. Some damage by hail is reported from localities in central and extreme southeast counties. Corn continues improving.

North and South Dakota—Harvesting has commenced generally throughout the north. Some damage is reported from lodging and by heat and local hail storms. There has been ample moisture for corn. Flax, potatoes and beets are doing well in South Dakota and steadily gaining on the season. Haying is completed.

Nebraska—The warm, dry and sunshiny weather was very favorable to the agricultural interests. Corn has made rapid progress and has attained a large growth of stalk that is earing well. The crop continues decidedly backward, however.

Missouri—Local rains have partly relieved the drouth in southeast counties, but many localities in the central and southeast sections are suffering greatly for rain. The conditions were favorable to crops in the northern counties.

Kansas—Conditions beneficial, except in southeast counties, where no rain fell. Flax harvest about ended. Corn in excellent condition; new corn in market in Chautauqua county.

Two Chicagoans Killed.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—William Clark and John Budawasch were fatally and John Gilout seriously injured this evening by the falling of an elevator in Libby, McNeil & Libby's canning house. The wire cable broke while the elevator was decending from the top floor.

A Depot Demolished.

TIFFIN, O., Aug. 15.—This morning at Attica station, on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, a freight collided with a local standing at the depot, while running at the rate of twenty miles an hour. The depot was demolished, three cars being thrown through it. One engine and a dozen cars were wrecked. The fireman was seriously, and several others slightly hurt.

FELL FROM BALLOONS

A Female Aeronaut Dashed to Death at an Ohio Picnic.

Her Parachute Failed at the Critical Moment in the Descent.

When 2,000 Feet in the Air a Male Balloonist Falls Out.

Cyclonic Storms in Several States--Boy Almost Buried Alive.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 15—One of the attractions at Coney Island this afternoon was a balloon ascension by Miss Annie Harkes, whose home is in Terre Haute. The young lady had acquired some distinction as an aeronaut, and had made a number of daring parachute descents from balloons. This afternoon a large crowd of pleasure seekers thronged the grounds to witness the ascension. At the appointed time the young lady came forward and stepped into the car. The ropes were loosened at once and the balloon rose rapidly. The eager throng stood with bated breath gazing upward at the daring aeronaut. The hum of excitement grew louder as preparations for the descent were made. At an elevation of about 500 feet the parachute was let go. The buzz from the gazing multitude was at its height. The onlookers watched with trembling delight as the parachute slowly began to unfold. Suddenly there was

A Dreadful Hush.

like the silence of death. The parachute had closed, and with its human burden was falling with frightful velocity. Then the silence was broken by the shrieks of fainting women, of children wailing and crying, and men turned away their faces to shut out the awful sight. Faster and faster fell the parachute. More intense and terrible became the strain upon the madly excited crowd, as, horror-stricken, it stood awaiting the fearful end. Suddenly there struck upon all ears a dull, sickening sound—the end had come. A life had gone out in the midst of pleasure. Quickly a sympathetic crowd gathered about the lifeless, mangled form of the poor girl as she lay in a crushed mass upon the ground. Blood spattered her gaudy clothing, and the wreck of the frail machine that had borne her to her death was drenched in her life fluid. Falling from that awful height she had been almost dashed to pieces upon the pike. Annie Harkes had made her last parachute descent.

A 2,000-Foot Drop.

TACOMA, Wash., Aug. 15.—Aeronaut Johnson fell from a balloon to the ground, a distance of 2,000 feet this afternoon, and was frightfully crushed. He died instantly. It is said he was intoxicated.

ELECTRIC CYCLONE.

Deadly Work of a Storm in an Indiana Town.

COLUMBUS, Ind., Aug. 15.—A fearful electrical storm swept over this county at 8 o'clock this morning. Five residences were struck by lightning. At Elizabethtown there was a cyclone. The large brick school building was torn down and ruined. The brick residence of Charles Scisco was torn away seven feet above the ground, and his son Ezra was killed. The father is probably fatally injured. Dr. Thompson was caught up out of his buggy and thrown against a fence, receiving a bad scalp wound. Charles McCally was struck by lightning and paralysed.

THE DEAD ALIVE.

A New Jersey Youth's Miraculous Revival.

NEWTON, N. J., Aug. 15.—William P. Ellet, son of H. M. Ellet, who lives near Branchville, Sussex county, was bitten by a rattlesnake some days ago and to all appearances died, and the preparations for his funeral were made. The doctors concluded to make a post-mortem and cut open a sore that had appeared under his arm. To their great surprise the young man began to show unmistakable signs of life and restoratives being applied he came to and is now getting well. The case has attracted widespread attention and hundreds of people have flocked to see the person who had such a narrow escape from being buried alive.

TRAVELING THIEVES.

Their Career Finally Leads to Murder.

GREENSBURG, Pa., Aug. 15.—Chief of Police Cannon, of Latrobe, this evening arrested Charlie Bruner, a thirteen-year-old boy, on suspicion of being implicated in the murder of Samuel Reese, at Ebensburg, Pa., last Thursday. In the presence of several witnesses the boy confessed to a full knowledge of the murder, saying that his cousin, Elmer Bruner, did the killing. Charlie says that himself, his cousin and a woman named Ann Jackson have been traveling together through Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York for several months, stealing horses and then selling the animals. On reaching the Reese residence, Elmer proposed burglarizing the house, and the woman keeping a look-out. Mr. Reese attempted to shoot Elmer, whereupon the latter shot the old man through the head, killing him instantly. Elmer then ransacked the house. Elmer and Miss Jackson went on to Wall's station, near Pittsburg, while Charlie intended remaining in Latrobe over Sunday. Chief Cannon has gone after Elmer and Miss Jackson, and will doubtless arrest them before to-morrow morning. The parents of Charles and Elmer are highly respected people and reside in Pittsburg.

VICIOUS SCOUNDRELISM.

An Ohio Town Terrorized by Lawlessness.

PORTSMOUTH, O., Aug. 15.—News has just reached here of three more incendiary fires Thursday morning at Rardon, a village of probably 200 inhabitants. There is a lawless element in that vicinity, and it is thought these fires are set by them to avenge themselves on those who voted liquor out of the place. The citizens of Rardon are in a state of terror. It was found yesterday morning that seven dogs had been poisoned the night before in the immediate neighborhood of the fires, and a fresh biscuit, split in two and nicely buttered, was found on the doorstep of one of the leading citizens, just where his little children would have picked it up. He brought the biscuit to a competent chemist, and the analysts showed the butter permeated with rough on rats.

HEAVY LOSS BY FIRE.

Norfolk, Va., Scorched by a Hot and Costly Blaze.

NORFOLK, Va., Aug. 15.—A fire in the business portion of the city, which started at 5 o'clock this evening, destroyed over $250,000 worth of property. The fire originated in the warehouse of the Norfolk Storage Co., at Church and Water streets, and burned down Water street to within a few doors of Market square. All the buildings on Division street, in the rear of Water street property, were also destroyed.

The list of firms burned out is as follows: American Fertilizer company, Imperial Guano company, Merchants and Farmers' Peanut company, Ætna Iron works, Lyman, Field & Co., grain dealers; Marshall Greenber, barrel manufacturer; Hammel & Hewitt, fish dealers; W. H. Nichols, restaurant; George W. Wilson and Frank Reed, barber shops, Rawlings, Whithurst & Co.; ice dealers; Hardy Bros. & Co., commission merchants; George W. Taylor & Co., ice and coal; W. H. Brown, restaurant; Clark & Smith, restaurant, and a portion of the wharf of the old Dominion Steamship company. It is impossible to learn the amount of insurance or to make an accurate estimate of the loss, as the fire is still burning, although it is under control at midnight.

TRICKY CHINESE.

Opium Labels Forged in Large Numbers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 15.—Revenue officers last night seized in Chinatown 10,000 forged labels similar to those used in distinguishing manufactured opium which was held by Chinese ship owners. Prior to the passage of the McKinley bill genuine labels all bore the stamp of Assistant Revenue Officer Thomas, and he pronounced the stamps seized last night to be forgeries. Wong Lee Ong and two other Chinese were arrested as forgers on strong circumstantial evidence. To-day an extensive raid was made in Chinatown and over $150,000 was taken to the custom house for examination as to the genuineness of its labels, to be returned to owners. Had the forged labels been used successfully it would represent a loss of about $30,000 to the government.

A SHE DEVIL.

Inciting Men to Fight, She Takes a Hand.

CORNIE, Ill., Aug. 15.—Last evening, at Texas City, Mike Weitzel, of this place, Otis Johnson, a lad of seventeen, and Mary Ballantine, a notorious woman, were riding on the top of a caboose on the Big Four road. A remark from the woman precipitated a quarrel. Weitzel attacked Johnson with a club, and the latter disemboweled his opponent with a knife. The woman struck Johnson with a hatchet, cutting a horrible gash across the left side of the face, cutting off his upper lip and knocking out his teeth. Johnson was left at Texas City, and his recovery is doubtful. Weitzel was brought to this city, and will die.

A MINE SET ON FIRE.

Costly Machinery Ruined by the Blaze.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Aug. 15.—Fire almost completely destroyed the machinery of the mine of the new Pittsburg Coal and Coke company at Alum Cave, Sullivan county. There has been a strike at the mine for a week past, and it is thought the mine was set on fire after midnight this morning. The mine was worked by machinery which was of the costliest kind and the most complete of any in the state for handling coal and burning coke. The company estimates the loss at $100,000, with two-thirds insurance. It will be impossible to resume work inside of several months.

Three May Die.

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Aug. 15—Three of the victims of last evening's collision on the Reading road at Egg Harbor City are in a very bad condition. Mrs. Bowen, of this city, is so badly scalded and burned that she will likely die; Mrs. Meda Bethel, who was also severely scalded, is not likely to recover, and her death is momentarily expected; Henry Shaw, of Philadelphia, is in a very critical condition and will probably have his leg amputated.

Saved on the Brink.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Aug. 15.—David Jacobs and Mrs. Mary Johnson, who were sentenced to be hanged at Chesterfield yesterday for the murder of William Johnson, the woman's husband, have been reprieved by the governor until Friday, Sept. 4. The reprieve reached the sheriff after he had placed the prisoner on the scaffold, adjusted the ropes around their necks, and was ready to spring the fatal trap.

Slightly Mixed.

BESSEMER, Ala., Aug. 15.—The name of the day foreman at the Bessemer foundry is William Douglass. He is a white man. The night watchman is Will Douglass, a negro. Yesterday they had a difficulty. The white man claiming that the negro drew his pay. This confusion of names is thus responsible for the death of the colored William Douglass, who was promptly laid out by the white Douglass.

A Costly Absence.

BOSTON, Aug. 15.—This afternoon P. H. Green, proprietor of the jewelry story at No. 128 Cornhill street, on the second floor, left the store, and went down on the street for a moment. A thief entered the store, and stole about $800 worth of watches during Mr. Green's absence. The police were notified, and officers detailed to find the burglar.

A Wanton Murder.

EMPORIA, Kan., Aug. 15.—Last night "Bud" White went to the house of James Slosher, living three miles from here, called Slosher to the door, and shot and killed him. The assassin and his victim were both respected young men, and the cause of the murder is not known. White escaped, and is still at large. Slosher leaves a wife and three children.

Disorders in Crete.

LONDON, Aug. 15.—A dispatch from Crete states that there can be no improvement in the condition of affairs in that island under the Turks, certainly not under the present Vali Djevad Lipasha, who has so mismanaged things as to dissatisfy both the Christian and Musselman sections of the population.

STUBBORN MINISTERS

The German Cabinet Gives but a Small Measure of Relief.

Radical Editors and Socialists Ready to Reap a Rich Harvest.

Emperor William's Knee Is Improving, But His Temper Is Loaded.

Austrian Perfidy--Disorder Is Spreading Alarmingly in Crete.

BERLIN, Aug. 15.—Despite positive assurances to the contrary, it was generally hoped that the cabinet meeting announced for this afternoon would resolve on some reduction in the corn duties. It was hoped that the influence of Minister Miquel, who still strongly urges a reduction, would have the effect of persuading his colleagues to consent to such a measure. The result of the ministerial deliberations, as announced this evening in the Reichsanzeiger, shows that, although the government's decisions are modified, still they are determined not to reduce the corn duties until absolutely compelled to do so. The Reichsanzeiger says that in view of unfavorable prospects, owing to wet weather and the prohibition of the exportation of rye from Russia, the government has decided as an experiment to reduce freight rates on corn and mill cereals over the state railways by making a sliding scale. There is no alteration of rates on freights going lesser distances than 200 kilometres, but great concessions for longer distances. The reductions apply to rye, wheat, barley, oats, pulse, Indian corn, wheat flour and pulse shells. Although this concession will increase facilities of transport to

Distressed Provinces,

their want is an increased stock of grain. Advices from various parts of the country show that large importations of grain will be imperatively needed. The government evidently relies on America to supply the deficiency, but the public, and especially workingmen, are not so easily satisfied as to that. The radical press, in attacking the government, dwells on the probability that the corn syndicates of America are not likely to show much consideration to Germany if by withholding their grain they can force the markets and so get their own price. Letters from Vienna also indicate that although the official relations of Austria and Germany are of the most cordial nature, private individuals are not disposed to sacrifice probably exceptional business profits to mere sentiment. Gr