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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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January Weather.

Captain McAdie of the U. S. Weather Bureau has just issued his review of January weather in New Orleans for the last twenty-seven years, as compiled from the Weather Bureau records. The normal temperature for January is placed at 54 deg. F., and the warmest month was that of 1890, averaging 65 deg. F., while the coldest was 1886, with an average of 46 deg. F. 1890 will be remembered as one of the most productive sugar cane years in our annals. Doubtless this warm January was one of the causes, although we have always held that the chief cause of the exceptionally high yield that year was the distribution of the rainfall throughout the year just as the crops needed it. The coldest January, that of 1896, recalls the fact that ice, some two inches thick, was then formed on tolerably deep canals on the lower coast, and the minimum temperature of 15 degrees in New Orleans was surpassed by some of the records further up the river where, if we remember correctly, 10 deg. F. was reached. The highest temperature recorded was that of 82 F., January 7, 1890.

The average rainfall for the month has been 4.83 inches, and the greatest monthly precipitation was 11.15 inches in 1881. Many of our readers will remember January, 1881, as exceptionally rainy and thousands of acres of cane were left standing in the fields, and New Orleans was overflowed by back water about the same time.

Porto Rico Weather.

Capt. Arthur C. Hansard, manager of the Hacienda Perla, Province of Humacao, Porto Rico, has favored the Louisiana Planter with a meteorological record there for a number of years. The Hacienda is on the northeastern shore of the island, 460 feet above the sea. The average rainfall during the last two

and a half years was 123 inches, about twice as much as falls at San Juan, at the sea level, and about twice as much as the ordinary Louisiana rainfall.

February and March are the driest months. Heavy rains begin in May, a month earlier than in Western Cuba, continuing, with a slight weakening in June and October, until the end of the year.

The highest point reached by the thermometer at Hacienda Perla was 95 deg. F. in May, 1898; the lowest 61 deg. F. in January, 1897, and February, 1898. Capt. Hansard remarks that the highest, 95 deg. during May, 1898, was phenomenal, and occurred on only two days, and further, that he had only noted 92 deg. on two days and 93 on one day.

We are under obligations to Capt. Hansard for his interesting data, and presume that the coming years will bring Louisiana and Porto Rico into much closer relations.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

The January meeting of this association will be held at its rooms, No. 712 Union St., New Orleans, next Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

Doctor Stubbs will doubtless be on hand to explain the merits and demerits of the one hundred or more different varieties of sugar cane with which the meeting room is now decorated, and there having been no quorum present at the December meeting, the subject scheduled for discussion at that time, viz, "The Probable Effect of the Annexation of Spanish Colonies on the Sugar Industry of the United States," may be taken up. A number of other matters will probably be touched upon among them, perhaps, the important question of purchasing cane according to its saccharine contents, which one of

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our leading planters stated some few days ago he desired to see discussed by the association. This is certainly one of the most important questions confronting the sugar planting interests, and a full discussion of it by the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association would be timely and appropriate.

The Indian Rice Crop.

The English government reports on the rice crop prospects in fourteen of the chief rice producing districts of Lower Burmah have been made up to October 31. The total area under culture is now estimated at nearly six millions of acres, slightly over that of last year.

The crop prospects are said to be favorable, but the reports indicate that unless more rain falls soon serious injury may follow. The reports come from the Rangoon under date of November 11, and refer to that kind of foreign rice which constitutes the chief supply for the imports of foreign rice into the American market.

The Louisiana Sugar Crop.

The weather during the past week has been sufficiently dry to permit the fag end of the campaign to be conducted with a fair degree of smoothness. The majority of the planters have finished, and are contemplating the output of their factories a trifle ruefully, for which, in view of the small yields obtained, they can scarcely be blamed. The cane yet to be ground is reported to be showing deterioration, in some localities to a greater extent than in others, and some of it will be abandoned and left in the field, though it does not appear that this will be very generally the case, the factories even now working a large amount of cane of which the sugar contents is too small to justify its manufacture. The situation at present seems to indicate a shortage in the Louisiana sugar crop of about 25% as compared with last year.

The Shortage in the Louisiana Sugar Crop.

The season is now so far advanced, in fact so nearly completed, that it has become thoroughly manifest that the Louisiana sugar crop this season will fall from 25 to 40 per cent. below the

anticipated yield on all of those plantations where accurate records have been kept for years and where it is now possible to make very accurate estimates. We believe that the average deficit so far as the expected crop was concerned, will be fully 33 1/2 per cent.

It has been suggested in some quarters that there had been such a material increase in the acreage in sugar cane in Louisiana that even the reduced yield, the result of the exceptional weather that we have had during the past year, would not in the end materially reduce the crop. This expectation, we believe, is ill-founded. During the careful records that were kept of our acreage under the provisions of the bounty law it was found that the acreage in sugar cane was slow to increase. The preparation of new lands for cane culture is so expensive that an annual increase of 10 per cent. in the area planted can hardly be expected. We, therefore, have no idea that the increased acreage will in any manner compensate for the loss in the expected yield from the crop grown. We believe that an average loss from the expected yield of say 33 per cent., will result in a diminution of our total crop to the extent of at least 25 per cent, as compared with the results of the previous year. The sugar buyers who are expecting the Louisiana crop because of its magnitude to depress the markets of the world, will almost surely find themselves disappointed in the end, as the moderate crop now being produced is being rapidly hurried to market to pay the expenses of its production, and there will not be the usual reserves held in the country as during previous years.

The Value of Sugar Cane.

The low value of all sugar cane this year from a sugar house point of view, and the practical worthlessness to sugar houses of blown down, rooted and green canes, are rapidly opening the eyes of all sugar house managers to the necessity of some more equitable means of determining the true value of sugar cane so that equal justice can be done to the factory and to the producer. In another column in this issue will be found a communication from a correspondent of the Planter, in which this issue is taken up and a method of purchase described and

criticism thereon invited. In a multitude of counsel there is wisdom, and we shall hope that this subject matter, now of such vital importance to cane growers, as well as to the sugar manufacturers of Louisiana, will be thoroughly canvassed at an early date and some fairly equitable plan of sale and purchase formulated.

It is manifest that if factory owners cannot buy canes on an equitable basis they will prefer to grow them for their own account rather than to take the chances of paying a high price for a low grade of cane, as has been generally the case this year. The separation of the factory from the farm has been urged as a distinct element of progress in the sugar industry, and we should much regret to now see any retrograde movement. Certainly, however, our large factory owners will be unwilling to buy sugar cane on the somewhat haphazard plan hitherto adopted. There must be some assurance of a fair value in the cane, or its purchase will not be justified.

As we have repeatedly written in these columns, the natural line of division of the product of sugar cane in the past seems to have been that of half to the cane producer and half to the manufacturer. We believe that any definite plan must be founded upon some such division as this and that when either party gets more than his share discontent will surely result and the business be seriously injured, if not destroyed. We shall hope to hear from various correspondents upon this important subject.

Trade Notes.

Plantation by Auction.

We learn that the Repose sugar plantation, situated on the Mississippi river, in the Parish of St. Bernard, some nine miles below the city of New Orleans, will be sold by auction on Jan. 19th by that well-known auctioneer and real estate man, Mr. W. C. H. Robinson. This plantation contains about 709 acres of land, of which 230 acres are under cultivation, 440 acres are swamp land, and 39 acres are marsh. It has a frontage on the river of twelve arpents and adjoins that fine waterway, the Ship Island Canal. The Shell Beach Road runs through the property and a large frame dwelling house, stable and laborers' cabins are erected on the place, which includes, by the way, a strip of land two arpents wide extending from the Mississippi river to Lake Borgne. The terms are unusually

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liberal being one fourth or more cash, balance in one, two, three, four and five years at six per cent. interest per annum, payable annually. Purchaser is to assume taxes for 1899. Those of our readers who contemplate the purchase of plantation property should see Mr. Robinson at his office in the Hennen building, and he will be greatly pleased to give them full information regarding whole matter.

Additional Duties on Sugar Imported from, or the Product of, Countries Paying Bounties on the Export Thereof.

Treasury Department, December 12, 1898.
To officers of the customs and others concerned:

Section 5 of the act of July 24, 1897, provides as follows:

Sec. 5. That whenever any country, dependency, or colony shall pay or bestow, directly or indirectly, any bounty or grant upon the exportation of any article or merchandise from such country, dependency, or colony, and such article or merchandise is dutiable under the provisions of this Act, then upon the importation of any such article or merchandise into the United States, whether the same shall be imported directly from the country of production or otherwise, and whether such article or merchandise is imported in the same condition as when exported from the country of production or has been changed in condition by remanufacture or otherwise, there shall be levied and paid, in all such cases, in addition to the duties otherwise imposed by this Act, an additional duty equal to the net amount of such bounty or grant, however the same be paid or bestowed. The net amount of all such bounties or grants shall be from time to time ascertained, determined, and declared by the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall make all needful regulations for the identification of such articles and merchandise and for the assessment and collection of such additional duties.

In pursuance of these provisions, the following amounts of bounties respectively paid, or bestowed directly or indirectly, on the export of sugars, by the countries hereinafter named, are hereby declared for the assessment of additional duties on sugars imported from, or the product of, such countries or their dependencies, viz:

Argentine Republic.

On sugars produced in the country since January 20, 1897, and exported with benefit of drawback, 6 centavos per kilogram.

Austria-Hungary.

1. On sugar under 93 per cent and at least 88 per cent polarization, 1.37 florins per 100 kilograms.

2. On sugar under 99½ per cent and at least 93 per cent polarization, 1.46 florins per 100 kilograms.

3. On sugar at least 99½ per cent polarization, 2.10 florins per 100 kilograms.

Denmark.

On refined sugar produced wholly from beets grown in Denmark, 1.12 crowns per 100 kilograms.

France.

Raw sugars of the standard of 65 to 98 per cent for beet-root sugars, or of 65 to 97 per cent for French colonial sugar, per 100 kilograms of refined sugar, 100 per cent, francs 10.82.

Sugar candies calculated at their legal equivalent, per 100 kilograms, effective weight, francs 11.51.

Refined sugars in loaf or crushed, clear, hard, and dry per 100 kilograms, effective weight, francs 11.51.

Raw and refined sugars in grains or crystals of a minimum standard of 98 per cent, francs 11.17.

The output of refined sugar from raw is calculated by deducting from the polarization of the raw sugar twice the glucose, four times the ashes, and 1½ per cent for loss in refining.

Germany.

1. On raw sugar at least 90 per cent polarization and on refined sugar under 98 per cent and at least 90 per cent, 2.50 marks per 100 kilograms.

2. On candy and sugar in white, hard loaves, blocks, crystals, etc., at least 99½ per cent, 3.55 marks per 100 kilograms.

3. On all other sugar at least 98 per cent, 3 marks per 100 kilograms.

The Netherlands.

On raw sugar produced in the country from beets and testing less than 98 per cent, 2.2354 florins per 100 kilograms of hard refined (100 per cent).

On raw beet sugars testing 98 per cent or above, three-fourths of said bounty, viz, 1.7655 florins per 100 kilograms of hard refined.

On refined beet root sugars, .2946 florins per 100 kilograms of hard refined (100 per cent) in addition to the above bounties.

On refined sugar from other materials than beet root raw sugar produced in the country, .2946 florins per 100 kilograms of hard refined.

The output of refined sugar from raw is computed by deducting from the polarization of the raw sugar twice the glucose, four times the ashes, and 1½ per cent for loss in refining.

Russia.

On sugar testing not less than 99 per cent per pood (36.113 pounds avoirdupois), .50 rouble.

On sugar testing not less than 88 per cent per pood, .44 rouble.

On sugar testing not less than 75 per cent per pood, .38 rouble.

Every invoice of sugar must be accompanied by a certificate of the United States consular officer at the port of shipment to the United States, naming place and country where the merchandise was produced, and,

in the case of refined sugar, naming also the country of production of the raw sugar, molasses, or sirup used in refining.

The liquidation of entries of sugar not accompanied by such certificates shall be suspended, and the estimated duties shall include an amount sufficient to cover the additional duty to which such sugar may be apparently liable.

The conversion of the several foreign currencies mentioned above into United States money will be governed by the provision of section 25 of the act of August 28, 1894.

The question as to the net amounts of the bounties indirectly bestowed by the Government of Belgium on exported sugars is under consideration. Pending the ascertainment and determination of said amounts, entries of sugars imported from, or the product of, that country will be subject to the provisions of Circular No. 174, of October 19, 1897 (Synopsis 18481).

L. J. GAGE, Secretary.

The Purchase Price of Sugar Cane.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In making contracts for the purchase of cane for 1899, all factories will be forced to safeguard themselves against the possibility of making the heavy losses that they incurred this season, adhering to the contracts made under the prices which have been currently paid for cane during past years. Could we follow the rules governing purchases of cane in all other cane-growing countries, the solution would be easy. So much could then be paid for each per cent. of sucrose contained in the cane, but in Louisiana such a thing is impossible owing to the many difficulties with which any one who has had experience with laboratory figures in this state is familiar. Assuming, even, that a correct basis for determining the value of cane, based on sucrose, could be obtained, the great question and the hardest one to solve would be a fair basis for the sampling of cane for such analysis. Different parts of a cut produce cane of different degrees of ripeness. Canes on the headlands and ditch rows, according to our experience, show different sucrose than cane in the middle of the cut. The case is similar, also, where there is the slightest variation of soil or level of same.

The time is opportune to invite discussion on the subject, and we are willing to lead off and offer for criticism, our cane contract which in years past worked very well and met with universal satisfaction, but not yielding as much to the cane seller this season, has not been as popular.

The following is the basis upon which we have purchased cane for the last five or six years. The yield of factory and price of sugar are both considered, the former being determined by careful estimate made every week and subject to correction at end of season, when all sugars are worked over, and later, by weekly average price of prime yel-

low clarified sugars furnished us by the New Orleans Sugar Exchange.

When yield of dry sugar per ton is 125 lbs. we give the value of 75lb. prime yellow. For cane yielding more than 125 lbs. per ton, the following schedule of prices forms basis of settlement:

126 pounds per ton.....	75.25 pounds
127 pounds per ton.....	75.50 pounds
128 pounds per ton.....	75.75 pounds
129 pounds per ton.....	76.00 pounds
130 pounds per ton.....	76.25 pounds
131 pounds per ton.....	76.50 pounds
132 pounds per ton.....	76.75 pounds
133 pounds per ton.....	77.00 pounds
134 pounds per ton.....	77.25 pounds
135 pounds per ton.....	77.50 pounds
136 pounds per ton.....	77.75 pounds
137 pounds per ton.....	78.00 pounds
138 pounds per ton.....	78.25 pounds
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161 pounds per ton.....	86.00 pounds
162 pounds per ton.....	86.50 pounds
163 pounds per ton.....	87.00 pounds
164 pounds per ton.....	87.50 pounds
165 pounds per ton.....	88.00 pounds
166 pounds per ton.....	88.50 pounds
167 pounds per ton.....	89.00 pounds
168 pounds per ton.....	89.50 pounds
169 pounds per ton.....	90.00 pounds
170 pounds per ton.....	90.50 pounds
171 pounds per ton.....	91.00 pounds
172 pounds per ton.....	91.50 pounds

Above this, the value of one-half of one pound is allowed for every pound of sugar made by factory.

To enable besides some of our larger cane sellers to avail themselves of any rise in prices, we offer to store sugar for their account, instead of paying them for value of same at time of delivery; storage and other expenses are, of course, to be assumed by cane haulers.

We would like to hear from others on the subject, and we hope that by opening discussion, a basis can be reached upon which all contracts for purchase of cane can be made in the state and which will be equally fair to both buyer and seller.

We are yours truly,

Belle Alliance, La., Dec. 29, 1898. E. and J. K.

Magazine Notes.

The Political Science Quarterly, edited by the Faculty of Political Science, Columbia University, Vol. 13, No. 4, December, 1898, has come to hand with a most interesting

and valuable table of contents particularly applicable to the issues now before the country. Among the papers we find: Imperialism, by Prof. F. H. Giddings; The Federal Bankruptcy Law, by S. W. Dunscomb, Jr.; Railroad Control in Nebraska, by Prof. F. H. Dixon; Slavery in Early Texas II, by L. G. Bugbee; Land Tenure in Ancient India, by Prof. Washburn Hopkins; France of To-day, by Prof. J. H. Robinson; A study of Trade Unionism, by J. H. Hollander.

Among the reviews we note: Busch's Bismark, Maitland's Township and Borough, Molinari's Grandeur et Decadence de la Guerre, Lord's Industrial Experiments in the British Colonies, Ratzel's History of Man- kind, Vol. II, Mallock's Aristocracy and Evolution, Massachusetts Report on Relations between Cities and Street Railways, Willoughby's Workmen's Insurance, and others.

The Political Science Quarterly is published by Ginn & Co., Boston.

Seedling Canes in Louisiana.

Something more than passing interest attaches to the report of the Director of the New Orleans Sugar Experiment Station on the seedling cane experiments which he has recently been conducting. The report, which we reproduce elsewhere from the Louisiana Planter, supplies the most tangible evidences to the wisdom of the experiments which Dr. Morris proposes to conduct under the auspices of the new Imperial Agricultural Department of the West Indies. Dr. W. C. Stubbs, the Superintendent of the New Orleans Station, states that after a series of experiments extending over five years he has at last succeeded in developing from seedlings a cane of such pre-eminent merit that he enthusiastically recommends it to the planters of the State. The analytical table he gives quite justifies his commendation. The seedling has stood the test of a four years' trial, in each instance indicating a saccharine content superior to any ordinary cane grown under the same conditions. Taking the most favorable return yielded by a cane cultivated in the customary manner, there remains a substantial margin in favor of the seedling variety. It is true that the results are not quite so satisfactory as those obtained in this Colony by Professor Harrison. Dr. Stubbs's seedling gave a sucrose yield of 13.3 percent., whilst Professor Harrison has obtained a cane with a saccharine richness of 16 per cent. But there are several circumstances which discount the importance of this difference. In the first place, it is generally recognized that the soils of this Colony are much better adapted to cane cultivation than those of Louisiana and the Southern States of America generally, actual experience having proved that the same species of cane yields in Demerara higher percentage of sugar than in Louisiana. The margin of difference in favor of Demerara is fre-

quently more than two per cent. We may not unreasonably expect, therefore, that the seedling variety which the director of the New Orleans Station has experimented with would give a much higher saccharine return if introduced and acclimatized to this Colony. The New Orleans seedling has also this additional point in its favor—that it has sustained its superiority under the ordinary conditions of cultivation. It would seem therefore that the cane has its characteristics fixed and that it will not undergo deterioration when transplanted in diverse soils and in varying climates any more than such well-known species as, for example, the Bourbon cane. Dr. Morris's speculations on this subject, in his address to the Trinidad Agricultural Society recently, would have acquired a far greater practical interest if he had pointed to the results of the scientific efforts of Mr. Stubbs towards the improvement of the sugar cane. It is hardly possible that he could have been unacquainted with the details of these experiments, as he is known to be in close touch with the sugar experimentalists of the Southern States. Dr. Morris will no doubt fully avail himself of Dr. Stubbs's offer to supply specimens of his seedling, and will test its qualities in West Indian soils. Whatever is the result, it is evident that close scientific application to the propagation of seedling canes will eventually work an important improvement in the sugar-yielding capacity of the cane in these countries.—Demerara Chronicle Dec. 7.

Seedling Sugar Cane.

In his final address to the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society, President Duncan took the timely opportunity to refer to the experimental cane cultivation which is being carried on in the Botanic Gardens by Messrs. Jenman and Harrison, and to express his confidence that success will eventually crown the efforts that are being made to find and cultivate a cane superior to the Bourbon. Already some of the seedlings have shown themselves to be harder and to ratoon better than the old Bourbon, but conclusions must be arrived at cautiously and slowly. Some months ago when Mr. Jenman was distributing seedlings to estates, a well-known planter, of the progressive school, in writing to us, observed incidentally regarding the invaluable experiments that have been conducted in the garden for more than ten years past:—"Some of the seedlings have, in the experimental scale, taken on an average over 4 "or 5 years, yielded 40 per cent more sugar "than the Bourbon, and if this be confirmed "in practical working on sugar estates, we "shall soon be in a position to grow sugar "at a cent per pound." The same writer, as an instance of the numerous difficulties Messrs. Jenman and Harrison had to contend with in raising the seedlings, mentioned the fact that out of about 20,000 seedling plants collected last autumn, not more than about 40 survived the effects of constant rain, and blight, and insect pests. When Dr. Morris, who, it is said, is about to undertake experiments in raising cane seedlings, visits this colony he will have the opportunity of acquiring about the best and most complete information on this subject that the world at present possesses: and we are sure he will be grateful to the learned experts who, by long, weary years of waiting and watching, have amassed the information.—Demerara Argosy, Dec. 10.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

A couple of little rainfalls have occurred during the past week, but neither were of sufficient magnitude to interfere seriously with the prosecution of the harvest work on the plantations where the campaign is still in progress. Every day brings news of a wind-up at some factory in this section, and by the close of the current week probably not more than five houses in Ascension will still be in operation. Belle Helene, Hermitage and Houmas Central, on the left bank of the river, Germania and Palo Alto on the right bank will be the last to get through, and at least two of these—Palo Alto and Houmas Central—are booked to quit during the coming week.

New Hope finished grinding Monday night, cane from Col. J. E. St. Martin's places being the last to go through the big mill. The crushing of New Hope's cane was completed Friday, that of Ascension's cane Saturday, and then Manager Tucker combined forces with Col. St. Martin and gathered in the remnant of the latter's crop in short order.

Another return plate was fractured Monday morning, just for luck, but a new one was substituted promptly, frequent practice having enabled Engineer Stafford and his assistants to perform this particular job in record time.

The tonnage of cane ground by the New Hope mill this season was just about the same as that crushed a year ago, approximately 26,000 tons, but the sugar product is, of course, very much smaller—how much so is as yet a matter of surmise with your news-gatherer.

As before explained in this correspondence, the falling off in Ascension and New Hope's tonnage was compensated for by Col. St. Martin's increase, due to the preservation of his "expropriated" Bar Harber tract from overflow. This piece of reclaimed batture gave him 2,360 tons of cane, and he has good reason to feel that the \$4,000 he expended in enlarging and strengthening his levee after the high water of 1897, was not a bad investment by any means.

McManor concluded a very unsatisfactory campaign on Sunday, but the extent of her calamity must be relegated for the present to the realm of conjecture, as authentic figures are not obtainable.

Evan Hall is very near the stopping point and is in the same boat with McManor so far as general results are concerned. An approximate estimate of the output will doubtless be available for next week's Ascension letter.

Mr. Ernest H. Barton's St. Emma factory finished grinding 17,021 tons of cane Monday morning, and the sugar output, made and estimated was 2,007,131 pounds, an aver-

age of not quite 118 pounds per ton. The weight of cane ground exceeded that of the 1897 crop by 1,000 tons, but the sugar product was 300,000 pounds less. This is a fair illustration of the general outcome in this section of the sugar district.

Mr. Walter J. Bartor's Riverside factory concluded the work of the grinding season last Friday, and some account of the results reached there will be given next week.

Hannas Central will get through on or about the 10th inst., if no unusual occurrence prolongs their agony. The aggregate output of the Miles Company's factories—Houmas Central, New Hope, St. James and Armant—will fall something like 4,000,000 pounds short of the 18,000,000 product of their 1897 crop.

Hermitage will be going until the end of January, if the cane continues to give sugar that long, and if reports be true, the average sugar per ton of cane for the crop will reach that of Messrs. Lebernuth & Israel's fine Salsburg place in St. James.

Salsburg finished her work at 7:05 A. M. Tuesday, according to Accountant Alfred Schiller's official record, and the aggregate sugar output, estimating the residue in the hot room at the usual proportion, reached 3,693,750 pounds, the product of 25,570 tons of cane. The average per ton was therefore 144.4 pounds.

No meeting of the local Sugar Planters' Association was held Tuesday, owing primarily to threatening weather and the fact that some of the most prominent members were still engrossed with grinding afflictions.

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has been very fair for the past week, enabling the few who are in the toils to work along smoothly. Not more than a half dozen sugar houses are going now and these will probably have finished ere the week closes. The planters and tenants have been balancing accounts and the latter have no reasons for complaint, for we believe they have received full price for their cane some of which we know to have been worked up at a loss. The planters who have made a profit on this crop are few in number, but they are all full of hope for the future, trusting, that it will be many seasons before another '98 puts in an appearance.

Mr. Alcide Daigle, a prosperous planter of Dorceyville, was at Plaquemine, this week, and reports a heavy falling off in their crop. (Trahan & Daigle's Aloysia plantation) when compared with 1897. Then it was approximately 1,200,000 lbs. and now 750,000 from about the same acreage. Two reasons are assigned for the discrepancy, a thin stand in plant cane and an immature crop. Mr. Daigle says they windrowed some cane

before it was frozen and it kept excellently, and the quality of sugar was superior to that made last year.

Mr. Thomas E. Matthews, of Rosedale, who in the sale of his magnificent Trinity plantation last Spring to widow Joseph Webre, of St. James parish, reserved the crop of 1898, completed its harvest in a most successful manner and delivered possession of Trinity to her owner on the 31st ulto. Mr. and Mrs. Matthews have gone to New Orleans, and in a few days expect to leave for porto Rico.

Mr. S. V. Fonaris, Jr., of Regina, has secured a lot of seed cane from the Trinity plantation and will plant it on the Corinne plantation, formerly the old Lyle place, on Bayou Grosse Tete. There is no finer cane section in the state than the Grosse Tete lands and a certain fortune awaits the party who will build a central factory there.

Mr. C. Lucas Comeaux of cane planting cart fame, was at Plaquemine this week looking after infringements on his patent. Mr. Comeaux first worked his carts in this parish and they are used by a large number of our most successful planters.

Mr. Chris Devall, who managed Mr. E. M. Lefevre's Eliza plantation last year, has accepted a similar position on the St. Louis plantation of the Edward J. Gay P. & M. Co., Ltd., Plaquemine. As a planter and manager Mr. Devall has few equals in the state.

The Centennial plantation belonging to the late Chas. H. Dupuy and situate on Bayou Plaquemine, three miles from Plaquemine has been ordered to be sold in order to effect a settlement of his estate. Centennial contains a superficial area of 300 acres and will no doubt fetch a good price, as it is a fine tract of land with splendid facilities for selling the cane.

Mr. J. B. Proctor, of St. Mary parish, has sold his Grosse Tete land to Mr. Tilden E. Booksh of Regina. Mr. Booksh comes from a family who know how to make cane grow and this little place may be heard from in the future.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

After more than a week of good weather, the rains which have characterized the past six months resumed business Monday night as heretofore. This last bad spell is particularly untimely, as the public and plantation roads had just begun to dry up sufficiently to permit travel and traffic. All of the planters in this parish with the exception of four have finished and are, therefore, out of their troubles for the time being. These four are Levert's, Cinclare, Orange Grove and Smithfield. The first-named, I understand, will be grinding until the 15th or 20th while Cinclare will probably be busy much longer. Orange Grove

will finish in a week or so, but it is understood that Smithfield has considerable cane to be handled.

As to the general results of 1898 little or nothing can be added to what has been iterated and reiterated in this correspondence since the rolling season began. There is very little sugar in the cane. This has been the complaint from first to last. The improvement that was hoped for and expected in the middle of November never materialized. It goes without saying, therefore, that the cane now being handled is not in the pink of condition. One factory, I am informed, has not lately been getting over 100 pounds of sugar per ton. Another planter will lose about 100 acres of cane, which is in such a bad condition that it is thought best to abandon it. This, I believe, is the worst loss suffered by any planter in West Baton Rouge since 1877. The crop of 1898 was probably one of the most deceptive crops ever harvested. On the 1st of October the cane was large and gave every promise of giving an abundant yield both in tonnage and in sugar per ton. Never was a crop more disappointing. After the grinding season was well under way it was realized on all sides that the cane was deficient in tonnage and in saccharine content. This epitomizes the history of the crop of 1898.

Managerial changes on the various plantations are not very numerous so far. In this matter our planters are very conservative.

Mr. W. W. Weldon, who has been one of Poplar Grove's efficient field staff for several years, has removed to Plaquemine.

M. W. W. J. Pecquet, who has managed Homestead during the past two years, has accepted a similar position on Westover, and will be succeeded by Mr. Cooley, formerly of Smithfield. Things generally are very quiet just now in

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The new year was ushered in with ice and a temperature of about 27 degrees Fahrenheit, and dry weather, such that the public roads were dusty in places—something very unusual at this season of the year.

The absence of rainfall has been most fortunate for those having cane to grind. At one time in December it looked as if quantities of cane on some places would never reach the factory; but now there is every prospect that all will be delivered at the factories, although deteriorated in sucrose content, even where windrowed prior to the severe freeze. Some of the factories are still making sugar of good quality; but the quantity of firsts per ton of cane is gradually diminishing.

At times the weather has been too warm and spring like, even for well windrowed cane. The buds of the fig tree began to swell previous to the freeze of Sunday. The

weather of late has been favorable for cane planting; but those who have ended the campaign have not as yet made any attempt to begin field work for the new year, as the laborers and animals were fagged and needed rest to recuperate. Some seed cane seen was in fine condition, with only the top eyes slightly elongated. Without very adverse climatic conditions such canes will be in good condition to plant one or two months hence.

This week the campaign may end at Ellendale of Mr. E. McCollam, Crescent farm of the Shaffer estate, Arygle of the Messrs. Bonvillain Bros., Honduras of Mr. Thos. Shaffer, Presqu'ile of the Messrs. Gueno Bros., Live Oak of Mr. Engman, and Grand Caillou of Messrs Cambon Bros. At the Lower Terrebonne refinery the campaign may continue for over ten days, also at Myrtle Grove of Messrs Barrow & Duplantis, and at Orange Grove of Mrs. Dupont & Jollet. At Belle farm of Mr. C. W. Bocage the grinding will likely end about the beginning of next week; and would have closed much sooner but the fine new mill could not be kept supplied with cane. It is impossible to arrive at correct figures as to the shortage of the crop as compared with last year, in some instances it will be quite marked and in others the output will be about equal when there was an increase acreage ground. In many instances the stalk elongation was below expectations and the tonnage short in consequence. That with the low sucrose content of the cane with an excess of impurities caused the small yield, as compared to average years.

Wednesday of last week frost, with bright sunshine later; Thursday fine but too warm; Friday cloudy and warm; Saturday, fog in the early morning and cooler in the afternoon, with evidences of a cold wave coming; Sunday, ice with a stormy, cold wind; Monday, ice again with bright day; Tuesday, cloudy and warmer; and Wednesday, spring like in the morning.

The official weekly weather report from Schriever is as follows:

	Temperature.	Sunshine.	Rainfall.
Dec. 26	—57	28	100
Dec. 27	..60	28	100
Dec. 28	..67	29	100
Dec. 29	..73	33	25
Dec. 30	..78	53	25
Dec. 31	..78	52	25
Jan. 1	..54	27	100
	66	36	68

TERRIBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The planters of this parish have had no cause to complain about the weather conditions of the past two weeks. The weather has been splendid and all sugar making operations have been going on smoothly. A great number of the mills have finished the season, and by the last of next week there

will be very few mills in operation.

The Anna plantation finished the season last week; the tonnage of this place was excellent but the extraction was poor. Mr. Shaffer, of the Anna, says that he made 1,050,000 pounds this season. The extraction on this place was up to the average of places on the Teche.

Mr. J. B. Todd, of the Ellersly, closed the season on the first of January. The extraction was as usual for the parish. Ellersly made a million pounds. The tonnage of this place was greater than was expected.

The Johnson place on Bayou Sale made in the neighborhood of 700,000 pounds.

The Alice C. and Oak Lawn plantations will close the season next week. Mr. Geo. Marshall, the manager of the Alice C. plantation, was stricken with paralysis last Sunday morning, but is much improved at this writing.

The Steamer Teche fire, which caused the loss of 781 barrels of sugar claimed a big loss from this parish; all the sugar lost was from the Teche planters of this parish. We understand that the sugar was fully covered by insurance. Senator Caffery and H. C. Rose were among the heaviest losers, but they were protected by insurance.

This parish made over 120,000,000 pounds of sugar last year, but the crops of this year will fall considerably below this amount; but sugar brought a better price this year which will go a long ways in cheering up the planters.

Mose Alexander, a colored sugar planter of Cypremont, has bought the Alice Prevost place.

St. MARY.

St. Mary.

Nearly all of the planters will wind up the season about the middle of January. The greatest amount of sugar made by any mill last year was 11,000,000 pounds; this was made on the Shadyside Plantation. The greatest amount for this year will not exceed 8,000,000 pounds.

The Caffery refinery will finish the season about the 15th of January. This mill will make in the neighborhood of 8,000,000 pounds this year. Under better conditions, the Caffery would have made a much larger amount of sugar; the management of this place has been excellent, but the crop conditions will cause a great fall in the expectation of the managers.

We understand that Mr. H. C. Rose lost some sugar in the burning of the Teche. We have not been able to ascertain what insurance there was on this sugar.

The Bethia plantation, is among the losers from the Teche fire. Mr. Caffery had 128 barrels of sugar on board.—Vindicator-News, Dec. 30.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

There has been a marked improvement in the weather conditions for the past week

and the first day of the year, though very cold, was a beautiful, bright day. The first part of last week was warm and clear, which continued up to Saturday morning about 2 o'clock, when the thermometer dropped about 15° in an hour and continued to fall until Saturday night or Sunday morning. Saturday was a cloudy day, but no rain; Sunday, Jan. 1st, 1899 was a clear bright day with the thermometer standing at from 32 to 34° throughout the day. From 12 o'clock Friday to 12 o'clock Sunday showed at least 50° difference in the temperature. To-day (Monday 2nd,) is a cool, cloudy day, with some appearance of snow. This cool spell favored the cane shipped to some extent, for if the weather had remained as warm for three or four days as it was Friday, all the cane that was windrowed after the freeze would have been lost and much of it that was windrowed before the freeze would have met a like fate. Farmers are getting along very nicely now shipping cane and with a few more cars daily than they have been having they will get through by the 10th of January. Windrowed cane kept splendidly, the best results having been experienced from windrowing this season that has ever been known in this section. The time of windrowing does not seem to have made any difference at all; some of our farmers windrowed cane before any freeze at all, some after the first little freeze, some after the second freeze which was heavy enough to kill the bud, and some after the third or last freeze that froze the cane through and through and it all kept remarkably well. The cane windrowed after the hard freeze seems to be as sound now as that windrowed before any freeze at all.

The weather has been favorable to windrowed cane for the past three weeks. There has been but a few warm days since the hard freeze and those have not been extremely warm, then there would invariably follow these warm days, cool, cloudy days, that seemed to counteract the effect of the warm weather on cane. The Planter correspondent was at the Caffery refinery last Friday and Saturday and was pleased to see that the cane freshly cut from the root, was fresh and sound in many instances; in some instances, however, it showed signs of decomposition at the top but none to hurt. The manager Mr. L. Forsyth, Jr., is watching results very closely and if possible will wind up the season without either grinding or being forced to reject sour cane. There is still about 3,000 tons of good, sound cane to be shipped out over the railroad, which will finish the delivery of 1898-99. In addition to this, there is in the neighborhood of 10,000 tons along the I. V. railroad, in the Delcambre and Petit Anse sections in Iberia parish that will be lost in the field. The extreme Eastern part of Vermilion will lose considerable cane also, but the other sections of Vermilion will market the entire crop, though late and at a considerable expense. The Rose Hill will finish up her

season about the 15th inst., and the Ramsey will wind up on or about the 10th. These mills have had a very successful year as far as grinding their full capacity goes, and they have also escaped any delays from breakdowns. The cane crop will all be harvested by the 15th inst., and redoubled efforts will be begun for another crop.

The New Year opened up with promising prospects and everybody in this section has turned over a new leaf and taken hold of the wheels of determination with a set purpose to turn them to fortune or fame. Wishing the Planter and its readers a joyous and prosperous year, we are.

P. C. M.

Avoynes.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The year dawned upon us cold and chilly, driving the mercury down to 26 degrees at sun up. The first day of the year was clear and cold. The morning of the 2nd was clear with the temperature at 28 degrees at sunrise. The day gradually grew warmer towards sundown, then clouding up. The morning of the 3rd was cloudy with the temperature at 50 degrees and indications of rain. On the morning of the 4th at six o'clock the mercury rested at 68 degrees. It was warm and cloudy, with prospects for rain. Information reached the Planter's scribe on the morning of the 1st inst. that the Chetwood sugar factory was burning and would be destroyed. It seems that Mr. E. V. Weems, proprietor of the Chetwood factory, Lecompte, Rapides parish, had taken the South bound train at Eola on the morning of the 1st for his factory on the Teche. He was overtaken by a telegram stating that Chetwood was burning and would be destroyed. I have not so far been informed how the factory caught on fire, nor the full extent of damages sustained, but as the wind was blowing heavy from the North at the time it is more than probable that the fine Chetwood factory building was totally destroyed.

If I have been correctly informed, the Chetwood factory at the time when it was burned, was being conducted by Mr. Weems in conjunction with the cane growers—somewhat on the co-operative plan of sharing whatever profit there might be obtained from the cane which the planters were furnishing the factory. However much of, or little of, this may be true, I have given it as it has been stated.

The Powhontas sugar factory, McCracken Bros. proprietors, Eola, is today pushing forward grinding cane and making sugar.

I learn that the Leinster factory is still running and doing its best to speedily reach the last ton of cane and terminate the season's work.

From all accounts the cane which is now going through the mills situated in the upper tier of sugar parishes, has so deteriorated, that it now has to be cut at both

ends to make it any way profitable to work at all.

It is with pleasure I can say, however, that the cane growers throughout this upper country, including the sugar manufacturers, have not by any means lost heart and hope. The will power is here to plant and grow an increased acreage to cane this year, in the firm belief that the future will bless all who plant cane with prosperity. It is a good omen when the planters and farmers set to work clearing their fields so early in the year, and starting plows to breaking the soil preparatory to growing this season's crops.

Want of space forbade mentioning last week, the alacrity with which the farmers in the Prairie country of Marksville were preparing to go into cane. From all I could learn, when there, it seems that about everyone who could get a stalk of plant cane to plant has done so, thus intending to work gradually as their means permit of so doing, into profitable cane growing. Mind the prediction, Marksville will in the next two years be calling for a sugar factory.

ERIN.

Sugar Trust Changes.

(Special to the Picayune.)

New York, Dec. 18.—Some changes, it was said today, are to be made in the directorate of the sugar trust chiefs, among which will be the retirement of John E. Searles, for many years secretary and treasurer of the combination.

Mr. Searles—a fact which has not been generally known—is ill at the Hotel Manhattan, where he has been for two weeks. When I went to the hotel last evening to ask Mr. Searles about the proposed changes in the trust directorate, he sent down word that he was too ill to see any one. He is said to be suffering from the grip.

Announcements of the coming meeting of directors were sent out Saturday. They indicated that three directors are to be chosen, two to fill vacancies caused by the expiration of the terms of John E. Parsons and John E. Searles, and one to succeed William Dick.

The Havemeyer ticket is said to be as follows:

John E. Parsons, to succeed himself; Lowell A. Palmer, to succeed Mr. Searles, and William Meyer, to take Mr. Dyars' place.

Mention of the retirement of Mr. Searles naturally will cause comment. It is said he has found the heavy duties of secretary and treasurer of the trust to be too great for him to fulfill longer, particularly as he is also president of the Western National Bank. Mr. Searles has been forced to rest during several months this year, and it is thought that his physician's advice, following a severe cold, which he contracted recently, has led him to notify his associates in the sugar trust that he will not be a candidate for re-election. He returned from Europe only two weeks ago, having been abroad for several months.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Barbados.

The weather has been on the whole favorable to the planting operations which are now engaging the planters' attention. At our central station we have had for the 9 days of the month 1.5 ins., for the fortnight 1.55 inches. The light rains serve to maintain moisture, and to promote growth, but a good soaking rain before the plants are put in would be very beneficial. Some estates have already planted off a field or two, and all are busily engaged in completing preparations,—forking, ploughing, and throwing out manure; while plant cutters are busy on every hand so that there might be no delay in taking advantage of the showers and getting the plants into the earth. A good and uniform spring for Christmas is a boon to planters. Only those who have to deal with such matters can appreciate the feeling of disappointment and almost vexation which comes over the planter when January opens on more dead holes than living ones, and endless and wearisome supplying has to be weekly repeated through the dry and windy crop season, sometimes even into June. But this year, so far, indications are very favorable, and there is every likelihood that the young and old crops will together greet the new year.

We were first or among the first in these columns to call public attention to the budding honors of the new seedling, No. 147, the one apparently fittest to survive among its 146 brethren. No. 147 is a lusty, vigorous, hard-rind cane, just the kind of rind to give toothache to moth-eaters, and to afford an impregnable fortress to Fungus. It is a cane, as the cane plant cutters say, like a hoe-stick and indeed one woman employed to cut these plants absolutely struck work, saying that they had not employed her to cut hoe-sticks. But this cane so exteriorly tough, is within filled when ripe with a soft juicy pulp, which is said to be extraordinarily rich in crystals. It is evidently the cane of the future, and every body is trying to get plants, which are now selling at 30 cents per hundred. In a year or two its propagation ought to be complete.

It makes the West Indian's mouth water to read of the prosperous condition of Hawaiian sugar plantations since annexation to the United States, for while our plantation stock is ever sinking in value lower and lower below par, theirs soars majestically above to the tune of millions of dollars, and while our profit on sugar is nil their net profits on a single estate are said to reach six figures. "The Ewa Plantation with a capitalization of \$1,000,000 is said to have made this season net profits of between \$700,000, and \$800,000." No wonder that the capital stock of this plantation has been increased to \$2,000,000, and that the stock-holders are considering the advisability of increasing it still further to \$3,000,000.

What a striking contrast between flourish-

ing and happy Hawaii under United States governance, and unhappy, decaying, dismayed West India under British rule. The contrast is all the more striking because the United States herself is a sugar producer and Great Britain is not. Yet in the United States markets the Hawaiian foundling grows fat and lusty, while we the first-born of the Empire are for the advantage of the foreigner practically excluded from the markets of our own Mother Country! It is an object-lesson which we recommend for the consideration of British Statesmen: it is for them to explain why a cane sugar producing colony of the United States is richly thriving, while their own languish. The old lack of thrift will no longer suffice. It was splendidly answered when Grenada turned to cocoa and Jamaica to fruit; and now that the whole British cane producing world cries out for a free British market, and unanimously and correctly diagnoses the disease, will English Statesmen continue obstinate, or will they acknowledge their error, and give to their colonies that freedom of trade which the United States so cheerfully give to theirs? After all, it is a question of right or wrong. No doubt the right will in the end prevail, but the wrong has been so long to the front, that British West Indian sugar growers now resemble Pharaoh's lean kine, some of them long past recovery. Like Gallo of old, the so-called free-trade party cares for none of these things, not even when British capitalists publicly declare that the present fiscal policy prevents them from investing capital in the British West Indies. The case is clearly proven. A rotten free-trade policy has ruined West Indian industry: a real free trade policy would restore it.—Agricultural Reporter, Dec. 10.

Austria.

The following is translated from the *Wochenschrift*, dated Vienna, 7th December: "During last week the weather has been mild, foggy and damp. In Vienna the average temperature has risen to as much as 4.9° C. against a normal average of 1.5° C. Up to the end of November there were 167 factories working against 137 last year. Up to now the production in raw sugar is 1,214,000 q. Mild and damp weather is reported from Germany this week, which must be injurious to the roots. In France also rainy and mild weather has prevailed this week, which affects the yield less, as a greater number of factories have either ended work or are at the point of doing so."

Demerara.

The name of Plantation Clonbrook which has been prominently before the public this week, brings to mind a story of the insurrection of 1824, the truth of which is beyond dispute. The proprietor of the estate was a very kind man to his slaves, but when he had to punish them his method was peculiar.

He put them in the stocks and gave them a dose of Glauber salts. When the slaves rose, in rebellion, Clonbrook was in the heart of the disaffected district, and it had to be considered what they should do with their proprietor. They admitted he had been a kind master, so they could not kill him or injure him; but something must be done. In due time it was decided, that Massa must have "punish;" and with the most admirable humor, sentence was passed upon him that he should sit in the stocks and get Glauber salts. The sentence was duly carried into effect.—Argus, Dec. 10.

Some Haphazard Notes of a Forty-Two Years' Residence in British Guiana.

Mon Repos was a pleasant estate to manage; the land was grateful for any attention bestowed on it; the attorney was a practical business man, not given to letter writing or requiring letters to be written; and the fortnightly and monthly reports were plain, full and requiring no after explanations. Once the *Beterverwagting* people left me in the lurch with a lot of grass on hand, and, when the work got light and they wanted to come back I refused to give them work. A deputation waited on Clementson to complain of this iniquity on my part, and he told them: "I am not the manager of Mon Repos, have never been the manager of Mon Repos, and never intend to be the manager of Mon Repos, and I wish you a very good morning." After about three months I gave them work again. I don't remember if it was 1865 or 1866, but it was a very heavy season and all the estates on the coast were more or less under grass. Clementson was seedy at this time and did not like going back in the rain and mud, but one morning I asked him to do so and the following conversation took place:

"Anything very particular?"

"Yes, sir, very particular, I wish you to see the estate before it is completely abandoned."

"Can I help it?"

"No, sir; You have nothing to do with it."

"Can you help it?"

"No, sir, if I could it would not be so."

"Well, I have been writing to Mr. Hamer for many years to tell him if he would not put sufficient immigrants on his estate it would be abandoned, and as I am not feeling very well this morning I will say good day;" and he left.

For a great many years it had been the custom on the estate to provide a large supply of firewood, such as bamboos and courida, for the use of the copperwall as there was always a short supply of megass, and, of course, I followed the rule. When we started grinding in August, 1868, Mr. C., looking at the great heap of wood in the yard and the small quantity of megass, said to me: "Cannot this thing be remedied?" I replied, "Certainly; we want to re-hang the

four sugar taiches, put another large copper to the short copperwall and remove the multitubular boiler to suit." The answer came promptly, "I was never told of it before; have it done." And done it was, with the result that at the finish of the crop in December there were five hundred feet of megass logie full of megass; we had lost by fire one hundred and eighty feet of logie partially full; and the fire wood was still on hand. Nine hundred shipping hhd. of sugar were made at that grinding of three months. F. C. Thorpe, late of Pln. Biague, was overseer at the time.

The year 1868 was a very dry year, and water for the navigation trenches got very short, and many estates had to take in salt water, with disastrous results to boilers and machinery.

The East Coast Rifle Association used to shoot at Le Resouvenir front across the public road. One day Cather, from Vryheid's Lust, was late, and we kept firing for him to come up, but instead of riding up to the firing point he dismounted a long way down the road and ran up to us; some one asked why he had not done so and he replied, "Oh, I forgot." He began to load very hurriedly and we said, "Take time, Cather, and recover yourself; there's plenty of time for you to fire." He replied, "I shan't fire till I am loaded." Cather was Irish. On two occasions the overseers and myself were driven from the dinner table by hard-backs, and another time the overseers by mosquitoes. I had been to Georgetown, and, driving home, found the mosquitoes very bad all the way from the public road. I got out of the wagon at the stable and had myself thoroughly brushed before going up into the house where the overseers were at dinner, but, alas! the mosquitoes went up too; there were millions of them, and to see those five or six overseers, probably hungry, disappear down the front steps was a caution. I found out afterwards at Pln. Port Mourant, where Dalgety was manager, that by putting the lights round the sides of the room instead of over or on the dining table, dinner can be eaten in comfort no matter how many hard-backs are about.

I had once to attend the Magistrate's Court in Georgetown about some rum that was stolen at the railway depot, and whilst I was in Leon's Court, a black boy was put up by the police for some trifling offence. Leon turned to me and said: "Are you a manager, sir?" I said, "Yes, at Mon Repos." Leon said, "You want a nigger, sir?" I said, "Yes." Then to the boy he said, "You see that gentleman there, you go with him this afternoon and he will take care of you, and if you come back here I will put you in jail." The boy did not meet me at the train, but, strange to relate, he walked up the coast, and about midnight knocked at the gate at the side-line and told his story to the Coolie watchman who would not believe him

and would not admit him. And I never saw him again.

Clementson was always anxious that the buildings should be in charge of a competent sugar boiler, a sort of a buildings manager, and we tried the experiment by employing a man from Barbados and giving him a salary of a thousand dollars a year and a comfortable house, but the result was most disastrous.

Robt. Waith, at La Bonne Intention, was a great shooter, I cannot say sportsman, as I have seen him do many unsportsmanlike acts. There used to be on the mud flats quantities of birds known as "Duck-legs," which could only be distinguished from English snipe by a naturalist or a sportsman; they flew in large flocks, and Waith used to send out one of his men with an 8-gauge gun loaded with No. 10 shot and shoot quantities of them, which he would send to friends in Georgetown in bunches of six or a dozen, and he was put down as a good and successful "snipe" shot. He really was a good shot, however, but very selfish in a shooting field.

The sugar store at Mon Repos was infested with bats that used to make a mess every night with fruit and crab shells and such like; and after repeatedly asking the overseer to shoot them, he informed me one morning that he had shot three. I sent to the house for my gun and fired two shots into the cluster and went back. When I came home to breakfast the porter, Baas informed me that they had collected seven dozen dead ones. It is a curious fact that although all the bats were not killed, yet none ever hived, if I may use the word, in the store again. Speaking of bats reminds me that in the manager's house at La Belle Alliance I killed one of the large fruit-eating sort that measured 28 inches from tip to tip. The head and claws were in the museum for some time.

One night there was a cry of "thief, thief," and on looking out of my bedroom window I saw two men pursuing a Chinaman at full speed. John doubled round the corner of the house and disappeared, vanished, as surely as if he had never been; the watchman had not seen him, and the thing was a mystery, but I felt convinced after examining the place next morning, that friend John had simply run up the kitchen steps and remained inside till the hunt was over.

Frazer was the Magistrate of the district, and after the court was over at Vigilance, we used to adjourn to James Inniss's house and from what Inniss called "The East Coast Prevaricating Club." Man, at Nonpareil, and Harding, at Annandale, were considered the champions.

In the mango season the girls from Buxton and Friendship, when they came to "look for lil' wo'k," used to bring a basket of the fruit for sale, but, of course, there were no buyers, as everybody had mangoes of his

own, and the girls would sit under the trees on the middle-walk dam, and eat mangoes till all were finished, and then contentedly return home with their empty baskets. The days that they came really intending to work, they brought a pair of trousers and an old coat, but no mangoes. It was rather a funny sight, that of a gang of women and girls in working costume in wet weather.

Dr. McAulay was the doctor of the district for a time, and he was succeeded by Dr. Thomas. Each in term lived in the house in front of Brothers or Montrose, but it disappeared some years ago, and the last time I saw the site it was a courida swamp.

On Mon Repos was one of Fletcher's first-class engines and mills which did splendid crushing, but about 25 years later I had the opportunity of seeing that "splendid crushing" passing through a second mill, from which was coming a stream of juice equal to that from one of the old mills with broken headstocks away back in the fifties. Fancy the millions of dollars that were lost before proper machinery was erected!—Demerara Argosy.

Beaumont Irrigation Company Buy a Pumping Plant.

Directors of the Beaumont Irrigation company held a meeting last night and placed an order with John T. Wilkin, mechanical engineer of the Connersville Blower company, Connersville, Ind., for the pumping plants which will supply the water for the irrigation company's big canal. The plant purchased is one of the largest in the south and will cost in the neighborhood of \$40,000. It has a guaranteed capacity of 60,000 gallons of water per minute or 92,000,000 gallons per day, the manufacturing company giving a bond of \$20,000 that the pump will maintain the capacity represented.

The plants will consist of two separate pumps. One station equipped with two pumps operated with Corliss engines will be located on the banks of Pine Island bayou from which the water will be lifted into an immense flume. From this point it will flow five miles into the prairie where another pump will again lift it several feet, giving a sufficient height to flood between 15,000 and 20,000 acres of adjacent rice land.

The plant was purchased by the Beaumont Irrigation company after a technical investigation of the pumps offered, and in purchasing it they are of the opinion that the best kind of machinery of the kind manufactured at present has been secured.

Mr. Wilkin wired the order to his house and it is expected that the pumps and other machinery will begin arriving in a very few days. It is the intention to have the plant ready for operation in ample time to fill the canal by spring, if water is needed to plant the 1899 crop.—Beaumont Texas Journal.

Among the recent arrivals at the Royal was Mr. J. A. Norman of Maul, H. I.

BET SUGAR.**Lehi, Utah.**

Last night at about 8 o'clock the last beets were cut at the sugar factory making a total of 43,110 tons of beets cut this season. The factory ran, slicing, 107 days averaging 465 tons of beets sliced per day during the run—the most successful record yet made at the factory. The beets were in fine condition this year being remarkably free from dirt and those piled in the yards not being affected by the weather on account of the protection of the bullrush crates. The factory will run on yellow sugar till next Wednesday and the cleaning up will be finished by January 2nd when the factory will be closed entirely no men being employed there except a day and night watchman. Most of the men were laid off last night but about 35 will be kept on for some days yet.

This has been one of the most successful seasons in Utah, especially for the farmers among whom about \$200,000 has been distributed.

The management and employees are justly proud of the work done this season. Previous to this year the most beets worked up in a day was 455 tons; while this year that record has been broken so many times that the contrary was the exception, not the rule. Supt. Vallez is to be complimented on his work. When he took charge he made a number of changes which are now proven to be valuable improvements. The results show that he has a superior way in managing the factory. The factory has far exceeded its capacity and with better work. All through the season the machinery has been kept in excellent trim by Engineer Ingalls and the men under him and to this fact is due the possibility of making such records as this season shows.

The handling of the beets has been under the supervision of Field Superintendent Austin and in this department great progress has been made in rapidity and convenience for handling and in the care taken to protect the beets from stress of weather.

Field-Superintendent Austin returned Thursday night from the South, where he has been contracting beet average. In Springville the farmers contracted 706 acres, in Mapleton 240 and at Pleasant Grove, where the farmers have not all as yet signed contracts, there will be at least 250 acres. Mr. Austin goes South again next Wednesday morning. He has to make contracts yet with the farmers of Payson, Spanish Fork and Benjamin. He thinks the entire acreage for next season will be 4,000 acres.—Banner, Dec. 24.

Eddy, New Mexico.

The unfavorable weather prevented the harvesting of beets, and, as a result, the last beet in the sheds at the factory was sliced Wednesday evening. The run was made on the juice from those beets and then the machinery slowed down. Harvesting com-

menced in the Otis district yesterday, and if the weather continues favorable a sufficient supply will be on hand to permit the resumption of operations the early part of the week. It is to be regretted that the delay was occasioned, but the recent storm was one of special severity for this section, and being so extraordinary, of course, could not be provided against.

Quite a number of farmers and home-seekers from the east are wintering in Eddy and the valley with the idea of renting or purchasing farms in this section. This would seem natural enough when they can sell their farms at \$50 to \$75 per acre and buy a good one here for half the money, provided with a perfect system of irrigation. With the opening of the Pecos Valley & Northeastern to Amarillo, a low rate will be established on stock to Kansas City, and farmers have learned that the best way to make money off their farms is to feed their grain to stock and sell the finished product.

Then, too, the eastern farmers do not have the advantage of the beet sugar factory, which is proving itself a great thing to the farmer here, as, if he lives near Eddy, or near any railway point up or down the valley, he can put in a few acres of beets as an incidental crop, which brings him several hundred dollars in cash as soon as harvested.—Pecos Valley Argus, Dec. 23.

The Pecos Valley Beet Sugar Company.

While at Eddy, N. M., the editor was invited to go and see the beet sugar factory, which has a capacity of using 200 tons of sugar beets each day and turning them into 40,000 pounds of granulated sugar. The total capacity of the mill is 6,000 tons per month on a four months' run. We learned at the mill that they paid \$4 per ton for beets at the depots along the Pecos Valley railroad, and that the total number they could use this year was 24,000 tons. By figuring a little, we see that \$96,000 is paid by the company for beets alone. The amount of sugar if estimated at 10 per cent. and sold at 4 cents per pound, will realize \$192,000; so we see that the raw material costs just one-half of the total sum realized. We learned that 10 tons to the acre was an average crop and that it took between five and six tons to the acre to pay water rent, rent of land (if not owned by the farmer), and labor, and that all over that amount was clear profit. The beet sugar company cannot get farmers to plant enough for the use of the factory, and they have this year planted 500 acres, and found out that four tons to the acre will pay all expenses of the crop. We also learned that there are 1,500 acres of sugar beets being raised by farmers around Eddy.

When we entered the factory we found expert mechanics putting in \$20,000 worth of new and improved machinery to keep up with the increasing demand for the sugar

manufactured by this company. And here we take occasion to state that there is no fear of glutting the market, as it will take 800 factories just as large as this one to supply the sugar demand of this country alone.

We were very greatly interested in the entire process of manufacturing sugar, from the immense sheds where the beets are stored and from thence carried by automatic machinery to the washing pool, and from thence elevated to the slicing machines, and from thence to the cooking vats. After all the juice has been extracted from the cooked beets, there is a pulpy substance of refuse vegetable matter remaining, and this is a most excellent feed when mixed with roughness, such as alfalfa or sorghum hay, for feeding cattle or sheep, of which mention is made in the article on feeding lambs. If a low freight rate could be obtained for the transportation of the pulp, we believe that it would pay to ship it into the Panhandle, as a winter feed for cattle, and especially for domestic stock, mixing with it bran, chops, or cotton seed meal. It is sold at the factory by the car load at 50c. per ton. In Germany the dry pulp is mixed with refuse molasses and fed to cattle for fattening purposes.

The new machinery placed in the factory enables them to manufacture in three or four days, instead of storing the syrup in immense tanks and then working it over during the spring and summer months.

The factory makes the lime used in clarifying the syrup. The lime stone is found in abundance about four miles from the factory, and the company pays \$1.30 per ton for hauling it.

To run this immense business takes six boilers, each of 100 horse power capacity to furnish the steam for the engines, and when we consider all the expenses connected with this vast enterprise, to us the mystery is, how can the company afford to pay 50 per cent. of the gross receipts for manufactured sugar to the farmers who raise the beets? And while we heard one man complain at the low price of beets, viz., \$4 per ton, he said that his crop would be at least eleven tons to the acre, and that he could attend to thirty acres, we want to know where in this country, or any where, can a man realize \$44 per acre from a field crop of any kind, or clear \$1,320 from a 30-acre crop that takes less labor than raising cotton?

If farmers can do better, or as well, with any crop, we should like to know what it is; and when we consider, also, that there is a constant demand, with an unchanging cash market at their doors, we can realize the certainty of profit in the cultivation of the sugar beet in this region. It is a sure thing for the farmer.

The beet sugar manufactory is a grand enterprise and a blessing to the Pecos Valley.—Amarillo Champion.

The Sugar Beet in New Mexico.

The cultivation of the sugar beet in the Pecos Valley is deserving of more extended mention than can be given within the limits of this write-up. It is safe to say (said an expert in sugar beet cultivation) that nowhere else in the United States, if indeed in the world, does the sugar beet attain the perfection it reaches in the Pecos Valley. The percentage of saccharine matter and purely runs astonishingly high, while the yield almost surpasses belief. Fifteen to eighteen per cent. of saccharine matter and a purity of 85 per cent. are by no means uncommon results, while as high as 59 tons of beets of proper size for sugar manufacture have been grown on a single acre. This was of course exceptional, but an average yield of 25 to 30 tons per acre can be counted on with confidence. The meaning of these figures will be appreciated when it is known that the average yield in California is about 13 tons in Utah 10 tons, and in Nebraska 8 tons per acre. M. Alfred Musy, a French sugar beet expert of wide experience both in Europe and America, visited the Pecos Valley, and gave this subject a thorough investigation. He was astonished at what he saw, and stated without hesitation that in his opinion beet sugar can be manufactured in the Pecos Valley with higher success than in any other part of the United States.—Amarillo Champion.

The Manufacturers of Fertilizers Trying to Get a National Inspection Law.

The manufacture of fertilizers has become one of the large lines of business in this country and its increased growth is attracting attention.

The fertilizers manufactured are consumed almost entirely in the United States, because of the fact that the manufacturers have not sought foreign trade to any great extent.

The consumers are the farmers of the country. They are easily preyed upon by designing law-makers. They have held to the belief that it was necessary for each State to place certain restrictions, assays and inspections upon fertilizers brought into those States.

The different opinions expressed by the different Legislatures in the form of laws have grown so various that it is next to impossible for the manufacturers of fertilizers to comply with the different laws of the different States.

These laws naturally interfere with interstate commerce and the satisfactory distribution of fertilizer products, because of the variety of requirements placed upon the manufacturers.

The manufacturers of fertilizers do not object to inspection, even the most rigid. Those who are honest feel that a rigid inspection would soon eliminate dishonest manufacturers and drive from the markets spurious articles, thus giving to the legitimate

trade protection against an injurious competition and also place fertilizers at a fair profit.

Believing in the justice of their cause and the injustice of the laws that have been passed against them to their detriment, many of the fertilizer manufacturers are now seeking relief from Congressional Legislation.

They will most probably ask that Congress, during its next session, pass a just and rigid inspection law on all fertilizers, to take the place of State laws now in existence. The question will probably come up early in the session, and it is certainly relief that is needed by an important and growing industry.—St. Louis Manufacturer.

Sugar Crop a Failure.

The Louisiana sugar planters are puzzling over a mystery of great importance to them. It is, why has the sugar crop failed so badly this year? It is one of the most extraordinary failures in the history of agriculture in Louisiana, and is probably due to some secret of nature that man has not yet discovered.

It should be said, parenthetically, that there is no dispute as to the failure of the crop and that the reports concerning it are not inspired by a desire to advance prices. The cane grower in this State realizes that the Louisiana production of sugar is so small as compared with the total consumption of this country, that it cuts no figure in fixing the price. There is, it is true, usually a slight decline in the price of sugar—a fraction of a cent—when the Louisiana crop is being marketed; but this is a mere trick of the trade, and the decline occurs however large or small the crop may be. There is no incentive, therefore, for the cane grower to misrepresent facts and underestimate the yield in the belief that it may tend to send up the price of sugar. And even if there were the inclination, it would be difficult to carry out any conspiracy of this kind. The statistics of no crop in the world are more fully, carefully and accurately kept than those of the sugar product of Louisiana. It is a triumph of mathematics. Covering, as the crop does, a limited area, and the manufacture and refining of the sugar being controlled by a comparatively few persons, the utmost accuracy is insisted on in the preservation of all the statistics bearing on the yield. Every acre planted is recorded, as is every ton of cane ground and every pound of sugar and gallon of molasses. At the end of the season it is possible to tell, within a pound and a gallon, what has been the yield to the acre and for the entire State. Hence, when it is announced by the sugar planters that the crop is a failure, it can be accepted as a fact, and this announcement has been made and the figures given for it. The crop, in proportion to the acreage planted, will see the smallest yield in sugar known since the Civil War, unless there should be some radi-

cal and un hoped-for change between now and the end of the grinding season. To find anything like the present condition the planters have had to go back twenty-one years to 1877, when the cane crop failed in a mysterious manner.—New Orleans Letter, in Trade.

Sugar Patents.

The following is a list of patents of interest to the sugar industry issued December 27, 1898, reported specially for The Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, Patent Attorney, Washington, D. C.

616,821. Process of and apparatus for obtaining crystals. Johannes Bock, Radebeul, Germany.

Personal.

Mr. Charles Geismar, of Geismar, La., was a guest of the Cosmopolitan hotel during the past week.

Mr. W. W. Ventress, of Iberville, accompanied by his son, was a guest of the Royal Wednesday night.

Mr. F. C. Marsh, a popular resident of St. Mary parish was a guest of the Commercial hotel a few days ago.

Mr. J. B. Babbington, of the Lower Coast, came up to the city on Wednesday and stopped at the Hotel Royal.

Mr. Albert O. Folse, of Assumption parish, came up to the city on a visit Tuesday last. He stopped at the Hotel Denechaud while in town.

Col. John A. Kries, of Cincinnati, who is a familiar figure on the sugar levee every winter, was registered at the St. Charles hotel last Wednesday.

Colonel Lewis S. Clarke, of the Lagonda place on Bayou Teche, paid one of his customary visits to the city on Tuesday, registering at the St. Charles.

Mr. J. Henry Putnam, of the fine Rose Hill place in Vermilion parish, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. Col. Putnam stopped at the Commercial hotel.

Hon. Walter A. O'Neill, of the splendid Linwood plantation in St. Mary parish, was among the Tuesday arrivals at the Royal. Mr. O'Neill is a good sugar planter and an accomplished gentleman.

Mr. Agricol Armand will be the manager on Terre Haute plantation the present year. A fine manager and clever gentleman—he ran this fine place several years in the past with marked ability.

Mr. J. B. Brown, of Ivanhoe plantation, was a visitor to New Orleans for a short while during the past week. Mr. Brown registered at the Commercial and was accompanied by his young son whom he expected to place at school.

Mr. George M. Boote, who has been in the Hawaiian Islands for quite a while, but who learned the sugar planting business, and learned it well, in Louisiana, was in New Orleans last Wednesday. Mr. Boote was accompanied by his wife.

RICE.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

It was clear and cold during the most of the week, with the exception of one day which was warm and a sort of bad weather breeder. Some very cold nights were in order, and the coldest temperature noticed by the writer was 27 degrees, at 9:00 o'clock one morning. The cold weather is not so objectionable now since the cane has been disposed of and other tender crops have been cared for. Our sweet potato crop was almost a failure, as the farmers lost the greater part of the crop by wet weather, and the hogs were turned into the fields to do the digging. There still remains a little threshing to do but another week will close up this work and very good satisfaction is expressed now over the condition of the late threshed rice, and the loss will not be as heavy as at first supposed.

Farmers are beginning to move about and get settled so as to begin the new year early and all present indications point to a great effort on the part of the farmers to grow a large crop. One farm is now being opened for the first time, containing three thousand acres, and every foot of it has been let on the tenant system, and as much more could have been let if it had been ready.

There is a large force of carpenters now at work on the many buildings to be erected to accommodate the renters and there is much work to do on the buildings for the pumping plant. A large pump will be placed in position in early spring to be ready to supply the water for this farm, and when everything is completed, this will be one of the model farms of this section. Some extensive improvements are to be made on some of the large farms which were opened last season, and on some of them, the water capacity will be doubled. There is a great demand for rice land under pump, and the demand can not be supplied in quantities to suit. Many new parties are coming in this winter and locating and securing land for rice, and the developments along this line, seem only just begun.

There are various statements out as to the acreage which will be sown to rice this season, and some give it as double the acreage of last season, but if it reaches 50 per cent of that of last season, it will do well. We are certain of at least two large rice mills for this year if the crop does well, and we know it will not lack for water unless it be Providence rice, which is fast going out of date, as it is only the small farmers back from the canals who are trying to get rich in that way. I see there is a big demand for the Japan rice this season and it is believed by a good many, that half of our crop of this year, will be of this variety. One farmer grew three hundred acres of this

variety in '98, and obtained a yield of 17 bbls. per acre on the average.

But it is hard to get at the average yield of the rice for '98, owing to so much loss. It ranged all the way from three to twelve bbls. per acre, but if the weather had been good through the harvest and threshing time, the yield would have been good and more easily gotten at. Some of our rice mills closed for the holidays but are all in operation at this writing as near as I can learn, and are working up a good quality of rice; they are not attempting to work up the poorer grades.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

Not since "before the war" can there be found any parallel to the prevailing conditions in the rice market. At this time there should be a moderating tendency but the record of the past week was quite up to its predecessor. The demand continues fairly divided between the domestic and foreign sorts; the chief run in the former being on the ordinary to fair grades, while in the latter the best selections are attracting most attention. Not a little business is being booked for delivery and billing after January 1st, this course accommodating those who dislike to take on stock just prior to squaring up accounts for the year. Advices from the South note steady marketing of the crop with further substantial gains as compared with the final figures of last week. In spite of the fact that there is an unusual quantity of low grade domestic, present values thereon are so reasonable, far below any possible forward prices in Foreign, that millers, dealers and speculators are buying freely of these styles and laying them aside against the higher plane of values which surely must be established between now and Spring. "Rice at any such figures," says an old dealer, "is good, not for a day, but for all time."

Cables and correspondence from abroad note that the situation is perplexing. Ordinarily at this period large business is transacted on forward account, but owing to late reports from Burmah, skyey prices are asked by sellers and there is evident fear to make any modification which might lead to business. Most recent information from the East has enlarged estimates of probable shortage to 40,000 tons. It would appear rather early to put matters in such clear figures, but prevailing contrary conditions surely indicate a large falling away from the amount exported last year.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 517,855 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 383,500 sacks. Sales, cleaned (est.) 125,875 barrels; last year 60,750 barrels. Steady movement; prices advanced, strong with upward tendency.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned 24,250 barrels. Sales 18,395 barrels. Steady demand at former range.

Red and Light Rice.

With apologies to the planters and scientists in general, as I do not profess to be either, I beg to submit the following; my excuse for so doing is because it is about time to consider next year's planting, and while not being a planter myself, my business is confined strictly to the handling of rice, and I fully realize my prosperity is identical with that of the farmer. I do claim, however, to have a general knowledge of rice farming throughout the world, and it appears to me that such glaring errors as continue here yearly are suicidal to the industry, and will surely result in an over production of a low grade class of goods that cannot be marketed at prices sufficient to pay the cost of production, such as the season 1895-96.

I have read with much interest many articles concerning the origin and cause of red rice, and while I admit that it would be some satisfaction to have more knowledge on this subject, I cannot see wherein a planter would profit unless he were also told how to prevent the evil. This article will be confined to facts, and not theories, so I will waste no time discussing this point.

We know red rice exists, and the paramount question is how to cultivate a field of red rice, and product an article with such a small proportion in same as not to affect its milling properties, also how to handle a field that is now entirely red, and work that field yearly, and reduce the per cent. of red at the same time; this can be done easily, as I shall demonstrate beyond question, and simply appeal to your common intelligence on the subject. The same cultivation that eradicates red rice will also cure the light rice evil, so I shall treat both questions together.

Until I came to Louisiana in 1890, I had never seen a field of red or soot rice, such as is now so common to this section, for such fields do not exist in California or Georgia. I will give some details regarding their planting.

The planters in that section sow from 2¼ to 2¾ bushels per acre, or from 100 to 120 pounds of seed, this rice is all drilled in rows sixteen inches apart, for they are greatly troubled with small grasses, and the rows have to be sufficiently wide to allow a man to use a hoe between same, or for a mule to drag a light sweep plow.

As the planters here who drill hardly use over fifty pounds of seed to an acre, with rows eight inches, it will be noticed the drilling per row in Carolina, being twice as wide, with twice the seed, is sown four times as thick per row. When the rice is planted, sufficient water is turned on to thoroughly soak the soil, and sprout the seed, and the young rice and grass usually start for a race together; soon as the grass is sufficient to endanger the rice, it is hoed

out, and by this time the plant should be high enough for sufficient depth of water to be turned on that will prevent the grasses from coming through, except the water grasses.

Rice is also given a period of dry culture, just prior to heading, as too much water makes the plant sappy and weak, the stem would not support the head well, and the plant is altogether made harder. Rice is usually hoed from three to four times, according to the season.

We will take for illustration a field entirely red, to be planted with pure seed, as above described, with rows sixteen inches. As the drill goes along, the only red rice to be cultivated is such a field will be that which is in direct line of the drill and as it will not be allowed to stand the proportion of red will be small.

As the rice sprouts, the rice between the rows will no doubt do the same, and when at a reasonable height, it should be hoed out, and treated just the same as the grass in Carolina, and this will destroy the red grains between the rows. By the time this rice appears again the drilled rice should be sufficiently high to turn on enough water to drown out the red between the rows. If one hoeing should not be sufficient, surely two would, and most likely if it requires a second treatment, a light plow would fully answer the purpose, so the only red rice to mature would be that in line of the drill, as stated.

Turning up the sod between the rows greatly benefits the plant, and in cases of providence planting, such culture would save a crop that would otherwise be lost, as the soft earth would hold the moisture.

Another advantage would be in cases where seed appeared, for this hoeing would destroy them. Now, the reason that planting is so heavy per acre in Carolina, is because rice thus treated does not stool; it comes up so thick that there is no room for it, and about the time it should stool the water is so high on the plant it cannot make out from the root on the side where space is allowed between the rows, and therefore every head as it shoots out has direct connection with the root, and that root is not called upon to supply half a dozen heads with milk, but only one, and every cell that shoots out will be fully filled, even to the very last one on the stem.

I ask through the line of agriculture to be shown one instance where a plant is allowed to grow wild that will produce a superior article than if cultivated, and yet this is the theory about rice in this section. Are not the succors pulled off corn because they weaken the main stem, and why? because the root has not sufficient capacity to furnish both. If one wishes to produce fine oranges, is it not necessary to confine the tree to one trunk, and further yet, if the tree be too heavily fruited

it is necessary to cut some off, if it is desired to produce large ones, for then the sap is concentrated to half the number, and the capacity of the root is limited. To produce these very large chrysanthemums it is necessary to cut all the buds off but one to each stem, and confine the flow to one flower, instead of a dozen; what more evidence is necessary?

Now, in broadcasting rice, let us look at the conditions as they exist. The rice is sowed thin, scattered over the entire field, and the planter depends upon its stooling for his yield. To start out with, this means his stand is uncertain, when a full stand is almost assured the other way.

I am willing to admit that if the season be particularly favorable, large yields can be made in this manner, but the planter cannot afford to take such chances; for this security he rents water so as to have some certainty about his crop. As a matter of fact, the seasons are unfavorable far oftener than otherwise.

If the crop stools well to look at same, he feels sure of sixteen sacks to the acre, but when the thresher comes out, he may get six, and why is this? The first and original head filled fairly well, but the suckers were not ripe at such time. When the cutting is done this best stem is over-ripe, and whips off easily; besides, over-ripe rice loses its lustre; the other heads all had enough sap in the top grains to turn the head down, but owing to north wind or other causes, only chaff or some with dried milk, which makes when cleaned, white specks in the clean state, and greatly deteriorates its value.

Again, the product of this light yield only weighs thirty-six or thirty-seven pounds to the bushel, and when milled only produces eighty-five pounds of clean rice to 162 pounds of rough, but were it heavy should produce 100 pounds, a loss of fifteen per cent. alone, to say nothing of the difference in quality.

Now, it costs this farmer as much to cut out and water this light yield as it would if it had yielded 10 sacks; it requires under such cultivation two acres to produce what one can, he has to pay four sacks water rent, instead of two, besides his lands deteriorate yearly, and the quality of one, after a few years planted on the same ground, will surely be worth double in value; where is the economy?

It is beyond dispute that light rice is caused by taxing one root too heavily, and in India, Japan or any other country where it is not allowed to grow wild, light rice is something unknown; if each head has direct connection with the root it is sure to fill, the rice may not even look so pleasing to the eye as the other, but it is all rice, and the yield will surely be there, from 12 to 18 sacks as a certainty. Again, cultivated rice ripens at the same time, and

should be cut as the bottom cell becomes flinty, but the inner cuticle should be green in color, and it will not whip off then, and the quality will be perfect for milling purposes.

A perfectly red field, drilled as above, would have little red in the field the following year for the drill to strike it sowing again, as the red could not stool and if planted with pure seed again, the third year should produce rice not containing more than one red grain to the handful.

Carolina planters do not object to a small per cent. of red in seed planted for milling, for this planting will produce rice no redder than the original seed planted, the produce showing nearly the same proportions.

I mentioned the contents of this letter to a planter some two weeks ago. He replied that he could not get the labor. If the cotton, cane or any other producer in the south can get labor, surely the rice farmer had better take lessons from them on the subject; rice is about the only thing south that I know of that produces a crop of such value, where the farmer expects only to sow, then to reap; if the crop is not worth hoeing, and perhaps one very light plowing, it is hardly worth planting; where one man really undertakes to cultivate 150 acres, if he will reduce that to 50, with very little more cultivation he can make two dollars where he is now making one, and plant the land as long as it will produce, and will market neither red nor light rice, but strictly a choice quality. A farm of any size should have planting a month apart; this would allow ample time before maturity for harvesting each planting, besides the crop would not all be exposed to the same weather conditions if storms should occur, and the risks from such causes greatly reduced.

On the river the crop matures so early the planters do not suffer so much from light rice, as the cutting is done in August before the north winds arrive, but a large portion of this product is over-ripe, waiting on the suckers to develop; they also find it necessary to drill if the same lands are cultivated yearly, and their yield would also average greater.

If the above cultivation is adhered to from a standpoint of dollars and cents, the red rice question will not interest planters, and the scientist can figure it out at his leisure; neither will it be necessary to advertise, "Creole red rice is the sweetest."—Gordon S. Orme, in Crowley Signal.

Personal.

Mr. A. A. Bonvillain, of Glencoe, came up to town on Tuesday and stopped at the Commercial hotel.

Hon. James A. Ware, of Iberville parish, one of the leading planters of the state and proprietor of the magnificent Belle Grove plantation near Whitecastle, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. Mr. Ware put up at the St. Charles hotel.

JAN. 6.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	Dec. 31.	Jan. 2.	Jan. 3.	Jan. 4.	Jan. 5.	Jan. 6.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.	
SUGAR. Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal		3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4	3 3/8 @ 4	3 3/8 @ 4	3 3/8 @ 4	— @ —	Quiet.	
Choice		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Strict Prime		3 7/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/2 @ 3 3/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 3/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 7/8 @ 3 3/8		
Prime		3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8		
Fully Fair		3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 7/8 @ 3 1/2	3 7/8 @ 3 1/2	3 7/8 @ 3 1/2	3 7/8 @ 3 1/2	3 7/8 @ 3 3/8		
Good Fair		3 1/4 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8		
Fair		3 1/4 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8		
Good Common		3 @ 3 1/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 @ 3 3/8		
Common		3 @ 3 1/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 @ 3 3/8		
Inferior		2 7/8 @ 3	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	— @ —		
Centrifugal.									
Plant'n Granul'ed		4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 3/4 @ 4 1/2		
Off Granul'ed		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice White		4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ —		
Off White		4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8		
Grey White		— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	4 @ 4 1/4		
Choice Yellow		4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2		
Prime Yellow		4 3/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4		
Off Yellow		4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8		
Seconds		2 3/8 @ 3 3/8	2 3/8 @ 3 3/8	2 1/4 @ 3 3/8	2 1/4 @ 3 3/8	2 1/4 @ 3 3/8	2 1/4 @ 3 1/2		
MOLASSES. Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal		23 @ 27	23 @ 27	22 @ 26	22 @ 26	22 @ 26	— @ —	Steady.	
Fancy		— @ 32	— @ 32	— @ 32	— @ 32	— @ 32	— @ 27		
Choice		28 @ 29	28 @ 29	28 @ 29	28 @ 29	28 @ 29	25 @ 26		
Strict Prime		— @ 27	— @ 27	— @ 27	— @ 27	— @ 27	22 @ 23		
Good Prime		— @ 26	— @ 26	— @ 26	— @ 26	— @ 26	19 @ 20		
Prime		— @ 25	— @ 25	— @ 25	— @ 25	— @ 25	— @ 18		
Good Fair		— @ 24	— @ 24	— @ 24	— @ 24	— @ 24	— @ 17		
Fair		— @ 23	— @ 23	— @ 23	— @ 23	— @ 23	— @ 16		
Good Common		— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 15		
Common		— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 14		
Inferior		— @ 20	— @ 20	— @ 20	— @ 20	— @ 20	— @ 12		
Centrifugal.									
Fancy		18 @ 19	18 @ 19	18 @ 19	18 @ 19	18 @ 19	— @ —		
Choice		16 @ 17	16 @ 17	16 @ 17	16 @ 17	16 @ 17	— @ 12		
Strict Prime		— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 10		
Good Prime		12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	— @ 9		
Prime		— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 8		
Good Fair		— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 7		
Fair		— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 7		
Good Common		— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 6		
Common		— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 5		
Inferior		— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 5		
SYRUP.									
		23 @ 25	20 @ 23	20 @ 24	20 @ 24	20 @ 24	18 @ 22		

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Steady.
Centrifugals, 96°			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granul'ed			— @ 4.77	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	4.96 @ —	
Standard A.			— @ 4.80	— @ 4.80	— @ 4.80	— @ 4.80	4.84 @ —	
Dutch Granul'ed			— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ —	
German Granul'ed.			— @ 4.85	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.83	— @ 4.83	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.			11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 4 1/2 d.	
A. & G. Beet			9s. 5 1/4 d.	9s. 4 1/2 d.	9s. 4 1/2 d.	9s. 5 1/4 d.	9s. 4 1/2 d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	Steady.
Powdered	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5 1/4	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ —	
Candy A.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 5 1/4	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								
	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Dec. 28	Tons	106,520
At four ports of Great Britain to Dec. 24	"	75,500
At Havana and Matanzas to Dec. 27	"	5,700

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Jan. 6, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Jan. 6, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Received	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received	548	102,069	18,579	4,823	985,966	159,854	
Sold	548	101,735	17,929	4,823	924,783	158,351	
Received same time last year				13,011	1,026,721	146,692	

DEC. 30.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

RICE.	Dec. 31.	Jan. 2.	Jan. 3.	Jan. 4.	Jan. 5.	Jan. 6.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
ROUGH, per bbl...			1 80@4 30	2 00@4 35	2 00@4 15	2 25@4 35	2 00@4 00	Steady.
OLBAN, Fancy...			6 @6 1/4	6 @6 1/4	6 @6 1/4	6 @6 1/4	5 1/2@5 1/4	
Choice...			5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 @5 1/4	
Prime...			5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	4 1/2@4 1/2	
Good...			4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 1/4@4 1/2	
Fair...			4 1/4@4 5/8	4 1/4@4 5/8	4 1/4@4 5/8	4 1/4@4 5/8	4 @4 1/4	
Ordinary...			4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	3 3/4@4	
Common...			3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	
Inferior...			2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	Nominal	
No. 2...			1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	2 @2 1/4	
BRAN, per ton...			8 00@8 50	8 00@8 50	8 00@8 50	8 00@8 50	9 80@10 50	Steady.
POLISH, per ton...			15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 00@ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Jan. 6, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Jan. 6, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. OLBAN.	This year.	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. OLBAN.	Last year.
Received	13,774		481,234	127,511		
Sold	11,479	3,398	302,943	62,918		

Sugar.

The sugar market was quiet at the end of the week. Receipts from plantations were somewhat restricted and the movement was light in consequence.

Molasses.

Open kettle molasses was steady at the end of the week, and centrifugals dull.

Rice.

The rough rice market was steady at the close of the week and prices were well maintained. A fair business was reported. Clean was strong.

Personal.

Gov. H. C. Warmoth came up from Magnolia a few days ago and stopped at the St. Charles.

Mr. Ben H. Pring, of Oneida plantation on the Upper Coast, was in the city on a visit last Monday.

Mr. M. L. Randolph, of Iberville parish, was one of the sugar planting contingent at the Cosmopolitan on Thursday.

R. W. Cocke, Esq., the prominent Terrebonne parish sugar planter and manufacturer, was a recent arrival at the Commercial.

Mr. W. E. Haydel, of St. Charles parish, La., was in New Orleans on a visit a few days ago. Mr. Haydel registered at the Hotel Royal.

Mr. H. Chapman, manager of some of the finest plantation property in this state was among those who registered at the Cosmopolitan hotel on New Year's day.

Dr. Charles E. Coates, of Baton Rouge, who has favored the sugar planters with some valuable contributions to the literature of their industry, was in New Orleans last week for a short stay.

Cane Varieties in Queensland.

In the annual report of the overseer of the Kamerunga (Cairns) State Nursery we find the subjoined notes of varieties of su-

gar cane planted for experimental purposes:

New Guinea Canes.—Several plants of each variety have been sent to the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, from which it is presumed an analysis will be obtained of the values of the different varieties. There is no reason to believe that any single variety may not prove a good milling cane, but some are certainly not estimable from a farmer's point of view; as Mr. Tryon justly remarks, what cane may be good in one district may prove to be bad in another. Chenoma, a cane somewhat resembling the China cane, supports this argument. This cane was introduced by the writer some years ago from New Guinea. From Port Douglas a report has been sent from a planter of this variety that excellent results have been obtained both in field and mill, and the manager of Colonial Sugar Refining Company at Goondi has classed it as being one of the "allowed" canes on that plantation under the name of New Guinea "Green or Yellow." By others this cane is condemned. The question of nomenclature of canes has long had my serious attention, and nothing, in my opinion, but numbers is practicable; as, for instance, No. 1 Rapoe, No. 2 Meera, and so on according to the established value. This would make the best varieties apparent and comparison easy. It is necessary, too, to obtain results from different soils and localities, though this would be tedious and difficult.

Kew Seedling.—This cane is a slow grower and will perhaps be discarded on that account.

New South Wales Canes.—Varieties received from New South Wales, mostly of the bamboo varieties, seem to have done well, and are appreciated by some growers. They resemble the Rappoe in many particulars, but have not the vigor of that variety.

Moore's purple is, without doubt, a strong, rapid growing cane, and in some localities would probably prove a useful cane. It has, however, the habit of growing from the nodes persistently, even before the cane may be said to be ripe.

Malabar and Tanna have been excluded from the nursery. They are useless, except as show canes.

The overseer at the Mackay nursery reports:

The cane here last year was so much better than the general crop that the farmers came for it in preference to planting their own; this season, however, the general crop being so much better than during the two years past, they have planted their own cane, therefore there is a large quantity to go to the mill. One of the original importations from British New Guinea—Batoe—which has done so well since its introduction, succumbed to the cyclone and to the 43 inches of rain that fell in February, and has shown something like rust. There is a crop on the ground, but the foliage is brown. I have made inquiries and find that in many places (for it is largely grown) it has shown little or no signs of the browning. The largest portion of it and in several others of the older canes will be ploughed out as soon as cut, to make more room for the last importation from New Guinea, for among these there are a splendid lot of canes, and those that have been proved to be indifferent can be well spared, for there are too many varieties. If the analysis of the eighteen that have already been tested holds good in future seasons, they will be a good acquisition, although I know there is an evil report afloat. When the second replant was made there was room only for one row of each, and for the third planting only those that have been analyzed and found good were put in. Of the New Guinea varieties I have noticed Nos. 26, 29, 42 and 43 produce good cane on the land outside where no other canes have done any good; they were evidently canes that will do well on poor land. Yeppoon has been objected to at the Marian mill as being deficient in sugar, but at Yeppoon both farmers and the mill consider it an excellent cane. Here it produced a very heavy crop. Kenwensis still exhibits all its good characteristics—good health and great crop—the farmers, however, object to it, as it takes too long to mature, but if planted at the end of August it will come on well at the end of the crushing, and, being cut in the warm weather, the racons would rush up so quickly that it would be ready again for the next season. Even if the ratoons could not be made available it would pay well to plant it every year. The original row which was planted here from plants raised from single eyes is still throwing a heavy crop of ratoons. Louzier, or what some call White Bamboo, one of the canes introduced from Mauritius still retains its good character, and was all cleared off early this season.—The Queensland.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A young, unmarried man desires to secure a position on a sugar plantation. Has had experience as clerk, overseer and other general work. Honest, sober and reliable. Can furnish best of references. Is willing to work for a nominal salary. Address at once J. L. SLACK, Tallulah, La. 12-31-98

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 521 Dumaine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STROBE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of Cane. Best of references given. Address, M. E. W., Care Varandot Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-28-98.

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98.

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, 622 Joseph St., New Orleans, La. 12-25-98

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 6334 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—A young married man of small family, desires a position in Puerto Rico as time-keeper or sugar weigher. Have had several years' experience in sugar houses; also a very good book-keeper. Can furnish best of references. Address C. B. S., care Baton Rouge Sugar Co., Baton Rouge, La.

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTTERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$30. Address F. E. C., Shadyale Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYEE, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as manager of sugar plantation for the coming year. Ample experience, highest recommendations as to capacity, sobriety and ability to handle labor. Address D. A. BLOUIN, Whitecastle, La.

WANTED—Position as manager or assistant on sugar plantation for 1899, by a young man who has had several years' experience and is prepared to furnish the most unexceptional references. Address M., care The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as assistant manager on sugar plantation, by a young unmarried man of strictly abstemious habits. Particularly successful in the management of labor. Best references furnished. Address L. B., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager or assistant on sugar plantation for the coming year. Long experience and first-class references. Address A. G., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Solms P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation, by married man, 33 years of age, sober, energetic and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 256, New Iberia, La. 12-5-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 22, City Hall. 12-3-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOYER, care First New York Beet Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-6-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time-keeper or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 105 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as manager for 1899, by a first-class man of experience and fine references. Will take an assistant and work very reasonable. Address E. W. CREIGHTON, Baton Rouge, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as second overseer or time-keeper on sugar plantation, for 1899. Address THEO. BAUDOIN, JR., Hahnville, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—A sugar house expert, who is now, and has been for the past five years, the head chemist for one of the largest sugar houses in Louisiana, is open for an engagement for coming crop in Mexico, Cuba or Central America. Will accept a position on any terms consistent with first-class work. Can furnish best of testimonials from present employers and from the University from which he graduated. Address LEDA, this office. 12-8-98

WANTED—By a young chemist with university education and one year's experience in large Louisiana factory, a position for Mexican or Cuban campaign. Address A. M., care Louisiana Planter. 11-30-98

WANTED—By a first-class sugar boiler, to go to Mexico, Central America or the Hawaiian Islands. Will furnish the best of references. Address MANUEL MELLO, No. 836 Bartholomew street, New Orleans, La. 11-29-98

WANTED—Position for next crop by an A. No. 1 sugar boiler. Is now employed on one of the largest places in the State. Would have no objection to living on the place and making himself generally useful. Is a good cooper. Address GEO. CGDE, Belle Grove Plantation, Whitecastle, La. 11-25-98

WANTED—Chemist wants situation. Graduate of University of Michigan. Have had practical experience in the analysis of sugars and syrups. Am 25 years of age and unmarried. If necessary would be willing to go to the West Indies. Reference from former employer given. Address X, this office. 11-26-98

WANTED—Position as book-keeper and utility man in the country. Good references. Address COMPETENT, care Louisiana Planter. 11-21-98

WANTED—Position in this State or Mexico by an A. No. 1 sugar boiler who has references of the very first class. Address BOILER, 507 Chartres street, New Orleans. 11-9-98

WANTED—A position as book-keeper or manager of a country store by a thoroughly competent young married man with 14 years' experience. Would also open up and run a drug store in interest of employer. Can furnish A. No. 1 references. Address G. C. B., Donaldsonville, La. 11-21-98

WANTED—An expert sugar house man, as chemist or superintendent, is desirous of closing an engagement for coming crop in Mexico or Cuba. Has had six years experience on some of the largest plantations in Louisiana. Can bring references from present Central Factory, and testimonials from Dr. W. C. Stubbs. Those desiring the services of a thorough sugar house man, address OSCAR, box 574, Baton Rouge. 11-19-98

WANTED—Position as chemist in Mexico or Cuba for coming crop. Have had eight years experience and can furnish good references as to ability. Am at present employed at one of the leading sugar houses in Louisiana. Address CHEMIST, this office. 11-22-98

WANTED—An assistant sugar boiler at once. Address L. A. ELLIS, Sartartia, Tex. 11-17-98

WANTED—Position as assistant or head sugar maker. Can furnish first-class references. Address J. L. WIRTH, 1916 Toulouse street, New Orleans, La. 11-14-98

WANTED—Position as assistant overseer or time-keeper on a sugar plantation, for 1899. Married man 38 years of age. Address E. V. W., care S. C. Brodowski, 603 Sixth street, New Orleans. 11-15-98

WANTED—Position as butler by an experienced man. Good references. Will try to make himself useful in every way. Address EMILE TERRIE, 613 Chartres st., New Orleans. 11-15-98

WANTED—Experienced chemist, at present instructor in a large university in the Northwest, desires position in a warm climate. Best references. Address P. O. Box 1783, Iowa City, Iowa. 11-14-98

WANTED—By experienced man, situation as chemist in sugar house, in Mexico or Central America, for coming campaign. Good reference, sober, competent. Address CHEMIST, care of Glenwild, Berwick, La. 11-12-98

WANTED—Position as engineer, water tender or electrician in a sugar plant. Address G. G. VON SICK, Sandusky, O. 11-11-98

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WANTED—An American engineer, as assistant in sugar factory, Dutch Guiana. Must have had several years' experience in a Louisiana factory. Address with full particulars, CARTER, HAWLEY & Co., No. 40 Exchange Place, New York City. 11-7-98

WANTED—Position as sugar-maker; 20 years experience; best reference given. Can refer to half a dozen planters. Address J. C. BOURG, St. Bernard P. O., La. 10-29-98

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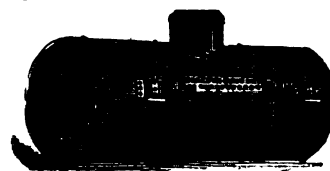
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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,
A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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AND
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Kansas Sugar Growers' Association,
Texas Sugar Planters' Association.

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W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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The Louisiana State Agricultural Society.

This well known organization will hold its next annual meeting at Shreveport, January 25, 26 and 27. A large number of our leading agriculturists have been invited to attend and address the meetings. Shreveport, now recognized as perhaps the most enterprising town in the state has opened her doors to the planters and farmers of the state inviting them all to come within her gates and see what can be done for agriculture in the grand valley of the Red river of which Shreveport is the Queen City.

The Louisiana Stockbreeders' Association, organized some years ago at the annual session of the State Agricultural Society which was held in Baton Rouge, will also hold its annual meeting within the same dates at Shreveport and a number of valuable contributions on stock breeding in Louisiana have been promised for the occasion.

Every farmer, every planter, every agricultural organization in the state is invited to attend and delegates appointed by the police juries of the various parishes are expected to attend.

Every one who has at heart the promotion of the agricultural interests of this state should lend his aid to the cause and be present at Shreveport during these meetings and do all practicable to promote their success.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

The regular monthly meeting of this association was held last Thursday evening at its meeting hall, No. 712 Union street, New Orleans.

President Emile Rost was in the chair, Secretary Dykers at the desk, and there was a very good attendance, among those present being Messrs. Henry McCall, W. J. Behan, G. G. Zenor, W. C. Stubbs, Richard McCall, H. S. Crozier, C. R. Churchill, R. E. Blouin, E. W.

Deming, J. W. Bodley, J. S. Webster and others.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

There being no candidates for membership, and no communications on the secretary's desk, President Rost stated that it was in order to take up the subject of the "Probable Effect of the Annexation of Spanish Colonies on the Sugar Industry of the United States," which had been carried over from the last two meetings. He said that papers on this topic had been prepared by Dr. H. W. Wiley and Mr. Henry A. Brown, and that both papers had been published in the Louisiana Planter. He stated that if it was desired to have the papers read to the meeting it could be done, but the sentiment of the assembly was that this was unnecessary as their insertion in the Planter had made them familiar to all. There was, however, quite an extended discussion of the topic participated in by Messrs. Richard McCall, Henry McCall, Gen. Behan, Col. Zenor, Dr. Stubbs, Mr. Bodley, Mr. Miller, of the Lidgerwood Co., New York, who was present, and a number of others, a full stenographic report of which will appear in our next issue. At the termination of the discussion the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Be it resolved: That it is the sense of this association that the annexation of the erstwhile Spanish colonies would be injurious to this state, and should be opposed.

Be it further Resolved: That the executive committee of this association act in concert with the executive committee of the American Cane Growers' Association in order to take such steps as they may see fit looking to the defeat of the annexation policy, and that the secretary of this association be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the president of the American Cane Growers' Association, and request him to assist in bringing about a conference of the two committees and to select a time and place for the meeting.

After the adoption of the resolutions President Rost announced that he had

been requested to appoint delegates from the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association to attend the annual meeting of the State Agricultural Society and the Louisiana Stock Breeders' Association, to be held at Shreveport, January 25th to 27th, inclusive. He made the following appointments: John Dymond, W. C. Stubbs, G. G. Zenor, G. A. Breaux, P. F. Bourgeois, J. A. Berthelot, L. Forsyth, Jr., Henry McCall, Geo. E. Mann, H. G. Morgan, Jr., F. W. Nicholls, Walter A. O'Neill, E. Roger, L. M. Soniat and W. J. Thompson. The president of the association, Judge Rost, is an ex-officio member of the delegation.

Dr. Stubbs then addressed the meeting relative to the seedling canes which had been raised at the Experiment Station, and of which nearly 100 varieties were arranged around the walls of the meeting room. Two of the seedlings, and particularly one of them, No. 74, had been found to possess valuable characteristics. Dr. Stubbs spoke at some length and very entertainingly, and was plied with numerous questions by those present. The stenographic report of his remarks to be published in our next issue will be exceedingly interesting to those who were so unfortunate as to be absent from the meeting. The selection of a topic for discussion at the February meeting being next in order, Hon. Henry McCall suggested that "The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane, Whether by Test or Otherwise" be selected, and that Secretary Dykers communicate with a number of the principal purchasers of canes and ask them to favor the association with their views and with data bearing on the matter. President Rost suggested that the cane sellers be also communicated with in order that both sides of the question might have consideration, and this was readily agreed to.

Adjournment was then had, the chair first stating that Mr. Le Blanc, the inventor of an ingenious device for cutting cane, was present and would like to show it to the members of the association after the meeting. Quite a number of the gentlemen present availed themselves of this privilege and inspected Mr. Le Blanc's model with great interest.

The Louisiana Sugar Crop.

The campaign is now practically over. True, there are factories here and there striving to save the remnants of cane still to be delivered to theme, and working same with an apparent disregard of the fact that the game doesn't pay for the candle. In the final round up it will be found that very little cane has been actually abandoned, certainly less than the prospect early in December indicated. The revolving seasons have now brought us to the time when preparations must be made for another crop, and those who are thus engaged find some solace in the reflection that next year can scarcely be as bad as this.

The weather during the week has been somewhat fickle and not in all respects suited to field work, yet considerable of it is being done. It is expected that an increased acreage of cane will be planted, this feature of the industry having been necessarily settled in October and November when the seed cane question was determined. If the seed cane in windrows be found to have kept well we shall probably have an increased acreage planted, notwithstanding the adverse results of this season.

Dr. Joseph Albrecht.

The death of this distinguished gentleman on last Sunday evening, which was duly reported in the daily press, removes from our midst one of the most advanced thinkers in, and promoters of, our modern sugar industry. Directly after the civil war, Dr. Albrecht and the late Mr. M. S. Bringier were collaborators in devising methods for meeting the economic necessities of the sugar industry, the decline in prices from the war levels having wrecked many of our sugar planters within a few years.

The Robert diffusion apparatus, which was becoming a feature of the Austrian sugar industry in 1870, met with but little favor in Louisiana, although several promoters of the apparatus were sent here. The tests that were finally made by Messrs. Morris, Tasker & Co., of Philadelphia, on the Louisa plantation in this State, and the final failure of the venture, confirmed Dr. Albrecht in his early conceived opposition to diffusion as applied to

sugar cane. He was an earnest student in all matters pertaining to the sugar industry and was a great believer in the efficiency of mill extraction, he having secured over 82 per cent. extraction by actual test in a hand mill.

Dr. Albrecht's thorough chemical education and long experience as a chemist made him thoroughly aware of the difficulties that attached to the successful extraction of cane juice by the diffusion process and as our readers will now recall diffusion never did become a success until the expenses for the inauguration of a complete diffusion plant and for carrying on the work, were assumed by the general government and thorough and complete tests made of the process at Gov. Warmoth's Magnolia plantation under the direction of Dr. H. H. Wiley, chemist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and his assistants, Drs. C. A. Crampton and G. L. Spencer. This was some ten years after the final failure of the experiments of Morris Tasker & Co., and verified the difficulties in the process apprehended by Dr. Albrecht in his early studies of it.

Mr. Bringier and Dr. Albrecht conceived an apparatus for the successful crushing and saturation of sugar cane through some three or four mills, each made with two rollers. We believe that an apparatus of this kind was erected on Mr. F. B. Fleitas' Corinne plantation in St. Bernard, but its success was not sufficient to bring this plan of juice extraction into general use.

Dr. Albrecht retained his great interest in the sugar industry to the last, and these early studies of his which we have herein referred to certainly did much to prepare the way for the present advanced methods of preliminary crushing and successive pressures with repeated saturation that are now employed in our best factories.

While Dr. Albrecht was a learned chemist and a highly educated gentleman, he was one of the most unassuming of men: he was always cordial in his greeting to everyone making any inquiry concerning the sugar industry, and was always glad to lend what aid he could in solving any of the difficult problems incident thereto. Some twen-

ty years ago, at the suggestion of the writer, he made a careful investigation of the merits of a patented process for making paper stock out of bagasse. It was claimed that the sucrate of an alkali had a greater power in dissolving bagasse and bringing it into proper condition for paper stock than plain alkalies as ordinarily used. It was claimed that the sugar contained in fresh bagasse combining with introduced alkali, ordinarily lime, would cheaply and effectively bring bagasse into good condition for paper stock. Samples of fresh bagasse, containing some sugar and of old bagasse, free from sugar, or of bagasse rendered free of sugar by diffusion, were thoroughly tried and the claims of the inventor of the process that the sucrate of an alkali was more effective than an alkali alone in reducing the fibrous mass to the proper condition for paper stock was proven to be true. The process, however, was never taken up and since that time bagasse has become our most valuable fuel.

Dr. Albrecht, at the time of his death, was nearly eighty years of age. He was a Swiss by birth and graduated as a druggist and botanist in Paris and as a doctor of medicine in this city, and for many years had the reputation of being the best chemist in the city. Before the civil war he had actual experience in the sugar industry as the manager of the Camille Sarang plantation. Thus his great learning and wide experience, although utilized by him for years as assayer in the United States mint and as chemist for our chief fertilizing factory, always turned to the problems of the sugar industry with great earnestness and with much success in solving difficulties that confronted us twenty years ago, before our more recent scientific researches had removed many of the mysteries that then confused us.

Dr. Joseph Albrecht will always be remembered with pleasure and appreciation by the older sugar planters of this State, who are familiar with the good work done by him for them.

Mr. A. J. Bonvillain, a leading sugar planter of Houma, accompanied by Miss Bonvillain, was a guest of the Grunewald last Sunday.

January Weather.

(From Old Plantation Diaries.)

Mr. Valcour Aime says:

1827.

January, Weather rainy from 1st to 15th. 1828.

January. On 7th cane standing are yet good enough for seed, though ice has formed several times.

1829.

January. Rain on 6th and 7th. Through preparing land for planting on 8th. Thin ice from 9th to 10th, once ice a quarter of an inch thick on 10th. Begun planting cane on 12th. Rain on 12th, heavy rain on 14th. Ice on 17th. Rain on 29th, 30th and 31st.

1830.

January, Eighty-eight arpents of cane already planted. Rain on 9th. White frost on 12th. Rain on 13th and 15th. Through planting cane on 20th; 200 arpents. Rain on 22nd.

1831.

January. Begun plowing on 2nd; heavy rain in afternoon. Begun planting on 11th. Thick ice on 11th. Ice again on 12th. Light rain on 13th and ice on 14th. Ice half inch thick on batture on 17th. Ice morning of 18th and again on 19th and 20th. Rain on 21st and 28th. Ice and strong wind on 30th. Plowing in plant cane on 31st.

1832.

January. 20 arpents already planted on 1st. Through plowing for plant-cane on 6th. Light rain on 7th. Ice on 25th. Ice one inch thick on 26th; cane frozen in mats, especially the crooked ones. Cane planted in rough lands are half frozen. Rain on 27th.

1833.

January. One hundred and twenty arpents planted. Rain on 13th. Begun plowing in plant cane on 22nd. Rain on 27th and 28th.

1834.

January. Heavy rain with thunder on 1st. Weather cloudy and cold on 2nd. Very heavy sleet on 3rd and 4th, falling all day on 4th, and the sleet half melted. Froze again, from 2 to 2½ inches thick over the ice during the night from the 4th to the 5th. On the 5th at 7 a. m., the thermometer was 17¼ deg. F.; skating over the batture without ever breaking the ice. Skating again good on 7th. Sleet did not entirely melt until evening of 9th. Light rain on 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 14th. Rain on 18th, 19th and 20th, 21st and 24th, 28th and 29th. Through planting cane on 31st.

1835.

January. Fine weather on 1st. 63 arpents of cane planted. Rain on 6th, 7th, 8th and 12th. Rain night of 14th. White frost on 16th. Through planting cane. Plowing for corn on 17th. Light rain and much thunder on 21st. Weather warm on 25th, 26th and 27th. Rain, wind and thunder on 29th. Ice on 31st.

1836.

January. Weather very fine on 1st. Cloudy on 11th and 12th and very warm on 13th. Rain on 18th and 20th. Ice on 26th, 27th and 28th. Rain on 31st.

1837.

January. Fog and rainy on 1st. Begun planting on 2nd. Ice on 3rd. Heavy rain all night of 8th and all of 9th. Planting cane on 11th. Heavy rain from 11th to 12th. Sleet on 14th. Thick ice on 15th. Ice on 16th. Rain on 21st and 25th. Rain during night of 29th.

1838.

January. Weather warm. Rain on 4th, 6th, 7th, 10th. Ice on 11th, 12th and 13th. Rain on 16th and 17th. Ice on 20th, 22nd,

23rd. Rain on 24th and 25th. Rain on 31st. 1839.

January. Weather cloudy on 1st. White frost on 2nd. Seed cane good. Through preparing land for plant cane. Clover in pastures luxuriant. Rain on 24th and 25th. Rain on 30th and 31st.

1840.

January. Ice on 1st. Ice on 2nd and 3rd. On 4th weather mild as in spring. Rain on 10th. Ice on 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th. Rain on 21st and 22nd. White frost on 24th.

1841.

January. Weather fair on 1st. Light rain on 4th and all day of 5th and 6th. Rain on 8th, 9th and 10th. Heavy rain on 12th. Rain again on 13th, 14th, 15th and 17th. Rain on 19th, 20th, 24th, 26th, 27th, 29th and 30th and a heavy rain on 31st.

1842.

January. Weather cloudy on the 1st with rain. 120 arpents of cane already planted. Rain on 11th and all day on 14th. Ice and white frost on 17th. White frost on 18th. Rain on 19th. Rain on 20th, 21st and 22nd. Rain on 25th and 28th. Through planting cane on 29th. Rain on 30th and 31st.

1843.

January. Fair on 1st. Rain on 2nd. Begun planting on 2nd. White frost on 4th. Rain on 7th and ice on 8th. Heavy rain on 9th. White frost on 10th and 11th. Ice on 12th and 13th, 14th and 15th. Rain on 29th.

1844.

January. Rain on 1st, clearing at noon and as mild as spring. White frost on 3rd and 4th. Rain on 8th, not interfering with planting. Rain from 7th to 12th, inclusive. Rain on 14th, 15th and 16th. Molasses hauled out to river banks in sleighs on the 16th. Plantation roads so muddy that hauling is almost impracticable. Light white frost on 31st. Stubbles in new land marking the ows since the 15th, being stubbles in ground where the cane has been matlayed; all those stubbles yielded two hogsheds to the arpent when ground. The year 1828, was splendid for canes, although drought prevailed from the 27th of March to 2nd of April (thirty-five days;) from the 2nd of May to the 19th of June (forty-nine days;) from the 19th of June to the 28th of July (thirty-nine days,) but canes were so forward that drought did not injure their growth.

1845.

January. Stopped grinding on 1st with 1023 hogsheds of sugar made in sixty-five days, less the time taken to clean machinery, to repair roads and to windrow cane, &c., the sugar house having been in operation only 57 days thus, during that whole period, 18 hogsheds of sugar were daily made on one set of kettles at a time. The plant cane, though cut two joints below the adherent leaves, still measured six feet to the mill and yielded 1½ hogsheds or fine sugar to the arpent twenty days after the killing frost; in 1840 the same thing occurred 22 days after the killing frost. Resumed grinding on the 2nd and finished on the 10th, making a crop of 1152 hogsheds of sugar. (Notwithstanding the drought of 65 days in the spring of 1844, and the later drought of 58 days from August 19th to October 17th, 1844, the canes yielded nearly two hogsheds to the arpent on an average.) On the 15th and 16th hauled dirt with four carts into "English Park." Rain on 17th; on the 18th heaviest rain since Nov. 11th. Left for the Island of Cuba on the 26th. Half crop made on the Island owing to excessive

drought of last year and the hurricane of October 4th.

1846.

January. Cloudy on 1st and heavy rain. Rain on 5th. White frost on 6th. Begun to open furrows on 8th and to plant canes on 10th. Weather cold on 11th. Planting canes on 14th. Rain on 19th in the morning and so heavily in the evening that the public road was covered with water six inches to one foot deep, and even on the next day water still covered the ground in front of the dwelling house. The rain was probably heavier than that of 1823. Fair and cold on 22nd. Rain on 29th and fair on 31st.

1847.

January. Rain on 1st. Cold on 3rd. Rain on 4th. 110 arpents of cane planted. White frost and ice on the 5th. Slight rain on 6th. Thermometer 23 deg. F. on 7th. Added dirt to canes planted day before, which had been lightly covered, owing to their eyes sprouting. On the 8th, the severest cold since 1835, thermometer 22 deg. F.; ice nearly two inches thick. Weather mild enough to plant on the 13th. Rain on 23rd and 24th, 26th and 26th.

1848.

January. Rain on 1st. 9th; grinding canes windrowed on November 21st, which are making red sugar in open kettles, whilst in steam apparatus the sugar made was better forty-nine days after being windrowed and worth two cents more per pound. Ice on the 10th. White frost on 11th. Through grinding on 16th, making 1,104,000, losing about 154,000 pounds. River very high on 17th. White frost on 20th and 21st. Begun planting on 21st. White frost on 22nd. River so high that an overflow is threatened if it does not fall before spring. Rain all night 24th and all 25th.

1849.

January. White frost on 1st and 2nd. Rain on 7th. About 100 arpents of cane planted. White frost on 8th. Thin ice on 11th. Planting cane on 11th and 12th. Light rain on 12th and 15th. Begun to bury cane trash on the 18th.

1850.

January. Through grinding on the 6th; 1,000,000 pounds of sugar made. Rain on 6th and 7th. Resumed plantation work on 10th. Commenced opening furrows on the 12th. Rain on 13th. Begun planting on 14th. Seed cane very good. Rain on 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st. Heavy rain on 27th, rain on 28th. Cutting new ditches wherever needed.

1851.

January. Cloudy and rainy on 1st. Ice with white frost on 3rd. Begun to open furrows on 3rd. Ice on 4th. Begun planting on 5th. Canes much spoiled. 24 arpents of matlayed cane planted only 12 arpents. Rain on 9th. One arpent cane tops plant only one-half arpent, and sometimes only one-quarter. Forty arpents cane tops planted only 12 arpents; no positive advantage in saving cane crops for seed, as ice or a temperature of 23 deg. to 24 deg. F., always spoils them besides the process of planting them is too slow. White frost on 13th and 14th. Ice on 30th.

1852.

January. Cloudy on 1st. Heavy white frost on 2nd and heavy white frost and thin ice on 3rd. More or less white frost on 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th. Light frost on 11th. 105 arpents of cane planted. Very cold northeast wind on the 12th in the afternoon; snow fallen in large flakes. On the 13th the thermometer 24 deg. F. The ground covered

over with five to twelve inches of snow in thickness, which did not melt in the shade until the 17th. On the 4th of January, 1834, sleet fell 2½ inches thick and lasted four days in the shade. On the 14th, thermometer under the gallery was 20 deg. F., and outside the gallery 18 deg. F. The cold is as severe as that of 1835. On the 15th and 16th the thermometer was 24 deg. F. Heavy white frost on 17th. Ice on 19th, with thermometer 23 deg. F. under gallery and 21 deg. outside gallery. On 20th thermometer was 9½ F., with ice fully half an inch thick on the pond of the garden, and much thicker where the water was not so deep. Resumed planting on 23rd. Although canes in mats had a sheath of ice enveloping them, however they grew, eventually, as thick as the others, having been planted thicker and covered with more dirt. River fell two feet from the 22nd to 24th. Floating blocks of ice in the river at Vicksburg and Natchez on the 23rd and 24th. The same thing was witnessed at Bayou Sara and Baton Rouge.

1853.

January. Weather fair on 1st and 2nd. Ice on 4th and heavy white frost on 5th and 6th. Through cutting cane on 6th. Through grinding on 7th. Rain on 8th. Finished boiling water-sugar, making crop of 1,131,000 pounds sugar from 460 arpents of cane. Resumed plantation work on the 11th, plowing, opening furrows, &c. Begun planting on 12th. Rained on 14th, 15th and 16th. Rained on 21st which stopped planting. 22nd cold. Ground in bad condition, and cleaned furrows with hoes, the ground being too wet to use the flukes. Ice on the 24th and 25th. White frost on 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th. White frost on 31st. There were at least eight white frosts without rain. Burnt the grass over the strawberry ground.

1854.

January. Fine weather on 1st. Juice of plant cane weighs 9 deg. Baume; ribbon stubble cane 10 deg. Baume. Otahity stubbles 9½ Baume. Rain on 3rd. Rain on 11th. Stopped grinding on 15th. Rain on 17th and 18th. One-half of the stalks of cane left standing, are yet good for seed on the 18th. Cane windrowed on the 8th of December last, is not as good as the cane left standing. Heavy rain on 27th. White frost on 30 and 31st.

Dr. H. O. Colomb says:

1851.

January 1, Rain all day. River rising fast, and within six feet of last year's high water mark. All hands in new ground, cleaning and chopping. Planted some in the afternoon of 3rd. Sugar sells well, 5½ for fair; molasses 24½ cents in city. Rain on 8th. Plant cane very much spoiled all over the state. Weather very unfavorable for planting. Plant cane here very good. White frost on 13th. 20th, fine weather for season, no rain in twelve days. Ratoons coming up. Ice on 30th.

1852.

January 3, frost. All hands planting cane. Plant 12 arpents per day. Molasses selling at 20 cents in city. Fair sugar -½ cents. Pork \$14, corn 60 cents per bushel. Ice on 6th. Frost on 7th and heavy frost on 8th. 13th, we had a snow storm on Monday evening which lasted till midnight. In the morning the earth was covered with four inches of snow, which remained there two days. Weather extremely cold for four or five days, being as low as 16 deg. F. at 8 a. m. in the air. Ice on 13th, 14th and 15th. Planted cane on 16th. Ice, and very cold on 19th. Ice all day on 20th, thermometer 18

deg. at a. m. Ice on 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. Coldest weather experienced in Louisiana for many years. River very low for season. Mess pork worth \$15. Flour \$4.50, molasses 21 cents in city and 20 on plantation. Frost on 26th. Planting cane, plows in new ground for corn.

1853.

January 10, all hands working on levee. Ground in good condition for planting, 13th, all hands planting. Rain on 15th and 21st.

1854.

January 1st and 2nd, ice. Finished standing cane, 75 arpents to grind. Making good sugar. Heavy rain on 11th. Some cane in mattresses very much spoiled. 19th, very warm weather. Finished hauling cane, finished boiling on 20th. 21st, clear and cold. Pork \$12.50 to \$13 per barrel. Corn 85 cents. Coal \$2 per barrel. Cotton 10 cents. Sugar 3½ for fair.

1855.

January 1, cloudy, warm. No work done. Gave \$200 in silver to negroes. Fair sugar 3¾ to 4 cents. Molasses 16 cents in city. Land in very fine order. Opening rows in pea land for corn. Seed cane very much spoiled. Will hardly have enough. 5th, seed cane better than expected. Fifty arpents planted. 9th, seed cane bad again. Some mattresses entirely spoiled, will not plant near as much as expected. Very dry weather for the time of year, no rain of any account for three months. 22nd, Ice. Weak hands and women cleaning up new ground for corn. Finished planting on 29th, 135 arpents. Negroes very healthy, not one in hospital.

1856.

January 1, clear. Ice on 9th and 10th. 16th, ice two inches thick, temperature 24 deg. F. at sunrise. Ice till noon in ditch. Much game in fields. Woods full of ducks. Frost on 18th. Seed cane good. Plant 12 arpents a day. Ice on 21st. Temperature 23 deg. F. on 22nd. Ice on 23rd and 24th. Fair sugar worth 7 cents, molasses 35½ cents; 33 cents on plantation.

1857.

January 1, clear, cool. No work done. Gave \$200 to negroes and half an ox. 3rd, weather mild, but damp. 6th, planted tops. 12th, ice. 13th, temperature 25 deg. F., coldest day of winter so far. 14th, ice. Planted cane. Temperature 24 deg. F. on 18th, freezing all day. Temperature at 18 deg. F. at sun rise on 19th, freezing all day. Rain on 0th; 24th warm. Planting tops. Pork \$22 in New Orleans, corn gone up to \$1.10 per bushel on account of ice in the Ohio. Hard rain on 30th. Sugar 9¾ for fair. Molasses 61 to 62 cents in city. Sugar crop in Cuba not as large as expected.

1858.

January 2, cloudy. --- wood at river. Weather very warm for season. No work done in field on account of bad weather. Seed cane spoiling in mats. Ratoons all coming up. Sugar 4¾ cents. Molasses 19 cents. Cotton 9½ cents. Rain on 3rd, 12th, 14th, 16th, 24th, 25th, 26th and 31.

1859.

January 3, cloudy. Sugar 5½ to 6 cents. Molasses 28 cents. Most horrible weather. Almost constant rain since forty days. Some cane in mats injured. In windrows the cane is good. Planting cane now. Ice all day on 23rd. Rain on 27th, 28th and 29th.

1860.

January 1, cold, cloudy. No work done. Sugar 7 to 7½ cents. Molasses 40 cents. 160 arpents cane planted. Ice on 2nd and 3rd. Rain on 7th. Planting cane.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The Miles Company's Houmas Central factory finished the labors of a long and tedious grinding season Tuesday evening at 6 o'clock, and thanks to the railway system extending through all but one of the plantations forming the noted "Burns, de group," only eight acres of the big cane crop were left in the field. These were on the Bruly place, really the rear portion of Monroe plantation, and seven acres belonged to Mr. Joseph Belle, one of the most industrious and successful of the Miles Company's tenants. Carts from all the places were concentrated in the effort to save all the Bruly crop, but the road became so boggy that the best of mules could no longer pull light loads through the mud holes, and it was found more economical to leave the remnant of the cane in the field than to keep the big factory waiting for it. Definite figures are not yet available but it is safe to say the sugar output of the Houmas Central will fall fully two million pounds short of the result achieved a year ago.

The McCall Bros. Planting Company's Evan Hall factory concluded the season's campaign on Thursday of last week, the two mills having crushed approximately 48,690 tons of cane which yielded an average of only 120 pounds of sugar per ton. The house did excellent work during the last three weeks of grinding, handling 18,000 tons of cane, 800 of which came from Cora plantation in Iberville. Three factories have been employed in grinding Cora's cane, viz.: Messrs B. Lemann & Brother's Peyton, McCall Bros., Evan Hall and Gen. W. J. Behan's Alhambra. In common with nearly all the manufacturing planters, Messrs. McCall Bros. are no doubt badly in the lurch on the season's operations, but their tenants nearly all did well, thanks to fair tonnage, good prices of sugar, on which the selling price of their cane was based, and the railway facilities provided for getting the crops to the factory. But for the last named adjunct, the farmers in the bruly back of Evan Hall, must inevitably have lost a considerable portion of the product of their year's labors.

Col. Dick McCall saved his "world of cane" at McManor, but made a "world of sugar" less than it ought to have yielded. How much his little world means is still an unknown quantity to "Ascension."

New Hope's aggregate cane tonnage was only 24,600—not 26,000 as estimated in last week's Ascension letter—and the sugar output was something like 3,200,000 pounds. Although 1,000 more tons of cane were ground than last season, the sugar product is over 1,000,000 pounds less.

Col. J. Emile St. Martin contributed about 7,300 tons to New Hope's feed, exceeding his

crop of 1897 by 1,700 tons, thanks to the escape of Bar Harbor from inundation.

The results of the season's work at Mr. Walter I. Barton's Riverside factory are thus epitomized, 12,000 tons of cane ground, 1,300,000 pounds of sugar made and estimated. The tonnage exceeded that of the last preceding year by 1691, but the sugar product was 240,000 pounds short.

Messrs Lemann & Bro.'s Belle Terre and Palo Alto factories are both done with their grinding troubles, the former having ground its last cane Sunday afternoon and the latter getting through Wednesday. Belle Terre manipulated about 32,860 tons of cane, which gave only 3,660,000 pounds of sugar. Palo Alto's sugar yield is estimated in round figures at 3,750,000 pounds.

The Donaldsonville Chief, of Saturday last, furnishes the following summary of the work of Messrs E. & J. Kock's fine Belle Alliance factory, one of the best equipped and most intelligently conducted establishments of its kind in the Louisiana sugar district:

Belle Alliance finished, or rather stopped grinding Tuesday afternoon, having ground practically the same tonnage in exactly the same time as last season. The house worked very smoothly from the start to finish, the only lost time having been due to lack of cane. The average yield per ton was about 120 pounds, against about 160 pounds the last season, a difference of 40 pounds of dry sugar per ton less for 1898-99. This is the lowest average in the records of Belle Alliance, while the cost of harvesting the cane and manufacturing it into sugar is the highest of which the owners of the place have any record. About 250 tons of cane were left in new ground on the Scatterry and Front places. The sucrose of this cane testing only between five and six per cent, and the hauling being delayed by heavy roads, it was deemed unprofitable to keep the factory open any longer, hence the house was shut down as stated and the employees all paid off the next day. The quality of sugar made was good, but owing to the fight between the refiners granulated sugar could not be sold to advantage, therefore only yellow clarified was made.

Germania, Belle Helene and Hermitage are the only factories still steaming in

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has not been as good during the past week as our planters would like to have had it, fortunately however, all, with perhaps one exception, are through rolling.

Those who made a start on the coming crop have had to suspend operations owing to the rains and from the outlook it is impossible to say when they can resume work.

We have positive figures from very few and while some have lost money, we think the majority have come out a little ahead, and believing that for some years to come sugar cane will be a paying crop, all are preparing to increase their planting. They are expansionists at home, if not abroad. Rumor has it that several large plantations in this parish are for sale.

The fine Allemania plantation of the John Reuss Planting and Manufacturing Company, Limited, finished its rolling last night and while grinding something like 2,000 tons more of cane than last year, the output is something like 400,000 pounds less.

Messrs. A. S. and J. H. Ourso, of Soulouque made and delivered 3,372 tons of cane on their Ella plantation. Their cane was sold to Allemania at an average price of \$3.65 per ton. Allemania has paid a better price this year than any other factory in the parish, we believe, and the planters in that neighborhood speak very highly of their treatment has it that several large plantations in this courteous manager Mr. J. Achille Lorio.

While not as many properties are changing hands as last year, those sales lately made show that values of sugar lands have kept up, and all lands convenient for selling cane by the ton are in great demand.

Mr. Charles E. Grace sold the Belfort and Holly Farm plantations last Saturday to Mr. Edwin Marrionneaut, for \$20,000.00 and Mr. Marionneaux has resold the Holly farm to his mother, putting the ownership of these places as it was prior to last June.

Mr. Frank Falcon, of Ascension parish, has purchased the Rescue plantation of Mr. John B. Humphreys for \$9,600.00. Rescue is on the Mississippi river and also on the line of the Mississippi Valley R. R., and is noted as being the scene of the disastrous crevasse of 1893.

Mr. Louis S. Webre, a prominent planter of St. James parish, was in the parish this week.

A new bank, to be known as the "Peoples' Bank," was organized at Plaquemine last Tuesday. Mr. James E. Dunlap, the first cashier of Bank of Plaquemine, was elected president and Mr. Louis Bluestein, vice-president; the following board of directors: B. C. LeBlanc, Henry Nadler, Henry J. Levy, Fred Baist, Dr. S. Hirlart, L. B. Hart, C. N. Roth and C. C. Neubig. The capital stock was fixed at \$25,000.00, and the bank will open for business on the 10th proximo.

IBERVILLE.

Mr. B. W. Cook, who has for many years been the manager of the Anchorage and Kelson plantations in West Abtou Rouge parish, belonging to the estate of the late Captain J. J. Brown, was an arrival at the Grunewald Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. George J. Gueno, of Terrebonne parish, where he is prominently identified with the sugar planting operations of that section, was a guest of one of our leading hotels last Wednesday.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The favorable change in meteorological conditions has been most fortunate, and the campaign is rapidly drawing to a close even with those who were retarded in harvesting the crop from breakages, etc. The spring like weather is favorable for field work, and many are plowing and preparing for planting, should climatic conditions continue propitious.

The heavy rains of last year packed the tenacious soils, and they are waxy in consequence, and it will be some time before they will become friable. All are anxious to hasten planting as fears are entertained as owing to its immature condition when put in windrow.

It is too early to form any correct opinion as to the stubble, yet where carefully examined an inch of recent growth can be seen here and there where the stumps are free of trash, and cane tops and the land well drained.

to the soundness of the seed cane later on tent of the juice in the stumps of stubble the risks of fermentation are greater than usual, and it may be found expedient to shave them as early as possible to sever the acid from the sound portions under ground. The stubble should be carefully examined before concluding how deep the shaver should cut the stumps.

This year provender will be an expensive item on plantations, and probably more hay will be purchased than ever before in the history of the industry. Some have already bought hay and will have to continue to do so for several months. It will be found that the best hay is the cheapest as quantities of inferior forage is put on the market.

The best timothy hay is cut when the heads are in blossom and not when the seeds are nearly matured; and readily fall out after being baled. So to at once thoroughly prepare and heavily manure a limited acreage for early drilled corn and sorghum, will be to materially curtail the outlay for forage. The mules in the sugar parishes have during the last campaign been severely taxed, and many are still feeble from overwork, and the ration should be a generous one of healthy food to enable them to regain strength, as the work before them is of an arduous nature.

The weather having proved much more favorable than hoped for, some have finished earlier than was expected, notably at the Lower Terrebonne refinery; Mr. C. W. Bocage of Belle Farm with one or two days grinding; Messrs Barrow & Duplantis who expect to finish by the end of the week, and possibly Orange Grove of Messrs. Dupont and Jollet.

When planting begins, should the seed cane prove defective to some extent, it will prove infinitely better to carefully prepare

the seed bed, fertilize in the drill with cotton seed meal or tankage or better still a mixture of the two than crowd the canes in the row expecting to remedy the evil. Cover rather shallow than otherwise, and roll immediately after, as early rooting is essential where seed cane is not sound. Heat must be had to expedite germination.

Wednesday of last week was variable; Thursday, warm and cloudy; Friday, showers and colder in the evening; Saturday, frost, clear and cool; Sunday, cloudy and threatening; Monday, partially cloudy; Tuesday, fog in the morning with spring-like weather during the day; and Wednesday morning partially cloudy.

TERREBONNE.

Vermillion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has drifted back into its old groove this past week. The week previous it improved to some extent and the outlook was fair for a pleasant and successful wind up of the grinding season of 1898-99, but when it was apparently at its best there came a sudden change and the temperature rose to 60 degrees and it began to rain as usual. Then suddenly the temperature fell to about 30 degrees and it cleared up for two days. Those two days, Friday and Saturday were magnificent for out door work and the farmer was hoping against fate that it would continue throughout January and February—but Sunday brought another change and the thermometer wended its way upward again, and, at this writing, Monday the 9th, the weather is very warm and the rain is pouring in torrents and promises to continue through the night. There has been an immensity of rain during the fall and winter but this present one is liable to do more harm than any previous one to the planters in the neighborhood of Abbeville. They are now on the ragged edge of finishing up their cane delivery for the season of 1898-99 and the Caffery refinery, to which they ship their cane, is dragging along to finish them up and it is all they can do when the weather is good to keep the mill going. If the rain continues for a day or two the cane in the field now will be lost for the mill will be compelled to shut down for want of cane, but if it holds up for the same length of time all the cane will be shipped out except that which was not windrowed before the hard freeze in November. Several shipping stations along the I and V. finished up last week, two or three will finish tomorrow, Tuesday, and there will be a clean sweep by Thursday the 12th if the weather permits.

Cane kept much better in windrow after the freeze than was expected. It is safe to say that 90 per cent of the cane placed in windrow before the severe cold weather has already been or will be taken out and

shipped to the mill. Much more of the cane has been saved than was expected 30 days ago. On December the 1st, '98, there was not a cane planter in the parish of Vermillion who expected to save one-half of his crop and everybody was down hearted, but today, at the winding up of the delivering and grinding season, they figure from 85 to 95 per cent saved. Had it been possible for them to get cars in abundance they would have saved their entire crop in a reasonable time.

Mr. L. Forsyth, Jr., manager of the Caffery refinery, is to be complimented for his management of this cane when we take into consideration the difficulties he had to contend with in the shape of quarantines, etc. The town of Franklin was tied up by quarantine until late in the season and it was impossible to put the mill in trim for grinding, get their switch in shape to receive cane over, or even get cars to be crated for shipping cane in. When the quarantine was raised and he applied to the railroad company for cars they had nothing left for him but odds and ends after the other mills along the line had gotten their supply.

There has been but little preparation made up to date for a cane crop this year. No ploughing to speak of at all for either cane or corn. Rice farmers are showing more signs of push in that direction, many of them have prepared their lands and some expect to plant early next month. The rice acreage will be greatly increased this year and the crop will doubtless be large.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

So far the indications are such that those who are in the habit of noting the varying phases of the weather seem to think that this is going to be a very wet month. Of one thing I am sure, and that is that on the 4th and 5th inst. it rained incessantly for at least forty hours, flooding fields, ditches and the bayous with more water than has been witnessed on any one date during the past six months. Today, as I write it is thundering off to the South, with the clouds growing dark, indicating more rain to fall before the day shall end. The farmers are now resting and patiently waiting for the weather to become dry and agreeable for them to get out into their fields to plow and prepare the soil for planting purposes.

In my last week's correspondence I was led to state, by not one, but by a number of persons, who had been, it seems, misinformed, that the Chetwood sugar factory had been burned on the morning of the 1st inst.

Anxious to obtain something of a more definite nature, as well as all the facts, I addressed a special on the 7th inst. to Mr. C. A. Taylor, editor of the Lecompte Mes-

senger, asking for information relative to the fire at Chetwood, etc.

Mr. Taylor replying on the 9th inst. says it was the Lecompte Shingle Co.'s mill that was destroyed by fire there on the morning of the 1st.

With respect to Mr. Weems' Chetwood factory, Mr. Taylor, states that Chetwood place will probably finish tomorrow week, if not today week, the 15th or 16th. On account of the bad condition of cane Mr. R. H. Carnal hauled part of his crop out to the bank of the bayou and threw it away.

I am very sorry that reports which upon their face had every evidence of being the most reliable statements caused me to write in my last week's correspondence in regard to the destruction of the Chetwood sugar factory by fire. It has been at all times and is yet my every aim to be careful when writing to report as near as possible only the facts. But when a statement has been made like the one in question, by those who are responsible, or thought to be so, and the matter proves the contrary, it is not at all agreeable to the writer.

The editor of the Messenger writes me that the Meeker sugar factory is getting along nicely. They will finish by, probably, the 21st.

I see that it is reported that Mr. F. Regard has changed the name of his Dora plantation, on Bayou Rouge, to that of "Martha plantation."

Loaded cars of cane are seen passing South every day or so from Rapides parish, over the Alexandria branch of the S. P. railroad, to some one or other factory, maybe to Lafayette, or possibly south of that place.

From the moving which seems to be going on among those who rent lands it appears it will be some time before all are permanently located and ready for work.

Under the law, as it is now fixed, there will no doubt be many who will find it to be a difficult matter to secure supplies with which to make this year's crop.

From the sound of the steam whistle which can be heard daily, it would appear that the Powhontas sugar factory is still pushing the work of crushing cane and manufacturing sugar.

RAIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The termination of the old year was characterized by the lapse of two weeks of most favorable weather. January has since its advent been very copiously showered upon and although we had grown to adopt fair weather as our possession for some time, it has already been displaced and we are again undergoing the mos. foggy, damp and whimsical sort of weather.

The days are of a very diversified nature. The mornings are damp and cold, at noon

bright sunshine, and before the sun sets the strong wind has made the round and is in the east indicating the approach of rain.

Saturday last the thermometer registered 29 degrees and everything was frozen hard, the following day the temperature had grown already much warmer, and on Monday rain fell continuing until Tuesday morning. We are since enjoying fairer weather but a remarkably warm temperature prevails and is regarded as an omen of approaching rain.

The majority of the planters of the parish have finished their grinding operations.

The Union factory was the first one to finish, having concluded almost a fortnight before the new year. There having been no breakdowns nor stoppages for anything, they were enabled to conclude earlier than many others, reaching an output of about 1,250,000 pounds.

The Helvetia sugar house finished Monday with somewhat unsatisfactory results, the crop not having quite answered as elsewhere, to the figures computed some months ago.

Wilson, of Pugh and Himel, was also among the early ones to terminate, having extinguished their fires a few days after Christmas.

Rapidan finished on the 27th ult. with rather satisfactory results, but as elsewhere the crop fell short of what was expected—1,020,000 pounds were obtained where 1,500,000 was expected.

Uncle Sam and Oneida are both grinding still. The former factory has work for a number of days yet. Almost all the factories of the right bank have closed down by this time. Sport plantation, of Mr. F. Waguespack, lost a few acres of cane which had grown totally worthless.

None of the planters have so far begun their crop work of '99, and if such weather is to continue much longer there is no telling as to when they will be able to start ploughing. Rumors circulate everywhere of the number of changes that are occurring in managerial positions, but few of St. James' overseers are moving, which speaks favorably for them.

A new postoffice at Colomb Park has been established under the name of Colomb P. O., and Mr. A. E. Hickson has been appointed as impossible.

CONVENT.

How to Hold the Molasses Market.

An article in the last issue of the Barbados Agricultural Gazette and Planters' Journal, on "The Failure of Our Molasses," states that some five or six years ago very little molasses found its way from Porto Rico to either of the United States, Canada, or Nova Scotian markets, and it certainly at that time could not compete with the Barbados product, but shippers from that place have gradually got a footing and now command a preference for Porto Rico molasses in the United States and Nova Scotian markets,

and it is to be feared that ere long they may also command the Montreal and Quebec markets as well. The reason is that the Porto Rican planters adapted themselves to the needs of the markets. They abandoned the large puncheons, and put their molasses up in neat packages of the very best material, the very appearance of the packages assisting in the sale of the goods. Then again the Porto Rico molasses was divided into various grades, according to quality, so that the buyer, on specifying any grade, knows exactly the quality of the article he will obtain. On the other hand (says the writer of the article), the Barbados planters seem only anxious to get the cheapest package available. It may, perhaps, be said that the price obtained for the molasses does not warrant a high price for packages, but the answer to this is obvious, the quality of the goods should regulate the demand, and, consequently, the price; not the price regulate the quality of the goods.

As to the grading of molasses, the writer asks if it is absolutely impossible to follow the example of Porto Rico? "If yes, then we must be content to lose our markets, but it is the opinion of many competent to judge that it can be done; that there are no insuperable obstacles which planters and merchants, hand in hand, may not overcome; that it is a vital point in holding our present markets, and ultimately regaining those we have lost, is beyond question; the subject has already been broached by purchasers on the other side, and it is being repeatedly urged on shippers that it is becoming absolutely necessary if we are to continue to hold the Canadian markets. The writer urges one other point, which, he says, cannot be overlooked; the competition of adulterated or mixed molasses cries out for needed legislation, and the House of Assembly should endeavor to press the matter home to a conclusion. Canada has passed a tariff that admits our produce at a 25 per cent. lower duty, but it would, probably, be of greater benefit to us if mixed or adulterated molasses had been prohibited from importation, or else the duty on such goods had been so raised as to make it unprofitable to import it into that market.

Trade Notes.

The Babcock & Wilcox Boilers.

The Babcock & Wilcox Company have taken from Westinghouse, Church, Kerr & Company the largest stationary boiler order that has ever been placed. The boilers are for the power plant which the Westinghouse Electric Company have contracted to build for the Third Avenue Railroad Company, at 218th street and Harlem river, and which is to be constructed by Westinghouse, Church, Kerr & Company.

The order covers sixty Babcock & Wilcox forged steel type boilers of 620 horse power each, or an aggregate of 31,200 horse power. The boilers are to be capable of carrying 200 pounds steam pressure. They will supply steam for compound condensing engines of 64,000 nominal horse power in the aggregate.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, Dec. 17, 1898.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather although changeable, as in April, has not materially changed as compared with the preceding weeks, so that it continued unfavorable for the preservation of the beets in silos, but fairly acceptable with respect to field operations, which, as the moisture of the soil is moderate, could be continued almost everywhere. But if this continual tilling of the ground is a signal advantage with regard to the sowings of next spring, there is also some natural preparation required, consisting of a good hard frost, making the soil loose and friable whilst the moisture makes it cloddy and more or less impenetrable. As it cannot be surmised that the winter will remain as abnormally mild as it has been so far, it must be feared that it will set in rather late and that it will extend into the months of spring, the consequence of which would be late sowings, which last year proved quite detrimental to the result of the crop, at least in point of quantity. The figures now published officially and from private sources confirm plainly my views, expressed in these letters, that this year's crop will be small, but rich. The quantity harvested and partly worked in the factories is estimated to amount to 28.1 tons to the hectare, whilst last year, the yield turned out to reach 31.3 tons. On the other hand the quality of this year is ahead of last year by 0.49 pct. But it is near an axiom with beet growers that the shortage of quantity is rarely or never compensated for by a better quality. For the German crop the sowings this year have been reduced by about 3 per cent, but the beet crop has fallen off by 13 per cent and the production shows a decrease of 8.7 pct., all this of course, in case the present figures, which are still estimates, be realized. The new estimates, by the way, have caused throughout the sugar world a great surprise, as they are not only in general higher, but particularly so with regard to certain countries, than those published in October. In Germany about 47,000 tons more is expected than formerly, but this surplus is much exceeded by that of Austria and France, of which the former shows a surplus of about 100,000 tons and the latter of about 75,000. Anyway the total estimate of the beet crop of Europe has been raised to the extent of nearly 250,000 tons, and it is now expected to amount to 4,675,000 tons as against 4,677,000, so that, practically, the deficit so far figured out has disappeared. I have not omitted to mention in my letters that the situation in France and Austria was improving, but nobody believed that such a thing could happen in this surprising degree. In commercial circles the first estimates, particularly of Austria, are much

attacked, as it is thought impossible that in two months an increase of over 100,000 tons could take place, but the worst of it is that other estimates of the Austria crop were even lower than that of the fabricants, in consequence of which the difference is more appalling. The movement of the markets, which I wish this time to mention in connection with this fatal deception, has been a downright panic, speculative sellers crowding in the sugar exchanges, whilst buyers were only very few and far between. No doubt the universal market must turn over a new leaf. The basis of calculation and speculation is henceforth a supply about like that of last year (not counting the stocks) but the demand will be larger, the consumption, in some of the principal countries, showing a marked increase; for instance in Germany, in England and Russia. The United States will also need much more sugar than last year, when the stocks had accumulated in consequence of the tariff movement. Taking this into account, the situation is by no means so desperate as to justify the anxiety of speculative holders to get their contracts dissolved at any price, demoralizing the market to the last degree. At times like those experienced last week it is put in evidence, that speculation is by no means an unmixed boon for an article of commerce. The majority of holders of actual goods did not join the run the frightened speculators started and by which the latter caused great harm to legitimate business. Towards the end of the week, however, the market rallied visibly, the panic movement abated and prices increased a small part of their losses. They close in Germany for actual sugar at Magdeburg at M. 10.40—10.60 as against M. 10.90—11.10 a week ago and delivery December is quoted at Hamburg at M. 9.77 against M. 10.00 last week. Refined suffered also and some marks could not be sold except at a discount.

On the sixth inst. the German Reichstag was opened and from the utterances of the secretary of the imperial treasury it can be concluded that no change of sugar legislation is in prospect for this session of the parliament. The minister expressed his regret that the sugar bounty conference has not led to the desired results, or rather to no result at all, but he said that on the part of the allied government of Germany the effort would be continued to solve the bounty question by negotiations with the other powers. By the national liberal party the motion has been submitted that the government be requested to grant greater facilities for the legal treatment of sugar to be used for the feeding of cattle, the mode of denaturalizing the sugar now prescribed by the legal regulations being too circumstantial and too vexatious to encourage the using of sugar for that purpose, the utility of which, however, is demonstrated beyond the least doubt.

As usually at this time, I give you a brief

abstract of the official review of the German starch sugar industry. There have been 20 factories in activity in the campaign of 1897-98, whose production of solid starch sugar amounted to 7,527 tons, whilst in the preceding year 6,314 tons had been produced in 27 factories, of starch syrup 35,413 tons as against 34,875 tons have been turned out and there were, besides, 4,207 tons of sugar color manufactured as against 4,183 tons in 1896-97. The latter article, as is known, is used for coloring beverages and liquors of all kinds. There is, as will be seen in all these articles which are more or less competitors of sugar, a marked increase, and they are, in Germany, free of inland taxes, whilst sugar is heavily taxed.

ROBT. MUNNIE.

Porto Rico.

Fajardo, Porto Rico, December, 27, 1898.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

I have the pleasure to send you an order on Messrs. L. W. and P. Armstrong for \$4 for subscription bill, July 3rd, 1899. Please send the receipt to them. I am well pleased with your publication, which is very interesting for those who grow or have anything to do with sugars.

In No. 24 of December 10th, I find the article "The Probable Effect of the Annexation of Spanish Colonies on the Sugar Industry of the U. S." very interesting and accurate, but owing to self confession of its author, I must say something about Porto Rico in regard to her available lands for sugar cane, her climate, conditions of labor and attitude of the natives towards their new rulers, points he is not well posted on.

Owing to low prices and heavy taxation under the Spanish dominion, the sugar industry of Porto Rico had gradually gone down, and many plantations were turned into cattle farms. Those who could endure the situation had to reduce their crops to $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{2}{3}$, and presenting Fajardo as an example you may well judge by the following data:

Number of plantations in 1888, 30; producing yearly, 6,000 tons. Number of plantations in 1898, 16; producing yearly, 4,500 tons.

I think the production of this island can be doubled in five years at a rate of 20% annually if American capital would come to develop the industry. The sugar exports in 1896 were as follows: For the United States, 71,875,614 pounds; for Spain, 43,600,064 pounds; other nations, 7,470,657 pounds; total pounds, 122,946,335.

The climate is quite the same all the year around, the extremes of temperature between 70° and 90° F. Dry weather prevails, and heavy rains begin in May and continue with slight diminution in June, sometimes till the middle of July. February and March are the driest months and are the ones selected by planters to push on their sugar

crops. A system of irrigation is badly needed all over the island.

Labor has been 50 to 60 cents a day in our provincial silver, equal to about 35 or 40 cents, amount according to rate of exchange. cents, according to rate of exchange. It is very low indeed, but the distressed situation of the planters would not allow any more to be done, and some were compelled to pay their laborers in provisions, the only thing they could get on 4 months, time enough to grind their crops. The past years have been years of agony for these planters, and if the war had not determined new hopes for them, Porto Rico would, in a very short period, have ceased to be a sugar producing country. Money could only be obtained at 1 to 2% per month, and I know of transactions at 1 and 1¼% with first class mortgage security.

As to the attitude of the natives towards their new rulers, it may be said that an American in Porto Rico finds himself as at home, and the natives anticipating the resolutions of Congress are already hearty Americans. This country oppressed during 400 years by Spanish militarism, had no love for Spain, and never dreamed of independence which was considered unfit and inconvenient for such a small island. All our sympathy was laid in the U. S., where many natives were resident and familiar with the language and had learned to love liberty. In fact, there is no example in history where a conquered territory was found so well disposed toward the conquerors as Porto Rico is, and if things are properly handled with this island, it will not require half the time that ever was needed by any other territory to become a state of the Union. We have the best elements for it, which are love, intelligence and good will. The island being small our sugar production will never injure yours, and on the other hand, the chances for American capital are great and will earn a good compensation.

Exportation from the U. S. to Porto Rico will also increase considerably, as we had to import from Spain owing to differential tariff in favor of Spanish goods that were nearly free if compared with the heavy duties on foreign goods. In 1896, the U. S. exported to Porto Rico \$3,973,855, while Spain's exports amounted to \$5,971,445. Under American control figures will stand 8 to 1 in favor of the U. S. and this again is something worth considering by the American people.

My conclusions are these: That Porto Rico is a convenient island for the U. S.; that her natives will be good American citizens in the near future, and that her exportations will not injure in the least American producers, even if admitted free of duty.

The weather has been favorable, and the new crop which will be started up by the 6th of next month promises to be good. I shall be very happy if my indications should prove of any value to you, and at your disposal, I remain sincerely yours,

JORGE BIRD Y LEON.

BET SUGAR.

Eddy, New Mexico.

The sugar factory commenced slicing beets early this morning, after a stop of one week. When the unprecedented spell of bad weather struck this section recently there were 1,400 tons of beets in the sheds, but the factory, ran them out before the farmers could get into their fields and there was nothing to be done but to shut down and wait for a moderation of the weather that would permit harvesting. Beets are now coming in and there should be no further interruption of operations.

While it is a safe proposition that the beets have not been benefited by the inclement weather, it is thought they have not been materially injured. There will be a greater loss in shrinkage of weight than in the per cent of sugar. They are averaging exceedingly well.

The half way point of the campaign has about been reached. Almost half of the acreage has been harvested and the total will fall but little short of the original estimate at the commencement of the season.

Auditor Driggs went up to Hagerman, Tuesday, to look after affairs for the company. The beets there and at Roswell have all been harvested and he went up to inspect the fields and check accounts with the weighmaster. He will return to-day.—Argus, Dec. 30.

A Visit to a Beet Sugar Factory.

[By JOHN W. LLOYD.]

I have recently visited the beet sugar factory at Binghamton, New York, and send you the following account:

I assume that you know no more about making beet sugar than I did two months ago. I will start with the beets in the field ready for harvest—but will not guarantee to get to the sugar bowl to-night. A subsoil plow is run along on one side and under the row of beets to loosen them. Then they are pulled out and topped by hand. In topping, the crown must be cut off at just a certain point. The beets are then loaded on wagons and hauled to the railroad, where they are loaded into box cars. (The growers here receive \$5 per ton f. o. b. this season. The average yield on the Cornell farm was over twenty tons per acre.)

Upon their arrival at the Binghamton factory, a sample of beets is taken from each car, and exactly ten pounds weighed out. The dirt is then scraped off of this ten pounds, and if any beets were topped too high, they are retopped. The ten-pound sample is then weighed, owing to the difference in the amount of mud on the beets, and the difference in the topping, though, in general, the beets received at the factory were very well topped. The crown of the beet contains a low per cent of sugar, and a high per cent of impurities; hence the

great importance attached to proper topping.

The beets are pitched, with seven-tined forks, from the cars to the storage sheds, through a window in the roof of the latter. There are four sheds, each 400 feet long. A trough of running water at the bottom of each shed extends the whole length. This trough is covered so that the beets are piled right over it, but any part of the cover can be removed at will. The slanting sides of the shed make it easy to poke the beets into the trough. The water carries them along to the corner of the main building where a screw elevator takes them up and deposits them in a tank of water containing a big churn dasher which souses them around and finally boosts them over into another screw elevator which shoves them into a "grain" elevator that carries them clear to the top of the building. Here a big machine slices them at the rate of 200 tons a day. A chute carries the sliced beets (cossetts) down into an upright iron cylinder. There are twelve of these cylinders in a circle, and the chute can be moved around so as to fill any of them. They each hold about three tons. Here the cossetts are digested with water to remove the sugar. The same water is pumped around from one cylinder to another, and is drawn off into a tank as a saturated solution of sugar. This solution is treated with milk of lime and carbonic acid gas twice to remove impurities, being filtered after each treatment. Then it is boiled to syrup. The syrup is bleached by treatment with sulphur fumes; then filtered to take out the sulphur. Then it is boiled down to the "sugar off" point, and put into the "centrifugals" which throw out the molasses and retain the sugar. After this, the sugar is dried and sifted, when it is ready to be sacked for shipment. The molasses contain some sugar, which is gotten out by working over again.

The "sugar" is not lifted, poured or carried from the time the man pokes the beets into the trough of water until the granulated sugar is turned out. All the "juice" is pumped from tank to filter, filter to tank, etc. One ton of beets makes 200 lbs. of sugar the first run, and forty lbs. more can be extracted from the molasses.—National Rural.

Beet Pulp Reserved for Beet Raisers.

A few years ago, pulp from beets, after extraction of sugar, was a waste product that California farmers would not use. Now it is highly prized and every ton of it is utilized. On this point Supt. Morse writes us:

"The demand for beet pulp, which has already risen to the capacity of our Watsonville (Cal.) mill, was intensified this year by the scarcity of feed and a fancy price could have been obtained for this product, if we had taken advantage of the situation. This was not done, but pulp was supplied at 10c

per 2,000 lbs. f. o. b. wagons or cars at mill, and parceled out among beet raisers. The value of beet pulp for fodder is well appreciated here and far exceeds the nominal price we charge. We furnish the pulp to beet raisers in proportion to the number of acres of beets planted, and this privilege to buy pulp at a nominal price is sought after, and is a factor in obtaining beet contracts. We are content with the greater common interest promoted between mill and farmer and a constantly appreciating market for the pulp."—Agriculturist.

Of Interest to Michigan Beet Raisers.

The success of the first beet sugar industry to be established in Michigan has been so pronounced that several other factories are projected, one of them at Bay City, where the Michigan Sugar Company is already operating. The projectors of these companies have made contracts with farmers which call for the raising of thousands of acres of beets, and these contracts form the basis of the entire project.

Land Commissioner French has just written a letter that will doubtless be a disturbing element in the successful carrying out of the contracts or in wringing the profit to the farmer that has been figured on.

Following is Commissioner French's letter:

"Letters have been received at this office from farmers, who make inquiries concerning the contracts which parties are making with the farmers of Monroe and Oakland and adjoining counties, for the growing of sugar beets. I have examined the contracts, and, though the one being made by the Monroe parties says 'The intent of this contract is to conform with the law of Michigan, offering a bounty for the manufacture of beet sugar,' I find that it does not do so.

"The law enacted by the last legislature offering a bounty of 1 cent a pound upon all sugar manufactured in Michigan from beets grown in Michigan, provides that the manufacturer shall produce good and sufficient receipts and vouchers to show that at least \$4 a ton of 2,000 pounds has actually been paid for all beets purchased, containing 12 per cent of sugar, and a sum proportionate to that amount for all beets containing a greater or less per cent of sugar.

"There is not an instance to my knowledge in which the company agrees to pay the stipulated price for beets, and the State will not pay any bounty upon sugar manufactured from beets secured under such a contract."—National Rural.

The Sugar War.

New York, Jan. 9.—The World says: The sugar war is still going on and the losses to the American Sugar Refining Company and its rivals, the Arbuckle's, Mollenhauer & Doscher's are growing into many millions.

Dealers throughout the country, who have suffered from the trust's actions for so many years, are throwing all their business to the anti-trust concern. At present time the Arbuckles and Doscher's are underselling the American Sugar Refining Company 1-16 cent per pound in granulated and 1-8 cent per pound on soft sugars. The sugar jobbers here are up in arms against all the refining concerns, because they have been selling direct to retailers. The "middle men" fear that the war may result in their being forced out of business, and they have entered to prevent such a contingency.

A report was current in Wall street today that Ex-Governor Roswell P. Flower would enter the directory of the American Sugar Refining Company as a successor to John E. Searles. When a World reporter asked Mr. Flower if there was any truth in the story, his answer was "no," emphatically "no."

Personal.

Mr. T. A. Womack, of Manchac, La., was a guest of the Grunewald hotel last Saturday.

We received a pleasant visit last Thursday from Mr. John Meyer, a leading cane raiser of the Lower Coast.

Mr. T. H. Casey, of Gibson, La., a leading sugar planter of the Terrebonne country, was a guest of the Hotel Royal last Friday.

Mr. Frank J. Webb, manager of the Baton Rouge Sugar Co., one of the finest sugar factories in Louisiana, was registered at the St. Charles on Sunday last.

Mr. C. E. Gillis, of St. Mary parish, where he is a prominent factor in the matter of developing sugar production, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. Mr. Gillis stopped at the Hotel Royal.

Mr. John B. Foley, of Napoleonville, one of the best sugar planters in Assumption parish, which is saying a great deal, came up to town a few days ago and put up at the Commercial.

Mr. J. H. Kahoa, one of the leading sugar planters of the state, was a guest of the St. Charles hotel on Friday last. Mr. Kahoa registered from West Baton Rouge parish, where his extensive sugar holdings are situated.

Mr. R. H. Carnal, of Lecompte, La., a gentleman prominently identified with the sugar planting interests of the more northerly section of the sugar belt, came up to the city a few days ago on a short visit. Mr. Carnal was a guest of the St. Charles hotel.

Mr. French T. Maxwell, one of the best sugar house experts that Louisiana has had the honor of turning out was in the city last Monday and put up at the St. Charles hotel. Mr. Maxwell has just taken off the immense crop of Col. James A. Warg's Belle Grove place in Iberville parish, and he expects to leave shortly for Mexico, where he will have charge of one of the largest sugar houses in that country.

RICE.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The past week has been a very changeable one and it has been very cold and rainy, as well as warm and clear. All kinds of weather seem to be with us this winter, and if it continues this way through this and next month, then the farmers will be behind with their spring work the same as last season, and that will necessitate more late planting which our farmers are trying to avoid as far as possible. On some of the dry farms the plow has been started, but it rains so much and so often that this work drags along and there has not been very much done as yet. On some of the irrigated rice farms the threshing is not half completed, owing to the frequent rains and the lateness of the crop, but the shocked rice is standing the weather well where it is well set up. The irrigating companies are now trying to contract with the farmers for the water, but the companies refuse to supply water whenever the farmer wants it, and this fact is forcing some farmers to try the providence farming again, for they say they will not obligate themselves to give two sacks of rice per acre, unless they can have the water when their rice wants water, and the farmers want their say about this, and we think the farmers are correct in wanting to use their own judgment as to when their rice wants water. Some farmers who took water from the canals last season, did not grow half a crop, for the water was not given to them in time, and, in some cases, the farmers did not have enough rice to pay the water rent. If the irrigating companies would accept of a share of the crop then they would see to it that plenty of water was furnished the rice at all times, and both sides would then be obliged to share the loss, as it is, the farmer has all the risk to run. Our late rice is not milling out very well, with a few exceptions, as the rice is not as hard and flinty as the rice which had abundance of water, but it seems that we must have our late rice every year, although farmers try to avoid it in the beginning of the season. The well system of irrigating rice is not losing any friends, and quite a few wells are now being put down, and the work is much more easily accomplished now, since a way has been found to handle the quicksand which has caused so much trouble in the past, in putting down the tubing.

Several car loads of mules have been shipped into the parish from the North, during the past ten days, and more are now on the road to arrive in a day or so.

Very few horses are now shipped in as it is found the mule is better fitted for the rice farm than the horse, and the horse does not stand the climate as well.

No early planting is looked for this spring, for the land remains so wet that teams cannot travel on it, except where there is new land, but there will be a large acreage of new land planted this season, and the total acreage in rice, will far exceed that of last season, unless the weather should prove to be so bad that the crop cannot be put in; a larger acreage would have been planted last season, had it not been for the continued wet weather in the spring.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

More About Texas Rice Growing.

The favorable reception given my recent letter from Beaumont, on "The Rice Country," has tempted me to go further into the subject, with your kind permission for the space occupied. The soil on which the rice crop is grown in Jefferson county, wherever I have been, is what here on the coast is called crawfish land, hog wallow and black buckshot clay. It is both yellow and black stiff land, such as I have found, extends from the Sabine river to the Brazos, interspersed with ridges of chocolate loam when back a few miles from the Gulf shore and the influence of the beach sand.

It is always level, and often so flat as to be considered marshy, but is always susceptible of being drained if levels are run to find its dip, and proper ditches cut. Every such flat that I have ever seen has a natural drain when examined, through some prairie draw, overgrown with the skunk weeds and grass that retards the natural flow of water and retains it for days upon the land. It is as W. G. Sterrett, of the Galveston News, says, "sour lands." But drainage conquers this and I have seen as fine corn, cotton, oats and cane raised upon it as any farm land the state can produce when tamed and drained. And this is as much a necessity for the rice crop as for corn, for that crop must be planted in May and June, and you know that wet lands cannot be successfully plowed or disc harrowed during the early spring months without good drainage. "Swamp rice" is really a misnomer in this state, for though this crop requires more water than most irrigated crops, still it must have moderately well drained fields for the young seed to sprout and grow in, or else, like other grains, it will sicken and die when the land is wet and sour. The fields in early stages of growth resemble an oat or wheat field; it is only in the later stages that the water is put on to a depth of six or eight inches, and by that time the plants have attained a height of a couple of feet and completely conceal the flooded condition of its roots. It then resembles a well grown wheat field or one of timothy. And when the harvest is on this resemblance is much greater, as the same type of machinery and "modus operandi" is necessary to separate the grain from the straw.

The rough grain, as it is called, is then sold to the mill men, who work it up into

the marketable article. The industry is quite a large one in that part of the state, though but little is generally known of it, as the planters had a good thing and were not desirous of pushing it along. Having taken possession of all the natural reservoirs capable of holding surface water that could be used to flood their fields without a pumping system, they thus formed a water trust that most years paid handsome dividends. But old "Jupiter Pluvius" for several years back has looked with dissatisfaction upon such an enterprise, consequently the rainfall has been deficient and many of the farmers made total failure of crops. In consequence, the mill men who have carried these farmers for several seasons had to look for some method to improve their condition and insure them crops, so that their mills might have material to run on and that they might recover the capital advanced the planters that was now taking on the appearance of debt. So they began talking irrigation by canal, having seen that system practiced successfully in Louisiana, and in a small way on one or two plantations in East Texas. At this, the property holders who had large tracts of land in the country, pricked up their ears and offered to take a hand. As a result, the incorporation of big irrigation canal companies, the pushing forward of this work and the opening of thousand of acres of virgin land to cultivation and the advertising of the business to attract farmers and thereby transmitting information to the general public and opening up on a large scale of a new industry that, like that of the making of sugar, offers for a long time to come, handsome dividends upon the capital invested.

We have now here in South Texas and Louisiana what we call a "sweetened aristocracy"—the sugar planters and mill men, who have made fortunes in cane growing and sugar refining. Then the "sawdust aristocracy," who have made fortunes and are still doing so out of the production of lumber from our long leaf pine forests. And now comes the "rice aristocracy," who are making much wealth from the malarious waters of our swamps and bayous.

People who, perceiving opportunity as nature has offered it, are prospering thereby, and what in years past was held up against our state as a bugbear and obstacle to the settlement of it, has now by nature's alchemy, been turned into a source of wealth and profit to her citizens, the very alluvium held in suspense by the waters of our sluggish streams and marshes is absorbed and taken up through the roots and leaves of the rice plant and after a time delivered into the hands of man as a source of wealth, health and nutriment, the rice plantations being as healthy a place to live in as anywhere else in Texas.

Hoping this will be worth printing, and that you may desire further articles on this new industry which I shall be pleased to furnish, I am, respectfully,—P. C. T., in Farm and Ranch.

Talmages' Annual Review of the Rice Market.

New York, January 3rd, 1899.

While the year just closed can hardly be called a more eventful one than its predecessor it was far from monotonous, having had its full measure of complex causes which in due time bore their sequential effects. With the passage of the holidays there was immediate resumption of former activity which with but slight interruptions continued on enlarging scale until late August; the sales of that month being the heaviest of the year, as the cessation of hostilities in Cuba caused a large demand from that quarter for all food products, prominently rice.

At the opening there was a shortened supply in both domestic and foreign; the former early exhausted and while being placed, so highly valued that foreign commanded most of the trade; later all of the demand was supplied by the imported styles, chiefly Java; next in order, Patna; third, Japan, which fell below the standard of several previous years; deteriorated quality and advancing values promptly putting it out of range with other sorts which were of exceptionally high order and more reasonable cost. Starting with holdings of most limited character, both here and abroad and the supply barely keeping pace with current demands, stocks were continually light; conditions therefore favorable to the hardened values which shortly ensued and maintained.

In August there was the usual setting of commercial houses in order preparatory to the incoming of domestic new crop which promised to largely exceed that of any previous year. Almost coincidentally, however, began a series of harvest storms which have prevailed to greater or lesser extent ever since in more than one locality. The Mississippi river crop being early, generally escaped but otherwise all sections suffered severely in diminished quantity and deterioration of quality. The losses in yield based on acreage expectations, are estimated: Georgia 80 per cent, Carolinas 30 per cent, Louisiana 40 per cent. Stormy conditions were the more prolonged in Louisiana but at intervals considerable crop has been taken off and marketed. Everything has found ready sale, high style at full values and lower grades—ordinary to fair—have been kept in motion by pricing them far below relative worth. This fact has been more recently appreciated and as a result better prices secured. The storms were of service to this extent, that they prevented the usual rush of rough to market and in consequence higher prices have been secured than would otherwise have been the case.

As to the immediate situation it may be said that the new year opens auspiciously. No little business was done toward the close of December for billing and delivery after

1st Inst., and this gives to the market an unusual air of activity. The forward supply in Domestic is more liberal than at equal date for the past three years. This, however, need not be regarded as depressing as the amount is far short of requirements and will be practically closed out by, if not long before spring. Present prices are reasonable; markedly so, in ordinary to fair Louisiana which offers opportunity for long margins and the same is also true, though in lesser degree, of prime to choice Carolina. We especially commend the latter as better selections; are now obtainable; again, the millings of this period carry more safely than those turned out at later dates.

With an insufficient supply of Domestic, Foreign is of continuing interest. All English and Continental markets are firm with upward tendency; the latter due to the untoward reports concerning the Burmah new crop; reductions in that crop variously estimated from 250,000 tons to 400,000 tons, an amount many times greater than the annual product of the United States. That the shortage will be large and is generally credited, is shown by liberal engagements for shipment until June and it can hardly be expected that there will be any modification of prices until after the period stated.

Sugar Cane in Texas.

Marion Hunting, of Gulf Prairie, sold a part of his cane crop for fifty dollars an acre in the field.

B. T. Masterson is arranging to plant twenty-five acres of cane on his Eureka place, near Brazoria.

Taylor Bros., of the Caney, will plant 1200 acres of cane during the coming year. They expect to soon have a central factory in that section.

Mr. Adams, of the old Wharton plantation, planted several acres of cane last fall, which he sold recently in the field for \$40 per acre.

Victor LaTulle, of the Caney, this year had 20 acres in cane, and next year will have 200 acres, or more. He will plant all the cane he can get hold of.

Chas. Hansen, of Gulf Prairie, sold his cane this year for fifty dollars an acre in the field. It was bought by Mr. Olliver, of Lake Jackson, and will be used for planting.

Mr. Stanger, who owns a beautiful plantation between Brazoria and Angleton, is now planting cane. Many other planters around Brazoria are also planting cane.

John Burnett, of Oyster creek, planted six acres of cane last fall which he recently sold in the field for \$33 an acre. He will increase his acreage quite materially this year.

H. Hurshner is now planting an acre of cane on his place near Angleton, from which he will next year have seed enough to plant several acres more. He proposes to try cane on the prairie land.

Capt. Porter, of the Darrington plantation, Sandy Point, this week sold 50 acres of cane

to Capt. Chas. Reddick, Sartartia, for \$2,750 cash. Mr. Reddick will ship the cane to his plantation in Fort Bend county, where seed cane was damaged recently by frost.

Steve Harris, Tom Brown, Dan Field, Welse Ward and several other colored farmers on this side of the river and near the factory, have nice little patches of cane which will bring them good money. They will all more than double their acreage during the present year, and will be in shape to make good money next year.

The Patton place, on the Brazos river, just above Columbia, has been leased for five years, with the privilege of buying at the expiration of that time, to wealthy sugar planters of Louisiana, who will soon have it all in cane. They will grind their cane and pump the juice to the factory on this side of the river, about two miles from the plantation.

The Lake Jackson plantation, one of the best old-time plantations in this county, located on Oyster creek, has been sold by Mr. Oliver to N. F. Smith, of Galveston, who will plant the whole plantation in cane. There are now between four and five hundred acres of land at Lake Jackson under cultivation, which will be put into cane as speedily as possible.

Quite a number of colored men near Columbia, have made little fortunes this year on cane. Levi Washington had 16 acres of cane, which he sold for \$3.50 per ton. His cane will average about 25 tons per acre, hence he will have a very comfortable stake. He will increase his acreage next year and will probably clear two or three thousand dollars above all expenses on the next crop.

J. C. McNeil, president of the Tax-payers' Union, was in town Monday last, and while here got to talking about cane. In early days he made sugar on a pretty extensive scale, and he is thoroughly satisfied this is the finest sugar country in the United States. One year he made thirty-seven hogsheads of sugar, weighing from 1,600 to 1,700 pounds each, besides any amount of syrup, from eleven acres of cane. The sugar was made by the old open kettle process, in which there was a considerable loss over the manner in which it is now manufactured. He sold his last crop at 6 7-8 cents per pound, but quit because he could not secure the right class of labor. He always made money at the business, and says there is still big money in it. He thinks the Bernard river hard to beat as a cane country, and he knows for he has had the experience.

The average cane crop this year will be about 25 tons to the acre, and is selling at about \$3.50 laid down at the factory in Columbia, which ought to be profit enough to suit any farmer. It is just about as sure a crop as can be grown in any agricultural country. Occasionally a drouth will cut it short, and it is sometimes slightly damaged

by frost, but it always makes a fair average and brings three times more per acre than cotton and can be grown and handled at less expense. All cane growers of Louisiana are getting rich rapidly. In many instances a plantation and all improvements have been paid for out of the first crop, yet all admit that Brazoria county is the best cane county in the United States. Larger crops can be grown and at much less expense per acre. Fertilization is not necessary, and the matter of drainage is a small affair as compared to Louisiana. The day of King Cotton is past. Plant cane.

The Times learns from Sergeant Lewis, manager of the Darrington plantation, that the place will this year make about 500 bales of cotton, and 8,000 barrels of corn. There are 400 acres in cane on the place, but the crop is light, as the summer showers seemed to avoid the plantation. The plantation will ship 4,000 tons of cane to Columbia, and save enough to increase the acreage to 550 acres. Their cane has been sold for \$4 per ton gross. The freight amounts to 60 cents per ton, leaving the price for the cane delivered on the cars, \$3.40 per ton. \$10,000 worth of cotton and cotton seed has already been sold, and about \$4,000 more will be shipped before the season is over. The place will produce in cotton and cane this year, which has been a most unfavorable season, about \$30,000 worth of cotton and cane, besides corn, vegetables, etc. The entire work has been done by a force of 60 convicts, and besides making the crop they have cleared 150 acres of land which will be planted in cane next year. The entire expense of running the place, including land rent will amount to about \$20,000, leaving a net income of \$10,000. Darrington is now owned by Captain Porter, who is taking a lively interest in building the proposed railroad from Arcola to Columbia, which will give all the sugar farms of Oyster creek an opportunity to ship their cane to either Cunningham's or the Columbia factory.

There was a time when Brazoria county was known as the "sugar bowl" of Texas, but for different reasons the business was allowed to languish until the present time only a few thousand acres of cane are grown in the county. But since the establishment of a central factory at Columbia, the prospect now seems to be that many planters will again turn their attention to cane. The prevailing low price of cotton doubtless has something to do with this change in sentiment, for there is absolutely no money in cotton. Cane is considered as safe and sure a crop as cane be grown in this country, and on the whole it is not an expensive crop when one considers the returns per acre. It requires both time and money to engage in the cane business on an extensive scale, but every planter can put in a few acres, and grow his own seed, thus work into the

business by degrees and without a heavy outlay at any one time. Brazoria county is unquestionably the best cane country in Texas, and in fact it is considered far superior to any part of Louisiana. Land is cheap, fertilizing is not necessary and neither is drainage expensive, while transportation, either by rail or water, is not excessive. There is no reason why every farmer in the county, who is situated either on a railroad or a navigable stream, should not now have a few acres of cane, which will bring him a sure and steady income. Plant cane. —Creighton, Texas, Times.

Reasons for Caution With Central Sugar Factories.

Having more than thirty years ago, and on very many occasions since—indeed, almost ad nauseam—advocated what is shortly called the "Central Factory" system for the West Indies, we think it well, now that everyone is converted, to point out reasons for caution, and to express a doubt whether the cure will not come too late for the patient. We well remember the indignation with which the statement was received, when it was first made, that in favorable situations in the West Indies, good V. P. sugar could be produced at 8s. per cwt., or equal to 10s per cwt. landed in London and without profit, or with 10 per cent. profit, say, at 11s per cwt. This statement is now, nevertheless, accepted as a truism. The sugar meant was yellow grocery crystals, such as are generally made in Demerara. Allowing 6d for carriage and profits, such sugar would cost the grocers 11s 6d in London, and say 13s in the country. One farthing per lb. profit would bring this up to 13s 10d in London, and 15s 4d in the country, and as 14s is 1¼d per lb., such sugar could not be retailed at that price, and this, it is to be remembered is for yellow sugar, with only, perhaps, 95 per cent. of saccharine, and not available for tea—one of the main vehicles for sugar (to use a French phrase.) Owing to the cheaper carriage from the Continent, it is well known that, even if the bounties were entirely abolished, German granulated will continue to be retailed here at 1½ per lb. This sugar is pure white, contains close on 100 per cent. of saccharine, and is available for all purposes including tea. Owing to the greater ease with which its small crystal melts, it is also for many purposes, more economical in use. The white sugar is also available for many manufacturing purposes where the yellow is not. In order for the latter to compete with any success, and on a large scale (that is if, as might be the case with central factories, the production were quadrupled), it would have to be retailed at quite ¼d per lb. below the price of white granulated. Allowing ¼d only (or 2s 4d per cwt.) for the necessary difference, this means that the West Indian planter would have to produce yellow sugar

at, say 7s per cwt. f.o.b. It is quite true that a certain quantity does and can find a sale here in our shops at prices equal to or above those of granulated, but inquiry will show that this is what may be called a fancy demand," which must be relatively small in any case.

The question next arises, whether our planters with central factories could not produce white sugar equal to German granulated. No doubt they can get near it if they try, but it is questionable whether pure sugar can be produced as white as good continental makes, without remelting raw sugar. Even granulated, when made direct from the beet juice, is not nearly equal to the refined produce. Supposing this to be successfully done with cane sugar, and the obnoxious bounties to be removed, German sugar would still have an immense advantage in cheaper freight and landing charges, &c., especially to the midland and northern districts of this island. This would amount to quite 1s to 1s 6d per cwt. Unless cane sugar can be produced to that extent cheaper than beet it could not drive out the latter.

Further, there is still a considerable margin for reduction in beet sugar, which is really a by-product, the real profit being in agriculture generally. The root gives the Germans a rotation of crops—it gives a third crop, instead of the land lying fallow; it improves cultivation and increases the production of the subsequent yield of wheat when sown after beet. It also immensely increases the yield of meat and milk, because cattle are fed on the beet refuse. Further, it gives employment to great numbers of workpeople in winter in Northern Europe who would otherwise have nothing to do, with the fields under snow. For all these reasons, any real pressure might very easily bring down the price of beetroot sugar—while no corresponding decrease seems possible in the price of cane sugar. On the other hand, even approximately white cane crystals, if of small size, would undoubtedly lead to a considerably larger manufacturing demand, as the pleasanter flavor of the cane would recommend it to wholesale confectioners.

The problem of whether cane or beet is ultimately to conquer, depends largely upon whether an acre in the tropics or in the north of Europe will produce the greatest weight of sugar. This is one important question which was not solved by our commissioners. No one seems to know the acreage under sugar in the West Indies, or the average yield per acre. We believe, as a matter of fact, that although the Germans get nearly 14 per cent. of sugar from the beet, while only the very best West Indian estates approach this, yet that the latter per acre still obtain a good deal more sugar than the Germans. Before embarking large sums in central factories in the West Indies this point should be carefully studied and cleared up. There seems, in some quarters, an idea,

not of starting factories where the raw cane should be used, but of putting up refineries where raw sugar should be melted. This would be a disastrous error. Sugar refining barely pays in this country with cheap coal and the best raw material in beet sugar. How then would it be likely to pay in the West Indies with dear coal and Muscovados to work from? In old times, when it paid refiners to work from West Indian sugar, there was a wide range of values (owing to protective duties), and the white sugar which formed the first runnings fetched relatively so high a price, that the secondary runnings could be sold much below the original cost of the raw materials. When this state of things came to an end, on the abolition of our sugar duties in 1884, the British refiners were drawn by degrees to give up the use of such inferior products as Muscovados. Besides, it is the production of the latter which is the chief reason for the decay of the West Indies, because such sugars really utilize about one-third of the saccharine value that ought to be in the canes. If the West Indies are ever to be resuscitated, the first essential is the abolition of such wasteful old processes—not their perpetuation by placing refineries on the islands. The next essential is for the Muscovado planters to make sugar for direct consumption, and that it should not undergo a needless cost of some 2s per cwt., in order to refine it. We trust, therefore, that no more will be heard on the subject of West Indian refineries.

As to central factories, given sufficient data, we have, under the circumstances, no objection even to government credit being invoked to start the system in the West Indies. But there is a lot of loose and mischievous talk in the papers on the subject just now which may lead to serious mischief, unless the colonial office keeps business objects strictly in view, and refuses to be led away by vague philanthropy. We are all very sorry for the West Indies, but it would be no real help to throw good money after bad. We feel the more free to make these cautionary remarks as the original proposers of central factories, and their sole supporters for a great many years. The circumstances of the case have very materially altered of late, and although the system is still the only one that can save the West Indian sugar industry, the question to be considered by our statesmen is, whether it is not now too late to apply the remedy, at the cost of the British taxpayer, to patients who may be beyond the reach of medicine. It must also be remembered that unhappily the American demand, which has been so useful of late to the West Indies, is hardly likely to be retained under recent developments.—P. M. Review.

General W. J. Behan, of Alhambra plantation in Iberville parish, was a guest of the St. Charles hotel last Tuesday night.

JAN. 13

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	Jan. 7.	Jan. 9.	Jan. 10.	Jan. 11.	Jan. 12.	Jan. 13.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.	
SUGAR.									
Open Kettle.									
K. Centrifugal Choice.....	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 4	— @ —	Quiet.	
Strict Prime.....	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8		
Prime.....	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8		
Fully Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8		
Good Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8		
Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8		
Good Common..	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8		
Common.....	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8		
Inferior.....	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8		
Centrifugal.									
Plant'n Granul'ed	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8		
Off Granulated...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice White.....	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8		
Off White.....	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8		
Grey White.....	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4		
Choice Yellow....	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8		
Prime Yellow....	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8		
Off Yellow.....	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8		
Seconds.....	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8		
MOLASSES.									
Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal	22 @ 26	22 @ 26	22 @ 26	22 @ 26	22 @ 26	20 @ 24	— @ —	Quiet.	
Fancy.....	— @ 32	— @ 32	— @ 32	— @ 32	— @ 32	— @ 31	— @ 27		
Choice.....	28 @ 29	28 @ 29	28 @ 29	28 @ 29	28 @ 29	27 @ 28	25 @ 26		
Strict Prime.....	— @ 27	— @ 27	— @ 27	— @ 27	— @ 27	— @ 26	22 @ 23		
Good Prime.....	— @ 26	— @ 26	— @ 26	— @ 26	— @ 26	— @ 25	— @ 20		
Prime.....	— @ 25	— @ 25	— @ 25	— @ 25	— @ 25	23 @ 24	— @ 18		
Good Fair.....	— @ 24	— @ 24	— @ 24	— @ 24	— @ 24	— @ 22	— @ 17		
Fair.....	— @ 23	— @ 23	— @ 23	— @ 23	— @ 23	— @ 21	— @ 16		
Good Common..	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 20	— @ 15		
Common.....	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	18 @ 19	— @ 14		
Inferior.....	— @ 20	— @ 20	— @ 20	— @ 20	— @ 20	— @ 17	— @ 12		
Centrifugal.									
Fancy.....	18 @ 19	18 @ 19	18 @ 19	18 @ 19	18 @ 19	— @ 18	— @ —		
Choice.....	16 @ 17	16 @ 17	16 @ 17	16 @ 17	16 @ 17	— @ 16	12 @ 13		
Strict Prime.....	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	10 @ 11		
Good Prime.....	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	— @ 9		
Prime.....	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 8		
Good Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 7		
Fair.....	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 6		
Good Common..	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 5		
Common.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 5		
Inferior.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 5		
SYRUP.									
	20 @ 24	20 @ 24	20 @ 24	20 @ 24	20 @ 24	— @ —	18 @ 22		

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Eirm.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 4.70	— @ 4.70	— @ 4.70	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	4.96 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	4.84 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 4.83	— @ 4.83	— @ 4.83	— @ 4.86	— @ 4.83	— @ 4.83	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 7 1/2 d.	11s. 4 1/2 d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	9s. 5 1/2 d.	9s. 5 1/2 d.	9s. 5 1/2 d.	9s. 6d.	9s. 5 1/2 d.	9s. 4 1/2 d.	9s. 3d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Leaf.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	Steady.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 1/4	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	
Candy A.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 5 1/4	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								
	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Jan. 4.....	Tons	116,093
At four ports of Great Britain to Dec. 31.....	"	76,500
At Havana and Matanzas to Jan. 8.....	"	4,700

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Jan. 13, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Jan. 13, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses	Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.		Hhds.	Barrels.	
Received.....	711	75,503	15,669	5,534	1,016,869	175,523
Sold.....	711	75,428	15,219	5,534	1,000,211	173,570
Received same time last year				15,032	1,095,490	154,440

JAN. 13.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

RICE.	Jan. 7.	Jan. 9.	Jan. 10.	Jan. 11.	Jan. 12.	Jan. 13.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
	ROUGH, per bbl...	2 50@4 25	2 00@4 50	3 00@4 10	1 75@4 25	1 70@3 50	1 25@4 00	1 50@4 00	Steady.
CLEAN, Fancy....	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	5½@5½	
Choice....	5½@5½	5½@5½	5½@5½	5½@5½	5½@5½	5½@5½	5 @5½	
Prime....	5½@5½	5½@5½	5½@5½	5½@5½	5½@5½	5½@5½	4½@4½	
Good....	4½@5	4½@5	4½@5	4½@5	4½@5	4½@5	4½@4½	
Fair....	4½@4½	4½@4½	4½@4½	4½@4½	4½@4½	4½@4½	4 @4½	
Ordinary....	4 @4½	4 @4½	4 @4½	4 @4½	4 @4½	4 @4½	3½@4	
Common....	3½@3½	3½@3½	3½@3½	3½@3½	3½@3½	3½@3½	3½@3½	
Inferior..	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	Nominal	
No. 2.....	1½@1½	1½@1½	1½@1½	1½@1½	1½@1½	1½@1½	2 @2½	
BRAN, per ton....	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	9 50@10 50	Steady.
POLISH, per ton....	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 00@ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Jan. 13, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Jan. 13, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.	This year	Last year	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN
Received.....	20,045	182			570,873	1,451
Sold.....	18,350	3,149			398,182	2,320

Sugar.

The sugar market was steady at the end of the week. Receipts from the country were fair, and a demand sufficient to absorb most of the offerings prevailed.

Molasses.

Both open kettle and centrifugal goods were steady at the end of the week.

Rice.

Rough rice was steady at the close of the week and a fair amount of business was reported. Receipts were fair. Clean rice was steady.

An Error.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

I see that "Erin" reports the loss of Chetwood factory by fire, in your issue of the 7th inst, and he also state the factory was conducted on the co-operative plan and sharing the profits of the cane with the growers. No doubt the insurance companies will be pleased, as well as the writer, to be able to inform you that "Erin" was misinformed as I am just now concluding my year's operations at Chetwood. "Erin" was also wrong in stating that I was sharing the profits of the cane with the growers. After running for two weeks at a heavy loss, owing to the sour condition of the cane, and as the cane seemed to be gradually deteriorating. I finally refused to accept cane any longer at the old rate. I then agreed to handle the balance at cost, paying them all over and above the manufacturing expenses. I wish to state that the shingle mill on Chetwood plantation, belonging to Lecompte Lumber Company, was destroyed by fire. Yours truly, E. V. WEEMS.

Sugar in Florida.

For our tobacco we must seek a foreign market; our fruit has been struck hard by Jack Frost. But our sugar asks only recognition in the home market; our cane has no rival on the continent, and our best cane

lands are yet virgin to the plow. In Florida we have been trying to make syrup for a generation, and find that we cannot keep it because it will crystallize. From henceforth we accept the lesson—let it crystallize and make profit thereby.

What is the difference between syrup and sugar? The one has glucose and water, while the other has not.

Water we can remove at our pleasure with little cost; what is glucose? That which in ripe cane is sugar, in the unripe cane is glucose. But when glucose is present it must be gotten rid of, and the only way to do so is to force by heat a combination between particles of sugar and glucose that will pass away. Glucose prevents crystallization, which cannot occur in its presence, but to get rid of glucose we must sacrifice the per cent of sugar which becomes ruinous where the cane must be ground in the unripe state—in Louisiana the Sugar Planter estimates this at \$84,000 for one plantation. We thus see that when Florida makes syrup and Louisiana makes sugar each is losing. Ignorance of chemistry has reversed the legitimate places in our industrial economy that should be occupied by the two States. The fact that Louisiana had the sugar-producing machinery and Florida had not, has devolved upon the nation a loss nearly equal to the interest upon the national debt. In conversation with Captain Rose, the owner of a canemill in west Florida, lately, he said that to prevent crystallization he was careful to cut off the unripe portions of the cane. He should have ground the unripe joints, or even cut his cane early if he wished to make syrup only. Nothing could better illustrate the necessity of that scientific education of the farmer which the Times-Union and Citizen has advocated.

Now, in Louisiana the cane must be ground in the unripe state to escape the danger of early frost; the difference of two weeks means the loss of \$84,000 to one plantation. In south Florida no cane need be ground till it has ripened, and this means not only that more sugar has been produced by nature's process, but that much glucose has been changed into sugar. Every atom of

glucose in the juice when run into the evaporating pan is not only a deleterious body like water, but when we get rid of it by heat, it takes sugar with it. Florida syrup is not popular on the market because it soon crystallizes; let Louisiana make syrup and let us make sugar, or let us grind the unripe cane.

All our small farmers grow cane, or would do it if they had a market for their product. Give them one in Jacksonville. The establishment of a sugar plant by Ohio people in Baton Rouge is thus spoken of by the Advocate of that city:

"Many old cane growers advised against the erection of the plant outside the cane belt, but Manager Webb claimed that cane could be grown here as well as on the lowlands across the river, and his contention has been more than justified by the results that have followed.

"Since its establishment in the center of a cotton field, the small farmers in every direction have turned attention to cane as a principal money crop, and this season, within a radius of two miles of the factory, 12,000 tons of cane have been harvested and sold to the Baton Rouge company at a market value of \$40,000. This has worked a marvelous improvement in the condition of the small planters north of the city, and has brought them prosperity as against the old system of raising 4½-cent cotton and buying the necessaries of life on a credit basis." —Times-Union and Citizen.

Personal.

Mr. W. E. Howell, of Lafourche parish, a cultivated gentleman and a prominent sugar planter, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. Mr. Howell made his headquarters at the St. Charles.

Gov. H. C. Warmoth, of Magnolia, was in town during the week. The governor stopped at Col. Blakely's hospitable establishment on St. Charles street.

Dr. R. W. Boland, president of the Birmingham Machine & Foundry Co., of Birmingham, came down to New Orleans during the past week and made himself at home for a day or two, as he does quite frequently now-a-days.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, timekeeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish all references. Address "A. C.," this office. 1-9

WANTED—A young, unmarried man desires to secure a position on a sugar plantation. Has had experience as clerk, overseer and other general work. Honest, sober and reliable. Can furnish best of references. Is willing to work for a nominal salary. Address at once J. L. SLACK, Tallulah, La. 12-31-98

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 521 Du Maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of cane. Best of references given. Address, M. E. W., Care Varandat Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-24-98.

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98.

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, 622 Joseph St., New Orleans, La. 12-25-98

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 6334 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—A young married man of small family, desires a position in Puerto Rico as time-keeper or sugar weigher. Have had several years' experience in sugar houses; also a very good book-keeper. Can furnish best of references. Address C. B. S., care Baton Rouge Sugar Co., Baton Rouge, La.

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTTERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$30. Address F. E. C., Shady Side Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYEE, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as manager of sugar plantation for the coming year. Ample experience, highest recommendations as to capacity, sobriety and ability to handle labor. Address D. A. BLOUIN, Whitecastle, La.

WANTED—Position as manager or assistant on sugar plantation for 1899, by a young man who has had several years' experience and is prepared to furnish the most unexceptional references. Address M., care The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as assistant manager on sugar plantation, by a young unmarried man of strictly abstemious habits. Particularly successful in the management of labor. Best references furnished. Address L. B., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager or assistant on sugar plantation for the coming year. Long experience and first-class references. Address A. G., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Solms P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation, by married man, 33 years of age, sober, energetic and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 256, New Iberia, La. 12-5-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOYER, care First New York Beet Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-6-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 22, City Hall. 12-3-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1035 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address Mrs. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as manager for 1899, by a first-class man of experience and fine references. Will take an assistant and work very reasonable. Address E. W. CREIGHTON, Baton Rouge, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as second overseer or time-keeper on sugar plantation, for 1899. Address THEO. BAUDOIN, Jr., Hahnville, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—A sugar house expert, who is now, and has been for the past five years, the head chemist for one of the largest sugar houses in Louisiana, is open for an engagement for coming crop in Mexico, Cuba or Central America. Will accept a position on any terms consistent with first-class work. Can furnish best of testimonials from present employers and from the University from which he graduated. Address LEDA, this office. 12-8-98

WANTED—By a young chemist with university education and one year's experience in large Louisiana factory, a position for Mexican or Cuban campaign. Address A. M., care Louisiana Planter. 11-9-98

WANTED—By a first-class sugar boiler, to go to Mexico, Central America or the Hawaiian Islands. Will furnish the best of references. Address MANUEL MELLO, No. 886 Bartholomew street, New Orleans, La. 11-25-98

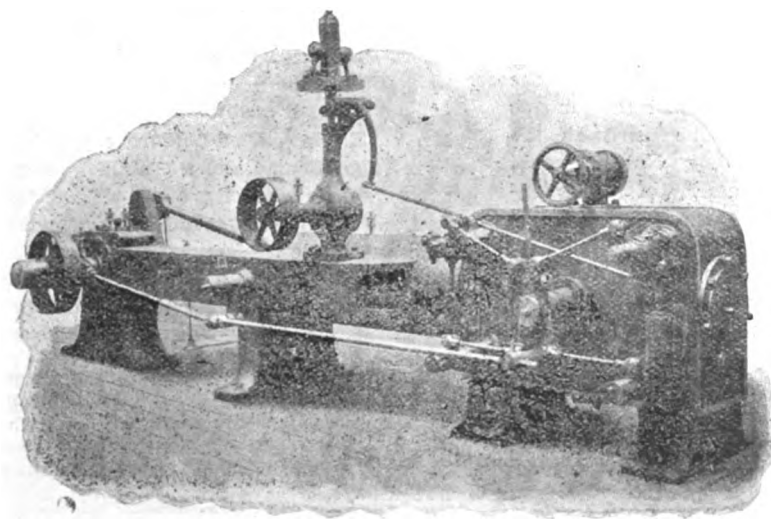
WANTED—Position for next crop by an A No. 1 sugar boiler. Is now employed on one of the largest places in the State. Would have no objection to living on the place and making himself generally useful. Is a good cooper. Address GEO. CGDE, Belle Grove Plantation, Whitecastle, La. 11-25-98

WANTED—Chemist wants situation. Graduate of University of Michigan. Have had practical experience in the analysis of sugars and syrups. Am 25 years of age and unmarried. If necessary would be willing to go to the West Indies. Reference from former employer given. Address X, this office. 11-26-98

WANTED—Position as book-keeper and utility man in the country. Good references. Address COMPETENT, care Louisiana Planter. 11-21-98

WANTED—Position in this State or Mexico by an A No. 1 sugar boiler who has references of the very first class. Address BOILER, 507 Chartres street, New Orleans. 11-9-98

WANTED—A position as book-keeper or manager of a country store by a thoroughly competent young married man with 14 years' experience. Would also open up and run a drug store in interest of employer. Can furnish A No. 1 references. Address G. C. B., Donaldsonville, La. 11-21-98



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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,
A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
Kansas Sugar Growers' Association,
Texas Sugar Planters' Association.

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branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chem-
ical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGII. JOHN DYMOND.

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Nelson Dingley.

Long before this issue of the Planter will reach our readers the daily press will have carried to them the news of the death, in Washington, of that distinguished statesman, the Honorable Nelson Dingley, of Maine, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the lower house of Congress. The funeral services held in the hall of the House of Representatives over the remains of Mr. Dingley last Monday were perhaps the most impressive ever held there. The president, his cabinet, distinguished members of the diplomatic corps, members of the Supreme Court, Senate and House, and distinguished men in military and civil life, were assembled about his bier on the floor of the House while the galleries were crowded to their utmost capacity with anxious and appreciative participants in the ceremonial honors to the distinguished dead.

The sugar planters of Louisiana, and, in fact, all the sugar producers of the Union have especial cause to lament the unexpected death of Mr. Dingley and in his death the loss of a friend who came to their rescue in their hours of greatest distress. The year of the repeal of the bounty law (1894) and the enactment of the Wilson bill will long be recalled in the annals of the sugar industry as a black letter year in the sugar producers' calendar. The slow recovery from the shock of 1894 is shown in the reduced production of the subsequent years..

When Mr. Dingley was made chairman of the Ways and Means Committee under the McKinley administration it became evident that the sugar producers of the United States could hope for better legislation so far as their interests were concerned, and in this they were not disappointed. The Dingley bill, as finally passed, placed the sugar industry of this country on firmer foundations that it had had for many years

and its rapid progress during the last two seasons demonstrates the truth of this proposition.

One peculiar feature of the Dingley bill, introduced largely through the efforts of the Louisiana Cane Growers' Association, was the recognition of the legislation affecting the value of imported sugars at the place of their production. The sugar bounty laws of France, Germany and Austria were considered, and to whatever extent those governments paid a bounty on exported sugars, additional duties, equal in amount, were levied on those sugars when imported into this country. This feature of the Dingley bill was of vast importance to Louisiana, concentrating as it did the demand of the American sugar refiners almost exclusively on cane sugars and thus relatively enhancing or maintaining their values.

Mr. Dingley was a quiet, unobtrusive, modest gentleman, a man of a large ability of great industry and persistence in the line of duty and thus able to accomplish an immense amount of work. His friends and admirers in Louisiana will long cherish his memory and sympathize deeply with his family in the irreparable loss they have sustained in his death.

The Louisiana Sugar Crop.

The chief interest has now been transferred from the crop of 1898-99, which has proved itself a sore disappointment, to that of 1899-1900, to which our planters, with commendable optimism, look for a restitution of the losses suffered by them during the campaign of the present winter. Hitherto the weather conditions have not been particularly favorable either for the prosecution of plowing, and other field work, or for the preservation of the seed cane. With regard to the latter it is a little early to prognosticate with any certainty, reports from those who have exam-

ined it being a little bit conflicting, although generally agreeing that the conditions have not been favorable for its perfect preservation. In a short while now more light will be thrown on this question and in the interim it would be unwise to borrow trouble.

Trade Notes.

The Wm. Powell Co., of Cincinnati.

The Planter has received from the Wm. Powell Co. of Cincinnati, the well-known brass founders and manufacturers of all kinds of lubricating devices, their Ariadne 1899 calendar. This is a beautiful calendar and a very handsome ornament for any office. The Wm. Powell Co. promise to mail duplicates of it to our subscribers upon receipt of a postal request of the same, and we advise them all to get it.

Personal.

Messrs. Henry McCall and Richard McCall, of the Upper Coast, have been spending a few days in town during the past week.

Mr. C. W. Bocage, of Houma, put up at the Royal on one of his customary visits during the week.

Mr. Thomas Supple, a leading sugar planter, of Bayou Goula La, was among the arrivals at the Hotel Grunewald during the past few days.

Of one well-known in New Orleans, the "Tip-of-the-Tongue" man of the New York Press says: "Another member of the board of general appraisers, the wft of the satisfied nine, usually has his name spelled wrong in the papers. He is not Joseph B. Wilkerson, but Joseph B. Wilkinson, Jr., one of the salt of the old Louisiana earth. He has the politeness of a Frenchman, the bonhomme of an Arcadian, the warm heart of the Sheik Ul Islam, grand mufti of Constantinople. I'd as soon hear Wilkinson after dinner as to bask in the allegories of Depew or Choate, Ford or Taylor. He is tall as a sycamore, thin and easily bent as a reed, and in a beauty sale would fetch about 3 cents on the dollar. He served through the war on the confederate side, ending his military career as colonel of the Twenty-first Louisiana Infantry. I take him to be 60 years of age."

Mr. A. W. Norman, a well-known sugar planter, was registered at the Hotel Royal Wednesday night.

Mr. Ernest Roger, one of the foremost sugar planters of Lafourche parish, was in the city during the past week on a visit and put up at the Commercial.

Mr. A. M. Underwood, of the fine Belle View plantation near Franklin, La., was in the city on Wednesday last. Mr. Underwood stopped at the Hotel Royal and found there two of his confreres in the persons of Mr. Thomas J. Shaffer, of St. Mary, and Dr. H. J. Sanders, of the same fertile section.

Senor Julio Herrera, a prominent capitalist

and sugar planter of Guatemala, C. A., was registered at the St. Charles hotel last Wednesday. Mr. Herrera was in the city last summer, enroute for Europe, from whence he has now returned, and is on the way to his home in the tropics.

At the Voiron place of Messrs Kessler Bros. were to be found this season again those sterling overseers, Messrs Edw. Guedry and his son Eugene Guedry, who are among the best posted men in Louisiana regarding all kinds of sugar plantation work.

Mr. O. M. Nilson, of Covington, La., and many other places was in the city during the past week and stopped at the Hotel Grunewald. Mr. Nilson was accompanied by his wife. He is extensively interested in sugar manufacturing operations.

The Probable Effect of the Annexation of Spanish Colonies on the Sugar Industry of the United States.

(Discussion at the meeting of The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association, Thursday evening, January 12th, 1890. Judge Emile Rost in the chair, and Mr. Reginald Dykers at the desk.)

Chair: The chair will state that the last meeting of the association, on account of bad weather, and for want of a quorum, was adjourned without any proceedings whatever. At that meeting, the subject which had been continued from the previous meeting was to have been discussed; i. e. The Probable Effect of the Annexation of Spanish Colonies on the Sugar Industry of the United States. In connection with that subject, there were two papers sent to the association; and these papers although not read at the meeting, were published in the "Planter," and I presume most of you gentlemen have read them. Mr. Secretary, what is the title of those papers?

Secretary: "The Probable Effect of the Annexation of Spanish Colonies on the Sugar Industry of the United States." One of the papers was by Prof. Wiley and the other by Mr. H. A. Brown.

Chair: Gentlemen, is it your pleasure that these papers be read?

Gen'l. W. J. Behan: As the papers have already been printed, I would move that they not be read.

Motion seconded and carried.

Chair: No other topic was selected at the last meeting, and if there is anything further to be said on the subject which had been continued, as to the effect of annexation, we would be glad to take it up, as the same subject is still open for discussion. If there is nothing to be said on it, the chair will close the discussion and proceed to other matters.

Hon. Henry McCall: Before closing the discussion of the subject, I would state that from time to time in the last two or three months the Cane Growers' Association have been discussing this same subject. It was to have held a meeting to-day, but did not for want of a quorum; still there was an interchange of views expressed by members of the executive committee, and I think that there seemed to be a disposition—in fact, I heard one gentleman say that it was understood that they were not to have a quorum to-day because they expected this subject to be taken up by this association; and it occurred to me this evening that perhaps it might be wise and proper to discuss it. I merely throw this out as a suggestion. I have not given the matter a great deal of

thought. If it meets with the views of the members of this association, it might be well to talk this over, and adopt some resolution to the effect that the executive committee of this association meet the executive committee of the Cane Growers' Association. Whilst, of course, the executive committee of this association is authorized to act for this association, it occurs to me that perhaps it might be well for it to express its views and discuss the matter, and then let the executive committee take it up—let the executive committee be authorized and instructed, if you please, to confer at any time that they think proper, with the executive committee of the Cane Growers' Association, with the view of harmonizing plans and views, in case of possible legislation, on the question of expansion and annexation, etc., and take any other steps that may be necessary; to look into the matter of legislation at Washington—all this and kindred subjects which may come up from time to time. I throw this out as a suggestion, Mr. President, and if you think anything of it, have the views of the members on the subject. I would be glad to have you submit it, if you think there is any point in it. A good many members of our association, of the executive committee of our association, are members of the Cane Growers' Association, and some of them are also members of the executive committee of the latter.

Chair: The chair approves Mr. McCall's suggestion entirely. As this subject was brought up at the November meeting, and was very fully discussed at that meeting, no definite conclusions were reached. There was no expression of opinion in the form of a consensus of opinion, or resolution definitely expressing the sense of the association. The association could do one of two things—either express its opinion as positively and strongly against the annexation of the colonies, or the association could deplore the probable effects of such annexation, and instruct the executive committee, as Mr. Henry McCall suggests, to confer with the executive committee of the Cane Growers' Association, so as to see what legislation would be necessary; or what could be done to prevent the annexation; would you put that in the form of a resolution?

Prof. W. C. Stubbs: I would suggest, as a member of the executive committee, that we take the sense, or the essence of opinion, so to speak, of this audience, so that the executive committee will know how to act—so that it will know exactly what the sense of the association is. Put it in just as strong language as you please, or leave anything out. Let anything be put into the resolution so that we will have some opinion to guide us when we get there. I am a member of that committee, and I am quite sure I will put it in as strong as any one here. I think the whole question of annexation is one of, I might say, fraud, to use a common sort of expression, and I am willing to go into print, as severely as any one, but I should like to have the sense of the meeting. We have a good many planters present to-night, as many as ever, so let us have the sense of the meeting, and express ourselves, not only to this conference, but also to the people of this state and surroundings.

Hon. Hy. McCall: I would like to have a resolution.

Chair: Do you desire that this should be the opinion of the association with regard to this question?

Hon. Hy. McCall: With regard to this question, and then leave it to the executive committee to take such steps as it sees fit to carry this resolution into effect, through the influence of our senators, congressmen, etc., etc. In other words, let the executive

committee be the channel through which this resolution should reach the public or congress.

Chair: The chair will state that the way the question was brought up for discussion—it was merely a statement of the probable effect of annexation; and any resolution that might be passed would have to be either strongly against annexation, or strongly denouncing the damaging effects that annexation would produce; it would want to be responsive to the question which was discussed, and then the moment that expression has been obtained—an expression of opinion,—why then the executive committee could be instructed to co-operate with the other committee.

Hon. Hy. McCall: The secretary might read, perhaps, the resolution passed at the last meeting. It perhaps does not cover the ground entirely, but has some bearing upon it, because the question of annexation—that is a vague question. Annexation may mean a good deal, and it may mean a little. If annexation means that Cuba, and Porto Rico and the Philippines are to become parts of the United States—territories and states—why then it means absolute free trade, because we have among ourselves—we have absolute free trade between the states. That is one proposition. But if annexation means colonies, we may, from the standpoint of constitutional lawyers, deplore having them. We may think they will have a very disastrous effect upon the institutions of this country, but not upon the sugar industry. So there are two ways to look at it. I suggest these two ideas. Now I think the treaty is going to be ratified. That is my belief. I think there is no more doubt about that than I am standing here to-night. But it does not follow, because the treaty is ratified, that Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines are going to become integral parts of the United States—territories or states. It does not follow. Some think it will follow, naturally, but I don't think so; and of course it makes a difference whether we have a colonial policy, or whether we will take them in as territories or states. The secretary might read that resolution.

Chair: Please read the resolution of the November meeting.

(Resolution which appeared in our issue of December 10th was here read.)

Chair: There are present here this evening several members whom we did not have the pleasure of hearing at the November meeting. Co. Richard McCall was not at the November meeting. We would like to have an expression of views from him.

Col. Richard McCall: Both as an American citizen and as a sugar planter, I am opposed to annexation; I don't think there is a planter in the State of Louisiana who is not. I believe that so far the planters have not understood this subject. I believe that when once their eyes are opened to the danger that appears to be imminent, that we will be able to get a larger body than is present at the meeting to-night. There is one thing that I think ought to be done; and I agree with Mr. McCall thoroughly. This association should draw closer in this fight to the Cane Growers' Association. So far, in the last fight, the Cane Growers' Association made most of the fight in congress for us; and I think that this association should get closer to it. I think that the two executive committees ought to come together, and see if they cannot bring the press of this state, to bear on our senators and representatives, to take a more active interest in protecting us from that which may eventually become the ruin of our industry. So far, outside of Senator Caffrey, I have heard very little said as to what these gentlemen think on this

subject. Both parties seem divided as to what is best. Senator Foraker has given us the most cheering news so far, because he comes from the president's state; he has the president's ear, and he has said (and it almost sounded as if he spoke by the card) that the President of the United States has been warned that the people of this country didn't want annexation; and he said that our occupation of the Philippines was only temporary; until they were given a good government. If that has been the effect of the Anti Imperialist League up to the present moment (which league is very strong in the North) then any backing that we can possibly give to it ought to be given, either by means of a suitable resolution, or through our members, or, as in the North, by enormous petitions. Up there enormous petitions are being signed—they are having petitions signed even in the little cross-road towns. Boston is the center of the Anti Imperialist League. And down here, where we are more directly affected by the annexation of these colonies, or the introduction of their products, with a reduced duty, into this country, for some reason or other, we seem to be asleep. We are the people in this country who are going to be most affected by the introduction of the products of the West Indies, and so far we have said very little. I sometimes wonder what is the matter with the sugar planters. Occasionally you can stir them up, but a danger like this does not seem to be able to bring them to their feet. I want to reiterate what I said a moment ago. I agree with Mr. McCall thoroughly. We ought to get close to the Cane Growers' Association, and try to evolve some policy, or some means, of bringing pressure to bear, either through our governor (and I believe he will come to our assistance all he can), representatives and senators, as well as the press, so as to advertise this state as opposed to this imperial movement; and finally so express it.

Gen'l. W. J. Behan: Mr. President, I am decidedly opposed to expansion and to annexation of the Islands of Porto Rico, Cuba and the Philippines. I did not expect to have the pleasure of being at your meeting to-night, and therefore did not prepare myself to make any response to the question you have before you. I am here to-night accidentally. While on a visit to the Pacific slope last summer, I found that a very decided opinion prevailed amongst the people of the Pacific states and cities of the far West—a very strong and emphatic want or desire for the annexation of the Philippines and the West Indies. I didn't think that portended much to the benefit of my section of the country or the people of Louisiana. Annexation would mean a very serious menace to our interests.

Chair: You mean, General, that they were very strongly in favor of annexation?

General Behan: Strongly in favor of annexing all the sugar islands; Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands. I saw that feeling was strong. It created quite an impression on me. I feel that there is need for action on our part—very serious necessity, indeed. I have nothing much to suggest as to how we should prepare ourselves, and what we should do. Of course, the first thing to do is to organize some method by which we can approach congress, and impress our senators and congressmen with the seriousness of the occasion. We will have to show them what a serious effect this annexation would have on our interests, and we would have to call upon them to do everything in their power to have congress not accept the annexation of those islands, because, were they to come in as territories or states, as has been stated previously, that would

bring about a system that would be equal to free trade; because we have a free intercourse of trade with our states, and of course if those islands became states or territories, it would mean free trade in sugar, and that would mean also a total destruction of the sugar interests of Louisiana and the beet interests of the Western and Northern states.

Chairman: You mean that these colonies would be placed exactly on the same footing that the Hawaiian Islands now occupy?

General Behan: Exactly. The interests of the beet growers of California, Nebraska, Utah—the beet growing industry is spreading as far east as New York. New York grew quite a stock of beets last year, and a good quantity of it was manufactured into sugar. Nearly all of the Western and Middle States are now contemplating going into the beet sugar culture very extensively, so their interest becomes identical with ours, and we will have to unite their influence with ours to try to combat this feeling and desire for annexation, and the sooner we do it the better.

Col. G. G. Zenor: I don't feel that I can add anything, sir, to what has already been said. I fully concur in the views expressed by Col. Richard McCall; but his question that presents itself now to the American people, I look upon as one of the most momentous that has ever been brought up since the organization of our government, and it requires the most profound consideration of our ablest statesmen, it seems to me, to settle it in a manner that will redound to the best interests of the country. This enormous stride that we are taking determines largely what the future may evolve. We are trampling on rather dangerous ground; and if we recur to the history of the past nations, we will find that we should move with a great deal of caution and consideration. The views we are now expressing here are only a small portion of the views that are entertained by the people of the country; at the same time, they may have their effect and influence, and may serve, to a great extent, in moderating the views and opinions of what might be called the "extremists" on this question. As stated, I concur in the sentiments previously expressed by the gentlemen, and I do not feel that I can add anything to what has already been said.

Chair: The subject has been discussed a good deal, and there is one other expression of opinion which I know the association would listen to with a great deal of interest, and would be glad to have as full as possible, and as extensively as possible; and that is the views of Prof. Stubbs on this question.

Prof. Stubbs: This subject is one that appertains to a certain extent, to politics, which is something that I do not generally discuss, but I may say in this particular instance that there is no division in the ranks of the Southern people so far. Last year I travelled from the State of Virginia to this point, and have yet to meet the first Southern man who is in favor of annexation or imperialism. I therefore think we can, without any hesitancy, express our opinions without being called partisans, in this particular case, and we will condemn everything like annexation. I don't see to-day, with the lessons before us here in the South, particularly over the question of our sugar and rice industry, and particularly over the question of tobacco, and perhaps cotton, but certainly tobacco, rice and sugar, all southern interests that will be affected by this annexation, why we should not. There is another consideration which I think can be taken up by all the Southern people together; and that is this question at home

that we have to contend with—of mixed races, and solving the rights of citizenship. I don't see why we should want to absorb nine or ten millions of Malays, which would certainly complicate the problem of citizenship. Therefore I think every Southern man is diametrically opposed, and unalterably opposed, to anything like annexation of either Cuba, Porto Rico or the Philippines; but I will say that my convictions are that the imperialists, annexationists and jingoes in this country are going to annex whether we want or not. I feel that annexation is just as certain as it was with Hawaii twelve or eighteen months ago. How many of us were consulted about Hawaii. That question was almost railroaded through in a hurry. Who favored it? Monopolists, imperialists, annexationists, and, I may say, capitalists, all over the country, who expected to get a great deal of good from it. Unfortunately, just at that time, war took place, and a clincher was had immediately for the purpose of "war measures" in the fact that "we wanted a place for our ships on the Pacific." Now, to continue the trade with China, for all the world to-day is after China—Russia, England, France and Germany—the United States wants a hand in the trade that is ultimately to come from China, and therefore, to continue our course across the Pacific, we want, not only the Hawaiian Islands, which we have acquired, but we also want the Philippines, and therefore that is going to be the argument used by politicians for the purpose of carrying on trade with China. But I believe, as I said before, all the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico are going to be annexed to the United States. We may probably stave it off by an expression of opinion from every individual citizen in the Eastern, Central and Southern states; but the West is emphatically in favor of annexation. Everybody who has anything to export wants to enlarge the dominion of territory in which they can sell their goods, and every one who has a bushel of wheat to ship, a bushel of corn to ship, or who has anything to export, wants of course annexation, because they believe that with the prohibition removed on the tariff that they can compete in those markets with the home products and with the manufacturers of other countries, therefore they are after annexation. I don't think that, looking at it from any standpoint you want, from that of political economy, from the standpoint of a citizen who desires the future welfare of his country, from the standpoint of a Southern man who desires to see the Anglo Saxon supreme all over this country, from the standpoint of a Louisianian, where nearly every interest in Louisiana is jeopardized by annexation, I think all these cry out against annexation, and we should let our voices be heard as far as possible in the councils at Washington. We may stop it, probably we may; but it looks today as though the thing is inevitable. I am willing, as a member of your executive committee, as a member of your association, as an humble citizen of Louisiana, to stop it if possible.

Mr. Bodley: Mr. President, I don't know that I have anything of interest to say to the association. I have observed that for the last thirty years in my business with the sugar planter, I can not remember the time when they have not been climbing a mountain. I remember when the Freeman's bureau fell down on the sugar planting industry, I remember when the levees fell down and the water went all over the country; I remember the time we had here during reconstruction days; and today we have a mountain just ahead of us—that is annexation of these islands, and possibly lower price sugar consequent upon no tariff. Now

it seems to me that it is possible that the annexation of these islands—what we may call "expansion," which carries with it a great navy and large army, and fortifications on our coast—is going to create a great national debt. To my mind, a national debt is a sugar planter's blessing and it means a high tariff. There is nothing on earth that we can raise a tariff out of as easily as we can out of sugar. And why should we feel disposed to worry about something that is in the dim distant future. I don't think that we ought to worry about this possible annexation. We might, as Prof. Stubbs and other gentlemen have suggested, raise our voices against it, and bring our influence to bear, possibly we might; but the right thing for us to do is to go on and make sugar. Sugar planters today are worrying over this short crop—have to expect that occasionally; but we are not in a bad condition. There is nothing in the country that is better security than sugar property. No sugar planters have been sold out by the sheriff for a number of years. Sugar property is sold just as other property that is in the market, and there is a great demand for it. The country is full of money—the planter can get all the money he wants—money is going begging; there is no security that is better than sugar property; feel encouraged; and, as I said, make our influence felt along the lines suggested here tonight, but don't sit down and worry over this matter.

Mr. Churchill: I don't believe I can add anything to the remarks that have been made here by the gentlemen this evening. I naturally feel a great interest in what they have said. There is one gentleman here, a stranger, who I think could add a little to the subject, whose headquarters, I believe, is New York. I refer to Mr. Spencer Miller, of the Lidgerwood Company.

Chair: Mr. Spencer Miller, the association would be glad to hear from you.

Mr. Miller: I agree with the views expressed by Prof. Stubbs that the annexation of these islands is inevitable. I believe also that the sugar planters should express themselves freely. We have in America a large and varied number of interests, we certainly have a great number of interests whose toes are tread upon, who should express themselves, and let it be known that their toes are being tread upon. It is therefore just and proper that this association should express itself, because, if it does not express itself, it will be taken for granted that it does not care. I don't think, however, that the sugar planters are going to be ruined by annexation, but possibly I am speaking from ignorance on that score. There is one thing that I have noticed in a great many years in the march of progress in this country; that when it is necessary to make advances to economize that nothing gives rise to that quite so quick as necessity, which is the mother of invention. You see here tonight that one inventor is at work, and has a model here—a device that will cut cane. I believe that there are a vast number of improvements that can be made, and a great many ways can be saved in the handling, and in the manufacture of sugar; and it is certain, as long as each planter is satisfied with his profit, that there will be no advance. If this association feels satisfied that its profits are going to go, then they are going to hustle themselves to find some way of reducing the cost of their manufacture. Necessity is going to be the mother again of some important inventions that is going to keep the plantation a going just as well as today. Now, I want to say just one word to thank you for the reception I have received, not only on this occasion, but several others, and I want to par-

ticularly mention my visit to General Behan's house last week. The question of handling sugar cane in the field was brought up, and General Behan told me of the advantages that could be derived from something that would take the cane from the field, and do away with the mules, and the labor and the wagons. He gave me so much encouragement that I believe today that the problem can be solved, and I hope before many months are over and past to be able to demonstrate where a saving of ten to fifteen cents per ton can be effected, and you are going to be saved the use of mules and wagons; you are going to put your mules to work plowing to get an early plant. I also hope to keep your cane steadily supplied to the mill irrespective of labor conditions and weather. All of these things were given to me by one of your members, Mr. John Dymond—he has given me a great deal of encouragement; asked me to take this matter up. You understand that if I did not receive any encouragement, met only with a cold reception, why I should simply go home and not bother my brains; but the encouragement that has been given me is sufficient to warrant a start being made; whether I will be able to do anything for you remains to be seen. I have certainly succeeded pretty well in helping solve this question of taking cypress logs out of the swamps. Where cypress formerly cost \$8.00 per thousand, it has now been reduced to \$4.00 and a good steady supply has been obtained. In consequence of this, you have large mills, and the cypress mill owners have become rich. They became rich because the problem was solved. I have not been alone in this, but I had a great deal to do with the machinery developed in that line; and if it is possible to do anything today for the planters, you can rest assured that I shall work hard and industriously to do it; and I want to thank every member of this association for the great encouragement given me; and I believe that this is only one of a number of the things that will be developed which, when the annexation of Cuba takes place, and which I believe is inevitable, will enable the planters to so cheapen the cost as to permit them to stay in the business.

Prof. W. C. Stubbs: How about using the improvements in Cuba?

Mr. Miller: I don't know the condition of their ground, but I understand their cane is not raised as it is here.

Chair: I know I am expressing the opinion of all the members of the association in thanking Mr. Miller for his interesting remarks which have been listened to with much pleasure. There is no doubt that in the line of work in which the Lidgerwood Company is engaged they have brought about great improvement—we know they have facilitated the moving and transportation of rock, timbers, and things of that kind; and if we are assisted with their appliances and their brains in the transportation—in the moving of cane from the field, I am sure, and feel convinced, that it will be of great help to us.

The matter that comes up for final disposition is, in what shape shall the resolution suggested by Mr. Henry McCall be brought out. The Chair will state its views in the premises: The first step towards annexation would be the ratification of the treaty of peace, but the ratification of the treaty of peace by the senate of the United States would simply mean the acceptance of the results of the war; it would simply mean the divestiture of Spanish sovereignty over the colonies, and would not fix the possession of these colonies with regard to the United States. In order to do that, legislation would be commenced. Acts would be presented in

congress for the adoption or the establishment of territories in these colonies, and it is then, when the matter comes up before congress for legislation, that the fight will come off, will take place, between the expansionist party and the anti expansionist party. I don't believe this question can possibly arise in the discussion in the senate about the treaty of peace. My own opinion makes me believe both our senators are opposed to annexation, and I believe that all of our congressmen are likewise opposed to annexation; and if any concert of action is to be recommended between the executive committee of this association and the executive committee of the cane growers association, it would be for action to oppose legislation by congress which would favor annexation. That is the way the matter presents itself to me, and any suggestion made by Mr. Henry McCall to that effect would then secure the co-operation of the two committees with regard to future legislation. Mr. McCall, did you put that in the shape of a resolution.

Hon. Henry McCall: I did not; it was simply an idea that occurred to me that I threw out as a suggestion.

Prof. Stubbs: That it is the sense of this association that annexation would be injurious; and that it is furthermore the sense of this association that the executive committee should co-operate with the other executive committee of the Cane Growers' Association to take such steps as would be necessary to oppose any legislation looking towards annexation, and use every effort in their power to prevent it.

Col. Richard McCall: There is one thing that ought to be borne in mind by the committee having this in charge. The danger confronting us seems to be great, and it seems to be imminent, when three of the most prominent senators of the United States senate, men who are bitterly opposed to annexation, have thought it necessary and wise, before the treaty has been ratified, to make speeches in opposition to this expansion policy. What they know, we do not. One of them said yesterday (Mr. Foraker) in the United States senate that these questions would be answered in the executive committee, showing that this question is under discussion in the executive committee—probably of both parties, but more probably by the dominant part of the senate. Therefore it behooves us not to lose any time. I believe that every blow that you can strike towards this end, towards checking it, will help. I believe every exporter of the United States is an expansionist, and it shows that we have a big fight on our hands. I believe every man who has corn to sell, who has grain to sell, who has agricultural implements to sell, who has anything to sell that anybody else wants, is an expansionist—every one of them. There may be some few men who are not on principle.

Chair: How about cotton?

Col. Richard McCall: I believe they are expansionists if they can get free trade; but Southern men do not want it on that plane.

Chair: Col. McCall's suggestion amends the proposition as made so as to cover the point that he makes—to call for prompt action, and strong action.

The first question before the house would be a motion or resolution to that effect; that it is the sense of this association that annexation would be injurious to the interests of this state, and should be opposed. Mr. McCall, would you allow it to be placed in that shape.

Prof. Stubbs: How would it do to add that annexation is antagonistic to the interests of the entire Southern people, particu-

larly to the sugar planters, rice planters and tobacco growers of the South. This could then be taken up by the State Agricultural Association.

Chair: The resolution as offered, Professor, takes the ground that annexation would be injurious to this state, and should be opposed. It would perhaps be better to confine it to an expression of the views of this association, and the matter could be expanded. Although we are not expansionists, that question could be susceptible of expansion before the state society so as to take in more territory. As it now stands with us, it would be an expression of the views of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association; that is the way it reads, that it is the sense of this association that the annexation of the Spanish colonies would be injurious to this state and should be opposed.

The secretary will please read the resolution.

Be it resolved: That it is the sense of this association that the annexation of the erstwhile Spanish colonies would be injurious to this state, and should be opposed.

Duly second by General Behan, and unanimously carried.

Chair: The second resolution would be that the executive committee of this association be instructed to act in concert with the executive committee of the Cane Growers' Association in order to take such steps as they see fit looking to the defeat of the annexation policy or annexation legislation. Now, if any member thinks this should be modified in any way, the Chair will be glad to entertain the same. Does the resolution cover your idea Mr. McCall?

Hon. Henry McCall: We might add to that that the secretary of this association be instructed to send a copy of this resolution to the president of the American Cane Growers' Association in this city, and to request them to inform us at what time and at what place we can meet them. We are ready to meet them at any time. I think I would put it in that shape.

Chair: That the secretary of this association be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions—

Hon. Henry McCall: That the secretary of this association be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the president of the American Cane Growers' Association, and to request him to state the time when this executive committee can meet his executive committee.

Chair: And to request his assistance in carrying this resolution out.

Hon. Henry McCall: There is one point in connection with this question of expansion, or annexation. I had the pleasure of meeting the other day a gentleman who has been in the Sandwich Islands—Mr. George Boote. He has just returned from that country and gives some interesting accounts of the labor system in that country; and certainly the people of this country, and especially our labor organizations, will have a right to complain of the systems that are in vogue in that country. All the labor there is contract labor, mostly Japanese, Chinese and some Portuguese, imported under contract. They work for twelve dollars per month, winter and summer, harvest season or any other time. They have skilled men there—they become skilled sufficiently to run centrifugal machines, at \$12.00 per month and they work twelve hours per day. Now, certainly, we cannot compete against that kind of labor and under that system. It seems to me we will have powerful allies in the labor organizations of this country, and even without their assistance, why we, ourselves, are particularly interested in pre-

venting the carrying out of that system of contract labor in this country. I can recollect an instance, some two or three years ago when a member of this association had very serious trouble with the government because he brought out a German chemist under a system of contract.

Chair: The second resolution now reads: "That the executive committee of this association act in concert with the executive committee of the Cane Growers Association to take such steps as they see fit looking to the defeat of the annexation policy, and that the secretary send a copy of these resolutions to the president of the Cane Growers Association, requesting him to select the time and place for the meeting of the two committees and ask his assistance in bringing about the conference."

Hon. Henry McCall: Perhaps it might be well to add that "this association asks the press of this city to take this matter up." We have representatives of the press with us, are always glad to have them, and we might perhaps ask the press of this city to take this matter up; it might be of some benefit to us. They have had some articles in their papers, but perhaps they may say more on the subject.

Chair: The suggestion is very good. The trouble is, in what shape, in what form, to voice this; whether you would call upon the assistance of the press by resolution as we are doing on the president of the Cane Growers' Association; you think the matter could be put in the form of a resolution, and a copy sent to the various papers of this city?

Mr. Webster: The press is here; it will take care of the resolution. You need never fear about resolutions; they will do us a fair job; they will get your resolution printed, and you will see it in the papers tomorrow morning.

Chair: There is no doubt the sympathy of the press is with the people of the state; not only with this association, but with all the best interests of the state; our local press, in that respect, especially represents all the best interests of the state and is unanimously against annexation. The press might bring the subject forward more prominently; but it is a matter which is before the entire country now, and the question being such a prominent one, I don't know that this association could very well ask the press to give it any more prominence—it is the one question now before the country—in all sections of the country—and is one of the live issues of the day. The press, without any urging on the part of this association, or our recommendations, will take it up as one of the principal and prominent questions of the day.

Hon. Henry McCall withdrawing his suggestion as to the press taking the subject up, the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

"That the executive committee of this association act in concert with the executive committee of the American Cane Growers' Association in order to take such steps as they may see fit looking to the defeat of the annexation policy, and that the secretary of this association be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the president of the American Cane Growers' Association, and request him to assist in bringing about a conference of the two committees and to select a time and place for the meeting."

(To be Continued.)

Mr. J. W. Barnett, of the Teche country, was at the St. Charles on Monday.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Mr. George B. Reuss' Germania factory terminated the labors of a very unsatisfactory grinding season last week, but no particulars as to the results are yet available. It is known, of course, that the place is no exception to the general rule in the matter having fallen far short of expectations in the sugar output, but Germania, McManor, and Belle Helene are on a par with reference to the drying up of their sources of information as to the outcome of their work, hence it cannot be definitely determined just what the discrepancy between anticipation and accomplishment really is.

Hermitage and Belle Helene are still under way, but are rapidly nearing the end of their troubles. A rumor comes from the latter place to the effect that as soon as the grinding of Mr. Joseph Haydel's cane has been finished, work will be stopped, leaving more or less other cane in the fields because of the small and unprofitable percentage of sucrose which it contains. Hermitage has been running with apparent smoothness and absence of mishaps, and up to two weeks ago was getting an average of sugar per ton that promised to put the place in the lead of all others in this parish and section in that particular.

Messrs. B. Lemann & Bro.'s Palo Alto factory finished grinding on Tuesday of last week, and the drying up of first sugars was concluded the following day. The sugar output was something over three and a quarter millions. An error of the pencil or the types in substituting a figure 7 for a 2 added a half million to the estimate in last week's Ascension letter.

Messrs. Marchand & Beltran sent 1,911 tons of cane from their Willow Grove place to Belle Helene factory, and Mr. Simon Landry furnished 855 tons to the same establishment from his little St. Mary place.

The Iberville Planting and Manufacturing Company last week stopped grinding cane from their Cora plantation in the Peytavin factory, leased from Messrs B. Lemann & Bro., and are manipulating the remainder of their crop at Gen. W. J. Behan's Alhambra factory. As Alhambra plantation adjoins Cora a considerable saving is effected in the transportation of cane to the mill. It is reported that no trouble is being experienced in making good sugar at Alhambra, and that while the yield per ton is of course, much smaller than usual, there is a considerable increase over the quantity obtained at Peytavin.

Mr. Leon Godchaux's big Elm Hall factory, near Napoleonville finished grinding last Sunday, and the output of dry sugars is reported at 8,000,000 pounds. The shortage at Elm Hall, comparing results with expectations, is variously estimated by common report between two and four millions.

Messrs Gaskins & Rolling finished taking off the crop of their Pike's Peak place, in St. James, two weeks ago, getting about 1,350,000 pounds of sugar, which was 350,000 pounds short of their expectations.

Mr. John Vegas' Richbend factory, in the same vicinity, completed its work on the 8th Inst., getting 1,300,000 pounds of sugar approximately. The weight of cane crushed was 2,000 tons greater than that of the previous season, but the sugar product was 300,000 pounds less.

It is of course too early to form any reliable estimate or judgment as to the condition of seed cane, and there will be much uneasiness on this point for the next few weeks. The continued wet weather is retarding field work for the new crop greatly, and as a like condition in the early fall prevented the usual amount of fall plowing and planting, the anxiety of our sugar people for good and settled weather that will enable them to start their plows a going can be readily understood.

Our police jury was to have met Wednesday to adopt the new good roads ordinance, but only four members appeared, or one short of a quorum, hence adjournment was voted until next Wednesday, the 25th inst. The condition of seed cane and public roads are the two burning questions confronting the people of

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has been anything but favorable during the past week and the rainy season has not yet passed, nor the cold either judging from present indications. On Sunday night there was a rainfall of 2.6 inches. No plowing or planting was done, only a little scattering work such as pulling cane shucks out of drains and helping the water to get off of low places. The past year's experience has shown all the necessity of thorough drainage and preparations are making on all sides for extensive work on this line during the year. Contracts for advances on cane crops and even for the purchase of cane are going on. In the latter a few more precautions are being taken and terms closer defined, but they will be substantially what they were before.

We visited the lower section of the parish recently, going by land notwithstanding the roads, which however, barring a few localities were not as bad as we expected to find them, for the planters generally have opened their ditches to the road, giving them better drainage. At Mr. Joseph D. Berret's, we saw preparations for putting his lower place, Last Hope, in rice. There are on this place 150 acres available, which Mr. Berret thinks should yield 3,000 barrels for the place has done it before, and having rested two years, is in good shape now. Arcadia, the upper place, will rest now, not even the tempting prices paid by Allemania for cane the past season being sufficient

temptation to induce Mr. Berret to give up rice.

On account of effecting a partition among the co-owners, the Nottoway plantation, of Messrs Landry & Dugas, situate on the Mississippi river, two miles below Bayou Goula was sold last Wednesday by Mr. Andrew A. Browne, sheriff, and fetched \$100,000, and the purchaser was Mrs. Marie E. Landry, widow of the late Mr. Desire P. Landry. Nottoway contains in the neighborhood of 1,200 acres, has a modern sugar house, a magnificent dwelling and is well equipped, yet it sold well. This sale is another evidence that sugar plantations in Iberville have not depreciated, and a number of transfers of lots both improved and unimproved, lately filed with the Clerk and Recorder indicate a healthy tone in real estate values.

The Olivia plantation belonging to the estate of the late Mr. Raphael Beltran, of New Orleans, and located four miles below Plaquemine on the river was bought this week by Mr. Orville Thibodaux, of Ascension, who will shortly take up his abode there. The consideration paid was \$10,850. The St. Alex plantation in St. James parish, another one of the Beltran places, was sold to Mr. Frederick J. Grace, of Plaquemine.

Mr. Joseph B. Woolfolk, of Rosedale, will put a part of his plantation in cane this year.

Mrs. Ellen Barton, widow of the late John K. Seymour, who was well-known in the sugar parishes, died this week at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. James F. Ferrell, of Plaquemine. The deceased was 85 years of age and besides two daughters, Mrs. Ferrell and Mrs. Dr. R. N. Nuckles, she leaves two sons, Messrs. Frank M. and Robert W. Seymour, both of this parish.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

One of the weather prophets, who is said to have forecasted last year's meteorological conditions with remarkable accuracy, now comes forward with the lugubrious prediction that the weather of 1899 will be equally as bad as that of 1898. If the weather that has prevailed since January set in is a forerunner of what is yet to come during the remainder of the year, then indeed are the planters to be pitied. For the rains that characterized the last six months of 1898 continue with a persistency that is simply appalling. One day of sunshine is followed by three or four days of rain. Last Saturday and Sunday were fairly good days, but Sunday night a violent hurricane came up, lasting about twenty minutes, accompanied and followed by a torrential down-pour. Warm, foggy weather has prevailed until this (Wednesday) morning, when a strong Northwest wind, leaden-colored skies and falling temperature, combine to give

promise of almost anything, including sleet and snow.

The all-absorbing topic just now is the condition of the seed cane. As to this, however, statements differ widely. Reports from two planters are to the effect that the seed is badly spoiled. Two other prominent planters living in another portion of the parish, state that their seed cane is good—almost perfect. Another planter, interviewed on the same subject, said that in advance of planting operations he did not propose to borrow trouble by examining the seed on his place. On one point, however, all are agreed, and that is that the weather now prevailing is ideal weather for spoiling seed cane, and that with a continuation of existing conditions more or less injury is inevitable. Very little planting is being done as yet.

The grinding season is a thing of the past for all of the factories here except two—St. Delphine and Smithfield. So far as can be learned, the cane now being handled and which was windrowed prior to the last heavy freeze in December is still in good condition. Cinclare finished last Tuesday after a run that has not been altogether satisfactory. From this magnificent factory the same complaint came during the operating season—"no sugar in the cane." Poplar Grove finished working up seconds last Sunday morning.

Anchorage plantation, the property of the Anchorage Planting and Manufacturing Company, was sold at public auction in New Orleans last Thursday and was bought in by Mr. Ernest Vicknair, of St. James, for \$34,000—one-third cash and the balance in one and two years. Mr. H. W. Cook having moved his family to Baton Rouge. Some days ago, the new proprietor at once took charge of Anchorage, which it is understood he will cultivate with the assistance of his two sons as overseers. Kelson plantation, belonging to the same company, was to have been offered for sale, but Mr. Cook withdrew it at the last moment, and will himself cultivate it. The sale of Anchorage brings about several other changes. Mr. D. C. Smith, for many years the efficient book-keeper of the company, with headquarters at Kelson, will move to Baton Rouge.

Mr. Taylor Bernard, who for twelve years or more has managed Anchorage, is now seeking another position.

Mr. H. C. Laws, after spending a week at Cinclare, left for Cincinnati last Monday.

The police jury of this parish holds an important meeting today.

Our public roads are in an appalling condition.

The rapid rise of the river at this point is causing some apprehension among the planters of
WEST BATON ROUGE.

Mr. A. F. Tete, of Terrebonne parish, was in the city on a visit a few days ago and registered at the Hotel Grunewald.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The absence of wintry weather and but light precipitations combined have enabled some to advance field work and a considerable acreage was ploughed last week preparing the lands for planting both cane and corn.

The weather has been much like what is usually had in the month of February and in consequence planting began on Monday with some and on Tuesday it became more general. The sandy lands which have been re-ploughed are working well, and a friable seed bed is secured, particularly where the lands were ploughed in the fall. A larger tonnage of seed cane was put in windrow than usual and should it prove sound until the end of the planting season the area in plant cane should be large.

The campaign is virtually at an end—at Myrtle Grove of Messrs Barrow & Duplantis, the last canes went to the mill Saturday morning, and at Orange Grove of Messrs. Dupont & Jollet, it is expected that operations will end about Thursday. Not only was the tonnage per acre in many instances below expectations, but the yield of sugar per ton disastrously low even where the canes were unmanured.

Factory owners from the experience of last year realize more forcibly than ever the importance of securing canes relatively rich in saccharine, and to attain the end in view canes should be so treated as to promote early germination and rapid rooting. That early laying by is a factor of importance is beyond a peradventure.

Too deep ploughing during the entire cultivating season tends to augment the tonnage yield at the cost of sucrose in the canes. More frequent and shallower cultivation will insure larger acreage yields of sucrose where the extracting plant is such as to leave but little juice in the canes. Fertilizers containing vegetable and animal nitrogen should be applied early, very particularly coarsely ground, to hasten decomposition; otherwise the elements become soluble too late for the canes to make very rapid growth in June, July and August when stalk development should be at its maximum. Ratoons to be ground in October are frequently treated manurially just like plant canes destined for the mill some time in December and consequently are often immature, with a very low co-efficient of purity.

Wednesday of last week was variable; Thursday warm and partially cloudy; Friday cloudy with wind from the South; Saturday bright sunshine; Sunday favorable; Monday light showers very early in the morning and fine and cooler later; Tuesday dense fog in the morning, fine and cool later and on Wednesday morning before sunrise clear, cloudy later and rapidly growing cold.

The official weekly weather report from Schriever is as follows:

Jan. 9...80	40	25	..	...
Jan. 10...70	56	...	...	.18
Jan. 11...77	46	25	...	.05
Jan. 12...64	46	25	...	...
Jan. 13...82	57	25	...	.01
Jan. 14...80	54	100	...	.09
Jan. 15...81	52	100	...	...
	76	50	43	.53

TERREBONNE.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been very ugly for the farmers. It has rained day and night, almost, for the entire week, and to end the week successfully as a rainy week there was a deluge last night (Sunday) that lasted from 10 to 2 o'clock and which flooded the entire country, to that extent that travel on the public roads has been almost suspended to-day, and farm work will be at a standstill for the next week to come. Cane farmers were in readiness to begin preparing their grounds for planting cane this morning (Monday) but the flood last night will put them back ten days later. The cane delivering season is over on the I. & V. road this season, and the shippers along the line are wearing brighter faces than they have been for the past six weeks. The season was a very eventful one, and will long be remembered as the most expensive grinding season that has ever been experienced in this parish. The tonnage was very heavy, but as a whole, the results were unsatisfactory to the manufacturer as well as the producer. The season was finished up here last Friday and the cane train that has been running between Abbeville and the Caffery Refinery at Franklin was discontinued on Saturday. The service during the entire season, though not as satisfactory as might have been, could have been worse, and the tonnage shipped over the railroad this year more than doubled that of last year, notwithstanding the loss caused by the freeze which was on a whole, at least, one-third of the entire crop. The loss in windrowed cane was very heavy, as it was necessary to cut the cane back from one-fourth to one-third, as it was taken out of the windrow, and in Iberia parish, along the I. & V. road there are now several hundred acres of cane standing in the field sour. The acreage of cane will be increased in some sections this year and in others it will be diminished. The loss of seed in many places will cause the decrease in acreage. Much complaint has been heard among our cane planters lately about bad seed, and in many instances the seed had to be taken up and sold to the mill. This is thought to be caused by the cane being put down while green and before any cold weather struck it at all.

A grand reception and christening was participated in and enjoyed by a number of our cane planters and others at the old

Perry house on the old Perry plantation, one mile south of Abbeville on the Vermillion River, on Friday evening, January 13th. The reception was given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Nilson, Covington, La., who have been married only a short time, and who came over on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Nilson, of Perry; but the main purpose was the christening of the old Perry farm under a new and more appropriate name, Lillywood. Mr. Nilson purchased this farm about twelve months ago from R. S. Perry, of New Iberia, for the Vermillion Sugar Company, Ltd., of which he is president, for the purpose of erecting a central sugar refinery thereon, and with that end in view, this company did advance during the early part of this fall several thousands of dollars to buy seed cane for this mill, and they are under contract with the small farmer who obtained this money, to take care of his cane during the grinding season of 1899, and the small farmer is under contract to deliver his cane to the sugar factory near Perry at the next cane harvest season. It is the purpose of the company to put up a 1,000 ton mill, daily capacity, and the initiatory steps have already been taken to push the plant to completion early this year. Mr. Nilson chose the name "Lillywood" for this place in honor of his wife who was a Miss Wood and whose christian name is Lilly.

The Rose Hill and Ramsey refinery will finish grinding this week. P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to the frequent, heavy rains which have been falling since the new year opened, there has been little or no attempt made towards planting this year's crops. The ground is now full of water and it will require some length of time for it to become sufficiently dry to work to any advantage.

The bayous and leading drains are now bank full of water, therefore the drainage is not nearly so good as it is when the streams are lower. The best that can be done at the present time is to see that all drains are kept open, to permit the water to drain from the surface as much as possible, in particular from the land on which seed cane has been laid down in reserve for planting this season's crop with.

While there is not much being said by the cane growers with regard to the soundness of seed cane, there is nevertheless a feeling of apprehension somehow, that when the day does open fair enough to begin the work of preparing the soil and planting, seed cane will be found in a somewhat deteriorated condition.

Why this apprehension, unless from the poor condition of the cane which has been manufactured into sugar? The extremes in the conditions of the weather up to the time seed cane was put down and since, or all combined, perhaps cause the doubt to be entertained relative to the soundness of seed.

From what can be learned, it seems that about all of the sugar factories situated in this upper tier of parishes, have now about finished the season's grinding. The results in most, if not all instances are varying and unsatisfactory.

The Leinster factory was operating up to the evening of the 14th, and may run to the end of this month, with the cane so deficient in sugar, that the factory was working at a loss to the proprietor.

It seems from what information can be obtained, that the sugar factories situated in the Red River parishes, which have heretofore been so fortunate in having a rich sugar producing quality of cane to manufacture into sugars, have had fate to turn the scales upon them in manufacturing the 1898 crop. From all accounts the profits, if any, will not call for any great amount of figuring. But all things considered, there is a marked and cheerful disposition to take affairs as they are presented, and to make the best possible disposition of them, hoping for the returning tide to bring with it prosperity and happiness. Mr. C. F. Knoll expects to work some 400 acres of cane this year. His brothers, Charles and David, will plant cane, corn and peas on Mr. Knoll's Shirley plantation.

Arrangements will be made during the coming months by which the T. & P. railroad will build a half mile or more of track from their main line through the Shirley plantation, to a point on the Bayou Beouf, opposite Mr. Knoll's Ellen Kay plantation, mainly to facilitate the transfer of freights loading cane, etc.

A heavy rain, during the night of the 15th inst., covered the earth with a flood of water delaying both plantation work and business.

ERIN.

East Baton Rouge.

From persons who have personally visited different points in the sugar belt for business purposes, we learn that the crop is about gathered. In tonnage this season has produced a full crop, but in yield of sugar the crop has fallen short one-third. Very few plantations are still grinding throughout the State, and the sugar refineries are on the eve of completing their labors for this season. Our local plant has about consumed all its material and in a few days will shut down. Taken as a whole the sugar crop was not a success, but in comparison with the cotton crop it can be classed as a veritable bonanza.

Saturday at noon the big refinery of the Baton Rouge Sugar Company shut down for the season having exhausted its cane supply. Reviewing the past season at this plant it is found that they have ground over twenty thousand tons of cane. A new cutter was used this season, the patented device of J. W. Hyatt of New Jersey, by which the cane was decorticated and so shredded that it resembled excelsior when it entered the rollers, thus facilitating the extraction of the juice to a percentage as high as 98 and 99 per cent. Throughout the spring and summer the drying of sugar will be continued but the regular grinding season at this plant is at an end. At this like all sugar plants throughout the State the yield was far below that of preceding seasons owing to the rainy weather which prevailed

unceasingly while the crop was growing.—Truth, Jan. 13.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

During the forepart of the week we had a heavy rain which flooded all the fields, but near the middle of the week weather took on a more favorable aspect and at the close of the week the weather is very fine and has every appearance of being settled, and everybody, and everybody else, hopes it will remain so for a good spell so as to give the farmers a chance to do some ploughing, as there has been very little of that work done as yet, and farmers are getting anxious about this work, for late ploughing threw them behind last season, and it looks like it might do it again this spring. Every body seems to be preparing for the next crop, and quite a good business is being done in plows and harrows, and mules are selling fast at good prices, but the most of this trade is done on paper.

The demand for new rice land seems to be very large, and exceeds the supply, but the acreage of new land will be increased from fifty to seventy-five per cent over that of last season, still much old land will not be cropped owing to foul matter and a lack of water privileges. Farmers are laying in a good supply of seed rice, and it can be had at fair prices, and many calls are made for the Japan seed. Some very heavy yields were secured from this rice in '98, but the storms ruined much of the standing crop, so it is difficult to say what the average yield for the parish would have been, but it would have exceeded the other varieties.

Parties from the north are constantly coming in and securing rice land for future use, but very few are buying to speculate on the land. Some large tracts of rice land have been secured in southeast Texas for rice culture, and the rice crop in that section will be increased three hundred per cent over last season, so I am given to understand, and much talk about rice mills in that section, is going the rounds, for the mills now running, cannot handle the crop of this season if it is increased to that extent. The rice mill at Galveston is doing a large business, and has been getting rice from the Calcasieu country this fall and winter, and the rice is found to be very fine, and that market would be of great benefit to this section if good water transportation facilities were first class, and the large vessels could make safe landings. There has been so much rain this winter that very little work has been done on the canals, and it is feared that some of the canals will not be built, or at least, finished as was intended in the fall. But there is yet time to do a large amount of work on them if the rain holds up for a few weeks. Rice is beginning to move briskly, in spite of the bad roads, but there is not very much being shipped by the original owners, for they can get the cash at home. There is still some threshing going on this week, but it is fast being wound up, and about another week of fine weather will close it out, if the straw in the shock is dry enough to begin work at once. Judging by the way many farmers talk, there will be more Providence rice planted than there was last season, for some of the canal companies did not give the farmers water enough to make a full crop, and after the canal companies took out their share of the rice, there wasn't much left, and this does not give the farmers very much encouragement and some of them think that Providence will do better than that.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, Dec. 24, 1898.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Our weather and crop reports continue very much the same as heretofore; the climatic conditions have been again moist and comparatively warm, although with the beginning of the astronomical winter we had a colder day and light frost, which, however, has not lasted to the end of the week so that no improvement with regard to the pit. ed beets has taken place, and thus the only consolation is that the quantity of raw material still to be worked is insignificant. But the losses caused by the adverse kind of weather still prevailing are the more regrettable as the aspect of the markets caused by the late enhancing of estimates has grown in some degree less favorable to producers. On account of these estimates the commercial press is very harsh on the statistical union, not only because of the unexpected raising of the figures, which, by the way, is intimated to have been not quite unforeseen by certain fabricants, but with regard to indiscretions said to have taken place in the publication of the figures. It has been believed that these figures had been known on the sugar exchange of Paris, where selling orders had been given at once in a great volume. These latter, however, turn out to have been only maneuvers of bears at Paris, who even previous to the publication of the statistical figures spread exaggerated estimates of the importance of the French and Austrian crops. No blame, therefore, can be laid at the door of the statistical bureau of the fabricants, who, in the best faith, gave the figures as resulting from the returns made by the individual factories. If these had entertained the intention to give misleading figures they certainly could have held back with their higher estimates which necessarily must produce an adverse influence on the markets. Besides the statistical figures of France and Austria with regard to the production of this campaign, published since October, foreshadowed the necessity of a large correction of the first estimates as, for instance, in Austria the official statements of that country showed that at the end of November the production of 1898-1899 exceeded that of the preceding year already to the extent of 123,000 tons, whilst the October returns of the factories pointed only to a difference of about 75,000 in favor of this campaign. I feel obliged to dwell on this subject at some length, as this estimating business has routed the sugar markets all over the world and as the suspicion of the figures of the fabricants is apt to deprive them of the confidence in the sugar world they so far justly enjoyed.

The American Treasury has recently published the rates of the countervailing duties to be levied on foreign subsidized sugar. For

Germany the bounty is set down at fifty pfennigs, which, indeed, represents the gross bounty for 100 kilogrammes of raw sugar. But in taking this amount for the basis of calculating the discriminating duty no regard is taken of the working tax the German factories are bound to pay, which reduces the bounty the more, the larger the production of a factory is. Besides, in case the factories have a production in excess of their contingent, the bounty received for the quantity not included in the contingent must be reimbursed to the imperial treasury by which means the bounty per 100 kilogrammes is materially reduced. Let me exemplify this by the figures of the sugar factory Culmsee, of which I some time ago furnished you an abstract of the annual report. Said factory has produced in the campaign 1897-98, 222,709 metrical centners (at 100 kilogrammes) and the bounty received thereon amounts to 456,762.50 marks, but as the factory had exceeded its contingent by 37,383 metrical centners, 93,900.45 marks had to be returned to the treasury and as the working tax amounted to 66,399.70 marks an aggregate sum of 160,300.15 marks must be deducted from the gross amount of the bounty, which leaves only 396,462.35 marks, or per metrical centner of 100 kilogrammes, 1.82 marks instead of 2.50 marks. It must be admitted, however, that a large factory like that of Culmsee does not represent the average, which, in such cases, should be taken as a basis of calculation, but if we do so, we find that the German bounty amounts to no more than 2.20 marks and this figure and not 2.50 marks should be the rate of the countervailing duty for German raw sugar. In Austria the gross bounty for sugar testing between 98 and 99 per cent is 1.50 guildens and for sugar testing between 93 and 99½ per cent. 1.60 gulden, but the rates of discriminating duty are fixed by your treasury at 1.37 and 1.48 guildens, in which case due regard is taken of some reductions, resulting from the circumstance, that the Austrian fabricants receive a fixed amount of bounties, which must not be exceeded, but if this be the case, the sums paid out in excess of the legal amount must be restituted at the end of the campaign. The case is not very different from that of Germany, but why, then, this different kind of treatment? I do not doubt that the imperial government will undertake the necessary steps to remedy this injustice against our sugar exporters.

One of the sugar factories combined with a farming interest is the factory Benningesen, from whose annual report I extract the following figures. The agricultural section sustained a loss of 3598 marks, which is principally due to the beets being furnished to the sugar factory at a cheaper rate than formerly. The run comprised 74 days, during which period about 26,000 tons of beets were worked and 3420 tons of sugar produced, so that to one ton of sugar 7.63 tons of beets were required. The factory

snowed a surplus of 72,316 marks, and, the above loss deducted, the profit of the whole establishment amounted to 68,718 marks, out of which a dividend of 4 pct. was paid to the shareholders.

There is scanty news from the markets. On the opening they wore a pretty cheerful aspect, and a continuous rallying from the late panic seemed probable. But be it on account of the approaching Christmas holidays or be it for other causes, in the second half of the week a dull tone set in and business came nearly to a standstill. No doubt, the confidence so violently shaken last week is not fully restored yet and owners of all countries will do well to offer as sparingly as possible in order to place the market again on a sound basis, which statistically certainly is not unsound. The prices though not closing at the point reached, are a little dearer than last week and actual 88 pct. sugars are quoted at Magdeburg at M. 10.45-10.60 and delivery December fetches at Hamburg M. 9.75 f.o.b. Refined continued quiet without any change in prices.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, December 31, 1898.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

There has been this week a faint touch of winter, but on the whole the damp and mild weather has continued, and the sugar factories go on working under the most unfavorable conditions. The number of these establishments—it is true—has dwindled down to a very low figure—about 60 of them still in activity—and of those the greater half is supposed to finish in the first fortnight of January—but at any rate there are losses and those afflicted with them will feel them the more, as the markets are in a very despondent mood. On the other hand, the quality has in general turned out to be much better than anticipated, and it compares also quite favorably with last year's, so that it is safe to assume that in spite of the harm done by the weather to the beets in general, the yield in the factory is superior to that of the preceding campaign. This is no doubt a noteworthy fact, which is not restricted to Germany, but extends to all European beet countries, and it must be concluded therefrom that fall rains, as long as the root is in the ground, are not so very injurious as has been believed, so far. There has been indeed improvement and not deterioration, and this in quite a remarkable degree in France and Austria. Besides, not only the quality has exceeded expectations, but also the quantity, which has largely profited by the rains. Under these circumstances, it is not to be wondered at that the estimates of December are so much higher than those of October, and that many speculative castles in the air, have been woe-fully swept to the ground. The change of estimates and its consequences are still the

topic of discussion in all sugar commercial circles. The fabricants are openly accused of having not furnished true statements in October, which insinuation is particularly aimed at the Austrians. But it must be borne in mind that many sugar authorities held that their first estimate was too high, and now came the mild and damp autumn of which everybody believed it would prove disastrous to the quality, whilst quite the contrary came true. All this is going to demonstrate that it is too early to make up reliable estimates in October, when the weather can exercise so much influence on the final crop result. It must be admitted, the trade want figures as a basis of operations, but the example of this year shows that they had better have a little more patience in that respect. To this advice, however, it is replied that if the factories' estimates were postponed to some later date, private estimates, which generally have no real basis at all and must be considered as mere guesses, would take the place of the factories' inquiries, which would mean to get from the frying pan into the fire. On this occasion it may be noted that the contingent of the German sugar factories for 1899 and 1900, that is the production on which the bounty must be paid, amounts to 1,889,319 tons, as against 1,803,252 tons in 1898-99.

Interesting details are furnished by an official report on the results of the Swedish sugar industry in 1897-98. There have been 19 sugar producing establishments in activity, of which three are only juice extracting stations. The quantity of beets worked is stated to have been 716,141 tons, which is considerably less than in the preceding campaign when 890,240 tons of beets had been converted into sugar. The largest factory in Sweden to judge, from its working of beets, is Kopinge, which used in 1897-98, 79,310 tons of beet, whilst the smallest, judged from the same standpoint, is Karlsharrum, with 22,376 tons of beet worked. The yield in the factory of all the products of sugar was in the aggregate 88,935 tons, or 12.42 per cent, which for a comparatively new beet country, is certainly a pretty good showing. The drainings in form of molasses amounted to 20,408 tons, or 2.88 per cent of the weight of the beets, which is likewise a good result and especially a proof of careful work in the factory. There are beet countries of old standing, where, be it in consequence of an inferior raw material or less careful work, the drainings reach a much higher percentage. The area planted with beets for 1898-99 was 22,917 hectares. At a meeting of the sugar manufacturers held on the 20th inst., it was proposed to generally raise the surface sown to the extent of 20 pct., so that it, for 1899 and 1900 would have reached 27,505 hectares. But some of the larger concerns aspired for a larger increase in consequence of which the assembly failed to come to a general understanding, the effect of which will be that all will make efforts to

add to their former surface as much as possible.

The importation of sugar into Switzerland is steadily increasing. In the first three quarters of this year, 47,067 tons of refined have been imported into that country, as against 45,358 tons during the same period in 1897. By far the largest importer is Austria; then follows France, and in the third place Germany. The import from France, had for some time, in consequence of tariff difficulties, greatly fallen off, but she has now nearly reached her former rank, although in the present year, the progress is comparatively less important than that achieved by Germany. In Switzerland, as is well known, more sugar is consumed than in any other continental country of Europe, which is due to the ever increasing influx of strangers, especially of English and American extraction, who are originally great sugar eaters.

The statistics of the three principal beet countries of Europe, Germany, Austria and France, have in consequence of the larger production, taken an unfavorable turn. The figures up to November 30 are: Production, 2,383,635 tons; (1897-98, 2,292,785 tons); importations, 35,619 tons, (49,524 tons); exportation, 608,736 tons, (615,316 tons) consumption, 738,703 tons, (742,438 tons). Stocks, end of November, 1,818,721 tons, (1,737,249 tons); increase of stocks since October 31st, 833,220 tons, (748,273 tons). The stocks are now larger than a year ago, and their increase is also in excess of that of last year, which is much against expectations entertained so far.

The markets are, as a rule, between Christmas and New Year quiet, without any business of importance, but this year they have been particularly dull and prices, which in other years during that period used to be maintained on their antefestive level, have again given way. This new weakening of the tendency must needs be attributed to the recent shock the markets have sustained by the late disappointing estimates, of which it seems they will recover only slowly. That they should recover, is my heartfelt wish for all sugar men, but especially for your kind readers, to whom I hope to send in the course of the new year, better news than at the end of the one just ended.

ROBT. HENNING.

Barbados.

The beginning of the fortnight was somewhat dry, and planters were anxiously praying for rain needed so regularly at this crucial period. On Monday the 19th inst., there was a gentle downpour, lasting some hours—not very regularly distributed, some places only getting about 60 parts, while others more favored were thoroughly soaked with two inches and more, but a very welcome and valuable contribution from Heaven's Mansion House fund to the struggling planter. Since these, genial showers have prevailed much to the benefit of the old crop,

and the salvation of the plants just put in which were in great danger of being stewed in the soil by the hot suns. The rainfall for the fortnight at our central point is 1 inch 70 parts, for the previous two weeks 1.05. The chief work on hand is that of planting, much facilitated by the showers. Planters have become wiser in their generation, and instead of buying plants from ill-grown plots, and sending their carts miles and miles over macadamised roads to fetch them, they wisely save their stock, and select plants from their best grown fields of plant canes. This custom is becoming more and more general, and cannot fail to signally improve the health of the fields. Selection has done wonders for the beet, and by the same process we must endeavor to improve the sugar cane; indeed it may be said that the Bourbon disease was in large measure due to want of care in selection, half-starved plants gathered anywhere and everywhere, carted for miles under hot suns, and worst of all mixed up with inferior plants of the hug-me-close variety—a cane characterized by a thick trashy covering well-suited to harbor insect pests. No wonder is it that the true Bourbon was gradually shouldered out, became degenerate, and the prey of insects! Fungus awakened us from that sleepy *laissez-faire* style, and forced on us the value of selection. No. 147 seems to be holding its place as prime favorite, and every one is trying to establish, if only but a few acres. So that 1900 will probably find us in possession of a variety that so far has come through the ordeal of testing with high honors. But it must be remembered that the value of a sugar cane does not depend on its individual saccharine richness, but on the yield per acre. There is a variety of singular sweetness whose growth is so small and sparse as to render it useless as a crop cane.

Work in the fields is plentiful, and willing hands need never be idle. On the contrary, there is frequent complaint by planters that they cannot always obtain sufficient labor, when work is being pushed; for strange to say the supply very seldom surpasses the demand. Recently some forking work was required on an estate, but as hands could not be got, a team of oxen, a plough, and three men very satisfactorily and quickly accomplished the task, so that the field was thoroughly tilled and prepared in time to receive its plants. Instead of using the old fashioned mass of iron at which a long team of oxen strain and tug, why do not planters patronize ploughs of light American manufacture. They are equally efficient, if not more so than those in general use, and require only half the number of cattle to pull them. There is great economy in the ancient plough, but there is no reason why its make should be clumsily antiquated. Cane fires have been all too prevalent; Jordans, Thorpes, and Walkers', Locust Hall, all in

a ring, in St. Georges' parish have suffered, —the two last severely. This circle of simultaneous fires must certainly have been premeditated and properly planned, and dissatisfaction with something or somebody the cause, nor is the cause far to seek. A planter once, warmed into philanthropy by some local distress among his people, endeavored to afford relief by distributing provisions at his own expense. In the sharing some inevitably got the gill of rice too much; grumbling ensued, and the planter received the reward of his philanthropy in the big bon-fire of his best field of canes. So runs the story, and some such cause we are well assured lies at the bottom of the recent and costly illumination. Seven fires altogether (two at Locust Hall, three at Walkers) within a radius of about two miles; and incendiaries as usual scot free; for these criminals are seldom caught and brought to punishment. Indeed it seems that certain crimes—even that of murder—can be committed in this island with impunity; and yet there are people amongst us who can smile complacently in the face of these facts, preferring to cloak the naked truth, and to believe that, because crime is not detected, it does not exist. Pity it is to destroy the growing fields at this season, and so burn the children's bread. Although the canes have made a wonderful recovery and present now a very different appearance to that of the 11th of September yet it must be remembered that the fields were on that memorable morning flattened out, and this means that the causes of depreciation at work in sprouting from roots and eyes is going on in the interior of fields, perhaps to a greater extent than many imagine, and will certainly tend to shorten the crop of '99, and to lessen that shortage will require very careful handling and watchful care during the reaping season. To further accentuate shortage by incendiarism is a senseless crime against the community. The burnt canes are too unripe for manufacture into sugar, and are being converted into syrup which is now sold at 16 cents per gallon from the boiling-house—a dead loss, as the unripe juice of only 6 degrees density is boiling away. The top plants may probably be utilized, but scorched plants grow with difficulty, and may not be worth the expense of putting in. Altogether this cane-burning is a sorry and senseless business, a crime worse than man-slaughter, a stealthy bleeding to death of a paralysed industry, a wanton robbery of existence itself from both man and beast.—Agricultural Report, Dec. 24.

A Picture of Sugar Estates in Cuba Half a Century Ago.

Coffee plantations, though so beautiful, have not increased in numbers of late years; in fact, many of them have been changed into sugar estates, which are more profitable, and render the owner socially more

important, says a writer in the Century. The owner usually resides in Havana, where his family may enjoy the pleasures of cultivated society and have the luxuries of a city; he, therefore, employs a sort of middleman, called a major-domo, to manage his estate. The owner wants all the money he can get to maintain his establishment in Havana, and the major-domo seeks to increase his percentage, and thus the poor slaves are ground to the dust, and at times the cruelties practiced are barbarous. The mayorals are usually Canary islanders, a hot-tempered and cruel race, and, being without the restraint of the presence of the owner, are vindictively oppressive, and in their inhuman punishments often take life. The horrors which have been perpetrated in Cuba by the lash would disgrace barbarians.

One striking fact, attesting the hardships on a sugar estate, is that children are very rarely seen there. Slave men in their vigor are more profitable, and hence in a large force of several hundred men only a few women are allowed. The labors and hardships which these women endure tend to prevent increase, and the few children born usually die in infancy from neglect. There is no care taken to prevent this result, as they say it is cheaper to supply the losses on the plantations by new importations than by the rearing of children. The climate, fortunately, is so mild that the slaves need but little clothing, and a wide palm hat and a cloth about the loins are their costume in the fields, the sun seeming to have but little effect upon their black skins.

Every week there is a ration day, in which they are drawn up in long lines, and a few pounds of black-looking beef, brought from Buenos Ayres, are thrown at the feet of each, which at night each cooks to suit himself. In addition, a course meal or small hominy (bran and all) is boiled and put in a trough, from which they eat it every morning with a spoon, a paddle or their hands, as they choose.

The Africans brought up in Cuba are generally from the coast of Mozambique, and are large, stout men, of dogged will, and at times are very obstinate.

All these creatures believe implicitly in the transmigration of souls, and that if they commit suicide, they go immediately back to Africa. To check this evil, when a suicide occurs, the mayoral makes each of the slaves bring a bundle of wood and build a funeral pyre, on which the body is burned. The ashes are then scattered in the air by the survivors, in whose opinion the dead negro's soul is thus prevented from returning to Africa. In scattering the ashes they sigh audibly "Aha, aha," as if expressing grief that the soul of their companion can no longer go home.

The appearance of the sugar estates is the very opposite of the beautiful coffee plantations. Wide fields of monotonous green stretch themselves to the horizon on every

side, while here and there the royal palm lifts its tufted head above the verdant level. The mayoral's house, the sugar works and the dingy barracoons for the slaves are the only objects to break the monotony of the desolate scene. When first planted, the cane is laid lengthwise in trenches, or furrows, about five or six feet apart, and then covered. From each eye (there is an eye to each sound joint) a shoot springs up, and sends out others, forming a bunch of canes, and thus the fields are covered with the most luxuriant green.

Every year the crop is cut at the ground, and the next season another crop springs up from the roots, which are called ratoons. These ratoons will yield crops in this way for several years, the length of time depending on the mildness of the climate. In Louisiana only three or four crops are gathered from one planting, while in the tropics eighteen or twenty are thus obtained. The grinding of the cane begins about the last of October, and continues until the beginning of the rainy season, a period of nearly six months. This is the time of greatest labor on the estate, and, without intermission of Sundays or holidays, with but few exceptions, the slaves work incessantly, and men and teams are worn out before work is over. The slaves are given a few trifling presents, and are allowed some extra privileges to encourage them in undergoing the increased labor.

Trade Notes.

Fertilizers.

The subject of proper fertilization is one of such vast range, and of such vital importance to the agriculturist, that it has very reasonably engaged the attention of the best informed minds, and it would therefore be impossible to treat at length of this all important subject in the present notice—we make the bare statement, however, that, if you will feed mother earth properly, she will respond with a bounteous return for your outlay. Apropos of the above, we would refer all of our readers, who are interested on this subject to the advertisement of that well-known and prosperous concern—The Standard Guano and Chemical Manufacturing Co. They can be found in their spacious offices, at 714 Union street. With ample means, a corps of efficient and courteous bookkeepers and clerks and an army of competent and willing workers, they are well prepared to answer all demands made on them for fertilizers. The officers, Mr. C. M. Soria, President; Mr. John S. Rainey, Vice-president and Mr. Chas. Rainey, Secretary and Treasurer, are all men of high integrity, and are ever ready to give information on this important subject. Call on them, or send for their handsome illustrated almanac, sent free.

Hon. Walter A. O'Neill, of the Linwood place in St. Mary, was in the city on a visit a few days ago and put up at Colonel Rivers' fine hotel.

BEET SUGAR.

Lehi, Utah.

The closing scene of this season's campaign at the factory was enacted at the Opera House on Wednesday night when the employees and their partners were entertained by the Salt Lake Opera Co. who presented "The Chimes of Normandy" in a very creditable manner. Besides the employees a number of our citizens and the choir had been given complimentary tickets and when the curtain rose the house was filled. It was a musical treat to the people of Lehi which was duly appreciated. We should be pleased to see the company visit us more often.

On Wednesday the beet agents and their wives were invited to Lehi as the guests of the sugar company. Upon their arrival they were taken to the Union Hotel and in the evening were given a banquet. After the feast was over Field Supt. Austin expressed his satisfaction with the labors of the agents and the way the beets had come to the factory. Manager Cutler thanked them for the uniformity of their labors. The agents then spoke of their labors and expressed the high esteem in which the company was held in their various towns. Later in the evening they attended the opera and left for their homes next morning. Those present were: Alex. Robertson, Springville; W. T. Tew, Mapleton, whose wives were not present on account of sickness at home. R. P. Snell and wife, Spanish Fork; John Johnson and wife, Lake View; Samuel Green and wife, Pleasant Grove; S. L. Howard and wife, Riverton; E. B. Hawkins and wife, Benjamin; Hans Hansen and wife, West Jordan; John Lant and wife, Payson; R. B. Gardner and wife, West Jordan; James Gardner and wife, Lehi.

The figures for the last campaign show some interesting facts. The factory was cutting beets 104 days averaging 414.5 tons per day which is the best average ever made by a mill of the same capacity. Some of the other figures are as follows:

Paid for labor	\$100,000
Amount paid for beets	209,000
Coal, tons	6,300
Coke (eastern) tons	200
Limestone, tons	2,000
Slicing knives	600
Sulphur, pounds	11,000
Duck cloth, in yards	5,000
Burlap, yards	3,600
Filter bags	600
Burlap sugar bags	95,000
Cotton sugar bags	95,000
Twine, pounds	1,200
Lubricant oils, gallons	1,000
Tallow, pounds	15,000
Carbonate of soda, pounds	23,000
Caustic soda, pounds	7,000

The factory people are now busy arranging plans for next season's campaign and will soon have a definite plan arranged for their coming work. There will be some changes but just what they will be has not yet been decided upon.—Banner, Jan. 7.

Norfolk, Nebraska.

The average yield of the 1898 crop has been from ten to twelve tons, giving the farmer a gross revenue of from \$45 to \$54 to the acre. As the cost of raising beets, through a better understanding of the crop learned by experience, is never more than \$25 per acre, and more frequently less, it will be seen that there is no other crop that can compare to beets for profit. While the average yield has been ten to twelve tons per acre, there are exceptional cases where the yield far exceeded that, the largest on record being one field of five acres from which were harvested 120 tons of beets.—News.

Los Alamitos, California.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The recent rains gave us a precipitation of 2.78 inches, the record now being 4.60 for the season. Every farmer now falls heir to his share of the "million dollar" rain, while the laborer, mechanic and artisan comes in for his portion in the due course of business. A good crop is assured to the beet raisers in this vicinity and, with good reason, they are jubilant. The management of the Los Alamitos sugar factory has contracts out and arrangements made to seed upwards of 8,000 acres of land to beets on the Los Alamitos and Los Cerritos ranches contiguous to the factory. In addition to the acreage above stated, a large area will produce crops of alfalfa, barley, corn, potatoes, etc. On the Los Cerritos ranch of which Mr. T. F. Miller is agent, there is still a couple hundred acres of good beet land to be had. Then beneficial effects of the storm to the stock interests in this section of the country can hardly be overestimated.

At present a herd of cattle is being fattened for the Los Angeles market, on beet pulp at the factory. SHEPHERD.

The Fame of Salinas.

The Index of August 7th contained a three-column article (one of many it has had) descriptive of the great beet sugar factory in course of construction here. In it mention was made of the fact that Charles Jones, the official time keeper at the factory, had just been appointed postmaster at Spreckels. The article in question was reproduced in the Louisiana (New Orleans) Planter of August 27th, the official organ of the sugar planters of the South, circulating all over the world wherever the sugar industry is carried on. The following letter is another proof that the Index is spreading the fame of Salinas, not only all over the United States, but in distant portions of the globe, including British Guiana:

Diamond Estate, Demarara, British Guiana,
3d October, 1898.

Chas. Jones, Esq., Salinas, Cal.—Dear Sir: Seeing your name in an article on

the great Salinas sugar factory (reproduced from the Salinas Index) in the Louisiana Planter of 27th August, and being much interested in modern sugar machinery, I take the liberty of writing you on a point connected therewith. Who are the constructors of the evaporating plant (quadruple effect) and the vacuum pans, which are being installed in the Salinas factory, and where are their works situated? If you happen to know the sugar capacity of the vacuum pans I would be glad of the information. Apologizing for troubling you, I am yours faithfully,
Wm. Douglas.
—Salinas Index.

Some Haphazard Notes of a Forty-Two Years' Residence in British Guiana.

Towards the end of 1868 I received from Mr. James Stuart, at the request of the Daniels, the offer of the management of Pin. La Belle Alliance; it was a larger salary than I was getting and a larger employ, and I accepted. Later on I got a warning from a friend in Essequibo that L. B. A. was in a state of abandonment, but it came too late, as my successor, Harry Wolseley, was already appointed, and, in fact, was residing with me at Mon Repos, at the request of Mr. Clementson, who wished the management to be conducted on the same lines. So I gave over the estate to Wolseley at the end of the year and took over L. B. A. on 1st January, 1869. I may here state that, unsolicited, Mr. Clementson sent me, on leaving, a very handsome letter which I showed to Mr. Stuart who sent it on to the Daniels. I found L. B. A. truly abandoned, lock, stock and barrel; no cultivation, no small drains, no side-line trenches, the newly erected mill and engine not usable, and the whole of the buildings tumbling down. There was a mud band in front of the estate several miles in extent, so there was no natural drainage. Mr. Stuart had told me that the drainage engine erected ten years previously was of no use as it would not clear the estate of water. The engine was by Easton and Amos with an Appolds fan, and it struck me that it was queer that it should be so useless as described; so I had it cleared up and started, and lo! it would not reduce the water in the trenches although throwing out large volumes. Investigation soon showed me that for the want of a stop-off in a certain trench, the water was being pumped round and round. I had a stop-off put in at once and by night all the water was off the estate and the engine continued to drain the estate all the time I was on it, and would dry the side-line trenches even after they had been twice deepened,—very much to the astonishment of the Revd. Brett and Dr. Goring, (both of whom lived in front) and the neighboring managers. Mr. Downer of Hampton Court used to declare he could hardly believe his own eyes when he saw the side-line trenches dry. The manager's house was all that could be desired, and there was a beautiful flower

garden and orchard with a large grape vine. The overseers' quarters were simply a dog-hole, and I had the overseers in my house till theirs could be made habitable. Mr. Stuart visited the estate twice and was very much pleased with the improvement I had effected and then it fell to the lot of "Pitman and Stephens." Later on I was saddled by the Daniels with a drunken engineer and, as many annoyances sprang up, I applied to the government for employment in the Public Service, naming the police force as my preference, and my application was granted; so on the 1st January, 1871, I handed over the estate to Halliday and so ended my 16 years of planter life. My planter friends thought I had done very wrong to give up planting, but I fear many of them lived to regret not having done so also; and my friend Henry Clementson was very wrath.

The draining engine boiler was not a very safe article, it having been once burnt out and patched, but with 10 pound pressure, the engine did all that was required of it. One morning from my house I noticed the engine working very slowly and irregularly, and having seen the engineer go into the engine house shortly before, I would not go back, and awaited developments. Very soon the engine driver came with a verbal message from the engineer that he had altered the slide valve of the engine, and that the weight on the safety valve of the boiler must be put to 40lb. I ordered him to send up to me the three indentured Coolies that were working about the engine, and after that to put the weight at 40lb. The negro scratched his head and seemed to think that it was very hard that he should be blown up alone; he went back, but did not send up the Coolies, nor did the engine do any better, but some hours later the engineer returned from down the coast; he and the engine driver had some serious talk, the slide valve was again altered and the engine went on her way rejoicing. Once the engineer took the cane engine to pieces, why, I could never understand, and after it was put together we found that it would not work. We could not get the engineer as he was "laid up" and after great persuasion I got Leslie of Hampton Court to come to my assistance, and he found that the slide valve had been put in upside down.

I was appointed to the police and sent to the West Coast, Demerara to relieve Manthorp, who was going on furlough. The police at that time had commissaries' duties to perform and there was plenty to do. My old friend S. B. Trotman was at DeKinderen and he always kindly welcomed me to a meal or a bed. Dampier was the magistrate of the district. One day I was prosecuting a black man for having had a subscription dance without obtaining a licence; he pleaded that it was a private birthday party, and called a witness to prove it; and his question to the witness was "Wha I bin tell you when I invite you to the party?" The answer was:

"You bin tell me money must pay befo'hand; money musn't pay at de door." This witness was of course not cross-examined. We lived at Fellowship over the top of a Portuguese cloth store, but soon had notice to leave under the pretext that one of the servants, a coolie lad, had quarrelled with the daughter of the owner of the place; the real reason being that I had prosecuted several Portuguese for breaches of the Revenue Laws. This shows the necessity of the government providing residences for its officers, especially those connected with the execution and administration of the laws, and not leaving them to the spite and caprice of private owners.

We next got housed with Wodehouse, the Curate, at Met-en-Meerzorg, but life there was well nigh intolerable, owing to frightful noises at night; it was impossible to get a night's rest, and equally impossible to find out the cause of the various noises, although Wodehouse and myself made strenuous efforts to do so. In common parlance, the house was haunted. Dampier then took us in at Nouvelle Flandres House, and we had a pleasant time until I was ordered off to the East Coast, Demarara, where I was to do, and did do, what had baffled several other functionaries and departments, viz., stop the encroachments of the sea and make new dams and public roads at Friendship, Bladen Hall and Strathspey. Before this, there had been no communication by road in this district for fifteen months. The magistrate went to Vigilance Court from the railway by batteau, and of course others had to do the same. The roads on either side had been allowed to get out of order, and I met with great opposition in having them made safe and usable. Two managers summoned me before Magistrate Maxwell, and another went so far as to swamp, by means of his draining engine, a large quantity of burnt earth that I had prepared for his road. I at once prepared another lot in a different place, and the estate had ultimately to pay for both quantities. The roads were, however, ready for use in three months. Mrs. Fred. Gordon, through the ill-advice of so-called friends, persisted in her opposition to the making of these roads and dams, and thereby lost her estate, Strathspey. Bladen Hall was also lost to its proprietor. These two and Vigilance are now part of Plin, Nonpareil.

Soon after all this worry, the commissaries' work was taken from the police, and Horace Joseph taken from the police and made head of the commissary's department; and I was sent to act for a year as sub-immigration agent, pending the arrival from India of Walpole and Durham. At the expiration of this acting appointment, I went back to the police and was stationed in Georgetown, with charge of certain out-districts, also the mail service and the printing office. Whilst I was in the immigration department, I visited every estate in the colony

then in cultivation, and my knowledge of estate's work enabled me to settle on the spot many vexed questions to the satisfaction of both immigrants and managers. In fact the managers would often say: "You know all about it, so and so are the facts, take the Coolies' version of it, and I am satisfied with your decision without wasting any more time." The Coolies that did not know me before very soon found out that I knew what I was talking about and was not to be fooled by their exaggerated statements. Veerasammy, the present chief interpreter, was then a lad and was my clerk both in the office and on the visiting. He and John Sutherland Gordon and myself came near being murdered in a field at Plin, Greenfield once, by a gang of new Coolies who had put themselves in the wrong; and it resulted in Nicholas Cox, the inspector general, having to go to the estate with a strong body of men and arrest the malcontents, all of whom were subsequently removed to other estates. It was a smart bit of work done in Cox's usual thorough style. After I returned to the police I was once sent to the West Coast with some armed men to stop a Barbadian fight, but when we got there, the Barbadians were non sunt, and I cooled out with D. C. Cameron at Blankenburg. Inspector Wedlake went with me at his request as he wanted to see some real war. We played whilst that night, although I told the others that I knew very little of the game, and it turned out that when one round was played out I had two cards left in my hand, and as neither of the others had found his hand short, I claimed not to be a greater novice than themselves.

On another occasion, Mordie, a farmer, reported to the government that things were very bad in Canal No. 1; the people in a state of rebellion, and his life in danger. I was sent with some men, and got up to the head of the canal about 8 o'clock at night and found Mordie sound asleep in his bed and not a sound to be heard, nor a person to be seen along the whole length of the canal. Luckily, we just saved the tide and got back to America Stelling as the water was beginning to wash.—Demarara Argosy.

Personal.

Mr. C. E. LeBlanc, of Thibodaux, La., was a recent guest of the Commercial hotel.

Mr. James A. Ware, of the splendid Belle Grove place in Iberville parish, was in the city on a visit a few days ago and registered at the St. Charles.

Dr. H. J. Sanders, well-known throughout the state as a fine sugar planter and a genial gentleman, was at the Hotel Royal with his wife last Sunday.

Mr. Miller, the cableway expert of the Lidgerwood Manufacturing Company, has been in Louisiana recently investigating some of the possibilities of handling cane by means of cables.

JAN. 20

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	Jan. 14.	Jan. 16.	Jan. 17.	Jan. 18.	Jan. 19.	Jan. 20.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.	
SUGAR. Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal Choice.....	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ 3 1/4	— @ —	Steady.	
Strict Prime.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	3 1/8 @ 3 1/4		
Prime.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	3 1/8 @ 3 1/4		
Fully Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 @ 3 1/8		
Good Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 @ 3 1/8		
Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	2 1/2 @ 3		
Good Common..	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	2 1/4 @ 2 7/8		
Common.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	2 1/4 @ 2 7/8		
Inferior.....	2 7/8 @ 3 1/2	2 7/8 @ 3 1/2	2 7/8 @ 3 1/2	2 7/8 @ 3 1/2	2 7/8 @ 3 1/2	2 7/8 @ 3 1/2	2 1/2 @ 2 5/8		
Centrifugal.									
Plant's Granul'd Off Granul'd... Choice White..... Off White..... Grey White..... Choice Yellow..... Prime Yellow..... Off Yellow..... Seconds.....	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8 — @ — 4 1/8 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 7/8 4 1/4 @ 4 1/8 4 1/8 @ 4 3/8 4 1/2 @ 4 3/2 3 7/8 @ 4 1/8 2 1/4 @ 3 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 5/8 — @ — 4 1/8 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 7/8 — @ — 4 1/8 @ 4 3/8 4 1/2 @ 4 3/2 3 7/8 @ 4 1/8 2 1/4 @ 3 1/8	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/8 @ 4 3/8 4 1/4 @ 4 1/4 3 7/8 @ 4 1/8 2 1/4 @ 3 1/8	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/8 @ 4 3/8 4 1/4 @ 4 1/4 3 7/8 @ 4 1/8 2 1/4 @ 3 1/8	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/8 @ 4 3/8 4 1/4 @ 4 1/4 3 7/8 @ 4 1/8 2 1/4 @ 3 1/8	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/8 @ 4 3/8 4 1/4 @ 4 1/4 3 7/8 @ 4 1/8 2 1/4 @ 3 1/8	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/8 @ 4 3/8 4 1/4 @ 4 1/4 3 7/8 @ 4 1/8 2 1/4 @ 3 1/8		4 1/8 @ — — @ 4 5/8 4 1/4 @ 4 5/8 4 3/8 @ 4 5/8 3 7/8 @ 4 1/8 4 1/8 @ — 4 @ — 3 3/4 @ 3 1/8 2 1/4 @ 3 1/8
MOLASSES. Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal Fancy..... Choice..... Strict Prime..... Good Prime..... Prime..... Good Fair..... Fair..... Good Common... Common..... Inferior.....	20 @ 23 — @ 31 27 @ 28 — @ 28 — @ 25 23 @ 24 — @ 22 — @ 21 — @ 19 — @ 18 — @ 17	20 @ 23 — @ 31 27 @ 28 — @ 28 — @ 25 23 @ 24 — @ 22 — @ 21 18 @ 19 — @ 18 — @ 17	20 @ 23 — @ 31 27 @ 28 — @ 28 — @ 25 23 @ 24 — @ 22 — @ 21 18 @ 19 — @ 18 — @ 17	20 @ 23 — @ 31 27 @ 28 — @ 28 — @ 25 23 @ 24 — @ 22 — @ 21 18 @ 19 — @ 18 — @ 17	20 @ 23 — @ 31 25 @ 28 23 @ 24 — @ 22 — @ 21 — @ 18 — @ 17 — @ 16 — @ 15	20 @ 23 — @ 31 25 @ 28 23 @ 24 — @ 22 — @ 21 — @ 18 — @ 17 — @ 16 — @ 15	— @ — — @ 27 25 @ 26 22 @ 23 — @ 20 — @ 18 — @ 17 — @ 16 — @ 14 — @ 12	Dull.	
Centrifugal.									
Fancy..... Choice..... Strict Prime..... Good Prime..... Prime..... Good Fair..... Fair..... Good Common... Common..... Inferior.....	— @ 18 — @ 16 — @ 14 12 @ 13 — @ 10 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6 — @ 5	— @ 18 — @ 16 — @ 14 12 @ 13 — @ 10 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6 — @ 5	— @ 18 — @ 16 — @ 14 12 @ 13 — @ 10 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6 — @ 5	— @ 18 — @ 16 — @ 14 12 @ 13 — @ 10 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6 — @ 5	— @ 18 — @ 16 — @ 14 12 @ 13 — @ 10 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6 — @ 5	— @ 18 — @ 16 — @ 14 12 @ 13 — @ 10 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6 — @ 5	— @ — 12 @ 13 10 @ 11 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6 — @ 5 — @ 5		
SYRUP.									
	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	18 @ 22		

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:									
SUGAR.									
Fair Refining, 89° Centrifugals, 96° Granulated..... Standard A..... Dutch Granulated German Granul'd.	— @ — — @ — — @ 4.72 — @ 4.60 — @ 4.96 — @ 4.84	— @ — — @ — — @ 4.72 — @ 4.60 — @ 4.96 — @ 4.82	— @ — — @ — — @ 4.72 — @ 4.60 — @ 4.96 — @ 4.82	— @ — — @ — — @ 4.72 — @ 4.60 — @ 4.96 — @ 4.82	— @ — — @ — — @ 4.72 — @ 4.60 — @ 5.02 — @ 4.82	— @ — — @ — — @ 4.72 — @ 4.60 — @ 4.96 — @ 4.84	— @ — — @ — 4.96 @ — 4.84 @ — — @ — — @ —	Quiet.	
MOLASSES.									
N. O. Choice..... N. O. Fair.....	— @ — — @ —	— @ — — @ —	— @ — — @ —	— @ — — @ —	— @ — — @ —	— @ — — @ —	— @ — — @ —		
LONDON:									
Java, No. 15 D. S. A. & G. Beet.....	11s. 6d. 9s. 3 1/4d.	11s. 6d. 9s. 8d.	11s. 6d. 9s. 2 1/4d.	11s. 6d. 9s. 2 1/4d.	11s. 6d. 9s. 1 1/2d.	11s. 3d. 9s. 1 1/2d.	11s. 3d. 9s. 2 1/4d.		

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf..... Powdered..... Stan'd Granula'd. Rosetta Extra C Candy A..... Crystal Extra C. Royal Ex C.....	— @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/8 — @ 5 — @ — — @ — — @ —	— @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/8 — @ 5 — @ — — @ — — @ —	— @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/8 — @ 5 — @ — — @ — — @ —	— @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/8 — @ 5 — @ — — @ — — @ —	— @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/8 — @ 5 — @ — — @ — — @ —	— @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/8 — @ 5 — @ — — @ — — @ —	— @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/4 — @ 5 1/8 — @ — — @ 5 1/4 — @ — — @ —	Steady.	
SYRUP.									
	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Jan. 11.....	Tons	113,903
At four ports of Great Britain to Jan. 7.....	"	82,000
At Panama and Matanzas to Jan. 10.....	"	5,000

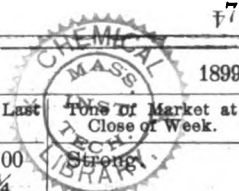
Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Jan. 20, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Jan. 20, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses	Sugar			Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.		Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	
Received.....	864	58,084	10,280	6,398	1,068,803	185,783	
Sold.....	864	59,490	11,408	6,398	1,059,601	184,998	
Received same time last year				16,108	1,196,212	160,130	

JAN. 20.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.



1899.

RICE.	Jan. 14.	Jan. 16.	Jan. 17.	Jan. 18.	Jan. 19.	Jan. 20.	Same Day Last Year.	Tons of Market at Close of Week.
	ROUGH, per bbl...	1 80@4 25	1 75@4 10	1 50@4 25	2 00@4 25	1 50@4 25	2 25@4 50		1 50@4 00
CLEAN, Fancy...	6 @6 1/4	6 @6 1/4	6 @6 1/4	6 @6 1/4	6 @6 1/4	6 @6 1/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	
Choice...	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 @5 1/4	
Prime...	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	4 1/2@4 3/4	
Good...	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 1/4@4 1/2	
Fair...	4 1/2@4 3/4	4 1/2@4 3/4	4 1/2@4 3/4	4 1/2@4 3/4	4 1/2@4 3/4	4 1/2@4 3/4	4 @4 1/4	
Ordinary...	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	3 3/4@4	
Common...	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/4@3 1/2	
Inferior...	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	Nominal	
No. 2...	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	2 @2 1/4	
BRAN, per ton...	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	8 00@ 8 50	9 50@10 50	
POLISH, per ton...	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 00@ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Jan. 20, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Jan. 20, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BBLs. CLEAN.	This year.	SACKS ROUGH.	BBLs. CLEAN.	Last year.
Received	15,645	84	588,486	1,615		
Sold	13,372	2,442	377,138	2,699		

Sugar.

The local sugar market was steady at the end of the week. The receipts, which were fair, were promptly absorbed.

Molasses.

Open kettle molasses was quiet at the end of the week, and centrifugals steady.

Rice.

Rough rice, especially the higher grades, was steady at the end of the week, with a fair volume of business reported. The lower grades of rough were, to some extent, neglected and easy. Cleaned rice was quiet and steady.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

December anticipations and predictions regarding the present month are beginning to materialize; the resumption of business prompt and vigorous; the outlook favorable for its continuance. The demand at this point is mainly foreign; widespread and extends through all Northern States to the Rockies and nearly every Southern State, including localities contiguous to the rice fields. In the presence of a fair forward supply of Domestic this may seem anomalous but it must be borne in mind that there is an almost utter absence of the intermediate or grocery grades which, therefore can only be met with imported sorts. These styles are of high character, well known and easily command renewal of patronage from every quarter. Advices from the South note general reopening of mills and that the offerings of cleaned are quite liberal; somewhat in excess of immediate requirements. There is, however, no apparent anxiety as prices of the respective sections for their particular grades are considerably below importing cost of equal quality. The demand is of good volume and the large request for samples thought to indicate "more to follow." Regarding the unmarketed crop a large per cent of it (especially Louisiana) is still stacked in the fields and some stand-

ing in the water. As can be realized all of it has more or less deteriorated in quality and the bottom of the shock damaged beyond recovery. Cables and correspondence from abroad note active interest and many evidences that the present position is favorable to speculation. This is but the natural outcome of abnormally low reserves and the belief that the Burmese crop will fall far short of early estimates.

Talmage, New Orleans telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough 557,605 sacks; last year 411,785 sacks. Sales cleaned (est) 133,155 barrels; last year 64,300 barrels. Good demand; principal offerings ordinary to fair; market strong with upward tendency.

Talmage, Charleston telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 26,225 barrels. Sales 20,215 barrels. Steady demand at former range.

Programme of the Annual Meeting of the State Agricultural Society and Louisiana Stock Breeders' Association.

First Day, Wednesday, January 25, 1899.

10 a. m., Call to Order by the President.—Invocation, Rev. Dr. Matthew Vanhear, Shreveport; Address of Welcome, Hon. John C. Moncure; Response, W. B. J. Thompson Esq., St. Mary; Annual Address by the President, Hon. John Dymond, Plaquemines; Appointment of Committees. Recess.

Afternoon Session—2 p. m.—Proper Policy of the North Louisiana Hill Farmer, Mr. J. A. Brewer, Bienville; Practical Road Making in the State, Mr. E. G. Harrison, Office of Road Inquiry, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; The Objects of a Geological Survey of the State, Dr. G. D. Harris, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Night Session—7:30 p. m.—The Marketing of Fruit, Mr. A. K. Cline, Claiborne; Fruit-Culture for Pleasure and Profit, Mr. L. T. Sanders, Bossier; Raising and Handling of Truck for Market, Mr. D. E. King, Mo. Pacific Railroad Co.

Second Day, Thursday, January 26.

10 a. m.—Invocation, Rev. Dr. J. S. Felix, Shreveport; Diversified Agriculture and its imperative necessity for the Cotton Belt, Capt. J. Burrus M'Gehee, West Feliciana; The Growing of Tobacco in Louisiana, Major

J. G. Lee, State Commissioner of Agriculture and Immigration; Central Factories, their need for the buying of cane from small farmers, Col. William Polk, Rapides.

Afternoon Session—2 p. m.—Cotton Manufacturing in the South, Mr. H. H. Hargrove, Caddo; Aims and Purposes of Cotton-Growers' Union, Messrs. Stringfellow, Maxwell and Schuler; Improved Methods of Baling Cotton, Dr. A. V. Roberts, DeSoto.

Night Session—7:30 p. m.—Education Essential to the Successful Agricultural Development of the State; The Effect of Annexation of newly-acquired territory upon our Southern Products, Mr. John Dymond, Plaquemines.

Third Day, Friday, January 27.

LOUISIANA STOCKBREEDERS ASSOCIATION.

10 a. m., Call to Order by the President.—Invocation, Rev. Dr. W. T. Bolling, Shreveport; President's Annual Address, Mr. W. L. Foster, Caddo; The Berkshire Hog as a Money Maker to the Southern Cotton Producer, Mr. S. Q. Hollingsworth, Red River; The Fattening of Cattle for Market, a Profitable Industry for the Louisiana Farmer, Dr. Tait Butler, Mississippi.

Afternoon Session—2 p. m.—Growing Hay and Raising Stock in the Hills, Judge J. T. Boone, Bienville; Dairying in North Louisiana, Mr. Joseph Miller, Webster; Dairying and Stockraising in North Louisiana, Capt. E. T. Sellers, Union; Report of Committees; Election of Officers; Selection of Next Place of Meeting; Unfinished Business; New Business.

Evening Session—7 p. m.—Experience Meeting; Discussion of Questions from Question Box.

(Adjournment.)

Personal.

Hon. Andrew H. Gay, of the Union and St. Louis plantations in Iberville parish, was a visitor to New Orleans during the past week. Mr. Gay stopped at his usual abiding place, the St. Charles.

Hon. J. B. Watkins, of Lawrence, Kan., who is interested in sugar planting in the southwestern part of Louisiana, was in the city during the past few days and put up at the St. Charles hotel.

We received a pleasant visit a few days ago from Mr. Thomas A. Badeaux, of Norah, La.

Mr. C. L. Bougere and Mrs. Bougere, of Lions, St. John parish, were guests of the Hotel Royal on Tuesday last.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La. 18-99

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Newser, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, timekeeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish all references. Address "A. C." this office. 1-9

WANTED—A young, unmarried man desires to secure a position on a sugar plantation. Has had experience as clerk, overseer and other general work. Honest, sober and reliable. Can furnish best of references. Is willing to work for a nominal salary. Address at once J. L. SLACK, Tallulah, La. 12-31-98

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 521 Du Maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of Cane. Best of references given. Address, M. E. W., Care Verandah Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-29-98.

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-29-98.

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 6334 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—A young married man of small family, desires a position in Puerto Rico as time-keeper or sugar weigher. Have had several years' experience in sugar houses; also a very good book-keeper. Can furnish best of references. Address C. B. S., care Baton Rouge Sugar Co., Baton Rouge, La.

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$30. Address F. E. C., Shadydale Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYER, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as manager of sugar plantation for the coming year. Ample experience, highest recommendations as to capacity, sobriety and ability to handle labor. Address D. A. BLOUIN, Whitecastle, La.

WANTED—Position as manager or assistant on sugar plantation for the coming year. Long experience and first-class references. Address A. G., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Solms P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation, by married man, 33 years of age, sober, energetic and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 256, New Iberia, La. 12-6-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOYER, care First New York Beet Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-6-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 22, City Hall. 12-3-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1085 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as manager for 1899, by a first-class man of experience and fine references. Will take an assistant and work very reasonable. Address E. W. CRIGGTON, Baton Rouge, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as second overseer or time-keeper on sugar plantation, for 1899. Address THEO. BAUDOIN, JR., Hahnville, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—A sugar house expert, who is now, and has been for the past five years, the head chemist for one of the largest sugar houses in Louisiana, is open for an engagement for coming crop in Mexico, Cuba or Central America. Will accept a position on any terms consistent with first-class work. Can furnish best of testimonials from present employers and from the University from which he graduated. Address LETA, this office. 12-8-98

WANTED—By a young chemist with university education and one year's experience in large Louisiana factory, a position for Mexico or Cuban campaign. Address A. M., care Louisiana Planter. 11-30-98

WANTED—By a first-class sugar boiler, to go to Mexico, Central America or the Hawaiian Islands. Will furnish the best of references. Address MANUEL MELLO, No. 836 Bartholomew street, New Orleans, La. 11-29-98

WANTED—Position for next crop by an A No. 1 sugar boiler. Is now employed on one of the largest places in the State. Would have no objection to living on the place and making himself generally useful. Is a good cooper. Address GEO. CODE, Belle Grove Plantation, Whitecastle, La. 11-25-98

WANTED—Position in this State or Mexico by an A No. 1 sugar boiler who has references of the very first class. Address BOILER, 507 Chartres street, New Orleans, La. 11-9-98

WANTED—Chemist wants situation. Graduate of University of Michigan. Have had practical experience in the analysis of sugars and syrups. Am 25 years of age and unmarried. If necessary would be willing to go to the West Indies. Reference from former employer given. Address X, this office. 11-26-98

WANTED—Position as book-keeper and utility man in the country. Good references. Address COMPETENT, care Louisiana Planter. 11-21-98

WANTED—A position as book-keeper or manager of a country store by a thoroughly competent young married man with 14 years' experience. Would also open up and run a drug store in interest of employer. Can furnish A No. 1 references. Address G. C. B., Donaldsonville, La. 11-21-98

WANTED—An expert sugar house man, as chemist or superintendent, is desirous of closing an engagement for coming crop in Mexico or Cuba. Has had six years experience on some of the largest plantations in Louisiana. Can bring references from present Central Factory, and testimonials from Dr. W. C. Stubbs. Those desiring the services of a thorough sugar house man, address OSCAR, box 574, Baton Rouge. 11-19-98

WANTED—Position as chemist in Mexico or Cuba for coming crop. Have had eight years experience and can furnish good references as to ability. Am at present employed at one of the leading sugar houses in Louisiana. Address CHEMIST, this office. 11-22-98

WANTED—An assistant sugar boiler at once. Address L. A. ELLIS, Sartartia, Tex. 11-17-98

WANTED—Position as assistant or head sugar maker. Can furnish first-class references. Address J. L. WIRTH, 1916 Toulouse street, New Orleans, La. 11-14-98

WANTED—Position as assistant overseer or time-keeper on a sugar plantation, for 1899. Married man 38 years of age. Address E. V. W., care S. C. Brodowski, 609 Sixth street, New Orleans. 11-15-98

WANTED—Position as butler by an experienced man. Good references. Will try to make himself useful in every way. Address EMILE TERRIE, 612 Chartres st., New Orleans. 11-15-98

WANTED—Experienced chemist, at present instructor in a large university in the Northwest, desires position in a warm climate. Best references. Address P. O. Box 1783, Iowa City, Iowa. 11-14-98

WANTED—By experienced man, situation as chemist in sugar house, in Mexico or Central America, for coming campaign. Good reference, sober, competent. Address CHEMIST, care of Glenwild, Berwick, La. 11-11-98

WANTED—Position as engineer, water tender or electrician in a sugar plant. Address G. G. VON SICK, Sandusky, O. 11-11-98

WANTED—Position as hostler by a German married man. Understand the care of stock. Good references. Address PHILIP BROWN, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 11-7-98

WANTED—An American engineer, as assistant in sugar factory, Dutch Guiana. Must have had several years' experience in a Louisiana factory. Address with full particulars CARTER HAWLEY & Co., No. 40 Exchange Place, New York City. 11-7-98

WANTED—Position as sugar-maker; 20 years experience; best reference given. Can refer to half a dozen planters. Address J. C. BOURG, St. Bernard P. O., La. 10-30-98

WANTED—Position as locomotive engineer for coming season. Can furnish best of references. Address EUGENE HENO, 444 Customhouse street, city. 11-1-98

WANTED—A good, experienced sugar boiler, with good references. Address ZAKANY SUCRORES, Florida, Sinaloa, Mexico. 10-21-98

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar boiler, a man who has much experience, and also understands clarification and liming. Had the misfortune to lose his place by sugar house being destroyed by fire Oct. 10th. Can furnish first-class references from planters of Louisiana. Address NUMA JACOB, Union P. O., La. 11-2-98

WANTED—Position as sugar boiler for this crop. Have been boiling for over 20 years for Capt. Brown's Anchorage plantation, and can give very best references. Address RENE VICKNAIR, Bonnet Carré, La. 26-10-98

WANTED—A first-class sugar house engineer can get a permanent situation, with good wages, on Oak Bluff plantation. None but a sober and competent man need apply. Address H. C. ROSE, Franklin, La. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as fireman on a sugar plantation. Address ALBERT RACHID, 519 Dumaine street, New Orleans, La. 10-13-98

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,
A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

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Texas Sugar Planters' Association.

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EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGIL. JOHN DYMOND.

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6 inch.....	28 50	70 00	105 00	140 00
7 inch.....	32 50	81 15	121 75	163 50
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Leguminous Crops to Redeem Our Southern Soils.

A careful investigation of the uplands of the Southern States will show that the constant culture of cotton and other hoed crops has almost depleted the store of humus originally present in these soils, and with it has disappeared the original supply of nitrogen. Without an abundance of nitrogen no soils will grow grasses successfully, and without a supply of humus in a soil all crops, especially the grasses, will be more or less affected by a drouth even of short duration. Since the entire South is turning its attention to the growing of stock, the raising of beef, mutton, pork, etc., for the markets, the old adage, "More grass, more cattle; more cattle, more manure, and more manure more grass," seems to be an appropriate shibboleth of every Southern farmer at this particular crisis in our agricultural history, when our staple crops have fallen in value below the actual cost of producing them, even upon our best soils.

It is impossible to make successful pasturages or grow large grass crops upon our poor uplands, until their fertility shall have been restored. Nitrogen, the chief ingredient required by all grass crops, is the costly constituent of all commercial fertilizers, and is the valuable element in stable and home made manures, including our cotton seed and cotton seed meal, and, as before recited, is wanting generally in all of the uplands of this state. It is worth, according to the tariff of prices now adopted in this state fifteen cents per pound in commercial fertilizers. At this price it is almost prohibitory to most of our farmers. But fortunately nature has provided for us a way by which we can store up this element in our soils in large quantities at a mere nominal cost. Leguminous crops have been used from time immemorial as renovators of soils and for furnishing valuable food material for civilized man

and domestic animals. Even the wild deer of our forest finds the larger part of his support in the wild legumes of our woods and swamps; beggar lice, wild pea etc.

This family of plants is a very large one and every civilized country has adopted one or more of them for feed and fertilizing purposes. They all have nodules on their roots, filled with microbes, which, while they draw much of their support from the plants upon which they live, yet supply themselves in a manner not yet clearly understood, with nitrogen drawn directly from the air. Having only an ephemeral existence they are rapidly absorbed at death by the host plant, which utilizes not only the plant food which these microbes have taken from the plant during their short existence, but also the nitrogen which they have directly appropriated from the air. In this way a leguminous crop, through the microbes on their roots, will gather during the season of its growth an almost incredible amount of nitrogen per acre. The microbes are simply purveyors for their hosts, of nitrogen, taking it from the great reservoir of nature, the air, (which contains four-fifths of its volume of free nitrogen) and ultimately transferring it to the plant with which it lives in symbiotic union. The agriculturist of to-day, even the most advanced in theory and practice, fails to appreciate in its fullest measure this wonderful providence of nature and a clear discrimination of its use, as is demonstrated daily by the investigations of science, in the selection of plants best adapted to his environments.

Only by the practice of planting leguminous crops can we hope to economically and profitably restore the nitrogenous matter to our soils, and only by the study of the composition, individuality and adaptability to our surroundings of the various leguminous crops can we select one or more which will accomplish the

above results in the shortest time. Fortunately, we have at the South several excellent crops of the leguminous family to select from, and to show the comparative merits of a few of our best is the object of this article.

It should be remembered, however, in the cultivation of these crops that only nitrogen is gathered from sources exterior to the soil. Whatever of phosphoric acid, potash, or lime, is needed by these plants must be obtained from the soil. If the latter be deficient in any of these ingredients they must be supplied before large crops can be produced. It is true that the usually long tap roots of this family of plants, penetrating to deeper depths, will draw upon the subsoil for supplies unavailable to ordinary crops with fibrous surface roots, and these apparently, at first, show no want of mineral fertilizers; but the safest and best procedure, demonstrated by abundant experience, is to apply, liberally, mineral manures (especially acid phosphate in this state) to the leguminous crop before planting. By so doing you place within easy reach of the growing plant every element in abundance, save nitrogen, and thus, under such favorable conditions, it will get in largest possible quantities from the air.

Leguminous crops must be the foundation stones upon which the future prosperous agriculture of the uplands of the South must be built.

Alfalfa, Crimson and Red clover, Lespedeza, Hairy Vetch, Spanish peanuts, Cow-peas, Velvet beans, etc., all are valuable crops, adaptable to different portions of the South.

Other things being equal, that crop which will produce the largest amount of nitrogen, obtained from the air in a given time, is the best crop to grow for fertilizing purposes. Usually, too, that crop containing the largest amount of nitrogen is best for feeding purposes, and it is always advisable, wherever there are stock to be fed, to utilize the crop as stock-feed, rather than to turn it under as green manure. But when fed, the manure from the animals should be carefully preserved, and scrupulously and intelligently returned to the soil. By intelligently growing the proper crops, and feeding them in proper combinations to live stock, it is possible to improve,

gradually, a farm, and, at the same time, profitably grow a large number of stock. Only by such action can the worn lands of the South be restored and made adaptable to profitable stock raising.

The prince of leguminous crops, wherever it can be grown, is Alfalfa. Unfortunately, it will not grow well in all soils, but, where proper conditions exist, it should, by all means, be grown, as it is, perhaps, taken singly, the most valuable plant for stock known. It seems to thrive upon all the bottom lands of Louisiana and Mississippi, especially along the Red and Mississippi rivers. In our uplands, or bluff lands, some nursing may be necessary to start the plants off. By proper inoculation and persistent planting upon the same soil with heavy applications of stable manure, it is believed that it can be made to grow on any soil. When once established, it will last for many years without re-seeding. It should be sown broadcast in the fall of the year—September in North Louisiana and October in South Louisiana. The ground should be well and deeply plowed, thoroughly pulverized, and seed sown at the rate of fifteen pounds to the acre and lightly covered. After sowing, it requires no cultivation, making a rapid growth and giving several cuttings during the year. Obtain a bushel or two of dirt and roots where the alfalfa is already growing successfully, put the dirt in a barrel, fill the barrel with water, mash up the roots and thoroughly mix dirt and roots in the water. Pour the mixture on a pile of manure, and sprinkle the manure on the land just before sowing the seed. The dirt and roots from the alfalfa field contain the organisms which form the root nodules, which seem to be necessary to the full development of the plant. The manure seems to furnish these organisms with necessary food material till they become symbiotic on the roots of the alfalfa.

In Louisiana, upon the alluvial lands of the Mississippi and Red rivers, it is a great success, affording six to eight cuttings per year, with yields at each cutting of one and a half to two and a half tons of cured hay. The Sugar Experiment Station has grown it with unparalleled success for nearly eight years, and by these successful experiments many farmers and planters have been induced

to cultivate it on a large scale. It is estimated that over 5,000 acres in this State were seeded with this plant last fall, and the market of New Orleans is now supplied, in limited quantities, with alfalfa hay grown upon Louisiana soils. It fetches easily \$15 to \$16 per ton.

It has only partially succeeded upon the bluff lands of the State, but this partial success has demonstrated that, by inoculation and persistent effort, a good crop can ultimately be secured. At Calhoun, upon the yellow, sandy clays, by the heavy application of stable manure, aided by inoculation, a permanent catch has been obtained, and the area devoted to the plant is being annually increased. There are now growing on this station three distinct crops, one nearly three years old (having passed successfully through the unprecedented drouth of 1896), which has yielded seven cuttings; another, nearly two years old, which gave five cuttings last year, and the third one, planted during the winter, from which several crops have already been taken. It is believed by the heavy application of stable or other organic manures and persistent efforts to inoculate the soil with the needed bacteria, any soil in the state may be induced to grow it. The yields in this State vary largely, according to the character of the soils upon which grown—from three to fifteen tons per acre annually of cured hay. Limited experiments indicate its better adaptability to the stiff clay lands of the alluvial bottoms—a fortunate coincidence, since this character of soils is deemed unprofitable for sugar cane or cotton culture.

Alfalfa hay is one of the richest foods for stock, substituting in the farm dietary wheat, bran, cotton seed meal, etc. It is exceedingly rich in proteids, and, to be properly used, should be mixed with coarser hays, as of straw, prairie hay, corn shucks, etc. It is suitable alone for young, growing animals and horses at heavy work. For milch cows, fattening animals and horses at very moderate work, mixtures of alfalfa and sorghum, or corn stover, have been found exceedingly profitable. It is better adapted to soiling than to pasturing, though hogs can most profitably graze it. Mr. W. L. Foster, of Shreveport,

has had extensive experience in growing hogs upon this plant, and estimates that each acre has given him 3,000 pounds of pork.

It can easily be cured into hay. The following plan, adopted by the station, has been uniformly successful: The alfalfa is cut in the morning, turned over at noon by a tedder and raked into mows or put into small shocks at night. It is permitted to remain thus for one or two days (determined by the prevailing heat and sunshine), and then taken to an open barn, where it is permitted to remain for a few days longer, when it is baled, ready for the market. In this way it is cured into a beautiful green hay, with scarcely the loss of a leaf. Alfalfa, like all leguminous crops, must not be too long in the sun, else the leaves will scorch, turn white and drop off. It must be turned over, either by hand or machine, while curing, to prevent scorching of upper side and to cure out the under side. Alfalfa should be cut for hay just as soon as the purple blooms appear.

Alfalfa seed are sometimes impregnated with the seed of a most obnoxious parasite—the dodder or lovevine (*cuscuta*), which germinates simultaneously with the alfalfa and afterwards lives upon it, soon destroying it. As these seed are much smaller than the alfalfa seed, they may be separated by a sieve, which will permit the former to pass through, while retaining the latter. A common flour sifter, to be found in every household, will accomplish this purpose. Every farmer should sift his seed before sowing.

In subsequent issues we shall discuss our other desirable leguminous crops.

The Louisiana Sugar Crop.

Our reports this week indicate that the work in the fields is being actively pushed, although many localities have had too much wet weather to admit of any extensive progress in this direction. Relative to the condition of the seed cane, advices are somewhat conflicting, but the more prevalent opinion seems to be that it has suffered some degree of injury, particularly in the upper portion of the sugar district, the reports from the lower tier of parishes being more hopeful, and indicating no serious apprehensions as

yet. As January wanes a few factories are still grinding, trying with commendable tenacity to save the last stalk of cane from the now bare and close-shorn fields.

The Calcasieu Diffusion Sugar House.

This sugar house, erected by some enterprising Englishmen in connection with other investments in real estate in and about Lake Charles, unfortunately did not prove the success that was anticipated. The limited supplies of sugar cane in that immediate section of country and the high freight on sugar cane brought in from remoter points, were serious obstacles to the success of the institution from the beginning. The Commercial Tribune of Lake Charles now reports the establishment as sold to Mr. J. C. Morris, of New Orleans, for the sum of \$25,100; that the property consists of about thirty acres of ground, on which stand a complete sugar refinery, boarding house, overseer's residence, sugar cars, and everything needed for the successful operation of the plant. It is understood that the establishment will not be removed from Lake Charles. We sincerely trust that under its new ownership it will develop into a strong establishment and bring about a largely increased interest in the growth of sugar cane in that section of our State.

The International Sugar Journal.

The sugar magazine published monthly since 1869 at Manchester, England, under the title of The Sugar Cane, has now changed its name to the International Sugar Journal, with a view of taking up a wider field of sugar work, in which we wish it the largest success.

Sugar Bounties.

Department's circular, No. 199, of December 12, 1898, relative to sugar bounties, applicable only to sugars shipped to the United States on or after that date.—Instructions as to refined sugars from Holland.

Treasury Department, Jan. 3, 1899.

Gentlemen: In reply to your letter of the 19th ultimo, I have to inform you that the provisions of Department Circular No. 199, of December 12, 1898, relative to sugar bounties, are applicable only to sugars shipped to the United States on or after that date, previous shipments remaining subject to the provisions of similar circulars in force at the time of such shipments.

Of the two classes of raw sugars produced in Holland, specified in said circular No. 199, the class receiving the lowest bounty, viz., sugars testing 98 per cent or above, is not at present produced in any considerable quantity, and, so far as the department is informed, is not used in refining. Should

the importers of any sugar from Holland claim that it was refined from raw sugar testing 98 per cent or above, such claim will be scrutinized with the utmost care, in view of the strong presumption to the contrary created by the existing conditions of the sugar industry in that country.

Respectfully yours,
W. B. Howell,
Assistant Secretary.
Messrs. Comstock & Brown, New York, N. Y.

Sugar as Food.

Experiments in athletic tests have demonstrated that a considerable proportion of sugar in food gives staying qualities to men. The official surgeons of the European powers have recommended to their governments allowances of liberal sugar rations, the claim being made that sugar in food and drink gives vigor and vitality to the men. The United States commissary at Santiago, reported that the troops who had their allowance of coffee and sugar were more vigorous than those who were compelled to go without it; this condition, however, was probably due more to the effect of the coffee than the sugar. The coast natives of Central America frequently choose to make a full meal of a pound of brown sugar dissolved in water. Upon such diet they will do hard work.—Journal of Agriculture.

Rice in French China.

The commercial movement of Cochin-China comprises about \$18,000,000 of exports and \$14,000,000 of imports. Rice is the main article of export, and its importance can be seen from the fact that no less than 538,500 tons were exported in 1896, and this was 74,000 tons less than the preceding year. Of this total 487,000 tons were white rice, cargo rice, or paddy, and 51,500 tons were broken rice and rice flour. The value of the rice exported was \$10,580,000. Other exports during the year were as follows: Coprah, 2002 tons; cotton, 3100 tons; fish, 60,000 tons; hides, 588 tons; horns, 325 tons; lard, 680 tons; pepper, 1192 tons; silk, 322 tons; salt, 6043 tons; wood, 182 tons; the whole valued at \$7,500,000. The imports comprise mostly wearing apparel which was brought into Saigon alone last year to the amount of \$1,000,000; goods of iron to the amount of \$1,000,000 and over; chemicals and medicines, paints and colors, etc. Indo-China contains an area of over 200,000 square miles and a population of 20,000,000. It consists of the direct possessions of Cochin-China and Tongking and the kingdoms of Annam and Cambodia, over which the French republic exercises a protectorate.—Times-Democrat.

At the splendid Glenwood plantation Mr. Munson still holds on to his fine sugar house crew, and the work of Glenwood during the past campaign, in spite of the adverse conditions, speaks for their efficiency. Mr. Robert Sparks was manager, Mr. E. Folse, engineer, and Mr. Alcee L. Aucoin sugar boiler.

Down Into the Sugar Bowl of Texas.

The transition from the mountainous, arid, western portions of the state, where rocks and stunted growth of trees and bush abound, save along the streams, to the Gulf coast country, through whose low alluvial prairie lands the great Brazos sweeps lazily along, beneath forests of immense water oak, pecan, cottonwood, and other indigenous trees, from whose wide-spreading branches droops the long, gray moss of the extreme South, was one most marked and astonishing.

In this immediate section before the war there were large sugar plantations, and the sugar planter realized vast fortunes from cane growing and the production of syrup and low grades of sugar, which were sent away from home to be refined. After the war this industry was for a number of years almost paralyzed, because of the demoralized condition of labor, and many of the largest and richest sugar plantations were allowed to lapse into waste lands, overgrown with weeds and grass, or only cultivated in small patches of cane, corn and cotton. Recent years there has been a revival of interest in sugar growing and the acreage in cane has rapidly increased, until today in that immediate section it bids fair to supercede all other farm products. As a crop it is far more remunerative than cotton or corn, requires less labor to grow it and is more readily and quickly harvested. It is rapidly assuming enormous proportions and the lands in the sugar growing sections are steadily increasing in value. Much of that not now in cultivation is equally as well adapted to cane, and only awaits the hand of the cultivator.

Accustomed in childhood and youth to sugar cane, grown in small quantities (for almost every planter, in sections where cane could be grown, grew sufficient cane to furnish his family with syrup), to the pleasures and fun of "sugar boiling time," and to the delights of chewing cane, the visit to the sugar growing section of the state, and especially the visit to Sugarland, was both a surprise and a revelation. The machinery for grinding cane on the old plantations was quite simple and primitive. An old-fashioned wooden mill, propelled by a mule, perhaps two mules, two or three metal sugar kettles, mounted upon rude rock or brick furnaces, a few barrels of water, and a gang of negro laborers, made up the machinery and accessories for producing syrup or a coarse grade of brown sugar. The mule furnished the motive power, urged on in his monotonous tramp around the mill, over waste cane and corn fodder, by a little darkey, often armed with a long stalk of cane, which served the two-fold purpose of goad and sugar stick, as he alternately chewed one end and lashed old Beck with the other.

Around Sugarland hundreds of acres of cane are grown and the acreage increases yearly. At the plant of Mr. Cunningham the

cane is taken in in the stalk and turned out in all grades of marketable sugar to the finest granulated and cube sugars.

As a rule, the sugar planters of this section do not grind their own cane; they sell it to Mr. Cunningham, at Sugarland, a small town on the Southern Pacific railroad, owned by this gentleman and inhabited almost exclusively, if not entirely, by the sugar refinery and paper mill. One thousand laborers of all classes are employed in the two mills. Sugarland is distant from Houston twenty-five miles, and it is here, many years ago, Mr. Cunningham settled and engaged in sugar cane growing. Through his perseverance and ability, which is of the highest order, he has wrought in this locality, distant from other busy marts of manufacture and trade, a wonder and built up an industry which is the largest of its kind in the United States. He owns a railroad, extending some thirty miles from Sugarland to Arcola Junction, through the great sugar plantations of Brazoria country, upon each of which from 100 to 1000 acres of cane are planted annually. Two trains a day pass through the plantations, gathering up the cane, which has been previously cut and hauled to the railroad by the planters, bringing it to the refinery free of charge to them.

A visit to this mammoth establishment awakens the wonder of the visitor. Here in the country, so to speak, is a busy, hustling little town, the citizens of which have but one business; all thought centers upon one thing—sugar cane and its products. Labor never ceases; day and night forces keep the machinery in motion incessantly, only when it is necessary to shut down for half a day to clean up and clear out the chimneys.

The process of making the sugar is so intricate that we cannot undertake to describe it, as with out limited knowledge of machinery and chemistry we could not follow the explanations very fluently and lucidly given us by Mr. E. Cunningham, Jr., who kindly and patiently explained many things to us. The young gentleman who controls and manages this big business is a son of Mr. E. Cunningham. He was educated in chemistry and practical engineering for this especial business and he holds it well in hand, personally supervising, directing and visiting every part of the farm and refinery each day.

The sugar from this refinery is sold all over the West. The sugar trust cannot touch this Texas enterprise; it is too great and too powerful for even that great combination to affect it in any way. The capacity of the plant is about 250,000 pounds daily. Eighteen hundred tons of cane are consumed each day, one ton yielding about 187 pounds of sugar. The probable output of sugar this season will be 800,000 tons. The increase of acreage over previous years on the Cunningham farm at Sugarland is 500 acres.

On the plantation are cooper shops, where the barrels for transporting the sugar are made; blacksmith and carpenter shops for repairing and building; in fact, all kinds of skilled workmen necessary to carry on the large and varied work at Sugarland are constantly employed there. The cube sugar, so convenient for table use, is made by machinery, thus moulded into regular, uniform cubes.

Across the creek from the refinery is the paper mill, the only mill in this country where paper is made from the pulp of sugar cane. The process, like that of sugar making, is elaborate and intricate, even when one follows it, from the mill which grinds the pulp into the macerator, through the numerous baths, along a dirty looking stream flowing through the house, of fifty feet, over a number of hot rollers, emerging at the end a sheet of thick, smooth brown paper, ready to be weighed, cut, packed and shipped to the consumers, excellent qualities of butchers' and express papers.

After visiting Sugarland, we visited a number of sugar farms. The planters were everywhere busy, cutting and hauling the cane to be shipped to the refineries.

Leaving Houston over the International, we visited plantations along that road. We had hoped to find grinding done in the old-fashioned style on some of the numerous farms, but were disappointed, until, on our way home, we found Mr. Scruggs, near Alvin, making syrup, using an old-time mill. Unfortunately, he was almost through grinding when our snap was made, and the scene is not a very busy one.

The planters generally in Brazoria and Fort Bend counties, sold their cane to the Cunningham plant, or to a new plant, the Lone Star Refining Company, which was being built and equipped at Columbia, with a capacity of about 400 tons per day.

Considerable interest is being shown in a projected railroad of some twenty-eight miles to be built through this sugar growing region. Much of the land now in woodlands would be cleared and planted to cane should this railroad be built, and such lands would pay handsomely in cane, but would not pay if planted in corn or cotton. Sugar cane is considered the best paying crop in these lands, so well adapted to cane growing, one acre in cane being equal in value to three of corn or cotton. It costs about \$26 per acre to plant the cane. This includes cost of seed, and when it is once planted, on high lands, it comes up from the stubble for from four to six years, saving the labor of planting annually.

An estimate of the acreage grown in sugar cane by the larger planters in Brazoria and Fort Bend counties, as given by a reliable planter, is as follows: Retrieve plantation, owned by Ball, Hutchins & Co., Galveston, 500 acres; Darrington farm, Capt. Porter, 500 acres; T. W. House, Houston, 1000 acres; L. A. Ellis, 1000 acres; Mrs. Larkin, 150 acres; E. Wicks, 300 acres; Ed. Williams, 3350 acres; Dr. Dew, 150 acres; John Lang, 150 acres; E. H. Cunningham, 3000 acres; Mrs. Bettie Bingham, 175 acres; John Juleff, 175 acres. Besides these, there are a great number of farmers who plant from 50 to 100 acres, or less.

The sugar planters are hopeful of greater activity in this industry, and they do not fear any competition from Cuba or the Hawaiian islands, at least for many years. We were told that before the late war the sugar was brought from Cuba to the Cunningham plant to be refined.—Mrs. S. E. Buchanan, in Farm and Ranch.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Only one of Ascension's sugar factories is still submerged in grinding afflictions—the Belle Helene Co.'s house, where the rollers will be rolling and the auxiliary mechanism performing its respective functions in the sugar-making process until the end of the week. There is still available sugar in the cane and none of the crop will be left unground, but the least said soonest mended as to the quantity of the product coming under that specification of "available sugar." The Donaldsonville Chief pays the following compliment to the owners of this factory:

"The Belle Helene company has probably suffered greater financial loss proportionately than any other sugar manufacturing concern in this parish as a result of the past season's operations, due not only to the extremely low percentage of available sugar in their cane, but also to the fact that they paid a better price for bought cane than other Ascension factories did. It is to the societies that the agreements with their tenants and others from whom the Belle Helene factory obtained supplies of cane were carried out to the letter, and that no attempt was made either to induce or compel the 'parties of the second part' to share the losses which unfavorable natural conditions beyond the control of either entailed upon the 'parties of the first part.'"

The Hermitage factory finished grinding on Thursday of last week and the pan work was concluded the following day. The total weight of cane crushed was 17,800 tons and the sugar product, made and estimated, was 2,500,785 pounds, an average of 140 pounds per ton. This is much better than any other place in this parish has done, and the only one in this end of the sugar district that has made a higher average, so far as your correspondent is informed was Salsburg in St. James, where the estimated ratio was 144.4 pounds per ton.

The sugar output of Messrs. B. Lemann & Bro.'s Palo Alto factory was 3,224,251 pounds, the product of 29,255 tons of cane; average, 110¼ pounds "scant."

The work of the grinding season was terminated at Mr. Leon Godchaux's Raceland factory, in Lafourche parish, on the 10th inst., and the sugar output is reported at 8,000,000 pounds.

The big Meeker Home refinery at Meeker, Rapides parish, has concluded a very unsatisfactory season's work, the sugar product of 53,000 tons of cane having fallen short of 5,000,000 pounds, an average of less than 100 pounds per ton. As Superintendent Robert Storm cogently says:

"Unfavorable weather during the summer caused the cane at the beginning of the grinding season to be utterly unfit for sugar making purposes, and it never improved. An early freeze compelled general windmow-

ing, and during the balance of the season hot weather, rains and freezes alternated with a cursed regularity and most disastrous results."

Home is one of the best equipped houses in the State and an invaluable adjunct or prefix of its fine nine-roller mill is the new crusher invented by Mr. Storm and constructed for him by the Fulton Iron Works.

Mr. George M. Boote, whose recent return from Hawaii has been a source of gratification to his legion of Louisiana friends, will take up his residence on Evan Hall plantation and cultivate 400 acres of land as a tenant. He has for several years past controlled the cultivation of 216 acres on this place, and the enlargement of his "field" of operations there is indicative of the satisfactory relations he has maintained with the McCall Bros. Company.

Very few managerial changes will take place on Ascension plantation this year. Mr. J. S. Collins, heretofore in charge of Southwood, has gone to Sartartia, Texas, to manage all of the Ellis places. Mr. Lee Barman, his assistant, has taken a clerical position in the store on the North Bend plantation, St. Mary parish. Mr. Geg. H. Morrison who temporarily filled an assistant's position at McManor after Manager J. W. Gleason's retirement, is now employed in a like capacity on the Gramercy Co.'s Mount Houmas place.

Mr. Gleason's health is steadily improving under the influence of rest and good treatment in New Orleans, and his early return to Ascension is hoped for by his friends here.

Very little plowing and planting has yet been attempted, owing to the damp condition of the soil. A general start would have been made by the middle of this week but for a copious rainfall on Monday.

All reports so far heard relative to the condition of seed cane are favorable.

Our police jury on Wednesday adopted the new road ordinance and it is to be hoped this is the last season when the public thoroughfares will become so deplorably and disgracefully bad as they now are in many parts of

ASCENSION.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Hon. Aug. Levert, having finished grinding last Saturday or Sunday, the rolling season of 1898-99 has passed into history so far as West Baton Rouge is concerned. It were unprofitable here to recount the numerous and remarkable freaks of weather that characterized 1898, and particularly the last three months of the year. In looking back over the grinding season just closed one cannot but be impressed with the predominant peculiarity of the season, and that was the universal greenness of the cane from first to last. Despite the unusually cold weather that set in after the middle of October, the cane seems to have undergone lit-

tle or no change so far as ripening was concerned. The disappointing results of the crop just harvested are matters of history.

As to the present it must be confessed that the situation is by no means encouraging. While it is somewhat too early to form a correct estimate of the condition of the plant and stubble, the reports from several plantations are to the effect that considerable defective seed cane is being found. To the writer the sinister feature of these reports lies in the fact that some of them emanate from a plantation where, up to two weeks ago, the seed cane seemed perfect. While there has been a slight-improvement in the weather, we are still having too much rain, a heavy down pour having occurred last Monday night. Very little field work has been done as yet.

It is understood that Mr. Ernest Vicknair, of Anchorage, intends building a horse-power railroad with which to transport his cane to the mill.

Mr. W. H. Esque, a veteran overseer who has for some years been in retirement as a cotton planter, has again joined the ranks of the fraternity by accepting a position on Belmont plantation.

Mr. Taylor Bernard, for many years on Anchorage, left here last Saturday to take up his duties on Adler's Ben Hur plantation, East Baton Rouge.

Following in the wake of Monday night's rain came a decided change for the better, Tuesday being a beautiful day, while a heavy frost was seen this (Wednesday) morning in

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The absence of heavy precipitations in this parish thus far during the month has been most fortunate for the cane growers, and in consequence on some places where the campaign ended before the new year, field work is farther advanced than usual thus early in the season.

But for the heavy frost and thin ice on Friday morning, last week was propitious for planting and the work was rapidly advanced on some places, notably Woodlawn of Mr. C. B. Maginnis, and Southdown, the estate of the late Hon. H. C. Minor, where from eighty to one hundred acres were planted. On many other places fields were being prepared for planting and on Monday planting became more general. All are anxious to hasten operations as the seed cane has been found defective in places, and in one or two instances sorting has been resorted to—a very questionable proceeding which one can easily prove by personally making the attempt, after which carefully inspect the resultant piles of cane. Very careful preparation of the seed bed and covering and rolling the land after planting (possibly twice) will generally insure better results, as more than one-third of the

eyes never germinate when the canes are sound. The writer has seen some indifferent seed and some in excellent condition with some of the eyes just beginning to point, in the former instance the tonnage was somewhat heavy, the canes were crooked and the eyes had elongated after the September storm of last year, and the latter the tonnage lighter (the field having been but moderately fertilized) but little crook to the canes and the eyes in a normal condition when the canes were windrowed. Latterly the lands have dried rapidly and a moderately warm rain at the end of the week will prove of benefit to the canes planted, and will render friable the fields already prepared; as some are plowing all their cane lands prior to making a beginning, as they rely on favorable weather in February—deemed by some the best month in the year to plant.

Recently Mr. Chas. B. Maginnis purchased the Cedar Grove place below Ashland from Messrs. Blum & Prevost at private sale. The canes grown on the place for several years have been sold to the Ashland factory. Regardless of the short crop last year, some at least have faith in the future of the cane sugar industry of the state.

Wednesday of last week the weather was variable; Thursday, cloudy and cold; Friday, a heavy frost and thin ice with sunshine later in the day; Saturday and Sunday, cloudy; Monday, fair and balmy in the morning and cloudy later; Tuesday, cloudy and colder and the predicted cold wave made itself felt in the evening and on Wednesday morning there was a heavy frost with thin ice, which soon disappeared under the influence of the bright sunshine.

TERREBOÑNE.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been behaving itself better than heretofore. Since the flood last Monday night we have not had any rain until this afternoon, just one week, when this section was visited by a very heavy rain. The weather has been warm all the week and it has tried very hard to rain but failed until to-day. The lands were drying out very nicely and farmers had just begun to plow a little and the general appearance of things looked like starting a crop when the rain this afternoon put a stop to any further progress for several days. Preparations for a crop this year are away behind and prospects are anything but flattering at this writing. There has been but little land plowed for cane and none at all for corn and cotton. Cane farmers are very blue over the outlook for suitable weather to put in their crop. They are very anxious to plant their cane before February to avoid the usual disastrous weather to seed cane in the mat or windrow during that month. The Rose Hill and Ramsey Refiner-

ies have wound up their season's grinding and the machinery has been laid by in good shape. The season was a very satisfactory one for the cane grower but not so profitable for the mills. They were successful in saving all the cane that they contracted to grind notwithstanding the early cold weather and the apprehensions of the grower that he would lose his crop. All in all the season just finished was a very profitable one for the cane grower if we take into consideration the disadvantage the mill man was put to to manufacture sugar from the cane and the tremendous loss that he sustained in carrying out his contract with the producer. Some of the mills did not only run at a loss during the entire season, but some of them ran for ten days after the bulk of the cane had been cleaned up at a heavy loss to save the remnant. This was the case with the Caffery Refinery and they are to be commended for this action. The management of this mill kept the mill running until the last stalk of cane that remained on the line of the I. & V. railroad under contract to them to grind had been delivered. Part of this time they did not have over a third of a run. The cane growers on the West end of the Iberia and Vermilion railroad appreciate this favor and will remember the Caffery Refinery for staying with them to the end.

The Planter correspondent made a flying trip to Gueydan this past week and while there was surprised to see that at least one-half of the 1898 rice crop still remains in the field to be threshed. Threshers are busy every day in all parts of the prairie threshing out the crop and with a week's good weather the entire crop will be housed. There have been no preparations as yet for a crop this year but arrangements are being made to that end. There has been quite a change in the management of the Vermilion Development Co. Canal at Gueydan. J. P. Gueydan was formerly president and E. H. Gueydan, secretary, but, a few days ago, J. P. Gueydan disposed of his interest in the company to the remaining members, Messrs. Litchenstein, Hessenger, Kaplan and others, and will devote his entire time to the development of the town of Gueydan, which belongs to him in toto save the lots that have already been sold. This is one of the best little towns in the State of Louisiana and has a bright future before it. The Vermilion Development Company will continue to operate their mammoth canals in the neighborhood of Gueydan and it is needless to say that success awaits the management.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

No rain to amount to anything has fallen since writing last week, but the weather continues to be very damp and changeable, so that the ground is drying out slowly, which is very unsatisfactory to the farmers and planters who are now anxious to get to

plowing and preparing lands for planting purposes.

Particularly is this the case with those who have cane to plant this spring. Upon inquiring I find that the best drained fields are so saturated and full of water that it will require several days of warm sunshine before the soil will be properly fitted for the plow. I have no means by which to obtain the actual rainfall during a given time, but I think I am safe in saying that more inches of rain has fallen over the greater part of the Red river parishes of Rapides, Avoyelles and St. Landry, since the first of this month, than has ever been noted during the many years which have flown past.

The sugar making season just closing in this and our neighboring parishes, has proved to be the worst and least profitable known since the introduction of improved machinery and methods into the country for the manufacture of sugar.

Losses were unavoidably sustained by those who were growing cane, in having to, in not a few instances, cut their cane at both ends to fit it for the mill, so to make it to some extent profitable to the manufacturer to take, crush and convert into sugar.

With truth it may be said that some manufacturers were generous enough to purchase cane at top prices, knowing at the time that they were losing money by so doing. It showed a principle of fairness and honor which is not met with every day in the busy business world.

The Planter's correspondent has not, to date, learned what amount of sugar has been made from the 1898 crop of cane in our home factories.

The tonnage of cane shipped from Avoyelles, Rapides and St. Landry was very considerable considering the season which has prevailed. Were it possible for the sugar which has been manufactured from these canes to be credited to the above mentioned parishes, it would make a very fine showing for our home industry in cane and sugar production.

I have been informed that Mr. Geo. W. Bennett, of Bennettville, has in contemplation the building, this year, of a molasses plant. Mr. Bennett is a stirring citizen planter and merchant of Rapides, who is progressive in the strictest sense of the word.

There seems to be a disposition with some of the prominent cane growers to return to the idea of each plantation having its own factory. If I am not very much mistaken, the next few years will find a number of small first-class factories in this upper sugar belt in active operation.

The cost of shipping cane to distant markets, taken yearly, amounts to quite a large sum of money, which, if applied to building home factories, would soon enhance the value of real estate, as well as being highly beneficial to the people of all classes, trades and callings.

Since the above was written a heavy rain has fallen.

RAM.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather seems to have been totally metamorphosed from its unruly nature of the past four months, for within the past two weeks we have had but a slight shower hardly worth mentioning. The atmosphere has been also of a most pleasant nature, not much of a January type but more of a spring-like description; outside of the occasional east wind no pleasanter atmosphere could be desired. Monday afternoon a reaction in the elements set in, but no rain of any consequence fell and since then a heavy northwest wind has been steadily blowing and a very chilly sensation is felt with the prospect of a heavy fall in the thermometer with the arrival of to-morrow. With this sort of weather the planters seem gratified and have evidently overcome the disappointments caused by the unsatisfactory results of the past year's crop, and have readily started anew their occupation, entertaining the hope of making a more successful result with this year's crop than the past season's.

Plowing has been resumed and all are actively at work. The plant cane is reported as being satisfactory almost everywhere.

Speaking of grinding seems almost out of season, but the Uncle Sam factory which was very backward in starting last year could not possibly grind the entire crop in the usual time and it was only Tuesday last that all its operations were brought to a close. Nothing so far has been heard as to its results but notwithstanding their loss of time no canes whatever were lost.

The large Gramercy factory closed about a week ago, having crushed 16500 tons of cane of its own. The St. Alice plantation on the right bank, the neat little property of the late Raphael Beltran, has been sold to Mr. Fred. Grace, of Plaquemines. This plantation is well known as consisting of good rice lands where several rice planters have previously been successful in their understandings. The price paid by Mr. Grace was \$12,000.

Mr. Ernest Vicknair, one of the lucky planters of our parish, has purchased the Anchorage plantation, of Capt. Brown, in West Baton Rouge parish, for the sum of \$34,000.

The rapidly rising river is causing quite a flurry among our people and active preparations are being made to combat any danger. The Pontchartrain Board meets Thursday in order to complete arrangements for anything that may require attention in their district.

Our roads are at present receiving the contractor's attention and with the help of fair weather and good road machinery are being transformed from their impassable condition into good order.

The St. James Court House Ferry Co. have sold out their "Dewey" ferry boat to

Mr. S. J. Perret, and it will continue its trips under its new owner.

CONVENT.

Trade Notes.**J. B. & J. M. Cornell Iron Works.**

The J. B. & J. M. Cornell Iron Works, the advertisement of which appears elsewhere in this issue, is at present one of the largest manufacturing concerns of sugar machinery in this country.

About two years ago, Messrs. J. B. & J. M. Cornell became proprietors of the well known West Point Foundry at Cold Spring, N. Y., which has for years past supplied large quantities of machinery to sugar refineries and sugar houses in this country, the West Indies and all parts of the world. Under their ownership, the works at Cold Spring have been entirely remodeled and enlarged. A new foundry 400 feet long has been added, fitted with electric cranes and all modern improvements, and the machine shops have been enlarged and provided with special machinery for doing any kind of machine work.

In addition to the facilities at West Point, Messrs. J. B. & J. M. Cornell have a large machine shop and foundry in New York City, where all kinds of light and ornamental castings of iron and bronze are made, and in connection with this is their large riveting shop, occupying property about 200x500 feet. Here the steel structural work for some of the largest buildings ever erected in New York have been built, among which may be mentioned the Astoria Hotel and annex, the St. Paul building and the Park Row building, the latter the tallest mercantile building ever erected, its towers being some 30 stories above the sidewalk.

Messrs. J. B. & J. M. Cornell also built the structural work of the Arbuckle Refinery, and supplied this concern and the Doscher Refinery in Brooklyn with a great part of their machinery.

During the past season they also built a large quantity of machinery for the beet factories in the West and supplied to Louisiana many thousand dollars worth of sugar machinery in the way of vacuum pans, multiple effects, centrifugals, crystallizers, bag filters, etc., besides machinery for other manufacturers.

The facilities of the J. B. & J. M. Cornell Iron Works for doing work rapidly and cheaply are many and they are prepared to contract for entire cane and beet sugar houses and sugar refineries and to undertake the complete installations of such factories designing and furnishing the plans for building and machinery. They employ expert engineers in this particular line, as well as civil engineers for the purpose of designing any size or shaped structure which may be required.

Owning their own lighters with their own dock in New York, as well as at Cold Spring, and in addition having direct com-

munication with the New York Central & Hudson River R. R., which runs its cars direct into their shops, they are able to handle freight and material with great facility and economy.

The main office of J. B. & J. M. Cornell is in New York City, 26th Street and 11th Avenue, and their southern office is in 807 Common Street, New Orleans. They have also a Cuban office in Havana, No. 32 Obrapia.

Graphite Paints.

The Joseph Dixon Crucible Co with a laudable enterprise are pressing upon the attention of the country the value of graphite in the many directions of its present industrial application. Of course it is a matter of large interest to all sugar planters whether the graphite be used as a lubricator or as a paint, all sugar planters being much concerned in both directions.

They now call attention to an old sign in the possession of the Western Society of Engineers at Chicago. The words "Harper's Ferry" painted in black stand out as brightly as when they were first formed by the painters brush, while the wood around the letters, which was painted with white paint, has worn away about a sixteenth of an inch. It is claimed that no paint now made is equal in durability to that applied on the old sign.

As against this Mr. Hooper, of Ticonderoga, N. Y., sees nothing remarkable and holds that just as good paint is made nowadays. He assumes that the paint for the Harper's Ferry lettering was made of linseed oil and lamp black and states that he believes that finely ground graphite mixed with pure linseed oil will last as long or longer than any other paint ever known or used. He had a large iron casting in his mill yard for thirty years which was painted with but one coat, and when broken up and sold for old iron last month the paint on the pieces looked quite fresh. There would seem to be no question as to the great value of graphite paints.

Personal.

Mr. R. R. Barrow, the Terrebonne parish sugar planter and financier, came up to the city on Sunday and stopped at his usual abiding place, the Hotel Grunewald.

Hon. J. Henry Putnam, of Abbeville, La., one of the most progressive sugar planters we have, was a guest of the Cosmopolitan on Sunday last. Mr. Putnam came to the city for a brief stay.

Hon. Andrew Price, of the Arcadia plantation in Lafourche parish, was at the St. Charles hotel a few days ago. Mr. Price spent some time mingling pleasantly with his host of friends.

Mr. Jos. Birg, of Franklin, who has the reputation of being a very skillful man in all that pertains to sugar planting, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He stopped at the St. Charles.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, Jan. 7th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

There is almost every week a day or two when the weather seems to assume a winter-like aspect, but the hopes called forth, that finally reasonable climatic conditions would set in, have been always frustrated and such has been also the case in the course of the week under review. Beginning mild and damp, the weather in the midst of the week grew clear and cold with even some severe night frosts and some snowfalls, but at the end of the week a rise of the temperature denotes that winter in reality is still as far distant as it ever has been. Quite apart from the unfavorable effect of this weather as to the preservation of the pitted beet roots; the mildness of the temperature is an abnormality, a faulty distribution of warm and cold, which, it must be feared, will be counterbalanced by a late and cold spring, and this in further consequence leads to a delay of the sowings and short crops as the experience of last year has brought out with sufficient clearness, at least in Germany, whilst in some of the other countries, especially in Austria and France, heavy rains in the month of October have caused an almost unexpected improvement.

The year 1898, just ended, if you permit me to make some retrospective considerations, began under rather favorable auspices for the sugar trade of the world. It had been taken for granted that the beet sowings would not undergo a serious increase and estimates of the cane crops led also to the belief that the production from that quarter would, especially with regard to the situation in Cuba, not be notably changed as compared with last year. On the other hand, there were unmistakably signs of a growing increase, the economical conditions almost all over the world awakening from the state of depression they had labored under in late years. These hopeful feelings were strengthened by the delay the beet sowings experienced and later on by the fact that indeed no noteworthy increase of the beet sowings had taken place. The only dark point of the picture was the large visible supplies which, since some years had accumulated in consequence of continued overproduction, which had taken place in spite of the almost entire absence of Cuba from the market. This question of supplies has been of particular importance for the American market where, as a consequence of the tariff changes effected in 1897, stocks not only in first, but in all hands, had accumulated to such a point that the supply for a long time was far ahead of the demand and that meltings in the refineries showed a serious falling off as compared with other years. Then came the war with

Cuba, that is with Spain on account of Cuba, which threatened to shut up the Cuban sugars for a longer period. In this respect, however, that trade had been somewhat disappointed, the American arms being much sooner and in a much more decisive degree victorious than it was generally expected. On the whole, however, the prospects remained favorable, the more so as the weather continued not quite favorable for the development of the beet crop. As an event of moment should be mentioned the meeting of the international conference at Brussels convoked to consider and, if possible, to solve the bounty question, which they, however, failed to do on account of the declining attitude of France, which country called it an interference to their interior affairs, when the other powers touched the subject of their indirect bounties. The result of the conference being null there could be no influence on the general condition of the trade, which indeed proceeded without any great regret to the order of the day. Meantime, the reports of the condition of the beet crops became more unfavorable and when in October last first estimates were made a large falling off as against last year was prognosticated. At this time and up to November the values, though still comparatively low, moved in an upward direction and prices, which in London at the commencement of the campaign 1897-98, were quoted at 8.6 per cwt., reached a level of upwards of 10/ per cwt. But then a declining tendency set in, for it was slowly leaking out that the crops might show higher figures than hitherto admitted and the next month, in December, the collapse came, new estimates showing that the deficit as against the last crop had almost disappeared. Therefore prices fell again and in London they closed at 9 6½ per cwt., about the price at which they had opened in January, 1898. The prospects for the future, though a little less bright than some time ago, are now by no means discouraging as far as the course of the market is concerned. The latter has to deal with about the same production as last year, but there is an evident increase of consumption, and if this continues, the visible supplies will by and by diminish and lose their threatening aspect. Much depends, of course, on the magnitude of this year's beet sowings. These, it is true, show at present a tendency to further develop, but on the other hand it seems possible that the late unfavorable turn the prices have taken may exercise in this respect a restrictive influence. As a desire particularly addressed to your country, I might suggest that America should not be too busy in developing the productive capacities of her newly acquired colonial possessions, this would be equally detrimental to the interest of America and European sugar growers.

The markets have not been roused yet

from the kind of stupor into which they fell shortly before Christmas. Speculation, as the burnt child who shuns the fire, keeps aloof from the markets and bona fide buyers do not feel sure yet as to the level of prices now established and operate, therefore, also very cautiously. This condition, however, cannot last any longer and it must be hoped that business will soon be stimulated by the exigencies of consumption. Prices on almost all European markets have receded, in Germany they remained, at least for actual goods, about unchanged.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, Jan. 12th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The demand for sugar remaining quiet in the United States, nothing hardly has been done in this market and sales have been limited to small parcels to local retailers, at from 5¼ at 5¼ cts. per arroba of 25 lbs. equal to 2½ at 2 11/16 cts. lb, 96 basis, for new sugars and 2¼ at 2¼ for old produce, basis 94 test.

The first sale for exportation, comprising 5,000 bags, centrifugals, was closed at Cardenas, at 2.35 cts. lb., basis 96 test.

Market closes quiet and nominal at above figures.

Molasses: None left of the best classes, the last parcels of the past crop having been disposed of at from \$10@11 per hhd. of 175 gallons. Second class produce is rather scarce as yet and is being disposed of at from 4¼ to 4½ cts. gal., to local rum distillers.

Prospect for this year's crop: It would now seem that the crop will result smaller than generally anticipated. Owing chiefly to the lack of funds the majority of planters are laboring under the scarcity of hands to labor, both in the fields and at the sugar houses, and the poor yield of the cane, the result of the invasion of the fields by weeds and grass that have absorbed the greater part of the nourishing elements contained in the soil, thus considerably interfering with the growth of the cane and the density in its juice.

Besides, spring plantings, with few exceptions, were made on quite a limited scale and only part of this cane will be ground, the balance being kept for seedlings. Several of the plantations that ground last year will remain inactive, owing to the small quantity of available cane they can dispose of this year and it will be ground in neighboring factories.

Though no reliable information has as yet been received from St. Yago and Porto Principe, it is to be supposed that there will also be a decrease in their respective production, as compared to last year's, owing to the lack of requisite attendance upon the fields. According to appearances, crop operations will not be fairly under way until next month.

TOMAS DELORME.

Antigua, B. W. I.

The crop of 1897-1898 was a poor one, and as prices ruled low, very little money circulated. Our products in Antigua were almost exclusively confined to the sugar cane. The pine-apple crop was a good one in point of number of fruit; but the quality did not compare favorably with our best yields, and in no department of agriculture are scientific methods more needed than in the fruit cultivation. With our favoring soil and climate, we should be able to produce a much finer fruit than we do, and we can but trust that Dr. Morris will give to the Antigua pine-apple the full benefit of his knowledge of its proper culture. The 1898-1899 crop promises to be exceptionally good. Rain has been continuous and the total acreage under canes is larger than it was last year. Besides this, the indications so far encourage the hope of good prices, and so we think the people's suffering will be less general and intense. In this connection we must express our approval of the bill passed by the last Federal Council, limiting the free importation of paupers. Whether so designed or not, this bill will have the result of preventing the importation of laborers to take off next year's crop. We maintain that there is ample labor on the island for doing so, and that all that is necessary is to treat the laborers fairly. —Times, Dec. 31.

Demerara.

The December rainy season has apparently set in and the heavy and penetrating showers which have fallen for several days past have imparted considerable vigor to the young cultivation. Grinding on most of the principal estates is gradually approaching completion, and within the next ten days or fortnight, operations will have ceased on nearly all the plantations. The yield of sugar continues to be much below the average in Demerara and Essequibo, but in Berbice the returns are more favorable.

The arrangement with Messrs. Thorne and Bascom to act as Emigration Agents in Barbados terminated at the end of last month, and for the present no further West Indian laborers will be brought here under indenture. It is too early yet to form an opinion with regard to the value as laborers of the immigrants who have arrived from the neighboring islands, but should the experiment eventually prove a success, the Planters' Association, which took an important part in the recent negotiations, will probably consider the advisability of re-opening this branch of immigration.

According to advices from the Islands, it appears that the weather has lately been favorable for cultivation. In Barbados it is believed that the cane crop next year, despite the hurricane, will not fall far below the average. From Jamaica similar encouraging news with regard to the fruit crops has been received. Trinidad has lately been suffering from an exceptionally wet season.

The effect has been very damaging to the cocoa crops, and has retarded the picking and other operations connected with the beans. The prospects of the sugar industry in that island are not, however, considered so unfavorable.—Chronicle.

Austria.

The following is translated from the *Wochenschrift*, dated Vienna, January 4th: "During this week the weather has been very changeable, and a thaw followed last week's frost. The average temperature this week in Vienna is 1.8 C., against a normal average of 1.7 C. Similar weather has been reported from France and Germany. The contracts made for beets have, as we mentioned in our report of last week, through the late decrease in price, undergone an interruption. In Germany and France contracts are already being taken singly. In Belgium the beet workers have made a kind of an agreement in order to demand higher prices from the manufacturers, but this will scarcely contribute to an increase of contracts. From Russia it is reported that during the season 1899 and 1900, twenty-two new factories will start the industry.

Sugar in London.

Although there is an absence of improvement in the general tone of the market, rather more business has been done, and no further decline has occurred in the value of beet. The prospect of larger supplies of Continental sugar and the absence of any interruption to river and canal navigation abroad combine to produce a cautious feeling on the part of buyers, although prices have now fallen to a very low point, and so far as white sugar is concerned are at their proper level compared with the value of 88 per cent beet. The question of sowings of the next beet crop has hardly been seriously considered yet, though the tendency to increase them still continues, and new countries enter the field year by year. The recent fall in values may, however, produce some curtailment this time, and with the distinct preference shown for cane sugar by America, and the opportunities which will be henceforth enjoyed by that country for supplying herself, the disposal of a crop of 5,000,000 tons of beet will, in the future, present a serious problem to the continental fabricants. The position which sugar occupies now is, however, by no means a bad one, and is much stronger than in recent seasons. The present dullness here has been reflected in the American markets, the landings at the principal ports of America being in excess of the meltings by refiners, and the stocks have risen by 10,000 tons, which, however, still shows a very large deficit compared with previous years. Cane kinds, so far as regards refining and manufacturing sugar, have met with little inquiry, but prices are maintained, while grocery crystallized, in which business by public sale has been resumed, has met with a steady demand, at

prices which show a decline of fully 3d per cwt. on previous rates. The imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 5th inst. amounted to 167 tons, as against 1,496 tons in 1898.—P. M. Review, Jan. 1.

Sugar in London.

There has been a continuance of pressure to sell by Continental holders, and prices have fallen still further till they have reached last year's level, and indeed, in some cases, have gone below it. This a few weeks ago would have seemed entirely unwarranted, but occurring just now, when business in sugar is almost at a standstill, and there is consequently a lack of support from the trade, the position is left to the tender mercies of foreign speculators, who from their present action seem considerably better informed than their rivals in the London market. It is evident that in future years the speculator in the latter must not only pay strict attention to the "weight of the root," but must also give serious consideration to abnormal meteorological conditions in the autumn if he wishes to make successful "shots" at the market. The genuine dealer has for some little time given up buying forward sugar, and in the present instance has been restrained by the fact that next year's deliveries stood at a substantial premium, which, however, has now partly disappeared. At the close there are rumors of fresh purchases of beet by the Americans, and this has imparted a steadier tone, prices showing a slight recovery. In the absence of business it is difficult to say what effect the recent fall in value of beet will have on cane kinds, which are now relatively dearer than ever. No public sales have been held since December 16th, owing to the absence of supplies of crystallized Demerara, but fresh arrivals have since taken place, and will be offered for sale on January 3rd. There were 2,438 tons of crystallized raws imported to London for the fortnight ending 29th instant, the total for this year amounting to 26,078 tons against 32,250 tons in 1897.—P. M. Review, Dec. 31.

Personal.

Mr. W. G. Pearce, of New Iberia, was in the city on a visit a few days ago.

Mr. W. I. Barton, of Ascension parish, was a guest of the St. Charles hotel on Monday.

Mr. R. H. Sprague, of the splendid Adeline factory, and Mrs. Sprague, were guests of the St. Charles hotel during the week.

Mr. H. C. Boas, one of the best known planters in the state came down to the city during the past week and put up at the Royal.

At the Cosmopolitan hotel last Monday were Messrs W. C. Burrowes and H. S. Burrowes, two enterprising St. Mary parish planters, who are firm believers in the Louisiana sugar industry.

BET SUGAR.**Oxnard, California.**

Wednesday morning a party of gentlemen consisting of Hon. T. R. Bard and D. T. Perkins of Hueneme; E. P. Foster, president of the Bank of Ventura, Attorney L. W. Andrews and G. W. Chrisman of Ventura; C. Lenardt and J. R. Chalmers of Los Angeles, and T. E. Walker and a representative of the Courier of Oxnard, were shown through the beet sugar factory by Col. J. A. Drifill.

The occasion was the testing of some of the new machinery now in place, and it gave an opportunity to witness the practical operation of the plant and form a better idea of the intricate process by which sugar is extracted from the raw beet and the vast and complicated machinery required.

Fifteen tons of beet were used and partial tests were made of the beet screw washer, beet elevator, automatic scales, slicer, cosette conveyor, fusion batteries, pulp elevators and pulp presses.

The machinery responded to the powerful appeal made to it by the ponderous engine, in spite of the friction incident to bearings in use for the first time.

It will be a great day for Oxnard when this plant is put in motion to begin a regular campaign.

With the rain everything points to rapid and increased construction work at the factory, bringing it up to its maximum capacity, through nothing authentic can be learned as yet as to the plans of the company. Should that be the case it will necessitate the employment of several hundred additional men and large expenditure for labor. Besides it will call for the putting in of a greatly increased acreage. In any event the completion of the factory to the capacity of the present machinery in place, to get it ready for the opening of the next campaign means the employment of a large force.—*Courier*, Jan. 14.

Notes From the Beet Fields.

The State of New York offers a bounty of 1c per lb. on sugar manufactured within the State from beets grown therein. The appropriation for 1897 was \$25,000, of which only \$8,944 was expended. In 1898, \$50,000 was appropriated, making a balance available for this purpose of a little over \$66,000. The Binghamton beet sugar factory was paid \$10,851 for all sugar it made from Oct. 26 to Dec. 17, 1898. G. L. Flanders, assistant commissioner of agriculture, informs Orange Judd Farmer that the department's contracts for experiments for raising sugar beets this year will aggregate about \$800. The appropriation that will be asked for to carry out the bounty for the campaign of 1899 has not yet been determined upon, but the legislature will probably grant whatever is thought to be necessary, and probably \$100,000 will be mentioned.

Westbury, Cayuga Co., N. Y., has 1500

acres of beets pledged and can furnish as many more if necessary for the sugar factory. The farmers there are ready to take pay in capital stock for three-fourths of the amount of their first year's crop.

I am very much interested in the manufacture of beet sugar. Our farmers in this locality were much disappointed in not being able to secure a sugar factory here, as beets do well. In 1897 I raised a few beets which contained 30 per cent of sugar with a purky coefficient of 96. This year the sugar content was not nearly so high, but the yield was about 25 tons per acre. Several other farmers in this locality raised beets the present season and sent them to the Rome factory for manufacture. The cost of transportation, however, absorbed most of the profits.—W. J. Strickland, Orange Co., N. Y.

"A fair prospect for the future is all that the beet sugar industry in New York State now lacks." The *Rural New Yorker* is right in this statement. We wish it would help us in the fight to insure a fair prospect. How? By inducing Congress to maintain the present tariff against sugar from the tropics, as well as from other countries.

Special correspondents in Porto Rico and Cuba are pointing out to American capitalists the enormous profits to be gained in the sugar industry in the West Indies, provided the islands are annexed or their product given free admission to the United States market. This is merely confirmation of what has often been pointed out in these columns. Under such a policy the sugar industry would vastly prosper in the tropics and sugar lands there would double and quadruple in value, but it would be at the expense of the American grower of sugar cane and sugar beets. We believe the American farmers ought to have this business instead of the tropical speculator.

The Maryland station sent out seed to about 50 different farmers in the State the past spring, and so far has received reports from only 27. These reports have not been very flattering, either as to the quality of the beet or the yield. The range in sugar content has been from 6½ to 14 per cent, with most of them in the neighborhood of 10 per cent of sugar. There has been no uniform indication as to any particular section of our State being well adapted to sugar beets. There is no place in the State where there has been an organized effort for the establishing of sugar factories, and I do not believe that it is probable that any section will take up this industry.—H. J. Patterson, Director.—*American Agriculturalist*.

State Bounties on Beet Sugar.

The system of direct bounties paid by the respective States has been tried in this country. The present encouraging condition of the industry in Utah was brought about in the first place by the State bounty of 1c per lb., which helped the Lehi factory

over its first season or two. Nebraska would have had no beet sugar factories to-day probably but for the bounty equal to \$1 per ton on beets grown in the State, which was paid for the first few years. The law provided a bounty equal to about 1c per lb. on sugar, conditional upon the farmers being paid at least \$5 per ton for beets.

In New York, the bounty paid by the State also helped to insure a speedy beginning of the industry. It became a law May 18, 1897, and appropriated \$25,000, to be apportioned to sugar manufacturers pro rata, provided that none received more than 1c per lb., and provided that not less than \$5 per ton was paid for beets grown in the State by others than the manufacturer of the sugar. The law also authorized the State Commissioner of Agriculture to spend 10 per cent of the appropriation in practical and scientific experiments in growing sugar beets. It provides for the inspection and sampling of beets. In 1898 \$50,000 was appropriated for this bounty, and probably \$30,000 will be paid out.

In New Jersey, the legislature of 1898 passed a similar law, but it was vetoed by the governor on the ground that experiments did not indicate sufficient grounds for believing that the industry could be made a practical success in that State.

In Washington, the legislature of 1897 passed a law offering a bounty of 1c per lb. on sugar made within the State containing 90 per cent of crystallized sugar produced from beets for which not less than \$4 per ton had been paid. This bounty goes to any factory that is completed prior to Nov. 1, 1899, and shall continue for three years.

Michigan, by act of March 26, 1897, offers a bounty of 1c per lb. for 90 per cent crystallized sugar made from beets for which at least \$4 per ton of 2000 lbs. has been paid for all beets containing 12 per cent of sugar, and a proportionate amount shall be paid for beets containing a greater or less per cent of sugar. The law carefully provides for inspection, weighing, etc., and appropriates \$10,000 for paying the bounty, with the proviso that any deficit be paid from the general fund not otherwise appropriated, to which is added a final section as follows:

Section 8. Every person, firm or corporation that shall erect and have in operation in this State a factory for the manufacture of sugar from beets with a capacity of 2000 lbs. of sugar or upward per day while this act is in force, shall be entitled to receive from the State the sum of 1c per lb. for all sugar manufactured from beets at such factory for a period of at least seven years from the taking effect of this act.

Under the latter clause there is no limit to the amount the State may be called upon to pay, and as the Bay City factory during its first campaign of 1898 made some 7,500,000 lbs. of sugar it draws \$75,000 bounty from the State. This law has led to the placing of contracts for the erection of at least two other factories in Michigan as we

write, so that 1899 will see at least three factories operating in that State that will pay for beets upward of \$500,000 a year. Two or three other projects are now on for factories in Michigan.

Exemption from taxation for all property invested in the beet sugar industry (except special assessments for local improvements in cities and villages) is offered by Wisconsin for five years from 1897. Wyoming exempts from all taxation for 10 years. Minnesota's bounty of 1c per lb., practically a dead letter now, may be revived this winter.

A number of State legislatures will now be asked to furnish a bounty of some form for a few years. In most cases they will probably accede to this request. It will do much to insure a supply of beets the first year or two, or until farmers generally have learned to grow the crop to advantage. In all such cases the law should be so worded that a bounty of 1c per lb. should in effect go to the producer, so that instead of \$4 per ton he may get \$5 per ton for beets. States may well afford this encouragement to their farmers for a few years, because one or two successful factories in a State will mean the establishment of others. Moreover, such a State bounty will be some offset to the uncertainties of congressional action. It will not be necessary for any state to offer a bounty for a long term of years, nor do we approve of such, but under present circumstances some special local encouragement for a few years, under proper safeguards, will prove to be good policy for all concerned. The brilliant and rapid development of this industry in Michigan is an instance in point.—American Agriculturist.

Beet Sugar Items.

In New York the State pays a bounty of \$1 per ton of beets grown within the State and made into sugar at a factory within the State. The rules are so strict that Pennsylvania farmers who have wished to grow beets for the factory at Binghamton, N. Y., cannot be accommodated. They should get several factories in Pennsylvania—a State that could produce beets enough to supply the United States with sugar necessary.

The first bounty under the Michigan beet sugar law of '97 has been claimed by the Michigan Sugar Co., of Bay City. The rate is 1c per lb. Since it commenced operations, Oct. 20, the company has manufactured 1,432,500 lbs. sugar and claims it is entitled to \$14,325 from the State treasury. It expects to manufacture 7,000,000 lbs. this season, and to claim a total bounty of \$70,000.

The area under beet cultivation in European Russia the past season amounted to 1,084,000 acres, against 996,000 acres in '97, 874,000 acres in '96.

The beet sugar factory at Bay City, Mich., is now slicing from 350 to 425 tons of beets every 24 hours, and is turning out a very fine quality of fine granulated sugar, the

beets averaging very high in saccharine matter, also very high purity. The enterprise is so highly satisfactory that it is said that another factory of twice the size is to be built in Bay City.

With a fair season California will produce the largest crop of sugar in her history next year. The Spreckles factory at Salinas will consume 3000 tons of beets daily, the Los Alamitos factory in Orange county will use 700 tons; the Crockett factory 500 tons; the Union Sugar Company at Santa Maria, 1000 tons and the Hueneme factory, 1000 tons. Besides these the Chino, Alvarado and Watsonville factories will be worked to their full capacity. Preparations are being made for an extraordinary large acreage of beets in the State this coming season, and as it is not probable that two dry seasons will come together, a fair crop of beets, at least, may be counted on, and if so the output of California sugar next year will be enormous.—Am. Agriculturist.

Magazine Notes.

Several features of striking interest will be found in the opening number of *The Living Age* for the new year. The number for January 7 contains, among other things, a pungent and wholesome lecture on Art and Morality, by M. Ferdinand Brunetiere, which is translated for the magazine and copyrighted by it; the first instalment of *The Etchingham Letters*, which are attracting wide notice in *The Cornhill* by their cleverness; and the beginning of a short serial. The number for January 14, gives the full text of Lord Roseberry's recent address on Literary Statesmen, which has been the subject of general comment; an article from *Blackwood's* on *The Ethics of Conquest*, which relates to the Philippines; and a bright paper on *The Madness of Mr. Kipling*.

Sugar Patents.

The following is a list of patents of interest to the sugar industry, issued January 24, 1899, reported specially for the *Louisiana Planter* by R. W. Bishop, patent attorney, Washington, D. C.

618,196. Centrifugal bowl. W. J. Ashworth, Dursley, and Thomas Stevinson, Gloucester, England.

618,322. Filter apparatus. L. J. and A. L. Barthelemy, New Orleans, La.

The following is a list of patents of interest to the sugar industry, issued January 3, 1899, reported specially for the *Louisiana Planter* by R. W. Bishop, Patent Attorney, Washington, D. C.

617,198. Sugar cane wagon. M. R. Spelman, New Orleans, La.

617,489. Sugar or salt shaker. Cecilia Lawton, Charleston, S. C.

Design 29,975. Weed cutter. Marcillien Bourgeois, Thibodaux.

Sugar-Eating Nations.

The sugar crop of the world amounts in a normal year to about 8,000,000 tons, of which the larger part, about 4,500,000 tons, comes from beets and the balance, 3,500,000 tons

from sugar cane. Of the latter the largest proportion come from the West Indies and a large amount from the Island of Java. Among the countries producing beet sugar, Germany comes first with about one-third of the world's crop; then Austria, with almost as much; and then France, Russia, and Belgium and Holland together, with substantially the same quantity. In respect of the production of beet sugar in the United States, there has been a vast increase since the establishment of the McKinley tariff in 1890. The year previous the American product was 2,800 tons. Two years later it was 12,000 tons. Four years it was 20,000 tons. Last year it was 43,000 tons and the product is on the increase. The McKinley tariff established between July 1, '91, and July 1, '95, a bounty to be paid by the United States Government to sugar producers, with a view of stimulating the industry and compensating those engaged in it for the changes made in the duty upon imported sugar. Among scientists the opinion has been general that a moderate amount of sugar, like a moderate amount of salt, should enter in the dietary of the people of each nation; but it is only when the figures of the consumption of sugar are examined that it is seen that the quantity consumed varies radically, and it is a curious fact that in those countries in which the marine spirit—the spirit of navigation, commerce, travel and colonization—is strong there is a very considerable consumption of sugar per capita; whereas in those countries in which these qualities are not predominant among the inhabitants the consumption is smaller. In England, first among the maritime nations of the world, the consumption of sugar is 86 lbs. a year for each inhabitant. In Denmark it is 45, in Holland 31, in France 30, and in Norway and Sweden 25 whereas in Russia only 10, in Italy 7, in Turkey 7, in Greece 6, and in Servia 4. The consumption of sugar seems to have very little connection with or relation to the production of sugar; for in Austria, the sugar product of which is large, the average consumption is only 19 lbs.—*The Tidens.*

The Floods in China.

Consul Fowler, of Chefoo, under date of Nov. 29, 1898, writes in regard to the floods of Yellow river. One million people, it is stated, are in distress, and Li Hung Chang has been deputed to devise some method to repair the damage to the embankments. It is understood that he has sent abroad for experts. Consul Fowler thinks that engineers in the United States could, no doubt, build a system of jetties that would prevent a recurrence of these disasters.—*Picayune.*

Mr. S. Mills Mailhot, of Assumption parish, where he looks after the fine plantation of the Oakley Planting Co., was among the recent arrivals at the Denechaud. Mr. Mailhot was accompanied by several members of his family.

Seedling and Other Sugar Canes.

(Discussion at the meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association, Thursday evening, January 12th, 1899. Judge Emile Roat in the chair and Mr. Reginald Dykers at the desk.)

Chair: Now that the resolutions are disposed of, the chair will call attention to the fact that the annual meeting of the State Agricultural Society is to be held at Shreveport on the 25th of this present month, and that it has been the custom heretofore for the Sugar Planters Association to send a number of delegates, or, rather, to appoint a number of delegates to attend the annual meeting of the Agricultural Society. It has been the rule, as far as I can recollect, to appoint ten delegates. We have seldom had ten members present at the Agricultural Society's meeting, but by appointing a large number of delegates, there are always out of that number some whose business will allow them to attend the convention. The chair will state that from all information received in reference to this convention it will be more interesting than any previous convention. Quite a number of prominent men have promised to be on hand and a number of new subjects will be discussed, and papers will be presented on a variety of subjects; and there is no doubt that it will be a meeting of great importance and very successful; and a motion is now in order that the chair should appoint the usual number of delegates to attend the meeting of the State Agricultural Society.

The motion was duly offered, seconded and carried.

Chair: The chair having been requested a number of days ago to make a list of these delegates will state that the list is already prepared so nobody will be taken by surprise. The following is a list: Messrs. John Dymond, W. C. Stubbs, G. G. Zenor, G. A. Breaux, P. F. Bourgeois, J. A. Berthelot, L. Forsyth, Jr., Henry McCall, Geo. E. Mann, H. G. Morgan, Jr., Walter A. O'Neill, E. Roger, L. M. Soniat, Wibray J. Thompson, G. G. Zenor and F. W. Nicholls.

At the December meeting, Prof. Stubbs sent down a very complete collection of sample sugar canes from the sugar experiment station. The samples have been here all this time; they are not as fresh in appearance as they were when first sent here; but Prof. Stubbs is here this evening, and the association will be glad to have him speak about them and tell us which represents the best cane—which represents the present and especially which represents the future.

Prof. Stubbs: I sent these canes down a little over a month ago, with no intention, however, of making a speech on the subject. I sent one hundred different varieties more to attract the attention of the planters to the varieties of canes that are grown in different parts of the country than anything else. They have been collected from nearly every sugar country on the globe. We have about eighty varieties here that represent the old canes that have been grown for years in these places. Some come from the Pacific islands, some from the Atlantic islands which we have been discussing tonight, some from the Philippines, and one or two directly from, or near, Manila. However, I may dismiss this subject by saying that none of the foreign canes have become sufficiently acclimated for our purposes; they are all, to a certain extent, inferior to our locally grown purple and striped cane; and in this connection I might say that our purple cane is nothing more or less than an off-shoot from our striped; that has been demonstrated at the sugar

experiment station. We have the greatest trouble to keep striped cane as striped cane—the stripes disappear, even to the point of obliteration.

Col. Zenor: I am glad to hear you express that.

Prof. Stubbs: I have lived long enough to controvert a great many things I formerly believed, and I am modest enough to acknowledge my wrong when I find it out. We have no permanent striped canes. For instance, I have four canes here to which I would call your attention; they are all originally from the same stalk but are now four distinct varieties from the standpoint of color. One is perfectly green, which I named "Soniat" because I got the cane originally from Mr. Soniat. It was a bastard stalk; one half red, and the other half white. I took that stalk and planted it eight or nine years ago, and have since made four distinct kinds from it; one is green, one is light striped, one is dark striped and the other is a deep purple. These permanent canes come from what is called the bud variation. Now, I want to dismiss all these foreign canes as being of no value in this state—they will not compare with our home canes, but before going further, I want to call your attention to the manner in which the beet has been brought up to its present high state as a sugar producing plant.

Chair: Let me ask you one question, professor, before you pass to that. You spoke just now about bud variation; the chair would like to ask you whether the different varieties that have been produced from one stalk are not due to hybridization.

Prof. Stubbs: Not without seed, it is utterly impossible. The seminal organs of the canes are always in the flower, around the flower, and it is only by mixing the bristles of one flower with the bristles of the other that hybridization takes place. As the canes are planted apart, there is no disposition to mix. If these canes should all change, if they should all turn purple, or striped, or white, that would not be hybridization—it would be simply a change in color due to the climate or soil—something of that kind. The striped cane is not a constant one and has a tendency to grow to a hardy variety here. We have unquestionable evidence which was published some time ago.

Mr. Colron, who first introduced striped cane into this state, getting it from Savannah by schooner loads, planted it at St. Sophie in 1825. He brought no purple canes that he knew of—they were all striped—and from those striped canes we have today the entire purple cane fields of Louisiana, and it is a question of the survival of the fittest. This striped cane has generated two kinds—one white, the other purple. The purple became the hardiest of the two, as is seen in the stubble and in the plant; and today nearly the entire cane fields of Louisiana are purple, notwithstanding they were first striped when introduced.

Dismissing that part Mr. President, which you alluded to just now, and going into the question of the future, which as our friend Mr. Miller said just now looms up as possibly in the future enabling us to make sugar a little cheaper than at present, I want to go back and take up the history of the beet for a few moments. During the days of Napoleon the beet was an insignificant sugar plant containing only 3 per cent sugar. But the beet has a power of reproducing and of making seed. We have a patch at the station which was put down in the last few months—they are winter beets which came from France; they were planted in October, and will be ready for the mill in January and

February. They are of good size. If we are successful and find that they are rich in sugar we will simply let that beet stand. The beet has been brought up from the insignificant 3 per cent just mentioned to somewhere about 19 per cent of sugar; but we have gone to 22.3 on samples, and by constant efforts the growers have got the sugar in the beet up to a high percentage. If you do not do this, the beet will soon degenerate and go back to the original beet.

Six, eight or ten years ago, Profs. Bovell and Harrison, chemists in Barbados found some canes, twenty-five or thirty growing together, that were blooming, and they thought they would see whether or not they could get some fertile seed from the lot. In order that they might not lose the opportunity, they swept the ground carefully on the leeward side of the cane so that all seed blown out by the wind would find a suitable soil in which to lodge. In a short while, to their very great surprise, they found the whole soil springing up with grass like fibres—very small and diminutive: it reminds you more of spring, or June, grass. They placed these plants into little pots, and in that way they soon got fifty or more little pots of these canes. They nursed them until they became full grown canes. As you all know, in the West Indies the cane stools very enormously—as high as twenty-five or thirty stalks from one stooling. They took these stalks, nursed all that had an increased content of sugar over the normal canes of that country, and in that way they reserved 500—giving them numbers from 1 to 100 and began to grow them systematically; at the same time they began to send this seed and these cuttings all over the world—to all the sugar countries. I in the mean while received, I reckon, thirty or forty of these new seedlings, and we have been propagating them for the last year. We found three of them that possessed a great merit—one of prominent merit, No. 74 it is styled by them, and by us retained. This number 74 averaged, for the last four years, 1½ per cent above every cane we had. This year I distributed five or six tons of this to the planters in this state. This year, by a stalk analysis, we did not have any cane equal to it.

If I recollect correctly, there was 13½ per cent sucrose for that cane, while our purple and striped and Lapice, grown side by side, only averaged between 9 and 12. This one, No. 74, this year, by stalk analysis gave us 13½ per cent.

Chair: Let me ask you professor; you spoke of a series of 500. I have seen here numbers 100, 128; has No. 74 appeared in that same series?

Prof. Stubbs: Yes, sir; we have retained 61, 69, 74, 95, 100—2, 3, 300 and so on. Another fact about No. 74. During the last two years our tonnage went over 40, with 14 or 15 per cent in a field where the rows were 105 feet long and 6 feet wide—that was last year. This year I have distributed five or six tons all over the state, with the hope that it will prove with the planter as it has with us during the past four years; and if it does, it will prove a valuable acquisition. I want to caution every planter to go slowly and to see whether or not it is adapted to his particular environment. We did not have enough for a strike but it gave a large tonnage. In addition to this fact, there was a very small amount of impurities in it. The great trouble has been the large amount of impurities; but in this cane the amount of impurities was small. The solids not sugar and glucose were small.

Hon. Henry McCall: Will it stand cold.

Prof. Stubbs: Our stubble this year was as good as any we had.

Col. Zenor: My experience is that cane stands cold in proportion to the sucrose.

Hon. Henry McCall: That is true to a certain extent; and I have come to the conclusion that these canes that stand cold are not generally as rich as the other canes.

Prof. Stubbs: Now another point I want to illustrate is this. We are experimenting every day with seedlings. Just as soon as we find a cane that is prominently rich, we plant it. I can give you some seedlings, and let you plant them; but out of five hundred plants you will hardly get more than one good one. It will take about six or eight months to sprout—they grow very slowly and look like grass. In fact you would cut them out, or plow them up, for spring grass. I want to say this, gentlemen, that the best thing for the sugar cane industry now rests almost exclusively upon our home cane by means of selection from seedlings. Now, I have gone so far as to prove No. 74 and 95—I have planted from these canes and they are now tested. We have gotten three generations from the first, and for each successive year we believe they will become richer. I also believe the time is not far distant when we will have new varieties of cane that will contain a considerable quantity of richness over the present cane—this is the last hope of improving sugar cane. We have tried fertilizer of various kinds to increase the tonnage but I doubt if any man has yet found a fertilizer that can put sugar in the cane and at the same time maintain the tonnage. Now we have tried different varieties of cane—we have even gone to the expense of tile draining—which is very costly—we have gone from early spring planting to early fall; yet we have not succeeded in getting what is called maximum sugar with maximum tonnage; but we have approximately, done better with these seedlings than with anything else; we believe it possible that these seedlings, under proper selection and propagation after a while will give canes sufficiently rich, without diminishing the tonnage, that will answer our purposes, and assist in re-establishing the cane out of which sugar shall be made. Now we have means by which we can continue to select for fifty or seventy-five years hence; it has taken seventy-five years for the beet to get where it is. In fifty or seventy-five years we can hope to have sugar cane containing as much richness, or more, than the best beet of today.

Hon. Henry McCall: None of us will be living here at that time.

Prof. Stubbs: No, not in our time; but it will enable our successors to take it up where we leave it off and carry it on.

Chair: (Picking up a sample of No. 74.) I would ask Prof. Stubbs if that is the color of this cane?

Prof. Stubbs: The cane which you have must be a discarded one; in loading, I suppose that one was discarded. The cane is very much heavier than the one you have in your hand.

Chair: The cane I got was as large as any of the samples over there.

Prof. Stubbs: That was discarded in shipping.

Col. Zenor: There is one thing that we have thought of a great deal; we have been very seriously impressed with the phenomenal or abnormal condition of sugar cane this year. I believe the whole association would like to hear your views on this—either the phenomenal or abnormal condition of the cane this year—it was something extraordinary.

Prof. Stubbs: I don't think there was

anything abnormal about it. Take the history of sugar cane in various countries—in British Guiana, in Demerara they very rarely grow cane with over 12 per cent—it runs from 12 to 15 per cent. Again, in other islands, where it is dry, or where they have a cessation of rain-fall, you will find they get 18, 17, 16 and some times as high as 20 per cent. Demerara suffers through heavy rain fall and the canes are gorged with moisture. Where this takes place they are always low in sugar; in ripeness. In other words, the cane has two cells; the vascular and the sugar cell—the vascular cell that contains only sap—water on its passage from the roots through the cane to the leaves. Whenever these vascular tissues become gorged with water, it dilutes the sugar in the cane. When this takes place, you will always find the sugar content low—your juices low and watery, just as though you had grown the cane in Demerara. This year we had Demerara weather. After the drouth was broken in July, it rained incessantly, almost in torrents—we had some twenty inches of rainfall. We went into the season with the ground saturated with moisture, and from that rain-fall, without any period of dryness, we had a severe cold which checked the growth and killed the cane. This excessive amount of moisture just gorged the cane. We always pray for dry weather during September and cool nights in October which is always beneficial to the cane.

Col. Zenor: I would like to ask the professor what was the result of his yield this year.

Prof. Stubbs: A small fraction under last year—70 per cent of last year; I made a calculation the other day. Last year our cane ran from 11 to 13; this year most of it only reached 9 and 10 per cent sucrose in the juice.

Col. Zenor: Another thing that seemed to be the experience of a large number of planters—I don't know whether it was universal—and that was this; they found the bagasse did not make fuel as it usually does. It did not give the heat.

Prof. Stubbs: I will explain that in a moment. Increased sugar content carries with it always increased fibre content, and increased fibre content and increased sugar content are parallel. Just as soon as you give me your sugar content, I can predict the fibre content. When your sugar is low, your fibre is low; and when your fibre is low you get less extraction relatively with this diluted juice, and when it goes into the furnace, you have this extra amount of water to evaporate.

Hon. Henry McCall: You have not as much carbon.

Prof. Stubbs: Where cane gives 20 per cent sugar, you will find 14 per cent of fibre.

Chair: What is normal?

Prof. Stubbs: From 8 to 10.

Wherever you find the sugar content high, you will find the fibre high.

Chair: If I understand you rightly, the cause of the failure of the cane this year was due to the distribution of moisture and no cessation of the rain fall up to the time of the freeze.

Prof. Stubbs: In other words, the cane has not ripened a particle. Cane this year, in November and December, resembled our usual analysis made in August and September. We have gotten just as good results in the field in August and September as in December this year. We are not dry yet. Our cane was killed with the ground thoroughly saturated with water. When you remember that the roots of the cane were buried in soil holding fifty per cent of water,

and little sunshine, and you simply pumped that water out from the soil through the cane, you can readily see why the results were so poor. We went from mid-summer's drenching showers to winter's freeze, and cut our canes in the midst of the freeze with all that water.

Chair: I would like to ask whether this condition of things will likely effect the stubble or seed cane.

Prof. Stubbs: I think it will likely effect the growth in this way, I don't think the stubble is hurt yet. It has not been cold enough. While we have had very heavy rains, with no dry weather (our mornings are almost rainy), and the cane in the ground—if we had a favorable opportunity to windrow our seed, so that we could put it away in good condition, draining and covering well, everything is propitious for keeping it. The trouble has been with the weather—we can not get the dirt dry enough. I want to say this, I don't know whether it has been the experience of all planters or not; but I have not had enough dry weather to burn the trash on the ground.

Col. Richard McCall: Have these seedlings a tendency to fall down?

Prof. Stubbs: Not at all sir; on the contrary. Last year we had quite a blow; our home canes went down and those stood up as straight as they could stand. All of these foreign canes have a tendency to stand up and resist the blows. The roots are larger, and penetrate the ground deeper, hence resist the winds with a great deal more ease than our home canes. Our home canes go down of their own weight; and if you will notice it, you will find that most of these canes are unusually straight.

Col. Richard McCall: I got from you some years ago a cane that was tremendous. I took it home and planted it carefully in my garden; and this year I planted five acres of it—I thought with five acres I would have a test. The cane gave me thirty-five tons to the acre; the sucrose was very low—5.20, I think it was, solids not sugar with half sucrose. These canes stood up through the blows as straight as an arrow; you could see them two miles away. There was not a bend in it.

Prof. Stubbs: I had some of that cane growing in the hot house; it was only two years old. At the time I gave Mr. McCall the sample he admired it very much—it was an enormous cane, the joints were larger than my arm and some of the stalks weighed twenty pounds.

Nothing further coming before the meeting for discussion, on suggestion of Hon. Henry McCall, "The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane, Whether by Test or Otherwise," was selected as the topic for discussion at the February meeting.

The meeting then adjourned.

Personal.

Mr. M. J. Kahoa, the well-known sugar planter of West Baton Rouge parish, was at the Grunewald Tuesday.

Mr. Thomas E. Matthews, an accomplished gentleman and skillful sugar planter, paid us an appreciated visit last Tuesday.

Mr. Benj. H. Pring, of the Oneida place in St. James parish, was in town during the week on one his customary business trips.

Mr. F. W. Nicholls, of the well-known firm of Nicholls and Henderson, proprietors of the Ridgefield plantation near Thibodaux, was in the city last Saturday.

JAN. 27

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	Jan. 21.	Jan. 23.	Jan. 24.	Jan. 25.	Jan. 26.	Jan. 27.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.	
SUGAR. Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal Choice.....	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4	— @ —	Steady.	
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8		
Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8		
Fully Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		
Good Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8		
Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8		
Good Common..	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	2 3/8 @ 3		
Common.....	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	2 3/8 @ 3		
Inferior.....	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3 1/8	2 7/8 @ 3	2 3/8 @ 2 1/8		
Centrifugal.									
Plant'n Granul'ed Off Granul'ed...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2		
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2		
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 4 3/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2		
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	3 7/8 @ 4 1/2		
Choice Yellow....	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/2 @ 4 3/8	4 3/8 @ —	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ —		
Prime Yellow....	4 1/2 @ 4 1/4	4 1/2 @ 4 1/4	4 1/2 @ 4 1/4	4 1/2 @ 4 1/4	4 1/2 @ 4 1/4	4 1/2 @ 4 1/4	— @ 4		
Off Yellow.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4		
Seconds.....	2 3/4 @ 3 3/8	2 3/4 @ 3 3/8	2 3/4 @ 3 3/8	2 3/4 @ 3 3/8	2 3/4 @ 3 3/8	2 3/4 @ 3 3/8	2 3/4 @ 3 3/8		
MOLASSES. Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal	20 @ 22	20 @ 22	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Steady.	
Fancy.....	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ 27		
Choice.....	25 @ 26	25 @ 26	25 @ 26	25 @ 26	25 @ 26	25 @ 26	25 @ 26		
Strict Prime.....	— @ 24	— @ 24	23 @ 24	23 @ 24	23 @ 24	23 @ 24	22 @ 23		
Good Prime.....	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 20		
Prime.....	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 18		
Good Fair.....	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	— @ 17		
Fair.....	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 16		
Good Common..	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 15		
Common.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 14		
Inferior.....	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 12		
Centrifugal.									
Fancy.....	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	12 @ 13		
Strict Prime.....	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	10 @ 11		
Good Prime.....	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	— @ 9		
Prime.....	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	10 @ 11	— @ 8		
Good Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 7		
Fair.....	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 7		
Good Common..	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 6		
Common.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 5		
Inferior.....	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5		
SYRUP.									
	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	18 @ 22		

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Firm.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	4.84 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	4.72 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ —	
German Granul'td.	— @ 4.80	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.88	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.87	— @ 4.90	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	11s. 3d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 3d.	10s. 10 1/2 d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	9s. 1 1/2 d.	9s. 3d.	9s. 4 1/2 d.	9s. 6d.	9s. 6d.	9s. 7 1/2 d.	9s. 0d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 3/8	Strong.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 3/8	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 3/8	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 3/8	
Candy A.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								
	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Jan. 18.	Tons	99,333
At four ports of Great Britain to Jan. 18.	"	77,000
At Havana and Matanzas to Jan. 18.	"	8,000

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Jan. 27, 1899.				Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Jan. 27, 1899.			
	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Received.....	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	355	32,319	5,504	Sold.....	8,753	1,101,122	191,267
Sold.....	355	32,031	5,681	Received same time last year	6,753	1,092,032	190,579
					17,269	1,154,771	163,848

JAN. 27. WEEKLY MARKET REPORT. 1899.

RICE.	Jan. 21.	Jan. 23.	Jan. 24.	Jan. 25.	Jan. 26.	Jan. 27.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
ROUGH, per bbl...	2 00@4 25	1 90@4 15	1 60@4 25	1 50@4 60	3 40@4 25	3 40@4 25	1 50@4 00	Firm.
EXTRA FANCY...	6 1/2@6 7/8	6 1/2@6 7/8	6 1/2@6 7/8	6 1/2@6 7/8	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	— @ —	
CLEAN, Fancy...	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	5 1/2@5 3/4	
Choice...	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	5 @5 1/2	
Prime...	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	5 1/8@5 3/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 1/2@4 3/4	
Good...	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 3/4@5	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 1/2	
Fair...	4 1/2@4 3/4	4 1/2@4 3/4	4 1/2@4 3/4	4 1/2@4 3/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	
Ordinary...	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 3/4@4	
Common...	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	3 1/2@3 3/4	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	3 1/4@3 1/2	
Inferior...	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2	Nominal	
No. 2...	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 3/4@1 7/8	1 1/8@1 3/4	1 1/8@1 3/4	2 @2 1/4	
BRAN, per ton...	8 00@8 50	8 00@8 50	8 00@8 50	8 00@8 50	8 00@8 50	8 00@8 50	9 50@10 50	Steady.
POLISH, per ton...	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 00@ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Jan. 27, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Jan. 27, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BELS. CLEAN.	This year.....	Last year.....	SACKS ROUGH.	BELS. CLEAN
Received	14,746	2	606,093	1,696		
Sold	9,599	2,661	384,908	3,041		

Sugar.

The local market for both open kettle and centrifugal was steady at the end of the week, and prices were well maintained. The receipts were moderate, the larger portion of them being promptly absorbed.

Molasses.

Open kettle molasses was steady at the end of the week, as was also centrifugal.

Rice.

Receipts of rough rice were only moderate at the end of the week, and the market ruled steady for the better grades. Low grade goods were easy with little doing. The market for clean rice was somewhat irregular, with low grades off.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

It has been hot and cold for the past week with some rain, but it did not materially hinder farm work. There is not very much going on about the farm, however, for the soil is too wet to plough except the new land, and that is being turned over as the weather will permit. Most farmers are now engaged in getting their rice to market to close up old accounts and notes, and the roads are very bad in places and it is no time to work them now while there is so much wet weather. Rice is selling for all sorts of prices, but good rice demands a good praise in our home market. Still, if a farmer is obliged to sell, he does not always get what his rice is worth.

Gradually the work of constructing canals, goes on, and a good deal is being accomplished in this line, notwithstanding the bad weather, and the levees and canals which are built during this wet spell, will give the best of service as the soil is well packed. Many of our canals were built during the dry spell last season, and they did

not hold water good, and this made much extra pumping, and, on some fields, the water would go out as fast as it was pumped in, so that some rice suffered and did not make half a crop as a consequence of this. People in general, have learned much from last season experience and they, no doubt, will profit by it this season in more ways than one. Levees built with the patent wheel graders, were not considered worth half value the first season, as the soil was not packed at all, and they are not being used as much this season, where the levees are to be used soon. We were sorry to learn of the burning of the Eagle Rice mill, at Crowley, for that mill was badly needed at this time, and was a credit to this part of the state, and we hope it will be rebuilt at an early date. But if it is not, other mills will take its place, for this is to be a country of rice mills in the near future. There is the increasing rice crop to justify it, and the burning of a mill once in a while, only serves to stimulate the industry, and it will continue to expand.

The increased interest now being manifested in southeastern Texas will demand a good many rice mills before many years, at the rate the rice industry is creeping along of late, and the mills will come as easily as they did for us, although we found it a little hard to start the wheel of progress to rolling. Since we got it in motion, it runs itself. The wells will, eventually, give the smaller farmers in our section, the best results, for that is the cheapest way to obtain water for rice, and the well water kills many of the insects which seem to work in the soft water and do the rice much damage, and all these small things are worth considering, for there is big money in them sometimes. Large quantities of wood is being cut along the bayous for the various pumping plants, and there is a big demand for lumber for the many buildings to be erected at the new pumping station and labor is in good demand just now. There is not the demand for labor on the rice farms, however, that there was two or three seasons ago, from the fact that the farms are now mostly rented out and the owners do not hire any help.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The demand for Domestic and Foreign continues at enlarging volume and prices are firm with upward tendency on the better grades. There has been a reversal of former attitude by the more conservative and the change on their part from listless indifference to one of lively interest, has in turn emboldened those who were already favorably inclined toward liberal operations. As a result any who are possessed of financial ability are anticipating all possible demands between now and Spring. So far the business has been of legitimate character and simply against well ascertained requirements of the coming months. Advices from the South note good inquiry at all points. The weather in Southwest Louisiana is epitomized in the word "abominable," roads being in such condition that hauling is well nigh impossible. In consequence, stocks of rough at all local centres are growing light and by inverse ratio ideas of holders growing strong. Another feature which should not be overlooked is the accruing damage to the crop by reason of present contrary conditions. Much of that left in the hands of (Louisiana) planters is still in the fields and when threshed many will find themselves worse off than they anticipated. Cables and correspondence from abroad note firm tendency on account of light stocks and continuation of unpromising reports from Burmah. Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 580,150 sacks; last year, inclusive of amount carried over, 425,010 sacks. Sales cleaned (est.) 137,180 barrels; last year, 68,735 barrels. Good inquiry and under light receipts market strong with upward tendency.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 27,925 barrels. Sales, 20,730 barrels. Steady demand within former range.

Judge Taylor Beattie, of Lafourche, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He stopped at the Grunewald.

Mr. Duville Aucoin was at the proofstick again this season at the Westfield place. Mr. Aucoin is, and has been for a long time, at the top of his profession.

Mr. Robert Combs, the well-known sugar chemist, who has been taking in hand the laboratory work at one of the places of general Wm. Porcher Miles during the past campaign was in the city during the past week. Mr. Combs was accompanied by his sister.

The Ruth refinery, at Breaux Bridge, belonging to the Robert Martin Sugar Co., Ltd., a comparatively new but strong and well conducted corporation, was under the skillful management, this season, of Mr. Alex Mouton.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1824 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 21-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La. 18-99

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nossier, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address 1, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, timekeeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish all references. Address "A. C.", this office. 1-9

WANTED—A young, unmarried man desires to secure a position on a sugar plantation. Has had experience as clerk, overseer and other general work. Honest, sober and reliable. Can furnish best of references. Is willing to work for a nominal salary. Address at once J. L. SLACK, Tallulah, La. 12-31-98

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 621 Du-maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of Cane. Best of references given. Address, M. E. W., Care Verdandah Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-28-98.

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-28-98.

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 6334 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—A young married man of small family, desires a position in Puerto Rico as time-keeper or sugar weigher. Have had several years' experience in sugar houses; also a very good book-keeper. Can furnish best of references. Address C. B. S., care Baton Rouge Sugar Co., Baton Rouge, La.

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$30. Address F. E. C., Shadyale Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYEE, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as manager of sugar plantation for the coming year. Ample experience, highest recommendations as to capacity, sobriety and ability to handle labor. Address D. A. BLOUIN, Whitecastle, La.

WANTED—Position as manager or assistant on sugar plantation for the coming year. Long experience and first-class references. Address A. G., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Solms P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation, by married man, 33 years of age, sober, energetic and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 256, New Iberia, La. 12-5-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOYER, care First New York Beet Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-6-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 23, City Hall. 12-3-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1035 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as manager for 1899, by a first-class man of experience and fine references. Will take an assistantcy and work very reasonable. Address E. W. CREIGHTON, Baton Rouge, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as second overseer or time-keeper on sugar plantation, for 1899. Address THEO. BAUDOIN, JR., Hahnville, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—A sugar house expert, who is now, and has been for the past five years, the head chemist for one of the largest sugar houses in Louisiana, is open for an engagement for coming crop in Mexico, Cuba or Central America. Will accept a position on any terms consistent with first-class work. Can furnish best of testimonials from present employers and from the University from which he graduated. Address LEDA, this office. 12-8-98

WANTED—By a young chemist with university education and one year's experience in large Louisiana factory, a position for Mexican or Cuban campaign. Address A. M., care Louisiana Planter. 11-30-98

WANTED—By a first-class sugar boiler to go to Mexico, Central America or the Hawaiian Islands. Will furnish the best of references. Address MANUEL MELLO, No. 836 Bartholomew street, New Orleans, La. 11-25-98

WANTED—Position for next crop by an A No. 1 sugar boiler. Is now employed on one of the largest places in the State. Would have no objection to living on the place and making himself generally useful. Is a good cooper. Address GEO. CODES, Belle Grove Plantation, Whitecastle, La. 11-25-98

WANTED—Position in this State or Mexico by an A No. 1 sugar boiler who has references of the very first class. Address BOILER, 507 Chartres street, New Orleans. 11-9-98

WANTED—Chemist wants situation. Graduate of University of Michigan. Have had practical experience in the analysis of sugars and syrups. Am 25 years of age and unmarried. If necessary would be willing to go to the West Indies. Reference from former employer given. Address X, this office. 11-26-98

WANTED—Position as book-keeper and utility man in the country. Good references. Address COMPETENT, care Louisiana Planter. 11-21-98

WANTED—A position as book-keeper or manager of a country store by a thoroughly competent young married man with 14 years' experience. Would also open up and run a drug store in interest of employer. Can furnish A No. 1 references. Address G. C. B., Donaldsonville, La. 11-21-98

WANTED—An expert sugar house man, as chemist or superintendent, is desirous of closing an engagement for coming crop in Mexico or Cuba. Has had six years experience on some of the largest plantations in Louisiana. Can bring references from present Central Factory, and testimonials from Dr. W. C. Stubbs. Those desiring the services of a thorough sugar house man, address OSCAR, box 574, Baton Rouge. 11-19-98

WANTED—Position as chemist in Mexico or Cuba for coming crop. Have had eight years experience and can furnish good references as to ability. Am at present employed at one of the leading sugar houses in Louisiana. Address CHEMIST, this office. 11-22-98

WANTED—An assistant sugar boiler at once. Address L. A. ELLIS, Sartartia, Tex. 11-17-98

WANTED—Position as assistant or head sugar maker. Can furnish first-class references. Address J. L. WIRTH, 1916 Toulouse street, New Orleans, La. 11-14-98

WANTED—Position as assistant overseer or time-keeper on a sugar plantation, for 1899. Married man 38 years of age. Address E. V. W., care S. C. Brodowski, 609 Sixth street, New Orleans. 11-15-98

WANTED—Position as butler by an experienced man. Good references. Will try to make himself useful in every way. Address EMILE TERRIE, 613 Chartres st., New Orleans. 11-15-98

WANTED—Experienced chemist, at present instructor in a large university in the Northwest, desires position in a warm climate. Best references. Address P. O. Box 1738, Iowa City, Iowa. 11-14-98

WANTED—By experienced man, situation as chemist in sugar house, in Mexico or Central America, for coming campaign. Good reference, sober, competent. Address CHEMIST, care of Glenwild, Berwick, La. 11-11-98

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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

Vol. XXII.

NEW ORLEANS, FEBRUARY 4, 1899.

No. 5.

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AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

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Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
Kansas Sugar Growers' Association,
Texas Sugar Planters' Association.*

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branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chem-
ical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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3 inch.....	14 50	36 20	51 40	72 50
4 inch.....	19 00	47 50	71 25	95 00
5 inch.....	23 50	58 75	88 15	117 50
6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	105 00	140 00
7 inch.....	32 50	81 15	121 75	162 50
8 inch.....	36 00	90 00	135 00	180 00
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John Dymond, President.

Thirteenth Annual Session of the Louisiana State Agricultural Society.

This well known organization, which began its existence in Baton Rouge in 1887, held its thirteenth annual session in Shreveport last week with President John Dymond in the chair, and the secretary, Dr. W. H. Dalrymple, at the desk. The session began Wednesday, Jan. 25th, and continued through three days adjourning Friday evening. The last day was devoted to the Louisiana Stock Breeders' Association, Hon. W. L. Foster, president, who temporarily left his duties as railroad commissioner at Baton Rouge to return to the Queen City of the Red River Valley to assume his presidential duties in connection with the Stock Breeders' Association.

All of the various sessions during the three days were of extreme interest. A large number of leading agriculturists of the State were gathered together and quite a number of valuable papers pertaining to our various agricultural industries were first read and then thoroughly discussed by those present. In no previous session of the State Agricultural Society has there been any greater earnestness displayed in the pursuit of advanced agricultural knowledge, nor any session in which there was a greater assemblage of agricultural authorities, who could substantiate their assertions by giving convincing reasons to establish them.

The address of welcome to the Society was delivered on Wednesday by Judge John C. Moncure, of Shreveport. Judge Moncure was extremely eloquent in his description of the ideal agricultural life and the position that the agricultural industries of the State sustained to the whole body politic and of the great advantages that would come to us all from a thorough investigation of all of our unsolved problems, and the utilization of all

discoveries of modern science in connection with agriculture.

Judge Emile Rost of St. Charles, responded to Judge Moncure on behalf of the State Agricultural Society, thanking him, the city of Shreveport and the parish of Caddo for their invitation to hold this session in Shreveport, recounting the good work done by the society in the past and its hopes for still more effective work in the future. Judge Rost's remarks were delivered in his usual effective style, and were extremely apropos and highly applauded.

Dr. W. C. Stubbs, of the several State experiment stations, was in attendance and lent his usual valuable aid to maintaining the interest of the exercises from the beginning to the end, answering every kind of a question propounded by his hundreds of eager listeners, and although endeavoring to take no direct part in the proceedings of the meeting, he was involuntarily led to discuss almost every agricultural topic that was brought under consideration.

A marked feature of the occasion was the wonderful effect brought about by the North Louisiana Experiment Station, located at Calhoun, standing there on a worn-out hill farm, now an object lesson to every visitor, teaching what can be done, even with the worn-out lands in the hills of North Louisiana. Some striking instances were cited as the direct result of the work of the experiment station. One ante-bellum farmer, formerly in comfortable circumstances, who was brought to poverty by the civil war, and whose maximum crop came to be five bales of cotton, and very little else, was finally induced to visit the experiment station with a friend who is enthusiastic in his admiration of the good work there doing. This one-horse farmer, with his five bales of cotton, the only support of a large family, now produces fifty bales of cotton, a large amount of the supplies necessary for carrying on the farm, and

in fact has revolutionized his whole establishment, the result of a few visits at Calhoun.

It is often stated that the various experiment stations did not reach the farmer, their experiments being of a scientific nature and their determinations being adapted ordinarily only to scientific consideration. It is asserted that the Farmers' Institutes, bringing actual farmers in contact with each other, where questions may be given and answered, are far more effective. The North Louisiana Experiment Station at Calhoun combines these advantages, all of the scientific investigations being effected as thoroughly as anywhere in the United States, and at the same time the North Louisiana Agricultural Society, meeting at the station monthly and enjoying all of the advantages presented by the station, bringing together thousands of farmers, becomes in fact a series of Farmers' Institutes with the station's work around them as an exhibition all the time, of what can be done. In this way these farmers in all the hill parishes from which Calhoun is accessible, have reaped wonderful advantages and they are all loud in the praises of the good work there done.

In this article we can hardly give consideration to much of the valuable matter discussed, and will only say that every agricultural industry of our State, cotton, cane corn and rice all came in for consideration and discussion. The great advantage to the State of more devotion to the production of hogs was brought out repeatedly and effectively. Dr. Tait Butler of Mississippi, recently connected with the Mississippi Agricultural College at Starkville, was an invited visitor and did great service by a valuable paper that he read upon cattle-feeding and also by the extremely intelligent manner in which he discussed all topics under consideration.

At the conclusion of the session Mr. John Dymond was re-elected President, Dr. W. H. Dalrymple Secretary, and Mr. W. M. Barrow assistant secretary. The resolutions adopted included a special resolution of condolence to the family of Mr. T. Wood Lee, the deceased assistant secretary, who was elected last year, and whose devotion to his country and enlistment in the First Louisiana Regiment with the rank of Captain, led to

his death, notwithstanding every effort made to save him. Col. T. E. Sellers delivered a most touching address in memory of the young captain, which will long be remembered by everyone there present.

Hon. W. L. Foster was re-elected President of the Stock Breeders' Association and Dr. W. H. Dalrymple Secretary.

Louisiana Industrial Institute.

This very successful industrial school, located at Ruston, which although young in its corporate existence, has already displayed a great deal of virility in its development of industrial education under the direction of that able scholar and excellent disciplinarian, Col. A. T. Prescott, has now completed a series of new buildings and placed in position the necessary new equipments for the enlarged work in which the institute is engaged. On February 11th, the new buildings will be dedicated and the equipments will be put in operation, to which ceremonies the public is invited. This journal is especially invited, and we trust that the good work of the school will go on, ever enlarging and ever advancing.

Birth of Beet Sugar Industry.

A London journal refers to January 11th as the 100th anniversary of the creation of the beet sugar industry. On January 11th, 1799, Frans Karl Achar laid a memorandum before Frederick William III., showing how sugar might be made from beet roots, hitherto used only as fodder. It was said that Achar refused a bribe of 200,000 thalers offered him by the cane sugar interests if he would publish a statement that he had made a mistake.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

The February meeting of this Association will be held on Thursday, the 9th instant, at 8 p. m. at No. 712 Union street, New Orleans.

One of the burning questions of the hour, "The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane—Whether by Test or Otherwise," will be discussed, and from present indications, it will be a largely attended and exceedingly interesting meeting. The importance of the topic se-

lected for discussion is already too deeply impressed upon both cane buyers and cane-sellers for us to dilate upon it at this time. It is a matter which seems to demand a solution of some sort and in selecting it for discussion the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association has done a wise and timely thing.

We wish to call the attention of our readers to the fact that everyone interested, whether a member of the Association or not, is cordially invited to be present.

The Coming Cane Crop.

Our reports this week indicate too much wet weather in the sugar parishes to permit much field work to be done, nor have the conditions been such as to favor the preservation of the seed cane. The statements made regarding the condition of the seed cane are too conflicting for any definite conclusion to be drawn from them, but as planting is being pushed as actively as the climatic conditions will permit, we shall not be long in the dark on this important question. It seems reasonable to suppose that we shall shortly experience weather better adapted for the present purposes of the sugar planters, and that the ground will become dry enough to be properly worked.

Senator Clark.

On Saturday last Hon. Wm. A. Clark, of Montana was elected United States Senator from that State, after a hot contest involving 17 ballots. Senator Clark succeeds Hon. Lee Mantle. The sugar producers of the country will be interested to know that Mr. Clark is the chief owner of the large beet sugar house at Los Alamitos, Cal., the capacity of which is now being largely increased for the coming season. Mr. Clark is a wealthy gentleman and his income for 1898 is popularly estimated at ten millions of dollars.

The Demerara Sugar Crop.

The Argosy reports the exports of sugar from Demerara for the year 1898 at 106,788 tons, against 99,789 tons for the previous year. The sugar was practically all sent forward in bags, the exports exhibiting no hogsheads and only 241 tierces and 3,635 barrels.

India Rice.

The Louisiana Planter has received advices from Rangoon to December 9th, and from Calcutta to December 20th, concerning the rice crop in Lower Burmah and Bengal. In Lower Burmah the area planted in rice is slightly larger than the previous year, amounting to nearly six millions of acres. Some injury had resulted from drought, but it was estimated that cargo rice would be available for export equivalent to over 1,400,000 tons of cleaned rice. This would be about 90 per cent. of a full crop.

In Madras the crop is reported flourishing with the area planted about 2 per cent. less than the previous year. In Bengal about 8 millions of acres are planted in autumn rice, the statistics showing an increase of 3 per cent. over the acreage of 1897, and 5 per cent. above the average. The condition of the crop is reported at 99 per cent. of the average.

The winter rice crop covers 32 millions of acres, 5 per cent. above the average area, the result of seasonable weather and the substitution of rice culture for that of jute.

From these enormous figures we can perceive the practically unlimited supply of rice in India. At the same time, as it is a staple crop, upon which the whole population live, the demand for it is relatively as great as the supply, and the general inclination to increase the area planted in rice would suggest expectation of higher prices on the part of the rice-grower.

The Effect of Annexation of Newly Acquired Territory Upon Our Southern Products.

(Address delivered before the Louisiana State Agricultural Society, at Shreveport, by HON. JOHN DYMOND, President.)

Ladies and Gentlemen and Fellow-Members of the Louisiana State Agricultural Society:

This subject, allotted to me by the committee on program, is one that I approach with considerable diffidence and shall certainly be able to discuss only in a very general sort of way. The serious side of our annexation of tropical countries is largely a political one, which feature of the case it is hardly proper for us to debate at this time. It is

our province to look at the subject from an industrial point of view, and, as stated in the title, the direct effect of the annexation of these countries upon the future of those agricultural products of our lands which are distinctively classed as southern. The question of an imperial policy on the part of our nation, of the building of an empire upon which the sun shall never set, we will leave to others, and endeavor to consider the industrial results only.

In order to do this we must consider the effect in the past of the acquisition of such territory as has been added to the Union since its formation with the original thirteen States. The Louisiana purchase, which included the State of Louisiana and all of the lands north of Mexico and west of the Mississippi river to the Pacific, was considered largely a political and military question. While the grain fields of the great Northwest have even within our days destroyed the monopoly of high grade wheat, that fifty years ago was held in the valley of the Genesee in central New York, the change has been so gradual and the diversion of the attention of the New York farmers into other cultures has been so successful that no very loud complaint has resulted from this competition by the farmers of the great Northwest with the farmers who remained in their old homes in the Middle States.

The acquisition of Florida was again a matter of political settlement and seemed to have no very strong industrial features that suggested any opposition to it. Florida was part of the mainland and its cession by Spain to the United States worked no particular industrial change in the country. In a like manner, the acquisition of Texas some fifty years ago was considered at the time almost entirely from a political point of view. Cotton culture in Texas at that time gave no suggestion of the fact that within half a century the State of Texas alone would produce more cotton than the whole of the Southern States combined produced in any one year before the war. It required nearly half a century in Texas to produce this extraordinary change, this great industrial development, the evil effects of which upon the entire South are now felt.

The acquisition of California after the war with Mexico came as the result of that war and the remoteness of California from the rest of the states retarded its industrial development greatly, and only since the civil war and the easy access to California rendered by the building of our several trans-continental railways has it come to the front as one of our most active and aggressive states.

Surveying, then, the effects of these various territorial acquisitions in the past upon our Southern products, we can see that while we accept without a murmur the enormous development of Texas, that if that great state remained as unimproved as it

was fifty years ago, if it had remained under the less stable government of Mexico, or in a revolutionary condition as when it was annexed to the United States, that cotton culture there would never have attained anything like the enormous proportions that it now has and that the cotton planters of the South would not be deploring the immense crops that they are raising and the ruinously low prices that are now destroying them.

It would seem to be somewhat difficult to apply this review of our past experience in annexation to the problems that have just now presented themselves to us. At the same time they throw some light upon the subject, and if our country is going to progress under a stable government we may yet find that the cotton planters and the sugar planters of the Southern States will be forced into other cultures, just as the wheat farmers of the valley of Genesee were forced to abandon their favorite crop of a half a century ago by the competition from the newer states in the West. The Southern States of the Union have had a practical monopoly of the culture of cotton, sugar cane and rice. These semi-tropical crops could not be raised in the Northern States and as long as their prices remained sufficiently high and the monopoly of their production was retained by the Southern States these cultures remained profitable. If the Southern States could organize an immense trust, if they could control and restrict the production of their favorite crops and exclude or severely tax competing crops, then the wide margins of profit that have prevailed for a century could be maintained. However, as such a course as this would be unwise, if not impossible, we shall not consider it, but shall take up our several recent territorial acquisitions, or proposed acquisitions, and consider them one by one and see wherein they may seriously affect our Southern products.

Hawaii has already been annexed and is presumed now to be one of the territories of the United States. Some rather strange conditions prevail there, conditions very much at variance with those that prevail in the other territories and in the states of our Union. The sugar industry is the dominant industry in Hawaii, and it is based almost entirely upon a system of contract or forced labor. When some 23 years ago the reciprocity treaty with Hawaii was adopted the production of sugar there was but one-fifth of what it is now. The free importation of this sugar into the markets of the United States, the fertile soils and tropical climate of the islands, and the opportunities possessed by the planters there of contracting for labor and thus producing their sugars with a forced, or semi-slave labor, gave rise to the enormous development of the sugar industry there which has so seriously disconcerted us in Louisiana and

led to ever recurring remonstrances on our part to the national legislature against the continuance of this unjust reciprocity treaty. With Hawaii finally acquired by the United States and the American flag floating from all of its public buildings, it remains now to be seen whether or not the genius of the free institutions of the United States will prevail in Hawaii, whether or not forced labor laws will be abrogated and the natives there, under their tropical skies, be left to work or play as their own will suggests. Anyway, we should say that we have felt in the past the severe competition of these Hawaiian sugars brought into Louisiana and in competition with Louisiana sugars produced under laws which deny the forced labor contracts.

Our next acquisition is that of Porto Rico. The acquisition of Porto Rico may be looked upon largely from a military point of view. The island is a mountainous one and while it produces a considerable amount of sugar and a considerable amount of coffee, yet, as compared with the total consumption of the United States these quantities are but insignificant and their competition with similar products within the limits of the old Union cannot have any very injurious effect.

When we come to consider the Island of Cuba, however, the situation is very different. A large part of the Island of Cuba is a vast plain, underlain with coral rock, a land of great fertility and of extraordinary resources in many directions. Cuba lies so near to the United States that even under Spanish domination, American enterprise largely affected most of her industrial undertakings. Thousands of Cubans made their summer homes in the Northern States, and thousands of Americans their winter homes in Cuba, and the intimate relations thus established have added largely to the popular demand for the termination of Spanish arbitrary rule in Cuba. If Cuba be treated as an independent state, or if the government there be carried on as a protectorate, or in some manner separate and apart from the methods that prevail with the states of our Union, then perhaps Cuba may develop enormously and at the same time not seriously injure the Southern States of the Union. If, however, Cuba becomes as thoroughly merged into the Union as Hawaii, if it should be granted all the territorial rights such as have been granted to the other territories of the Union, then it would seem to be but a question of time as to when the sugar planters of Louisiana, Texas and Florida would look back to their lost industry, just as the wheat farmers of the valley of the Genesee look backward now to their famed production of fifty years ago. We know that Cuba stands pre-eminent as a possible producer of sugar from sugar cane; that Cuban tobacco commands the markets of the world, owing to the excellence of its quality, and that cotton can be

produced in Cuba as readily as in Florida, while the whole list of early vegetables with which the Southern States now flood the Northern markets during their off season, can be produced even more successfully in Cuba and reach the markets of the North with equal rapidity and equal cheapness.

The final factor in the problem that has been presented for our consideration at present is that of the Philippines. We have here a vast territory that even under Spanish misrule has produced more sugar than Louisiana has until within the last few years, and a country capable of enormous development, provided that it became to the interests of the American people to foster such development. Scarcely any comparison, however, can be made between the Philippines and Cuba. Cuba is at our doors, but a few hours' sail from the southern limits of Florida, quickly accessible from every port on the Atlantic coast, an island partly Americanized at present, wherein millions of dollars of American capital are already at work and have been working for years; where the advantages of modern machinery are thoroughly understood and where only a good and stable government is necessary for the doubling or tripling of the crops of the country. If we omit the consideration of Hawaii from the question that is presented to us because we have already had a reciprocity treaty with that country for over twenty years, if we omit Porto Rico from consideration because of its comparative smallness and the military features of its occupation, if we omit the Philippines because of the magnitude of the problem there presented, the great distance of these islands from the United States, the uncertainty of the ratification of the treaty covering their cession, we shall then have only Cuba as the difficult problem before us for a solution, and based upon the data hereinbefore referred to and the argument advanced, I believe that every thinking man who is identified with the industrial development of the Southern States will admit that the transfer of that island to the United States will seriously injure all of the competing products of the Southern States, owing to the greater climatic advantages possessed by Cuba for such production, to the great fertility of the soils and to their adaptation for the production of every crop that is now produced in the Southern States of our Union.

There is one feature of this subject that has not yet been much discussed, and yet it may be a very important one in the final development of these tropical countries. Nature is so prodigal in the tropics, there is such a luxurious growth of all vegetable matter, that the natives find that they can live with almost no effort. A few bananas will supply their daily wants, clothing is almost unnecessary, and hence there is nothing to compel efforts for self preser-

vation as in the countries at the North. After the termination of slavery in the British West Indies, it was found that the leading industries were practically destroyed, the freemen had no particular necessity for working, while their wants were small and so readily supplied without effort. The landed proprietors had severe laws against vagrancy, against petty thieving, &c., but still life was so easy there that one or two days' work in the week would keep the negroes fairly well supplied with all actual necessities. The sugar industry of Jamaica was almost destroyed. It so happened that Barbados, a very small island, was very thickly populated, being in fact one of the most thickly populated countries in the globe. Here the negroes had but little chance of living, as there were no wild or unoccupied lands to go to. Barbados, therefore, retained its conspicuity as a sugar producing island up to recent years. In the Island of Trinidad and in British Guiana, the impossibility of maintaining the sugar industry without some control of the labor, led even the British Government to permit the importation of coolies under long contracts, which they were forced to maintain by law, thus constituting a forced, semi-slave system. There are even now in British Guiana and in Trinidad constant efforts making to secure increased importations of immigrants from the East Indies. A like system of contract labor prevails in Australia, the Islands of the South Seas being carefully canvassed for Kanaka laborers who are carried to Queensland and New South Wales under long contracts, where they are utilized in the leading industries.

It is not very probable that the American people, after having freed themselves from the system of slavery that prevailed before the Civil War, will now at the beginning of the twentieth century inaugurate any system of contract, or semi-slave labor. The revolt of the laborers of this country against the free importation of the Chinese was an indication of the popular feeling in this direction. The American people do not seem to want to introduce any large amount of foreign or cheap labor and to this desire on their part, we must look largely for the prevention of such injury to the products of the Southern States as would otherwise result from the annexation to the Federal Union of these various countries. If the Island of Cuba could secure a sufficient amount of labor, its productions could be increased five-fold within a few years. Labor, however, has always been difficult to secure there, and we are inclined to believe that while the competition of Cuba with the Southern States of the Union may in the end be very severe, yet such competition at present is somewhat remote, and that our safest course is to go right along, and to do the best that we can to meet the difficulties of the hour when they come.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Belle Helene's chimneys have stopped smoking and the extraordinary grinding season of 1898-9 is at an end in this parish and section. It was remarkable in several respects and its memories will linger disagreeably with a large proportion of Louisiana sugar planters for many a long day. The early promise of the year and up to the commencement of grinding was very favorable, the cane having grown luxuriantly and seeming to portend even better results than the satisfactory outcome of the preceding campaign; but Dame Nature "kept the word of promise to the eye but broke it to the hope. It seems as if the weather has determined not to get settled and clear. A prominent Ascension manager remarked today. "There is absolutely no work of any kind being done on the sugar plantations, with the single exception that Joe Cafero and his colleagues are painting the smokestacks."

Daily conjectures are heard respecting the condition of seed cane, but views are so dissimilar and premature that it is scarcely worth while to consume space attempting to quote them. So much depends upon future as well as past and present conditions, that any general opinion expressed at this time can possess but little value.

The size of Belle Helene's out put has not been made public. But that it was far below what it should have been, goes without saying.

The will of the late Major I. G. Randle, of Dallas, Texas, bequeathing his half interest in the Southwood and Riverside, or Mound plantations in this parish, has been probated, and the property is inventoried at \$40,000. It all goes to the testator's widow, Mrs. Eliza C. Randle, who is appointed executrix without bond. The other half of the places is owned by Mr. Charles H. Alexander, also of Dallas. Major Randle, it will be remembered, was shot to death on the street at Dallas about two months ago as the result of a personal difficulty.

The store on the Grammercy Sugar Company's Mount Houmas plantation was destroyed the night of January 22 by a fire believed to have been started by an incendiary. The contents belonged to Mr. Phillip L. Brand, who carried insurance to the amount of \$1,500 on merchandise valued at \$2,750. The building was owned by the Grammercy Company, worth about \$1,000 and not insured.

Next Tuesday will be sugar planters' day and the Ascension Branch Association ought to get a quorum together, just for a change. To be sure, the awful condition of the public roads makes it difficult for country folks

to come to town, but the members of the "Abspa" ought to make the effort.

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Last week the weather would have been reported favorable but this week only the contrary can be said, and the spurt in field work was no sooner started than stopped by flooding rains. January is usually a wet month with us, but we have had so much rain, our people had hoped for a larger share than usual of bright days. Here and there you find some one who has plowed out stubble or planted some cane. Reports as to the condition of the seed vary, the general opinion leaning to the dark side, and for this reason we presume very little more stubble land will be broken up, for it may be necessary to keep second year's stubble this season. Another reason for holding second year's stubble is its fine and promising condition. We have been told by several that at this time it never was better, and while there is plenty of chance for it to be destroyed our planters hope for the best.

A tornado visited the Gold point section of the parish Monday night of last week destroying the large stable and barn and boarding house, blacksmith shop and boiler shed of the Evergreen plantation of Mrs. Henry H. Baker, a cabin on Mr. Joseph Cointment's place, the dwelling of Mr. Daniel Hurley and the store of Messrs. Pope and Cointment, and the houses of several negroes, at Revilletown. The loss to Evergreen will probably exceed \$4,000.00.

From Mr. Billon, of Bayou Goula, manager of Upper Elmer plantation, we learn that several days planting demonstrated that the seed cane was in excellent condition, and that the acreage reserved for rice at this place would be considerably diminished this year.

Messrs. J. and A. Berthelot, lower end of the parish, examined their seed cane in different parts of the field several times and found it to be in very good shape and in consequence are preparing a large planting.

Mr. Louis Lozano, of Plaquemine, has planted a few acres of cane on his Reliance plantation and says the seed is inclined to be poor. Fortunately he kept plenty and is putting enough in the rows to get a good stand. The cane itself looks splendidly and inside is white and sweet but most of the bottom eyes from some cause or another are bad.

At the California plantation Mr. Charles E. Booksh, who examined some of the seed in a place where he thought it might be bad, found it pretty and bright and as good as any he ever saw.

Mr. Harley Matthews has sold his Belle View plantation on Bayou Grossetete to Mr. Louis S. Webre, of St. James parish. Unless the Cuban war ruins our sugar prospects,

Mr. Webre will put Belle View in cane, otherwise he may make a cattle farm of it. The consideration paid was \$8,000.00.

Mr. Ulysse B. Dugas, of Assumption parish, will retain his interest in the Nottoway plantation with Mrs. Marie E. Landry and the new firm will be Dugas & Landry, instead of Landry & Dugas as formerly.

Two of Iberville's most promising young men were married last week; Mr. George Ross Murrell, of Bayou Goula, the president of the George M. Murrell P. & M. Co., Ltd., and one of the most progressive planters in the state to one of Mississippi's fairest daughters, and Mr. James D. Hanlon, a son of Mr. Maurice Hanlon, of Bayou Goula, to Miss Matilda L. Meeker, a daughter of Dr. S. F. Meeker, one of the owners and managers of the fine Meeker estate at Lecompte.

Mr. Lucien Grass, Bayou Plaquemine, was buried a few days since. He was the oldest son of the late Adolphe Grass and was in his 50th year. He leaves a widow, a daughter of the late John A. Dardenne, and five children.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The persistency with which the bad weather hangs on is indeed remarkable, and the impression is deepening into conviction that there is something radically wrong with the big water works above. For it seems utterly impossible that three days should pass without more or less rain falling. For instance: Rain fell all day last Friday, turning into sleet that night; Saturday dawned dark and murky, but during the afternoon clearing weather set in and the sun came out nicely. Sunday was an ideal day—clear, crisp and bright, with a heavy frost in the morning. By night the wind had shifted to the East, and Monday noon came the inevitable rain, which though not particularly heavy, continued off and on all the evening and Monday night, gradually closing Tuesday, the wind having veered around to the North, ushering in decidedly colder weather. My apology for this prolix statement of prevailing meteorological conditions lies in the fact that the planters are regarding the weather with as much solicitude as they did during the heat and burden of the grinding season.

That the seed cane is more or less injured here there can be no manner of doubt. Even if no material damage had not as yet been done, a continuation of the wretched weather of the past few months would inevitably work some injury in the course of time. In a majority of cases the cane was put down last fall with extra care because of the unfavorable weather conditions then prevailing, but despite the precautions taken, a great deal of seed is reported rotten and utterly unfit to plant. In this connection and as an illustration of the extent to which the rains have injured the seed, on one place,

at least, it is generally understood here that Mr. John Hill, of Homestead plantation, is preparing to dig up and grind about 100 acres of cane which had been put down for seed last fall. As this cane is unfit to plant, and as hauling it out and dumping it in the river would entail considerable expense, Mr. Hill believes that while handling the cane he had just as well grind it. If undertaken, the outcome of the experiment will be watched with interest. So far as can be learned, this is the first time such a thing has occurred in West Baton Rouge. A peculiarity of the seed cane, as reported by several planters, is that in many cases cane that was badly put down, in low, badly-drained places and poorly covered—in other words, cane that was generally expected to be bad—is good, while in other cases, where all of these conditions were reversed, the cane is spoiled.

What with a rapidly rising river and defective seed cane, it must be confessed that the situation just now is anything but encouraging in

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The present season is what is known as "between grass and hay," and the news from an agricultural standpoint is scarce and for the most part uninteresting.

The weather continues dry long enough to make each planter rejoice in the fact that to-morrow he will be able to commence planting cane, and to his disgust to-morrow brings rain. Very little cane has been planted in Assumption, and the reports of its condition are generally excellent, although in one locality I hear that some of it is deficient in quality. Any examination of seed cane except where it is taken out of the row in considerable quantities to plant is necessarily unreliable and misleading. If a man strikes a bad spot he thinks that all of it is bad and if he finds in a particular locality that the cane is good he jumps to the opposite conclusion.

Most planters I have talked to think with January as rainy and unfavorable as it has been for cane planting that we stand an excellent chance for an exceptionally good February. Many prefer planting in the latter month. With the advent of better weather there will be tall hustling in Assumption to get the cane planted.

Some recent sales of property in Assumption show that confidence in the future of the sugar district is still high, and not seriously impaired by the bad season of 1898. Live Oak, the Claiborne Bourg tract, and Sweet Home in this parish, and Nottaway in Iberville, brought excellent prices. The popularity of Mr. Ulysses Lugas and the desire of his friends (embracing the whole community) that he should retain his home probably prevented that place from bringing the amount that it would under other

circumstances, and yet the price paid was by no means small.

There seems to be a good deal of unanimity among purchasers of cane that a different system should be substituted for the present haphazard one in vogue. In other words that the price paid should be in proportion to the sugar contents rather than simply so much per ton whether ripe or green, new ground cane or second year's stubble. The present way works some years (and probably a majority of them) to the detriment of the seller of ripe cane, and in a year like 1898 to the decided injury of the buyer. On the whole, we are disposed to believe that the greatest sufferer year in and year out is the cane seller.

As a result of the moving back of the bayou banks, I am told that the coal dealers will demand a half cent per barrel more for unloading, nor can this be reasonably objected to by the planters, for there can be no question that the expense of unloading coal has been greatly augmented by the increased distance that the coal has to be wheeled. The steamboats also complain that they are forced for the same reason to pay exorbitant wages to their roustabouts. Another great inconvenience, and sometimes the cause of serious loss results from the inability to ship where new levees have been recently constructed. The direct produce tax and acreage tax are high enough, but when to this will be added the increase on coal and freight that will inevitably come as a result of pushing the levees back every year, the time will surely come when for self-preservation the land owners will be forced to combine and make the direct issue against the useless confiscation of their property. One would suppose that the Lafourche caved more than the Mississippi from the distance back that the new levees (or at least some of them) are being moved in the Lafourche District. The above is written not with a view of carping, for there is no one more willing to give the Levee Boards full credit for the immense amount of work that they have done, and for their tireless energy and forethought when high water threatens.

The present stage of water in the Lafourche is high enough to give excellent navigation and the boats are making regular trips. Capt. Constantin has increased the debt owed him for traveling facilities by adding the Pelican to the trade, so that we now have a passenger boat up and down nearly every day.

We hear that Live Oak will be planted altogether in rice this year. The roads are still missing in Assumption, awaiting the incomparable road inspector—good weather.

MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Although there were some days with heavy frosts and thin ice in the month of January,

yet the absence of heavy rainfall proved very fortunate; and in consequence field work is well advanced on most places. The temperature has been such that the willow trees are coming out in leaf and the peach trees in blossom. Last week considerable progress was made in cane planting until the latter part of the week, when a much needed rain fell and put an end to field operations. The precipitation was an excellent one for the canes planted, and of benefit to the fields previously ploughed. Some resumed planting on Monday; yet the majority deemed the land too wet to insure good work. The quality of the seed cane varies; in places on the same plantation it is found sound and others it is defective, and in most instances where such is the case, but butts more than the tops exhibit unsoundness—due probably to the excessive rains in the winter. As a rule it is found the heavy canes are more defective than where the tonnage is lighter. The fate of the stubble will depend very much on the character of the weather in the next six weeks; where they have been examined it was found that the bottom eyes had in many instances germinated after the September storm of last year, and present an unhealthy appearance. The stumps where the canes were prostrated are more affected than where the stalks retained a more upright position. To shave the stubble near the surface may become imperative to conserve as many sound eyes as possible. Should the temperature in February prove above the normal, with a small amount of rainfall the stand of cane may be up to the average; but cold wet weather will prove very unfortunate not only to the stubble but plant cane; as neither seem to have their usual vitality, and are not in a condition to resist climatic extremes.

Doubtless ere another campaign, an effort will be made to change the prevailing system of buying and selling cane; owing to the exceedingly low sucrose content of the canes last year. It is a problem replete with perplexities; but as it is one of vital importance it is worthy of serious consideration on the part of the cane growers of the state; and as it is the saccharine, not woody fibre and water which is bought and sold, it should be sold according to its value—it depending much on the quantity and quality of the accompanying solids not sucrose.

When acreage tonnage yields exceed say twenty-five tons per acre, with average years the sucrose output decreases as the excessive development is detrimental to the production of saccharine of high quality.

Wednesday, of last week frost, thin ice and sunshine later; Thursday partially cloudy; Friday, steady rain all day; Saturday, cold and cloudy; Sunday, heavy frost, thin ice and partially cloudy; Monday, variable; Tuesday, cloudy and colder, and Wednesday, cold and cloudy with indications of very wintry weather.

TERREBONNE.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week, as usual, has been behaving itself very badly. It has been warm and rainy all the week. It turned a little cold for one or two days and some of the people from the country reported a little sleet, but the change was of such short duration that the general tenor of the weather was not changed meteorologically. The first part of the week was good weather and some of our most thrifty cane farmers started planting cane, but on Thursday evening we were visited by a regular flood and a short stop was put to all farm work. There has been but little work done on the farm up to date and the outlook is getting to be a serious matter and is attracting the attention of the cane planter who realizes that it is high time for his cane to be planted. There has not been exceeding five days good plowing done in this entire section of country for the 1899 crop. If the weather was to clear up now, which it does not appear to be willing to do, the farmers would be thrown back at least twenty days in their farming and it would take extra exertion to catch up. They are all ready to work, just waiting for the rain to stop and the land dry sufficient for them to turn it over. The cane farmer was building high hopes from the present year's cane crop but those hopes have been nipped in the bud in some locations by the poor quality of the seed cane. The immense increased acreage that was provided and prepared for will fall short to a considerable extent on account of damaged seed cane. Considerable complaint has been made for the past day or two about bad seed and there is a possibility of further damage before they are able to plant. The general experience throughout the cane belt here is that cane in mat lay is damaged more than that in windrow, in fact the windrowed cane is, on a whole, very good. This damage to seed cane is attributed to the seed being put in mats or windrow before the cane was ripe, much of it being put up before any cold weather fell on it at all, and as the heat was much greater in mats than in windrow the matted cane suffered the most injury. Had the seed preserved well the acreage would have been more than doubled but as it is, it will be increased about 50% over last year. There is but little talk of a cotton crop as yet and it is believed that but little will be planted. All farmers who have been planting cotton heretofore are making preparations to put in a small rice crop. There is still a great deal of last year's cotton in the field throughout the parish. The rice acreage will be increased several hundred per cent over last year from the present outlook. Every farmer who has a place that will grow rice is preparing to put it to rice. The western part of the parish is quite active now in making preparations for

a crop, but they are handicapped the same as the cane planter, by too much rain. There is some talk of a large irrigating canal being built from Vermilion river west for a distance of ten or twelve miles. The survey was made last week and the prospects are fair for the building of the canal during the summer of 1899. Shreveport and Arkansas parties are at the back of the scheme and they mean business. A canal through the country where this one is proposed would open up one of the finest rice sections in the United States, and would be a money making investment.

Mr. Martin Bagley, of the Ramsey plantation, has been very sick for several days with pneumonia, but is reported better today.

Mr. J. Henry Putnam, of the Rose Hill, is transacting business in New Orleans this week.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The first month of the year which has just passed, left in its wake a record not often met with, in its storms of rain, frost, ice and sleet, with so few fair days; that, too, in a land proverbially smiling the year round under a semi-tropical sun.

Inquiring in relation to seed cane of its sound or unsound qualities, I find that reports are somewhat conflicting. The substance of the matter is, that a full authentic report cannot be got at until the time for planting arrives and the mats of seed cane are opened out to be inspected for planting.

The Planter's scribe is indebted to Mr. Robt. Storm, superintendent of the big Meeker sugar factory, for late and much valued information relative to cane and the manufacture of sugar from the 1898 cane crop during the season ending there on the morning of the 22nd inst. With the single exception of one break-down which occurred soon after the manufacturing season opened, the machinery in all of its several parts worked to the entire satisfaction of the management and to those intimately concerned therewith.

He says that the storm occurring in September, 1898, left the cane very crooked. The consequence was that windrowing was practically in vain, as the cane was, even in the windrow, unprotected from the weather and its green condition rendered it furthermore especially susceptible to injury from the adverse weather prevailing the whole season. The consequence was that the cane, while at its best, had been practically unfit for making sugar and continued to get worse, and at one time it looked as if a large portion would have to be left in the field, but they succeeded in grinding practically every stalk for which they had contracted, although there was probably not one ton of

the 52874 tons ground which paid expenses, and especially so during the latter part of the season. The factory's loss was enormous. On the other hand, the cane growers in this section all netted considerable profit, far in excess of their earnings in any previous year. They have still the hot room full of seconds and when they are dried out this and next week, the sugar output (including thirds) will be about five million pounds, or about an average of 97 lbs., all sugars, to the ton. The past season has forcibly impressed upon them, as no doubt on all cane buyers, that cane in the future must be bought and paid for according to value in its sugar contents, instead of on the present system, which virtually puts a premium on quantity regardless of the quality of the cane for the production of sugars.

A number of prominent visitors called at Meeker during the grinding season. They were favorably impressed with everything connected with the big Meeker sugar manufacturing plant.

The Planter's scribe has been informed that Cheneyville will no doubt have a large barrel and stave factory built there this year. Great quantities of fine ash timber abounds in the Red River swamps in easy reach of Cheneyville. I learn it is the intention to cut this timber and convert it into barrel staves, but more and complete details will be given in later correspondence. At this point I wish to ask why is it that experts have not long since found a way or method by which bagasse could be converted into pulp and fashioned into barrels, buckets, tubs and other useful articles.

The Planter's scribe has also been informed that Mr. R. L. Jackson, Cheneyville, has in contemplation, the building of a round bale cotton press in his large Munger gin, which, if he does so, will be the first round press in Louisiana.

January departed cold, wet and cheerless.
ERIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Since the last communication to your paper we have been visited by an unbroken spell of the most distressing and disagreeable weather. Torrents of rain have fallen at intervals, a cold temperature prevailing for a couple of days with fog, dampness and an unhealthy atmosphere.

The roads which had heretofore dried up considerably, with the contractor's help, were becoming more practicable but have since been again abandoned and are in an indescribably bad condition.

From a short interview with one of our local planters, I heard that the plant cane was beginning to rot and if planting was not done very shortly a good many plantations would fall short of the necessary seed for this year's crop.

Mr. Louis S. Webre, of the lower part of the parish, has lately purchased the Belleview plantation in Iberville for the sum of \$8,000. The Gramercy Company managed by Mr. Spellman has leased to Mr. Christopher Roussel a larger part of the Hester plantation. This section has always been rented to Grand Point residents who devoted themselves to Perique tobacco cultivation but under its new tenant it will be planted entirely in cane.

We learned from the local Gazette that the Joseph Webre Company, Limited, and Webre-Steib Company, are newly organized associations, for the purpose of cultivating cane and manufacturing sugar from lands located in the Vacherie settlement, hitherto owned by Messrs. Joseph Webre & Company.

Mr. A. Schexnaydre, of St. John the Baptist, has obtained the position as manager on Sydney plantation, the property of Messrs. Graugnard Brothers.

Mrs. Clotilde Bourgeois, of Rapidan, spent last week in New Orleans, registering at the Hotel de la Louisiane.

CONVENT.

Sugar Possibilities in Florida.

Our analyses of cane during the growing season of 1898 have repeatedly shown samples running from 28 to 29 per cent of sucrose. The average of our entire crop when it was harvested, Dec. 5 and 6, was approximately 25 per cent of sucrose. This is really an astonishing fact and one worthy of careful consideration, as it unquestionably has an important bearing upon the future of the sugar industry in this country. When we bear in mind that the average content of Cuban and Hawaiian cane is about 19 per cent, and that the German manufacturer is content to secure 12 per cent of sugar from his beets, while the average sugar content of Louisiana cane is scarcely more than 12 per cent, the fact that there are methods of cultivation by which hundreds of thousands of acres in Florida may be made to produce heavy yields of cane containing 25 per cent or more of sucrose, it must be apparent that this fact is destined to have an important bearing upon any future development of the American sugar industry.

Thousands of acres of cane are being grown in Florida at present, mostly of course for domestic sugar and for syrup. That sugar is, however, to be an important production in the near future is certain and my experimental work is at present devoted almost entirely to this phase of the subject. We have just completed the erection of an experimental sugar plant and began running our mill yesterday. I am constantly in receipt of encouraging reports from different parts of the state, one of which bears directly upon this point. The letter is dated Hastings, Fla., Jan. 4, and the point of interest is as follows: "It now looks as though the cultivation of sugar cane will soon be one of the leading crops in the vicinity of Hastings. There are now within a radius of one mile of me, six cane mills and we have the assurance of the erection of a plant for refining the best grades of sugar below granulated, to be ready for next year's crop. The builder of the mill will himself plant 60 acres of cane and others from 10 acres up."

I have numerous letters from many parts

of the state from individuals who assert that next year they will individually grow from 10 to 100 acres and at least two large concerns are now contemplating the erection of plants and the cultivation of thousands of acres of cane for sugar production.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Referring to the foregoing statement copied from the American Agriculturist, one stands amazed. It does seem that with a sucrose content of 25% at least 18.66% extraction or 373 pounds should be made; this would give at the rate of 25 tons cane per acre, 9325 pounds sugar per acre.

Now we know that some plantations in Hawaii produce the modest output of 12 tons of sugar per acre, and when the statement goes so far as to say Florida on the 30th parallel can exceed Hawaii it staggers one's imagination, especially one who has a knowledge of sugar. The great wonder is that sugar capital seeking investment has not been aware of Florida's possibilities.

The Disston Company drained a large body of land at St. Cloud, Osceola Co., Fla. They erected there a modern sugar factory, equipped with a powerful double mill, with a large steam, evaporating train, double effects, a 9-foot vacuum pan, granulator, and Hepworth machines and a splendid boiler and bagasse burner system. The highest extraction in sugar was 170 pounds per ton. This does not come up quite to Mr. Thompson's 204 per ton in Louisiana.

When these celebrated muck lands were drained, the sugar producing world were told that they would soon produce all the sugar needed for the U. S., and what has been the result. A company fortified with abundant capital has been unable to make a success of sugar growing on these much vaunted muck lands.

Sugar is no new thing in Florida. Senator Yulee of Florida, owned a plantation at Hornasassa before the war. Chief Justice Taylor's father had a sugar plantation in Marion Co., on some of the finest hammock land in the state, and if I do not mistake, Mr. Coffield, late owner of Point Houmas, in Ascension had a plantation in what is now Manatee county, Fla., and he abandoned the lands and moved the negroes to Louisiana. Now these are results. All these enterprises have been abandoned; not for want of ability or capital surely. The writer was on St. Cloud in Sept., 1895, and there was about an aggregate of 75 acres of cane scattered over an immense area of land, and Mr. Smith, the vice-president of the Disston Company was then there and offered the writer the munificent salary of \$30.00 a month to manage the place. He then had a flexible schedule of prices per tonnage based on the price of sugar in Philadelphia and also on the sugar content of the cane, and was trying to tenant the plantation, and sell the mules to the tenants. This action recalled forcibly to the mind of the writer the refrain of the darkey who worked on shares—"aught

is aught and five is a figger; all for de white man, none for de nigger." The company were hedging in so as not to sustain further loss—why?

Now when one who has a knowledge of sugar operations, sees such remarkable statements as to possibilities for sugar in Florida, it alarms him. I have been told on what I consider reliable authority, that cane grows 90 feet long in the Everglades (now that staggers me.) I have been largely over tropical America, and have never seen anything like it. From 6½ to 7 feet is about the length of cane in the tropic, and once in the valley of Bom Success, in the Organ Mountains, the writer saw a field of 250 acres of cane, worked by gentlemen from Louisiana, that would average 9 feet for mill. But if cane in Louisiana grows about 6½ feet for mill and gives 150 pounds per ton (more or less) Florida cane in the Everglades, with a sucrose content of 28% ought to make $15 \times 20 = 300 \times 150 = 45,000 \times 2\frac{1}{2} = 112,500$ pounds of sugar per acre.

Now that will stagger most men who know something about sugar.

It would seem that cane so rich in sugar, would be sold sticks of candy, and one would need no apparatus to granulate it; all that would be necessary would be to pack it in barrels and just cut off a piece and stir it around.

It also strikes one that a Polariscope that gets up 28% must be a double action refractor. Especially on the 30th Parallel of Noth latitude.

LAKE BUDDY.

San Antonio, Fla.

Personal.

Mr. L. F. Suthon, of Houma, La., was a guest of the Royal one day last week.

Mr. E. R. Munson, of Assumption parish, came up to town last Sunday and stopped at the Grunewald.

Hon. Andrew H. Gay, owner of the Union and St. Louis plantations, was at the St. Charles on Wednesday. Mrs Gay was with him.

Hon. R. R. Barrow, of Terrebonne parish, and Mrs. Barrow spent several days in the city during the past week, residing at the Hotel Grunewald while here.

Judge Taylor Beattie, of Lafourche, jurist and sugar planter and skillful at both professions, was in New Orleans on a visit a few days ago. He registered at the Grunewald.

Mr. John Shaffer, one of the most widely known sugar planters in Louisiana, was enjoying a little recreation at the St. Charles this week, after the arduous labors of the grinding campaign. Mrs. Shaffer accompanied him.

Mr. O. M. Nilson, proprietor of the Lillywood place, down Vermillion way, which was formerly known as the Perry plantation, was at the Grunewald last Monday. Mr. Nilson is about to make some extensive improvements on his place.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, January 14, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In the Western and Southern part of the German empire the monotony of the weather prevailing for a long space of time has been interrupted finally, but the change has been by no means for the better, rain and snow-storms with subsequent inundations causing much damage in different places. But the sections which were the scenes of these disastrous phenomena are not the beet districts, properly called so. There are some beet sugar factories distributed over the province in question, but the tracts dotted with factories extend more from the central to the eastern part of the country and those quarters did not experience any change. The abnormal meteorological conditions are prejudicial to the physical condition of the soil, which is getting cloddy instead of being cleared by a good frost. Besides this strange kind of winter, or no-winter at all, involves the possibility of, or rather probability of, late sowings, partly because of the cold weather possibly getting in too late and thus delaying field work; partly because the present moist period taking the place of the winter and causing also an undesirable delay in effecting sowings. Any way the agriculturist is little satisfied with the climatic vicissitudes of this fall, and such is not only the case in Germany but in all central Europe which embraces the bulk of the beet growing districts of the continent.

Crop estimates seem this year to be subject to more or less important corrections, no matter from whom they have originated. The last fact in this line is the raising of the official figure of the estimated beet crop by 28,750 tons, so that it now amounts to 12,025,339 tons as against 11,996,589 tons as estimated at first. The addition, I understand, is due to one factory having started only in December, whilst the inquiries have taken place in the month of November. Other items of the late statistical review go to show that German exportation and consumption continued satisfactory.

Let me also say a few words with regard to the importation of sugar into England during the year 1898, the more so as the figures compare quite favorably with those of 1897. There have been imported 821,000 tons of refined, 259,266 of cane and 475,379 tons of raw beet sugar, the whole, in raw value, equal to 1,646,833 tons; whilst the corresponding figures of last year were 791,605 tons, and 251,595 and 426,076 tons respectively and the amount in raw value has been 1,557,172 tons; so that last year's import was larger by 89,660 tons as against that of 1897. It must be borne in mind, however, that last year's figures, although much in excess of those of

1897 are not the highest, inasmuch as in 1895 1,655,724 tons, raw value, have been imported. But notwithstanding last year has been essentially more favorable than any of the preceding years and this on the ground that it developed the highest consumption Great Britain has ever had, viz. 1,590,720 tons as against 1,529,942 tons in 1897 and 1,522,987 tons—all raw value—in 1895. In this connection the remarkable fact may be noted that the importation of refined amounted to 94,095 tons of a total import of 160,915 tons raw value, which leads to the conclusion that the exporting nations of the continent are making efforts to replace the export of raw sugar by that of refined, basing themselves thereby on the quite correct theory that it is economically nonsensical to export or import impure goods and pay the freights for valueless substance, which are contained in raw sugar prior to its being refined. It seems, however, that the market is glutted with refined goods at present which partly may account for the dullness of trade, the refiners being overstocked, both with ready and raw material, so that the refiners can afford to keep aloof from the raw sugar market.

The tenacity of the English in pursuing certain aims, is, it must be admitted, something startling. Law abiding on one side, but unflinching on the other side, they never rest until they have reached their object or until the absolute impossibility and abortiveness of their efforts is demonstrated beyond the least doubt. Evidently the abolition of the sugar bounties is far from being classed by the English public, having an interest in the question, among the impossibilities. After the sugar bounty conference at Brussels had turned out to be a total failure, one should have thought that for some time at least the agitations for the suppression of the bounties would rest until there were palpable reasons to believe, that the attitude of the two powers—France and Russia—who, by their non-concurrence, created an obstacle to the success of the conference, had changed. But with Englishmen agitation against bounties has become customary and they have little care as to whether the meetings or resolutions held and taken for the purpose are opportune or not. If I speak of Englishmen, I mean of course, only those interested in the sugar trade. The public at large is very little concerned in the question and this accounts also for the so called inactivity of the English government, reproached by the late meeting on the 9th inst. Besides the meeting demanded that the government should endeavor to bring about a convention of the European beet root countries except in France and England, to pledge themselves to pay no bounties, which proposition is just as hopeless as any other scheme brought forward in this now almost thirty years war of the bounties.

On the markets nothing of interest has

happened. The business is dull and prices pursue a declining tendency although there are no material differences between the quotations of this and the preceding week. In Magdeburg actual 88 per cent sugar lost 5 pfennigs and is now worth M. 10.25—10.40, and delivery January fetched M. 9.425 f. o. b. Refined was inactive, but holders offer only sparingly.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Porto Rico.

Fajardo, Porto Rico, January 5th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the closing month of the year has been very irregular and unsettled, much unusual rain falling at the end of the month and continuing up to date, when we look for bright days and sunshine.

The fall for the month was 9.27 inches, and for the year, 122.03 inches; the latter considerable below the average for the past three years. The mean temperature for the year, 76.3, equal to nearly 20 Centigrade.

Canes planted during the early part of last year suffered very considerably from the extreme dry weather of last April, and never properly recovered, but in this district younger canes are looking particularly well, and it is only occasionally that one meets a field of poor canes. Some activity is now being displayed at nearly all the estates, preparing for the coming crop, but no one is expected to start actual operations till the first week in February. There seems an opinion in the states that there is an unlimited amount of cane land in the island, only waiting for some one to come and take it up. This is far from being the case. All land suitable for cane is in the hands of people who are fully aware of its value, but are unable to work it only from lack of sufficient funds and for this reason they are willing to sell outright, lease on long terms, or plant canes for any one who will erect central factories.

There are plenty of good lands to be got on the same terms, but persons coming down should come prepared to establish their identity because there are many people here simply looking for "specs," and we do not care to put our lands in the hand of adventurers who are going home to see if they can get anything out of a deal, leaving us tied up for a period with "first refusals."

Most excellent coffee lands in the new district at the N. E. of the island are to be had at moderate prices, and most of the present owners are willing to sell, as they are unable to put in enough money to do the necessary work, and money cannot be raised in the island now.

Many reforms are being carried out by General Guy V. Henry, who, for this reason is popular with those who are not yet acquainted with him, whilst those who know him never tire of lauding him for his many good qualities. We have every reason to

be quite satisfied so far as things have gone. We are very unsettled as yet over the financial question, for we do not know how much our peso will be worth to-morrow; neither do we yet know on what grounds trade with the United States will be conducted. Are we going to pay duty on our sugars and other products? And how long is the Military Government going to last. We have little to say against the latter, but we know that we may expect little American capital in whilst this lasts. Why? We do not know.

We have many things to complain about yet, and whilst willing to believe that all things come to those that wait, we do not consider ourselves treated well by the U. S. Postal authorities, who, it appears to us, allow too many steamers to come down without forwarding our mail. For example, 14th of Dec. to 5th of January, is a long while to be travelling from N. Y. to Porto Rico, and so is from 8th Dec. to 1st. of Jan. from New Orleans, especially when we consider that the paper that took so long was the Louisiana Planter. UBIQUE.

British Honduras.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Toledo, B. H., Jan. 23, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

This colony is in such a state of depression at present that most every industry seems paralyzed. The consumption of sugar has fallen off to a noticeable degree, and several sugar plantations have been compelled to abandon operations, and others who are trying to survive are seeking a market on the Spanish Central American coast. But it is rather a discouraging outlook as it is barely possible to realize as much as 3 cents net per pound, and anything under 3 cents hardly pays with our present process of making sugar, and the hope for an improved process is slim as there is not enough sugar consumed in the colony to support what would be considered a small modern improved plantation. At the present time I don't think the consumption of the whole colony of British Honduras can possibly exceed two million pounds per annum, and will probably fall considerably short of that amount, and while this amount would scarcely be considered a decent crop for a modern improved plantation, still it is divided up between no less than twenty small ranches. So if consumption does not increase or prices improve it will be practically impossible for them all to continue working.

The crops this season are tolerably good and if the season is fairly good so that it will all be worked up the yield will be about as usual. There are no improvements in machinery being made this year. Neither are any planters increasing their acreage; they seem to think if they can hold their own they will do well. Laborers are plentiful, as mahogany cutting has almost ceased. Wages are about as usual, but advances are

smaller than usual, consequently there was less drinking than usual. Up to the present time the season is unfavorable for grinding operations, the weather being very rainy. Planters are, however, hoping for good weather by the first of next month.

TROPIC.

Prospect in Porto Rico.

The people of Porto Rico are looking forward to prosperous times. They have unlimited confidence in American capital, and expect to see many new enterprises developed as the political situation becomes settled. The first development will naturally be in transportation facilities. The thriving appearance of the Pan-American Express Co. is a sign of what may be expected. Steaming facilities by water between the different ports are needed, and the neglected railroads can be developed into valuable properties.

Porto Rico is the most productive and most densely populated of all the Spanish West Indies. In addition to the staple products of coffee and sugar, all the tropical fruits grow in abundance, and the large variety of hardwoods will no doubt prove valuable attractions for investment in the island. The climate is tropical, but healthy; the average temperature is about 80 degrees, but the trade winds temper the hottest days.

"Essentially the island is agricultural," says the New York World. "It produces more than enough food for its own people, and vast crops of sugar and coffee for exportation besides. By the last census it contained sixty-six tobacco farms, 240 cattle farms, 361 large coffee estates, 433 sugar estates, 4184 small coffee farms, 4376 farms devoted to miscellaneous cultivation, 16,988 small fruit farms and eight plants for grinding sugar cane. It has a large stock of small but hardy horses. Domestic poultry is plentiful. In 1896 it exported 54,000 tons of sugar, 26,000 tons of coffee, 3178 head of cattle, 14,700 tons of molasses and 1000 tons of tobacco.

"The island has 137 miles of railroads in operation, and 119 more miles built, but not in use—part of a road designed to completely encircle it. The latest Spanish figures of Porto Rico's commerce state its annual imports at \$16,000,000 and its exports at \$14,600,000.

"The industries of Porto Rico are limited to the preparation of the sugar and coffee for market, the manufacture of tobacco, wax, soap, matches, rum and straw hats, and three foundries for the manufacture of iron machinery.

"The total population, by the last census, was 806,708, of whom all but 5745 were native-born. The whites numbered 480,267, the colored people 248,690, and the blacks 77,751. The whites heavily preponderate over the combined black and colored people. Of the whole population, less than 100,000 are able to read and write. Seven-eighths of them are illiterates.

"The native people are divided into four classes: The better class of creoles, who call themselves Spaniards; the lower class of peasantry, called Gfbaros; the colored people, or Mestizos, and the blacks.

"Porto Rico's chief cities are San Juan, Ponce and Mayaguez, and it has over fifty smaller towns which are the centers of such business and social life as the interior of the island has.

"All the towns are built on the same plan, with ornately-colored, stuccoed houses, with red-tiled roofs, usually narrow streets, and always a central park or plaza, with gardens, benches and promenades facing the Cathedral."

The seaport city of Mayaguez gives promise of being the future metropolis of the island. It is already a very progressive city, and being located on western end of the island is somewhat nearer the United States than is San Juan or Ponce. The hot and cold springs near by will make it desirable as a winter resort for Americans. The iron landing pier already built could be readily made into very valuable property and a short railroad could be built from it into the country back of Mayaguez, thereby making an outlet for the many plantations there. At present the coffee and other products are hauled by ox teams. The harbor is large and commodious, but is protected principally by reefs, so a breakwater would be necessary to make it a perfectly quiet harbor.

San Juan is the banking center, and, being the seat of government, will, at least, hold its own. The harbor is quiet and safe, but not large, and on the few occasions of strong north winds is hard to enter on account of the heavy sea on the bar.

Ponce is a commercial center, but the harbor is open to southerly winds, and the city is three miles back from the port. At present it would seem as if Mayaguez were destined to be the most progressive of the three cities. Porto Rico will be a good market for manufactures from the States.—Manufacturers' Record.

Barbados.

The last week in December was decidedly juicy, every scudding cloud as it swept past emptying itself on the land; the old year as it were swept itself out in useful atonement for its many mishaps. Planting operations have been actively pushed on under the favoring showers, and already in many fields the tender bladelets are pushing themselves up several inches above the soil, while some of the earlier planted begin to make a brave and uniform show. With a little more sunshine perhaps the spring would have been regular, while in the bottoms and low-lying lands there has been some loss from excess of moisture, the plants becoming sodden and water-logged. This loss is, however, trifling, and as the soil is thoroughly moist supplying can rapidly follow on, central rainfall for December being 1898, 6.39 inches; for

six days in January, 1899, 52 parts. The bulk of our crop for the new century will be derived from White Transparent, and number 147; the spread of the latter favorite being only limited by the supply of plants; but two other seedlings seem to be rapidly coming into favor, a Demerara seedling raised by Professor Harrison and introduced here, we believe, by Mr. Thorpe of Lowland Estate, Christ Church. It came up from Demerara with a reputation of 16½ per cent sucrose, which, under our conditions of soil, has increased to 17 per cent a promising youngster of whose performances we shall probably hear more anon. The other is number 109, a Dodd's seedling, which, as often happens to promising youngsters, was little thought of at first; however, in the fat St. Phillip lands of Bushy Park it yielded last crop 2½ tons per acre, and its growth on the same estate this year is said to be prodigious; this St. Phillip seedling seems to be well suited to the soil of its native parish, beyond which its reputation has not yet spread, the trial on the highlands, so far, not being very satisfactory. The conditions of soil vary so much in our island that we now almost require a cane of special habit for every district, the variety that does well in the highlands fails in the lowlands, and vice versa, black soil suits one, the red soil another, and we look in vain for an all round cane which, like the Bourbon, can disregard minor differences of soil and altitude, and produce sugar with equal facility wherever grown; in that rare adaptability lay the value of the Bourbon.

The old crop could not but improve under the genial influence of the Demerara shower, and we may happily record that the old canes are still growing, still adding a few joints more, never one too many, to the sum total of the year.

We have much to be thankful for in the marked recovery of the canes from the effects of the storm, for on that memorable morning it looked as if we should have no crop at all, but it is probably true as many planters estimate that not less than 20 per cent of our crop has been cut off. The remarkable growth of new foliage has tended considerably to mask the damage. Looking over the fields the eye fails to detect any break in the green continuity; yet, we feel quite sure, that within the solidarity of those broad squares of green, many a goodly cane lies low, rotting on the ground, or vainly waiting its saccharine vigor in useless, sappy shoes from every eye. Until we cut into the fields it will be impossible to estimate the real size of the hole which the storm winds have made in our year's loaf. But there has been on the whole such steady improvement, such recuperative power—proof that our planters understand their business, and have dealt wisely and generously with the soil—that there is every reason to hope the old century will leave us with an average number of tons as our con-

tribution to a crop which ought to be, next wheat, the most valuable of earth's food stuffs, in general use, and constant demand both for man and beast.—Agricultural Reporter, Jan. 7.

Demerara.

Our advices to January 5th indicate a dull market at the close of the year with a sale as low as \$2.35. The crop of 1898 now shows a total of about 127,000 long tons against 122,000 tons in 1897.

"Expansion" and Sugar.

Mr. R. S. Dare, publisher, Swarthmore, Pa., sends us a pamphlet by Mr. Freeman Stewart, entitled "Shall we grow the sugar that we consume?" The gist of the matter, so far as sugar production is concerned—for Mr. Stewart takes up the question of free-trade or protection in general—is given in the following extract:

"It certainly behooves Secretary Wilson, as the official representative of agriculture in the present administration, to explain how it is that the protection of the home manufacture of beet sugar being (as he alleged) so essential to the welfare of our agriculturists in the winter of 1898, the complete nullification of that protection by the annexation of all the chief cane sugar producing countries of the world (except Cuba, perhaps) as now proposed and in part accomplished in the autumn of the same year, is not injurious to agriculture. Of course it is quite possible that he has persistently and consistently opposed in cabinet councils this new policy, which, unless he has changed his convictions, it would seem impossible for him to regard other than as a complete betrayal of our agriculturists. But if he, with the other members of the administration, have changed their convictions in regard to the beneficence of the exclusiveness on which the successful working of the protective system necessarily depends, it is clearly very important that the public should be informed definitely to that effect."—Country Gentleman.

Trade Notes.

The Hohmann & Maurer Mfg. Co. and Trade Marks.

Many manufacturers devise one or more trade marks, brands or labels, which by their continuous use in connection with their products become distinguishing marks to the purchasers thereof, and acquire a certain value proportioned to the demand for the article so marked or branded, and their relative standing with competitive goods in the market. The more fortunate manufacturer in any special line who has succeeded in reaching a high plane of reputation for his product, is the one most likely to suffer through having his patterns, labels or trade marks copied or imitated. We have been advised that the Hohmann & Maurer Manufacturing Company, of Rochester, N. Y., and No. 85 Chambers St., New York City, has ob-

tained a perpetual injunction against Charles J. Tagliabue, of No. 53 Fulton St., New York, and others, for the use of any designating mark or brand upon thermometers or kindred goods, upon which the letters "H. & M." are conspicuously displayed. This company's goods have been on the market and known for years as the H. & M. thermometers. This designating term, so readily applied by the trade was some years ago incorporated into a trade mark, and has ever since been the distinguishing mark for their goods. With the increased consumption of high grade thermometers for manufacturing purposes, it acquired in the estimation of the H. & M. Co., a considerable value, and being so simple and commonplace in design, was a temptation for others to make use of in a slightly modified form. In the above mentioned suit, we are told that a perpetual injunction is granted with damages and costs. The H. & M. goods are advertised in this journal.

Galvanized Corrugated Roofing.

Regarding the desirability of galvanized corrugated iron roofing, the Cincinnati Corrugating Company of Piqua, Ohio, in one of their pamphlets, state that galvanized corrugated iron is sold to-day at lower prices than painted iron sold for five or six years ago, and in consequence they have experienced an unusually large demand for the galvanized iron. The company are making a specialty of galvanized corrugated roofing and will cheerfully quote prices upon application.

Personal.

Col. John R. Gheens, of Lafourche parish, was in town Wednesday. He stopped at the St. Charles hotel.

Mr. J. B. Bateman, of Franklin, La., was among the recent visitors to the City. He stopped at the Hotel Royal.

Mr. H. Shelby Sanders, of Bayou Teche, a well posted sugar man who knows his business from end to end, was in town Sunday.

Mr. George Dionne, of Thibodaux, was registered at one of our leading hotels during the past week. Several members of his family accompanied him.

Mr. Arthur Tarby, of Pattersonville, where he handles the proof stick at Mr. Daniel Thompson's Calumet place, was a guest of the Royal on Tuesday last.

At the Lafayette refinery of Messrs S. Gumbel & Company, the manager this year was that well posted sugar house Supt., Prof. L. Von Tresckow, who has managed some of the largest and best equipped places in this state. Mr. A. B. Denbo, another valuable man, was the book-keeper.

Mr. F. A. Lepine, of the large sugar planting firm of Barker and Lepine, whose fine plantation near Raceland is one of the best in the state, was an arrival during the past few days at the Hotel Royal. He was accompanied by Mrs. Lepine, and has well earned a few days of recreation in town.

BEEET SUGAR.

Chino, California.

Farming operations are now occupying the attention of the farmers, who have every reason to look forward to a prosperous, growing season. The past week has given ideal farming and growing conditions, and everybody is busy and happy.

Mr. Hache, agricultural superintendent of the sugar factory, tells us that he will contract for 10,000 acres of beets for the supply of the factory this year. Of this, from 4,000 to 4,500 will be planted on the Chino ranch and including some 300 acres to be contracted by the Chino Estate Co., near Basett. The balance will be planted between Florence and Santa Ana.

Planting will not commence until about the middle of February—the usual time. The sugar company will, however, in a day or two plant some experimental patches of beets on alkali land, to determine whether a better stand cannot be secured on this land before the close of the rainy season. Mr. Hache's theory is that when the seed is planted late the evaporation brings the alkali to the surface, injuring the young plants. Whereas if planted early, the rains keep the surface of the soil free from alkali until the beets get past danger from this source. These experiments will be carried forward until a definite conclusion is reached as to the advisability of planting quite early on alkali lands.—Champion, Jan. 20.

Lehi, Utah.

When the factory starts up next season it will look almost like a new mill. Messrs. Cutler, Vallez, Ingalls and Austin have about decided on what is necessary before the next campaign starts and will have the work done as soon as possible. The boiler house will be repaired. The brick work will be torn down and the boilers inspected. The furnaces will be relined and new grate bars put in. The slicer will be raised and repaired. The battery will be made as good as new. A new exhaust line will be put in, new steam coils will be put in the heaters, new screens, new air cocks and thermometers. The first and second carbonation tanks will be enlarged so as to hold three tanks of juice and new exhaust line and valves will be put in. The gas pipes will be repaired and remodeled. There will be considerable change made on the presses. New tubes will be put in No. 1 evaporator. Steam coils will be put in three of the thick liquor tanks. The coils will be repaired in the vacuum pan and a pump and receiver put in place of the traps now used. The centrifugals will be repaired and some necessary work done on the granulator.

Besides all this several new improvements will be made. Two new horizontal boilers will be put in just west of the other boilers. There will be a new beet wheel, a beet conveyor and a complete new elevator. Battery pump, lime mixer, receiving tank for wash

syrup and two or three new beet sheds similar to the one built last year. These will be east of the present sheds and will be built at right angles to the old sheds so that water from the pond can be used in them. An entire new roof will be put on the main building. The osmose presses will be put on the ground floor. These will be enlarged and four new ones put in. The bone black filters will be turned into evaporators for the osmose. There will also be four tanks, one vacuum pump and two syrup pumps for the osmose. A laundry machine will be put in for washing filter cloths. A new electric plant will be put in or light secured from some other source. This matter is not decided yet.

All this means work for somebody and the factory will be a busy place next summer.—Banner, Jan. 21.

Wild Over Beet Sugar.

This truly expresses conditions in southern and central Michigan. Our farmers who raise sugar beets for the factory at Bay City, last season have done very handsomely from a financial standpoint and thousands of farmers all over the state are anxious to grow this new and profitable crop for 1899.

In addition to the two new factories in or near Bay City that are likely to be ready for the '99 crop, contracts have just been made with the Oxford Construction Co. to build and equip a magnificent 500-ton plant for the Detroit Sugar Co. at Rochester, Oakland Co. This plant is expected to consume from 50,000 to 75,000 tons of beets of the 1899 crop, and will contract for between 5,000 and 10,000 acres of beets. The factory is to have an ideal location for the delivery of raw material and for the marketing of its finished product. It is backed by the strongest and wealthiest capitalists in Detroit and promises to be a money maker from the start.

Numerous other factories are in contemplation. Besides the one at Caro another is pretty certain to be in operation this fall at Benton Harbor, probably also at Grand Haven. Several other places in this state are making strong efforts to get factories in time to work up the 1899 crop. Quite a number of additional factories will doubtless be established in time for the campaign of 1900.

Farmers throughout the state are convinced that the sugar beet is the new crop they have so long needed. In most of our enterprising cities and towns the value to the community of a beet sugar factory is thoroughly appreciated. Our capitalists who look into the industry are disposed to regard it favorably, especially as the state bounty is such as to insure each factory an ample supply of beets at a fair price both for the farmers and the factory. With such a supply of beets of the quality that Michigan can raise, it is merely a question of

proper management to make a beet sugar factory profitable to the capital invested. A good deal of money that has recently been made in copper mining and copper speculations will probably flow into this beet sugar industry, especially if congress provides for a continuance of the present tariff against imported tropical sugars.

There is a very grateful feeling toward American Agriculturist among Michigan farmers and others interested in the new business. We realize that the industry would not now be in anything like its present shape but for the remarkable work of this journal for the past few years. Our people are practically united against tropical annexation and desire to see the largest possible development of this industry here in Michigan instead of fostering the sugar trust's interests in the tropics.—American Agriculturist.

American Beet Sugar Factories.

We note that the German press rather ridicules the idea of Americans seeking capital in their midst to build beet sugar factories which in the end will become their serious rivals. Whether the idea meets with the approbation of a limited number of critics or not in no way prevents the continued flow of foreign capital to those centres of the United States where the sugar beet has been cultivated on areas of sufficient importance to assure investors a reasonable certainty as to results. The German impression appears to be that the Yankee has over-exaggerated the situation, and the few factories now working depend upon a Government bounty which will be withdrawn after the existing administration expires. It is important to call our readers' attention to the fact that there does not exist a bounty of the kind mentioned; it was withdrawn some years since. Several states do offer special encouragement for a limited number of years; the advantages, however, thus gained are not always appropriated. If they were the money realized by enterprising capitalists during its existence would bridge over difficulties arising after its possible withdrawal. If the beet sugar industry has not made the rapid strides expected, the blame should not be put on the unsuccessful efforts made, but to a series of setbacks, such as variable fiscal laws, wars, and now, worst of all, the extended colonial aggrandizement.—The Sugar Beet.

Sugar Patents.

The following is a list of all patents of interest to the sugar industry issued January 31, 1899, reported specially for the Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, patent attorney, Washington, D. C.

618,428. Candy-machine. W. J. Morrison and J. C. Wharton, Nashville, Tenn.
618,482. Confectionery-ornamenting machine. Thos. Robertson, Toronto, Canada.
618,814. Centrifugal machine. J. H. Darby, Brymbo, England.

RICE.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Changeable weather has been characteristic of the past week, and while there has not been the usual fall of rain, we have had more wet weather than we ever bargained for all the same, and it keeps the soil so wet that it is uphill business doing the ploughing, although considerable ploughing has been done between showers, and on some of the irrigated farms there is all the way from one to three hundred acres ploughed. Most of it has been done under difficulties, but farmers got tired of waiting for good weather to dry off the fields, so they started in as it was and so it goes, and will go for the next month.

While it is very unpleasant work, and hard for the teams, to plough when it is so wet, yet the land does not receive any injurious effects by this treatment, where the work is done so early, for the heavy rains dissolve the soil and it will not become hard when dry weather comes, as many suppose. But if it came off dry shortly after it was ploughed, then it would get hard and be very difficult to work up, but no one is looking for dry weather now, and some of the old settlers seem to think that we will have a wet season all through, and they predict a good rice crop for this season. The weather indicates rain at this writing, and a few of the farmers on the irrigated places will hardly like to see any more rain until they get through threshing; there is some threshing to be done on some of the irrigated farms, for it has been delayed to give the grain a chance to dry, but there is no dry weather for it this season. Canal work was resumed this week, but this work will not be carried on as extensively this season in some localities, as it was thought, so they will get through in good time. Well drilling has been hindered to a considerable extent, by the rain, but it is again going on and considerable will be done along this line during the winter and spring. In some localities new wells have been put down near the old ones put down last season, and water will be pumped from both wells this season with one pump, this will give double the quantity of water at no additional expense, and other farmers will follow this plan as soon as they can see a way clear to do so. Our well system is coming to the front faster than many looked for. The most convenient power used thus far, for raising the water from these wells, is the threshing engines, although gasoline engines give good satisfaction, but people often make a mistake by buying an engine with too small a capacity for the wells. They think if a ten horse power steam engine will run a pump satisfactorily, that a ten horse power gasoline engine will do the same, but it does not, from the fact, that a ten horse power steam engine will develop more power than it is rated and

this extra power is generally used when pumping, and a gasoline engine does not develop any more power than it is rated at, so there is a little loss in power when getting a gasoline engine of the same indicated power, and this should be taken into consideration when buying a gasoline engine. Rice has been moving briskly the past week, and considerable has gone into storehouse for a short time, but the mills are all running on full time, and the mills only buy about as fast as they work up the goods, with a few exceptions. This plan tends to keep a little rice moving all the time. The sugar refinery, at Lake Charles, will not be turned into a rice mill, as some one reported, but will be overhauled some and continue its work another season at the same old place. It has changed hands, and will be somewhat remodelled, and this may have given some one the impression that it would soon be a rice mill.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The demand of the past week was scarcely so active as hitherto; the falling away was fractional yet record is made thereof as possibly symptomatic of the long expected halt and desired reaction in prices. Holders say the lull is but temporary; that the trade is simply "taking a rest" after a season of prolonged activity. Another reason given for probable dullness, the next few weeks, is that many buyers are getting supplies under contracts closed during the last and early the current month. Prices are unchanged as stocks are light and nearly all arriving parcels going forward to destination as above stated. Advices from the South note steady demand at all points with prices firmly maintained. Reports from Louisiana are more encouraging; under clearing skies it is now believed that a considerable per cent of the crop still stacked in the fields may be saved and in good shape. If so, the forward supply will prove much larger than figured a few weeks ago, when practically total destruction was threatened. Even if the hopes of the most optimistic be fully realized the following are still patent facts: (1) The quantity is inadequate to meet known requirements; (2) prevailing prices are far below importing cost of equal grades in foreign. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that there should be a strong undertone to the market, especially in ordinary to fair grades. Cables and correspondence from England and the Continent note a lively current of business in both cleaned and uncleaned. The trade have seemingly dropped expectations of lower prices, and are now purchasing freely against probable needs of the next few months. The straitened condition of stocks in every direction is readily accounted for by the fact that the north of Europe received during 1898 about 640,000 bags (2 cwt. each) less than 1897 (when the supply was by no means up

to requirements). Now on the top of this comes the serious reduction of crop estimates in Burma and Siam. These may be in a measure offset by the enlarged crops of Bengal and Japan but it is said that exportable grades in both of the latter countries are limited and high average range of values likely to prevail at least through the current year.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 600,305 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 438,840 sacks. Sales, cleaned (est.) 140,205 barrels; last year 72,320 barrels. Good inquiry; market strong with upward tendency.

Talmage, Charleston telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 29,045 barrels. Sales, 22,650 barrels. Fair inquiry at former range.

A Big Rice Irrigating Plant.

Last September S. L. Johnson, of Jennings and Riverside, N. L. and S. L. Elkins, of Mayville, North Dakota, and others purchased about 4,000 acres of rice land for the North American Land and Timber Company, near the southeastern corner of the parish.

The purchasers incorporated themselves into an association known as the Mayville Canal Company, Ltd., and began immediately to make preparations to put out a large acreage of rice this season. Captain Thomas Lamont was given a contract to dredge a canal one and a half miles long from the stream the water is to be taken from. This work has been done satisfactorily. The actual work of building the overland canals is going on now. The work is being rapidly carried on with the latest machinery.

The North American Land and Timber Company is now engaged in delivering by barge a consignment of 50,000 feet of lumber which will be used in building pump-house, barns, warehouses and other needed buildings.

The gentlemen who own the plant have plenty of means and are putting in everything to insure a first-class irrigating plant.

The new project means much to Lake Charles and Calcasieu parish.—Commercial Tribune, Jan. 21.

Mill Farm Rice.

We are informed that Messrs. J. T. Hammock and D. C. Grout have contracted to put in 300 acres of rice on the Drew Canal at Choupique the coming season. There will be several thousand acres tributary to that canal in cultivation this season, for the first time.—West Lake Herald, Jan. 26.

E. J. Engman, Esq., a well-known and popular planter of Terrebonne parish, was an arrival at the Denechaud on Sunday.

Mr. George Kramer, of St. Mary parish, was a guest of the Commercial hotel during the week. Mr. Louis Kramer also registered at that hotel.

FEB. 3.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR.	Jan. 28.	Jan. 30.	Jan. 31.	Feb. 1.	Feb. 2.	Feb. 3.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.	
Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal	3 3/8 @ 4	3 3/8 @ 4	3 3/8 @ 4	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	— @ —	Steady.	
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Strict Prime.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	— @ —		
Prime.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	2 5/8 @ 2 11/8		
Fully Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	2 1/2 @ 2 3/8		
Good Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	2 1/2 @ 2 3/8		
Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	2 3/8 @ 2 5/8		
Good Common...	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	2 3/8 @ 2 5/8		
Common.....	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	2 3/8 @ 2 5/8		
Inferior.....	2 7/8 @ 3	2 7/8 @ 3	2 7/8 @ 3	2 7/8 @ 3	2 7/8 @ 3	2 7/8 @ 3	2 3/8 @ 2 5/8		
Centrifugal.									
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8		
Off Granul'ed....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	3 3/4 @ —		
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 3 7/8		
Off White.....	— @ 4 5/8	— @ 4 5/8	4 1/2 @ 4 5/8	4 1/2 @ 4 5/8	4 1/2 @ 4 5/8	— @ —	3 7/8 @ 3 3/4		
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice Yellow....	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ —	4 1/2 @ —	4 1/2 @ 4 5/8	3 7/8 @ —		
Prime Yellow....	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 3 3/8		
Off Yellow.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4		
Seconds.....	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8	2 1/4 @ 4	2 1/4 @ 4	2 1/4 @ 4	2 1/4 @ 3 7/8		
MOLASSES.									
Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		Steady.
Fancy.....	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ 30	— @ —		
Choice.....	25 @ 28	25 @ 26	25 @ 26	25 @ 26	25 @ 26	25 @ 26	— @ 18		
Strict Prime.....	23 @ 24	23 @ 24	23 @ 24	23 @ 24	23 @ 24	23 @ 24	16 @ 17		
Good Prime.....	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	— @ 22	14 @ 15		
Prime.....	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 21	— @ 13		
Good Fair.....	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	19 @ 20	— @ 12		
Fair.....	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 18	— @ 11		
Good Common...	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 17	— @ 10		
Common.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 10		
Inferior.....	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ —		
Centrifugal.									
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 10		
Strict Prime.....	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 9		
Good Prime.....	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	— @ 8		
Prime.....	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 7		
Good Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 6		
Fair.....	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 5		
Good Common...	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 5		
Common.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 4		
Inferior.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 4		
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	15 @ 16		

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Strong.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granul'ed.....	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	3.98 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	3.86 @ —	
Dutch Granul'ed	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 4.90	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.93	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.95	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	11s. 3d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 6d.	11s. 0d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	9s. 7 1/2 d.	9s. 7 1/2 d.	9s. 8 1/4 d.	9s. 9 1/4 d.	9s. 9 1/4 d.	9s. 11 1/4 d.	9s. 0d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Leaf.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 4 40	Strong.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 4 40	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 3 97	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 3 85	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Jan. 25	Tons	121,731
At four ports of Great Britain to Jan. 20.	"	72,000
At Havana and Matanzas to Jan. 25	"	13,540

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Feb. 3, 1899.				Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Feb. 3, 1899.			
	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Received.....	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	329	14,139	4,476	7,082	1,115,261	195,763	
Sold.....	329	16,120	4,894	7,082	1,108,152	194,978	
				Received same time last year	17,863	1,169,052	165,882

FEB. 3.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

RICE.	Jan. 28.	Jan. 30.	Jan. 31.	Feb. 1.	Feb. 2.	Feb. 3.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
ROUGH, per bbl...	1 80@4 35	1 75@3 50	— @4 50	1 50@4 00	1 50@3 50	1 00@4 25	2 00@4 25	Steady.
EXTRA FANCY....	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	— @ —	
CLEAN, Fancy....	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	5 3/4@6 —	
Choice....	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	
Prime....	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	
Good....	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	
Fair....	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	4 @4 1/4	
Ordinary....	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 3/4@3 3/4	
Common....	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	— @ —	
Inferior..	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	Nominal	
No. 2....	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	2 @2 3/4	
BRAN, per ton....	8 25@8 50	8 25@8 50	8 25@8 50	8 25@8 50	8 25@8 50	8 25@8 50	9 00@10 00	Steady.
PELLET, per ton....	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	16 00@17 00	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Feb. 3, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Feb. 3, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS RECEIVED.	BLS. CLEAN.	This year.....	SACKS RECEIVED.	BLS. CLEAN.
Received	7,859	432	.....	619,308	2,178
Sold	6,604	2,577	Last year.....	396,526	3,047

Sugar.

The local sugar market was strong at the end of the week and the offerings, which were somewhat limited, met with a ready sale.

Molasses.

Both open kettle and centrifugal goods were steady at the close of the week.

Rice.

The market was firm for the higher grades of rough rice at the end of the week, with offerings somewhat restricted. Low grades were easy and in plentiful supply. Clean rice was steady with a moderate business reported.

Sugar in London.

A public meeting of the anti-Bounty League was held at the Cannon Street Hotel, on January 10th, with Lord Stanmore in the chair. The proceedings resolved themselves into an expression of regret at the failure of the Conference held in Brussels last year, and a declaration of the line of policy to be followed in the coming Parliamentary session. No new features were presented, and, indeed, it would be difficult to make any addition to the well-worn aspects of the case. With so praiseworthy an object in view, however, as the abolition of sugar bounties, it would be out of place to quarrel with the means proposed by the various speakers, which again included the imposition of countervailing duties, but one would have thought that the small measures of momentary relief granted by the government last year must have opened the eyes of those were prepared to do something more than threaten the infliction of penalties on bounty-giving nations. Countervailing duties in this country are, however, impossible, and where they have been imposed, as in America, for the express purpose of fostering a home industry, they have only had a partial effect in checking the importation of

bounty-fed sugar. The extraordinary disproportion nowadays of the production of beet sugar to that of cane was also commented on at the meeting referred to, and while this is undoubtedly the case, it is also probable that the difference is now at its widest, as, although there are no signs of any falling off in the production of beet sugar, there are strong symptoms of a large increase in cane growth, notwithstanding that prices have fallen to a point which would have been regarded as absolutely ruinous a few years back. Is not the reason of the comparative smallness of the cane production partly due to the fact that the planters throughout the world were slow to follow the close attention and scientific methods of the European beet grower? Now, when the real pinch of competition has made itself seriously felt, there is a commendable anxiety shown by cane growers to set their houses in order, and given fair crops, and with the distinct preference shown by all foreign countries, apart from Europe, for cane sugar, there appears no reason why it should not hold its own. At the present time, and for some months past, the value of the latter has been firmly maintained at relatively a much higher price than that of raw beet, and not only has the produce of the West Indies, Demerara, &c., been largely diverted from this country, owing to the better rates obtainable in America, but the demand for Eastern sugars, such as Penang and other kinds, has largely increased in the far East, with the result that prices have substantially improved. The West Indies must, therefore, be regarded as distinctly unfortunate, notwithstanding that their two natural markets, England and America, represent the largest sugar-consuming nations of the world. Admitting that they have had to accept at times in common with other countries, very low prices, it is noteworthy that large cane-producers like Java and Egypt should not only be able to weather the storm and stress of extremely keen competition, but should attract capital year by year for the extension of an industry which, in the West Indies, is with much regret regarded by some as being in its last throes,

but which, it is hoped by all, whether directly interested or not, will long live and flourish.

The raw market this week has been mostly in a dull state, temporary firmness being given to it by a small purchase of sugar for shipment to America. It is evident, however, from the steady demand from the retailers that they are not overdone with stocks, and the present cheapness of most kinds of sugar cannot fail to attract a certain amount of extra business. Cane kinds have been dull of sale, and a large cargo of low brown refining sugar has been sold within the last few days at a moderate price. Grocery crystallized has also been in small demand, owing to the relatively high price at which this sugar still stands and, although a sharp decline in value has taken place, a further fall must occur before dealers in these kinds will have any confidence. The imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 12th inst. amounted to 1,776 tons, and for this year 1,943 tons against 1,496 tons in 1898.

Cube Sugar.

A French engineer, Mr. Robin Langlois, says the Paris correspondent of the London Times, has just invented a process, described by the French scientific review *La Nature* as very simple and inexpensive, for transforming rapidly into cubes or square blocks possessing absolutely the external appearance and properties of refined sugar all raw sugar made from cane or beets, hitherto whitened and purified by the methods at present in use in the factories of the world. Under the new process the transformation of raw sugar into refined sugar takes only a few hours while in the refineries to-day it requires from 15 to 16 days.—Demerara Chronicle.

Mr. Bradish Johnson, of New York, registered at the St. Charles on Tuesday.

Mr. Wibray J. Thompson, of Calumet plantation, Bayou Teche, was in the city on Tuesday.

Gov. H. C. Warmoth and family were in town during the past week, and stopped at the St. Charles hotel.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 26 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 100, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—A second-hand steam boiler. About 20 H. P., and a second-hand engine, about 8 H. P. Both in first-class condition. Address, giving price, C. A., care Louisiana Planter. 2-1-98

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 124 C. O. street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-10

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 24-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La. 18-99

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nossier, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, timekeeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish all references. Address "A. C.," this office. 1-9

WANTED—A young, unmarried man desires to secure a position on a sugar plantation. Has had experience as clerk, overseer and other general work. Honest, sober and reliable. Can furnish best of references. Is willing to work for a nominal salary. Address at once J. L. SLACK, Tallulah, La. 12-31-98

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 621 Du Maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of Cane. Best of references given. Address, M. E. W., Care Verandah Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-23-98.

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 6334 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—A young married man of small family desires a position in Puerto Rico as time-keeper or sugar weigher. Have had several years' experience in sugar houses; also a very good book-keeper. Can furnish best of references. Address C. B. S., care Baton Rouge Sugar Co., Baton Rouge, La.

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98.

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address: ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$30. Address F. E. C., Shady Side Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYEE, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as manager of sugar plantation for the coming year. Ample experience, highest recommendations as to capacity, sobriety and ability to handle labor. Address D. A. BLOUIN, Whitecastle, La.

WANTED—Position as manager or assistant on sugar plantation for the coming year. Long experience and first-class references. Address A. G., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Solms P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation, by married man, 33 years of age, sober, energetic and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 256, New Iberia, La. 12-5-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOPER, care First New York Beet Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-6-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 22, City Hall. 12-3-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1035 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address Mrs. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as manager for 1899, by a first-class man of experience and fine references. Will take an assistant and work very reasonable. Address E. W. CREIGHTON, Baton Rouge, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as second overseer or time-keeper on sugar plantation, for 1899. Address THEO. BAUDOIN, JR., Hahnville, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—A sugar house expert, who is now, and has been for the past five years, the head chemist for one of the largest sugar houses in Louisiana, is open for an engagement for coming crop in Mexico, Cuba or Central America. Will accept a position on any terms consistent with first-class work. Can furnish best of testimonials from present employers and from the University from which he graduated. Address LEDA, this office. 12-3-98

WANTED—By a young chemist with university education and one year's experience in large Louisiana factory, a position for Mexican or Cuban campaign. Address A. M., care Louisiana Planter. 11-30-98

WANTED—By a first-class sugar boiler, to go to Mexico, Central America or the Hawaiian Islands. Will furnish the best of references. Address MANUEL MELLO, No. 836 Bartholomew street, New Orleans, La. 11-27-98

WANTED—Position for next crop by an A. No. 1 sugar boiler. Is now employed on one of the largest places in the State. Would have no objection to living on the place and making himself generally useful. Is a good cooper. Address GEO. CODE, Belle Grove Plantation, Whitecastle, La. 11-25-98

WANTED—Position in this State or Mexico by an A. No. 1 sugar boiler who has references of the very first class. Address BOILER, 507 Chartres street, New Orleans. 11-9-98

WANTED—Chemist wants situation. Graduate of University of Michigan. Have had practical experience in the analysis of sugars and syrups. Am 25 years of age and unmarried. If necessary would be willing to go to the West Indies. Reference from former employer given. Address X, this office. 11-25-98

WANTED—Position as book-keeper and utility man in the country. Good references. Address COMPETENT, care Louisiana Planter. 11-21-98

WANTED—A position as book-keeper or manager of a country store by a thoroughly competent young married man with 14 years' experience. Would also open up and run a drug store in interest of employer. Can furnish A. No. 1 references. Address G. C. B., Donaldsonville, La. 11-21-98

WANTED—An expert sugar house man, as chemist or superintendent, is desirous of closing an engagement for coming crop in Mexico or Cuba. Has had six years experience on some of the largest plantations in Louisiana. Can bring references from present Central Factory, and testimonials from Dr. W. C. Stubbs. Those desiring the services of a thorough sugar house man, address OSCAR, box 574, Baton Rouge. 11-19-98

WANTED—Position as chemist in Mexico or Cuba for coming crop. Have had eight years experience and can furnish good references as to ability. Am at present employed at one of the leading sugar houses in Louisiana. Address CHEMIST, this office. 11-22-98

WANTED—An assistant sugar boiler at once. Address L. A. ELLIS, Sartoria, Tex. 11-17-98

WANTED—Position as assistant or head sugar maker. Can furnish first-class references. Address J. L. WIRTH, 1916 Toulouse street, New Orleans, La. 11-14-98

WANTED—Position as assistant overseer or time-keeper on a sugar plantation, for 1899. Married man 33 years of age. Address E. V. W., care S. C. Brodowski, 609 Sixth street, New Orleans. 11-15-98

WANTED—Position as butler by an experienced man. Good references. Will try to make himself useful in every way. Address EMILE TERRIE, 613 Chartres st., New Orleans. 11-15-98

WANTED—Experienced chemist, at present instructor in a large university in the Northwest, desires position in a warm climate. Best references. Address P. O. Box 1783, Iowa City, Iowa. 11-14-98

WANTED—By experienced man, situation as chemist in sugar house, in Mexico or Central America, for coming campaign. Good reference, sober, competent. Address CHEMIST, care of Glenwild, Berwick, La. 11-11-98

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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,
A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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No. 8.

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AND
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Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
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Texas Sugar Planters' Association.

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branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chem-
ical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	105 00	140 00
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The Effects of the Freeze.

The paralyzing effect of the great freeze of last week is gradually passing away as the weather grows warmer and the sunshine brings the cane fields into better condition. While the cold weather has been severer than any previous record its duration was very short and it is possible that because of this the general disaster apprehended last week has not materialized.

A careful examination of cane stubbles in sandy lands reveals the fact that they are now in good condition. Stiff land stubbles are still somewhat difficult of examination but we may hope that even they will be found to show up better than from the casual examination of them thus far made.

The reports concerning seed cane in windrow are generally satisfactory. The frequent disasters with seed cane saved in mattresses lead to the practical abandonment of that plan of seed cane saving many years ago. Those who saved their seed cane in that way now are fully aware of the incidental dangers and we have learned from some, even of these, that their cane in mattresses promises to turn out at least 1/2 of the expected quantity and possibly more. The seed cane in windrow, however, which is generally well covered with earth by plowing and hoeing, has been reported in good condition nearly everywhere that it has been carefully examined.

We do not wish to be understood, however, as arguing that the great freeze through which we have just passed has done but little injury to the Louisiana cane crop. The record of all great freezes in the past has shown a material diminution of the crop the following year. The most hopeful feature of the situation, we believe, was the short duration of the extremely cold weather and hence the low temperature may have done us less injury than the prolonged low tem-

perature at a higher level of previous seasons. A week ago it looked like a general disaster but now, with the sun shining and the fields drying and field work generally begun, it is manifest that while considerable injury has been done to the cane crop of Louisiana it is not nearly so serious as was then thought.

The Crop Situation.

The paramount question on the sugar plantations just now is, of course, the extent of damage wrought by the recent unprecedented freeze. After a careful consideration of the reports handed in by our correspondents we are drawn to the conclusion that considerable harm has been done, although there are numerous instances cited where the examinations made disclosed no apparent injury. The seed cane is generally conceded to have been in a poor state of preservation aside from any ill effects had on it by the cold, as the past few months have been so wet, and the cane itself being green and immature when put down in windrow. It is very likely that more seed cane will be lost through conditions other than those attendant upon the recent cold wave than was destroyed by the freeze itself.

The second year stubble has unquestionably suffered severely, and in many localities is regarded as practically worthless, while the first year stubble is, like a remote election precinct, "yet to be heard from." While there is every likelihood of its having been injured, many of our correspondents mention cases where it appears to have taken no hurt. Good weather is now the great desideration, and on the atmospherical conditions of the next few weeks much will depend—too much, indeed, for anyone to hazard positive predictions now relative to a plant like sugar cane which sometimes deceives the wisest.

Adulterated Cotton Seed Meal.

The agricultural page of a Maine newspaper recently contained a note of warning regarding the quality of the cotton seed meal offered in that state. The Maine Agricultural Experiment Station has taken up the matter and Prof. Charles D. Woods, director, states that the official Fall inspection of cotton seed meal offered had not given occasion for apprehension. His January inspection confirms the result of the Fall inspection and indicates that the state is remarkably free from low grade meal and that even the low grade meal is for the most part properly guaranteed.

Ninety-four samples of cotton seed meal have recently been analyzed at the Maine Experiment Station, most of which were drawn by the station inspectors, coming chiefly from the dairy sections of the state. From investigation it was found that practically all of the cotton seed meal sold in the state is up to the guarantee and the conclusion is that there is little likelihood of being deceived in quality.

From this we see how our agricultural confreres fifteen hundred miles away appreciate the merits of cotton seed meal as a fertilizer and are anxious to use it as their chief source of nitrogen. We should certainly appreciate the fact that we in the Gulf States have a considerable advantage in having this most excellent fertilizer in large supply at home without the large cost of transportation.

Sugar Beets and Sorghum in Ohio.

The Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station at Wooster has just issued a small bulletin concerning the recent experience of the station in the production of sugar beets and sorghum in Ohio during the year 1898.

It seems that the relatively high temperature of summer and the excessive rainfall at the close of the season forced the development of the leaf spot fungus of the beet, diminishing the sucrose in the beet. The sugar content for 1898 averaged but 11.4 as against 13.3 for 1897, and the purity for 1898 was 77.9 as against 78.7 for the year before.

The Ohio Station is still giving considerable attention to improved varieties of sorghum and has obtained from the National Department of Agriculture the

seed of several improved varieties grown last year at Medicine Lodge, Kansas, under the control of the Department. The station is endeavoring to secure experiments with this sorghum seed in the southern counties of Ohio where the sugar beet thus far has not succeeded satisfactorily.

Sugar Beets in New York.

The number of analyses of sugar beets made by the New York Agricultural Experiment Station during the season of 1898 is 343. This number includes beets grown under the direction of the Station and from seed which it furnished; also samples sent from the Commissioner of Agriculture, representing beets grown under the special care of his Department. Through some error the Station also received and analyzed a few samples of beets from the counties in which Cornell University is doing similar work. The results of this year's observations appear to be fairly satisfactory. The average percentage of sugar in the beets as determined from 343 samples is 14.2 with a coefficient of purity of 85. In general the yield of beets has ranged, in the experiments conducted by the Station, between nine tons and twenty tons per acre. A bulletin is now in preparation which will give a detailed account of all the experiments. Some interesting observations have been made concerning the influence of commercial fertilizers and also of farm manures upon the composition and growth of the beets.

German Colonial School.

A recent publication by the U. S. Department of Agriculture refers to the German Colonial School at Witzhausen, where Germany is endeavoring to educate men who intend to engage in industrial enterprises in her colonies. They are taught to become practical superintendents of estates and plantations, planters, agriculturists, stock raisers, and merchants for the German colonial possessions.

The course of study covers two years, and includes plant culture in general, the study of soils, climate and fertilizers, farm management, book keeping, mechanics, engineering, including bridge and road building, drainage and irrigation. Special plant culture, animal husbandry, dairying, and the culture and use of tropical plants, with much other incidental matter.

From all this we can see the earnest effort that Germany is making to give her young

men a good, technical education in the industries in which they contemplate engaging. Similar schools are maintained in Belgium and Holland.

As Americans we are apt to pride ourselves upon our splendid technical schools, but from this we can see that the same disposition towards advanced education is prevailing in all the great nations of the earth, and no matter how earnestly we may endeavor to attain high industrial position, others are striving with equal earnestness and unless we do the best we can and persist in it, we may be outstripped in the race for industrial supremacy.

The Manner and Method of Purchasing Sugar Cane.

Hohen Solms, P. O., La., Feb. 22, '99.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

We have read with much interest the several articles in the Planter on the subject, "The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane," and believing that the solution of this problem is vital to a very great majority of the people of this section of Louisiana, we think a full discussion of the same should be urged. It is a matter of regret to note that so little is said or being done by the cane seller. He is certainly mutually interested with the buyer. Some equitable conclusion must be arrived at whereby both classes can exist for neither can do without the other.

For the sake of argument, and as a matter of proof, that the time has arrived for some concert of action, we will admit that in years gone by the buyers may have had the best of existing arrangements, but who can deny that in the last season the seller had it all his own way. Should an arrangement be continued, that gives either an undue advantage of the other, contingent upon the weather or climatic influences? There is no denying the fact that the advisability and popularity of the central factory is growing in favor. But to sustain them the cane grower must be encouraged. Whatever profits there may be in raising cane and manufacturing sugar must in a manner be blended together, so that each may share therein. We are really in copartnership. Can any firm exist and prosper where one member makes money and the other loses. Now it is to the end of an equitable division of the profits that we have given our attention in formulating the plan we herewith submit for discussion.

We propose first to take the Sugar Exchange's weekly certificate of the price of yellow clarified sugar testing 96 degrees and second sugar testing 89 degrees as a basis to start upon; we then propose to pay to the cane seller per ton for his cane one-half the value of all first sugar produced, and the entire value of all the second sugar produced, at the price certified by the Exchange as above. This leaves us one-half of the first sugar and the molasses or the

third sugar should there be any. The general yield of the week's run to be used as the output of all cane; an advance of two dollars per ton to be made on each week's delivery, until conclusion of delivery, when final settlement will be made.

With a yield of 150 pounds per ton, 80 per cent of which is first and 20 per cent is second with yellow clarified sugar 96 degrees worth 4¼ cts., and second sugar 89 degrees worth 3¾ cts., the cane seller would receive three dollars and sixty cents per ton for his cane, and factory have left two dollars and fifty-five cents and whatever value there might be to the molasses or third sugar. Now under the old way we presume that prime Y. C. sugar would be worth 4¾ cts. which at 80 cents for each one cent value, would give the seller three dollars and fifty cents per ton, and so it would remain should the yield go to 175 pounds per ton, while with our plan with an increase of yield he would share in the prosperity, and with a decrease in yield he would carry his proportion of the burden. As the factory's profit depends upon the yield, so by this method, would the seller's profit depend upon the yield. He would thus be induced to properly fertilize his cane; endeavor to ripen it and see that it is properly cut. Now we do not claim that this system would reach any better results than by buying upon a sucrose test, but we do think it would meet more with popular favor, as there is a halo of mystery about a chemist, that the general average cane raiser does not understand. They now stand in dread of the cane weigher; how would they feel if thrown upon the mercy of the chemist? Whatever is done let it be mutual between buyer and seller and agreed to by all under compact of honor. Respectfully,

BELLE HELENNE PLT'G Co., LTD.

(A statement of prices of cane at different yields per ton and various prices for sugar will be published in a later issue.—Editor Louisiana Planter.)

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to the continuance of unfavorable advices from Europe and the United States, this market has ruled quiet and weak, the only sales made known during the week under review being of a few small parcels of special class centrifugal sugar, acquired by local dealers, at from 2 7-16 to 2 1-2 cts. lb., basis 95-96 test, and deliverable at the railway station, equivalent to 2 9-16@2 5-8 cts. lb. at shipping ports.

At the close prices may be nominally quoted at from 2 5-8@2 7-16 cts., basis 96 test.

According to latest advices from the country, most of the plantations in fit condition to grind this year, are now fairly under way and stocks are fast accumulating at our shipping ports; on this account, as soon as the situation of the market improves, buyers

will be able to select parcels at their convenience.

At Matanzas receipts of new sugars add up about 125,000 bags, mostly from factories "Conchita," "Feliz," "Flara," "Hicartita," "Mercedes," "San Cayetans," "Santa Filomena," "San Ignacio," "Socorro," "Valiente," "Union," and few others, whose proprietors have succeeded in organizing crop labor in satisfactory manner and are forwarding to Matanzas about 5,000 bags daily.

Grinding is also being vigorously pushed in the district of Cienfuegos, and the grand central factory "Constancia," is terminating its last preparations, testing its new machinery and receiving several hundred yoke of oxen, to start grinding.

"Altamira" and "Narelsa" at Yaguajay, in the district of Remedios, are already grinding and I specially mention these plantations because notwithstanding their being three of the largest on the Island and their being situated in the very focus of the insurrection, they suffered little or nothing from the war, owing to the guard their owners kept on them, at their own expense, during three and a half consecutive years, to protect them against both the Cuban insurgents and the Spanish soldiers; for this purpose, Messrs. Apezteguia Brothers, surrounded the "Constancia" buildings and machinery houses with a belt of forts, garrisoned by a force of 850 men, paid by them.

American capitalists are strongly interested in the sugar manufacturing business on this Island and to them belong the greater part of plantations in the Santa Clara province, which comprises the important sugar districts of Cienfuegos, Sagua la Grande, Calbarien, Remedios, Yaguajay and Trinidad.

In the Cienfuegos district are located factories "Caracas" and "Constancia" the largest in the world, since each of them can produce 35,000 to 36,000 hhds. of 1,500 lbs. sugar; both belong to Cubans; the first one to Messrs. Terry Brothers and the second to Messrs. Apezteguia Brothers. About one year before the war broke out an American syndicate was in treaty to purchase "Constancia;" but on account of the insurrection the sale could not be affected at that time and it is likely that negotiations to that effect will soon be resumed.

Amongst plantations owned by American citizens, the following are mentioned:

"Soledad," at Cienfuegos, owned by Mr. Atkins of Boston; "Hermigero," Cienfuegos owned by Pouvet Bros., N. Y.; "Constancia," at Sagua, owned by Perkins & Welsh of New York; "San Agustin," at Cienfuegos, owned by an American syndicate; "Leyqueitis," at Cienfuegos, owned by an American syndicate, of which the manager is Col. Murray. The value of these five plantations is calculated at seven million dollars.

The Havemeyers, of New York, Edward Atkins and others own large properties in the district of Trinidad; at Sagua is the plantation of Mr. Thorndike and Mr. Hemmingway, of Boston, "Santa Ana" and St.

George;" "Victoria," in the same locality, also belongs to an American. The value of American property at Sagua is estimated at over \$2,500,000.

At Porto Principe, American citizens hold sugar estates to the value of about \$1,500,000, and in the provinces of Matanzas and Santiago de Cuba, the value of property belonging to Americans was estimated over \$10,000,000.

Mr. Julius Hidalgo, senior partner of the firm of Hidalgo & Co. that formerly existed at this place together with the wealthy New York sugar refiner, Mr. Havemeyer, were establishing at Manzanillo a large factory when the insurrection commenced; the land had already been distributed amongst tenants, cane planted, materials for the buildings and part of the machinery received, when they were compelled to postpone till better times the execution of their project, and it is likely they will now carry it out.

It is a pity that American capitalists seem now to direct the best part of their attention towards tobacco in preference to sugar. The plantations named above have been for some time back the property of American citizens, and I am utterly unaware of their having purchased or started any others of late or of their intending to do so in the near future, whereas several large syndicates have been recently organized in the United States, to purchase and run for their own account, as many cigarette and cigar factories, and acquire the largest amount of tobacco-land, they possibly can.

It would seem that such parties are convinced that sugar manufacture is no more a paying business, owing to the sharp competition from all parts of the world. T. D.

U. S. Wholesale Grocers and Canners' Directory, With Brokers' List.

The Louisiana Planter has received the 1899 edition of this valuable compilation, which as its title indicates, gives a list of the wholesale grocers and canners of the United States with a list of all the brokers doing a similar business. It is quite a valuable directory to any one interested in reaching these merchants, or the brokers who are dealing with them. Copies can be obtained by addressing Mr. Austin Q. Millar, Minneapolis, price \$2.00.

The Calcasieu Sugar House.

Mr. J. B. Watkins, of Lawrence, Kan., promoter of many of Southwest Louisiana's industries, says that the Calcasieu sugar refinery at Lake Charles, which was sold at sheriff's sale recently will be operated by the purchaser in its present location. Mr. Watkins says: "The sugar cane industry in southwest Louisiana will be revived and with the investment of new capital, the installation of new machinery in the refinery as will be done, new life will be infused in the sugar industry out there. Cane will be purchased this winter and fields will be started at once. It will be impossible to get a crop next season, but it is the full intention to grow a big crop of cane in Calcasieu and Acadia parishes the season following and the refinery in Lake Charles will be in full operation."—West Lake Herald, Jan. 26.

The Smell of Earth.

The smell of fresh earth is so characteristic that when anything is pungently rural we say that it "smacks of the soil." In an article in *Knowledge*, G. Clarke Nuttall tells us that this odor is due to one of the many species of bacteria with which the soil swarms, though the agency of this organism in producing the smell is a recent discovery. Says Mr. Nuttall:

"What do we know about this characteristic smell of the soil? Can we regard it as the mere attribute of the soil as a simple substance, such an attribute as is, for instance, the peculiar smell of leather, or the odor of India rubber; or can we go deeper and find that it is really an expression of complexity below?

"Strangely enough this is the case, for the smell of damp earth is one of the latest signposts we have found which lead us into a world which, until recently, was altogether beyond our ken. It points us to the presence, in the ground beneath us, of large numbers of tiniest organisms, and not merely to their presence only, but to their activity and life, and reveals quite a new phase of this activity. A handful of loose earth picked up in a field by the hedgerow, or from a garden, no longer represents to us a mere conglomeration of particles of inorganic mineral matter, 'simply that and nothing more'; we realize now that it is the kingdom of plants, who are, in particular, members of the fungus family in that kingdom, plants so excessively minute that their very existence was undreamt of until a few years ago."

In a grain's weight of ordinary agricultural soil, Mr. Nuttall tells us, there are nearly a million of these little germs. A shovelful of earth contains eleven thousand millions—an almost inconceivable number. These germs are of various species and perform tasks of great diversity, such as rotting seed-husks that the seeds may grow, and assisting in the decay of waste matter. To quote further:

"But up to the present the fresh smell of the earth, the smell peculiar to it, has not been in any way associated with these energetic organisms, and it is quite a new revelation to find that it is a direct outcome of their activity. Among the many bacteria which inhabit the soil, a new one, hitherto unknown, has been just recently isolated and watched. It lives, as is usual with them, massed into colonies, which have a chalky-white appearance, and as it develops and increases in numbers it manifests itself by the familiar smell of damp earth, hence the name that has been given it—*Cladotrix odorifera*. Taken singly it is a colorless, thread-like body, which increases numerically by continuous subdivisions into two in the direction of its length. It derives its nutriment from substances in the soil, which either are, or have been, touched by the subtle influence of life, and in the processes of growth and development it evolves from

these materials a compound whose volatilizing gives the odor in question. This compound has not yet been fully examined; it is not named, nor have all its properties been satisfactorily elucidated, but two facts concerning it stand out clearly. One is that it is the true origin of the smell that we have hitherto attributed to earth simply; and the other, that it changes into vapor under the same conditions as water does. Therefore, when the sun, shining after the rain, draws up the water from the earth in vapor form, it draws up, too, the odorous atoms of this newly found compound, and these atoms, floating in the air, strike on our olfactory nerves, and it is then we exclaim so often, 'How fresh the earth smells after the rain.'

"Though moisture, to a certain extent, is a necessary condition of the active work of these bacteria, yet the chief reason why the earthy smell should be specially noticeable after the rain is probably because this compound has been accumulating in the soil during the wet period. We only smell substances when they are in vapor form, and since the compound under consideration has precisely the same properties in this respect as water, it will only assume gaseous form when the rain ceases. The bacteria have, however, been hard at work all the time, and when the sun shines and 'drying' begins, then the accumulated stores commence their transformation into vapor, and the strong smell strikes upon our senses. For the same reason we notice a similar sort of smell, though in a lesser degree, from freshly turned earth. This is more moist than the earth at the surface, and hence, on exposing it, evaporation immediately begins, which quickly makes itself known to us through our olfactory nerves.

"It may also have been remarked that this particular odor is always stronger after a warm day than after a cold day, and is much more noticeable in summer than in winter. This is because moderate warmth is highly conducive to the greater increase of these organisms, and, in fact, in the summer they are present in far larger numbers and exhibit greater vitality than in the winter, when they are often more or less quiescent.

"Two other characteristics of *Cladotrix odorifera* are worthy of notice as showing the tenacity with which it clings to life. It is capable of withstanding extremely long periods of drought without injury; its development may be completely arrested (for water in some degree is a necessity with all living things, from highest to lowest) but its vitality remains latent, and with the advent of water comes back renewed activity. But besides drought it is pretty well proof against poisons. It can even withstand a fairly large dose of that most harmful poison to the vegetable world, corrosive sublimate. Hence any noxious matter introduced into the soil would harm it little ultimately; the utmost it could do would be to retard it for a time.

"This, then, is the history of the smell

of earth as scientists have declared it unto us, and its recital serves to further point the moral that the most obvious, the most commonplace things of everyday life—things that we have always taken simply for granted without question or interest—may yet have a story hidden beneath them. Like signposts in a foreign land, they may be speaking, though in a language not always comprehended by us, of most fascinating regions, regions we may altogether miss to our great loss, if we neglect ignorantly to inquire in directions instead of learning to comprehend them."—*Literary Digest*.

Trade Notes.

Baldwin Locomotives.

If the campaign recently ended has demonstrated one thing more than another it has shown beyond all question that plantation railroads are a paramount necessity on our large estates, and as the employment of small locomotives on these roads will go hand in hand with the construction of the tracks, the indications are that this will be a good season in the sugar district for the locomotive people. Mr. A. F. Slingerup, in the Godchaux Building, representing Krajewski, Pesant & Co., is prepared to sell the far famed Baldwin locomotives singly or by the dozen, and we trust he will be kept busy filling orders.

The Lane & Bodley Engines.

We take pleasure in directing the attention of all our readers to the advertisement of the Lane & Bradley Co., on page III, of the *Planter*. This well known concern, whose Corliss engines are now in use so universally that any comment on them is superfluous, are prepared to supply the sugar planters with everything they need in that line, as well as with slide valve engines, air compressors, shafting, hangers, pulleys, etc. Possessing every facility for handling orders they feel confident of adding largely this season to the already immense business done by them with the sugar people. Address the Lane & Bodley Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Personal.

Col. Lewis S. Clarke, of Lagonda plantation, on Bayou Teche, was in the city last Wednesday.

Mr. Frederick A. Sobral, of St. James parish, was registered at the Cosmopolitan hotel on Monday last.

Mr. W. E. Leake, a prominent coal mine man of Birmingham, Ala., was in the city during the past week.

Mr. E. H. Barton, of Ascension parish, was one of the prominent sugar planters who registered at the St. Charles during the week.

Hon. Walter A. O'Neill, proprietor of the Linwood plantation in St. Mary parish, was in the city on a visit last Sunday. Mr. O'Neill stopped as usual at the Hotel Royal, which now seems about to close an epoch in its varied career.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Last week's unprecedented blizzard has been followed by mild weather, and there is reason to believe that the winter is virtually over insofar as low temperatures are concerned. But for the persistent frequency with which the clouds exude moisture upon us there would be a decided revival of hope and confidence among the devotees of the sugar industry, since it is now generally known that the great freeze has not of itself materially injured the cane, either stubble, planted or that yet in windrow. What is now most to be feared is that the wet spell will be prolonged to such an extent as to delay stubble shaving and planting until the crop has suffered irremediable damage from excess of moisture.

Probably no more intelligent or accurate summary of the situation could be compressed in equally brief space than is presented by the subjoined extract from a note addressed to the editor of *The Donaldsonville Chief* on Monday, the 20th inst., by Mr. J. A. Melancon, manager of the McCall Bros' Pltg. & Mfg. Co.'s model Evan Hall plantation:

"In compliance with my promise that I would let you know my opinion of the condition of the seed cane and stubble crop after an examination, I herewith send you by Mr. Geo. M. Boote samples of stubble dug this day, in his presence, which speak for themselves. No doubt there will be some damage, but how much no one can yet safely venture to say. Have always believed and still believe that whatever damage the cane crop has sustained or will sustain is not due to the recent freeze, but more to the continued wet weather. Was always more hopeful of stubble than seed cane. The former is better protected, well surrounded with earth, stationary, awaiting warm weather to produce growth, whereas the latter (this season especially) was put down crooked and green, with continued wet from the day it went down, making it difficult to keep without some wet rot. It is now necessary to have good weather to enable planters to proceed to plant rapidly, as a continuance of present conditions will not help seed any. However, it is to be hoped that we may soon see the end of this terrible spell and that our seed will prove nearly, if not quite as good as the stubble prospects so far for the crop of 1899."

The samples of stubble accompanying Mr. Melancon's note are white, pretty and fresh, covered with sound, firm buds and apparently in as fine condition as could be desired.

Other samples of both stubble and windrowed cane have been sent to the Chief from Point Houmas, Belle Terre and St. Emma plantations, and all are seemingly in prime condition.

Mr. E. H. Barton and Manager: A. K.

Aucoin, on Saturday, made a careful examination of cane in various portions of Mr. Barton's St. Emma plantation, and found nothing to indicate that any material damage has yet been inflicted. Managers J. Elphege LeBlanc, of Belle Terre; W. C. Lanson, of Peytavin; H. C. Wilson, of Palo Alto; Jno. W. Tucker, of New Hope; S. L. Davis of Souvenir and John F. Landry of Riverside are all virtually of one opinion as to the situation, and that is found in Manager Melancon's note above quoted. Mr. Wilson receives a paper from his boyhood's home at Towson, Maryland, which reports that the ground was frozen to a depth of only three inches in that locality by last week's blizzard, and the contrast presented by Prof. Stubbs' report of eight and five inches of congealed earth at the Louisiana experimental sugar farm suggests the idea that the management of the latter institution may have been conducting a highly successful experiment in superinducing abnormally deep freezes. The crust of frozen earth was only about an inch and a half thick in

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The bad weather is still with us notwithstanding the prediction of knowing ones that the severe freeze of last week was its breaking up. We have endeavored to learn from experienced planters what was the probable damage to the cane crop by the unprecedented cold spell, but very seldom did we find two of the same opinion. From what has been told however we are led to the conclusion that most reports of the extent of the damage have been greatly exaggerated. Stubbles, where the cane was properly laid by, have suffered little or no damage. Where the canes were not sufficiently covered, some damage has resulted, as much as 50 per cent in places. Seed cane was most probably not hurt by the cold. Its condition was bad in numerous places before, and as a matter of course the cold did not help it. The greatest sufferer seems to have been the fall plant, more from the continued rains than from the cold and we have not found a planter who expected anything like a fair stand. On account of the wet spell the fall planting was less than usual, and the winter, and spring plantings are being so much delayed that the chances for a good stand are not bright.

A novel sight was witnessed by those on the river last week. Great quantities of ice covered with snow floated down, sometimes almost entirely covering the surface of the water. The flow continued for five days during which communication with the opposite side was exceeding difficult and steamboat navigation suspended.

Mr. Ignace Babin of St. Gabriel, a prominent planter of the fifth ward, says that he and his brothers have succeeded in breaking

up 250 out of 400 acres, which they expect to put in rice. He says, too, that their planting will be backward this year, owing to the cold.

The mule men have found it necessary to put a stop to the free and easy way they have had of selling mules to everybody on time and unless a man has considerable property unencumbered, he is invariably required to furnish "collateral."

Mr. W. R. Barrow, formerly of Seymourville, will work the Centennial plantation, the last addition of the Edward J. Gay P. & M. Co., Ltd., to their St. Louis plantation, on the tenant system.

Mr. James C. Gallagher, formerly a tenant on the Homestead plantation of Mr. F. D. Robertson, has leased the plantation of Judge Talbot on Bayou Jacob and will sell the cane he raises.

Mr. Jean Lasserre, of Vacherie, St. James parish, has purchased the upper part of Mr. Joseph Charleville's place on Bayou Grosse Tete, and one of his sons will shortly move there.

District court adjourned last Monday after a four weeks' session, and Hon. Judge Talbot and District Attorney Alexander Hebert left on Tuesday for Point Coupee parish.

A party who has just come from the Homestead plantation of Mr. Frederick D. Robertson, brought several stalks of fall cane and also several stubbles. The stubbles from new ground with only a light covering of earth were in good shape, two and three good eyes on each. The fall plant showed a fair number of good swollen eyes and several who saw it think a fair stand may be expected. The stubble from old land did not show up so well. Mr. Robertson says to-day, Wednesday, is the first day he has examined his cane since the cold spell and he is now more hopeful.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Never before was the weather such a fruitful topic of discussion as it has been during the past week or ten days. Indeed, the subject is being discussed from almost every conceivable standpoint, and is being torn to tatters. Those who had thermometers during the late arctic spell could prove by their instruments that it was cold, while parties who had none were compelled to rely upon their physical senses to realize the fact that the mercury was hovering around the zero mark. The thermometer at Poplar Grove and that of the writer both registered a minimum of 2 degrees above zero, while the self-registering instrument at Cinclare marked 2 below. At all events, it was cold for cane and everything else.

Opinions as to the effects of this severe freeze differ almost as widely as the individuals from whom they emanate. These opinions range all the way from the pessimistic statement of an old planter to the

effect that the cane stubble and plant is ruined, to the optimistic view entertained by others that little or no damage has been done. It is probable that the truth ranges about midway between these two extremes. During the past week careful investigations have been made on most of the plantations here to learn as far as an examination at this time will reveal it, the nature and extent of the injury done. It is generally conceded that second year's stubble is practically lost. It is as to the plant cane and first year's stubble that the greatest diversity exists. The examinations referred to above revealed the fact that the damage is greater on some places than others, due, no doubt, to the difference in soil cultivation and the manner in which the seed cane was put down.

On one point a large majority of the planters agree and that is that the bad condition of the cane is due more to the incessant rains of the past winter than to the severe freeze itself. On at least two plantations all the cane seems to be totally lost. One of these planters, so I understand is hauling his seed cane out of the field and dumping it in the horse lot, and the other is thinking of cultivating his plantation in cotton this year. Another old planter says he will be satisfied if he can save enough seed this year for next year's planting. The more conservative planters, however, express the opinion that it is yet too early to determine the extent of the damage done, and that a great deal will depend upon the weather during the next few weeks.

Never before in the history of this parish has so little field work been done as up to the present time. Two planters report having plowed a total of eight days this year, and that was done in the mud. On other places practically not a stroke of work has been done since Jan. 1. There is a great deal of destitution among the negro laborers on the various plantations, and many would feel the pangs of hunger, if it were not for the kind-hearted planters who see to that work or no work, their hands are fed and provided with fuel. Many planters had hoped to get a start in the field this week, but a rain Friday night, followed by another Monday evening, put a quietus on their efforts. Last year at this time half the crop was planted. With a short crop last year and serious injury already done plant and stubble it goes without saying that the outlook just now is decidedly gloomy in

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather of last week and the results therefrom, will be about the extent of matter in this letter, as otherwise but little is left to be said. The consensus of opinion among intelligent planters with whom I have discussed the results of the cold spell may be summed up about as follows: No damage has been done to the cane in wind-

row, and if defective it is not as the result of the cold. There is damage to stubble, but the extent will in a large measure depend on the weather to come. Most of them contend that there is enough left to give a stand, if we have favorable weather from now on. On the other hand they agree that the vitality of the good eyes has been impaired, and that with a late spring alternating warm and cold, particularly with much rain the chances of a good stubble crop would be slim. The above is I believe a fair consensus of opinion, there being extremists both ways, some contending that no damage has been done to the stubble, others more pessimistic stating that the condition of the stubble crop is so serious that there will not be enough to make seed-cane.

The temperature in Assumption was not lower than five degrees as a general thing. The official instrument of Mr. Jas. E. LeBlanc registered six, and a majority of the other instruments were about five. On Belle Alliance the mercury, we are told, registered 1 degree. Several remarkable facts stand out as distinguishing this snap from its predecessors. One of course was the fact that it was colder than any other snap, another that the cold was greater in Donaldsonville and vicinity than further down the Lafourche, the contrary being usually the case. The difference in temperature here and in New Orleans was also much less than usual. These seem from all I can learn to be facts, their causes I cannot state, but they are worthy of being recorded. Ice floated down the Lafourche from Wednesday night, and this morning a little was still to be seen, I am told that Lake Verret was frozen all the way across, and that the ice was strong enough to support a man's weight two arpents from shore. Some are hopeful that the water hyacinths will be greatly decreased from the cold. The marais was frozen solid, and supported the weight of men and horses. In January '86 the lowest temperature recorded (then a supposed record breaker) was eight degrees above zero. The cold that year as well as in '95 the year of the snow was much longer in duration than the freezing weather of last week. Some planters contend that as long as the stubble is dormant there cannot be much injury done by the cold. There has been no field work done in Assumption for several weeks. Very little cane has been planted and the managers are glad of it as they say the cane will be the better for being in the warm windrow, rather than planted. One planter told me that he had examined some fall plant and found at the depth of not more than three inches sound canes, with sprouts uninjured. The roads have never been as bad as they are now in Assumption for as long a time, the little passenger boats are reaping a rich harvest as no one begrudges Capt. Constantin the profits from an enterprise as beneficial to the public as his has been. Court opened on Monday and both lawyers and Grand Jurors came by boat.

I learn that Mr. Clarence Barton has rented for a term of six years the Wildwood plantation. He spoke at one time of building a tram to his Little Texas factory, but he will probably do it another year. Oakley has contracted for new mills, and will probably put a tram tapping the Atchakapas canal country, a rich section that with proper inducements will raise annually a large amount of cane. The recent sales of land in Assumption maintain the high value that sugar property has always commanded here, and show that the confidence in sugar is still unabated.

There has been a good deal of La Grippe in Assumption. Mr. L. U. Folse is at present confined to his bed, and Judge Guion is just out after a severe attack. Mr. W. D. Stella, of Chicago, was a recent visitor to relatives here, coming up in the midst of the snow.

Among recent visitors to Assumption we note Messrs. Beattie, Pugh, Howell, Martin, Sims, and McCullah. Dist. Atty. Gondran is also here in attendance on court. Incidentally we might include a short visit from Zero Weather; the latter was by no means a welcome guest.

MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to the too moist condition of the soil no field work of any consequence was accomplished last week, and the showers on Monday afternoon and during the early part of the night may delay ploughing until next week. The rains were such as to thoroughly saturate the soil, and warmth and sunshine are wanted not only to dry the ground but start vegetation in the canes planted and the eyes of the stubble uninjured by the detrimental climatic extremes, which have latterly been so complex in their character, and fortunately such as are rarely encountered in a lifetime.

On some places the major portion of the seed cane has been planted and on others but a limited acreage has been seeded.

Some report the seed cane in the windrow but little affected by the recent freeze, and if such proves the case, plantings should proceed rapidly when the weather will permit.

Where plantings have about terminated preparations are being made to shave the stubble fields as rapidly as circumstances will permit, and the cane acreage will be seeded at an early date. All are anxiously hoping for dry, warm weather—the former especially as work is now backward on many places.

It may be some little time before really just conclusions may be arrived at as to the outlook for a crop this season; it may be below or above expectations; it will certainly not be the latter if the fields are neglected, and the chances of a crop another year greatly reduced.

Partial failures have been experienced in the past, without extremely low tempera-

tures, brought about by other detrimental meteorological influences.

The dredge boat in the Bayou Terrebonne has made rapid progress and is now not far from Schriever, where the work will probably terminate for the time being at least. The boat in lower Bayou Black has resumed work since the beginning of the new year.

Wednesday morning rains, and cloudy during the day; Thursday, cloudy and cool; Friday and Saturday, warmer and partially cloudy; Sunday, bright sunshine; Monday, cloudy in the morning, with showers during the day and at night; Tuesday, balmy and cloudy and Wednesday morning, warm and overcast.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The condition of the parish roads of St. Mary at the present time, is by far, the most remarkable that has been seen at any period since the Civil War; this is the universal belief of the oldest of our weather observing citizens. The rains of the last three months came in a measure, in their regular term; but those preceding them, belonging, as they did, in June of 1898, were so heavy and continuous that the winter rainy season grafted itself immediately upon that of the summer, and, at the same time, upon an almost impassable road system.

And though it is asserted that good weather is now near at hand, the unfavorable growing and harvesting season of 1898, will have a deep seated recollection allotted to it by the sugar planters; as it prohibited the cane from reaching a profitable stage of maturity at any time during the harvest, and besides entailed upon the planter a tremendous extra expense in moving the raw material from the field to the place of manufacture.

Your correspondent has been informed that the new method of cane purchasing—on the sucrose test plan—so ably discussed before the Sugar Planters' Association in New Orleans, on the 9th of January, by several of its members and others—will meet with the approval of the sugar producer of this parish, for two reasons: First, he does not expect to see just such another season as the one which, owing to the weakness of saccharine properties, has forced the planter to protect himself by the test purchasing plan; and, second, because he is confident that, even had the test system been in general operation, throughout the parish during last season, his goods would have reached so much above his neighbors in the other parishes into which the St. Mary manufacturer reaches every year for surplus cane, that the balance would have been struck decidedly in his favor, owing to the great superiority of our soil for the production of sugar cane over their own.

The spacious and palatial home of Mr.

T. J. Shaffer, on his Anna plantation, is now nearing completion, having been begun nearly a year ago; and Mr. Shaffer says his improvements for this year are not commenced—that he will pass right on into the present year with his large force of builders; in the making of other extensive improvements.

The sleet storm and freezes following it, of the 13th, 14th and 15th, it is feared, will do some damage to the stubble and seed cane in low places, however covered, and upon the higher lands where the covering is thin and drainage imperfect. But it is the general impression that the cane yet in the mats is undisturbed.

Under the clear sunshine of Saturday and Sunday, the ground had begun to dry out nicely, but the downpour, beginning Monday morning, will set farming operations back another period.

ST. MARY.

Vermillion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

There has been but little if any improvement in the weather since my first letter. In fact, at the present time the rain is pouring down in torrents and has been for the past three hours. The last days of last week, including Sunday of this week, were bright, beautiful days, and it was hoped by all that the weather had changed and that now, and from now on, we would have some good weather; but to-day's happenings have proved otherwise. The first days of last week, and immediately after the snow had disappeared, we had several days of rain which was thought to be beneficial to the stubble and seed cane, and on Friday night a good old fashioned thunder storm came up and a very heavy rainfall was experienced. The weather prognosticators or prevaricators, we can't say which, told us Saturday that a permanent change had taken place in the weather conditions and that we would now have a spell of good farming weather.

They based their opinion on the thunder accompanying this rain—and their prophecies have proved to be all thunder. The whole situation in this parish, as far as cane farming is concerned, is very gloomy and most critical. If the weather does not clear up in a few days and give the cane men a chance to plant the cane that the cold weather was merciful enough to leave him there, will not be enough of cane made in Vermillion Parish this year to run a one-horse syrup mill ten days. It is impossible to determine yet just the extent of damage caused by the recent freeze, but it is thought by the more conservative planters that at least one-fourth of the seed cane is destroyed, and that the first year stubble is damaged considerably though a fair stand may be obtained if the weather would clear up and give the farmers an opportunity to bar off their stubble and shave it before the effects of the sour stalk could kill the eyes still living. The second year stubble is almost all killed. Your correspondent

carefully examined first year's stubble last Saturday, 18th, and out of a dozen roots we found from one to five perfect eyes on each root, these eyes were low down near the bottom of the root—the eyes near the top were all killed, then we examined as many roots of second year stubble and failed to find a good eye in the entire lot. Several planters throughout the parish report both stubble and seed good. From the present outlook and with favorable weather we may expect about a half a crop. There had been but very little cane planted and the general report from that that was planted is very discouraging. Mr. Christian Stauffer, one of the most successful cane planters in the parish, planted nine acres of cane during the month of December. A few days before the cold and snow he had the cane examined and found it to be perfectly sound and sprouting, a few days after the snow he again examined it and found it to be almost if not entirely dead. Others who planted report the same results.

The rice farmer is being thrown back by the excessive wet weather but instead of the freeze hurting him it did him good in as much as it will pulverize his soil and kill out the numerous insects that have been accumulating for years. The cane man, the rice man, the corn man, the cotton man and in fact all men of every vocation or calling have been damaged by this abundance of rainfall.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

While the days have grown warmer than they were a week past, the ground has dried out but very little. It is now too wet to plow; the ground is soggy and unfit to work, with the prospects at present writing for more rain during the next twenty-four hours.

The question of planting is now beginning to be seriously considered, but what is to be done? We can only rest, until a time does come for the rains and bad weather to clear off and then get out with a heavy force of men and teams to plowing and planting as fast as the land can be prepared to receive the grain or seed. To be sure such methods are never satisfactory to the planter. However, this is a case of necessity and it is out of the question to avoid it. Conditions are presented and that is all there is of it. In regard to the stubble and the effect the freeze had on it, I have heard various opinions expressed. There are some who seem to think that the stubble is all dead. Instances where the stubble was cut into while the freeze was at its worst, showed the ground frozen down to the mother cane in a solid block.

To be sure, this would to all appearances indicate that all life in the stubble had been destroyed.

But take this statement as it is and I still think, as I expressed it last week; that by shaving the stubble as early as possible,

there is a hope that some of it may be saved. Conditions are not always the same; if they were every cane grower in the state would to-day approximately know the extent of damage, if any at all brought about by the freeze and the varied weather conditions.

The freeze not only penetrated the stubble, it went down into the seed cane in the windrows. A cane grower living near by, dug down into his seed cane in windrow, as soon as the ground thawed so he could dig, and when he reached his cane, which had been covered, dug and rolled when laid down, he reported to me that he found an abundance of frost in the canes from top to bottom and that too, with good drainage.

But strange to relate, the samples of canes taken out did not show any deterioration. They were sound and sweet to the taste, and the eyes appeared to be perfectly sound. This is one instance. Others seem to think that seed cane has been injured. There is one sure test, and that is when the seed cane has to be pulled out to the light of day for planting. Until then it is all surmising. It will be remembered that the planters' scribe has in past years hinted more than once of the advisability of in all years putting down an abundance of seed cane. It is better far to have too much than not enough; very few years pass by that there is not a demand for seed cane; therefore I contend that the planter having a surplus of seed—some to spare—is in the very best shape possible for making a crop; while on the other hand, if he is from some one or more causes short in seed, it will likely be turned bad luck. Properly, it is want of sound judgment more than ought else and should be charged to that account.

I understand that Mr. F. Regard, of Cotton Port, after much delay finally got the "Martha" sugar factory started up. It was stated to me that the factory had not finished grinding last week. What success the place was meeting with, I was unable to learn.

Rapides has lost a good man in the death on the 12th inst., of Dr. S. F. Meeker at his home on Bayou Boeuf, Home Place plantation; may he rest in peace.

ERIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Although the general opinion was that the terrible freeze which visited the entire country during the past ten days, would be productive of a material change in the meteorological record, which has been one of the most distressing experienced since a long time, yet such has not been the case to a very great extent. Still the temperature has been greatly moderated, compared to what we have had previously. Owing to absence, I was unable to send in any communication for the past week and thus did not give any account of the blizzard, but as everywhere else, the results are not so alarmingly harmful as was at first general-

ly supposed. The planters of our section were rather worried and some thought that the cane crop was entirely lost, but upon investigation on some places, they found that the bottom eyes of the stubbles were not injured and well alive. The plant cane is a little damaged. The thermometer in St. James on Monday morning registered 6 deg. above zero, though many report having seen three deg.—and this is to the coatings of snow, sleet and ice that the crops owe their protection. This week so far, we have had Monday with rain and fog the entire day; Tuesday morning, a heavy fog; lasted until almost ten o'clock, but from then we had a nice sunny afternoon. So little dry weather has been experienced that no planting or work of any consequence has been done so far.

Some of the different properties of our parish have changed hands lately. Mr. George Schepp, of Colomb Park, has sold his property to Dr. B. A. Colomb, of Tippecanoe plantation, and Mr. Schepp has purchased in his turn the tract of land belonging to Mr. Ernest Vicknair for the sum of \$8,000, on the right bank. This property consists of a number of acres of very good lands, well situated for rice cultivation and besides a palatial residence was built about two years ago surrounded by a fine orchard and beautiful flower garden. Mr. Schepp was formerly a planter, but for the past few years had given it up and was interested in the real estate business, but he now thinks it preferable to engage in his former occupation.

General regret is felt by all who are acquainted with Mr. J. M. Breaux, to hear of his removal from the Monroe plantation in Ascension, to Terrebonne parish, where he has purchased an interest in a large sugar estate. Mr. Breaux and family are highly esteemed by all in St. James and their removal will be greatly felt.

CONVENT.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Since our blizzard and complete freeze-up we have found out that we live in Louisiana instead of the frozen North, but the mild weather has brought rain and windy weather, and conditions upon the farm are so unfavorable that nothing can be done as yet, except to open ditches to drain the fields. We look for the present week to end the cold and rain, but we have been doing this all winter and we have found out that we do not know anything about the future weather. I note that one weather prophet predicted that we would have no more ice in the South after Jan. 1st and we don't believe he was right.

The weather is very changeable and it is hard to tell what is in store for us, but all farm work is lagging and farmers very uneasy, and it will either have to stop raining or we will have to stop farming, and it is hard to tell which will win.

Some of our more progressive farmers feel

a live interest in the Japan rice which Prof. Stubbs is offering to distribute among the farmers, and if those who try it will put it on new soil away from any other rice, and give it the attention it should have, there is no reason why the farmers can not keep it pure for many seasons, and while they are caring for this rice in this way, let them go over the old rice fields and kill out the red rice and grass and get the soil in shape for pure seed, instead of continually cropping the old lands regardless of all foul matter and preventing any advancement along this line of farming. A good quantity of Japan seed has been secured by many of our farmers, which seed, it is claimed, was imported last season, and it looks very much like this variety will become the leading variety of rice in our section before many seasons have gone by. A few years ago the Carolina rice attracted considerable attention, but after it was well tested, it was found to lack some important qualities—various complaints were made of it—and it was abandoned and since then the Japan rice has been growing in favor, and I do not hear of any serious objections to it, only what came from one or two rice millers, but their statements were found to be selfish instead of substantial, as has since been proven. Some think it is a little more liable to lodge on new land owing to its yielding so heavily, but it is most decidedly preferable on old soil for it will yield more than other varieties on such soil and will not blow down as easily. Of late years we seem to be getting all our rains in the winter and we would be thankful to somebody if they would find a winter variety of rice so we can grow two crops a year, and then if the summer crop fails, the winter crop may pay the loss. If farmers raise any corn this season it will be a very late crop for no one has thought of preparing the soil as yet, and it looks like the weather did not intend to let any body start a plow for the next three weeks.

Nearly all the sweet potato crop was ruined last fall by the rainy weather and the portion which was dug did not keep any time, so the country is almost without a potato to plant, and very few farmers have any to eat. No effort has been made as yet to plant any oats, and it is likely to be an off year for that crop. No one knows, as yet, in what condition the seed cane is since the freeze, but most farmers think it is gone, and the stubble as well, for it only had slight protection, and the ground froze four inches deep where there was no grass for protection. Orange, peach and pear trees now show the effects of the cold.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Mr. R. R. Cocke was a visitor to New Orleans a few days ago. Mr. Cocke is one of the leading cane growers of the state.

Prof. L. A. Becnel, who is widely known as a prominent sugar house superintendent and chemical expert, was in the city last Thursday for the purpose of attending the meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, Jan. 28th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In the ever varying weather we have this time to note only one change, but it must be admitted a rather radical one. From spring-like warmth it changed suddenly to serious cold, so that for once we had quite seasonable weather. The temperature sank as low as 6 degrees below zero, and as fortunately the freezing days had been dry, in general the fields, whose condition is so far pretty satisfactory, were not exposed to the formation of ice. It is only a pity that the frost has not arrived accompanied by copious fall of snow, which anyway is necessary to furnish the winter moisture and some protection against the inclemencies of the weather which may set in in the next few weeks to come. About the same is the situation in the other beet growing countries of Europe, at least in the central part. From Russia no later advices are to hand.

In many papers, German and foreign, it has been noted that on January 11th, 1899, the beet sugar industry celebrated its hundredth anniversary, as on that date a hundred years ago Achard submitted to the King Frederick Wilhelm III of Prussia a report of certain successful experiments made in the production of sugar from beets, which was accompanied by samples of the new kind of sweet, and it is alleged that with this report the feasibility of beet sugar production was for the first time practically demonstrated.

This, however, is not correct. It is a well known fact that Marggraf in 1747 discovered the sugar in the beet and that this discovery was laid before the Academy of Science in Berlin in that year, so that the jubilee of the beet sugar industry should have been celebrated in 1847. It is true, however, that about 40 years elapsed before the discovery of Marggraf was developed into practical results. A scholar of the latter scientist, Achard, undertook in 1786 experiments in growing beets rich in saccharine matters, and he not only succeeded in this respect, but he also extracted sugar from the roots; of course, only on a small scale. Achard begged the king to grant him a privilege for the manufacture of beet sugar for ten years and at the same time wished to have given him an estate on which he might continue his experiments and eventually build a factory. but these wishes were not complied with. A royal commission was appointed to examine the experiments of Achard, and consequent to the report of this commission it was intended to build a small factory; but this plan never was executed. In 1801, when King Frederick Wilhelm condescended to support Achard's aspirations by a loan, the latter was enabled to buy an estate in Silesia and to construct a factory, which,

in the month of March, 1802, started work. It was, no doubt, a memorable moment in the history of the sugar industry, when Achard presented in 1797 his report to the king, but for jubilees, either the year 1747 or the year 1802 should be taken as departures, the latter because the industry was really started in 1802.

The importance of sugar as a muscle-strengthening substance is more and more recognized, and particularly the movement started in Germany, to introduce sugar into the diet of the military is attracting attention also in other countries. The French papers are lively discussing the subject and in favor of the theory in question many examples are quoted. But there are also papers which are setting forth adverse opinions, and one of them believes that the use of sugar appears to have the same effect as alcohol, which excites the nervous system and also causes a greater activity of muscular power, which excitement, however, abates very soon, leaving a depression in the brain as well as in the muscles. To this, however, it is justly replied that the action of sugar in the human body is quite different, and that it consists principally in an addition of strength which the healthy body is able to retain, whilst alcohol is exciting, not increasing the human faculties, either mental or physical. Unfortunately the question makes very slow headway in Germany, and this must be regretted the more, as in France the soldiers' diet comprises already sugar, not in large rations, it is true, whilst the English soldiers get a much larger portion. The minister of agriculture in the Prussian lower chamber questioned on the point, remarked that the government had not lost sight of it, and that with a view of increasing the consumption of sugar measures should be taken to reach as soon as possible the desired object. That the German sugar manufacturers do not see the use of the measure in the direct increase of sugar consumption in propagating the taste for sugar in classes of the population, who so far have almost done without sugar, I wrote you already.

The late discussions in the French Chamber of Deputies have sufficiently and clearly demonstrated that for the present fiscal year no change in the bounty laws is intended either by the Government or by Parliament. But it seems probable that later on the sugar legislation of France will undergo some revision and this, as may be supposed, on account of the extraordinary high yield, the French fabricants have obtained this and the last year. In this respect an increase of the so called legal yield must be expected, but the best change would be to reduce the tax which at present is double the amount of what the sugar is untaxed. A tax of that magnitude should be borne only by articles whose consumption for hygienic or moral reasons is not desirable, or what must absolutely be classed

amongst the articles of luxury. I don't think that any legislator of a civilized country would be as bold as to keep up such an assertion.

The markets evinced last week once again a more cheerful feeling, the dullness giving way all round to a brisk business and prices moving almost without interruption in an upward direction. This change, which of course was strenuously longed for is due to different causes. In the first place, it is due to a revival of the demand on the part of the trade. The prices, it was concluded, were down to a point which hardly could involve any risk and on this ground speculation and bonafide buying took place on a larger scale than for a long time since. Prices for actual 88 pct. sugars advanced to the extent of 30 pfennigs, are now quoted at Magdeburg at M. 10. 25-10.47, and delivery January closed at M. 9.55 f. o. b. Hamburg. 12½-25 pfennigs higher.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, Feb. 4th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The climatic conditions of the week under review formed in general a continuation of the weather as it set in in the second half of last week, inasmuch as moderate frost has prevailed. A few days, it is true, it seemed that the former muddy weather would return, but the sky clearing up the temperature went down again and the winter, which at least had begun, has so far kept on. There have been also some snow falls, so that the country outwardly offers the aspect of the season. However, with regard to this point, the weather leaves a little to be desired as the layer of snow spread on the fields is much too thin to furnish a protecting cover for the cereals sown in the fall and rather hurriedly grown under the influence of the mild temperature prevailing hitherto. The first warm sunshine would thaw off the little bit of snow fallen last week and then considerable harm may ensue. Anyway my apprehension that the winter might come late and last long bids fair to become a truth and this, as we have seen last year, is not favorable for beet growing. Colder weather and light frosts are also reported from abroad and for the present these meteorological conditions are ever welcome from an agricultural point of view, whilst on the other hand they will put a stop to river navigation and thus interfere with the exportation of sugar.

The attention of commercial circles is now principally directed to the magnitude of the area to be planted with beet this year. As to Germany, it is surmised that in this country an increase is pretty sure to take place on account of the increased contingent which for the year 1899-1900 is fixed at 1,839,318 tons, as against 1,803,225 tons in 1898-1899. This conclusion is, however, unfounded, as the experience of last year has shown, for

which the contingent was raised from 1,756,432 tons to 1,803,225 tons, whilst the area sown with beets decreased from 437,174 hectares to 426,641 hectares, as besides the yield per acre turned out to be short, the production fell off from 1,844,399 tons to 1,684,000 tons (estimates). The area of beet sowings may or may not be increased; at all events, the contingent and its augmented figures are in no way accountable for it, and it is not superfluous to put this in due evidence as the bear speculators endeavor to take advantage of the argument in question to the detriment of the sugar producing fraternity. As to other countries it is about certain that in Russia, where a great many new factories, are said to be constructing, and in Sweden, somewhat more beets will be sown than last year.

The sugar industry of Italy has been so far quite insignificant and the consumption of the country, although not very large either, was in the bulk covered by importation—principally from Austria. This condition of matters, however, is very likely to change in the very near future. Italian capitalists have been induced to take an interest in the beet sugar industry so that different projects of new factories have been formed and some of them, it seems, are already in progress of execution. Thus the Societe Lingures Lombarda at Genoa will found two factories at Parma and Montepulciano; Messrs. Schiaffino and Roncallo will build another at Tontelagoscurb, and Mr. Evasmo Piaggio has erected a beet sugar mill at Prima Porta, near Rome. All these factories are expected to start in the course of the present year, 1899, and it is believed that afterwards the sugar production of Italy will be sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the country, the more so as home grown sugar is enjoying big fiscal advantages. Foreign raw sugar is, in Italy, subject to a duty of 88 lire (francs) whilst the home grown product pays only 67.20 lire per kilogr., but as not all the sugar is taxed the difference in favor of Italian manufacturer is still large and in consequence the latter is able to undersell his foreign competitor, so that the cry "Italy for Italian sugar" will soon become a truth.

The French wine growers are making efforts to get rid of the provision of the sugar law now in force relating to the tax on such sugars as are used for the improvement of the quality of the wine by adding them to the juice before fermentation. The wine growers, as they say, would have no objection to the clause, if sugar with the reduced tax was only used in that way, but they complain of an abuse consisting in the manufacture of artificial wine which then is mixed with the natural product, by which means the interests of the wine growing industry may be injured to some extent. Motions have been already submitted to the chamber of deputies for the purpose of cancelling the provision. But it is hardly possible that a legal prescription, which, in spite of the dissatisfaction evinced by a number of wine producing gentlemen, is also very useful to that branch of agricultural industry, will be set aside without much ceremony, as the sugar industry people who are highly interested in the question and who perhaps would lose part of their customers, no doubt will do all in their power to defeat their onslaught against the consumption of sugar, which, by the way, in France is by far more in need of measures appropriate to its increase than to its decrease. On account of the small increase of population in France, or rather the stagnation of the same, the increase of consumption in that country is restricted to the consumption per capita and if this in anyway is interfered with an adverse movement must be expected, nay, as it seems, has taken place already.

In the discussions of the special press and

of the meeting of the German fabricants, the processes for working the drawings of first runnings absorb a great space at present. Of late there have been especially the processes of Mr. Hentzel and Mr. Grosse, which attracted general attention, but on whose merits I am unable to enlarge, because of the small space allotted to me.

The markets, although not without some fluctuations followed a firm and rising tendency. The demand at all commercial centers was active and more particularly early deliveries were eagerly sought for, which is partly due to purchases for French account. From this fact it is concluded that French operators intend to establish a corner, but it is also possible that the holders in France want to keep their sugar up to next campaign, when the old higher bounty re-enters into force. The upward movement resulted this week in a rise of 20 pfennigs, 80 pct. readment being, at Madgeburg, 10.50-10.65, whilst delivery in February rose at Hamburg to M. 9.92 f. o. b. Refined were in the latter part of the week in better demand and partly higher.

ROBT. HENNE.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, Feb. 13th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Recent advices of a decline in prices for beet sugar in Europe, caused buyers at this place to reduce their offers and holders being as yet unwilling to accept lower rates for the small parcels in hand, sales have come to an almost complete standstill, and the few made known during the week just elapsed aggregate only as follows:

5,500 bags centrifugals, 95-96 test, at from 4.81½ @ 5 rs. (equivalent to 2.43½ @ 2½ cts. per pound) at nearest outport.

1,000 do. do. 96. do. deliverable at railway station, at 5.28 rs. per arroba (equivalent to 2.64 cts. per pound.)

1,400 do. do. 94. do. of the past crop, at 4.75 rs. arroba (equivalent to 2.39½ cts. lb.)

Market closes to-day very quiet and rather weak, at from 4¼ @ 5 rs. per arroba, (equivalent to 2 7-16 @ 2½ cts. per pound.)

Grinding in the western and central part of the Island continues without any noticeable interruption, on all the plantations that have been able to resume sugar manufacture and the results obtained vary according to the special condition under which such are placed.

In the district of Remedios, factories "Victoria," "San Pedro," "Zaza," "Narcisca," "Alava," "Reforma," "Adela" and "Rosalia," are already under way and the balance in the same locality will also commence as soon as they secure a sufficient number of field hands.

The proprietors of the "Narcisca" factory, one of the largest and best equipped on the Island, and which had the good fortune to be respected by both the Cuban insurgents and the Spanish soldiers, and has recently passed into the hands of a New York Syndicate, have already replanted 20 caballerias, (equivalent to about 75 acres) and expect that within two years, that is to say for the 1901 crop, the totality of their cane fields and tenancies will be sown anew, and in grinding condition, but few planters can as yet make the necessary repairs to their factories and attend in an efficacious manner to the culture of their fields.

Those in the province of St. Iago de Cuba, besides the difficulties inherent to the lack of cash and the small amount of cane as yet available, have now to contend with difficulties of a different character, since small bands of outlaws, pretending themselves to

be discontented Cuban soldiers, swarm in said province, especially in the district of Guantanamo, and interfere with crop labor, compelling all hands to withdraw from the plantations, threatening to court martial and shoot them were they to continue working thereon; in several cases they have burned cane fields, factory "Santa Isabel" losing in this way about 100 acres of cane in good grinding condition.

These bands are composed mostly of negroes, who pretend, that having failed to obtain work for themselves, whereas the majority of their white companions are employed, they determine that none should work on plantations, as long as no occupation should be provided for them.

In order to put a stop to such dealings, a guard of American soldiers have been placed on the 23 largest factories in the locality, and a flying column of 1,000 men, commanded by Colonel Valiente, of the Cuban army has taken to the field to pursue, disarm and disband all such parties as above alluded to.

According to tabular statement, just published by Guma, who resumes this year his former statistical works, total receipts, at all the shipping ports of this Island, since the commencement of the crop, till 31st of January, last, add up 27,655 tons, against 66,114 do. same date, last year, and it is generally anticipated that this year's production will scarcely go over 300,000 tons.

Owing to the disastrous consequences of the last insurrection, it is as yet utterly impossible to say anything reliable regarding prices for same. Most of the growers have either wilfully abandoned their tenancies or were violently expelled therefrom; their families dispersed and removed to the fortified towns, in which they died from starvation and sickness; their dwellings burnt to the ground; the fences that divided each property torn down; their cattle, either disposed of for food, by the Spanish soldiers and the Cuban insurgents, or scattered in the woods. Each planter who has been lucky enough to keep his factory standing, or able to make to it the necessary repairs, is now grinding whatever small quantity of available cane is to be found on his own premises and does not accordingly pay for it.

From lack of funds no efficient step has as yet been taken to reorganize labor in the country, and the only signs of reconstruction to be seen, are evinced on such plantations as belong to American and English companies, in the Remedios, Cienfuegos, Manzanillo and Cienfuegos districts.

A large number of members of the Planters' Board, that formerly assisted here and so efficaciously worked in behalf of the agricultural interests of this Island, recently held a meeting in which the reorganization of the society, on a new base, was discussed and agreed upon, in order to place it on a footing with the new social and political order now prevailing.

Several important motions were passed to the effect of reorganizing labor in the country and regulating relations between planters and their creditors and formulating a plan for the gradual sinking of old outstanding debts, so that the former might resume sugar manufacturing operations free of the annoyance inherent to ancient compromises, which they are to-day unable to face.

Several commissions were appointed to draw up the new regulations for the society to be ruled by, and the application to the Government for settlements with creditors, which is deemed will be sufficient to insure at present a steady and useful existence to the Planters' Board and to restore to the Cuban sugar industry, its former greatness and prosperity.

F. D.

BEEF SUGAR.**Oxnard, California.**

Col. J. A. Drifill informs the Courier that the Oxnard Construction Company has decided to carry out the original plan of doubling the capacity of the beet sugar factory here. The work of construction will be commenced at once, and the intention is to have everything ready when the campaign opens, to handle 2,000 instead of 1,000 tons of beets per day. When the work is in full blast, which will be by the middle of February, a construction force of about 350 men will be employed. The increased capacity will give employment to over 500 men in the factory during the campaign, and furnish a market for an increased acreage of beets.

It was generally understood that the factory would be finished to its full capacity of 2,000 tons per day ten days ago, and contracts were being made for beets on the basis of the factory's full capacity immediately after the storm of the 10th, 11th and 12th, but formal announcement and active work had to wait until the directors met and acted. This they have done, and the Courier is able to assure its readers that their expectations as far as the factory is concerned will be fully met.

This work does not require the duplication of all the buildings, as the main building and the sugar house were constructed, the one to receive the additional machinery and the other to store the product of a 2,000-ton factory. However, the work of building will be very considerable. Boiler room will have to be constructed for double the capacity, additional storage provided for oil and another mammoth stack built and possibly some other building done. All the machinery now in the factory will be duplicated, with the exception of the engine. This work, with what was left incomplete when construction was practically stopped last summer, makes the amount to be done nearly as much as has already been done.

This work is to commence at once, so as to have the factory ready for the opening of an early campaign, about the 15th of July. It will be pushed as rapidly as possible, and work is expected to be in full blast by the middle of February. A construction force of fully 500 men will be required to complete the work within the time specified.—Oxnard Courier.

Spreckles, California.

Articles of agreement were filed in the County Recorder's office yesterday in which James A. McMahon agrees to build for the Spreckles Sugar Company five wooden beet bins. These bins, which have frequently been mentioned in the descriptive articles of the factory in the Index, will be constructed of lumber entirely, the material being all on the ground. They will extend from the end of the railway dumps where the beet

ditches commence, and will be 804 feet long, 45 feet wide, and 25 feet high each. Each bin will cover two ditches, and have erected in their interior, some 8 feet over each ditch, an elevated railway track. The work must be commenced during the present week and completed not later than June 15, 1899, at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 for the five bins. The Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland are bondsmen for Contractor McMahon on the contract.—Index, Feb. 9.

Progress of American Beet Sugar.

The development in this new industry is astonishing even to those who are in the business, and to all others a brief statement of it will prove a revelation. One beet-sugar factory at Rome, N. Y., is completing its second campaign very successfully. The beet-sugar mill at Binghamton, N. Y., is having a successful first campaign, and others are projected in central and western New York. So remarkable has been the success of the first campaign of the Michigan Sugar Company at Bay City, Mich., that that mill is to double its capacity, and the same people are building another factory near by. A third company is putting up a large factory at West Bay City, Mich., and other large enterprises are projected at Benton Harbor, Grand Haven and other Michigan points. At Rochester, Mich., the Detroit Sugar Company, composed of the most substantial capitalists of that city, contracted for a 500-ton mill, which the Oxnards are to make a model of perfection. While Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana are not "booming" beet sugar quite as industriously as is Michigan (with its State bounty, they are deeply interested. Illinois has a large beet sugar mill now being equipped at Pekin for the 1899 crop, and another will doubtless be constructed at Ottawa, Ill.

The pioneer beet sugar factory in Wisconsin did not run simply because of lack of beets sufficiently rich in quantity and quality of sugar. The Northwestern Beet Sugar Company is now letting contracts for a plant at Merriman, Wis., for which several thousand acres of beets will be required for the 1899 crop. In Iowa, South Dakota and certain sections of Kansas the interest is very keen. The two well-established beet sugar factories in Nebraska have had a favorable season, and their acreage for 1899 will probably be double that of any previous season. A million dollars of Boston's money is going into a model beet sugar factory near Ames, Neb., in connection with the Standard Cattle Company. Some of the most prominent and wealthiest of Boston's financiers are interested in this proposition, which, because of the remarkable favorable locality and experienced management, promises to be one of the most profitable of all the beet sugar enterprises. A good deal of New England money that has recently been made in copper stock will be invested in the beet sugar industry at various Western points. In Colorado a sugar mill of 800 tons daily cap-

acity has been contracted for, to be located at Grand Junction, in the western part of the State, and another large mill is pretty certain to be built at Pueblo, Col. Several others are wanted in that State. The beet sugar factory at Lehi, Utah, has just completed its eighth successive campaign with brilliant success, from both the manufacturing and agricultural standpoints. The new mill at Ogden, Utah, has also wound up its first season. The beet sugar factory at Eddy, N. M., in the Pecos valley, is doing fairly well, and others are contemplated in New Mexico and Arizona. One or more beet sugar factory enterprises are being agitated for in Wyoming, South Dakota, Montana and Idaho.

On the Pacific coast this industry has assumed large proportions. The biggest beet sugar factory in the world, located in the Salinas valley, California, has a capacity of 3,000 tons of beets per day, and with the neighboring factory at Watsonville will consume the product of nearly 50,000 acres of beets each year. In fact, these two mills will alone pay the farmers upward of \$2,500,000 every year for this new crop. The historic sugar mill at Alvarado, which has been running off and on for twenty-five years, has of late been so successful that its capacity has been doubled, and the same management are interested in the new mill of the Union Sugar Company, near Santa Maria, which will have a capacity of 1,000 tons of beets per day. The great beet sugar plant at Chino, San Bernardino county, Cal., has completed its eighth season, and is contracting for thousands of acres of beets of the 1899 crop, having a capacity of 1,000 tons daily. Its 1897 campaign was extraordinarily profitable. The Los Alamitos sugar house is to double its capacity, from 350 to 700 tons of beets per day of twenty-four hours. Perhaps the most model establishment of its kind in the world is the new 2,000-ton plant of the Pacific Sugar Company at the new town of Oxnard, Ventura county, Cal. It represents an investment of \$2,000,000, and a large town is building up about it. The capacity, now 1,000 tons of beets per day, will be increased to 2,000 tons, requiring 20,000 acres of beets each year.

So much for a beginning in our domestic beet sugar industry. With a favorable season these domestic sugar mills ought to produce 200,000 tons of sugar in 1899.—Herbert Myrick, in Bradstreets.

Sugar Beet Farms.

Contracts are being made with the farmers of San Joaquin county to grow beets for the Crockett sugar factory. It is intended to secure at least 5000 acres in this county and a very large portion of this has been contracted for. It is expected that 120,000 tons of beets will be grown here for the Crockett factory. Plowing has already been going on for some time and seeding will commence shortly now, as abundant rain has fallen to give assurance of a crop. Be-

sides the land secured in San Joaquin, there have been 2500 acres in Contra Costa, 1000 in Solano and 1800 acres at Dixon and Davisville put under contract, and in view of the late favorable rains, this amount will probably be doubled.

The Southern Pacific has proposed to carry up to 300 tons of beets free from Fresno county to the Crockett factory this season, in order to demonstrate whether sugar beets can be properly grown there. If the experiment is successful, a factory will follow at Fresno.

For several years the enterprising people of Springville, Utah, have been making efforts to secure a beet sugar factory. That region already produces some of the richest beets grown in America, as demonstrated by several years' experience with crops grown for the factory at Lehi, Utah. Messrs. Cutler and Austin of the Lehi factory have now offered to build a 350-700-ton factory at Springville, to be finished in time to work up the crop of 1900, provided they are given a 100-acre site and what water is needed to run the factory during its campaign. There is every hope that the proposition will be accepted.

The Oxnard Construction Company has contracted with the Detroit Sugar Co. to build and equip a 500-ton sugar factory at Rochester, Michigan. This plant is expected to consume from 50,000 to 75,000 tons of beets of the 1899 crop, and will contract for between 5000 and 10,000 acres of beets. The factory is to have an ideal location for the delivery of raw material and for the marketing of its finished product. It is backed by the strongest and wealthiest capitalists in Detroit, and promises to be a money-maker from the start.

The building of a beet sugar factory at Grand Junction, Colorado, is now an assured fact. The Colorado Sugar Manufacturing Company filed papers of incorporation on the 5th inst., and work will begin immediately on a 350 to 500-ton plant. The company is capitalized at \$750,000 and expects to have its plant running by October 1, 1899. The incorporators are reported to be among the wealthiest men of Colorado. A full supply of beets has been contracted for.—Chino Champion.

Oil in Road-Building.

The use of crude petroleum in laying dust on railroads has already been of service. Now it appears that it may be still more useful on ordinary country roads, especially where expense prevents macadamizing, as it not only does away with dust, but also with mud. In a letter to the Scientific American (December 24) Mr. Meigs, an engineer in the United States government employ, writing from Keokuk, Iowa, says:

"On a certain clay road in Pennsylvania, which lay deep in dust in summer and deep in mud in winter and spring, there was an oil pipe-line by the side of the road, which on a certain occasion sprang a leak and spouted a considerable quantity of oil on to

the road. An observer noted that for a space of several rods, to which the oil was transported by horses' feet and wagon-wheels, this road showed a marked improvement. The dust in summer did not rise, the mud in spring and winter did not exist. The explanation would seem to be that the oil formed a water-tight covering to the road, and the earth beneath being dry no ruts or mud could form and the road became good."

This led to experiments by Mr. Meigs, which are thus described:

"The present experiments are being made through the liberality of the Standard Oil Company, who, by Mr. Rockefeller's orders, placed a tank of crude oil at the disposal of the writer. On November 20, the writer coated a newly graded piece of dirt road with oil, distributed by means of an improvised sprinkler, over a strip about 12 feet wide by 200 feet long.

"A second part of the road way was sprinkled more lightly about 300 feet farther, making 500 or 600 feet in all, and eight barrels of oil were used in the experiment. The day after the sprinkling was done and before the oil had time to become absorbed, for it soaked in very slowly, a heavy rain fell. The road was examined during the rain, and quite a marked difference was seen between the oiled and unoled portions. Where oiled it was evident that the dirt beneath the surface was still dry and retained its supporting power, while on each side of the oiled portion it was muddy and rutty. A heavy freeze, with the temperature at zero, followed the rain, and on the 25th the road was again examined. The oiled part was still more different from the neighboring stretches; the unoled road was cut up with ruts one to two inches deep, and frozen rough and hard; the oiled portion was perfectly smooth, and the wheels made on it a muffled sound that showed the dirt beneath the surface was unfrozen and dry."

The author's conclusions as to the conditions that should regulate the use of oil on roads are given by him as follows:

"1. The road should be smoothly graded and rounded well, so as to shed water.

"2. Apply the oil to the roadbed while dry. If the soil is filled with water, the oil will penetrate with difficulty, and much of it will be carried off on the wheels of passing wagons.

"3. It would be well to roll the ground after the oil is put on. It has a tendency to collect in ruts and small hollows, and the roller would force it into the soil and distribute it evenly.

"4. Crude oil costs from 60 to 90 cents per barrel at the wells. Its odor is disagreeable, and oil from which the naphtha and kerosene have been extracted would be preferable to apply in warm weather. When cold the heavy oil becomes too stiff to be applied without heating. This could be overcome by some form of spraying apparatus, using a jet of steam."

New Sugar Refining Process.

We have been present at an experiment which marks an advance toward the solution of the problem of the transformation of granulated or No. 3 factory sugar into lump sugar for consumption.

The inventor of this process is Mr. Robin Langlois, formerly a refiner, and his studies have resulted in this method of rapid manufacture of sugar in lumps. Starting from the principle that almost all manufacturers of sugar now produce four-fifths of their output in fine and very pure white sugars, which may be said to require no further refining, he conceived the idea that it was now only necessary to invent an apparatus which would give these sugars the external appearance to which the consumers are accustomed, and after many trials and tentative efforts, he has succeeded in obtaining the desired result. This is arrived at by crushing the grains, which are usually somewhat large, so as to reduce them to the size of fine semolina. This semolina is heated and stirred at 45 degrees C. for fine grain, and at 60 degrees to 70 degree C. for very coarse grain, with a very small quantity of water, sufficient to form a pasty mass, viz., about 2 per cent. This pasty mass is then pressed into forms, where it is cooled somewhat suddenly by passing through it, by means of a suction pump, and for ten minutes, a continuous current of air. The bars formed are stored at a low temperature, 30 degrees to 40 degrees C., in order to complete the crystallization of syrup formed, and to remove every trace of moisture. This final operation, which is the longest, requires about eighteen hours. The bars thus obtained only need to be broken in the machine and made up in packets to be ready for the retailer and consumer.—Grocer's Criterion.

Prospects of German Sugar Industry.

There are not many things in economics or in taxation that are humorous, but the struggle of Germany with its sugar bounties is food for mirth. That it should impress statesmen in this period of the world's history that it was a wise plan to tax the people of their country heavily on sugar and use a part of the proceeds in paying a bounty on exports in order to supply sugar to foreigners at perhaps less than cost, and certainly at much less than the price of sugar to the people of the bounty-paying country, is not without its diverting features. It adds to the humor of the situation that Germany, which has been pressing this export bounty system far more than other countries, has been growing weary of it and would be glad to abandon it, but the nations that have followed her example are not yet tired of giving away sugar to foreigners, and if they will not abandon the bounty system Germany cannot without losing all her sugar export trade. Last summer the bounty-paying countries.

had a conference to see if they could not agree on abolishing bounties, and Germany and Austro-Hungary and some of the smaller bounty-paying states were anxious to do so, but France and Russia refused and the conference was futile.

In the lower branch of the Prussian Diet a few days ago there was manifested a good deal of fear of the sugar industry in the United States. The German statesmen are probably not afraid of our exporting sugar, although some of their remarks look a little that way; they are evidently alarmed lest the United States shall soon cease to be a good market for German sugar. This country is an enormous consumer of sugar, and it will take a long time for the beet industry in this country to supply the home market or even any considerable part of it. Probably there are only limited portions of this country where the sugar beet can be profitably raised. A more immediate danger to the German industry was referred to in the debate in the Diet, and that is the increased export of sugar that may be expected from Cuba with the war over and with American energy and capital going into the business.

German sugar has as good a chance to come into this country now as any other sugar has, but it has no longer the advantage for our tariff offsets that bounty. The result has been a heavy decline in the American importation of sugar from Germany. In eleven months of 1898 it was only 837,000,000 pounds, as compared with 1,059,000,000 pounds in the same part of 1897 and 814,000,000 pounds in the same part of 1896. Practically the whole of the import in the year 1897 was in the first seven months, before the present tariff went into effect. The total import of sugars was much less last year than in either of the two preceding years, but the percentage of the total which came from Germany was nearly 23 per cent in 1896 and little over 11 per cent in 1898. The importation of 1898 was greater than in 1896, in spite of a decreased total, from the British West Indies, Cuba, South America, the East Indies and Hawaii. The decreases were from Germany, West Indies other than Cuba and British, the Philippines and Africa.

The most interesting thing in the debate in the Prussian Diet was the recognition not only that the bounty system was a burden to the exporting country, but that it could not longer be depended on to maintain the prosperity of the sugar industry. The only two great importers of sugar are the United States and Great Britain, and the former is expanding its own beet production and manufacture, it will presently resume its large importations from Cuba and by means of its tariff it offsets the German bounty. The future of the German sugar industry, therefore, was admitted to depend upon increasing the home consumption, but the internal tax on sugar makes it

very expensive. Unless the tax can be reduced the consumption cannot be very greatly increased, and with a growing army and navy, and with increasing demands for subsidies for steamships to Asia and Africa, the financial branch of the government will not look with favor upon reductions of taxation. Yet it was the Minister of Agriculture who declared that the only remedy for the unsatisfactory prospect was to increase the domestic consumption. Sugar has been found to increase the marching capacity of soldiers, and it was capital to fatten hogs. But until sugar is far cheaper in Germany than it now is it is not likely to be a prominent part of the military ration or to be used extensively for fattening pigs.—N. Y. Journal Commerce.

The Duty on Moist Sugar.

New Haven, Conn. Jan. 21.—Judge W. K. Townsend of the United States District Court yesterday handed down an important decision in the case of the American Sugar Refining Company against the United States, in which is involved the legality of the right of customs appraisers to assess duty on moist or green sugar imported from Brazil in accordance with their construction of the laws regulating imports, etc. The decision of the court finds for the defendant, the action of the appraisers being affirmed. Following is the text of the decision:

Certain moist or green sugars were brought from Brazil into the port of New York while the Act of 1894 was in force, upon which duty was assessed at 40 per cent ad valorem under the provisions of paragraph 182½ of said act. It appears that there is an understanding, acquiesced in generally by shippers, importers and appraisers, that as the moist sugars from Brazil lost from 14 to 16 per cent in weight on the voyage by drainage and evaporation, this percentage of loss shall be generally accepted as a basis of settlement of value at the port of entry. The Board of Appraisers, acting upon the basis of this so-called settlement, assumed such a loss of weight and found, not the actual market value of the green sugar as shipped from Brazil, but the increased market value of the dry sugar when it reached the port of New York.

Thus the appraisers advanced the valuation of the sugar in the first importation from 6s 8d per cwt., 87 per cent, the market value when shipped, to 7s 9d per cwt., 87 per cent, owing to its increase in value from drainage on the voyage, and made similar advances in the other importations.

The question presented by these appeals is whether the appraiser was authorized in thus advancing the valuation of the sugar, and whether the assessment of duty upon such advanced valuation is valid.

Section 10 of the Customs Administration Act of 1890 provides inter alia as follows:

"That it shall be the duty of the appraisers of the United States to ascertain, estimate and appraise the actual market value and wholesale price of the merchandise at the time of exportation to the United States in the principal markets of the country whence the same has been imported."

Counsel for the importer contends that this language refers to that merchandise in its condition in the foreign port and its actual value at the time of exportation to the United States in the principal markets of

the country when it is imported. He claims that the phrase "actual market value of the merchandise" could not refer to the merchandise in its condition when it reaches the port of New York, because such valuation would be merely speculative, within the reasoning in *United States vs. Southmayd et al.*, 9 How., 637, and *Merritt vs. Welch*, 104 U. S., 694.

Counsel for the Government contends that the language of section 10 refers to the value in the foreign market of said merchandise in the condition in which it arrives at the port of New York. He claims that the mode adopted by the appraisers results in finding the actual market value at its place of exportation of such sugar as reaches this port.

Owing to drainage, there are less pounds of sugar on arrival here than when the ship left Brazil, but the cargo is actually worth as much as when it started. It appears, therefore, that if the sugar had been kept for the same length of time in Brazil the same loss of weight by drainage and increase in value per pound would have taken place there, and the value of the cargo as a whole would not have been affected thereby. If this be so, I do not think the importers should gain by the decrease in weight coupled with an increase in value per pound. Unless, therefore, the appraisers have acted in bad faith or have clearly committed a substantial error by their mode of ascertaining the market value in Brazil of the sugar on its arrival here, their decision should be affirmed. I am unable to find any such mistake or error (*Passavant vs. U. S.*, 148 U. S., 214).

This construction is supported by the statement of Mr. Justice Curtis, in *Austin versus Peaslee* (2 Fed., Cas. 235), that "The merchant is to pay duties on what is actually imported, not what is put up for export in the foreign country," and of Judge Colt, in *Weaver versus Sterry* (38 Fed., 493), that the true construction of the law is to assess duty only upon the quantity which arrives in port and not upon the quantity which appears by the invoice to have been shipped, and by the language of Judge Lacombe in charging the jury in *Reiss versus Magone* (39 Fed., 105), that if what reaches this country has become more valuable by reason of shrinkage it should, in fairness, be assessed at the higher value.

The decision of the Board of General Appraisers is affirmed.

H. B. Closson and A. K. Tingle appeared for the importers and Henry C. Platt for the United States.—N. Y. Journal-Commerce.

Personal.

Hon. James A. Ware, of Belle Grove, was in the city on Wednesday.

Mr. L. M. Soniat, of Dorceyville, La., was a visitor to the city on Thursday.

Mr. L. F. Sutton, of Houma, La., a gentleman deeply interested in all that pertains to sugar manufacture, was a guest of the Royal a few days ago.

Col. Wm. Minor, of Terrebonne parish, was in the city on Thursday last and attended the regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters Association.

Mr. F. G. Drouet, manager of the splendid properties of the Meeker estate in Rapides parish, was at the regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association last Thursday night.

FEB. 24.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	Feb. 18.	Feb. 20.	Feb. 21.	Feb. 22.	Feb. 23.	Feb. 24.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
SUGAR.								
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8		3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	— @ —	Steady.
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Strict Prime.....	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4		3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	
Prime.....	3 1/2 @ 3 1/2	3 1/2 @ 3 1/2	3 1/2 @ 3 1/2		3 1/2 @ 3 1/2	3 1/2 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	
Fully Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2		3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	
Good Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8		3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	
Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8		3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	
Good Common..	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4		3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	
Common.....	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4		3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	
Inferior.....	2 3/4 @ 2 1/8	2 3/4 @ 2 1/8	2 3/4 @ 2 1/8		2 3/4 @ 2 1/8	2 3/4 @ 2 1/8	2 3/8 @ 3	
Centrifugal.								
Plant'n Granulated	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	4 3/4 @ —	
Off Granulated...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ 4 1/4	
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ 4 1/2	
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	
Choice Yellow....	4 1/8 @ —	4 1/8 @ —	4 1/8 @ —		4 1/8 @ —	4 1/8 @ —	— @ 4 3/8	
Prime Yellow....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4		4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/4 @ 4 1/8	
Off Yellow.....	4 @ 4 3/4	4 @ 4 3/4	4 @ 4 3/4		4 @ 4 3/4	4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	
Seconds.....	2 3/4 @ 3 1/4	2 3/4 @ 3 1/4	2 3/4 @ 3 1/4		2 3/4 @ 3 1/4	2 3/4 @ 3 1/4	2 3/8 @ 3 1/4	
MOLASSES.								
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —		— @ —		— @ —			Strong.
Fancy.....	25 @ 30	None in first hands.	25 @ 30		25 @ 30			
Choice.....	23 @ 28		23 @ 28		23 @ 28			
Strict Prime.....	23 @ 24		23 @ 24		23 @ 24			
Good Prime.....	— @ 22		— @ 22		— @ 22			
Prime.....	— @ 21		— @ 21		— @ 21			
Good Fair.....	19 @ 20		19 @ 20		19 @ 20			
Fair.....	— @ 18		— @ 18		— @ 18			
Good Common..	— @ 17		— @ 17		— @ 17			
Common.....	— @ 16		— @ 16		— @ 16			
Inferior.....	— @ 15		— @ 15		— @ 15			
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —		— @ —		— @ —		— @ 14	
Choice.....	— @ 16		— @ 16		— @ 16		— @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ 14		— @ 14		— @ 14		— @ 12	
Good Prime.....	12 @ 13		12 @ 13		12 @ 13		— @ 11	
Prime.....	— @ 11		— @ 11		— @ 11		— @ 10	
Good Fair.....	— @ 9		— @ 9		— @ 9		— @ 8	
Fair.....	— @ 8		— @ 8		— @ 8		— @ 7	
Good Common..	— @ 7		— @ 7		— @ 7		— @ 6	
Common.....	— @ 6		— @ 6		— @ 6		— @ 5	
Inferior.....	— @ 6		— @ 6		— @ 6		— @ 5	
SYRUP.								

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 88°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Strong.
Centrifugals, 98°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72		— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	4.96 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60		— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	4.84 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96		— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 4.88	— @ 4.88	— @ 4.90		— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	11s. 6d.	11s. 6d.	11s. 6d.	—s.—d	11s. 6d.	11s. 6d.	11s. 0d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	9s. 7 1/2 d.	9s. 7 1/2 d.	9s. 8 1/2 d.	—s.—d.	9s. 9d.	9s. 8 1/2 d.	9s. 4 1/2 d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4		— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	Steady.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4		— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4		— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8		— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	
Candy A.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ 5 1/8	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Feb. 15	Tons	99,698
At four ports of Great Britain to Feb. 11	"	63,500
At Havana and Matanzas to Feb. 14	"	31,000

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Feb. 24, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Feb. 24, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses	Received	Sugar		Molasses
	Hbds.	Barrels.			Hbds.	Barrels.	
Received.....	187	8,815	2,769	7,487	1,157,010	208,546	
Sold.....	187	8,815	2,769	7,487	1,157,010	202,546	
Received same time last year	19,086			19,086	1,257,700	169,536	

FEB. 21.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

	Feb. 18.	Feb. 20.	Feb. 21.	Feb. 22.	Feb. 23.	Feb. 24.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.	
RICE.									
ROUGH, per bbl...	1 90@2 50	2 90@4 00	1 60@3 00	Holiday.	75@4 00	75@3 00	1 50@4 00	Fair demand.	
EXTRA FANCY....	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4		6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4		— @ —
CLEAN, Fancy....	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2		6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2		5 1/2@5 3/4
Choice....	5 1/4@5 1/2	5 1/4@5 1/2	5 1/4@5 1/2		5 1/4@5 1/2	5 1/4@5 1/2	5 1/4@5 1/2		5 1/4@5 3/8
Prime....	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8		4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8		4 3/4@5 1/8
Good....	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4		4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4		4 1/4@4 3/4
Fair....	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4		3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4		4 1/4@4 3/8
Ordinary	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4		3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4		3 1/2@4
Common.	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3		2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3		3 3/4@3 3/4
Inferior..	1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2		1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2		Nominal
No. 2.....	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	2 @2 1/4		
BRAN, per ton....	8 25@ 8 50	8 25@ 8 50	8 25@ 8 50		8 25@ 8 50	Nominal	9 50@10 00	Fair demand.	
PELISH, per ton...	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00	15 50@16 00		15 50@16 00	Nominal	14 00@15 00		

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Feb. 24, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Feb. 24, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.	This year.	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.	Last year.
Received	3,373	223	.....	634,203	2,886	.....
Sold	4,089	2,071	.....	424,017	3,255	.....

Sugar.

The local sugar market was firm at the close of the week and all offerings met with a ready sale. Receipts were light.

Molasses.

No. open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals strong.

Rice.

Rough rice was in fair demand at the end of the week and business was more extensive than for some time past. There were only moderate offerings of clean with a fair demand.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The transactions of the period covered by the report were the smallest of the year on account of the sharp advances in certain grades which have of late been attracting special attention from regular and speculative buyers. The approach and interruption of a holiday also furnished the convenient opportunity to "take a rest" without exciting the suspicion that there was any abatement of zeal and confidence. The foregoing refers only to the domestic; the demand in foreign for home and export being free and quite up to former volume. Advices from the South note restricted movement. Receipts have fallen off substantially and there seems to be no doubt among those familiar with the situation that the forward supply will prove little, if any in excess of last year at equal date. There is a large quantity of rice still in the fields but a large per cent of it is known to be worthless and most of the balance of stained and inferior grades—only fit for manufacturing or feeding purposes. This taken into consideration, with the further fact that prices of ordinary to fair grades are still far below importing cost of equal quality would seem to warrant continued confidence. There is no other side in domestic nor can there be so long as the protective wall of two

(2) cents per pound guards against the inflow of the imported. Respecting better grades they are fractionally high and for this reason suffer somewhat from the competition of the best selections in the foreign sorts. The total quantity of crop thus far marketed is about 266,500 barrels as against 210,000 barrels last year and of the amount remaining most, if not all is in strong hands, planters and others who can market with deliberation.

Talmage, New Orleans telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 634,535 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 469,200 sacks. Sales, cleaned (est.) 151,942 barrels; last year 81,400 barrels. All mills closed; receipts light; demand steady; market very strong.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 31,330 barrels. Sales 26,900 barrels. Fair movement, former range of values. Business temporarily suspended account heavy snow storm.

Peckinpugh, Harrison & Co.

Capt. Harrison, of the above named firm, tells us that his usual fleet of barges will soon make its appearance in front of the sugar plantations with its usual large and varied assortment of cane cart and wagon wood work of every description. The squadron this year will consist of three vessels, one going down the Mississippi, one down Bayou Lafourche and one down Bayou Teche. An efficient corps of officers will be in command, and the middle of March, or a little later, will find them at the doors of the sugar planters, ready to supply them with everything they may need in lines indicated above at rock bottom prices and without freight to pay, as the goods are delivered right at the plantation landings.

Personal.

Mr. C. Himel, of Donaldsonville, La., was at the St. Charles on Wednesday last. Mr. O. A. Picard is still at the Mary plantation, and making new friends every day as usual.

Mr. J. N. Caillouet, a highly esteemed resident of Houma, La., was among the recent arrivals at the Hotel Royal.

Mr. A. L. Keller, a prominent resident of Hahnville, La., was among the arrivals at the Hotel Grunewald during the week.

Col. J. W. Barnett, of Shadyside plantation, in St. Mary parish, was a guest of the St. Charles hotel during the past week.

Mr. R. R. Barrow, the prominent Terrebonne parish sugar planter and financier, was at the Grunewald during the past week.

Mr. J. W. Fodie, a gentleman prominently identified with the sugar planting interests of St. Mary parish, was a guest of one of our leading hotels during the week.

Captain John N. Pharr, of Fairview and Glenwild places near Berwick, came up to the city on Wednesday and registered at the St. Charles hotel, his usual stopping place.

Gov. H. C. Warmoth, of the Lower Coast, was in town Tuesday to see how the city looked after the freeze. He reported that things might be worse than they were in his section, and did not regard the destruction as total by any means.

Mr. B. Sandmann was the superintendent of the sugar house this past season at the fine Belle Alliance place of Messrs. E. & J. Kock on the Upper Coast. Mr. Sandman is way up at the top in his business, and he had to be to superintend Belle Alliance.

Mr. J. M. Labat was the sugar boiler during the past campaign at the splendid Woodlawn place and attended to his duties at the pan in his usual satisfactory manner. Mr. J. H. Duncan had charge of the machinery again as chief engineer and under his skillful supervision gilt edged results were of course had in the mechanical department.

Mr. L. Forsyth, Jr., the assistant manager of the immense Caffrey central factory, in St. Mary parish, was in town on Wednesday evening and put up at the Hotel Royal. Mr. Forsyth is one of the most thoroughly competent sugar plantation managers in the state of Louisiana.

Sugar Patents.

Patents relating to the sugar industry issued February 7, 1899, reported specially for the Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, patent attorney, Washington, D. C.

Trade-mark 32,473. Refined sugars. Henry Tate & Sons, Limited, London, England. The representation of a diamond-shaped outline.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 2-21-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A 1 references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3418 Constance street, New Orleans. 2-22-99

WANTED—A position as clerk in store by a young man of good habits and experience. Also have a practical knowledge of drugs. Good references. Address ROBERT, care Postmaster, Woodland, La. 2-23-99

WANTED—A position as carpenter or mill-wright on a sugar plantation. Best of references furnished. Address 418 N. Johnson street, New Orleans. 2-18-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 26 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 106, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—A position by an A. No. 1. Sugar dryer, am a machinist with 14 years experience. Address FRANK LORENZ, 302 S. Basin, St., City. 2-15-99.

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1824 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 24-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La. 18-99

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nesser, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, timekeeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish all references. Address "A. C." this office. 1-9

WANTED—A young, unmarried man desires to secure a position on a sugar plantation. Has had experience as clerk, overseer and other general work. Honest, sober and reliable. Can furnish best of references. Is willing to work for a nominal salary. Address at once J. L. SLACK, Tallulah, La. 12-31-98

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 531 Du-maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1035 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address Mrs. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98.

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$30. Address F. E. C., Shadyside Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYEE, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as manager of sugar plantation for the coming year. Ample experience, highest recommendations as to capacity, sobriety and ability to handle labor. Address D. A. BLOUIN, Whitecastle, La.

WANTED—Position as manager or assistant on sugar plantation for the coming year. Long experience and first-class references. Address A. G., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Solms P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation, by married man, 33 years of age, sober, energetic and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 256, New Iberia, La. 12-5-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOYER, care First New York Beet Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-6-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 22, City Hall, 12-3-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of Cane. Best references given. Address, M. E. W., Care Verandah Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-25-93.

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 6334 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—A young married man of small family, desires a position in Puerto Rico as time-keeper or sugar weigher. Have had several years' experience in sugar houses; also a very good book-keeper. Can furnish best of references. Address C. B. S., care Baton Rouge Sugar Co., Baton Rouge, La.

WANTED—Position as manager for 1899, by a first-class man of experience and fine references. Will take an assistancy and work very reasonable. Address E. W. CREIGHTON, Baton Rouge, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as second overseer or time-keeper on sugar plantation, for 1899. Address THEO. BAUDOIN, JR., Hannville, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—A sugar house expert, who is now, and has been for the past five years, the head chemist for one of the largest sugar houses in Louisiana, is open for an engagement for coming crop in Mexico, Cuba or Central America. Will accept a position on any terms consistent with first-class work. Can furnish best of testimonials from present employers and from the University from which he graduated. Address LEDA, this office. 12-8-98

WANTED—By a young chemist with university education and one year's experience in large Louisiana factory, a position for Mexican or Cuban campaign. Address A. M., care Louisiana Planter. 11-30-93

WANTED—By a first-class sugar boiler, to go to Mexico, Central America or the Hawaiian Islands. Will furnish the best of references. Address MANUEL MELLO, No. 836 Bartholomew street, New Orleans, La. 11-23-98

WANTED—Position for next crop by an A. No. 1 sugar boiler. Is now employed on one of the largest places in the State. Would have no objection to living on the place and making himself generally useful. Is a good cooper. Address GEO. CODE, 4730 Tchoupitoulas street, city. 11-25-98

WANTED—Position in this State or Mexico by an A. No. 1 sugar boiler who has references of the very first class. Address BOILER, 507 Chartres street, New Orleans. 11-9-98

WANTED—Chemist wants situation. Graduate of University of Michigan. Have had practical experience in the analysis of sugars and syrups. Am 25 years of age and unmarried. If necessary would be willing to go to the West Indies. Reference from former employer given. Address X, this office. 11-25-98

WANTED—Position as book-keeper and utility man in the country. Good references. Address COMPETENT, care Louisiana Planter. 11-21-98

WANTED—A position as book-keeper or manager of a country store by a thoroughly competent young married man with 14 years' experience. Would also open up and run a drug store in interest of employer. Can furnish A. No. 1 references. Address G. C. B., Donaldsonville, La. 11-21-98

WANTED—An expert sugar house man, as chemist or superintendent, is desirous of closing an engagement for coming crop in Mexico or Cuba. Has had six years experience on some of the largest plantations in Louisiana. Can bring references from present Central Factory, and testimonials from Dr. W. C. Stubbs. Those desiring the services of a thorough sugar house man, address OSCAR, box 574, Baton Rouge. 11-19-98

WANTED—Position as chemist in Mexico or Cuba for coming crop. Have had eight years experience and can furnish good references as to ability. Am at present employed at one of the leading sugar houses in Louisiana. Address CHEMIST, this office. 11-22-98

WANTED—An assistant sugar boiler at once. Address L. A. ELLIS, Sartartia, Tex. 11-17-98

WANTED—Position as assistant or head sugar maker. Can furnish first-class references. Address J. L. WIRTH, 1916 Toulouse street, New Orleans, La. 11-14-98

WANTED—Position as assistant overseer or time-keeper on a sugar plantation, for 1899. Married man 35 years of age. Address E. V. W., care S. C. Brodowski, 609 Sixth street, New Orleans. 11-15-98

WANTED—Experienced chemist, at present instructor in a large university in the Northwest, desires position in a warm climate. Best references. Address F. O. Box 1783, Iowa City, Iowa. 11-14-98

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

Vol. XXII.

NEW ORLEANS, MARCH 4, 1899.

No. 9.

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AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

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Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
Kansas Sugar Growers' Association,
Texas Sugar Planters' Association.

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branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chem-
ical, Political and Commercial.

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JOHN DYMOND.

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Space	1 month	3 month	6 month	12 month
1 inch.....	\$ 5 00	\$ 12 50	\$ 18 75	\$ 25 00
2 inch.....	9 50	24 00	36 00	48 00
3 inch.....	14 50	36 50	54 00	72 50
4 inch.....	19 00	47 50	71 25	95 00
5 inch.....	23 50	58 75	88 15	117 50
6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	105 00	140 00
7 inch.....	32 50	81 15	121 75	162 50
8 inch.....	36 00	90 00	135 00	180 00
9 inch.....	38 00	95 00	142 50	190 00
10 inch.....	40 00	100 00	150 00	200 00
Half Page.....	60 00	150 00	225 00	300 00
Full Page.....	100 00	250 00	400 00	500 00

All communications should be addressed to THE
LOUISIANA PLANTER, 320 Carondelet street, New Orleans,
La.

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Edward J. Gay,	J. H. Murphy,
Shattuck & Hoffman,	Andrew Price,
Emile Rest,	E. & J. Kock,
Thomas D. Miller,	Wm. Garig,
Schmidt & Ziegler,	Adolph Meyer,
T. G. McLeary,	A. A. Woods,
L. S. Clark,	Bradish Johnson,
J. B. Levert,	George P. Anderson,
Simpson Hornor,	A. L. Flonnot,
W. E. Bloomfield,	Richard Milhikou,
W. W. Sutcliffe,	W. P. Filas,
John S. Floore,	Lexin A. Becnel,
James C. Murphy,	J. N. Pharr,
Jos. Webb,	Julius J. Jacob.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Lucien Soniat, Secretary
D. R. Calder, W. B. Schmidt,
John Dymond, President, Louis Bush,

Velvet Beans.

This valuable plant has been grown extensively in this state during the past year. Our agricultural press has been filled with accounts of its superior excellence. The plant is still on trial, but promises to become a rival to our best varieties of cow-peas, wherever it can be grown. Unfortunately it is not yet well acclimated, so far as the production of seed is concerned, since an early frost last year destroyed many immature pods. By planting very early and using some tree, house bush, or arbor upon which the vines can climb, the seeds can be matured before frost. Gradually by acclimation and selection, it is believed its cultivation can be successfully extended even north of this state. As it requires comparatively few seeds per acre, planted as usually done, in rows about four feet wide and two feet apart in the drill, it is worthy of extensive cultivation even for its enormous vines, which can be easily cured into an excellent quality of hay. It is an enormous nitrogen gatherer, as analysis elsewhere shows. The tubercles on its roots are the largest of any plant so far experimented with. Coral-like clusters of tubercles, each as large as a hen's egg, have been gathered from its roots, and analysis made of them by Mr. Clarke, station chemist, at State Experiment Station, Baton Rouge, La., showed six per cent. of nitrogen. The vines may be cured into hay or turned under easily with a disc plow. In summer old leaves are replaced by new ones and the ground, underneath the vines, becomes covered with dead leaves. The seed grow in velvety pods, which are collected into racemes, thus making them easy to gather. They are difficult to shell by hand. The seed are larger than a cow-pea, and a bushel will plant several acres.

The only work in the scientific investigation of this bean, that we have

seen, is reported in Bulletin No. 35, of the Florida Experiment Station. Prof. A. A. Persons, chemist of that station, reports the following analysis of the bean, and then compares it with cow pea.

"An analysis of the beans, not including the shells or pods, made by Professor A. A. Persons, gave the following results:

"ANALYSIS OF THE VELVET BEAN.

"Moisture at 100 degrees11.93 per cent
"Crude Ash 2.02 per cent
"Crude Protein18.81 per cent
"Albuminoid Nitrogen 2.87 per cent
"Crude fat (ether extract) .. 6.29 per cent
"Crude Fiber 7.45 per cent
Nitrogen (free extract)53.50 per cent

"Calculated to a water-free basis, and compared with an analysis of the cow pea under the same conditions, the following figures express the relative composition of the two:

	Velvet bean.	Cow-pea.
"Ash	2.20	10.50 per cent
"Protein	21.36	14.30 per cent
"Fat	7.14	2.60 per cent
"Fiber	8.46	29.00 per cent
"Nitrogen (free extract)	60.75	43.60 per cent

"The nutritive ratio of the cow-pea is about 1.3. It is impossible to assign a definite ratio to the velvet bean, for the reason that, so far as I am aware, its percentage of digestibility has never been determined. The only manner of accomplishing this is by means of practical feeding experiments with stock.

"Assuming the digestibility of this velvet bean to be equal to that of the cow-pea, it will be found that it compares quite favorably with the latter, and since it grows luxuriantly in different sections of the state, and since stock are known to feed upon it with great relish, it may, perhaps, play a prominent part as a forage crop in Florida in the future.

"It is to be classed among the feed stuffs which are especially rich in nitrogen [protein substances]. A feeding stuff so rich in nitrogen should not be fed alone but in conjunction with some coarse fodder containing a much larger proportion of carbohydrates [starch, etc.], such, for example, as corn fodder."

This analysis, supplemented by those given elsewhere in this bulletin, will furnish all the information necessary to form a correct estimate of the value of this plant as a nitrogen gatherer. There are rumors of a poisonous principle in the beans of this plant, but judging from

the above remarks, and others made in the same bulletin by Dr. Clute and Mr. Green, an orange grower, of Orlando, Fla., these rumors are not founded in fact.

The velvet beans are largely used in Florida, and, to some extent, in this state, in the orange groves, both as a fertilizer for the trees and as a destroyer of weeds and grasses. It will completely destroy Bermuda and temporarily obscures coco or nut grass (*Cyperus rotundus*). It may, perhaps, successfully cope with Johnson grass.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

The March meeting of this association will be held next Thursday evening at No. 712 Union street, at 8 p. m. The same topic as was discussed in February, viz: "The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane—Whether by Test or Otherwise," will be again taken up and Dr. Stubbs has promised to be present and supply the association with all the facts and data in his possession bearing upon the topic under consideration. The meeting cannot fail to be a very interesting one, and doubtless the capacity of the meeting room will be again taxed to accommodate the attendance as it was last month. The annual election of officers to serve during the ensuing year will also take place. It should be distinctly understood that all interested, whether members of the association or not, are invited to be present.

Demand for Improved Sugar Machinery.

There is an increasing demand for improved sugar machinery in every sugar country that is making any effort to sustain its industry. There would have been a good demand for such machinery in this state this season but for the great freeze of February 13th, and now that our planters are finding that their fears are not sustained by the facts and that a fair cane crop is still to be made in this state this season, the injury from the freeze being far less than was expected, we may expect the inquiry for sugar machinery to rise again. What some other countries are doing in this direction may be judged from a

letter that the Louisiana Planter has just received from S. Morris Lillie, Esq., president of the Sugar Apparatus Manufacturing Co., of Philadelphia, in which Mr. Lillie says he has now in process of construction one quadruple-effect of 150,000 gallons capacity for the Pioneer Sugar Plantation, Hawaii; one triple effect, 300,000 gallons capacity for glucose solutions, for the Glucose Sugar Refining Co., of Chicago; one triple-effect, 180,000 gallons capacity, and one triple-effect, 150,000 gallons capacity, in course of construction by Messrs. McOnie, Harvey & Co., of Glasgow, for Demerara estates, this firm being licensed to manufacture the Lillie multiple effects under Mr. Lillie's British patents. We can only hope that the better prospects now developing will soon increase the demand here for sugar machinery.

Latest News From the Plantations.

The past week has brought about one noteworthy improvement, inasmuch as the weather has been predominantly dry and warm, allowing field work to be done on all the plantations. As the exceptionally wet weather we have had ever since last September has doubtless been more injurious to our cane crop than the recent record-breaking freeze itself, and as all field work was exceptionally backward, the change to dryer atmospherical conditions is an event of the very greatest importance. So far as the examination of stubble and seed cane have progressed, they seem to indicate better and less alarming conditions than heretofore, but it will be impossible to judge with any accuracy until the spring advances and the development of vegetation begins. In the meantime we know that the crop situation is far better than seemed likely two weeks ago and that it is not at all likely that any very serious disaster is to be looked for. That the state will make at least a three-fourths' crop is, from present indications, entirely probable.

Condition of the Cane Crop.

In sugar circles the absorbing problem during the last two weeks has been the effect of the great freeze upon the coming cane crop. Our review of the effect of the great freezes of the past,

published in our issue of two weeks ago, we believe still gives a fair foundation for reasonably accurate judgment as to the outcome of the crop of 1899. As we showed in that article the general effect of the very exceptionally severe freezes in the past has been to cut down the crop one-third from that which preceded it. The reasons for the non-application of this rule to 1856 were given.

We have now had two weeks of time during which much careful examination of the cane crop has been made and considerable field work done. The inauguration of field work, the planting of the cane reserved for seed, and the barring off of the cane stubbles reveal conditions eminently satisfactory under all the circumstances.

The news from the northern limits of the sugar belt continues unsatisfactory, perhaps bad, but the central and southern portions are sending in good and gratifying views. First, the fall plant cane is generally reported as all right. The September and October rains lessened the usual quantity of fall plowing and planting, but we are assured that what planting was done is now in good condition.

In all past great freezes, as we stated two weeks ago, the seed cane was never seriously injured, the crops immediately following the freezes having been made chiefly from plant cane, and the stubble cane crops showing the deficiency brought about by the freezes. The recent freeze having been severe beyond precedent, apprehensions were at once excited as to the condition of the seed cane. Careful examinations have shown that in many cases it is not in prime condition, but that where carefully windrowed the injury to it by the freeze is not the chief cause, nor even a very material cause, of the deterioration. The rainy winter was harmful to seed cane in windrow and considerable injury resulted therefrom, but the main cause of deterioration was the green and perishable condition of the seed cane when put down. The extraordinary greenness of the cane crop that resulted in but two-thirds of a normal yield of sugar for the season, is felt with equal severity in much of the cane saved for seed. The defective seed cane was ascribed to the

freeze until more careful examination showed no perceptible influence of frost but big, spongy, dry, dead eyes, the natural outcome of green cane saved for seed this last season. Some seed cane in windrow is found in excellent condition and this is generally the case where the canes were the ripest and straightest.

Our reports from first stubble in sandy lands have been good generally. There seemed considerable doubt about the status of first stubbles in stiff lands, but this doubt is now disappearing and in the southern sugar parishes we hear reports of its not being seriously injured. The chief unsolved problem then seems to be the second stubbles. We hear that in stiff land they are bad, in some sandy land they are good.

On the whole we are led to believe that the condition of the cane crop is far better than we thought probable two weeks ago; that plant cane, seed cane and stubble, while suffering some injury from the great freeze, are even now in better condition than many a crop we thought reasonably good twenty years ago. In arriving at these conclusions we exclude from consideration the northern tier of sugar parishes from which the news thus far is indefinite and conflicting.

We are now led to ask why the Louisiana cane crop has so readily and easily survived the great freeze of 1899? We believe that the secret lies in the short duration of the freeze. Sunday morning, February 12, opened with a fall of sleet. It grew colder during the day. Monday morning gave the lowest recorded temperature. Thursday morning revealed a change for the better, the temperature rising ten degrees. The low temperature prevailed for but part of one night and did not exhaust the latent heat of the planted canes, seed canes or stubbles, and, while we may have escaped destruction by the skin of our teeth, still we escaped.

Frederic Cook.

We are called upon to chronicle the death of this distinguished gentleman who has been a prominent figure in the sugar industry of Louisiana for nearly half a century. Mr. Cook was born

in England and came to the United States in his youth and was employed at the Novelty Iron Works, New York, the establishment that did much of the best engineering work for the sugar planters of Louisiana in ante-bellum days. Before the civil war he established the immense Belleville Iron Works in Algiers and engaged largely in the manufacture of sugar machinery. After the civil war he engaged in sugar planting in Louisiana, but a lucky invention of his, the Arrow cotton tie, became so successful as to monopolize his attention for a number of years.

During recent years he has been engaged in erecting bagasse furnaces of his own invention and also in the erection of Babcock and Wilcox boilers, for which company he has been the agent for many years.

Mr. Cook was an engineer of high order, and thoroughly comprehended the most obscure problems of modern mechanical engineering. He was one of the advanced thinkers and workers in our industry and will be greatly missed. Mr. Cook was seventy years of age at the time of his death and succumbed to an attack of the grip, which developed into pneumonia, and he died Sunday morning, February 26.

Sugar as a Ration.

There is probably no respect in which the war office of Germany stands further ahead of the war department of other nations than in the scientific attention it pays to the neat, comfortable clothing of the soldiers, to the portability of their equipment, and to the nutritive quality of their rations.

We, in the United States, it is true, made an experiment during the recent war, according to the general commanding Uncle Sam's army, as to whether we could not feed our soldiers on "embalmed" beef, having the not over-pleasant odor of a dead body. It was not, however, an experiment of the sort which, by any stretch of charity or even of imagination, could be classed as scientific; and it was accordingly discontinued at the earliest possible moment, as not likely to lead to any pleasant or satisfactory result.

But, in the Fatherland, they do these things differently; and, with men of splendid military records in the War Office, employing chemists and scientists of recognized ability to help them in making experiments looking to the convenience and comfort of the soldiers, they reach conclusions which in many instances enable them to surpass the War Departments of other nations.

An illustration of this fine progressiveness of the War Department of the German empire is furnished in a recent issue of the British Medical Journal, quoted in the Literary Digest. While the French general staff have been chiefly occupied in defending themselves against the charge of having illegally convicted an artillery officer of Jewish blood, and of compelling him to live a life worse than death merely to save themselves from exposure and from being driven ignominiously from the office which they have disgraced; and while military officials of the United States have been blackguarding each other like Billingsgate fishwives, and have been effectively demonstrating to the people that they not only do not understand the business of handling armies but that they are not even (what is known as) gentlemen, the German War Department have been scientifically investigating the question as to what easily portable food it is that contains most sustenance for the German soldier.

The question that has recently been before the German War Office is as to the value of sugar as nourishment for troops; and the practical way in which they have sought to ascertain that value is as simple as it is scientific. "In each of the companies directed to carry out the experiments," says the British Medical Journal, "ten men, chosen from among the least vigorous, were told off as the subjects for experiment, another ten being also selected who were strictly confined to the service rations. The amount of sugar supplied daily to the ... during the continuance of the autumn maneuvers, was gradually increased, and their weight increased proportionately more than that of those who were without it, while the men themselves were in better health and more vigorous than they had been before. When on the march, a piece of sugar relieved hunger and appeased thirst; while, thanks to it, it was found easier to fight the exhaustion produced by heat. No objection was made by the men to taking the sugar."

After such a valuable experience as this, it would not be astonishing to learn that the recommendation has been made, and is likely to be adopted, by the German War Department, to add sugar to the soldiers' rations in one of the three following ways: "(a) As to supplementary allowance, with the view of improving the men's daily ration; (b) as an integral part of the men's reserve store of provisions, and of the supplies for fortresses, hospitals and ships; and (c) as a temporary allowance for strengthening the men and renewing their vigor on the march."

Instead of wrangling, as the war officials are doing in France, or calling names, as they are doing in the United States, it would be vastly more profitable to take a leaf out of the German War Department's book. They attend strictly to military business there, and they are, in consequence, a military nation with which no other nation dares to take liberties.—Times-Democrat.

CANE BUYING SCHEDULE OF BELLE HELENE PLANTING CO.

Table with columns for Weekly Price Second Sugar 89° Test, Weekly Price Y. C. Sugar 90° Test, and various yield categories (Yield 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155) with sub-columns for First and Second cuts, and Seller/Fac'ty.

The Campbell System.

The Campbell system of soil culture consists of a complete rearrangement and pulverizing of the top seven or eight inches of soil, turning it as nearly bottom upwards as possible.

After the deep plowing and subsurface packing the next step is to keep the upper two inches of the surface soil constantly dry. This forms a soft mulch or dust blanket, so as to cut off the moist earth below from the effects of the air.

Trade Notes.

Graphite.

The Joseph Dixon Crucible Co., of Jersey City, are issuing a monthly journal called "Graphite" and devoted to the dissemination of data concerning the many excellences of this mineral in the manufacture of which this company and its immediate successors have been engaged for nearly a century.

There is no doubt of the great lack of knowledge among machinery users generally of the wonderful lubricating properties of graphite, or plumbago or black lead as it is sometimes called. It may hardly be to the interest of the oil manufacturers and dealers to give information concerning the merits of graphite as a lubricant, but it

certainly is to the interest of oil consumers to learn of other lubricants that may increase the efficiency and perhaps cheapen the cost of the lubricants they are now using. All such will do well to address the Joseph Dixon Crucible Co., Jersey City, for data.

Mr. Geo. P. Anderton.

There are but few of our readers, at least in Louisiana, who are unacquainted with Mr. Anderton, and the object of these few lines is not to introduce him in his every day character as a first-class fellow, but to introduce him in his comparatively new role of consulting engineer, with an office in the Hennen Building.

Mr. Anderton, as is well known, is a thoroughly expert sugar house engineer, and an eminently practical one, operating his own sugar house and knowing all the ins and outs of the business from the fire doors to the proof stick, and he now offers his services to anyone who contemplates making additions to his plant, or constructing a new one, or one desiring his machinery repairing to be superintended, and being the representative of no manufacturing concern except the Wm. S. Haines Co., makers of the Heintz Steam Trap, he feels that he can practice his profession in a broad, comprehensive, and unprejudiced way.

Personal.

Mr. Joseph F. Kramer, a gentleman prominently identified with the sugar planting interests of St. Mary parish, was a guest of the Commercial hotel last Friday.

Mr. John R. Gheens, of Golden Ranch

plantation, in the parish of Lafourche, arrived in the city on Friday last for a brief visit and took rooms at the Hotel Royal.

Mr. Charles A. O'Neill, a leading resident of Franklin, La., was registered at the Hotel Grunewald a few days ago.

Mr. Leonce M. Sonlat, of Cedar Grove plantation, near Dorceyville, in Iberville parish, was in the city on Saturday last. He considered it too soon to speak positively regarding the effects of the late freeze.

Mr. C. F. Braffett, of Chicago, who is prominently connected with that well-known concern the Simonds Manufacturing Company, was in the city during the past week and was a guest of the St. Charles hotel.

Mr. A. A. Fuseller, who is a thoroughly well posted man in everything pertaining to sugar cane culture and sugar manufacture, was one of the arrivals of the Cosmopolitan hotel last week.

Mr. A. J. Lasseigne, of Raceland, La., registered at the Cosmopolitan hotel a few days ago.

Mr. G. D. Von Phul, of Baton Rouge, was registered at the Hotel Royal on Sunday.

Mr. J. P. Kemper, of Franklin, La., a sugar house engineer of high repute and an inventor of some valuable labor saving appliances, was in the city during the past week. Mr. Kemper stopped at the Royal.

Mr. Joseph Birg, a prominent St. Mary parish sugar planter, was a Sunday guest of the St. Charles.

Mr. Wm. Garig, of Baton Rouge, president of the First National Bank of that city, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He stopped at the St. Charles hotel.

Mr. F. J. Webb, of Baton Rouge, general manager of the Baton Rouge Sugar Company, located near that city, was in the city on a visit a few days ago, making his headquarters at the St. Charles hotel.

Mr. John J. Shaffer, a leading St. Mary parish sugar planter, was temporarily domiciled at the St. Charles hotel during the week, having come down to the city on one of his frequent business trips.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Gentle spring has arrived and at this writing there is no indication of the coy maiden permitting old winter to linger in her lap. We've been blessed with some dry weather also, and advantage has been taken of it to get the colored and Italian troops, the mules, plows, harrows and such like into the field on every hand to open the deferred stubble shaving and cane planting campaign. There was a sharp rain Sunday morning and it looked as if the prospects of resuming field work on Monday would be blasted, but a favorable change took place and there has been no further percipitation up to the time this letter is closed--Wednesday night. The indications point to more rain, however, a warm southerly wind prevailing that is bringing constantly thickening banks of clouds from a gulfward direction.

The feeling with regard to cane crop prospects is by no means so hopeful as it was a week ago, and many planters and managers who were confident of a good stand from stubble and that windrowed seed would be found in good average condition, are now apprehensive that both classes of cane have suffered to a much greater extent than had been previously supposed. There has been a general disposition to expect little from fall plant, owing to the prevalence of unfavorable weather conditions ever since it was put down, and so far as heard from, examinations tend to show that this estimate was well founded.

Col. J. Emile St. Martin, who is always prone rather to optimism than pessimism in such matters, reports his stubble and seed cane in very unsatisfactory condition, and there are few places in this section more favorably situated than his, either as to character or conformation of the soil, for the protection and preservation of cane during the winter season; and no one who knows the reputation of Manager L. M. St. Martin, as a cultivator, will doubt that every proper and possible precaution was used in this direction. Unless meteorological conditions during the next few weeks are extremely propitious. Col St. Martin thinks that not more than half a crop can be made, and with bad weather to contend against, the outcome will in all likelihood be still more meagre.

Col Richard McCall is quoted as reporting that of four acres of seed uncovered on McManor only about one-fourth was in good condition for planting. The air is full of unpleasant rumors to like effect from various directions, and the developments of the ensuing month will be awaited with widespread interest and anxiety. We find food for consolation and renewed hope in the demonstrated fact expressed Sunday morning by Mr. Leonee M. Soniat, of Iberville,

to a party of gentlemen discussing the crop outlook:

"Sugar cane is a very hardy plant and displays degrees of vitality that often surprise the oldest and most experienced planters."

The Donaldsonville Chief printed in its issue of last Saturday a portrait of one of the leading managers of this parish, Mr. Sam J. Boote, together with a sketch of his managerial career which may prove of sufficient interest to the Planter's readers to justify its reproduction:

"Mr. Samuel John Boote, whose portrait is presented above, will on the 1st of March relinquish the management of the Miles Planting & Mfg. Co.'s Clark plantation and assume that of the same company's Monroe plantation, the lower one of the seven places located on the left bank of the Mississippi river in the parish of Ascension and commonly known as "the Miles group." Mr. Boote's change of base is to be made at his own instance and request, and is due primarily to the fact that the present manager, Mr. J. Monroe Breaux, has purchased a half interest in a plantation in the parish of Terrebonne and is about to assume control of the property. Thinking the health of his family might be improved by the more eligible situation of the Monroe residence, Mr. Boote applied for the transfer, and it was readily granted, as would have been predicted by all who know the high degree of confidence and esteem in which he is held by his employers. Monroe is generally regarded as the best place of the Miles group, hence Mr. Boote's future success may be considered assured insofar as it depends upon competency of management.

The subject of this sketch was born in the parish of Iberville, near Island postoffice, in April, 1850, the son of Wm. B. Boote and Irma Chiasson. He attended the parochial school in that vicinity, and after the war worked the home place for awhile. He went to Texas thinking to find a better opening there, but soon returned to eat shrimps and drink Mississippi river water in Louisiana, deeming the fare and the country "plenty good for him."

In December, 1875, armed with a letter of introduction from Henry C. Braud, his boyhood companion and life-long friend, Mr. Boote applied to the late John Burnside for employment and was assigned to duty as assistant manager of Donaldson plantation, familiarly called "the college," of which Mr. James K. Tucker was manager. After serving the regular course of four years—two under "Jim" Tucker and two under the latter's brother John—Mr. Boote was promoted to the post of Donaldson's manager in 1880 and made a crop of 495 hogsheads of sugar on the place that year, a larger number by 71 hogsheads than had been produced there any previous season since the civil war.

In 1887 Mr. Boote was transferred to the

adjoining Riverton plantation, which he managed for two years, breaking its post bellum crop records with an output of 887,000 pounds of sugar in 1887 and 1,140,000 pounds in 1888. At the beginning of the ensuing year, 1889, he went to Clark plantation as the successor of Manager James K. Tucker, and has remained there ever since, a term of ten consecutive years.

Clark has had but three managers in the last twenty-seven years—the late W. F. J. Davis, from 1872 to 1877, inclusive; then his pupil, James K. Tucker, from 1878 to 1888, inclusive; then Mr. Tucker's pupil, Sam J. Boote, from 1889 to 1899. Although it has the reputation among the uninitiated of being the best place of the Miles group, it is in reality the hardest one of the lot to manage, since it has always been under the control of men of the highest capacity, and the maintenance of their standard has called for the exercise of skill and industry of the first calibre.

Mr. Boote is the head of an exceptionally bright and interesting family. He was married at Napoleonville June 7, 1882, to Miss Estelle Johnson, and they have seven children, ranging in age from sixteen years to one year and named Carroll, Cora, Rowena, Clarence, Annie, Wallace and Virginia.

Besides being a first-class manager, a model citizen, husband and father, a warm-hearted friend and genial associate, Mr. Boote is a tip-top marksman with the fowling piece, and has won several medals in competition with the crack shots of Ascension and adjacent parishes on the claybird field. He is a leading member of the Burnside Gun Club and the boon companion of that enthusiastic sportsman, Dr. W. P. Miles, Jr., the president and chief promotor of the organization. The Chief but echoes the sentiment of all the many friends of Mr. Boote and his family in expressing the hope that they will enjoy an unstinted meed of health, happiness and prosperity in their new home.

Mr. J. Furniss Saxon, now assistant manager of Clark plantation, will step into Mr. Boote's shoes as manager, and there is every reason to believe that he will prove the worthy successor of a noble chief.

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

This week's weather has been quite contrary to what we have been having through the winter and our poor worried planters have at last begun to plant their cane and to off-bar and shave their stubbles and in a short while the question of damage from the late cold spell will be settled and the extravagant guessing of many sunk till the thermometer runs near the zero mark again, which we hope will not be soon. From many reports we glean the fact that the

damage, to the cane from the cold was not great, as the intense cold either did not linger sufficiently long to kill things in the ground or the snow immediately preceding the cold served to protect the soil from the cold. It is certain however, that fruit trees that were thought to be killed are putting out leaves and flowers and stubbles are sprouting, and plant cane in some places with less than 3 inches of dirt is doing as nicely as could be expected. The season however has been so wet that the seed cane at best is only tolerably good, while some is exceedingly indifferent and while we are satisfied the cold did very little damage, we think that the acreage will be shorter than usual and that the seed will not be as good.

The best report comes from Messrs LeBlanc & Danos, of Plaquemine, and is that the seed at their Milly plantation is perhaps better than last year and a good stand is expected from stubble.

Mr. Simon LeBlanc, of St. Gabriel, has

Mr. Simon LeBlanc, of St. Gabriel, has that part of the Buckhall place, adjoining Monticello which lies back of the Valley Railroad. Besides cultivating Monticello in cane and Evergreen, Mrs. Jules Gueymard's large place just below St. Gabriel, in rice. Mr. LeBlanc has leased the Gartness plantation in the parish of East Baton Rouge and will put it in rice too. Mr. LeBlanc is an excellent planter and always makes good crops.

A number of planters were in Plaquemine this week aunting for stubble shavers.

Mr. Charles Lobdell, of Bayou Goula, failing to get sufficient land to justify him in planting rice, has concluded to give up rice planting and expects to engage in cane farming.

A colored man named Johnson Barnes has leased all the cane land on the Avery plantation and will sell the cane raised to the Baton Rouge refinery.

Congressman Broussard favored a good many with garden seeds last week and they came in handy, for the late cold killed off everything in the vegetable line and a new start had to be made.

Mrs. Marcellin Martinez, who formerly owned the Mespilus plantation in this parish died last week at the residence of her son, Mr. Didier Martinez, manager of Alhambra plantation.

Mr. James M. Carville, of the 5th ward, who was last year engaged in rice planting with Mr. J. E. Humphreys died last week at his home at Dreyfous.

Four ladies whose combined ages exceed 300 years have recently died in this parish, viz.: Mrs. Thomas Cropper, Mrs. Lusignan Folse, Mrs. Francois Saurage and Mrs. Marcellin Martinez.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

As time rolls away the effects of the late severe freeze, while not yet altogether clear,

are becoming more apparent. There can no longer be any doubt as to the condition of the second year's stubble—it is ruined. As one veteran planter expresses it: "In three months there will be nothing on the land where second-year stubble now stands to indicate that cane was ever planted on it." This, so far as I can learn, is true of the parish as a whole. First year's stubble seems to be a shade better, a few good, or apparently good, eyes being found here and there. Even as to these, however, the outcome is more or less doubtful, in view of the rapid deterioration of both plant and stubble during the week following the zero temperature. In other words, some of the first year's stubble may be saved, or it may all be lost. As to this, time alone can tell. The best that any one dares hope for is from one-fourth to half a stand. Reports as to the condition of seed cane are still conflicting and divergent. That a great portion of it is lost now seems certain. On several plantations it is said that the destruction of the seed is complete. In other cases the planters are more hopeful, believing that they will at least have enough cane this year for a full planting next year. In this connection the fact is recalled that on Thursday of last week one of our prominent planters went to New Orleans to investigate the feasibility of importing cane from Cuba for this year's planting on his place. It was his intention to purchase seed at any convenient point on the island and have it placed in hogsheads, packed with dirt and brought direct to his plantation aboard the ship. During the past few days nothing further has been heard of the matter; but if the experiment is made, the outcome will be watched with the keenest interest by planters and everybody else. That the expense of such an undertaking would be enormous goes without saying; whether the game would pay for the candle is another question. A majority, if not all, of the planters here are puzzled as to what they shall do with their places in the event that the cane, as now seems probable, is totally lost. Most of them are opposed to cultivating rice for obvious reasons while cotton or corn, or both, would scarcely be profitable at present prices.

One feature of the situation seems to be permanently settled, and that is the question of wages. Even before the unprecedented freeze of Feb. 11-13, when it was known that the seed cane had been injured by the incessant rains, the question of a reduction in wages was being agitated, and a cut was deemed inevitable. That impression deepened into a conviction after the freeze, but the extent of the reduction had not been agreed upon. Last Monday, however, when field work was begun the laborers were informed that thenceforth they would get 60 cents per day. This cut was taken very philosophically by the hands, who realize the situation, and who, as a matter of fact, had expected a cut to 50

cents per day. It is probable that the scale of wages as above has been, or will be, adopted throughout the parish.

A light rain fell last Saturday night and early Sunday morning, followed by clearing weather during the day. Monday morning dawned clear and bright, and there was a general ringing of plantation bells, and turning out of hands, who were exceedingly glad to resume work after their long enforced idleness. Field operations have been pushed forward continuously since then, but a heavy fog this (Wednesday) morning threatens more rain soon. As to much of the field work now being done it seems to be a case of "love's labor lost"—at least such is the case in

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Brighter weather this Monday morning has caused the gloom for the moment to depart from the brow of the cane planter, and to hope that at last an end has come to the terrible weather so long continued. There is one subject that cane buyers and seller can easily agree upon and that is the thoroughly disgusting weather that we have been afflicted with for many months.

As much has been said by both buyer and seller on the subject of the correct principle upon which cane shall be bought, perhaps the views of the cane sellers who do not usually rush into print may be of interest. I have spoken with a good many of them of late, and while I do not pretend to express the views of all, I believe I voice the opinion of many. They are, as a rule, men averse to giving their ideas, and yet they are men who have very decided ideas of their own.

I judge from conversation that for the present at least they are not in favor of the sucrose test, and at all times are shy of the test of chemists. They dislike complicated contracts, the simpler the better, and naturally are suspicious of a test made by a man employed by the buyer, particularly if he selects the cane out of each lead for the test. A contract based somewhat on the Belle Helene idea would be more generally acceptable, as the output of cane involves no intricate figuring. They say with some justice that the buyer only saw the necessity of the sucrose test, after a year of very green cane, and that during the seasons when cane was very ripe no one suggested the sucrose test. On the other hand they are willing to admit that the seller of green cane should not be paid as much as the grower of ripe cane. How to decide this vexed question in justice to all interested is difficult, and the chances are that it will require time and patience to attain a satisfactory solution. Planters speak more cheerfully as to the condition of the stubble, but pray for an early, warm spring, so that the good eyes will not be destroyed by cold

rains, or weather alternating warm and cold. The seed cane is not hurt by the cold according to most planters, but there are many doubtful as to the fall plant. Time alone will satisfactorily answer these questions, and we will know

MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Probably never in the history of the cane sugar industry in the State have cane growers had six months in succession any one year as unpropitious for the plant as has been experienced from the first of September until the first of March. But for the extreme hardness of the plant it would have been exterminated by the continued unfavorable meteorological influences. Much anxiety is felt and opinions differ as to the probable outcome of the present crop season. Fortunately the weather has improved latterly, the land has dried rapidly, and planting has been resumed. Last week but little field work was accomplished although some corn was planted on places where the cane area has been seeded. Reports still continue to differ as to the outlook from the stubble, but the consensus of opinion seems to be that the black lands will not compare favorably with the sandy soils.

From present indications it may be found later that where fields were heavily dosed with nitrogen in a potential form, either animal or vegetable, then the seed cane and stubble will have been most defective, virtually having been impaired by the excessive and prolonged stimulant which kept the canes green and growing until put in windrow or the buds killed by the freeze. The stubble from canes cut after the freeze in 1877 were almost valueless the following spring although no intense cold followed the first cold wave.

Wishing to examine the canes coming from the windrow, the writer went to Concord on Tuesday morning and found Col. Wm. Minor preparing to plant. The windrows had been plowed around and part of the earth scraped off prior to the freeze. I send you a portion of a cane which is a conclusive proof that the freeze has not killed all the cane in windrow where the soil is sandy and well drained. Had the cane been cut for the mill about fourteen tons per acre would have been harvested. The canes were fertilized with about three hundred pounds of cotton seed meal per acre, which in some measure corroborates preconceived and expressed views as to the great risk of windrowing heavy canes for seed. It was found that some of the butts of the canes were defective—a condition which existed prior to the freeze—due to the excessive saturation of the soil during the winter.

Opposite the windrowed seed was a field of stubble of the first year which was ex-

amined and some of the stumps had three or four sound bottom eyes. The soil sandy, the field moderately fertilized last spring, and the canes but little prostrated by the September storm. The writer has been informed that some of the small planters on the bayou below the lower Terrebonne refinery have examined their stubble and found enough sound eyes to give a moderate stand should the weather prove favorable.

The soil is yet too clammy to do really good work; yet on some places cane is being planted, the stubble shavers are in operation, followed in some cases by the diggers and the hoes. Under the influence of the recent warm weather the peach trees are coming out in leaf and a few blossoms can be seen here and there.

Wednesday of last week, partially cloudy; Thursday, fine and colder; Friday, cloudy and cool; Saturday, misty with the wind blowing nearly a gale; Sunday, showery in the morning and in the afternoon in the near towns, thunder, hail and a heavy passing shower; Monday, bright sunshine and cool; Tuesday, frost and a light fog, with bright sunshine in the morning and some cloudiness in the evening, and Wednesday morning, warm and murky.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Spring seems now to be breaking permanently through the winter, though it has met with strong resistance during the last three weeks. On February 13th, the beginning of the great freeze, vegetation was far advanced in its new verdure—grasses, brush and trees had broken out in all directions—but the cold spell was a deadener to many things exposed to its blasts, while the growth of all others was materially impaired. But, under the present high temperature, Nature is rapidly assuming again her suspended labors of production.

The condition of seed cane has been the absorbing topic of the planter for the last two weeks; but as your correspondent wrote last week, the plant and stubble in low places, and that of either kind where drainage was not good, is found to be unsound, while the high and well-drained cane, either plant, stubble or matted, is much better than was first expected.

Mrs. S. A. Harding, wife of O. W. Brown, died at her home on the old Brick Kiln plantation, on Bayou Teche, last Thursday, and was buried in the Franklin cemetery the following day. Owing to the impassable condition of the public road, the corpse and funeral party had to be brought around on the steamer "Ethel," as was the case with the burial of Mr. Valentine Schwan a few weeks ago. The Brick Kiln seems to be diminishing with the number of its owners, as both were extensive prior to the Civil War; but one by one the heirs have passed

away, and one by one, plantations have been severed from the broad old tract of antebellum days, until now the owners are only two, and the plantation a few hundred acres.

The Irish Bend portion of St. Mary has felt the need, for many years of better drainage; and especially since the work of reclaiming the rich, black bottoms of Choupique Bayou has been in operation. Choupique is a shallow stream, which marks the center of a timber basin, that begins at the dense swamp on the west of Franklin, and winds its way through the rear of the fertile fields of the Irish Bend.

Many plans have been laid for the purpose draining this basin, so that the lands adjacent to it may be placed under cultivation, but your correspondent is now under the impression that the right move is at last at hand. All previous efforts have been made by one and two, but the whole planting element in the Irish Bend is now interested, and a meeting will be held at the Court house in Franklin, Thursday, March 2nd, at which it is expected some of the most prominent cane men in St. Mary will be present, from which definite and effective action is bound to result.

The plan, as presently understood will be to formulate the sugar fields of the aforesaid Irish Bend (embracing the town of Franklin), into a drainage district, under Act 37 of the Legislature of 1894, which empowers the police jury to appoint commissioners, directors, etc., to operate the system and levy taxes upon the immovable property within the district so constituted, for the payment and maintenance of the same.

ST. MARY.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Today for the first time since the 1st of September, 1898, when writing my regular weekly letter to the Planter on Monday afternoon have I been able to look out of my window and see the sun shining, and not many days between Monday and Monday have we been blest with sunshine since that date. Today is a beauty, it is really what we call in this part of the country magnificent weather. The sun is shining as bright and the weather is as pleasant as a day in mid April, and all indications point to a continuation of this weather for several days. We have had but little rain since my letter last week but the weather was generally cloudy and damp up to Saturday the 25th when the sunshine dispersed the clouds and now there is not to be seen a sign of a cloud floating in the vast space above; the sky is perfectly clear and all signs of rain have disappeared. This longed for change has brightened up everything. The farmer, who has had but few opportunities this season to get out into his field, hitched up his old mule this morning and with a smile of satisfaction and relief on his face wended

his way to his unbroken fields and broke dirt for an 1899 crop. The cane man, the cotton man, the rice man and all others who delve in the soil for a living start on an even footing this year as far as preparing lands for a crop is concerned. Lands that are not well drained are too wet to turn up to the sun just yet and as we have quite a little of that sort of land in this parish several farmers were not able to take advantage of this splendid weather to make a start for a crop, but two or three days will find them moving with their more fortunate neighbors. Several who have availed themselves of the few clear days that we have had to prepare their lands for planting began planting cane this morning and by the middle of the week three fourths of the cane planters in the parish will be putting cane in the ground. The full damage from the freeze is about determined here now and it will not be as heavy as was at first contemplated. Parties who began planting this morning find that from one fourth to one third of the seed cane is bad, and that not over one fifth of the first year stubble is injured; the second year stubble is damaged more than either seed or first year stubble and luckily for this parish there is but little second year stubble. At least 75% of the stubble is first year. The cane on the Vermillion river or near it on sandy land or sandy loam is in a better condition than that on black lands. After a thorough examination the cane farmers generally are now counting on three fourths of a crop in acreage. It has developed that the weather that we had immediately after the freeze proved beneficial to the seed cane stubble. The weather was cloudy and fairly warm which seemed to have a tendency to draw the frost out of the cane. Immediately after the freeze and for several days following the cane that you would take out of windrow looked perfectly sound but when it was exposed to the rays of the sun for a short time the eyes would become soft and watery but now the same cane will stand the sunshine for hours and appear sound and firm. Several of our cane planters are not going to remove their cane from the mattress or windrow until the ground is thoroughly thawed out.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Very little planting has been accomplished to date. As a rule the majority of the farmers in this and the adjoining parishes commence to plant their corn crops from the 15th to the last days of February. We are now in the beginning of March, with lands unprepared and even not planted.

The past week presented a few fair days in which some plowing was done, and on some places a few acres planted to cane. Saturday the 25th ult was a decidedly blustry and stormy day. The wind at times must have reached a velocity of thirty miles an

hour, for instances are known where fencing and timber was prostrated by the force of the wind.

The fields are wet to a degree not before known to the farmers of this section of the country. The front lands which are the highest and of a sandy, loamy nature, are by all odds too wet to plow and plant profitably, but it seems that there is no way out of the dilemma. If planting is to be done at all, it will have to go on to some extent regardless of the conditions as to-day presented, hoping that maybe by and by better weather may prevail to the great benefit of the agricultural classes. Rumors and facts are related respecting the quality of both the seed cane and stubble, until one knows the next thing to nothing and begins to wonder, "where he is at." The Planter's scribe has been informed that Mr. C. G. Fuseller, manager of the Powhontas plantation claims that his seed cane is fairly good. The stubble is also much better than it was possibly expected it could have been after the heavy freeze of the 13th ult, at which date things looked so gloomy that it was for the time thought that both the seed cane and stubble had been destroyed, and in place of a cane crop, cotton would have to take its place, but happily conditions have changed, and I learn cane, corn and peas will be the principal crops produced on the Powhontas plantation this season.

Mr. C. F. Knoll and others seem to think, so I have been told, that the seed cane and stubble has been seriously damaged, and they seriously doubt whether they will get anything like enough sound seed to plant any where near as great an acreage as it was their intention to do. Providing seed cane had preserved well in the windrow.

The stubble, it is surmised by many, is all dead. Cotton, corn and peas will be planted on stubble lands. Rapides and St. Landry report frosted stubble and a "sorry" quality of seed cane.

ERIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Since Monday morning we have been enjoying bright sunshine, under the effect of which everything seems to have revived. The heavy rain of last Sunday has not caused much more damage outside of detention from work. Its effects have been like a strong wash-out which the sun of yesterday has fully dried up. Some of the planters have already begun working. They see that if they wait for the good weather generally experienced at this season, they are running fair chances of getting left, so they accept and use the slightest opportunity presented. Notwithstanding the many opinions of the different planters concerning the extent to which the canes have suffered injuries by the blizzard, no definite information has yet been obtained. Some still are persuaded that the damages are great. All vegetable

and flower gardens, of this section have been killed.

The condition of the public roads has become so deteriorated as to render them totally impassable. The top of the levee has been adopted as the sole means of passage, and dally, buggies and carts are seen passing up and down our embankments.

The palatial residence hitherto belonging to Mr. Chauffe, where Mr. L. LeBourgeois, sheriff of St. James, has been residing for the past three years, has been sold to Mr. H. Himel, of Convent.

Mr. Alfred Plaisance, the owner of Model Farm, at Convent, has sold his property on the Right Bank to Mr. Ludger Ory for the neat sum of \$8,000.

Our sympathies are extended to Mr. L. N. Folse, in the death of his mother, which sad event occurred last week on his Texas plantation in Iberville parish. Mr. Folse was formerly a part owner of the firm of Folse, Pugh & Co., of Bonsecour's plantation, and is now located in Iberville, where are centered all his interests.

Today, the first of March, spring seems well disposed to at last make its appearance and all indications are that we may enjoy fair weather a few days this week.

CONVENT.

Sugar Patents.

Patents of interest to the sugar industry issued February 14, 1899. Reported specially for the Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, Patent Attorney, Washington, D. C.

619,633. Pump for pumping molasses. H. F. Asoury and William Peoples, Philadelphia, Pa., assignors to the Enterprise Manufacturing Company of Pennsylvania, same place.

Trade Mark 32,493. For molasses candies. G. S. Couch, Minneapolis, Minn.

Rainfall for 1898.

The rainfall for the year 1898 at Jennings was as follows by months: January 8.01 inches, February 7.66, March 2.87, April 4.23, May, trace, June 5.84, July 5.18, August 5.86, September 13.85, October 3.88, November 4.83, December 1.87; total, 64.09. The average annual rainfall for southwest Louisiana is 60 inches.—Jennings Times, Jan. 19.

Personal.

Mr. E. H. Barton, a leading Ascension parish sugar planter, arrived at the St. Charles on Tuesday for a brief sojourn.

Mr. J. H. Kahoa, of West Baton Rouge parish, was in town during the week. He stopped at the St. Charles hotel.

Mr. Oscar Zenor, of Bartels, St. Mary parish, accompanied by Mrs. Zenor, was a recent arrival at the Hotel Royal.

Mr. F. T. Llewellyn, the local manager and engineer for the Gillette-Herzog Co., has been quite sick during the past week, but his friends are now glad to see him out and about once more.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, Feb. 11th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The meteorological conditions of last week have been once more a striking example of how much with regard to the weather, "les extremes se touchent." Opening with a dry, solid frost and a temperature of 6 degrees below zero, the week ends to-day with 15 degrees above freezing point. The cold kept on until Tuesday, and as the temperature up to this time showed rather a declining tendency, it was natural to believe in the constancy of the wintry weather, which opinion was besides supported by some snow falls. But in spite of all those appearances, Tuesday night it began to rain, the little bit of snow vanished rapidly, and at the end of the week we are enjoying here the most outspoken kind of spring weather, such as is rarely observed at this period of the year, and on account of this, it is quite useless to conjecture as to the effects of the weather, which no doubt will change at an early date again. As the warm current came from the western part of the continent, it is self-evident that the sudden disappearance of the winter has also taken place in France, Belgium and Holland, but it is added also that the change in question is also reported from Austria, and as far as Russia is concerned, we are advised that the winter has been uncommonly mild and that the fields are at present free from snow.

As to the importance of the next beet sowings, it has been pointed out that the failure of the winter cereals, if it should take place in a larger or minor degree, need not be considered any more, as the cause of an unintended increase of the beet area, as the farmers, by special kinds of wheat seed, now have the means to replace the failed crop by a similar one, which does not necessitate such a heavy outlay of expenses and work, as is required by changing the wheat field into a beet field. Of course, it would be, nevertheless, a loss to the agriculturists, if a large surface of wheat or rye must be turned over, but it has ceased to involve a larger increase of beet sowings. Of the intended extension of beet sowings, nothing definite is known yet. In France they believe that at least as much beet will be grown as last year; in Austria fabricants hesitate to contract for beets, because of the unfavorable turn the sugar market has taken; in Russia, some increase must be looked for; in the other smaller countries like Holland, Belgium and Sweden, it seems that the price ideas of the fabricants and the farmers are diverging a good deal and contracting therefore, is only slowly progressing.

To-day the commercial relations between Germany and the United States have been the subject of a very interesting discussion, in which also the sugar question has been

touched on. In this respect our Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs, in the course of a remarkable speech, in which he expressed the confidence that all dissensions now existing would be settled in a friendly manner between the two countries; remarked that with regard to the treatment of German sugar in America, your government had recognized the justness of the claim that the working tax of the factories may be deducted from the rate of duty now in force in America. But the German fabricants demand also, and our Government supports this demand—that the reduction the German bounties are subjected to on account of any production in excess of the contingent, should be also considered as an item in favor of German sugar and the countervailing duty thereon. But the Government of the United States so far declined to make any concessions in this respect, holding that the exceeding of the contingent was only of importance for a more or less restricted number of factories. This position, however, can be hardly maintained. The United States levy a countervailing duty from French and Russian sugar, although the bounties between the individual factories are very different according to the quality of the beets—as far as France is concerned, and according to the price of sugar on the markets of the world, with regard to Russia, but you have nevertheless set down a fixed rate of countervailing duty; France, 0,978 c. pr. pd., for sugar of at least 98° pol. test, and for Russia 0,727 c. pr. pd. for sugar of at least 99° pol. test.) These are, of course, average figures, and it is evident, and for the sake of equity necessity, that deductions of the bounty made in the producing country must be allowed, also by the importing country, which according to its own law, can levy only countervailing duties equivalent to the net amount of the bounty, which is to be calculated eventually on the basis of average figures, but charging a countervailing duty regardless of the above restrictions of the bounty would be unfair, and it must be hoped that further negotiations between the two Governments will lead to a reasonable agreement also on this point.

The imports of sugar into England are generally in January not very large, as in most cases river navigation on the continent is shut up in this month. This, however, has not been the case in January last, although the figures of importation are not at all brilliant for the month of the year. Reduced to raw value the total imports into England amounted in January to 116,300 tons, as against 136,612 tons in 1898, thus showing a decrease of upwards of 20,000 tons. There is no apparent reason for that certainly undesirable fact, but I think that the trade in England has bought during last month as little as possible, as the market moved in a downward direction, in which case buyers keep aloof and allow their stocks to run down as low as possible. If this be true, there must follow a revival of business in general and of imports in partic-

ular during the following months.

For the week under review, however, this favorable tendency cannot be reported. The markets at once halted in their rising movement reported last week, and in the first and larger part of the week, the confidence latterly evinced on all hands seemed to have been blown away. The cause of this disappointing turn the markets have taken, is the French speculators selling suddenly large masses they had bought in the hope of establishing a corner, but this hope has been frustrated by the weather, which growing warmer, permitted holders to bring forward large quantities at Hamburg, whilst the operators had believed that the stoppage of navigation would prevent sellers from delivering in due time. Prices also of actual sugars suffered a sharp drop and 88 plts, are quoted at Madgeburg now at M. 10.50—10.45 and delivery February went down at Hamburg 9.45 f. o. b. Refined without much business are barely maintained.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, Feb. 25th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

A better feeling prevailed during the week under review, gave scope to a more active demand and prices, in harmony with those ruling abroad advanced a fraction and close to-day strongly supported at from 2½ to 2¾ cts. lb. for good centrifugals, basis 95/96 test, at which figures about 25,000 bags, changed hands. The weather having kept favorable for grinding operations; receipts of new sugars continue fair at all our shipping ports.

The spell of cold weather of the past week has visibly improved the condition of the cane, whose yield in sugar is said to be now more satisfactorily than heretofore. According to last advices from Manzanillo, it seems that the labor question in the eastern part of Cuba, has not, as yet, been satisfactorily settled, since it is reported that it is altogether impossible to live in the country, in the neighborhood of said town, without being exposed to being robbed and stripped of all that one possesses, by gangs of thieves of all classes and colors, who pretend that they have a right to live, and as they are unable to secure any remunerative occupation, they are compelled to steal to support themselves.

For this reason, influential parties are endeavoring to convince the American authorities or the urgent necessity of reconstructing plantations that have been destroyed, to establish new ones, and open roads throughout the country in which work thousands of idle men might be employed, and which might be done without costing a cent to the Government, since the money that is uselessly applied to pay the large army of occupation, for which we have no need whatever, might be more advantageously employed in rebuilding property in this Island.

It has been recently reported that two bands of bandits composed of ancient Spanish guerrilleros (skirmishers) were committing all sorts of misdeeds and interfering with crop operations at Remedios, in the Santa Clara province and at Carthagena, in that of Matanzas.

Cuban forces were sent against them and in the first encounter the band was dispersed after they had lost two men killed and two taken prisoners—on the Cuban side, one dead and one wounded.

A question that is often asked, is how long it will take Cuba to produce as much sugar as before the war?

This depends altogether on future circumstances; if planters are enabled to find money soon, on reasonable terms and in sufficient quantity to rebuild the factories that have been entirely destroyed and make the necessary repairs to those that have been more or less damaged by the war; or if large syndicates be organized in the United States to promote sugar manufacturing, in the manner as tobacco and cigars are being dealt with, it is likely that within a period of two or three years the Cuban production will again range at from one million to one million three or four hundred thousand tons.

The causes for apprehending delay in producing the same quantity of sugar as before the war are chiefly the large number of plantations that have been entirely destroyed; their buildings and machinery blown up with dynamite, and all the others that have been more or less injured, need either to be totally rebuilt or to be repaired; the totality of plantations have lost all their cattle, horses and oxen; their carts and narrow gauge railway plants have disappeared; their cane fields, either burnt to the ground or invaded by grass and weeds, must necessarily be replanted and this can be done only with money, which the majority of Cuban planters lack.

The number of plantations that were spared by the war, is not supposed to exceed 20 or 25, and those that have already been placed in grinding conditions, might add up about 100 or 125, whose total production will hardly amount to 300,000 tons, which shows an average production of about 2,000 tons for each one of the 150 plantations that are grinding on the whole island.

Another factor that will interfere to a considerable extent with the reconstruction of the Cuban sugar industry is, undoubtedly, the scarcity of field hands; before the war, laborers were much wanted, especially during crop season, and as a great many either died or left the country, owing to Weyler's reconcentration, it is likely also that a large number of those who enlisted in the Cuban army, will be reluctant to resume their former occupations; laborers will be therefore scarcer than ever, and it will be necessary to bring quite a number of them from abroad, but for this also, money is wanted.

Another question, of a candid character, that has been asked, is whether the annexation of Cuba, would affect the Louisiana sugar industry.

Owing to the fertility of the soil, the atmospheric conditions, so propitious to cane growing, and the low price at which sugar could be produced under a more liberal system than that which ruled during the Spanish domination, the very day Cuban sugar could enter, free of duty, into the United States, not only the sugar industry of Louisiana, but also that of beet sugar of the Northwestern regions of the Union, might be considered as entirely ruined and done away with.

F. D.

March Weather in Louisiana.

(From Old Plantation Diaries.)

Mr. Valcour Aime says:

1827.

March. Rain on 1st. Most of plant cane and also stubbles of Creole cane mark the row. White frost on 18th, 28th and 29th. Through hoeing plant and stubble cane for first time on 30th. Rain on 30th.

1828.

On March 1st river overflowed levees. Thin ice on 2nd. Through plowing stubbles for first time on 8th. Very heavy rain on 10th. Planting corn on 17th. Through hoeing cane first time on 26th. On 28th crevasse in this parish at Gaigne and Z. Trudeau's.

1829.

Weather cold on 1st. Ice on 20th. Rain on 24th. Grubbing stubbles on 25th. Finished on 29th.

1830.

Rain on March 2d and 4th. Through plowing stubbles on 10th. Through weeding plant cane for first time on 13th. Heavy rain on 18th, and planted corn. Ribbon plant cane mark the row.

1831.

March. 200 cords of wood cut. Burnt balance of cane trash on 2d. Begun plowing in stubbles on 3d. Rain on 5th. Light rain on 6th. Light white frost on 8th and 9th. Rain on 12th. Much rain 15th and 16th. Thin ice on 17th. Through plowing stubbles on 22d. Plowing for corn on 26th, 27th and 28th. Rain on 28th. Harrowing and hoeing plant cane on 30th.

1832.

March. Cleaning land for corn on 1st. Fair and cool on 6th. Grubbing stubbles on 8th. Through plowing stubbles on 10th. Ribbon plant cane mark row on 13th. Thin ice on 14th and 15th. Light ice on 18th and 19th (the same weather as in March, 1843). Weather too dry.

1833.

Rain on March 1st. Ice one-fourth of an inch thick on 2nd. Ice on 3d. Rain on 5th, 6th and 7th. Began plowing plant cane on 15th. Rain on 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th. All ribbon plant cane, except 40 arpents, very nearly mark the row. Otahity plant cane coming up. Heavy rain on 23d. White frost on 30th.

1834.

Rain on March 1st, 4th, 5th and 6th, and rain every day until 20th. Through plowing stubbles on 22d. Canes backward, es-

pecially stubbles. Light shower on 28th. Ribbon plant cane beginning to mark the row tolerably well.

1835.

Light rain on March 1st. Weather warm on 2d and 3d. Cold rain on 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th. Rain on 13th, 16th, 17th and 22d. Sprinkle on 26th. Much of the corn planted on or about 26th of February not yet out of the ground. Plant cane not coming up. Began hoeing plant cane for second time on the 30th, a thick and hard crust of dirt over the plant cane, caused by the inclemency of the weather.

1836.

March. Rainy and cold on 1st. Ice on 3d. Heavy white frost on 4th. Warm on the 6th. Rain on 7th, 9th and ice on 11th. Rain on 20th and 24th. White frost on 26th. Rain on 29th.

1837.

March 1st, very fair, with white frost. Rain all day 2d. Rain on 3d, 6th and 7th. Planted corn in stubbles on 9th. Rain on 12th and 14th. White frost and thin ice on 15th. White frost on 16th. Rain on 20th. White frost on 24th. Through plowing plant cane on 22d.

1838.

March. Through planting on 1st. Little rain on that day. Shower on 2d. Rain on 3d and 4th. Shower on 6th. Thin ice and white frost on 7th. Slight rain on 10th and 11th. Rain on 13th. White frost on 17th. Thin ice and frost on 18th. River rising fast. White frost on 19th.

1839.

Rain on March 2d. Ice on 3d; thermometer 29½ deg. F.; snow, sleet and ice on the 4th, thermometer 17½ deg. F. On the 9th the river was as low as it ever gets to be. Bayou Plaquemine is not navigable, an extraordinary stage of water for this time. Through working plant cane on 11th. Rain on 13th. Begun working stubbles on 14th. Some cane are up on 15th. Rain on 20th and 21st. Light white frost on 25th. 28th, cane fast coming up. Heavy rain on 29th. White frost on 31st.

1840.

March. River rising on 1st. Rain on 2d. Plowed and hoed plant cane on 11th. Began plowing stubbles on 12th. Weather too dry. Orange trees in blossom. Weather very warm and dry since the 16th of February, as rain of 2d was altogether insufficient. Slight rain on 20th and 21st. Crevasse at McCutcheon's on 21st. An overflowing rain on 22d. All the plant cane mark the row; stubbles generally are not up. Rain on 24th. White frost on 25th. Planters unable to close McCutcheon's crevasse, engineer of the Nashville railroad achieved the end. Weather again very warm. White frost on 31st.

1841.

March. Rain on 1st, which interrupted planting. Rain and hail on 2nd. Finished planting cane on 7th. Began plowing plant cane on 8th. Rain on 9th. Heavy rain on 10th. Very heavy white frost on 13th. All plant cane plowed and hoed on 20th. Rain on 22nd and 24th. Rain again on 27th and 31st.

1842.

March. Cloudy and warm, with light rain on 1st and 2d. Rain again on 3rd. Some cane mark the rows. A neighbor has a full stand of cane in some stiff new land. Rain on 13th. White frost on 15th. Began working plant cane second time on 28th. Weather too dry. Rain on 30th.

1843.

March. Began working stubbles with large plows on 1st. Hauling sand for the alleys of the park. Through refining last year's

crop on 2nd. Little rain on 4th, 7th and 15th with sleet during the night. Thermometer 26½ deg. F., the ice injured stubbles shaved. Ice again on 17th and 18th. Some ice in shade not melted from 16th to 18th. The present month of March is the coldest known. Thermometer registered on 17th, 29 deg. F., the same on 18th. On 20th, 34½ deg. F.; on 24th, 38½ deg. F. Rain on 25th and 26th. On 28th thermometer 34½ deg. F. White frost on 29th.

1844.

March 1st, some stubble canes mark the row. Through gravelling the alleys of English Park. A good soaking rain on 2nd. Some plant cane mark the row, though generally backward owing to the drought. Heavy rain on 7th. Rain on 14th and 15th. White frost on 17th. Light rain on 26th. On 30th thermometer 41 deg. F. On 31st thermometer registered 34½ deg. F.

1845.

March. Plum and peach trees in blossom on 1st. Rain on 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. Stubbles where cane trash was burnt are all up. Canes not so forward as last year. Rain on 23rd and 24th. Light rain on 26th and 27th. Only about forty arpents of plant canes mark the row.

1846.

March. Began to plow in plant canes on 2nd. Rain every three or four days, but not much water in ditches. Light rain on 13th. Heavy rain on 20th. Rain on 22nd and 23rd. Light rain on 31st.

1847.

March. Began to shave stubbles on 1st. Sleet all day on 3rd. Light rain on 6th, 7th and 10th. On 11th some rows of plant cane are up. Light frost on 14th and on 15th. On 16th white frost, thermometer 32 deg. F. Light white frost on 17th. Began second hoeing plant cane on 22nd. White frost on 24th, weather too dry, especially for plant cane. Good rain on 25th. All plant canes mark the row. White frost and thin ice on 27th. White frost on 28th. The row of the cane was checked by eight white frosts during the month.

1848.

March. Rain on 3rd and 4th. Light white frost on 8th, 10th and 11th. White frost on 13th and 14th. Plant canes in new ground marking the row. Stubbles not yet up.

1849.

March. On 3rd planted corn between rows at six and twelve feet. Stubbles which had been shaved with ratoon cutter were hoed on 9th and 10th. Preparing ground for peas. Weather very dry.

1850.

March. Planting on 1st and 2nd, but seed cane is so bad that planting is short. Began plowing in plant canes on 7th. White frost on 24th. Canes on rear of plantation slightly frost bitten. White frost on 28th. Stubbles affected by cold. Thermometer fell to 32 deg. F.

1851.

March. Finished hoeing plant cane. Stubbles in new ground fairly out. Plant canes hardly visible on 3rd. A neighboring planter who shaved his stubbles three weeks ago has them mark the row well. Heavy frost and thin ice on 4th, affecting the canes. Rain on 6th from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m., being the heaviest rain since August, 1850. Through shaving stubble on 10th. Rain on 13th. River washing over the levee at Gov. Roman's. White frost on 19th. Crevasses at Dr. Gourier's, Gordon's, Doyle's and Widow Trudeau's. Rain on 27th. Rain on 31st.

1852.

March. Hoeing plant canes in old ground for second time, and hoes shaving stubbles

in new land, the ratoon shaver to be used only in stubbles in old ground. Weather continues cloudy. Through plowing stubbles on 2nd. Heavy rain and wind from 12th to 14th. Rain on 17th. All plant canes mark the rows on the 19th. Rain all day on 21st. Light rain on 30th. Most of the orange trees have been killed.

1853.

March. Pastures with some clover for stock on 1st. Light rain on 11th. Planting corn on 12th. Rain on 14th and white frost on 15th. Rain on 17th. Plowing for peas on 18th.

1854.

March. Planting on 1st and 2nd. Plowing for corn on 4th, 6th and 7th. Rain on 11th. Nearly all stubbles marking the row on 18th, though they have neither been shaved nor grubbed. Light rain on 23rd. 26th, rain, very violent wind before day and its course from Pointe Coupee down was marked by many sugar houses blown down and other buildings, besides large trees uprooted. At Mr. Sauve's place only eight oak trees out of twenty-eight were left standing. Heavy rain on 31st.

1855.

March 1st, thermometer 23 deg. F. Plowing and hoeing plant cane. Thermometer still 23 deg. F. on 2nd. Little rain on 3rd and 4th. Weather as mild as the middle of spring on 7th. Heavy rain on 18th. White frost on 19th; thermometer 32 deg. F., on 20th. 22nd, thermometer 32 deg. F. 23rd, thermometer 29. Corn planted may not grow. Ice on 24th, thermometer 23. Sleet on 28th. 31st thermometer 29 deg. F.

Dr. A. O. Colomb says:

1851.

March 1, clear, cold, with ice. Cane cut down by cold. Plant coming up very well. 5th, frost; plows in corn land; river near last year's high-water mark. 10th, plows in ratoons shaving. 13th, planting corn in new ground. Weather cold for season. 19th, crevasse above Gretna. 24th, cold; six 2-horse plows in plant, five 3-horse plows in ratoons. Rained on 8th, 12th, 27th, 28th, 30th and 31st.

1852.

March 1st, cloudy, warm. Plows in ratoons. Planting corn. Three cultivators at work. 120 arpents corn planted. Weather very warm. Plant cane up very well. 10th, weather dry, want rain for corn. 12th, pecan trees budding. Ratoons backward. Mess pork \$16 per barrel. Fair sugar 4 to 4½ cents, molasses 18 cents for fermenting, 25 cents for reboiled. 15th, ratoons begin to come out when shaved and hoed. Good stand of plant, best for many years. Light sprinkle on 6th and 11th. Rain on 13th and 17th. Ice on 16th, which cut down some corn. Frost on 19th. Light rain on 31st.

1853.

March 1st, cloudy. Ground in fine condition. Plows in ratoons and plant. Planting corn. 8th, Ratoons coming out. Fall plant cane begins to mark the rows. 11th, thermometer 80 deg. F., in shade. Planted white beans in corn. River on a stand at foot of levee. 18th, corn all up. Ratoons coming out very well. Stella had a daughter on 19th. Souk a calf the same day. Sugar dull, 4 to 4½ cents. Mess pork, \$15.50. Too much rain, field getting grassy. Rain on 7th, 8th, light sprinkle on 10th, 14th, 16th, 17th. 21st, 22nd and 26th. Thermometer 76 deg. F. on 10th; 80 deg. on 25th and 66 deg. on 16th and 80 deg. on 29th.

1854.

March 1st, very warm. Planting cane. Barring off ratoons. Digging cross drains. First cane planted coming up. Ratoons in new ground coming out well. River rising

slowly. 14th, weather very warm for season. 15th, molasses 17 cents for choice in city. Fair sugar, 3½. Cotton, 7 to 10 cents. Corn, 60 cents per bushel. Pork, \$13.50. 19th, Ground very hard, want rain. 22nd, enough rain for a while. Molasses, 7 cents on plantation for fermented; 17 cents for choice reboiled in city. Negroes \$1500 in city. Cholera at Landry's. 31st, Hard blow last night, blew bagasse chimney down on sugar house and one steam chimney carried away. All fences blown down. Several sugar houses were blown down. Light sprinkle on 8th. Light frost on 12th and 14th. Light rain on 21st. Hard rain on 22nd. Drizzle on 23rd and 25th. Rain on 30th and 31st.

1855.

March 1st, thick ice. Plowing new ground. Planting corn. 5th, first warm day for two months. Not one cane either plant or ratoons. 8th, thermometer 80 deg. F. River rising a little. Pork, \$14.50. Great excitement in Cuba about Filibusters. 12th, corn and cane coming up. Finished planting corn. 15th, very warm for season, temperature 80 deg. F. in shade on the gallery. Want rain. Fair sugar, 4 cents. 19th, frost and light ice. Corn cut down by it. 24th, cold weather for season. Vegetation very backward, no canes out hardly. Rained on 3rd, 12th and 18th.

1856.

March 1st, rainy, warm. Wind all around the compass in 24 hours. Planting corn. Fall plant cane very grassy. Prospect of trouble between the United States and England. River rising fast. Fair sugar 7½, molasses 36 cents. Corn coming up, 150 acres planted. Field grassy, no work done since two weeks on account of rain. Very cold weather in the North on the 10th, thermometer at zero in New York. 25th, cane beginning to come out well, not one ratoon up. Seed cane generally bad in the State. Rained on 1st, 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th, 13th, 16th, and 17.

1857.

March 1st, clear, cool. Plows in spring plant. Scraping plant, and ditching. Shaving stubbles. Want rain. 6th, few ratoons coming out. River rising, 7th, rained enough. White frost on 8th. Vegetation checked by cold. Pork, \$22.50; cotton, 13 cents; sugar, 10 cents, molasses, 60 cents. Frost on 13th. Corn cut down by it. Cane yellow. 23rd, plant cane very fine, ratoons coming out. Crop splendid, some plant too thick. Rained on 5th, 7th, 9th, 10th and 11th. Light ice on 12th, frost on 13th, white frost on 16th, rain on 18th. Thermometer 82 deg. on 27th.

1858.

March 1st, rainy. Plows in ratoons, ditching being done also. Ice on 2nd. Cane cut down by it. Ground in good order. Sugar, 5 and 6 cents. 7th, rain. Molasses, 30 cents for choice. Corn all planted by 10th. Light ice on 8th and 9th. Crop promising. 21st, want rain. Corn all up. River rising very fast. Flooding rain on 29th, first rain since 23 days.

1859.

March 1st, clear. Princess blew up and burned, 200 lives lost. River rising. Bad weather for crops. Cottonwood trees with leaves. Cane coming up slowly. Ratoons backward. Rained on 6th, light frost on 8th, rain on 11th, 12th, 16th and 17th, light frost on 18th. rain on 23rd.

1860.

March 3, warm and clear. Plows in ratoons barring off. River on a stand. Cane coming up well. Ratoons good. Corn nearly all up. 10th and 11th, frost. Sugar, 7½ cents. Molasses, 35 cents. Cane and corn turned yellow by frosts on 10th, 11th and 12th. Cane cut back by frost on 29th.

BET SUGAR.

Sugar Beet Experiments in North Dakota.

(Bulletin 35, North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.)

In 1891 the station analyzed sugar beets received from one hundred and twenty-nine different points in the State, and found the average of sugar for these samples to be 11.43 per cent. In closing my report on the above experiments I said: "For the present it is my belief that for the most of North Dakota other industries will be found more profitable for both manufacturer and farmer than the sugar beet industry."

The beets for 1891 were from all parts of the State more largely from the eastern central and northern parts of the State. Since that date the better knowledge secured regarding the climatic and soil conditions necessary for developing the sugar beet industry, and the further knowledge of the climatic and soil conditions for North Dakota had led us to look with more hope for success in portions of the States. Notably is this true for the Southern tier of counties east of the Missouri river. In 1891 only ten samples of beets were received from this locality, and some of those had not been grown upon ground suitably prepared, but for these ten samples the average content was 12.9 per cent, the highest being 15.23 per cent. In 1897 it was decided to make a few further experiments in this section, but the season was so unfavorable that the experiment may almost be called a failure. To quote the words used in connection with the summary I said: "The season in North Dakota has been particularly unfavorable for sugar beets, a dry spring left the seed in the ground 20 or 30 days before germination, and then the almost flood rains of July sent the weeds forward so rapidly that there seemed little chance for beets to thrive, and later a disease attacked the leaves, which gave us beets of low sugar contents. * * * In spite of the many obstacles to success a few of the samples showed by analysis from 13 to 16 per cent of sugar in the juice."

In the spring of 1898 seeds were sent to fifty farmers in the southern tier of counties and of these but sixteen complied with the station request, and sent samples of the beets harvested for analysis. The variety grown was the "Original" Klein Wanzleben sugar beet.

The analysis show an average of 14.38 per cent of sugar in the beet juice and a coefficient of purity 79.4. This makes a good showing and as in many instances the beets did not receive proper care, nor was the ground properly plowed for beet growing it is safe to say better results would be secured under proper conditions. We have one instance where the beet juice contained 20.20 per cent of sugar with a purity of 84.2. This is certainly a most excellent showing.

From the results of experiments thus far made it is believed that the southern tier of

counties east of the Missouri river is well adapted to sugar beet growing and that the industry might be made a profitable one with Oakes as a center to supply a factory that would be capable of producing all the sugar consumed in the State.

To test properly the possibilities of sugar beet growing in the State the beets should be grown on larger areas under field methods, and the crop shipped to a factory to be manufactured. In this way only can farmers determine whether the crop would prove a profitable one to grow, and the manufacturers whether the beets were of a good quality for sugar production.

This would probably be possible as there is a beet sugar factory near Minneapolis, providing the railroads could be induced to assist the farmers in the shipment of beets for experimental work. The Soo railroad has manifested much interest in lines of experiments along their road and it is believed they might be interested in this work and so render the assistance to make this trial possible for another year.

Beet Sugar in Austria.

The beet sugar growers and manufacturers of Austro-Hungary have just been celebrating the centenary of their industry with some amount of eclat and satisfaction. Herr Achard, director of the Royal Prussian Academy of Science, was the first to give a lead in respect to commercial methods of preparation; and his sovereign, Frederick William III., had the sense to foresee possible results of no mean character. Of course it was under Napoleon, a dozen years later, that the great continental development—dictated by hatred of England and a wish to cripple our trade—took place. He laid a heavy tax on imported sugar, established schools for technical instruction, and founded factories, some of which have lived to this day. Well may the continental farmers glory in an industry which has been the mainstay of those engaged in it during the worst period of agricultural depression. Protected by duties, stimulated by bounties, and fostered in every way, small wonder that they should rejoice in their saccharine production; but the other inhabitants of these countries would look into it with the merest smattering of true economic knowledge, they would find that they have to bear the actual burden—not England, who opens her ports to all. We have no direct cause to complain of the four and a half million tons of this article which European countries produce; what it means to our West Indian colonies your readers very well know.—T. Bowick, in Country Gentleman.

Sugar in London.

Mysterious movements by French speculators have demoralized the beet market for the time, and a heavy fall in prices has occurred. Rather more firmness has been shown at the close without, however, producing much return of confidence, and the

market remains unsettled. The recent advance was certainly ill-timed, and arose from a combination of circumstances which lacked the essential support of an actual improvement in the demand. This will come in due course, but meanwhile stocks continue ample, and the few days' frost on the Continent which threatened some interruption to supplies caused only a temporary alarm. The American markets have remained fairly steady during the recent movement, the refiners being sufficiently supplied by the arrivals of Java and other cane sugars, although their weekly meltings continue fully up to the receipts of raw sugar. Rather more Cuban sugar is available week by week, but it is not coming forward quite as freely as it was last year, and whether the total will reach that of 1898 must remain in doubt for some considerable while longer. The stock of cane sugar in London continues very meagre, a small arrival of Jamaica Muscovado realizing good prices, while grocery sorts are as scarce as ever and have a tendency to rise in value. The imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 9th instant amounted to 426 tons, and for this year to 3,894 tons against 3,430 tons in 1898.—P. M. Review, Feb. 11.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The intense weather and heavy snowfalls in every direction paralyzed trade for most of the period covered by this report and yet, spite the bad start, the last quarter and a good finish, i. e., tripled activity the past two days brought the record of the week nearly up to the best of the season. There is marked enlargement of call for the Java and Patna styles in the order named; likewise some fair business in Japan. The latter, though reasonable in price, has fallen in commercial favor. As a large wholesale grocer tersely put it, "When everyone handles the 'same old thing' of identical cost, the outcome is too much like refined sugar in the olden days wherein the only reward was the pleasure of service. Other foreign sorts or domestic are therefore greatly preferred as against the one-priced sort, for by variety of grades there is a chance for play of skill on the part of salesmen and increased opportunity for profit." Advices from the South note restricted business in the early week; along the Atlantic coast by reason of contrary weather conditions and in New Orleans to the same cause and the Mardi Gras festivities. Toward the close, however, a good demand set in which brought the movement up to nearly former volume. The unusual weather and unprecedented fall of snow in nearly all parts of the South have caused the destruction of early vegetables and this is expected to redound to the benefit of rice and result in a greatly enlarged demand. The adverse conditions have also constrained the suspension of early plantation work and but little of the first plantings will enter the ground before the last of March. This does

not necessarily indicate a relatively late harvest for experience demonstrates that all March rice matures about the same time. Cables and correspondence from abroad are of former tenor, noting wholesome activity and under promise of limited forward supply, markets generally strong with upward tendency.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 638,915 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 479,200 sacks. Sales, cleaned, (est.) 152,967 barrels; last year, 87,100 barrels. Demand restricted on account of extreme weather and Mardi Gras. Receipts steadily falling away; market strong with upward tendency.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 32,130 barrels. Sales, 26,980 barrels. Demand early week light; closing, liberal. Market strong at unchanged quotations.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor *Louisiana Planter*:

Our weather is beginning to shape more favorably, but it has been more or less rainy and cold since the visit of the blizzard, and not much has been done on the farm until within a very few days. Now it looks like we might do some ploughing, but the roads are getting very stiff since the mud is beginning to dry up, and rice is moving from first hands, in rather a slow way, though it may prove better after the roads get in better shape. Sod ground works up all right, and is the only branch of farming that can go on with any degree of success, but another week of good weather will dry off the land so that much of the old land can be turned over. Canal work will soon be in full blast, but some of the work will not be done owing to lateness of the season. Farmers will have a better show for water from the canals than they did last season, although they are not pleased with the contracts given by the canal companies.

I have before me a letter from one of your San Francisco subscribers, asking for information concerning the well system, or rather the mode of putting down the tubing, and I regret to say that I can not give the information asked for just now, but will try to obtain it from a reliable source as soon as possible. The plan adopted here for handling the quick sand, was explained to me and I did not give it attention enough to remember just how it was done, but I know they use a double tube for drilling and force sand and water up through the inner tube, and this keeps the hole open and, I think, they force the tubing down as they drill, but the details of the business are not at hand at this writing. All the large rice farms about Jennings are putting up telephone wires and will all soon be in direct communication with the rest of the world, and it is proving to be a great convenience. There is more of a demand for laborers now

than there has been for some time past, for they are wanted on the canal work, and for chopping wood for the various pumping plants, and the demand will continue through the spring. Some of our rice mills are not running on full time just now, owing to rice being a little slow in coming to market, but the market is being fed in a way which will insure better prices, so no one should complain. Reports show that fruit, except orange trees, are not injured as bad as was first thought shortly after the freeze, but it is yet too early to draw conclusions, for I remember when the other freeze came South, that it ruined all the writer's pear trees, nine years old, but they did not show the effects of it until after they had got through bearing that season, then they began to die and kept at it until they died to the ground, and this may be the case this season; we can tell better about July or August. As yet no move has been made to prepare any more land, and it looks like this work and the rice planting would come all at one time and rush the farmers beyond their capacity. The severe cold and frost of the past two months has cut the feed short for range stock and many native farmers depend upon grass for feed for their work stock, and many of them are cut short and must wait for grass to spring up before they can accomplish anything. Our cane is reported injured, but to what extent is not yet known. It is believed the seed cane suffered the most.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Water Lifting for Rice Fields.

In regard to the pumping systems used to elevate the water into the irrigating canals for watering the rice fields of Jefferson county, I will say that pumps of various makes are in use, but the most popular are the Menge steam pumps. They are what are called centrifugal pumps and are of special make, designed for lifting large volumes of water to short heights; this is limited, I believe, to twenty feet. At least, this is the extreme height at which they are used. Canals running on higher levels, using two sets of pumps, as the Beaumont Irrigation Company, whose main canal is thirty-nine or forty feet above the source of supply, they have two lifts, two sets of pumps, boilers, etc. This plant is not yet installed, as the canal is not yet completed, but will be very soon.

The Port Arthur Irrigating and Rice Company have a lift, I believe, of thirty feet from source of supply to canal. They have one pump that worked this lift successfully all last season, but I have never visited this plant and do not know the make of their pump. It is not a Menge. At La Belle, on Taylor Bayou, this make of pump (Menge) is in general use on various plantations and short canals. The eighteen-inch cylinder is the size generally used; but on the new canals now building pumps of the largest

size will be employed—thirty-six inches cylinder.

These pumps are in general use throughout the rice growing district of Louisiana, around Crowley, Jennings and Gueyden, where they have given universal satisfaction for some years. But few of these pumps have been in general use in Texas until the season just past, and most growers depended on storage reservoirs of surface water from the annual rainfall. In visiting the rice farms it is not often practical to see the pumping plant, as it is almost always located some miles away, often ten or twelve from the rice fields. These farms are mostly in the central part of the county, off the railroads, scattered along the streams, a drive of half a day being usually requisite to visit one of them.—P. C. Tucker, in *Texas Farm and Ranch*.

Sugar Drainings.

Before the U. S. General Appraisers at New York, January 23, 1899.

In the matter of the protest, 34425 f-4660, of James Burns, against the decision of the collector of customs at New York, N. Y., as to the rate and amount of duties chargeable on certain merchandise, imported per Hillary, and entered April 4, 1898.

Opinion by Wilkinson, General Appraiser.

The merchandise consists of the drainings of a cargo of sugar from Brazil, the said sugar having lost about 15 per cent in weight on the voyage because of said drainings. These drainings tested 42.40 degrees by the polariscope, and were assessed for duty as molasses at 3 cents a gallon under paragraph 209 of the act of July, 1897.

It is claimed that the merchandise, which was pumped from the bilge of the vessel, contains more or less sea water, and is not molasses, and that it is dutiable under section 6 at 20 per cent as a nonenumerated manufactured article.

The Board held in G. A. 164, December 3, 1890, that pumpings of this character testing 46.79 degrees were dutiable under the act of 1883 as molasses. But whatever doubt might have been entertained as to the correctness of that classification, the new provision in paragraph 209 of the act of 1897 would appear to leave no reasonable ground for further contention. The new provision reads: "Sugar drainings and sugar sweepings shall be subject to duty as molasses or sugar, as the case maybe, according to polariscope test." We find that the goods are sugar drainings testing 42.40 degrees, and we hold that duty was correctly assessed under the provision for molasses testing over 40 and not above 56 degrees.

The protest is overruled accordingly.

Personal.

Mr. O. M. Nilson, of Covington, Perry, and other places, was in the city on a visit a few days ago.

Mr. J. P. Boagni, of Opelousas, La., was among the arrivals at the Hotel Grunewald last Tuesday.

MAR. 3.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUCAR.	Feb. 25.	Feb. 27.	Feb. 28.	Mar. 1.	Mar. 2.	Mar. 3.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	— @ —	Firm.
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Strict Prime.....	3 1/8 @ 3 5/8	3 1/8 @ 3 5/8	3 1/8 @ 3 5/8	3 1/8 @ 3 5/8	3 1/8 @ 3 5/8	3 1/8 @ 3 5/8	3 1/8 @ 3 5/8	
Prime.....	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	
Fully Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8	
Good Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	
Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	3 1/8 @ 3 1/2	
Good Common..	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	
Common.....	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8	
Inferior.....	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	3 @ 3 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8	
Centrifugal.								
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	Strong.
Off Granulated...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 4 1/4	
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 3/4 @ 4 1/8	
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow....	4 5/8 @ —	4 5/8 @ —	4 5/8 @ —	4 5/8 @ —	4 5/8 @ —	4 5/8 @ —	— @ 4 1/4	
Prime Yellow....	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	
Off Yellow.....	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	
Seconds.....	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8	
MOLASSES.								
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	None in first hands.
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Good Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Good Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Good Common..	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Inferior.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 14	
Choice.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 12	
Good Prime.....	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	12 @ 13	13 @ 14	— @ 11	
Prime.....	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	11 @ 12	— @ 10	
Good Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 10	— @ 9	
Fair.....	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 9	— @ 8	
Good Common..	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 8	— @ 7	
Common.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 7	— @ 6	
Inferior.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 7	— @ 5	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUCAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Firm.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	4.96 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.60	4.84 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.89	— @ 4.87	— @ 4.87	— @ 4.91	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	11s. 6d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 0d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	9s. 8 1/4 d.	9s. 8 1/4 d.	9s. 7 1/4 d.	9s. 8 1/4 d.	9s. 8 1/4 d.	9s. 3 1/2 d.	9s. 3 1/2 d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Leaf.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/2	Steady.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/2	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 13	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 5 01	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Feb. 22	Tons	120,359
At four ports of Great Britain to Feb. 18	"	58,500
At Havana and Matanzas to Feb. 71	"	37,700

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Mar. 3, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Mar. 3, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.		Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	364	4,757	3,239	Received.....	7,851	1,161,757	206,585
Sold.....	364	8,662	3,239	Sold.....	7,851	1,161,757	205,785
				Received same time last year	19,086	1,152,959	172,489

MAR. 3

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

RICE.	Feb. 25.	Feb. 27.	Feb. 23.	Mar. 1.	Mar. 2	Mar. 3.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
ROUGH, per bbl...	1 50@4 25	1 50@4 25	3 50@4 50	2 00@3 50	2 25@3 80	1 50@4 00	1 50@4 00	Steady.
EXTRA FANCY....	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	— @ —	
CLEAN, Fancy....	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	5 1/2@5 3/4	
Choice....	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/2@5 3/4	
Prime....	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	
Good....	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	
Fair....	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	4 1/4@4 3/8	
Ordinary	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 3/4@4	
Common.	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	3 1/4@3 3/4	
Inferior..	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	Nominal	
No. 2.....	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	2 @2 1/4	
BRAN, per ton...	10 50	10 50	10 50	10 50	10 50	10 50	9 50@10 00	Fair.
POLISH, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	14 00@15 00	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Mar. 3, 1899

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Mar. 3, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.	This year	Last year	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN
Received	5,376	647			640,618	3,682
Sold	4,605	2,110			432,498	3,308

Sugar.

The local sugar market was quiet and steady at the end of the week. The receipts from plantations, which were light, met with a ready sale.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals strong.

Rice.

The rough rice market was strong at the end of the week. The receipts were restricted and there was a limited volume of offerings. Clean rice was steady.

Irrigation of Sugar Cane in Queensland.

A report has just been presented to Parliament by the Registrar General having reference to irrigation in Queensland. Returns have been collected on this subject since 1891, so that information on this head is now available for seven years, and particulars respecting it will be found in the following statement: Acres irrigated: 1891, 3,869; 1892, 3,840; 1893, 5,287; 1894, 5,846; 1895, 6,447; 1896, 6,395; 1897, 6,647.

Thus, within the period under review, the area has very nearly doubled; the returns for 1897 comprising the largest acreage irrigated recorded in any one year.

The experiences of the cultivators who availed themselves of this aid to their work, as returned on their schedules, are well nigh unanimous as to the fact that the labor and outlay incurred was amply repaid in the increased production of the soil so treated.

In 43 districts the water was artificially employed, to a greater or less extent, for purposes of agriculture. In 7 districts the area treated exceeded 100 acres, and in 4 more it amounted to at least 50 acres.

The premier district in this respect was Ayr, where no less than 5,165 acres were irrigated, or 78 per cent of the whole. The sources of supply and the means of elevation and distribution are most varied. Although

applied industry is sometimes employed for securing the water in an artificial reservoir, yet for the most part natural sources of supply in their primitive state are relied upon, rivers, creeks and lagoons being much more in evidence in the returns than dams, wells and bores. The latter are given as sources of supply at Ayr, Barcardine, Blackall, and St. George. As to the first named place, the supply is probably drawn from a tube well, but can hardly be from a true artesian source. Gravitation necessarily cannot often be used as the means of conveyance direct from the natural source of supply without the intervention of power to first raise the water, so as to secure a head. A great increase in the use of steam as the means of elevation is at once noticeable on comparing the returns for 1897 with those of previous years. Nearly every kind of crop grown, including vegetables and fruit, is to be found amongst the returns, but, inasmuch as Ayr contributes so large a proportion of the irrigated area the principal object of cultivation in the district is sugar cane, that crop inevitably figures largely in the area submitted to irrigation.—Queenslander.

Sugar Chemistry.

We quote the following from the Tulane College Journal:

"It is very gratifying to note that the new department of Sugar Chemistry, notwithstanding the adverse circumstances arising from fever scare during the last two summers, is gradually developing, and promises to become one of the most popular branches of the College of Technology. It would, perhaps, be well to enumerate some of the facilities for work in this department and to point out some of the opportunities that await the earnest and competent young men who avail themselves of these facilities.

The laboratory of Sugar Chemistry now occupies one-half the lower floor of the well-arranged chemical building, and is supplied with a number of work tables, a small cane mill, a polariscope, a "sulphur machine, a "carbonating machine," and all other special apparatus for a careful and thorough study of the chemistry pertaining to the manufacture of sugar. In addition

to the practical work done in the laboratory, the students have access, through the courtesy of Mr. Frank Ames, to his splendidly equipped sugar house, situated just opposite the city, on the west side of the river, where they practically study the manufacture of sugar on a large scale. At this factory all of the products of the sugar house, from the mill juice to the third masse cuite and third sugar, together with the ash from the bagasse furnace, are collected, brought to the laboratory and carefully analyzed by the student. To further facilitate the practical work, sugar cane is grown on the university ground, near the laboratory, and in the fall the cane is windrowed and thus preserved for use by the student at any time. It, therefore, will be seen that the Sugar Chemistry laboratory has many facilities for doing efficient work.

That there is a demand for this kind of work is proved by the daily presence of students at all the work tables in the Sugar Chemistry laboratory, and that there is a demand for sugar chemists has been clearly demonstrated by the fact that all competent students in this new work have readily secured positions and during the past grinding season the number of applications for sugar chemists far exceeded the number of men competent to take charge of the chemical control of a sugar factory. Furthermore, in addition to the rapid strides made by the sugar industry of this country, the recent accession of the Hawaiian islands and the assurance by the United States of a permanent and stable government in the island of Cuba, will open up many positions for sugar chemists."

Wild Over Beet Sugar.

In your number of Feb. 4th you have an article under the title of "Wild Over Beet Sugar," in which you state that the Oxnard Construction Co. is to build and equip a magnificent 500 ton plant at Rochester near Detroit. We beg to say that the Fred W. Wolf Co., who put up the Bay City Plant last year, has secured the contract for the Rochester factory. This contract was especially secured on account of the great success of the first year's run at Bay City. Be kind enough to correct the mistake in your next number. Yours truly,

THE FRED W. WOLF CO.
Per G. C. Dumont.

Our correspondents will notice that the article in question was copied from and credited to the American Agriculturist. We make the correction with pleasure. Editor Louisiana Planter,

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STRICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-23-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La. 2-23-99

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 2-21-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A I references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3418 Constance street, New Orleans. 2-22-99

WANTED—A position as clerk in store by a young man of good habits and experience. Also have a practical knowledge of drugs. Good references. Address ROBERT, care Postmaster, Woodland, La. 2-23-99

WANTED—A position as carpenter or mill-wright on a sugar plantation. Best of references furnished. Address 418 N. Johnson street, New Orleans. 2-18-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 26 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 100, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—A position by an A No. 1. Sugar dryer, am a machinist with 14 years' experience. Address FRANK LORENZ, 302 S. Basin, St., City. 2-15-99.

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1824 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 24-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La. 18-99

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nesser, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, timekeeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish A1 references. Address "A. C.," this office. 1-9

WANTED—A young, unmarried man desires to secure a position on a sugar plantation. Has had experience as clerk, overseer and other general work. Honest, sober and reliable. Can furnish best of references. Is willing to work for a nominal salary. Address at once J. L. SLACK, Tallulah, La. 12-31-98

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 521 Dumaine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1035 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address Mrs. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98.

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$30. Address F. E. C., Shady-side Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYEE, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as manager of sugar plantation for the coming year. Ample experience, highest recommendations as to capacity, sobriety and ability to handle labor. Address D. A. BLOUIN, Whitecastle, La.

WANTED—Position as manager or assistant on sugar plantation for the coming year. Long experience and first-class references. Address A. G., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Soima P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation by married man, 33 years of age, sober, energetic and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 256, New Iberia, La. 12-5-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOYER, care First New York Beet Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-4-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 22, City Hall. 12-3-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of Cane. Best references given. Address, M. E. W., Care Verandah Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-23-98.

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 634 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—A young married man of small family, desires a position in Puerto Rico as time-keeper or sugar weigher. Have had several years' experience in sugar houses; also a very good book-keeper. Can furnish best of references. Address C. B. S., care Baton Rouge Sugar Co., Baton Rouge, La.

WANTED—Position as manager for 1899, by a first-class man of experience and fine references. Will take an assistantcy and work very reasonable. Address E. W. CREIGHTON, Baton Rouge, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as second overseer or time-keeper on sugar plantation, for 1899. Address THEO. BAUDOIN, JR., Hahnville, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—A sugar house expert, who is now, and has been for the past five years, the head chemist for one of the largest sugar houses in Louisiana, is open for an engagement for coming crop in Mexico, Cuba or Central America. Will accept a position on any terms consistent with first-class work. Can furnish best of testimonials from present employers and from the University from which he graduated. Address LEDA, this office. 12-8-98

WANTED—By a young chemist with university education and one year's experience in large Louisiana factory, a position for Mexican or Cuban campaign. Address A. M., care Louisiana Planter. 11-30-98

WANTED—By a first-class sugar boiler, to go to Mexico, Central America or the Hawaiian Islands. Will furnish the best of references. Address MANUEL MELLO, No. 536 Bartholomew street, New Orleans, La. 11-29-98

WANTED Position for next crop by an A No. 1 sugar boiler. Is now employed on one of the largest places in the State. Would have no objection to living on the place and making himself generally useful. Is a good cooper. Address GEO. CODE, 4730 Tchoupitoulas street, city. 11-25-98

WANTED—Position in this State or Mexico by an A No. 1 sugar boiler who has references of the very first class. Address BOILER, 507 Chartres street, New Orleans. 11-9-98

WANTED—Chemist wants situation. Graduate of University of Michigan. Have had practical experience in the analysis of sugars and syrups. Am 25 years of age and unmarried. If necessary would be willing to go to the West India. Reference from former employer given. Address X, this office. 11-26-98

WANTED—Position as book-keeper and utility man in the country. Good references. Address COMPETENT, care Louisiana Planter. 11-21-98

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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

Vol. XXII.

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No. 10.

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

*Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association,
Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
Kansas Sugar Growers' Association,
Texas Sugar Planters' Association.*

Published at New Orleans, La., every Saturday Morning

BY THE

LOUISIANA PLANTER AND SUGAR
MANUFACTURER CO.

Devoted to Louisiana Agriculture in general, and to the Sugar Industry in particular, and in all its branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chemical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPS.

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Louis Bush,
John Dymond, President.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

This association held its annual meeting last Thursday evening at its rooms on Union street. Owing to the illness of President Emile Rost, the first vice president, Hon. Henry McCall, presided. Secretary Dykers was at his post and there was a very large attendance. On motion, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with. The secretary read to the meeting communications from Senator S. D. McEnery and the family of the late Henry A. Brown, acknowledging receipt of the resolutions adopted at the February meeting of the association, after which the admission of new members being in order, Messrs. F. G. Drouet, Geo. P. Anderton, R. G. Comeaux and F. T. Llewellyn were elected to membership by acclamation. The chair then called for the annual reports of the president and treasurer which were read to the meeting by Secretary Dykers. President Rost, in his report, expressed his regret at his inability to be present, owing to ill-health, and his gratification at the flourishing condition of the association. Treasurer Schmidt's report dealt with the financial status of the organization and showed it to be in an eminently prosperous condition. A vote of thanks was tendered him for his able administration of the association's monetary affairs.

The next business before the meeting was the election of officers to serve during the ensuing year. The old ticket was unanimously elected with only one slight change, necessitated by the death of 2nd. Vice President H. C. Minor, the 3rd. Vice President, Mr. L. M. Soniat, being elected 2nd. Vice President and Col. Geo. C. Zenor being elected 3d Vice President to replace Mr. Soniat. The officers are therefore as follows:

President, Emile Rost; first vice pres-

ident, Henry McCall; second vice president, L. M. Soniat; third vice president, G. G. Zenor; treasurer, W. B. Schmidt; secretary, Reginald Dykers.

Executive Committee: Daniel Thompson, W. C. Stubbs, Jno. N. Pharr, W. B. Schmidt, John Dymond.

There being no further business offered, chairman McCall announced that the topic of the evening, "The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane—Whether by Test or Otherwise," would be taken up.

Papers on this subject were presented by Messrs. Robert Storm, R. G. Comeaux, C. Robert Churchill, Judge Henry Meyer and Dr. W. C. Stubbs.

All these papers appear elsewhere in this issue with the exception of the one by Dr. Stubbs, which, owing to its length, we are obliged to omit until next week. The authors of the various papers were tendered a vote of thanks for their contributions, and the papers were ordered published, that of Dr. Stubbs being esteemed so valuable that on motion duly made, it was decided to have it printed also in pamphlet form for extensive distribution. Considerable discussion was then had relative to the topic treated of in the papers, of which we will give a complete stenographic report next week.

After selecting "The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane so as to give Best Results in Sugar" as the topic for discussion at the next meeting, adjournment was had.

The Value of Molasses for Stock Feed.

The very short forage crop secured in the sugar parishes last fall is giving some trouble to the sugar planters who now find themselves compelled to buy hay, a rather unusual transaction in this country. As many of the sugar planters are now working out their low grade sugars it would be well for them to keep in

mind the fact that their common molasses for which they realize at most on the plantations but two or three cents per gallon delivered in tank cars, is one of the most valuable feed articles that can be had.

We need hardly refer to the recent adoption of sugar as a part of the ration of the German soldier; to the fact that the large demand in Louisiana for low grade molasses comes from the farmers of Great Britain and the continent, who long since learned to appreciate its value as a stock feed; to the fact that those sugar planters in Louisiana who have been feeding it continuously during the last four years to their mules, hogs and cattle have found the results extremely satisfactory, to prove the special value of molasses for stock feeding now that our supply of ordinary forage is so extremely short. So far as we have learned, in every instance in this state, where molasses has been fed to mules, the results have been satisfactory. The mules are in better condition than under any former regime, thus confirming the reports that come to us from other countries, where molasses is so much used. We do not mean by this that molasses alone should be fed to mule stock on the plantations, but we would say, from actual experience, that the average mule per day of heavy molasses, and consume this quantity week after week, having at the same time an ample allowance of hay and a fair allowance of oats.

That the mules become very fond of molasses is evidenced by the fact that frequently coming in from hard work, they will go to the molasses trough in preference to the water trough. This is ordinarily the case where the mules have been watered in the field within two or three hours of their coming in.

The Louisiana Planter has done much in recent years to impress upon the sugar planters of the state its views of the excellent feeding qualities of molasses and there could hardly be a better time than the present when the plantation supply of mule forage is short, to again enjoin the planters to always hold in reserve a sufficient supply of molasses for the mule stock throughout the whole year. A fair estimate of the quantity may be made by allotting one gallon per mule and horse

per day, which would be about seven barrels per year per animal, which should be held in reserve for their use.

As often stated hereinbefore, molasses has equally great feeding value for cows, hogs, etc., and while we have been a little slow to learn it in this state, the demand for molasses at the large sugar plantations is generally increasing, smaller local cane growers having found that it was their cheapest obtainable food supply.

March Weather.

The synopsis of the Weather Bureau's record of March weather in New Orleans during the last twenty-eight years gives some interesting data. The warmest month was that of 1897, with an average of 69 degrees F.; the coldest that of 1885, with an average of 58 degrees F. The highest temperature recorded was 84 degrees F., on March 30, 1897, and on March 20, 1897, while the lowest temperature, 30 degrees F., occurred on March 2, 1890. It will be remembered that the cane crop was well advanced at that time and that when the canes were cut to the ground by the freeze of March 2, 1890, serious injury to the crop was apprehended by many persons. On the other hand, it is well known that the cane crop of 1890 was one of the best ever made, the result seemingly of the distribution of the rainfall throughout the growing season in just the proper quantity for the growing plants.

The average rainfall for March has been 5.11 inches, but in 1876, 11.32 inches fell. As yellow clarified sugars sold in 1876 at 10 cents, a little more or less rainfall at that time was hardly as serious as now. A very dry March is much feared in Louisiana because of its injury to the spring planted cane. Cane planting in March, such as is now going on, is well known to be hazardous, because of the frequent droughts during this month. Yet the year 1892 will be recalled as an extremely good agricultural year for sugar cane, while 1876, with the immense March rainfall gave but a moderate yield from the field.

The News from the Plantations.

It is gratifying to note that all our correspondents are able to report this week a continuation of the good weather

we have been recently so fortunate as to enjoy, and a wonderful amount of progress has been made in field work. The condition of the plant and stubble cane, while necessarily still somewhat doubtful, is unmistakably improving, and with the proper kind of weather we believe far better results will be obtained than were deemed possible two weeks ago. Eyes that looked like they were dead are putting forth sprouts and were it not for the defects brought about by the wet weather, which prevailed during the fall and winter, there would probably be a full average crop made this year in spite of the zero temperatures of February. As it is, we believe that our prediction made last week of a three-fourths crop will be amply verified, barring further mishaps.

Spanish Peanuts.

This is a special variety of peanuts, grown largely in North Louisiana for forage purposes. Its growth is erect, and, at maturity, the pods adhere very tenaciously to the stalk when the latter is uprooted. In sandy, or light, loamy soils, this operation of uprooting can easily be accomplished without hardly the loss of a pod. By gathering them in this way while the leaves are still green, and curing the entire plant with adherent pods into hay, a large quantity of excellent forage of high feeding value can be obtained. This plant, as can be seen later on, has an enormous power of gathering nitrogen. It stores much of it in the fruit. It matures easily, and two crops upon the same soil have been made in one year at Audubon Park. This crop is frequently planted, and hogs permitted to gather it at maturity. Its feeding value is very great, and this is abundantly corroborated by numerous experiments in feeding by practical farmers.

The value to the land of this crop is very great, and the yield of nuts is sufficient, if grown in large areas, to justify a considerable commerce with profit to the farmer at present prices—three cents per pound in Norfolk, Virginia.

Mr. J. B. Lyon, of Chicago, Ill., a prominent capitalist who possesses extensive sugar interests, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He put up at the St. Charles. Mr. M. J. Kahoa, of West Baton Rouge parish, was at the Hotel Grunewald on Thursday.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Another whole week of dry weather has been our welcome portion, and, as may be readily supposed, work on the sugar plantations has been going ahead at a 2:40 gait. Gathering clouds yesterday and today seemed to portend imminent rain, but the indications tonight are more favorable and we may miss the threatened visitation. The thermometer reached within one degree of freezing Monday morning, but the miss was as good as a mile and no harm resulted from the belated cold wave.

This week's crop reports are mostly encouraging, and although not a few planters and managers cling to the apprehension that the prospects for more than a half crop are not good, a majority in this section are filled with growing confidence that the outlook is by no means depressing; and occasional instances are noted where the condition of both stubble and seed cane is reported to be excellent, and the indications for a stand equal to those existing at the same stage of last year's crop work. The representative of a New Orleans machinery concern, who sojourned at Donaldsonville today, after a tour of several days through the adjacent sugar country, reports that he encountered very few despondent planters, and met several who expressed belief that they would make better crops this year — an last. Between the pessimistic and optimistic extremes there is promise of the realization of a golden mean, that will save us from the "slough of despond," even though we may not hope to surmount a high pinnacle of prosperity.

Hon. Henry McCall writes from Evan Hall to-day, (Wednesday,) "Very busy planting cane, shaving ratoon, etc. Find seed cane pretty bad, till, by thick planting, hope to secure a stand. Acreage will, of course, be reduced; how much, cannot be estimated just now."

Belle Helene, Palo Alto and St. Emma, are among the plantations in this parish; Magnolia and Belle Terre in Assumption, Pike's Peak, Union and Salsburg in St. James, from which encouraging advices in regard to apparent condition of the cane, have been received. Less favorable reports come from the Miles Co's. places in lower Ascension and also those in St. James. It has been recently rumored that the seed and stubble on Oak Alley in St. James, were so bad that the owners would be content to raise seed this year without attempting to "make a grinding," but later reports from that vicinity are to the effect that planting is going on briskly, with the hope that something of a stand will be received.

A few weeks more of good weather may change the aspect of affairs in the sugar district materially and revive the hopes of

those who have been "down in the dumps."

Observer W. D. Park's meteorological record for February shows a range of temperature from 3 degrees on the 13th to 80 degrees on the 3rd; eight rainy days with a total precipitation of 3.85 inches; snow-fall of 3 inches; hail on the 11th; killing frosts on the 7th, 8th, 9th, 12th, 13th and 14th; light frosts on the 23rd and 28th, and floating ice on the river from the 15th to the 20th.

Besides being a vigilant weather observer, Mr. Pak is a diligent bank cashier and keeps a weather eye on the finances of the neighboring sugar planters as well as on their crops and meteorological surroundings. His quarterly statement of the condition of the Bank of Donaldsonville, just issued, gives a total volume of business of \$320,915.92, including capital stock of \$25,000, surplus and undivided profits \$38,559.18, and individual deposits of \$257,356.74. The institution has enjoyed a steady growth of prosperity since its organization in 1892, and is a prominent factor in promoting the welfare of this community.

The Bank of Ascension will also issue a quarterly statement on the 10th, and the aggregate of the two documents will make a handsome banking showing for

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather since last report has been all that could be desired, notwithstanding a range in the thermometer from Summer's heat to Winter's cold. The maximum temperature 86 degrees was reached on the 3rd instant, and the minimum 25 degrees on the 6th. Everybody and everything is at work. It is too early yet to tell what the area in cane will be, or whether the stand will be good or indifferent, but, we think the stubble crop will be a fair average, and the plant considerably short of expectations.

Mr. D. H. Walsh of Plaquemine, Manager of the Union Plantation says it took them all day Tuesday to plant six acres of cane. The seed is very bad and in picking it out hardly one-fourth is found to be fit for planting.

Mr. Rudolph G. Comeaux of Plaquemine, reports that the seed cane is the worst he has had to deal with since he has been planting, and news from Mr. Leonce M. Soniat of Dorseyville, is not a bit more encouraging, the seed cane in some cuts being entirely rotten, while in others running as high as 50% bad. Mr. Whaley, manager for Mr. Soniat undertook to pick out the good cane but after assorting, the good looked very little better than that rejected, so this method was stopped. Mr. Soniat hopes to find some seed in better condition.

Mr. Thomas Supple, of Bayou Goula says his seed is good.

The seed cane at the Milly plantation of

Messrs. LeBlanc and Danos of Plaquemine, is holding up splendidly, and all of their fall plant, except twelve acres which had been off-barred and scraped, is promising. The twelve acres mentioned have been replanted in cane.

Dr. Wm. Holloway, of Rosedale, has cleared up some 50 acres on his little plantation on Bayou Grosse-tete, since he purchased it from the late C. H. Dickinson, and is putting in a few acres in cane, so as to have seed, should some fortunate fellow take advantage of the splendid opportunity that awaits the inaugurator of a central factory in that section.

Mr. Randle Robertson, son of Mr. James M. Robertson, of Plaquemine, and a graduate of the Audubon Sugar School, left last week for the Hawaiian islands where he goes to take charge of an experimental station.

Mr. John Terrell, the popular manager of Mr. Andrew H. Gay's Augusta Plantation on Bayou Grossetete, was taken to New Orleans last Tuesday, for an operation on the foot he accidentally shot several months since, and his numerous friends hope that he will get the desired relief.

The police jury held its regular monthly meeting on the 6th inst. Nothing was done in the road matter, as it appears that the present contract has not expired. We were under the impression that the contract had expired at the end of the year.

The following Board of Directors for the Bank of Plaquemine, Charles A. Brusle, Frederic Wilbert, H. N. Sherburne Jr., A. H. Gay Sr., J. L. Barker, E. B. Schwing, G. R. Murrell, David Altemus and John M. Burgoyne, was elected Wednesday and among the names are several prominent planters.

IBERVILLE.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The extremely favorable weather of last week was not only of marked benefit to the planted canes and stubble but was highly appreciated by those who still had seed in the windrow. Field work was advanced rapidly and a considerable acreage was planted in corn, stubble barred, shaved and the diggers operated. The majority of the planters are more hopeful than ten days ago, as ratoons begin to appear here and there in the fields. At Crescent farm the Shaffer estate, early shaved stubble, the writer is informed, begins to show sprouts here and there, and at Southdown, the estate of the late Hon. H. C. Minor, the manager, Mr. W. H. Webb, reports late cut cane, shaved early last week, had sprouts visible on Sunday. The stubble of a tenant on the estate of Mr. Babin which was examined four days after the freeze, when sound eyes were found, was shaved on Thursday of last week and on Sunday morning sprouts two inches long could be seen here and there, not only on the top of the row but

on the sides of the bar. Nearby plant cane of the estate was examined shortly after the freeze and again this morning, and the mother canes were found rooting and the eyes were germinating nicely in response to the genial weather of last week.

Later on, the time of harvesting and the quality of the cane and texture of the soil will be seen to have had a marked influence on the vitality of the cane. On the upper Bayou Black it is reported that on some places the stubble from succession cane is very defective.

The recent cold wave, with frost and very thin ice in exposed places, with strong North winds dried the ground rapidly and retarded vegetation. The fall and winter having been extremely wet, with precipitations far above the normal, the chances are the spring may be very dry. The vitality of the canes having been impaired by adverse climatic influences, prudence would prompt that as soon as possible the stubble should receive a moulding furrow at least of soil made friable by harrowing after being shaved and the digger run over the stumps.

Canes, both plant and stubble will require more careful nursing until the sprouts root independently, than at any time in the past thirty years. Later, if the stand justifies the expense fertilizers can be applied with machine or by hand as in former years when implements were not in vogue.

A light, warm rain, with South winds would prove of great benefit not only to moisten the clods but hasten vegetation. On some places plantings will terminate this week with favorable weather, and on others, not until after the middle of the month.

Wednesday of last week was partially cloudy; Thursday, favorable; Friday, a lovely balmy day; Saturday, variable; Sunday and Monday, clear and cold with strong North wind; Tuesday, thin ice, frost and clear, and Wednesday, clear and warmer in the morning.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

As our letter last week had to be written prior to the meeting of the Irish Bend planters, in conjunction with the people of Franklin, for the purpose of forming themselves conjointly into a drainage district, which meeting took place at the parish seat last Thursday evening, it is reserved for this week to pass upon the success the movement is destined to enjoy. The meeting was not largely attended by the planters, owing to the impassable condition of the parish roads, but those few who did appear and take a part in the deliberations, pledged the hearty support and co-operation of their respective immediate neighbors, when the work had progressed up to the degree requiring personal activity, such as the casting of votes, and the like.

Committees were appointed and resolutions drafted and such other work done as was possible at that time. The petition necessary under the law, will be circulated right away, for the purpose of obtaining the requisite number of signatures to go before the Police Jury, to request the formation of the territory designated, into a drainage district, to appoint the commissioners who will manage and control the same, to call the election for the purpose of raising the necessary tax, and to designate the tax to be raised. In the mean time others, appointed for the purpose will go over the land within the proposed district, and determine the deepest and most available natural basin, through which the canal will course its way to the high seas, the depth and other dimensions of the canal itself, and the approximate amount of money necessary to complete the same. The attempt will be made to complete all arrangements necessary to the levy of the special tax before the completion of the regular tax rolls for the current year, and the running of the canal as soon as possible.

The planters in the Bayou Sale district, too, having felt the need of better drainage more seriously last year than for any previous season on record, are considering the plan of creating another drainage district for the benefit of that great range of sugar estates, and carrying their waters out into Yellow Bayou tributary to theulf, but having accomplished nothing practical as yet, it cannot be stated whether the necessary interest can be excited among the people to form a district in time for the present arrearment.

The results of that severest freeze in the history of Louisiana, are indeed, about as strange as they could well be. Some few planters report practically a total loss of seed cane, while for miles on either side of them, the seed is alternately ordinary and first-class. Mr. A. M. Underwood, one of the owners of Belleview, said the other day that he calculated on raising enough cane this year for seed in 1900, but that he could not cut a ton for the mill, and, in consequence, will not turn a wheel this coming harvest time; while his immediate neighbors, the Rose people and Oak Lawn, have sustained losses very unimportant, and Mr. Shaffer's Anna place, among the same cluster, is rather a heavy loser. Others throughout the parish will lose, variously a third, a half, and some few as much as two-thirds.

ST. MARY.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been very fine for farm work, and the farmers have taken advantage of it. The fields look more like spring now than on last Monday the 27th of February; six full days work has changed the general appearance won-

derfully. Several days during the past week was cloudy but there was no rain to speak of, not enough to retard field work. There has been a decided change in the temperature of the weather for the past twelve hours—at 6:00 o'clock yesterday evening (Sunday) the thermometer stood 60 degrees F., and at 6:00 o'clock this morning (Monday) the thermometer stood at 30 degrees F., and ice was very much in evidence. It promises to be some colder to-night than last night but no damage is likely to occur therefrom. There has been considerable cane planted the past week and the general verdict now is about on a line with the report from the section last week, that about one fourth of the seed cane is lost as is about the same percentage of first years stubble; second year stubble is almost a total loss. There is some speculation about first stubbles, the effect of the freeze scoured the top of the stubble which when the ground thawed out effected the entire root more or less and it is very much feared that this deterioration will spoil the entire root and to obviate this as much as possible farmers are now off baring their first year stubble and shaving it as closely as they can. This they think will save the bottom eyes. Much of the seed cane that appeared entirely lost when removed from the windrow after being exposed to the sun for two or three days will sprout out healthy scions. This cane on careful examination when being first taken from windrow presents the appearance of thoroughly frozen cane and the eyes are black and watery, and it is a mystery to all who have examined it to see healthy looking sprouts spring out from those black damaged sockets. The total damage to the cane crop cannot be arrived at until the cane comes up and shows the extent of the stand, but it is safe to figure on $\frac{1}{4}$ of a crop. Considerable preparations are being made for a large corn and rice crop, but little is being said about cotton. The cotton acreage will be greatly increased, and rice will be double in acreage over last year's crop. There are some considerable improvements being put in for rice in the neighborhood of Abbeville—fuller details later.

Mr. J. Henry Putnam of the Rose Hill, is in New Orleans this week attending to business.

Mr. O. Lacour of New Orleans, and a prominent sugar planter of Pointe Coupee, was in Abbeville the latter part of last week prospecting. He was very much pleased with the outlook in Vermilion from a sugar standpoint.

Mr. Isidore Hechinger, prominent in sugar and rice circles of Louisiana, was in Abbeville a few days ago. His headquarters are in New Orleans. Mr. Hechinger may invest in sugar lands in Vermilion.

Mr. Horace Gumbel, a leading commission merchant of New Orleans, spent a few hours prospecting around Abbeville a few days ago. He was accompanied by Mr. L. Von Treckow Manager of the Lafayette Sugar Refinery of Lafayette, La.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

At last it seems that we are to have fair weather and freedom from rain, cold and frost. The past eight days were in the main, warm and pleasant for the performance of field work. With the exception of a light rain, which fell on the evening of the 4th inst., at Barbreck and south to Opelousas, the weather was all that could be wished for. Plowing and planting has been pushed forward as rapidly as the land would become dry enough to permit.

In not a few instances the farmers have not hesitated to do considerable plowing in lands that were really too wet for breaking; but the time for planting has come to hand when delays are considered risky. Consequently all who can do so are trying to do something or other at planting, while the sun shines bright and fair.

The Planter's correspondent called in at Barbreck last week, and had the pleasure to meet and converse with a number of prominent planters and cane growers of Barbreck and vicinity.

Mr. R. L. Foster, of the firm of J. U. Payne & Co., New Orleans, and supervisor of Barbreck and Cumberland plantations, with W. H. Shaw manager on Barbreck, and M. Campbell manager on Cumberland, seem to agree, after a most searching investigation of the stubble, that it is to all practical purposes dead. Now and then a chance stubble when dug out and washed, showed evidence of life, with maybe one to three sound eyes.

On a seven acre cut where the flag had been drawn up on the rows as an experiment, it was found on investigation that the stubble was better and showing less injury from the winter rains and freeze.

Mr. Foster informed me that the cane in the windrows was found to be better, where from some one or other cause, an abundance of flag or trash had been left upon it.

An instance, strange to note, was when putting down seed cane last fall from second years stubble—in which the rows were five feet apart, to get sufficient soil to cover the cane in windrow, a number of the stubble were plowed out and were subjected to the full force of the winter's freeze. When examined by Messrs Foster, Shaw and A. Lesseps, they found these exposed stubbles in a fair state of preservation, with a number of eyes sprouted from one to two inches long. Now the question arises, was it the freeze or the excessive fall and winter rains which destroyed the stubble; will some Solon explain?

Barbreck put down seed cane last fall for planting, on Barbreck and Cumberland, a very heavy acreage to cane. Mr. Foster informs me that he thinks they will do well now to get seed to plant at the best 175 acres to cane, and will finish up with increased acreage to corn, peas and something like 300 or more acres to cotton. The conditions on the Augusta Planting and Mfg.

Co's. plantation, Barbreck, are about the same as those described above.

Mr. A. Lesseps, President of the Augusta Planting and Sugar Mfg. Co., seems to think that they will do well to make seed for planting another year. Anchorage plantation, the property of Messrs Young and Haydel, Barbreck, report stubble to some extent dead. Seed cane injured. Mr. Campbell, managing Cumberland plantation, planted some sixty acres to cane last week.

Mr. G. G. Fuselier, manager of the Powhontas plantation, employed a heavy force at cane planting during last and this week. His plant cane is about on a par with that of others in the same locality; some of it fair and some not at all good.

Reports from Rapides are to the effect seed cane is seriously injured; the stubble worthless, etc., and so on to the end.

I enjoyed a pleasant chat with Mr. Prescott, of Washington, La., on the 4th inst. Mr. Prescott informed me that he had learned of best one instance where stubble had kept well in his locality, and that was where a negro farmer, having a few acres to cane, had, after cutting his cane last fall, gathered all the flag and trash he could get and put it on his stubble, then threw two furrows on the same, and in that manner had preserved it from the destructive freeze.

The prospects for a cane crop on Leinster are about the same as those reported from a number of other places in this or the adjoining parishes. As a result of the loss of cane, a heavy acreage will go into corn, peas and cotton, and I should think it advisable to grow as much grass and sorghum for hay making as possible, to tide over the year.

ERIN.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

There seems to have been a change made in the weather, for it has failed to rain this week, and it has been very fine, drying weather, and plowing has been pushed at a great rate, for farmers seem to feel like a long, dry spell is setting in, and if such is the case, it will not take long to get so dry that it will be impossible to get a plow in the ground, so the work is hastened as much as possible, and while some farmers have got a good start in this work, the most of them are behind and cannot get ready for sowing as soon as they would wish to. Many thought the long, cold winter would bring an early spring, but it does not look that way just now, and if the average amount of rice is sown this season, farmers will have to do considerable late planting. If it comes off dry, as many predict, the sod cannot be worked up, and there will be considerable new land to prepare this spring. Old ground is drying up fast and much of it is in shape for plowing, but most of it will get pretty hard before the plow gets to it. Farmers are pretty well prepared with teams and tools to work with, and with a few weeks of good weather they can dis-

patch the work. The mules and gang plows are much ahead of the ten inch plow, drawn by a slow ox team, the way we did the work a few years ago, so we can handle a large acreage of rice with all the improved methods, as easy as we use to handle a little patch of rice with the oxen or ponies. But we do not seem to have the rain of late years that we had some ten years ago, and rice growing is more of a task now, unless it is where canal water can reach it. It looks to many observing farmers like some of the canal companies are agreeing to furnish water for much more land than their pumps can lift water for, but this mistake comes from the fact that the water companies demand two sacks per acre, water rent, and they want to spread out the water as much as possible, and that plan often makes about one-half a crop for the majority of the farmers. Some farmers have protested against his plan of paying for the water, and they have gained the day in some localities, and will force the water companies to accept of a share of the crop.

The well system for irrigating rice is with us to stay, but it has rather a slow growth now, owing to the fact that farmers lack the capital to spread out as they would like to, so they begin in this business in a small way and then work up as they can afford to, and some of them are getting so well fixed for irrigating their rice that they can do so at a small expense with the wells, and the more the system is tried, the better it is liked, and some farmers will not have a canal on their farms, for they have been found to be expensive things for the farmers, as well as a benefit. A number of new wells will be in operation this spring, but they are no longer an experiment, and they will increase in number as the farmers can afford to have them, and the time is not far ahead when all the prairie section of the country in this part of the state, will be able to obtain water from either the canals or the wells. Farmers have begun to plow for corn, but some of the soil is yet too wet. By examining the seed cane, it is found to be quite badly hurt by the freeze, but most of the joints are sprouting and the loss may not be as heavy as was first anticipated.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Spreckles Sugar Refining Company Incorporated.

Articles of incorporation of the Spreckles Sugar Refining Company have been filed with the County Clerk here. The capital stock is said to be \$5,000,000, divided into 50,000 shares of the par value of \$100 each. The principal place of business is located at Salinas, and the objects of the company are to raise beets, buy, own and rent land for said purpose; make, refine and sell sugar and all purposes of a similar nature. The directors are: J. D. Spreckles, A. F. Morrison, A. B. Spreckles, H. P. Weed, W. D. K. Gibson. Fifty shares, amounting to \$5,000, have been subscribed and paid for. *N. Y. Journal Commerce,*

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, Feb. 18th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The springlike weather setting in last week and reported in my last letter has kept up during the first part of the period under review and vegetation has generally developed in a measure quite uncommon for this time of the year, so that, for the moment at least, it is much ahead of the season. But in the last few days the meteorological conditions changed again for the worse and the hope of the farmers to resume field work has not been realized, the soil being anew soaked with moisture by the rain latterly fallen. The weather described above has been exactly the same as prevailed in the corresponding period of last year, for I wrote you then: "Especially the first few days of the week were warm, sunny and dry and the little snow fallen previously was soon thawed away by the bright rays of the sun * * * but the scheme (of beginning field work) was rudely prevented from being carried out by another change of the weather, which, although not being a return to the winter made all field work for the time being impracticable because of the downpour of rain accompanied by raging storms." I do not quote these few lines only for the sake of curiosity but more as a hint that these early springlike symptoms cannot at all be relied upon as forerunners of an early commencement of the sowings, as last year a great delay took place which in a certain degree was the cause of the shortage of the crop, which by the statistical figures is now plainly confirmed, up to the end of January the quantity of beets worked amounting only to 12,124,251 tons, as against 13,658,258 tons in 1897-1898. There were a couple of factories working still in February, but in the bulk the result will not be much changed and it may be taken for granted that the beet crop will not exceed 12.15 millions of tons, as against 13.7 millions last campaign. On the other hand, the quality of the beets turns out to be much better than last year and it amounts so far to 12.75 pct., as against 12.14 pct. last year. In the beet growing sections outside of Germany the spring has, on the whole, kept on wet without permitting the farmers to proceed seriously with field work.

It will be of interest to you to learn in what light the state and prospects of things in Cuba are considered in our official circles. In a recent session of the budget committee of the Reichstag (you would say the committee on ways and means), the secretary of the Treasury said he would not underestimate the danger threatening us from Cuba, but he did not think it so alarming as some people apparently believe it to be. The Island of Cuba is in a large degree fallen back in a state of uncultivation and years of

hard work would be required to restore its former productive capacity, and there is now great want of labor. Of the white working men 60 per cent have emigrated, disappeared in some way or other or are dead, whilst the colored population is by the war demoralized to the last degree, and he thinks that to replace the lost laboring forces would be extremely difficult. On account of this condition of the island he holds that a rapid revival of production, as is thought likely to come to pass by some persons, is for some years out of the question, which opinion has been confirmed by different members of the Reichstag who are well acquainted with the economical, industrial and agricultural conditions and capacities of Cuba. Persons who perhaps had an interest to do so, estimated this year's crop already as high as 500,000 tons, but from present appearances it is by no means certain that last year's figures will be reached inasmuch as for the time being only 85 centrals are in operation as against 99 at the same period last year.

The sugar dealers of this country continue complaining of the increasing use of saccharine and similar sweetstuffs, which are now palmed off to the general public not only as being quite inoffensive to the human health, but as the healthiest sweet and the cheapest article in that line imaginable, which unfortunately cannot be prevented logically. Of course, this is much to the discomfiture of the fabricants whose product is subject to a heavy tax whilst the competing stuff goes out scot free. The use that breweries used to make of saccharine, sweetening the beer by means of it, is, it is true forbidden, but this provision is artfully circumvented by breweries giving a certain quantity of the article to their cart drivers who deliver the beer kegs to the saloon keepers, and if the latter desire to add saccharine to the beer, they are at liberty to do so, as only the industrial use of it is prosecuted.

The new sugar factory at Sofia, (Bulgaria), which has been spoken of in these letters already on several occasions has finished its first campaign. It has worked 6,000 tons of beet and has made 600 tons of sugar. It is, however, doubtful whether a similar result, though not at all brilliant, will be obtained next year, the farmers finding that the growing of beets has not proved as remunerative as they had believed it to be. The board of directors of the factories will make, it is said efforts to stimulate beet culture by granting a premium to those farmers who succeeded in obtaining the largest yield from a certain surface. The peasants, however, seem to prefer cereals to beets, the former yielding a better profit than the latter.

On the markets the tendency—always in opposition so the prevailing kind of weather—was in the first half of the week unfavorable, and with the above mentioned change of the weather; the tone of the markets changed for the better. But there were also

some other reasons for an improvement, for instance the re-entering of the French speculators into the market, rumors of sales to America and a revival of actual demand for the consumption here and abroad. The markets generally close firm with slightly improved prices and a prospect of a further rise. The quotations are at Magdeburg for prompt delivery, 88 plt. sugar, M. 10.35—10.50, and at Hamburg M. 9.52 for delivery February f. o. b. Refined have been very quiet and partly nominal.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Barbados.

The fortnight's record is one of cool and pleasant weather, light showers and sunny days. So delightfully bracing are the sea breezes that could we keep them all the year through thus deliciously tempered, there would be no need for central factories to restore our prosperity. Life in our West Indian Sanctarium is now veritably life on the ocean wave with its mal-de-mer and other discomforts left out. Now is the time for the tourist and health seeker to visit us, and inhale new life from the sea breeze as it sweeps charged with ozone fresh and briny from the broad Atlantic.

The rainfall for the fortnight at our station is 2.66 inches. For the month, 3.18 inches.

Planting operations have been pushed well forward, and already the young crop is becoming a noticeable quantity, the young plants being on the whole regular and healthy. No. 147, the favorite of the day, continues to be in demand, and some very fine fields of this seedling have been wisely cut down, and sold for plants, a practice greatly in contrast with the old Bourbon days when inferior rubbish was here and there on poorly grown plots was thought good enough for planting. Our planters have grown wiser in the school of adversity from which, although long since post-graduates, they cannot escape, and are thus sharpened to a keener edge in matters of science practically applied. The scientific experiences from Dodds are always thankfully received, and let us hope that the rich seedlings now being established there may next year, without let or hindrance, be spread broadcast throughout the island. It is very necessary in the interests of the entire community that the outlay which, under so much stress, has been year after year maintained for the upkeep of the sugar industry should meet with the fullest reward. We cannot command prices but let us endeavor to get all we can of yield that is within our control. The report of the results obtained on the experimental fields at Dodd's Reformatory 1897 has just been issued a little earlier in the year before the planting season begins, as a guide in matters of practical agriculture it would be more acceptable and useful, but better late than never. Planters will, no doubt, study with interest the tables relating to seedling experiments

and we would urge them to keep well in mind the following facts: "Seedlings 156-102, and 147 gave each a favorable increase series. The juices of S. 156 and S. 106 were of good quality and distinctly richer and purer than that of S. 147; and the quantity of rotten canes from each of these plots was comparatively small. The juice from the Burke cane was comparatively low in richness and quality and this plot gave a heavy tonnage of rotten cane."

Everybody knows that those by whom the experiments at Dodds are conducted are very observant observers, and that their field results are unimpeachable, but the exceeding great care which has been taken in these seedling experiments, using the well known Burke as a control, doubly enhance their value. We feel that these seedling experiments are being scientifically pursued, and they are leading the depressed cane sugar industry hopefully in the right direction. We strongly advise planters and cane growers generally to keep their eyes on 156 and 109. But, and there is always a but, and here we quote Mr. Bovell himself, or rather re-quote him from Dr. Morris' inaugural address at the recent Agricultural Conference,—"this cane (B. 147) has been under cultivation here (presumably at Dodds) for the past five years, and it has during that time given an average yield of nearly half a ton of available sugar per acre over the Caladonian Queen which comes next, and more than three-quarters of a ton more than the Bourbon." And "during that time" five long years, B. 147 instead of being spread broadcast, and hurried to the front as it were, with its "three-quarters of a ton more than the Bourbon" to help us in our struggle for existence in which every pound must tell, has been kept pent up at Dodds. Dr. Morris promises us greater publicity, four central stations, and eight local stations for the purposes of experiment, or 130 acres in all devoted to the improvement of the sugar cane. "At the local stations the planters in each parish will have opportunities of observing the growth and habits of the selected canes under normal treatment, and of afterwards obtaining plants or tops for establishing their own plantations." This is a very important statement, for it is of supreme consequence that planters should not only have opportunities for personal observation but that every good seedling, as fast as its habits and quality are determined should be placed in their hands for propagation; the increase of the annual output without increase of expenditure on production being one of the most urgent needs of our unstable commercial and agricultural position. That our planters are not slow to seize advantages is proved by the fact that the moment B. 147 was placed in their hands with an established character no effort has been spared to propagate it in every direction and when 156 and 109 are similarly handed over the spread will be equally rapid. However, although five years is a long time, we do not wish to criticize Dodds, there may have been good reasons.—Agricultural Reporter, Jan. 31,

Demerara.

The weather continues dry, no heavy shower having fallen during the past three weeks, the fall for which time has averaged only half an inch a week. This appears to indicate that we are experiencing some weeks earlier than usual the short, late winter or early spring dry season, which is of so great an advantage to cultivators, in allowing the forking of both old and new canes to be thoroughly done before the usually heavy, early summer rains set in. The later weeks of December and earlier of January were unfavorable to planting owing to the excessive and continuous rain, and planting done during that time would benefit by occasional showers during the next few weeks. These may perhaps be experienced, for this season of the year is hardly ever arid, though heavy rains hold up till well into March. Last year very similar weather to the present occurred from the same date (17th) in January to the 3rd of March, similar very light showers only falling in the interval. The rainfall for January then was 9¼ inches, and for this year it is over 12¼ inches, both falling principally in the earlier half of the respective months. Whatever the crop may prove in the autumn of the year when reaped, the foundation is now being laid. The recorded duration of bright sunshine for the week averaged nearly ten hours a day, the lowest on every day being over eight hours. The temperature day and night was normal for the time of year and much the same as in previous weeks of late. Breeze has been light and consequently not very drying, as it often is in fine weather to open land.—Argosy, Feb. 4.

Sugar in London.

After a quiet opening and every appearance of lower prices, the market suddenly improved on Continental buying, and with a rapid recovery quotations close higher than last week. The comparative scarcity of 88 per cent. beet is supposed to be the explanation of this sudden improvement, which certainly does not arise from an increased demand from the trade. In fact, the conclusions on which the home trade are forced to base their ideas of requirements become more unstable every year, and produce a degree of caution which is at times carried to an extreme degree, and gives an air of dullness to the market. The position of sugar is, if anything, rather stronger, the latest figures of the January production and stocks of beets being by no means unfavorable, nor do the stocks of sugar at Hamburg show any signs of accumulation. A further decline is also shown in the American figures, the meltings again exceeding the receipts. No fresh information has been received from Cuba this week, but the latest reports do not lead to any hopes of large results. Cane kinds have shown more firmness and crystallized raws especially have been in demand at enhanced rates. There

were no imports of crystallized raws in London for the week ending 16th instant, the total for this year remaining 3,894 tons, against 4,821 tons in 1898.—P. M. Review, Feb. 18.

Sugar in London.

The effect of a further slight addition to the revised estimates of the beet crop has been more than counterbalanced by the considerable purchases of beet sugar by the Americans. Quotations show a further rise, and have reached a point which, under normal circumstances, would be considered high, but which, owing to the comparatively small proportion of 88 per cent sugar made nowadays, may be justified. From the appearance of the American refiners in the European markets, the fears that the Cuban crop will be perhaps 100,000 tons less than was once expected may prove true. If so, the American competition for beet may be expected to continue, and still higher prices for this particular form of sugar be established without affecting the value of foreign white sugar or other kinds to the same extent. At the moment, the French are also withholding a considerable weight of sugar in the expectation of a larger bounty being paid after September 1st; their actions, however, are so unreliable that the improvement in value which has now been established in these sugars might induce them to sell at any moment. As regards cane sugar, the continued scarcity of suitable refining kinds, and relatively high prices are causing considerable anxiety to refiners who only melt these sugars, while the almost total absence of grocery descriptions has produced a suspension of offerings at public auction, and the payment of famine prices by private sale. There were no imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 23rd instant, the total for this year remaining 3,894 tons against 5,088 tons in 1898.—P. M. Review.

New Beet Sugar Factory.

A contract was awarded yesterday by the Colorado Sugar Manufacturing company to Lyster & Co., of Cleveland, Ohio, for construction of buildings and their equipment with machinery necessary to manufacture from beets at Grand Junction. It was stipulated that the plant shall be ready for operation by September 15th next.

It will cost \$400,000. The buildings are to be of steel and brick with cement floors. The capacity of the beet sheds will be 7,000 tons. Automatic machinery will handle them and their products throughout the process, and the estimated output of sugar daily will be 80,000 pounds. Preliminary estimates show that the factory will be operated 100 days out of each year. It will occupy a site half a mile southeast of Grand Junction, thirty acres being included in the plot. Forty thousand tons of beets have been guaranteed by the farmers thereabout the first year at a stipulated price of \$4.35 per ton. The seed has been ordered from Germany and France to be delivered at Grand Junction by March 10th. The contracting firm for the machinery and the buildings will supply the expert labor for the work during the first year.

The Colorado Sugar Manufacturing Company includes John F. Campion, president; George W. Trimble, vice-president; Charles Boetcher, secretary; J. R. McKinnle, treasurer; J. J. Brown, Byrd Page, Colonel C. C. Dodge and C. N. Cox are also members of the board of directors. E. N. Cox will be the active manager. He was the promoter of the concern, which is capitalized at \$750,000.—Pecos Valley Argus, Feb. 24.

The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane.—Whether by Test or Otherwise.

(A paper by MR. ROBERT STORM, Supt. of the Estate of the late Joseph H. Meeker, which was to have been read before the Louisiana Sugar planters' Assn., Feb., 9th., but through a delay in the mails, did not arrive until after that date.)

Referring to the above subject we regret that previous engagements will prevent writer from being present at the meeting of your association on the 9th inst., appreciating of how vital importance the subject to be discussed is, not only to all cane purchasers, but to all interested in the sugar industry in this State. We have had considerable experience in connection with the purchase of cane. During the season just ended we bought nearly 50,000 tons and a year ago the cane purchased by us was somewhat over 40,000 tons. The price paid by us has been on the basis of the value of 80 lbs. P. Y. in New Orleans. In other words, we have followed the orthodox method of paying for cane, paying for it simply on the strength of its bulk or quantity and thereby putting a premium on the most worthless cane it was in the power of the cane raiser to produce. It goes without saying that we are not in favor of this method, and we have in the past made determined efforts to inaugurate a different system, equitable to cane raiser and factory. We have so far failed in this, the obstruction being partly the fact that other factories with surplus capacity were willing to grant prices for cane out of proportion to its actual value, partly the fact that many of the cane raisers with whom we were dealing candidly expressed themselves to the effect that any system for adjusting value of cane, in which such terms as "polariscope," "sucrose," "purity," etc., were mentioned, was simply and purely a scheme on the part of the factory to defraud and rob the cane raiser.

Regarding the subject for discussion at the meeting of "Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association," 9th inst., viz: "The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane, Whether by Test or Otherwise," we wish emphatically to state that with our experience as one of the largest cane buyers in the State we are most decidedly in favor of paying for cane according to its sugar contents as determined by chemical test.

We have never seen or heard anything which, with greater lucidity, presents the divers factors in connection with this question than the paper prepared and read by Mr. John Dymand at the meeting of your association, May 9th, 1895.

We think that paper could very appropriately be made the basis for your discussion, and that the principle elucidated by Mr. Dymand is the nearest approach to equitable adjustment of cane values. We refer in this connection to his opinion that the output from a ton of cane should be equally divided between cane raisers and manufac-

turers. This, of course, will imply that cane from sections averaging 130 pounds sugar per ton would not be worth as much as cane which yield 175 pounds or more per ton. We take for granted that the justice of this will be conceded by all concerned.

As for ascertaining the sugar contents in the planter's cane where probably cane from 20 or more sources is being received, we think that while somewhat difficult, yet it is not impossible. Samples from each party's cane could be obtained direct from the mill, one per diem, which we think is sufficient, without any such large corps of chemists as asserted by Mr. Kock and others. Furthermore, to obviate any claim of unfair play we would propose that the cane raisers club together and engage a chemist who would make the necessary tests in conjunction with our chemist; in other words, this chemist engaged by the cane raisers would in our laboratory control the correct ascertaining of quality just as the cane weigher paid by the cane raisers, and stationed in the factory's scale house, controls the weight or quantity of cane delivered.

In regard to determining the basis, that is, the value to be placed on cane containing a certain sucrose percentage and co-efficient purity, we will refrain from expressing any estimate, awaiting the opinions which will no doubt be expressed at your meeting.

One subject we think should be considered while cane values are being discussed, namely: "What should be the condition of cane, to entitle it to be classed as merchantable," as regards its ripeness, manner in which it is, cut and its state of preservation, if, due to prolonged exposure after being cut, or due to freeze? The cane has deteriorated and become partly or wholly unfit for manufacture. We have, as have presumeably all cane buyers, clauses referring to this subject, but during the grinding we are daily in receipt of cane which by no stretch of imagination is in accordance with our contracts. We then have to resort to deduction of a certain percentage of the weight, but this is necessarily arbitrary on our part, and always the cause of hard feeling.

Would it not be possible to make it a rule, that wherever a large factory and a number of cane raisers were doing business together, the two parties should agree on some man, possessed of mutual confidence and the necessary experience, paid for his services proportionally by all interested, to whom all disputed questions regarding the condition of the cane, its cutting, etc., could be referred, the contract between factory and cane raisers to form the basis for his rulings, and these rulings to be accepted by both parties as final. Such an arrangement would to some extent be necessary if cane was bought on its merits as ascertained by test, but would still serve to avoid a great amount of friction.

It may be argued that if the cane delivered does not come up to specifications in the contract then it ought not to be received,

but this principle has in the past not been half as easy to enforce as it might appear. As Mr. Henry McCall stated at a previous meeting of your association, there are in some sections to be found people who would be apt to take out and shoot any man with sufficient audacity to tell them, that green tops and decomposed cane are not fit subjects for sugar making, and not entitled to the price agreed upon for good, ripe and sound cane.

It is no doubt a fact that the average factory has in the past devoted from 10 to 25 per cent of its capacity to grinding unripe tops, etc., which should never have been allowed to be put on the carriers; not only has this worthless stuff been paid for, but the factory's capacity has been wasted together with the consequent labor and fuel, to which must be added the incalculable damage done through the introduction into the factory of elements detrimental to proper results from whatever good material was in progress of manufacture.

To one more item we think it proper to draw your attention. Where the cane price is based on the value of a certain number of pounds of sugar in the New Orleans market, why should not the freight on this sugar be paid by the cane raiser, or, in the other words, if, for instance, he is being paid 80 lbs. sugar per ton of cane, why should the factory be compelled to assume the freight? If a cane raiser produces 5,000 tons cane and receives for same 400,000 lbs. sugar, why should not he, if the price he is being paid for his cane is based on New Orleans market price, bear his share of the expense involved in placing the sugar on that market.

It can not be argued that the factories often receive for their sugar more than the P. Y. basis, because even where the factory makes a higher grade sugar, due to extra outlay in machinery and labor, still the unavoidable per centage of low grade sugar will make the average price obtained less than the price of P. Y.

Much more could be added regarding this subject, but the combined knowledge and experience possessed by the gentlemen, who will discuss same at your meeting, cannot fail to result in hitting upon some measures tending toward demonstrating, that the best interests of both cane raiser and manufacturer require harmony and some honest efforts to practice the precept of the Golden Rule.

The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane.—Whether by Test or Otherwise.

(A paper by MR. C. ROBERT CHURCHILL, read before the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association March 9th, 1899.)

Gentlemen:

At the last meeting of your Association I suggested that your committee appointed to formulate a plan for purchasing cane, inquire into the methods employed by the best

sugar producers, and see if they could not learn something from them that would be applicable to our own uses in the purchase of sugar cane as a raw product. Someone contended that what applied to beets could not be applied to cane. I differ from that gentleman, and will now proceed to show why and wherein I differ:

Some two years ago I had the pleasure and good fortune to visit several of the large beet sugar factories west, and among other things in which I was interested was their methods of purchasing and selecting beets. These methods I will now describe and at the same time point out those portions most interesting and mention such modifications as I think will make them acceptable to cane producers and to cane buyers.

As the carts or wagons loaded with beets arrived, each load, or number of loads, was carefully weighed. A man then sampled the beets as they were being dumped into the bins, the sample being taken at a random as the beets fell out. Each farmer's beets were then tagged and sent to the taresman. These tags, or blanks, bore the name of the producer and on them were blank spaces to be filled in for weights, for tare to be deducted, for per centage of sucrose, for purity and for general remarks. If the beets arrived in cars a proportionately large sample was taken in a similar manner.

On passing from the sampler's hands to that of the taresman, the measure of beets was carefully weighed on a small pair of scales. Afterwards they were thoroughly washed and examined to see if they were properly topped, then weighed again, the loss determining the tare. Incidentally I will say that if they needed topping, they were topped. The greater the amount of dirt and roots and the less properly topped, the larger was the loss in weight and tare. The farmer not only has to stand the loss, but he also has to bear the expense and trouble of hauling and handling the unnecessary dirt and trash. The results obtained from this weighing and taring were then entered upon the accompanying tag or blank.

Now how will all of this apply to sugar cane? Equally well I think. As each load of cane arrives the sampler or taresman will remove two or more stalks and set them aside in specified crates or bins till the end of the day, or until any particular cane raiser is through hauling for the day. The crates could be rudely and cheaply constructed and should, of course, be located near the scale house or near carrier, according to the size of the house and manner of sampling.

At the end of each day, the taresman would weigh the piles of cane taken as samples from each man's supply, these weights to be entered upon a properly prepared blank. He would then trash the stalk and re-top them to the proper ripe joint agreed upon by the previously prepared contract, the loss, as in the case of beets, determining

the tare to be deducted from the total weight of cane hauled that day. One difference that would have to be observed in the case of cane, that is unnecessary in the case of beets, is that the tops would have to be returned to the sample of the cane and be ground therewith. The reason for this is obvious. In beets the tops and the washings contain no sugar to speak of, and so this waste cuts no figure in the laboratory work. In the case of cane, the tops contain sugar, and in order to get the average sugar content of the load, they should be ground with the balance of the sample.

The result of this section of the process would be properly trashed cane and properly topped cane. And the tenants would soon learn, as the beet growers did, that here was no use of hauling in trash and green tops.

But to return to the thread of my subject. After the beets are prepared and the blank marked as above stated, they are then sent to the laboratory where they are subjected to the tender mercies of the chemist. An analysis for sucrose and purity is carefully made by him and the results placed upon the above mentioned blank. The beets are paid for on this test—high or low as the case may be, but if the test is below a certain set standard they are rejected altogether. In case the test is below the standard agreed on, Mr. Farmer is not allowed to dump any more beets till the same have been tested and passed.

Now, why cannot this be done in Louisiana? It would be only a question of a small but strongly equipped mill and a laboratory, a certain fixed standard having been agreed upon and on this standard the cane will be paid for. With a good mill as mentioned above, it would be a simple matter to grind the stalks and tops as mentioned above, while the chemist and his assistants would make short work of the sucrose and purity tests. Exactly what the standard should be is beyond this paper, but I think that there are gentlemen who could easily fix this for the different sections of the country and the different conditions prevailing.

That the standard for the various sections should be on a slightly different basis seems inevitable on account of the greater amount of sucrose in the cane in certain sections. It is useless to say that the cane growers would soon be cultivating cane that would yield sucrose rather than tons per acre, and as soon as they realized the benefits of increased price to be gained by properly topped and properly cleaned cane, they would bring in well topped and well cleaned cane.

Now as to the cost of such a system. The prime cost would be the equipment. The equipment should consist of a number of bins or crates as above mentioned, which would cost in the neighborhood of say \$50.00. A good scales for weighing the samples of cane would cost about \$40.00. A small cane mill would cost all the from

\$100.00 to \$700.00, according to the work required. A laboratory equipment would not cost over \$250.00. Adding \$50.00 for miscellaneous items and taking the average cost of the mill at say \$400.00, the total cost of equipping the laboratory ought not to exceed \$750.00. I am of the opinion, however, that a much cheaper mill will do for the work quite as well, and believe that the equipment could be had for something between \$400.00 and \$500.00. Of course, a great deal will depend on the amount of work to be done.

Now as regards the cost of operating the same, let me quote an article relating to a similar laboratory in a beet factory. "To protect their interests at the factory, planters have a strong union, which chooses its own chemist, weigher and taresman to keep tab on the beets as delivered, to see that full weight is credited on each lot, and that the deduction for tare is not too large, while the chemist's duplicate analysis are a check on the factory tests. The average price per ton was \$3.78 representing a total of about \$180,000.00 paid for the season's beets—some 48,139 tons. The average sugar content was 14 per cent. At the beginning of the season an assessment of 4 cents per ton was levied on all Chino beets to defray factory and office expenses of the union, including taresman and check chemist. The close of the season finds a surplus in the treasury, which makes it possible to rebate 1½ cents per ton. Thus it cost less than three cents per ton harvested to carry on the business of the union."

Now let us see what similar work could be done for in Louisiana. I should think that the following figures would be very liberal ones for similar work here, on a three months' basis, though most sugar factories are not operated over ten weeks, and hands are paid accordingly.

One chemist at \$100.00 per month. One taresman and weigher at \$75.00. Two assistants at \$50.00 per month each. Or a total of \$250.00 for the three months. Since the actual average working time of a large house is about ten weeks, I base my figures per ton on that time or a total cost of about \$635.00. For a 20,000 ton house, this would mean about 3.1 cents per ton; for a 30,000 ton house, 2.1 cents per ton, and for a 40,000 ton house, 1.8 cents per ton, and so on. For the advantages to be gained by all parties, this is a very small figure and really would not be missed much by any individual planter.

In the figures that I have given above, I have calculated that in each instance they would start out with a fresh outfit. There are, however, many instances where they already have fairly well equipped laboratories, which could be used without many additions or additional expenses.

Besides the labor figures could be cut down considerably where there is an already organized crew. And too, I think the other items mentioned above could be reduced in price. I have in all cases taken outside figures so as to be on the safe side of the controversy.

The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane.—Whether by Test or Otherwise.

(A paper by Mr. R. G. COMEAUX, read before the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association March 9th, 1890.)

At the last meeting of this association, the above subject, which absorbed the attention of the evening, was discussed at great length.

Several papers were read on the subject, and while most buyers, favored the method of buying cane, upon its test or sucrose content; still, so many obstacles arose in the way of reaching a middle, or equitable basis to suit both purchaser and producer, that no definite conclusion was reached, and it was thought necessary to carry over the same subject to this meeting to be further discussed.

Gentlemen, I am a cane buyer, not a cane seller, I pay a fixed price for my cane, and will try to give my reasons for doing so.

The time will come, when, in my opinion, all purchased cane in Louisiana will be bought upon its merits; but it will require a great deal of persuasion, on the part of the buyer to do that.

In a paper from Mr. Seyburn, which was read at the last meeting by the secretary, he expressed a determined intention of selling his cane to the highest responsible bidder, regardless of any action of this association. In so expressing himself, Mr. Seyburn has expressed the idea; he has expressed the intention of every sugar cane grower in this state, and if we expect to get cane grown for the market, I believe it will be well, to meet the cane grower on that basis, for a while at least.

Now, should we conclude to buy cane for a fixed price, say 80 cents for each cwt. that prime yellow fetches on the New Orleans market, then, in order to protect ourselves, it behooves us to devise some means by which we can get cane raised, cane that will contain a sufficient amount of saccharine, so as to permit the factory to realize a fair margin of profit.

Some ten years ago, Mr. Crozier, while sitting on the cane carrier of my sugar house, made the remark, that there was more room for improvement in the cane field than there was in the factory; the remark has always been fresh in my mind, and today, the field seems to me to be the place to work on. If we wish to remedy the evil, we must start at the bottom. In all factories large sums of money have been expended in improvements; the extraction of juice from single mills, or three roller pressure, has been advanced by crushers and double mills, from 55 to 80 or more per cent; improved appliances have obtained from the juices more sugar; but for all these gains, tell me, what factory can take cane with a test of 8 or 9 sucrose and work out a profit for itself? I don't believe any can.

If on the other hand, we take cane with

a test of 11 or 12 or more sucrose, run it through an ordinary house with three roller mill, and open steam train, we find that it yields sugar enough to pay a profit.

Capt. Pharr said, at the last meeting, that cane which contained but 75 lbs. of sugar, was not worth taking as a gift; we will all agree with him on that point.

Now, Capt. Pharr expects to buy cane this year. We will suppose that when the cane is brought to his factory; he will have a chemist to test it (we feel certain of that), we will again suppose that according to the test of the chemist the cane does not contain but 75 lbs. of available sugar. What will be the consequence? He will refuse to take it. If he does, he may possibly have to shut down his factory.

Can the Capt. afford to shut down his factory? Can any factory in Louisiana afford to shut down for one season? If they did, the factory would be a poor investment.

The testing of sugar cane is a good thing; it permits the planter to know what to expect from a ton of cane, even before he grinds it; but that is all it does; it does not change the quality of the cane.

In this country, every man likes to be his own master; he likes to direct his business to suit himself; I agree with him. Last year as well as in former years, the cane grower had his own way, he worked his cane to suit himself, but when last season, he brought his cane to the factory, it did not come up to the test. In many cases he was docked; that hurt him badly, and today, when you talk to him about selling his cane by the test, he simply tells you that he will get out of the business as soon as he can.

We can't afford to let the cane grower go out of the business; we need him. The price of cane on the 80 cent basis is a very good price, and I tell you gentlemen the cane grower will submit to be dictated to, in the way of growing his cane, if you will guarantee that when he fetches 2,000 lbs. of cane to your scale, that you will pay him in dollars and cents, the price you agreed to pay for a ton of cane.

It appears to me, that our Sugar Experiment Station, with the proper support; and under the management of Dr. Stubbs, would in a short time teach us how to grow cane; not such cane as Mr. Dymond referred to at last meeting, cane, which, was so light, that when it fell overboard from the barges, would float, but good sweet cane, cane that would pay any factory to buy.

It may be of interest to some one to know why I should persist in trying to grow better cane, and paying a fixed price for it, rather than receive all sorts of cane, and pay for it according to its merits.

Necessity is a hard master, but it teaches: I have been working sugar cane for twenty-five years. When I had raised it for others for fifteen years, I thought I knew all about it, and concluded to go into business for myself, so, in 1890, I bought a sugar plantation (bought it on credit). The sugar house con-

sisted of a steam train, with ordinary three-roller mill. The 1st year cane was rich, it made plenty of sugar; prices were good, and I made some money.

The next three years cane varied in ripeness, yield of sugar was not always good, but as the bounty was allowed, I managed to pull through; but when 1894 came, it was a soaker, not only was the bounty taken from us, but the cane was so poor in saccharine that I lost heavily.

The results set me to thinking; my cane had all been weighed, I had something to work upon; and as soon as the total weights of my sugars were obtained I came to the conclusion that an increased yield of only 10 lbs. more of sugar per ton of cane would have turned the balance in my favor.

The experience of that season taught me that there was but one course left to pursue, and that was, to grow ripe cane.

My energies have since been applied largely in that direction; I have partially succeeded, but there is, in my opinion, so much room for improvement in that line, that I hope this association will in the near future take up for discussion the subject: "What is the Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Sugar Cane, so as to make it produce the most saccharine in the short season we have to grow it in."

In buying cane last season, I placed certain restrictions upon the parties growing the cane; I will not here enumerate them; suffice it to say, the cane was brought to my factory; it was good; I paid full prices for it on the 80 cent basis, and can say to my great relief, that, although a bad year, it paid me some profit.

I am much interested in this discussion, in which the association has taken so great a part, I hope, some conclusion will be reached, which will be agreeable to both buyers and sellers of cane, but must say, that in awaiting this decision, will continue to buy my cane as I have been doing, for a fixed price. The prospect of a large crop of cane this year is not at all flattering, and as the price of all commodities are governed generally by the law of supply and demand, I believe all cane buyers will make prices to suit themselves and get cane as best they can.

The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane.—Whether by Test or Otherwise.

(A paper by JUDGE HENRY MEYER, read before the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association March 9th, 1890.)

Gentlemen: I have been asked to write a paper on the manner and method of buying cane. I am afraid that I cannot throw much light on this subject. I went in to growing cane under the present plan of selling, and speaking for myself and other growers in this neighborhood the present way is the most satisfactory to the grower, and it seems that it has been so with the factory, because they started buying cane at

75 lb. of sugar to the ton of cane and have run up the price as high as 95 lb to the ton to encourage the cane growing industry. Under that system many new and large factories have gone up, and it is well understood that those factories were not built entirely for the benefit of the grower. It is said that several factories in California bought beets at \$4.25 per ton and that those factories have no trouble in getting a full supply of beets.

Of course last year was very unsatisfactory for the factories, but a similar condition happens often with the grower. I doubt whether any grower can sell cane at a profit at \$5.00 per ton this year.

The factory man should not go by last year, but should take the last ten years and see what amount of sugar he got out of a ton of cane on the average. I heard some grower say, the other day, that the factory people had made grinding expenses last year out of bought cane and that the factory people said that there were 40 lbs. of sugar less in the cane than any other year, and he thought that 40 lbs. of sugar was too much profit on a ton of cane, a great deal more than the grower could make. My idea is that the grower and factory people are necessary to each other—that one cannot do without the other and that they should confide in one another. The impression prevails now among the growers that the manufacturer makes all the money. They say that the grinding expenses are below \$1.00 per ton and that \$1.00 profit would be fair. But if cane has to be sold by test it could be done in this way. It is said that it costs for grinding \$1.00 to \$1.50 and I know it cost all the way from \$2.00 to \$3.00 to deliver a ton of cane at the factory. Now let the factory take \$1.00 and the grower \$2.00 and then divide the balance equally, up to 140 lbs. of sugar, then for every 5 lbs over 140 let the grower have 2 per cent more. Say, for instance, at 145 lbs. 52 per cent, 150 lbs. 54 per cent, 155 lbs. 56 per cent and so on, and the test should be made by sacchrometer or Beaume; every one can understand that.

The grower looks very suspiciously on the chemist with his polariscope and it has been said by one of your members that the test in cane juice by the polariscope is not satisfactory. I would say stick to the old plan of buying cane for the benefit of the sugar industry.

The Cuban Sugar Cane Industry.

Globe-Democrat Staff Correspondence.

Providencia Plantation, Cuba, February 4, via Tampa, Fla., Feb. 6.—(Copyright, 1899, by Charles M. Pepper.)—Raising sugar cane in Cuba is a past and future industry. There is not much of it in the present tense, as few plantations passed through the insurrection without their mills and machinery having been destroyed. I came out to the largest one in the Province of Havana for the purpose of gaining a little information.

Everybody already knows that growing cane and grinding cane have to be done on a large scale. That means big plantations and heavy capital with which to work them. So the sugar industry is not one for the small farmer or the man with a little money. Yet its function in the reconstruction of Cuba is a vital one. When the sugar product of the island mounts toward the old figures of 1,000,000 tons annually the days of prosperity will have returned. The industrial processes which must be followed before that production is reached are intricate.

It is half an hour's gallop on a good horse across the country from Guines to the Providencia plantation. One other large plantation, the Amistad, lies nearer the town, and there are two smaller ones in the neighborhood. Most of the cane this year will be taken from the Providencia. Riding across the country a hint of past prosperity is given in the great tracts of land overgrown with grass which were formerly being turned over by the plow and within another year the cane will again be seen. I have noticed that most of the land turned up was of the rich red variety, though tracts of black soil stretched alongside of it. "A mystery of géology," my companion told me. "The red and black soil lies together." The red is better for cane, but both are good. We do not know here what you mean by poor soil. Those palm groves mean richness.

At the plantation Mr. Pascual Golcochea and his brother were awaiting us. The plantation has been in the family for generations. Field of sugar cane have the same look whether in Hawaii or Louisiana or Cuba. The mills and machinery are also much the same. An expert notices a difference and can tell where a mill is behind the time in its machinery. Other phases of the plantation were of more interest to me. I wanted to know all about the reconstructive process first. The information was given by Mr. Carlos Figueredo, one of the residents of Guines, and by Mr. Golcochea himself.

In former days the normal production of the plantation was 16,000 tons. Some 10,000 acres of land were under cultivation by the owners, and a dozen "colonas," or farmers, leased land on which they raised cane to grind at the central mill. When the insurrection bearing the torch reached this part of the province 12,000,000 arrobas of cane went up in flames. An arroba is 23 pounds. In a short time \$500,000 was represented by burned cane. After that Gomez with his men threatened the mill. Maceo and his men threatened the mill, and Weyler and his troops threatened the destruction of the whole plantation. In the midst of these discouraging circumstances the effort was continued to raise cane, with the result of an almost continual bonfire. Fifteen months ago I saw the cane on two sides of Providencia burning. A year ago I saw other fields in flames. In spite of it

all the plucky owners kept up the fight for their fields. The outcome was that when the war between the United States and Spain ended they had some tracts of cane standing. That cane has ripened, and by the time this letter is printed it will be going through the crushers in the central mill.

The oxen all disappeared during the period of war. When the insurrection began there were 800 of them. The insurgents got some, the Spanish troops got others. During the blockade Capt. Gen. Blanco took all the oxen that remained on the island. The sugar planters who had any cane growing this winter found that their first need was oxen. The Providencia got 500 from Mexico. These Mexican oxen have confirmed habits and are stubborn. They are used to the driver plodding along beside them and prodding them. The Cuban laborer likes better to ride in the cart and flourish a long whip-thong. The result was that some of the oxen went into the creek and were drowned. Since then the laborers have adapted themselves to the habits of the Mexican oxen.

To-day on Providencia 680 hands are employed. One-half have their living quarters on the plantation and work the year around. The other half are hired in gangs by the day. Some of them also have their dwellings on the plantation. When the mill is grinding next week there will be 800 who have employment. That is a pretty fair number, but it does not represent the full employing capacity of a big plantation. On Providencia two-thirds of the laborers are blacks.

Most of them have been there since the times of slavery. They have comfortable quarters and form a little village in themselves. It is a reminder of the old South. Some Chinese hands are also employed. Most of these disappeared during the insurrection. Back in Guines I saw the dragon flying over a comfortable house. I was told it was a residence and office of the Chinese Consul, who was also a barber and a dentist. At one time there were enough Chinese in the neighborhood of Guines to require the presence of a consular agent. Generally the sugar plantations had at least 10 per cent of Chinamen among their hands. That proportion has dropped. Where there were formerly 40,000 Chinese in Cuba the number does not now exceed 15,000.

In going through the great central mill I noticed that most of the older machinery was from Glasgow or Belgium, but the more modern engines were from the United States. Providencia has also a refinery, which refines part of its crude product for local consumption. There is a refinery at Cardenas, and a small one at Matanzas, with possible one or two more on the island. Providencia had an "alambique" distillery for making aguardiente, or cane rum, but it was not kept in operation. Steam plows are in use on the plantation. One of them does the work of twenty yoke of oxen. Nevertheless it is not possible to dispense entirely with oxen in plowing, and mules are also used.

Though the plantation has tramways running through it, the railway system will not be complete until it reaches the water on the South coast. This is only ten miles away. The railway project is one of the many that were interrupted by the insurrection.

While the business of a sugar plantation is to produce sugar, the soil which does this has other properties. A walk through the "little garden" which is maintained for the people who live on Providencia gave a hint of its productiveness. There were onions, beans, cabbages, egg plants, potatoes, tomatoes, lettuce, radishes, and I do not know how many other varieties of homely, everyday vegetables. There is money in raising this truck, as is shown in Guinea, and after a time it may be that the sugar plantations will help supply the markets. Heretofore cane raising has been done on such a large scale and garden truck on so small a scale, that the sugar planters thought it beneath their notice to raise the small things for the market. Under the new conditions they are thinking of utilizing the full productiveness of their lands. So they may begin growing onions and potatoes as a business, instead of as an incident.

Mr. Goicoechea wanted us to see his apple trees. They were real apple trees but they did not bear apples. The same was true of some peach trees. Sugar-producing countries do not bear apples and peaches. I have seen a weakly peach matured with much care on one of the plantations in Hawaii, but it was tasteless, and the mangoes made a much better substitute for the Delaware peach. An apple orchard had some gnarled fruit, which was unpalatable. The same is true of peaches and apples in Cuba. But the lands, which will not grow peaches and apples do grow oranges. On the Providencia there are orange trees. Mr. Goicoechea told me that he was thinking of starting some orange groves, with a view to marketing the product. I have heard other sugar planters say the same thing. Their suggestions have impressed me that within a few years both fruits and vegetables may become a side product on the sugar plantations, and thus add considerably to their value. Providencia also has a large tobacco drying house, but I do not understand that the cultivation is to be continued in connection with sugar. This drying house was put up during a period of the insurrection when it was possible to utilize for tobacco some of the cane lands which would otherwise have been unproductive. The common rule is that the cultivation of the two staples does not go together. The best tobacco lands are not good for sugar and the good sugar lands are too valuable to be used for tobacco.

After we had gone through the mill and over the plantation, and were back in the "Casa de Vivienda," or residence, I gathered some further points about the prospects

of sugar in Cuba. None of the big planters seem to be discouraged as to the ultimate restoration of the industry, though many of them are embarrassed for immediate means of restoring their plantations. Yet they are coming back from Europe and from the United States. At Providencia a daughter of the house had just returned from Paris, and other members of the family were to return from England. The sugar planters expect to resume in a measure, the old social life. This means that they are expecting to settle on their plantations and to remain on them. They do not know how soon the revival of the sugar industry will come, but they are not afraid that beet root will ultimately destroy it. "It will take two years for Providencia to get back to its former production," said Mr. Goicoechea. "Other plantations will need a longer time because they suffered more during the insurrection and have not the same resources that we have." As to the processes of production he believed they would be improved. "Our cane," he said, "by chemical analysis should yield 14 per cent of sugar. We only get ten. The deficiency is somewhere in the mills. We are trying to find out where this loss lies and to correct it."

Mr. Goicoechea is a Cuban annexationist, as are most of the planters. Nevertheless he is not proceeding in the belief that annexation is coming soon. "The United States," he remarked, "collects \$40,000,000 of duties on sugar and tobacco from Cuba. I can see why that is an obstacle to annexation." He added that when Americans began coming to Cuba to engage in sugar raising with their energy and their improved methods the output of the island would be enormously increased. "When that happens," said Mr. Goicoechea, "there was possible to utilize for tobacco some of Europe."

"An industrial revolution will follow and it will be of a character of which we now have little conception." Mr. Goicoechea did not speak hopefully of the system of colonias, or leased cane lands. Providencia, as before stated, had a dozen of these colonias. The system is one by which the planter leases or sublets for a period of years a tract of cane land. As much is leased as the tenant cares to cultivate, either by himself, or with the help of others. The cane he raises is taken to the central mill and ground on shares. It may be that this system will ultimately justify the hopes that were entertained when it was inaugurated. I have thus far found few planters who were satisfied with the results. One trouble seems to be that the planters who at certain seasons themselves need heavy loans are also compelled to advance money to the colonos, perhaps when Cuba has country banks from which the colonia can borrow directly the system will work better.

The largest sugar plantation in the province should not be described without a

word about what is probably the smallest sugar industry. It is back in Guinea and is at once a dwelling house, a mill and a refinery. The industry is owned and managed by Mr. and Mrs. Becarra, jointly. They have a small furnace into which an old negro feeds the fuel. Mr. Becarra puts the cane through the crusher and Mrs. Becarra boils the syrup. Some of this is marked as guarapa, and some is made into wax cakes. It is something like making maple sugar in the woods of Ohio or Vermont. The interesting thing is that this Becarra sugar mill and refinery shows the capacity of a Cuban family to develop an industry. The Becarras had a small place on one of the plantations in the country. The reconcentration drove them into the town. They got a little cane, crushed it by hand and made some syrup and sugar. After that they got a furnace large enough for their growing trade. Now their dwelling house is too small and they are going to move the sugar mill away from it. That shows what one family can do.

CHARLES M. PEPPER.

Central Factories for the West Indies.

The question of central factories which is now being brought so prominently to the attention of West Indian planters is by no means being regarded with unqualified favor, and the capitalists who have expressed their willingness to invest their money in factories, granted the planters in the districts selected for the enterprise will enter into contracts to supply the factories with canes, are being regarded in certain quarters with feelings akin to suspicion, and not as real benefactors of the country, as they certainly would be if their capital by means of factories revived the sugar cane industry. In Barbados where the central factory system promises to lead to great success, the warmest advocates of the proposed innovation are not to be found amongst the owners of small estates, who, notwithstanding the obviously imperfect condition of their small mills with very low crushing power, and the inability of their little factories to enter into the fierce competition with highly-equipped sugar factories throughout the saccharine world, cannot bring themselves to accept the cruel fact that a step forward in the march of improvement must be made, if they wish to escape the calamity of falling out of the procession. We are not disposed to be hard upon the owners of small estates for their passive opposition to the fundamental change in their status which is looming before them, for it is but natural for an estate's owner to accept with reluctance a change from the dignified and autocratic position of a little king to that of a prosaic law-encircled contractor. As long as sugar fetched a high price, the small estate with its wind-mill, its half-squeezed canes and open tayche, made money, and the owner was a happy man, his own master, in the position to work his estate in the way he con-

sidered the best. But those days are gone, and forever, a new order has to be accepted, and the sooner it is accepted and its merits recognized, the sooner will the small proprietor find himself in comfortable circumstances again. To make sugar at a profit now, the best machinery is necessary, and experience has shown that the larger and stronger and better-equipped the plant of machinery, the greater the possibility of profit, not only in the saving of manual labor, but by getting the most juice out of the cane and the most sugar out of the juice. A small proprietor could not be expected to provide himself with a mill of the kind; and even if he could, his limited number of acres would not provide enough work to keep the machinery in working order. The truth has gradually forced itself to the front that the sugar factory and the cane field are distinct undertakings. The cane farmer's prime duty is to grow the canes, then to sell them to the factory, and the factory does all the rest. The enforced selling of the canes to the factory is one of the obstacles which prevent the small owner from welcoming the advent of the factory. In his "Outline of a Scheme for a Central Factory for Barbados," which Sir Cuthbert Quilter recently laid before Governor Hay, he says that the price of canes, delivered to the factory trucks, is not to exceed 1/- per ton; and we notice in the Barbados press, very unfavorable comments on this proposal. Why—say those who object—should we sell our canes to the factory at 10/- when Mr. Bovell values them at nearly 3/- more than that. But the opposers of the proposed system overlook the very important statement in Sir Cuthbert's paper that the factory shall be worked on a co-operative system with the planters, "the profits after providing for the cost of the canes, the expense of manufacture, and the interest and sinking fund on the necessary capital, being divided between the factory and the planters in the proportion of one half to each." This proposal is fair enough, granted the interest on the "necessary capital" is placed at a moderate amount, as no doubt it will be. In his "Outline," Sir Cuthbert leaves the rate of interest blank, to be filled in when his "Outline" is elaborated into a detailed scheme. At 10/- a ton, with rich soil, like that of the generality of Barbados estates, under the control of such skilled agriculturists as the Barbados planters are known to be, an estate ought to be able to clear all its expenses and show a profit, without reckoning upon the half-profit of the factory. We have no data at hand by which to make a comparison between estates in St. Vincent and estates in Barbados but we understand the soils in these two islands are pretty much alike. In the St. Vincent Sentry, a few weeks ago, we chanced upon some figures which Mr. Porter, the owner of the big half of the sugar property of the island, had published as a result of information gathered by his managers (previous to the hurricane) with a view to the estab-

lishment of a central factory. Supposing the price of the canes delivered to the factory to be 10/8 per ton, it was calculated that there would be a profit of from 30/- to 60/- per acre, according to the situation of the estate. These figures which had been carefully arrived at are worth serious consideration by the planters in Barbados and elsewhere before they reject the offer which English capital is now making them, by which the West Indian sugar industry may be saved. The certainty of the bounties being abolished, gradually we may suppose seems now to be accepted but the abolition of the bounty system will not obviate the necessity of West Indian sugar planters providing themselves with the very best and most economic machinery, if they hope to be able to compete with any chance of success in the sugar markets of the world.—Demerara Argosy, Feb. 11.

A Defense and Eulogy of Sugar.

"Children all over the world and all the keepers of 'sweetstuff' shops, says Kuhlows, "ought to join in a testimonial to the learned though anonymous scientist who publishes smitte, but much more as a 'nahrungsmittel-glorification of sugar. Not only as a 'genus-smittel,' but much more as a 'nahrungsmittel' sugar is almost the most valuable thing which enters the mouth of man, woman or child. There is scarcely any other equally important feeder of muscle power. The laborer can do nothing better than keep a few lumps of sugar in his pocket. The negroes in sugar plantations renew and quicken their weary bodies by sucking the sugar canes. Sugar is a fine restorative for soldiers. A Dutch army surgeon asserts that during an expedition in Sumatra he found that the best means to maintain the soldiers in vigor and freshness, not only during the march, but during the fight, was a generous allowance of sugar. Each man was served with a handful at a time. The Swiss chamois hunters bear similar evidence to its marvellous powers of sustenance and of recuperation after exhausting fatigue.

"The writer gives an account of successful experiments made with sugar as food for athletes by several of the Dutch rowing clubs, by pedestrians, by cyclists, and others whose bodily powers need a rapid, portable and innocent stimulant. Sugar is coming more and more into use in Holland in the course of 'training' for contests, and it is as good for beasts as it is for men. The poor hardly realize as yet, or only realize unconsciously, what a treasure they possess in cheap sugar. Its value in fever has been emphasized by Hupeland and others. That which is supposed to injure the teeth in the consumption of 'goodies' is not the sugar, but the so-called 'fruit acids' which are introduced to flavor the sugar. Negroes who devour sugar in so huge a quantity have the best teeth in the world."—American Grocer.

Getting Ready for Flow of Sap.

Early March finds farmers with sugar groves anxiously waiting the opening of the season for maple sweets. Conditions in the different parts of the country are varying, and with a few exceptions appear to be normal. In Vermont there is generally good promise of a propitious season, heavy snows melting rapidly in late February, but farmers anticipating more cold before March is far advanced. The damage from forest worms is considerable, and this forms a dark side to the picture, and will apparently serve to restrict the output, although nearly the usual number of trees will be tapped. A correspondent in Merrimack Co., N. H. writes, snow deep in the woods, hard to predict when the season will open. Product of that section usually in the form of syrup and taken for home markets.

In the maple sugar sections of Ohio, the prospect is encouraging. Cold weather throughout the winter caused the ground to freeze to a considerable depth, conducive to a large flow of sap. Farmers will tap the usual number of trees and are preparing for the season's work. This is the situation reported in such counties as Geauga, Summit, Clinton, etc. Northern New York has had plenty of snow; one of our Jefferson Co. correspondents wrote us last week that this is about 1 ft. deep in the woods. A good many trees will be tapped when the season opens; no indications of special delay. A correspondent Susquehanna Co., Pa., writes, farmers will tap nearly the usual number of trees, perhaps an increase; plenty of snow on the ground, but melting rapidly, frost deep and good run of sap expected, although probably a little late.

Peddled Sugar Refining Stock.

The Arbuckle Bros. Sugar Refining Company have been receiving complaints recently that some person was going about selling shares in their refinery company to retail grocers for \$10 each, and pretending that he could sell them refined sugar for 4½ cents a pound, or ½ cent less than the lowest standard price. As a matter of fact, the Arbuckles have not consolidated into a corporation. Their business is purely a private venture and no stock has ever been placed on the market by them.

The complaint led to an investigation, and yesterday Detective Officer Neil Ruddy of the Brooklyn Headquarters staff arrested a man who is said to be the guilty party. He described himself as R. Westly, aged 74 years, a native of England, and resident at 9 Pleasant Place, Brooklyn. He said that he represented the Advanced Beet Sugar Construction Company of Rome, N. Y., and 113½ Broadway, this city. He declared that he had not swindled anybody, and asserted that if there was any guilt in the matter it was because of representations that had been made by his employers to him. He was held for arraignment before Magistrate Brenner.—N. Y. Journal Commerce, Mch. 4.

MAR. 10.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR.	Mar. 4.	Mar. 6.	Mar. 7.	Mar. 8.	Mar. 9.	Mar. 10.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	Firm.
Choice.....	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	— @ —	
Strict Prime.....	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	
Prime.....	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Fully Fair.....	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	
Good Fair.....	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Fair.....	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	
Good Common.....	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Common.....	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1/2	
Interior.....	3 @ 3 1/2	— @ 3 1/2	3 @ 3 1/2	3 @ 3 1/2	3 @ 3 1/2	3 @ 3 1/2	2 1/2 @ 3 1/2	
Centrifugal.								
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	Strong.
Off Granulated.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	
Gray White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow.....	4 1/2 @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Prime Yellow.....	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	
Off Yellow.....	4 @ —	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	
Seconds.....	2 1/2 @ 3 1/2	2 1/2 @ 3 1/2	2 1/2 @ 3 1/2	2 1/2 @ 3 1/2	2 1/2 @ 3 1/2	2 1/2 @ 3 1/2	2 1/2 @ 3 1/2	
MOLASSES.								
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	None in first hands.
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Good Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Good Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Good Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Interior.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 14	
Choice.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 12	
Good Prime.....	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	— @ 11	
Prime.....	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	— @ 10	
Good Fair.....	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 9	
Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 8	
Good Common.....	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 7	
Common.....	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 6	
Interior.....	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 5	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 80°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Strong — Fair demand.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	4.96 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.60	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	4.84 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 9d.	11s. 3d.	Steady.
A. & G. Beet.....	9s. 11 1/2 d.	9s. 11 1/2 d.	9s. 10 1/2 d.	9s. 11 1/2 d.	9s. 11 1/2 d.	9s. 11 1/2 d.	9s. 3d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Leaf.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	Strong.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	
Stand'd Granul'd.	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 5 00	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Mar. 1	Tons	136,824
At four ports of Great Britain to Feb. 25	"	56,500
At Havana and Matanzas to Feb. 28	"	44,700

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Mar. 10, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Mar. 10, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.		Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	239	2,864	2,349	Received.....	8,090	1,164,621	208,934
Sold.....	239	3,959	2,349	Sold.....	8,090	1,156,918	208,134
				Received same time last year	20,093	1,311,655	174,881

MAR. 10.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	Mar. 4.	Mar. 6.	Mar. 7.	Mar. 8.	Mar. 9.	Mar. 10.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
RICE.								
Rough, per bbl...	1 50@4 50	1 50@4 50	1 50@4 50	1 50@4 50	1 50@4 50	1 50@4 50	2 00@4 10	Steady—Better feeling.
EXTRA FANCY...	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	— @ —	
CLEAN, Fancy...	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	5 1/4@5 3/4	
Choice...	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	
Prime...	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	
Good...	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	
Fair...	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	
Ordinary	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	
Common.	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	
Screenings	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	
Inferior	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	Nominal	
No. 2...	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@1 3/4	1 1/2@2 1/8	
BRAN, per ton...	10 50	10 50	10 50	12 00	12 00	12 00	9 50@10 00		Steady.
PELLER, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	14 00@15 00	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Mar. 10, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Mar. 10, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.	This year	Last year	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.
Received	5,728	202	.....	.....	646,500	3,884
Sold	4,807	2,465	.....	.....	438,054	3,601

Sugar.

The local sugar market was firm at the end of the week, and some improvement was observed in the receipts from plantations. There was a steady undertone.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals strong.

Rice.

The rough rice market showed a good demand at the end of the week, but the receipts were light and the offerings consequently moderate. The market was steady at the close. Clean rice was also steady and in fair demand.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The volume of business is steadily expanding and all indications point to an exceptionally large spring trade. Choice grades of Java and new crop Patna are the leaders; by many buyers taken in preference to domestic. Substantial gains have been made in ordinary to fair domestic and they are said to be still a purchase as even at present advanced values they are from 1/2c to 1c. per pound below importing cost of equal grade in foreign. Advices from the South note that all former characteristics maintain; receipts light; demand free; local stocks rapidly diminishing and orders being placed abroad to meet future requirements. Cables and correspondence from abroad show firm conditions as stocks in primary and secondary markets are much less than at any equal date for many years past and the outlook for most of the new crops unpromising. Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 646,415 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over), 487,760 sacks. Sales, cleaned, (Est.) 155,692 barrels; last year, 91,172 barrels. Increased demand at hardening values. Chief call in ordinary to fair grades.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina

crop movement to date: Receipts' cleaned, 33,132 barrels. Sales, 28,025 barrels. Steady demand; market advanced 1/8-1/4 and tendency still upward.

Personal.

Mr. H. C. Boas, of St. Mary Parish, a very prominent sugar planter and manufacturer, was in the city on a visit last week and stopped at the Hotel Royal.

Messrs. eorge Dionne and Anatole Dionne, of Thibodaux, La., well known gentlemen connected with sugar planting in that vicinity, came up to town last Sunday for a brief sojourn and registered at the Hotel Royal.

Hon. Andrew H. Gay, of the St. Louis and Union plantations in the parish of Iberville, came up to the city during the past week and took up temporary quarters at the St. Charles Hotel, his customary abiding place when in town. He was accompanied by Miss Gay.

Mr. T. J. Shaffer of St. Mary parish, one of the pillars of the sugar industry in that part of the world, came up to the city on Monday last and stopped at the St. Charles Hotel.

Captain John N. Pharr, of Fairview plantation, was registered at the St. Charles during the week.

Mr. Wibray J. Thompson, of Calumet, was a recent arrival at the St. Charles Hotel, registering there on Tuesday.

Mr. George Hill, of West Baton Rouge parish, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. Mr. Hill is a skillful sugar planter and a leading citizen of his locality. He made his headquarters at the St. Charles and spent some time mingling with his friends.

Mr. Joseph Birg, of St. Mary parish, was among those who visted the city during the past week.

Mr. R. R. Barrow, of Terrebonne parish, was at his usual stopping place, the Hotel Grunewald, during the week.

Mr. Robert Storm, of Meeker, La., a leading sugar house engineer, in fact, one of the finest sugar house engineers in the state, came down to the city on Monday and put up at the Hotel Royal. Mr. Storm is superintendent of the immense Home Place Central

Factory, belonging to the estate of the late Jos. H. Meeker in Rapides parish.

Mr. L. Forsyth, Jr., of Franklin, La., where he presides as assistant general manager over the destinies of the Caffery Central Refinery, was a guest of the Hotel Royal a few days ago.

Mr. William E. Howell, the well known Lafourche parish, sugar planter, was registered at the St. Charles Hotel on Wednesday.

Mr. R. R. Cocke, a prominent cane raiser of Terrebonne parish, was a visitor to the city last Thursday.

Capt. John N. Pharr was absent during the week on a trip to the coal fields of Alabama, returning Friday morning.

Sugar Grinding in Cuba.

The first sugar that has come into Santiago since long before the blockade, and the first that has been produced since the spring of 1897, was marketed last week. It came from Santa Ana Plantation, near San Louis, the first to begin grinding. There was quite a celebration among business men in the warehouse district, and Senor Auza, proprietor of the plantation, was warmly complimented on his enterprise in starting the new era of prosperity.

Sugar is king in Cuba. On the big plantations and their dependent colonials has principally depended the prosperity of the island. Many mills have been destroyed and will require time and new capital to restore, but those remaining are resuming the work of grinding as rapidly as possible. One of the greatest difficulties encountered by planters whose mills have escaped destruction is lack of oxen to haul the cane. Of the hundreds of thousands of work cattle formerly employed on the big plantations, scarcely any have survived the war. The cattle business is the most active of any here at present. Cargo lots from Jamaica, San Domingo, Porto Rico and Carthage have been rushed in and even Texas has taken advantage of the excellent market although West India bred stock is preferred. Well broken oxen sell readily at from \$175 to \$200 per yoke, and the demand greatly exceeds the supply. One of the largest planters, Mr. Rigney, has imported a number of American traction engines as an experiment, and is using them successfully in hauling cane. A number of representatives of American syndicates are examining tracts of land in the interior with a view of purchasing.—N. Y. Journal Commerce.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHEF ENGINEER, Lutoher, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 2-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STRICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-23-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La. 2-23-99

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 2-24-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A few references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3415 Constance street, New Orleans. 2-22-99

WANTED—A position as clerk in store by a young man of good habits and experience. Also have a practical knowledge of drugs. Good references. Address ROBERT, care Postmaster, Woodland, La. 2-23-99

WANTED—A position as carpenter or mill-wright on a sugar plantation. Best of references furnished. Address 418 N. Johnson street, New Orleans. 2-18-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 26 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 108, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—A position by an A No. 1. Sugar dryer, am a machinist with 14 years experience. Address FRANK LORENZ, 302 S. Basin, St., City. 2-15-99.

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1824 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 24-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La.

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nesser, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-8

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, time-keeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish all references. Address "A. C.," this office. 1-9

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-1-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 521 Du Maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1035 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-ent man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation-out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$50. Address P. E. C., Shadyside Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYEE, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as manager of sugar plantation for the coming year. Ample experience, highest recommendations as to capacity, sobriety and ability to handle labor. Address D. A. BLOUIN, Whitecastle, La.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Solms P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation, by married man, 34 years of age, sober, energetic, and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 258, New Iberia, La. 12-5-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOYER, care First New York Best Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-4-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 22, City Hall. 12-3-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of Cane. Best references given. Address, M. E. W., Care Yehand Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-28-98

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 634 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—A young married man of small family, desires a position in Puerto Rico as time-keeper or sugar weigher. Have had several years' experience in sugar houses; also a very good book-keeper. Can furnish best of references. Address C. B. S., care Baton Rouge Sugar Co., Baton Rouge, La.

WANTED—Position as manager for 1899, by a first-class man of experience and fine references. Will take an assistant and work very reasonable. Address E. W. CREIGHTON, Baton Rouge, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as second overseer or time-keeper on sugar plantation, for 1899. Address THEO. BAUDOIN, JR., Hahnville, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—A sugar house expert, who is now, and has been for the past five years, the head chemist for one of the largest sugar houses in Louisiana, is open for an engagement for coming crop in Mexico, Cuba or Central America. Will accept a position on any terms consistent with first-class work. Can furnish best of testimonials from present employers and from the University from which he graduated. Address LEBA, this office. 12-6-98

WANTED—By a young chemist with university education and one year's experience in large Louisiana factory, a position for Mexican or Cuban campaign. Address A. M., care Louisiana Planter. 11-30-98

WANTED—By a first-class sugar boiler, to go to Mexico, Central America or the Hawaiian Islands. Will furnish the best of references. Address MANUEL NELLO, No. 836 Bartholomew street, New Orleans, La. 11-24-98

WANTED—Position for next crop by an A No. 1 sugar boiler. Is now employed on one of the largest places in the State. Would have no objection to living on the place and making himself generally useful. Is a good cooper. Address GEO. CODE, 4730 Tchoupitoulas street, city. 11-23-98

WANTED—Position in this State or Mexico by an A No. 1 sugar boiler who has references of the very first class. Address BOILER, 507 Chartres street, New Orleans. 11-9-98

WANTED—Chemist wants situation. Graduate of University of Michigan. Has had practical experience in the analysis of sugars and syrups. Am 25 years of age and unmarried. If necessary would be willing to go to the West Indies. Reference from former employer given. Address X, this office. 11-20-98

WANTED—Position as book-keeper and utility man in the country. Good references. Address CORRENT, care Louisiana Planter. 11-21-98

WANTED—A position as book-keeper or manager of a country store by a thoroughly competent young married man with 14 years' experience. Would also be up and run a drug store in interest of employers. Can furnish A No. 1 references. Address G. C. B., Donaldsonville, La. 11-23-98

WANTED—An expert sugar house man, as chemist or superintendent, is desirous of closing an engagement for coming crop in Mexico or Cuba. Has had six years experience on some of the largest plantations in Louisiana. Can bring references from present Central Factory, and testimonials from Dr. W. C. Stubbs. Those desiring the services of a thorough sugar house man, address OSCAR, box 574, Baton Rouge. 11-19-98

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

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Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
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EDITORIAL CORPS.

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5 inch.....	23 50	58 75	88 15	117 50
6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	105 00	140 00
7 inch.....	32 50	81 15	121 75	162 50
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The News From the Sugar District.

Our advices this week are of a decidedly encouraging character, and indicate a far more hopeful feeling among the majority of the planters than has hitherto prevailed. Leaving out the more northerly portions of the sugar belt, it seems reasonable to expect a fairly good stand of both plant and stubble, and as time progresses the outlook steadily improves. It now seems to be generally admitted that the shortage, where it exists, must be attributed much more to the wet weather and green condition of the seed cane than to the freeze in February.

Some Lower Coast Stubble.

The Louisiana Planter has received from Captain Geo. E. Mann, the well-known lower coast sugar planter, some cane stubbles that are rather striking in the evidences of vitality that they exhibit.

In wrapping middles, the plow cut off these outlying stubbles, inverting them and now it is found that the top eyes have started to grow, the shoots bending upward toward the light. We are driven to our previously stated conclusion that the duration of the great freeze of February 13 was so short that the damage from it is far less than was anticipated.

The Florida Velvet Bean.

This new semi-tropical legume has attracted so much attention of late that experiments have been made in its culture where it could hardly be expected to succeed. Professor I. H. Worst, director of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station at Iago has recently published a bulletin No. 35 which includes a paper on the Florida Velvet bean, which, while showing merit in that high latitude, fell below the leg-

Professor Worst says:

During the past year a great deal has been

said through the agricultural press regarding the value of the Florida Velvet Bean, as a nitrogen gathering plant for renovating soils. In order to test its value in this capacity for the Northern latitude an experiment was undertaken and the plants were grown on garden soil where they received good cultivation. The beans made a growth of about eighteen inches and were in bloom when harvested just before the frosts of early fall. The plants grown in rows two feet apart covered the ground at time of harvesting about like pea plants grown under like conditions in adjoining rows. As harvested the plants contained 76.70 per cent of water. The air dry substance was then analyzed with results as follows:

	Per cent.
Moisture	7.60
Ash	8.55
Crude fat	5.30
Proteids N X 6.25	16.07
Crude fiber	20.75
Nitrogen free extract	41.83
	100.00
Nitrogen	2.57

If we compare the above analyses with that of the peas in the previous experiment we find nothing to recommend this bean above peas and as a nitrogen gatherer the beans prove to be vastly inferior containing as they do but 2.57 per cent of nitrogen in the dry substance, while the pea plants grown by the side of the beans and under like conditions of culture contained 3.60 per cent of nitrogen in the air dry substance. A single year's trial at this station does not show the Florida Velvet Bean to be possessed of sufficient value to warrant their receiving attention from the farmers of North Dakota.

Valuable Matter.

Owing to the fact that we publish this week in full the exhaustive paper of Doctor Stubbs on the cane buying question and the stenographic report of the discussion had at the last meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association, we are obliged to curtail in part our regular news and miscellaneous departments.

Personal.

Mr. C. L. DeGravelles was the sugar boiler during the past campaign at Shadyside place. He is the brother of Mr. S. L. DeGravelles, who took off the crop at Col G. G. Zenor's Riverside place, and is a fine sugar boiler. In fact, both the brothers are hard to beat at the proof stick.

The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane.—Whether by Test or Otherwise.

(A paper by DR. W. C. STUBBS, read before the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association March 9th 1890.)

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

Filled with the deepest emotions of gratitude for the honor conferred and the confidence bestowed by referring to me the question under discussion at your last meeting, I am yet profoundly impressed with the gravity of the task assigned me, and would gladly pass the responsibility of a decision to another, could it meet with your approval. But you, from whom I officially have received so often tangible and substantial evidences of interest in our experimental work, and at all times from each and every one of you appreciated personal courtesies, have requested me to review this subject tonight, and duty, and an affectionate regard and sympathetic feeling for you and your profession, impel me to comply.

The argument which will be made will be:

1st. To establish a fair and equitable division of the output of sugar from a factory between the grower and the manufacturer.

2nd. To determine a method by which such an output may be predicated from an analysis of the cane.

3rd. How the cane may be fairly sampled.

The larger part of our conclusions will be based upon results of experiments made at the Sugar Experiment Station whose records of the field, laboratory and sugar house, extending over twelve years, covering in the latter both the work of the mill and the diffusion battery, have been for this paper carefully examined and collated. Occasionally, isolated experiments may serve for illustration, but as a rule only condensed results can well be given in a short paper.

The parting of the ways—the separation of the planting from the manufacturing of cane, has been of such recent occurrence that neither side of the industry may be considered as permanently established independent of the other. Central factories of large capacity, built with the purpose of buying all their cane, are the outgrowth of recent years, and are not yet permanently established. Insurmountable obstacles have been encountered in (1st) obtaining the desired quantity of cane, and (2nd) in having this quantity well distributed through the grinding season. Several factories have been forced to buy land and cultivate on their own account large areas of cane to insure in some instances a sufficiency, and in others to control a constant supply to the mill when bad weather, railroad detention or local obstacles prevented daily delivery from numerous patrons. The result is that there are only a few real central factories in the State.

While hundreds of large sugar houses buy cane from outside growers, yet the bulk of the cane manufactured is yet grown upon

the grounds and at the expense of the factory.

Enormous sugar houses with the latest improved equipments have been and will, we trust, continue to be erected in this State. Their aggregate costs run high up into millions of dollars. They should be fostered and supported by a voluntary concession of enough profit to insure both a fair interest upon investment and a sufficient sinking fund annually to keep in thorough repair and of latest improvements, all of their machinery. To insure such a profit, cane in large quantities must be grown, either by the factories on their own account, or by individual planters for sale to the factories.

The increasing custom in Louisiana of buying cane from the small planters confirms the opinion elsewhere entertained, that central factories, supported by numerous small planters, contributed more to the distribution of wealth in a community than when the planting and manufacturing interests were concentrated into one vast estate. Numerous small planters would therefore appear essential to the highest developments of our sugar interests, and every manufacturer should encourage an increase in their numbers by conceding to them such profit that neither the vicissitudes of seasons, occasional floods nor the unreliability of labor, shall drive them from their chosen pursuit. The grower of cane, by all means, should be encouraged and protected. The mutual interdependence of grower and manufacturer is well recognized in all beet sugar countries. You cannot afflict the one without suffering from the other, and the destruction of either carries with it the life of the other.

Let us compare values :

A modern up-to-date sugar house capable of handling from 50,000 to 200,000 tons of cane per season, will cost from \$100,000 to \$500,000. After the actual cost of manufacture is paid, there should remain at least 10 per cent upon investment to cover insurance, taxes and interest, and 10 to 15 per cent as a sinking fund for repairs, replacements and betterments. To supply such sugar houses there will be required 2,500 to 10,000 acres of cane, yielding 20 tons per acre. Add to the above a quantity of land sufficient for seed cane, and corn and peas for stock, and rotation, pastures, gardens, yards, etc., and there will be required at least 3,500 to 14,000 acres of cleared arable land. The swamp land, usually accompanying cleared land everywhere in South Louisiana, will bring the grand total up to probably 5,000 to 20,000 acres. To the land must be added the costs of dwellings, cabins, barns, stables, mules, horses, wagons, and implements. The aggregate value of all these are or should be equal to that of the factory purchasing the cane. It is fair then to assume that the capital invested by growers and manufacturers is about equal. Establishing this fact, the cost of growing the cane should be com-

pared with the cost of manufacturing it into sugar, before an equitable division of profits can be determined.

The vicissitudes of seasons render the average cost of growing a ton of cane through a series of years, in my opinion, larger than the actual cost of manufacture. But the necessary repairs, together with the constant demand for more improved machinery, must in every sugar house be entered as a part of the cost of manufacture. Hence a sinking fund must be annually set aside to meet these constantly recurring repairs and improvements. The vicissitudes of seasons are, therefore, offset by the progression of improvements, and the cost of growing may be assumed without much error to be the cost of manufacture. Therefore, the profits, after paying costs of production and manufacture, should be equally divided. In other words, one-half of the products of the sugar house should go to the producer of cane, and the other half to the manufacturer. It is the opinion of many that this division is the only equitable one. Deciding upon this basis, the next question is how can we determine beforehand what will be the output of a factory from a ton of cane? Unfortunately, we have not yet reached such a degree of refinement in sugar work as to foretell to the pound, the amount of sugar to be obtained from a ton of cane, when both the extraction of the mill and the composition of the juices are known. In making sugar the rendement depends upon many factors other than these. The personal equation of the boiler largely qualifies the output. The density of the *masse cuite*, size of the grain, amount of water used in the centrifugal, all modify results, particularly yields of 1st sugars. Clarification largely determines yields. Too great acidity or alkalinity destroys sugar and decreases the output. In fact, there are yet indeterminate factors in every sugar house which sometimes modify results. It is proposed to buy on sucrose content, as is everywhere done in beet sugar houses. This is a great step in advance of our present methods, but does not fully solve the problem.

Beets have only salts (ash) which restrain the sucrose from crystallization and these are largely removed by their process of clarification (carbonatation).

Accompanying sucrose in the sugar cane is an uncrystallizable sugar consisting of a mixture of dextrose and levulose, to which the name of glucose is usually given. This ingredient increases in the cane, with a too active vegetation, the absence of sunlight, superabundance of moisture—on a soil too rich (new ground) or too wet.

Sucrose is easily converted into glucose. Heat, fermentation, acids, etc., are frequent agents in effecting transformation. There is no known way of eliminating it in our sugar house and it passes into the molasses, restraining therein from crystallization a

quantity of sugar. It is the "bete noir" of the sugar maker and together with gum and its allied bodies, oppose themselves by their viscosity to the separation of the crystals of sugar. To determine the amount of sugar which glucose can restrain has been the subject of repeated patient investigations by the Sugar Experiment Station for several years. Numerous experiments have been made with pure sugars, mixed with varying quantities of glucose, to determine the restraining influence of the latter. With reasonable additions of glucose, the density of masse cuite can be greatly increased. With pure sugar a masse cuite containing 12 per cent of water can be centrifugaled with difficulty. With an addition of 15 per cent of glucose, the water content of the resulting masse cuite can be reduced to 8 per cent or lower and such a masse can easily be centrifugaled. Hence a larger percentage of the total sugar present may be obtained as a 1st sugar from a syrup moderately rich in glucose, than from a pure sucrose solution.

The following results obtained in our sugar house as the average of numerous experiments, may assist us in determining approximate yields from juices of different composition, with good clarification and boiling.

With a juice of 10 per cent sucrose pure, there may be obtained either 10 lbs. C. P. sugar, or 6 lbs. 1st sugar at 98 deg., 4.58 lbs. 2nd sugar at 90 deg.

With a juice of 10 per cent sucrose and 5 per cent glucose, there may be obtained 9.5 lbs. C. P. sugar, or 7 lbs. 1st sugar at 98 deg., and 3 lbs. 2nd sugar at 90 deg., and 1.1 lbs. molasses of 80 per cent solids.

With a juice of 10 per cent sucrose and 1 per cent glucose, there may be obtained 9 lbs. C. P. sugar, or 7.47 lbs. 1st sugar at 98 deg., and 1.87 lbs. 2nd at 90 deg., and 2.40 lbs. molasses of 80 per cent solids.

With a juice of 10 per cent sucrose and 1.5 glucose, there may be obtained 8.5 lbs. C. P. sugar or 7.64 lbs. 1st at 98 deg., and 1.11 lbs. 2nd at 90 deg., and 3 lbs. molasses of 80 per cent solids.

With a juice of 10 per cent sucrose and 2 per cent glucose, there may be obtained 8 lbs. C. P. sugar or 7.30 lbs. 1st at 98 deg., .90 lbs. 2nd at 90 deg., and 4.95 lbs. molasses of 80 per cent solids.

The above, coupled with numerous results obtained in regular sugar house work, justify the assertion that the yield from juices properly clarified, quickly and intelligently handled, may be approximately estimated by assuming that glucose restrains from crystallization its own weight of sucrose. In making high sugars this seems to be particularly true. In low grade sugars, it is apparently defective; but when it is remembered that low grade sugars carry with them goodly quantities of glucose, thus diminishing the glucose ratio in the mo-

lasses and enabling a larger percentage of the remaining sugar to crystallize, the defect is apparent rather than real. The removal of low grade sugars frequently leaves the final molasses higher in glucose than in sucrose, a condition existing in the final products of many of our sugar houses, and observable doubtless by all chemists.

If therefore the sucrose content of the juice be diminished by the amount of glucose present, the remainder may, we think, with safety be called available sugar and should be obtained in sugar polarizing above 96 deg.

If lower grades than this be made the yield will be greater both in commercial and pure sugar. Knowing the extraction of our mills, the available sugar per ton of cane can easily be calculated. Assuming a uniform extraction of 75 per cent and the juice (1500 lbs.) thus obtained to each ton of cane, has a composition of 12 per cent sucrose and 1 per cent glucose, then the available sugar per ton of cane will be 165 lbs., with a polarization exceeding 96 deg.

If an equal division of the sugar be made between grower and manufacturer, this would give to each 82½ lbs. sugar, worth say in New Orleans 4¼ cents per lb., or \$3.51 per ton to the grower. The manufacturer would receive the same amount besides the five to eight gallons molasses. If the extraction be increased to 80 per cent, the price per ton becomes \$3.74.

A careful examination of the sugar house records of the station for the past five years, a period covering the use of our nine roller mill, has afforded us juices running from 10 per cent to 14 per cent sucrose with their accompanying glucose contents. These are given in the following tables, with actual sugar house and laboratory results, all re-

duced by Mr. Geo. Chiquelin, our present sugar maker and chemist.

An inspection of the above tables will show the influence of glucose upon sucrose present and emphasize the necessity of carrying our chemical investigations beyond the determination of sucrose. Sooner or later glucose determinations must be made along with sucrose, and the sooner we approach scientific methods in our sugar house work, the better will be our results and the sooner will we obliterate the dissatisfaction between buyer and seller. In some seasons the glucose ratio is high, and in others low. The season of 1888 gave us heavy sugar yields, due more to low glucose than an excess of sugar in the cane.

Recognizing the influence of glucose upon the returns in our sugar house and the prime importance of the determination of sucrose in all sugar transactions, the following plan is suggested as equitable and fair to both seller and buyer. Assume extraction of mill at 75 per cent. Determine both sucrose and glucose in the juice, calculate the available sugar per ton on this extraction by assuming (which is approximately accurate) that glucose restrains its own weight of sucrose, and divide in equal parts the available sugar thus determined, between grower and manufacturer, or, which is the same thing, pay the grower for his half at prices then prevailing in New Orleans.

An example will suffice: 75 per cent extraction will give 1500 lbs. juice to each ton of cane. If this juice analyses 13 per cent sucrose and 1 per cent glucose, then the available sugar per ton of cane will be

$$\frac{(13 - 1) \times 1500}{100} = 180 \text{ lbs.}$$

The seller will be entitled to one-half of this or 90 lbs., and if sugar be worth 4¼

RESULTS IN SUGAR HOUSE.—75 PER CENT. EXTRACTION.

Run.	Year.	Suc.	Gluc.	1st Sug.	Pol.	2d Sug.	Pol.	Tot. Sug.	Com. Sug.	Tot. C. P. Sug.	Available C. P. Sug.
No. 8,	1898	10.04	1.93	103.0	99.6°	31.25	80°	134.25	127.58	121.60	
No. 6,	1896	10.78	1.73	113.4	99.0°	26.80	76°	140.20	133.00	135.75	
No. 7,	1896	11.45	1.52	126.4	98.0°	43.20	83°	169.60	150.10	148.95	
No. 3,	1896	12.03	1.54	127.3	97.4°	65.40	83°	192.70	168.20	157.35	
No. 5,	1896	12.38	1.32	124.7	98.4°	60.10	81°	184.80	171.38	165.90	
No. 6,	1897	12.57	1.13	165.5	91.0°	44.90	75°	211.40	183.80	173.10	
No. 7,	1897	13.45	1.03	146.2	95.0°	56.40	83°	202.60	185.40	186.30	
No. 1,	1897	13.98	.98	147.5	97.1°	48.00	86°	195.50	184.50	195.00	

duced to uniform extraction of 75 per cent: Only 1st and 2d sugars are given above. There were obtained in Nos. 6, 3 and 5 of 1896, and 7 and 1 of 1897, respectively 2.3, 4.2, 7.7, 1.6 and 5.6 lbs. of 3rd sugars per ton, polarizing from 75 to 85 deg.

These are selected because of their variations in sucrose content, and to further show the relation between glucose and sucrose, and their final results. The above might be multiplied largely, but suffice to illustrate the principle above enunciated. They were taken from sugar house books of the station, and the work performed in 1896 was by Mr. T. C. Glynn, and that of 1897-

cents in New Orleans, then his ton of cane will fetch \$3.82½. The formula for buying would be

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{(\text{sucrose-glucose}) \times 2,000 \times \frac{75}{100}}{100} \times \text{price of sugar,}$$

or assuming a uniform extraction of 75 per cent, it could be very simply written (sucrose-glucose) x 7½ x price of sugar.

To illustrate the influence of glucose particularly upon low sucrose canes, the following table is given. The composition of juices with results are taken from our records: In this table extraction is assumed at 75 per cent and price of sugar at 4¼ cents:

Composition of Juice		Per Ct. Available Sugar.	Pounds Sugar for each 1 pr. ct. Sucrose.	Price per Ton.
10%	2%	8.00	12 lbs.	2.55
10.5%	1.75%	8.75	12.3	2.79
11%	1.65%	9.38	12.7	2.99
12%	1.40%	10.60	13.25	3.37
13%	1.00%	12.00	13.85	3.82
14%	.75%	13.25	14.20	4.22

From above it will be seen that in a juice containing 10 per cent sucrose there is available only 12 lbs. sugar for each 1 per cent, while in a 14 per cent juice there are available 14.20 lbs. Therefore each percentage of sucrose in a 14 per cent juice is worth 18 per cent more than in a 10 per cent juice. By this formula both buyer and seller are benefited by rich cane.

But some are ready to exclaim, how are we, first, to obtain proper samples of the cane; second, how to obtain from that cane juices like those extracted by our large mills. There are many difficulties to be encountered in the solution of these questions, but I believe many of them will vanish when the subject is earnestly approached. Canes vary greatly in composition, according to soil, season, age of cane and vigor of growth. Seasons vary but little on the same plantation. Soils vary in composition but slightly on the same cut; but in the same row side by side, stalks of cane vary in composition according to age and vigor, whether the original cane or sucker, whether well exposed and vigorous, or crowded and emaciated. It is well known that nearly one-half of the stalks found at lay by in a field of cane with an excellent stand are crowded out and killed before harvest. "The survival of the fittest" is here emphasized. Of those surviving there may be canes of all ages from the original sprout started in March to a belated sucker born in July. An examination extending over six years of the composition at harvest of the original canes and their suckers in order of birth has been made at Audubon Park, and a portion of the work published. As a rule the original stalks are richer in sugar and heavier in weight than the suckers. With few exceptions, there has been a gradual diminution of sugar and weight of stalk from the original plants to the youngest sucker. Notable exceptions to above sometimes occur. In 1894 three suckers born in July had the largest sugar content and one of them the heaviest stalk in the field. No known reason can be assigned for this aberration.

In 1894 the average of the original stalks was, sucrose 13.42, glucose .85. Average of originals and suckers, sucrose 11.90, glucose .96. Lowest sucker, sucrose 10.50, glucose 1.04.

In 1895 the average of original stalks was, sucrose 12.43, glucose 1.54. Average of all originals and suckers, sucrose 11.66, glucose 1.83. Lowest matured sucker 10.27, glucose 2.23.

It is evident from above that there is a great variation in the composition of individual canes, and no single stalk analyses can be relied upon.

From the same tables we learn that many of the original stalks perished during growth and that nearly all suckers carried to the mill are born during May and June; that the original stalks at harvest constitute from one-third to one-fourth of the crop, and therefore there are two to four suckers for each original. In taking canes for analyses it is evident then that at least three to five, selected with reference to age, etc., would absolutely be necessary to give a correct estimate of sugar value of the plat. But these cannot be so selected from a car or cart; hence to obtain a sample which would probably be representative of the plat from which it came, at least fifty to one hundred stalks would be required—taken off without selection.

Having taken the samples, how shall we get a juice representative of that obtained by our large double and triple mills. With a hand mill giving only forty to fifty per cent extraction, a juice is obtained richer in sucrose than that obtained from a large mill giving 75 to 80 per cent extraction.

The following table gives the average of a large number of tests made in last five years of the analyses of juices from the different mills of our nine-roller mill.

	Brix.	Suc.	Gluc.	Sugar.	Solids not Sugar.
1st mill, 50%-54% extraction	15.58	13.09	1.20	1.29	
2nd mill, 22%-26% extraction	15.29	12.29	0.99	2.01	
3rd mill, 2%-4% extraction	15.62	11.86	0.90	2.86	

An examination will show that the juice of second mill differs from juice of first mill, as follows: 98 per cent Brix., 93.88 per cent sucrose, 82.5 per cent glucose and 155 per cent solids not sugar.

The third mill varies from first as follows: 100.2 Brix., 90.6 per cent sucrose, 75 per cent glucose, 221 per cent solids not sugar,

The average of all extractions was about 52 per cent for 1st mill, 24 per cent for 2nd mill, and 2 per cent for third mill. A simple calculation will then show that the combined mills gave an extraction with following analyses:

	Brix.	Suc.	Gluc.	Sugar.	Solids not Sugar.
78 per cent extraction	15.49	12.81	1.12	1.55	

Comparing this juice from all these mills with that from 1st and we have 99.4 per cent Brix, 98 per cent sucrose, 93.3 per cent glucose, 120 per cent solids not sugar. To compare with these calculated results, the following averages of juices taken from each mill and the analyses of juice taken from the combined mills all from the same cane, are given:

	Brix.	Suc.	Gluc.
Av. 1st mill	10.55	12.7	1.35
Av. 2nd mill	15.15	12.3	1.32
Av. 3rd mill	15.10	11.5	1.11

Average of same cane juices combined	15.40	12.80	1.38
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	Solids not Sugar.	P. C.	G. R.
Av. 1st mill	1.50	81.67	10.63
Av. 2nd mill	1.53	81.12	10.74
Av. 3rd mill	2.49	76.15	9.65
Average of same cane juices combined	1.82	79.87	10.40

These are actual results and comparing the combined juice with that of 1st mill we have 99.03 per cent Brix, 95.3 per cent sucrose, 95 per cent glucose, 1.21 per cent solids not sugar. Therefore the juices obtained from a triple mill of 76 to 80 per cent extraction will probably vary from the juice extracted once with a laboratory hand mill between following limits ½ to 1 per cent Brix, 2 to 5 per cent sucrose, 5 to 8 per cent glucose, 20 to 22 per cent more of solids not sugar.

To make this perfectly clear, let us suppose that the juice from a laboratory mill has the following composition: Brix 15.00, sucrose 12.00, glucose 2 per cent, solids not sugar 1 per cent, then the large mills in the sugar house would give approximately a juice of the following composition:

Brix 14.92-14.85; sucrose 11.76-11.40, glucose 1.90-1.84, solids not sugar 1.20-1.22.

On a mill using 500 tons of cane per day and with an 80 per cent extraction the loss to the factory by buying on sucrose content of juice from a little hand mill will be from 1920 to 4800 lbs. sugar per day, an amount too large to be ignored and yet much smaller than would be supposed by a simple inspection of the analyses of juices from different mills. But it must be remembered that the juice from 1st mill represents at least one-half of the juice contained in the cane, while the worst juice from the last mill represents scarcely one-tenth, and therefore an analysis of the aggregated juices will approximate much nearer to the juice from 1st mill than to those from last two mills. It may therefore be assumed that if a laboratory mill be tightened so as to give over 50 per cent extraction and the cane whose juices be required for analysis be put through this mill twice, doubling up the bagasse from first pressure before putting it through the second time and mixing well the juices of the two pressures, a juice will be obtained which will very nearly represent the juice expressed by the large mill at the sugar house. Those who want a nearer approach to accuracy will be compelled to buy a miniature six or nine-roller mill and have it erected near the large mill and run by power from the sugar house. Such mills can be bought cheaply, and by means of friction clutches can be thrown in and out of work at pleasure. On this mill the engineer could adjust the rolls as to give similar extraction to large mills, and a chemist or his assistant could run it whenever samples were required, taking stalks from the carrier of large mill. A discreet, observant chemist would here soon learn how to select typical stalks from the carrier for giving him his juices.

The plan presented then is to take fifty to one hundred stalks from each car load or lot of cane, run them through a small mill twice, doubling up the bagasse in second pressure. Determine in this juice sucrose and glucose. Calculate available sugar per ton of cane upon 75 per cent extraction and divide it equally between seller and buyer, or pay the former for his half at ruling prices in New Orleans. As I have before remarked, this plan is unquestionably equitable and just, if we concur in the statement that the growing of cane and the manufacturing of same should be of equal value.

Let us compare this plan with others that have been presented. The following extracts from Capt. Pharr's paper will explain his plan:

"The average analysis of my sugar house in the season 1897 and 1898, was 12.50 sucrose and 81 purity, and it produced 180 lbs. of 1st and 2nd sugars. I took that as a standard, and on that standard I purchased cane this season. For cane at that standard I paid the market price of prime yellow clarified sugar. When sucrose and purity went above the standard I added the value of 5 lbs. of sugar for each degree in sucrose and the value of 2 lbs. of sugar for each degree in purity, deducting a like amount for each degree in sucrose and each degree in purity below that standard.

"The average sucrose of my house this year will be in the neighborhood of 10.50 sucrose and 75 purity. For two degrees of sucrose I deduct 10 lbs. of sugar and for six degrees in purity I deduct 12 lbs. of sugar, making 22 lbs. The price of these 22 lbs. of sugar at 4½ (the average price of P. Y. C. sugar) makes 93½ cents, and this I deduct from the price of the tons of cane or what would have been the price, if it had been up to the average of the house last year.

"The average of my house last year being 180 lbs. of 1st and 2nd sugars and the average this year being 148 pounds, this makes a difference of 32 pounds per ton between the last and the present year.

"You will see that by my rule I either overpaid for my cane this season, or underpaid last year, as my deduction in the price can only call for 22 pounds of sugar and the results are that I am 32 lbs. short. I give you these few figures from my own experience and from that know that I cannot afford to run a sugar factory without a chemist."

I have shown elsewhere in this paper that the amount of sugar obtained from each one per cent of sucrose present, increased as the percentage increased, and decreased as the percentage decreased. I showed further that a 10 per cent sucrose gave only 12 lbs. for each one per cent sucrose present, while a 14 per cent gave 14.2 lbs. The Captain's sugar house results confirm this statement. Even with his deductions of 5 lbs. for each one per cent sucrose and 2 lbs for each one per cent of purity, his actual losses on last year were 32 lbs. per ton, while theoretically they should have been 22 lbs. Should the juice of the cane next year increase in a

similar proportion, he will find reversed conditions, actual yields greater than calculated results.

Mr. Becnal presents the following formula:

$$10 A^2 + B^2 = \text{price of 1 ton cane, A price} = \text{P. Y. C. sells for and B equals polarization of mill juice.}$$

"With good average mill extraction and judicious handling of juices after the mill it takes 12.50 per cent sugar in the mill juice to yield 160 lbs. sugar. We shall therefore assume that for the average of cane handled during any one week the value of same will be based at a price practically equal to 80 cents for each cent that prime Y. C. sells for, paying proportionally higher (about on the same basis as \$1.00 per cent) for cane from which manufacturer can make 200 lbs. sugar per ton and proportionately less for cane from which manufacturer cannot make an average yield of 160 lbs. even with the best equipments, but, at the same time, paying such a price for cane as green as it was during the season as would yield the seller about \$2.60 per ton on the basis of 4.25 cents sugar.

"For further regulation of prices and to insure the delivery of properly cut and mature cane, when, in the judgment of purchaser, seller's cane is not up to the average good standard or other cane being ground, then that portion of the price of one ton which depends on the degree of richness, could be determined by special tests.

As most cane buyers handle cane in cars, this could be accomplished with comparatively little trouble and expense, due to lost time, as a number of cars containing seller's cane could be concentrated so as to cover say 50 feet of the carrier and a mill juice sample of seller's cane taken while running, and where cars are not used, and cane is stored in slings the same result could be accomplished by the concentration of a number of cart loads of cane.

"By the present method, the seller who produces cane of high tonnage derives undue benefits from the superior quality of other canes, which results in the production of tonnage at the expense of sucrose.

"As against this, a method like the one proposed will, by paying the man who produces green cane less than is paid to these who furnish average good cane, prepare all interested in our industry to cope with an era of low prices which will have to be faced sooner or later.

This formula seems to be empirical; how near it agrees with those based upon actual results will be discussed later.

Some years ago the writer formulated a plan of buying cane based upon sucrose content, which was used by Messrs. J. U. Payne & Co., in the sale of thousands of tons of cane to the Barbreck factory. I am authorized by Messrs. Payne & Co., to say that it gave perfect satisfaction to all parties concerned. Each party employed a chemist who took samples of cane, and determined analyses of juices. At the end of each week settlement was made based upon these analyses. In case of disagreement between chemists, a referee or umpire was named. In one year's transactions between Barbreck factory and Messrs Payne & Co., involving I think ten to fifteen thousand tons of cane, there was not a greater difference than one or two hundred dollars between the accounts of the seller based upon analyses made by his chemist, and those of the buyer based on analyses made by his chemist. No occasion at any time occurred in several years requiring the services of the umpire.

I believe it worked equally as well with the Meeker Bros., though the death of both of these estimable gentlemen will prevent positive testimony.

The plan is based upon an assumption that cane polarizing 10 per cent sucrose was worth 70 cents per ton for each cent that P. Y. C. were worth in New Orleans. Seventy cents for 10 per cent sucrose gave 7 cents for each one per cent sucrose present. Therefore, 7 cents was assumed as the value of each one per cent sucrose in the juice, and the formula became 7 x sucrose in juice x price of sugar. Seven is here the constant, and sucrose and the price of sugar the variables. If 90 cents per ton were assumed for 12.50 per cent sucrose, as found by Capt. Pharr in his prices for 1897-98, then the constant factor would become 7.2 and the value of a ton of such cane would be 7.2x12.50x 4½ equals 3.82½ per ton.

A similar objection may be made to this formula as to Capt. Pharr's, viz., assuming that with both increase and decrease of sucrose, the rate of increase or decrease in sugar yields is similar—which is not true.

Belle Helene Planting Co., in the Louisiana Planter of Feb. 25, 1899, gives the following plan:

"We propose first to take the sugar ex-

CANE SCHEDULE.

Price Prime Y. C.	Present basis or price alone.							According to new formula.										
	80c.	85c.	90c.	95c.	\$1.	8	9	Per Cent.										
2½	2.00	2.13	2.25	2.38	2.50	1.27	1.44	1.63	1.73	1.83	1.88	2.33	2.59	2.88				
2¾	2.20	2.34	2.48	2.61	2.75	1.41	1.57	1.76	1.86	1.96	2.01	2.46	2.73	3.02				
3¢	2.40	2.55	2.70	2.85	3.00	1.54	1.71	1.90	2.11	2.34	2.46	2.59	2.86	3.15				
3¼	2.60	2.76	2.93	3.09	3.25	1.70	1.87	2.06	2.27	2.50	2.62	2.75	3.02	3.31				
3½	2.80	2.98	3.15	3.43	3.50	1.87	2.04	2.23	2.44	2.67	2.79	2.92	3.19	3.48				
3¾	3.00	3.19	3.38	3.56	3.75	2.05	2.22	2.41	2.62	2.85	2.97	3.10	3.37	3.60				
4¢	3.20	3.40	3.60	3.80	4.00	2.24	2.41	2.60	2.81	3.04	3.16	3.29	3.56	3.85				
4¼	3.40	3.61	3.83	4.04	4.25	2.45	2.62	2.81	3.02	3.225	3.37	3.50	3.77	4.06				
4½	3.60	3.83	4.05	4.23	4.50	2.67	2.84	3.03	3.24	3.47	3.59	3.62	3.99	4.28				
4¾	3.80	4.04	4.26	4.50	4.75	2.90	3.07	3.26	3.47	3.70	3.82	3.95	4.22	4.51				
5¢	4.00	4.25	4.50	4.75	5.00	3.14	3.31	3.50	3.71	3.94	4.06	4.19	4.46	4.75				

10 A² plus B²

Based on formula: _____ price of one ton of cane.

100

A equals the price P. Y. C. sell for.

B equals the polarization of mill juice.

suming 4½ cents as price of sugar, we will have the following table: (I will state that the analyses given are taken from records of the Station.)

Per cent. Sucrose.	Per cent. Glucose.	Purity coefficient.	Price of Sugar.	Capt. Pharr's plan.	Mr. Becnel's plan.
10.	2.	72	4¼	2.52	2.81
10.5	1.75	75	4¼	2.89	2.91
11.	1.62	77	4¼	3.16	3.02
12	1.40	80	4¼	3.63	3.25
13	1.00	81	4¼	3.93	3.50
14	.75	84	4¼	4.39	3.77

* In both of these columns the available sugar in the last column has been assumed as yields in sugar house. In Belle Helene plan 80 per cent has been assumed as 1st, and 20 per cent as 2nd sugar. The prices assigned are 4½ cents for 1st sugar and 3¼ cents for 2nd sugars.

Four of these plans are based upon sucrose content, therefore a chemist will be needed by the adoption of either one. In one the purity co-efficient is required; in another the glucose. With a chemist already employed, I see no reason why a complete analysis of the juice should not be made, and if made why not utilize the analysis, with mill extraction to determine output? Two of above plans deal only with output of sugar house, and while perhaps, to a factory buying cane from a hundred planters, the daily output of sugar may be a satisfactory basis for it to settle upon, sooner or later, dissatisfaction will arise among the planters, particularly those who grow canes with large sucrose content. Examination will show that those tables based upon sugar output pay more per ton for cane all through. Of the chemical plans Capt. Pharr's pays the lowest for low sucrose cane and highest for high sucrose per ton.

The Barbreck plan pays the highest for low grade cane; while Mr. Becnel pays lowest for high grade cane.

Taking 12 per cent sucrose cane as about the average of the State in normal seasons, we have Mr. Becnel's plan giving \$3.25 per ton, followed by the Barbreck at \$3.75, with the other two \$3.61 and \$3.63, or a difference between extremes of nearly 12 per cent.

Any of above plans will be an improvement over our present plan of a uniform price for all kinds of canes.

An inspection of tables will show available sugar per ton varying from 120 to 199 lbs., and the prices for canes yielding these quantities varying per ton from \$2.52 to \$4.87½.

To one, wanting to know exactly what

he is doing, either in the scientific, technical or financial world, the further postponement of a consideration of this important progressive step, seems to be unadvisable.

Mr. Storm here read his paper, which was followed by papers read by Mr. R. G. Comeaux, Mr. C. Robert Churchill, Judge Henry Meyer and Dr. W. C. Stubbs, (Mr. Meyer's paper being read by the secretary.) A vote of thanks was tendered those who prepared the papers, and they were ordered published with the proceedings. They appear in our last issue, except that of Dr. Stubbs which appear in this issue.

Mr. Churchill concluded the reading of his paper by stating:

"In reference to this question of trash from the cane, to which I referred in my paper, there is one fact I noticed. At the factory I named they handled some 53,000 tons of cane, all of which was handled in cars. After the cars were emptied, the trash was removed and weighed at the end of the season when it was found that the amount reached 90 tons. Now I presume it is possible that this quantity was only one-third of the trash, cane-leaves and the like (possibly less than that—I say one-third) that were left in the cars, the greater amount being undoubtedly fed on carrier. Of course it is useless to say that trash absorbs great moisture, and does away with some good work in the cane. Now, in regard to green tops that I suggested should be cut off, and deducted from the tare, I would like to read a little article written by Prof. J. T. Crawley, and published in the Planter on February 2, 1895. Prof. Crawley was then at Barbreck. He says:

"By cutting cane too high, as has been often pointed out, great damage may be done. Following are analyses of tops cut from cane brought to the mill from several plantations on different days:

Number of joints cut.	Brix.	Sucrose.	Purity.
2	12.3	5.5	44.7
3 to 5	11.1	5.0	45.0
2	10.9	5.0	45.9
2	10.0	4.2	42.0
2	10.8	4.3	39.8

Not only will these juices not grain in the pan, but they will act deleteriously on the other juices, restraining crystallization. The factory, therefore, that buys cane that has not been properly topped loses in two ways; By having to pay for a worthless product, and by producing a decreased yield because of these tops.

Dr. Stubbs concluded the reading of his paper with the following remarks:

"I was requested by the association at its last meeting (I did not have the pleasure of attending on account of my absence from the city,) to review the different plans that had been presented, and it would now seem that my paper was called for too soon, as there have been other plans presented to-night that I will not be able to touch upon.

Here (pointing to the blackboard,) we have the analyses of different juices. Beginning at 10, we have 2.00 glucose, with a purity of 72, with the price of sugar 4¼ for that cane. Captain Pharr would pay for that \$2.52, Mr. Becnel, \$2.81, Barbreck, \$2.97, Belle Helene, \$2.94, under Mr. Kock's plan, \$3.13, and under the plan I propose, \$2.55. There would be 120 pounds of available sugar in that cane. I will omit the halves and go on to 11 per cent 1.62 glucose, 77 purity, 4¼ cents for sugar, as above, for which Captain Pharr would pay \$3.16; Mr. Becnel, \$3.02; Barbreck, \$3.27; Belle Helene, \$3.45; Mr. Kock, \$3.35 and \$2.99 by the one I propose, with sugar available 141. Coming now, say to 12, which is about the average of the

The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane.—Whether by Test or Otherwise.

(Discussion by the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association, March 9th, 1899. Hon. Henry McCall, First Vice-President, presiding, in the absence of Judge Emile Rost; Secretary Reginald Dykers at the desk.)

Chairman: Gentlemen, this is the annual meeting and the election of officers. Nomination for officers to serve during the year are now in order.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: I would state, that our lamented friend, the Hon. Henry C. Minor, Terrebonne, whose decease was recorded here, was the second vice-president of this association, and as some motion may be made here to-night concerning the whole ticket, some consideration especially will have to be given to that, as there is an actual vacancy, and I would nominate for that vacancy Mr. Leonce M. Soniat, of Iberville. I place his name in nomination.

The nomination was duly seconded by Mr. Becnel and on vote was unanimously carried.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: I suppose if there be no other names, perhaps you might direct the secretary to cast the ballot for the nomination to be made. That will leave a vacancy for third vice-president. For third vice-president, I would nominate Col. G. G. Zenor, of St. Mary.

The nomination was duly seconded by Mr. W. B. Schmidt, and on vote was unanimously carried.

Mr. Lezin Becnel: I would put in nomination the entire ticket, with the two names, the ticket reading: Judge Emile Rost, President; Hon. Hy. McCall, 1st Vice-President; Mr. Leonce M. Soniat, 2nd Vice-President; Col. G. G. Zenor, 3rd Vice-President; Mr. Wm. B. Schmidt, Treasurer; Mr. Reginald Dykers, Secretary.

Executive Committee: Mr. Daniel Thompson, Dr. W. C. Stubbs, Capt. John N. Pharr, Mr. Wm. B. Schmidt and Hon Jno. Dymond.

I move that the secretary cast the ballot for the association.

This motion was duly adopted and the secretary then cast the ballot, and the ticket was elected unanimously.

Chair: The next matter before the meeting is the reading of papers on the subject of "The Manner and Method of Purchasing Cane. Whether by Test or Otherwise." The chair understands that Mr. Robert Storm, of the Meeker Central Factory, is present with a paper. The association would be glad to hear from him.

state; 12 per cent sucrose carries with it 1.40 glucose, purity 80, for which we would pay, according to Captain Pharr's plan, \$3.63; Mr. Becnel's, \$3.25; Barbreck, \$3.57; Belle Helene, \$3.92; Mr. Kock, \$3.61 and \$3.37 by the plan I propose. Available sugar 159. We will now come to 14 per cent; glucose .75, purity 84, which would be paid for under the plans given, as follows: By Captain Pharr, \$4.39; Mr. Becnel, \$3.77; Barbreck, \$4.16; Belle Helene, \$4.87; Mr. Kock \$4.46, and under my plan, \$4.22.

Now you gentlemen can "pay your money and take your choice."

Chair: It is in order to discuss these papers, and the Chair would call upon Mr. Dymond for any remarks he might have to make on the subject.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: Dr. Stubbs has covered the ground so thoroughly, so well, that it quite appalls any one else who might attempt to discuss the subject. He has indeed treated it exhaustively, and has brought out the merits of the various methods which have been presented. It seems to me, if his hypotheses is correct, that is, that the restraining influence of glucose is one for one, that then the basis through the plan developed or proposed would be a very fair one, a very proper one. That would still leave, however, the difficulty that was discussed here at our last meeting of securing a proper sample of sugar cane. I have thought considerably about that matter since our last meeting, and it occurs to me, if we arrive at the conclusion that it is necessary to sample cane, we should soon learn how to sample it; and that the difficulties that will arise between the seller of cane and its buyer will finally suggest the true equities. If five canes, or if ten or twenty canes were selected, it is always found that these are better by far than the average. For many years I endeavored to sample canes, and found that, unconsciously we selected canes better than the average. These canes were tested in the hand mill, under very good pressure, yielding 70 to 75 per cent and always gave a result of one degree Baume more than the result in the double mill. Now, it had occurred to me that possibly our hand mill might have some coefficient calculated establishing its relation to the true result. For instance, if we find that our sample mill always gave one point more by the polariscope than the double mill, then that allowance should be made. If any one thought that unfair, then let an experiment be made, and it would be found that that method would be fair. A good many years ago we had a hydraulic press, with a capacity of some ten tons, and we endeavored to get juice in that way, just as we do to-day with a vice, and either with the ordinary vice, hydraulic press, or any kind of hand mill, the results were always about the same; some one degree Baume greater than with our double cane mill. So it seems to me, that sampling, if any difficulties arise, will settle itself in some way. The beet men in Europe, for the last twenty years have been trying to work out the problem of how best to sample beets, and are making better progress every year. They have a little "corkscrew" appliance which penetrates the side of each beet to some considerable extent, and in that way get what they think a fair sample. Perhaps their beets may not vary as our canes do. Dr. Stubbs brought out a point in his paper to-night, which is invariably and uniformly correct, and that is the wonderful difference that attaches to canes right in the same row—in the same clump. We find canes (as all those who eat canes are familiar with,) that are not very sweet, and others quite

sweet, growing side by side, in the same row, and probably in the same clump of canes, the result of the different ages of the canes, or of some cause that we may not know about. Now this point, the manner of sampling, has been the stumbling block thus far, and it would seem to me that no matter what plan of purchase we might adopt, the natural equities of the case demand that we should sample the canes.

In considering the matter from a rather personal point of view, it has seemed to me that the point brought out by Mr. Storm, in his paper just read, is a very desirable one, and that is that we should learn to know what kind of cane is a fair delivery. They have the term, as applied to lumber and merchandise, "merchantable." He has used that phrase. What would constitute good delivery in sugar cane? I fancy that in this state that a proper delivery of sugar cane is of sound canes that are topped no higher than the last red joint; that shall be free of trash and dirt, and that shall not be sprouted or rotted at the joints. Now all the conditions have been made part of certain contracts thus far, except the last two; but this last season we had canes rooted at all joints, and sprouted at nearly every eye. It was in '95 I think, that the same difficulty was experienced with sprouted eyes. We had a freeze early in December, and in about two weeks after that the yield of the canes in sugar fell off nearly thirty pounds per ton. The tops of the cane were covered with leaves and the upper joints had immense sprouts on them, some 5, 7 and 8 inches long; and the yield fell from 160 to 130 pounds. I simply mention that with the view of exciting some interest, because I think Mr. Storm's reference very proper, and ought to exert considerable influence as to what constitutes a proper delivery of cane. It has never been defined, and I suppose never will be defined until some difficulty arises that will compel a legal decision in regard thereto; but the transactions in sugar cane are so large, involving so many thousands, or even millions of dollars, that the time has come, or will come, when this question must be determined by arbitration of some kind. In some manner we will have to reach some conclusion about it. Therefore I think what constitutes a fair delivery of sugar cane, and the problem of sampling, if we can settle these things among ourselves, then with the information brought out at these several meetings, and by the various papers, from these will be chosen such a plan by each individual as will be best suited to his own locality.

Col. Zenor: I have nothing to say that would enlighten you; but I would like to allude to two points brought out here to-night. I think one was by Mr. Churchill. I understand him to say that the trash that was left standing in the cars from a crop was estimated by him to be probably not over one-third of the trash that was brought there, and that went into the mill. 90 tons is given in his estimate, from which it would appear there were 270 tons of this dry trash. Now that is a very considerable item, and I have no doubt it is correct. And yet few people would think any such amount of trash could be accumulated in one season from that amount of cane.

Dr. Stubbs: You keep an account of the trash daily brought into your yard?

Col. Zenor: I have not, sir.

Dr. Stubbs: We have, and I can give you the figures. It reaches as much as 3.5%.

Col. Zenor: Yet, if you attempt to deduct that, which is nothing more than fair and equitable, the cane seller will raise a howl.

Mr. Churchill: That item alone would pay

for the testing of the cane for the entire season.

Col. Zenor: Another thing Prof. Stubbs argued that was unusual, and shows clearly and has been often stated. The real and only correct plan to purchase cane is by saccharine content; but how to get at it is the question to determine.

Mr. L. W. Soniat: It seems to me that the most difficult question, the two most difficult questions are, first of all: How to establish the quality of the cane, in other words, the sample. The next thing is the plan on which to buy. The plan that Dr. Stubbs has given, that is we "pay our money and take our choice." As to sampling, I think the Doctor has gone rather far. 50 canes from a load would require an extra mill.

Dr. Stubbs: I said you might take fifty canes for a sample. It strikes me if every man who furnishes, say 20 cars a day—if you take two canes from each wagon, it would give 40 for a sample.

Mr. Soniat: You mean for the whole day?

Dr. Stubbs: That would be about my meaning.

Chair: Do you mean fifty canes for each man during the day?

Dr. Stubbs: Fifty canes for each man during the day.

Mr. Soniat: I think if we took out two canes from each load, it would come as near being an average as any other plan.

Chair: If you had five hundred cars, you would have one thousand canes to analyze.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: Five hundred cars would be very much.

Chair: Not so much—plantation cars.

Mr. Churchill: Could not Dr. Stubbs give us some idea of what kind of canes to select. I know the beet people, as the carts with the beets arrive, they are dumped into bins—they have a man there who measures the beets and catches a sample at random; but with cane, I don't just exactly see how to get a sample.

Dr. Stubbs: I mentioned in my paper that in taking the canes, they must not be selected. I will say this about beets; every beet is of the same age; they are planted at the same time, and come up at the same time. We grow cane under peculiar circumstances in Louisiana. In nearly all foreign countries the first canes that come up are cut down. They want cane that will sucker abundantly, and the cane that will do the largest amount of suckering is the cane most desirable. With us, we want a cane that will sucker as little as possible, because suckering delays the maturity of the crop, and, as I told you just now, we found in '94 or '95, two canes born in July that gave us richer sugar than any others, but as a rule July canes are of no value. You all doubtless remember the French name for these great big short canes, about that big (indicating) canne-folle, they call it. Sometimes we throw them into the pile; they are nothing less than a mass of glucose—immature canes, and they are probably twice the size of any other cane in the field in diameter. They are very low in sucrose content. Our canes may be relied upon doing their suckering from March until the middle of June. This is from the same cane, and each would be selecting his own cane, and therefore it is impossible, if we are going to buy on a sample to sample each single stalk, because you may get a stalk 25 above or below the average of the field but with beets it is different. Beets are of the same age and are restricted in size. No man wants beets over two pounds; they are restricted in size. They don't allow you to go under that or over that, or, rather, they don't care if you go

under that. I would say that for eight or ten years we have been counting every cane on the sugar experiment station. Three days of the year. 1st, when they are laid by, 2nd about September 1st and 3rd when they are harvested. You will find one-half the canes present in July perish before we go to harvest; you will find some that are emaciated, excluded from the sun, and are standing with hardly any growth during the year. Some are very low in sugar. When they go to the mill, all these are thrown in, and that is one reason why you cannot get the hand mill to give the same extraction; not because the hand mill does not give an approximate test, but because no man will ever select one of these canes as a sample. They will always take the best cane. You cannot send a man to select canes but that he will take the best—higher in sucrose than the average.

Col. Zenor: How do you account for this abnormal growth. I have noticed it frequently. I refer to these enormous canes, twenty to thirty inches long, and as large in diameter as my arm.

Dr. Stubbs: That is what is called the *cane folle*—"foolish canes" they are called. They are notorious all over the sugar cane fields, everywhere, and they have gone into history. They are found in every climate, and are just abnormal productions. These canes contain very little sugar. They are rapid growers, and mature young. If you would send an inexperienced man to the field, sometimes he would probably take that, because it is so large—2½ inches in diameter.

Mr. Soniat: Did you ever try to plant it.

Dr. Stubbs: Not knowingly. I have always avoided it. I have always ordered them in planting these canes should be thrown out, because I didn't want to propagate them.

Hon. John Dymond: I would like to ask Dr. Stubbs a question. It seems to me that, in the course of time both parties will be represented at each central factory; that is, the buyers of cane will have a representative there, as in all the sugar houses of California to look after the weights and after the analysis. How would it do to let the factory representative select, say, ten pounds, or a given weight, of the poorest that could select, say ten pounds or a given weight of the poorest that he could find, and the representative of the seller select the same weight of the best that he could find, making the test in that way. Should the question of bad cane come up, the factory representative would say, 'Now, sir, Mr. A. your cases are defective.' The seller representative and the factory representative would select ten or twenty pounds each—the factory representative selecting the worst, and the cane seller the best. There could be no fairer sample than that.

Dr. Stubbs: I would like to ask one question; what constitutes the best cane and what the worst.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: You will determine that by experience.

Dr. Stubbs: I have tried my best to learn that, and if you were to send me to-morrow to my field to select ten of the worst canes, I don't know that I could do it, from a sugar standpoint, for this reason: Frequently these dark, splendid stalks will contain a larger quantity of sucrose than some of our vigorous good healthy canes. I don't see how you could do it.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: As to that, I would say that first of all we will avoid, or rather, the factory would select for the worst sample those immature white canes that have not been exposed to the sun. It would select those large, short canes to which you just now referred, and select also the very small,

slender canes; that is, the factory would do that selecting; picking out the very worst. The representative of the factory could select ten or twenty, of what seemed to him to be the worst. On the other hand, the representative of the cane growers would select ripe, straight canes, of full color. If they are ribbon, bright ribbon, and the part of ribbon that was not red would be yellow and not green—it is very easy to select what you think or find ripe.

Chair: If you will send a darkey out, he will pick sweet cane.

Mr. Becnel: He is the best man for the seller.

Dr. Stubbs: When Dr. Maxwell was at the station, he carried on a great number of experiments along this line. He got up what I called "Maxwell's Constant." His plan was this: He started, I reckon 20 or 30.—He went to the field, cut down fifty canes; he then took these fifty canes, spread them out before him, and then selected the best he saw from that pile, then the next best, and so on, until he exhausted the pile. He then ran twenty-five canes through the mill to see if the results were constant, and I think he abandoned it before he got through, after he had made about twenty odd experiments. I suggest that thing as the nearest approach to sampling cane—let the buyer and seller go and take 50 canes from a car, and then let each one draw straws, putting one at a time on each pile until there are twenty-five canes on both; then analyze that twenty-five and in that way you can get the nearest average, so to speak, that I know of.

Chair: How are you going to handle that cane coming from, say forty different men.

Dr. Stubbs: I mean that much during the day.

Chair: How are you going to handle cane coming from forty different men; supposing you receive from forty sellers every day. Don't you think that would be a considerable job?

Dr. Stubbs: I believe, Mr. McCall, as I stated to you in my paper, that a great many difficulties will vanish as we approach them. The time was, I remember, before the planters held these meetings, when you all talked about chemists in sugar houses; did not know how to go about it, until to-day you won't do without a chemist. Now, as to sampling cane, when we approach the difficulties, they will flee. It is always the apparent difficulties—they are more apparent than real, and I believe with Mr. Dymond, that notwithstanding all I have said to you, the objections that have been brought forward to-night, I believe, when we all centre upon that one trouble in Louisiana, how to sample cane, we will all reach a conclusion satisfactory to us in the end. There is no doubt about it to my mind. I believe we can get there. I can suggest no better way than I have stated to you to-night, but I believe we will find it out. Remember, up to this time, there has been no sampling between buyer and seller, so to speak. As I stated in my paper, Mr. Payne had a chemist at Barbrecq for three or four years, and Mr. Ferris had a chemist. Settlements were made on sucrose content; and to show how close they got together, in all this time there was only a little difference of something over one hundred dollars. I believe it was \$142, on ten or fifteen thousand tons of cane. Now that shows they got pretty close together. This arrangement was satisfactory to both parties. I have the authority of Mr. Payne to say that the arrangement was perfectly satisfactory to him. He employed and paid his own chemist, and Mr. Ferris did likewise.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: I would like to ask Dr. Stubbs a question about the method of sampling cane he referred to a moment ago; about selecting canes from a wagon at random.

Dr. Stubbs: Say you lay fifty canes on the floor, you and I are going to divide that pile. I say to you, "Mr. Dymond, take first choice."

Hon. Jno. Dymond: If I am the buyer, am I to look at the worst?

Dr. Stubbs: If you are the buyer—I mean the two chemists representing both parties. To-day you start first, to-morrow I start first and so on. You select first one day and I select first the next.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: Each man picks his best and then presently we will have twenty-five canes on each of the two piles?

Dr. Stubbs: No sir; the fifty canes are taken at random from the cars—in fifty cars—it don't make any difference. Just rake out of the fifty cars.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: You can't take cane, you can't put your arms out and take these canes without discriminating.

Mr. Soniat: But then you would be taking from one car. As I stated, if we take two or three; if we take two from twenty-five cars, we will have fifty canes to make the test.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: You will take the best off each car.

Chair: If you will throw out your canes, I don't think I will make any mistakes.

Dr. Stubbs: The canes may taste sweet in eating them. I have foreign canes that are soft, juicy and tender, yet they won't polarize like our canes.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: No man can make a mistake without taking either the best or the poorest. I have tried it a hundred times, and almost invariably get better canes than the average.

Dr. Stubbs: Of course you can get better than the average.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: Take right from the top of the car. If you hired a blind man for the purpose you might get a fair sample.

Dr. Stubbs: Suppose you did this; suppose you simply run your hand in a car and pull out two stalks, taking two in this way from say twenty-five cars; you can probably get fifty average stalks.

Col. Zenor: In connection with this, I fail to see any better plan that can be devised than that pursued by Captain Pharr. It is plain, simple and practicable, and he certainly gets a fair average per ton. For instance, he gets cane from Mr. Cocke. It is in a flat boat. He takes it out, puts it in cars; he sends enough cars with Mr. Cocke's cane to load his carrier for one hundred feet, all with Mr. Cocke's cane. When that cane strikes his mill he takes his sample—just as that cane goes through the mill.

Dr. Stubbs: That is first rate; but how many can do that; that solves the problem if everybody could do that.

Mr. Soniat: For instance, Mr. McCall and myself get cane from all around. I will get cane at a time from perhaps twenty tenants; hence with us that would be impracticable. It is all right with Captain Pharr, with a flat boat, but we are not fixed that way.

Mr. Becnel: How would it do to take the average mill juice, and then make a special provision for the man that furnishes you light cane.

Chair: That is the understanding, I am told, that is pursued in Europe, in the beet countries. They don't analyze their beets, but establish a minimum. They say, for in-

stance, that 11 per cent is the minimum. As long as it goes along at 11 per cent, they go straight on, but whenever they find that it runs under that, they detect where that comes from. If anybody goes below 11, there is a special arrangement for that; that is subject to a special arrangement. The price of cane to test above 11 per cent would be, say 80, on the half basis. It is the fairest in the world to my mind. There is nothing fairer than that; but when it comes to ascertaining that by the polariscopic test, there, I think, is where the difficulty arises. But for the life of me I don't see how, in our case, without an army of chemists, we can do it at all satisfactorily. If the cane sellers leave it to us, we try to be fair and do what is right. Some say your cane is "so and so." We might make a test here and there, but it is simply out of the question where you are getting cane from forty men. Why sometimes at night we have three hundred plantation cars lying out in the yard. Just imagine what a job we would have picking samples out of that number. My idea is to take the average of your mill juice, starting on the presumption all are to furnish fair average cane, and when we find from observation around the yard that any man is not furnishing proper cane, or cane lower than the average, proceed to make a special test for his cane accordingly as circumstances might dictate.

Mr. Soniat: It will take a sharp eye for that.

Chair: Last year we made individual tests all the time, but then they were not on such a schedule; you could establish a basis between buyer and seller, but that would not do all the time.

Dr. Stubbs: Is it not possible to analyze thoroughly the cane delivered on one day in the week, and settle upon that, like you do with sugar? I believe most settlements for sugar are based upon the prevailing prices of a certain day in the week. Analyze a certain day in the week, and run on that analysis until the next week. Could not something of that sort be done?

Mr. Bechel: Take the average mill juice for the week?

Dr. Stubbs: For instance, say a mill has forty tenants. Suppose, we will say it has 36. We would analyze the cane from six to-day, six to-morrow, six the next day and so on; and whatever the analyses might be on that day, they are to paid for at that rate during the week, just like you do now with the price of sugar in New Orleans. You don't go by the daily price.

Chair: The secretary makes up each day the average for the week and he has a certain day—Saturday—he sends the average for the week.

Mr. Crozier: I understand Mr. Soniat takes a sample from most of the canes in the field. It has occurred to me it would be a good way to get a fair sample—send a man out into the field to take a sample of each man's cane.

Mr. Soniat: There are always four or five cars ahead, and in that way we select samples on the road out of the carts—I think this is the better than taking them from the car.

Mr. Crozier: I would like to ask Dr. Stubbs about the calculation of his, whether he subtracts the glucose from the sucrose.

Dr. Stubbs: Subtract the glucose from the sucrose, thus:

$10x - 2 = 8\% \times 1500 = 120$. Then a man would get for his sixty pounds of sugar, if the price be 4½ cents, \$2.55. That is a simple plan. I subtract the glucose from the sucrose.

Mr. Crozier: Dr. Stubbs spoke about suckering, that we ought to cultivate for

suckers. I wish he would give us some plan by which we would cultivate suckers this year. I understand him to say that; he said it was not advisable to cultivate suckers.

Dr. Stubbs: No, no; I said this: That we don't want an excess of suckers like in foreign countries. We have no trouble in this respect like they have. There they dig a hole 5x4, 6 or 8, or 10 inches deep, and when the canes come up they cut them to increase the suckering; they get from 50 to 75 stalks. With proper cultivation we prevent the suckering at right angles and restrict it to the row. I did not say we ought to stop suckering, because we cannot do that. Cane is bound to sucker, but we don't want it to continue suckering so we check it by proper cultivation.

Mr. Churchill: Do you mean to say that 2 per cent of glucose would retard 2 per cent of sucrose from crystallization?

Dr. Stubbs: I gave you our experiments on that; we made 25 or 30.

Mr. Churchill: It seems to me I have seen molasses a number of times where the glucose exceeded the sucrose fully 10%. In my experience with molasses, which has been somewhat extensive, I have frequently found that the glucose exceeds the sucrose. I am of the opinion that glucose need not be considered seriously in the working out of the yields in sugar factories.

Dr. Stubbs: Sugar containing 90% of sucrose carries with it 4 to 5% glucose. If you had washed that sugar, free of impurities, the glucose in your molasses would be about the same as the sucrose.

In my paper read here to-night, I have shown where the calculated available sugar was 130 pounds, we obtained 137 pounds, but a part of that sugar was 80% sucrose and 10% glucose, and in every instance, there was glucose in the sugar obtained, which if removed, would not have given that much sugar. I covered all that. When you read my paper, you will see that I brought out all that.

Chair: The paper presented by Dr. Stubbs is a very interesting one, and I would suggest that it be printed in pamphlet form, in addition, of course to its being printed in the "Planter." I would suggest that, if some member of the association thinks well of it, a motion o that effect be made.

Dr. Stubbs: As to the number that should be published, would say that I published 2500 copies of my "Sugar Cane," and I have already distributed in Louisiana over 2000 copies, and most of it on application.

A motion to print 2500 copies was duly made and carried.

Mr. Churchill: With reference to the small mills that I mentioned in my paper, I understand some have been contracted for at \$825. Mr. Thoens, of Schwartz's foundry is here to-night, I believe, and might give us a little information on the subject. 6 roller mills.

Chair: 6 roller mills, costing \$800. Are they applied to steam?

Mr. Churchill: 6 roller mills, and are operated by a belt with a return belt, everything complete, and they are guaranteed to give 80% extraction. I understand that Mr. Godchaux has ordered four of them, one for each of his places, and one for Kenilworth, 10x15 I think he said was the size.

Dr. Stubbs: My 9 roller mill is 9x18—9 rollers. I gave \$600 for it; the journals are 4 inches, and rolls 18 inches long. The mill is a duplicate of Cora's, modelled on a smaller scale. The only trouble we experienced with it, is that it requires enormous power; we can only run it half its capacity.

Col. Zenor: What was the object in having it so long—18 inches, why not 10.

Chair: You see the doctor makes his crop with that.

Dr. Stubbs: It was made to grind 4 tons an hour, but we have never been able to work it to its full capacity on account of deficient power; but we can get 78% extraction with it, and in one or two instances, when the cane was very juicy, we went up to 80, but the average runs are 76 or 78, without any saturation; with saturation, it will go a little over 80%.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned after selecting "The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane so as to give the Best Results in Sugar," for discussion at the next meeting.

Personal.

Mr. Geo. W. Fisher, of the Fulton Iron Works paid us a pleasant visit a few days ago. He is here on one of his usual business trips, and tells us, among other things that Mr. Martin L. Flowers, who has been connected with them for several years, is no longer associated with them. Mr. Fisher has made some short excursions into the sugar parishes and says he hopes to see the crop prospects brighten as the season advances.

Mr. Joseph Birg, a leading sugar planter and a member of the well-known firm of Birg and Sutcliffe, proprietors of the Camp-erdown refinery at Irish Bend, arrived in the city during the week on one of his customary flying trips and put up at the St. Charles hotel.

Mr. E. B. LaPice, of Lauderdale, La., was a visitor to the city last Friday. He stopped at the St. Charles hotel.

H. C. Boas, Esq., the prominent St. Mary parish sugar planter, was at the Royal during the week.

Hon. John Marks, a leading citizen of Assumption parish, was in the city during the past week. He stopped at the Denechaud.

Mr. Charles B. Maginnis, of the firm of Caillouet and Maginnis, leading Terrebonne sugar planters and sugar manufacturers was a guest of the St. Charles hotel on Monday. Mr. Maginnis was accompanied by his wife.

Col. Lewis S. Clarke, of Lagonda plantation, was in the city during the week. Col. Clarke stopped at the St. Charles, his usual abiding place.

Col. M. J. Kahoa, of West Baton Rouge, was at the Grunewald on Monday last.

Mr. F. E. Coombs was the head chemist at the well-known Shadyside place of Capt. J. W. Barnett this past season. Mr. Coombs has had a wide and instructive experience in sugar house work, having made his debut at that gilt edge factory Calumet, where, under the supervision of Mr. Hubert Edson, he did some very valuable work. He then went to the West Indies and served for a season at the immense Esperanza plantation in the Island of Trinidad, returning finally to Louisiana and locating once again among his old friends. Mr. Coombs is both a skillful chemist and a cultivated gentleman.

Mr. J. C. Braud, a leading planter of Lafourche parish, registered at the St. Charles hotel last Tuesday.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Up to the close of last week the weather continued to favor our planters and the work of getting seed cane into the ground and digging and shaving ratoons was pushed vigorously forward without interruption, with the result that on most places the greater part of this preliminary preparation for the crop campaign of 1899 had been accomplished before the arrival of Sunday, bringing with it a heavy rain that was not unwelcome. There was "more of the same" on Monday, sunshine and showers alternating in spells of brief duration throughout the greater portion of the day. The precipitation began with occasional light showers Saturday afternoon, but the sod-soakers did not set in until twenty-four hours later.

The same state of comparative uncertainty heretofore commented upon with reference to the outlook for the coming crop "by and large," still exists, and another month must elapse before anything like a definite or reliable estimate can be made of the prospects for stands of plant and stubble. Many planters and managers are serenely confident of securing fair showings in this regard for both classes of the crop; others deem the prospect for one or the other quite encouraging, while not a few are feeling decidedly blue as to their chances in either direction. In the confusion of so many varying and conflicting opinions it is not feasible even to strike a general average at this time. We can only wait and watch and pray—that is, the more saintly of us will do the latter, but it is possible that among the unregenerate and ungodly there may be more "cussin'" than praying.

Among the more hopeful and cheerful of our agriculturists is Mr. George M. Boote, who has but two or three days' more planting in prospect on the portion of Evan Hall plantation which he is cultivating as a tenant. He is confident of having a good stand and thinks the general outcome in that section of the parish will be better than many interested parties are disposed to believe.

Mr. E. H. Barton reports that the erstwhile bright prospects for good stands of both stubble and plant on his St. Emma place have retrograded considerably, particularly as concerns plant cane. This was deemed the main reliance a short while since, but the situation is now reversed, to all appearances, and stubble promises to win out better than plant.

Managers Jno. F. Landry, of Riverside, and J. T. Melancon express similar views.

The outlook at Messrs. Lebermuth and Israel's Salsburg place, St. James parish, has not improved by any means—on the contrary there is complaint that much of the seed there proves to be exceedingly poor and unsound.

Rearwood reports a dubious prospect and Messrs. Ferchaud and Graugnard, in St. James, are said to have stopped planting on account of the bad condition of seed.

Manager H. C. Wilson, of Palo Alto, is not among the melancholy prophets, since the average quality of both plant and stubble on that place is decidedly good. He finds sound eyes on stubble that were less than two inches below the surface of the ground and will have much more than enough seed to plant all the land proposed for that purpose on Palo Alto.

Says the Donaldsonville Chief:

"Mr. Ed. Christiansen, manager of Mr. H. G. Morgan's Fairview plantation, in St. Charles parish, had an offer to go to Cuba this year to take the management of a sugar plantation of which he was assistant overseer away back in the seventies, but his present employer entered such an effective protest against the loss of his competent and trusted manager that Mr. Christiansen relinquished the idea of making the proffered change of base and will remain at Fairview, where he has made an exceedingly creditable record."

Some years ago Mr. Christiansen was manager of the Gem plantation in

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The good dry weather chronicled last week lingered with us till Saturday evening when a gentle rain set in which continued for several days, the precipitation at the lower end of the parish being rather too heavy. Many had finished planting, and they as well as those who had not, were delighted to see the rain, for wherever life was left in the seed cane the action of rain combined with warm weather will fetch it out. Our planters feel much encouraged and are working with hearty good will. There was a good pay day Saturday and the merchants throughout the parish feel better too. Conservative estimates put the shortage in the acreage of plant cane at 30 per cent. No one can tell what the stand will be but all are hopeful. The rain fall at Plaquemine was .8 of an inch; the maximum temperature for the week was 86 degrees on March 10th and the minimum 42 degrees a day or two before that. Cane planting continues and the work of shaving stubbles progresses favorably. The demand for shavers and diggers has been brisk and the implement men are pleased.

A gentleman just in from the Coast below Plaquemine told us that where fall plant on the front of the St. Louis and Evergreen plantations had been scraped last week, plenty of cane sprouts were visible even from the road, and that two rows of seed on Allemania's front that had been uncovered and exposed to the rain looked splendidly.

Hon. August Levert, of West Baton Rouge

parish, was at Plaquemine last week and says the condition of his seed cane was even worse than he expected and he thinks the shortage in his crop will be 40 per cent.

Messrs. V. and J. A. Berthelot expect to plant 750 acres at Old Hickory, Claiborne and Chatham, and hence feel relieved.

Mr. Edwin Marionneaux, of Plaquemine, says he will have a larger planting at Bel-fort and Holly Farm this year than last, not owing to good seed but rather to the large quantity put down.

Mr. Marchand, a small farmer opposite Plaquemine, picked out his seed last week, planting that which was good and rolling that which was not fit to plant. He made some 16 barrels of syrup for which he was offered 35 cents per gallon at home. The cane ground was rather wetery and required considerable evaporation.

The Atchafalaya Basin Levee District Board, has taken some action towards opening up the drainage of the levee's base at Point Pleasant, and it is to be hoped will not stop until perfect drainage is assured. The levees around this point although among the smallest in the parish, gave the most trouble and expense and anxiety in 1897.

Mr. Michel Hebert, formerly of the Cut-Off plantation in this parish, died at New Iberia this week, at the age of 81 years. The deceased belonged to the old school and was respected and esteemed by everybody. He leaves a large family among whom is Mr. M. Ellet Hebert, of Plaquemine.

The directors of the Bank of Plaquemine have elected Capt. Chas. A. Brusle, president, and Mr. Frederick Wilbert, vice-president. Both are men of sound financial ability and under their direction the continued prosperity of this institution is assured.

IBERVILLE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Much better weather has materially altered the opinion of many planters as to the effect of the cold on the stubble and seed cane, in the word cold might also be included the wet weather of fall and winter. With the ascent of the thermometer, the spirits of the planters seem also to have risen, and the facts are being looked in the face in the light of sunshine rather than the despondency of the clouds.

That there has been damage to both seed cane and stubble admits of no dispute, as well as the fact that the amount of damage has been greatly exaggerated and overestimated. Some planters complain of poor seedcane, while their neighbor separated by only a line ditch seems satisfied. On one or two places the seed cane is better than last year, though of course this is exceptional. One planter although complaining as to the quality of his seed admitted that so far he had averaged three arpents planted from one put down, surely this is not what can be termed spoiled cane. Of course we

will admit that it might have planted more, but cane that plants three for one is not to be sneezed at! The best seed that we have seen was that on Georgia, and if what we saw was a fair specimen it will compare favorably with any year. In the upper part of the parish we learn of much complaint, and gather that it must be worse than below Napoleonville. We hear that Magnolia has splendid seed, and perhaps there are others. Mr. Munson on Glenwood is satisfied with his cane, and Trinity is not grumbling. Mr. Harper on Foley pronounces the cane fair. And this can be taken as about an average summing up of the situation.

The condition of the fall-cane seems to be more serious, and that a poor stand will follow seems to be conceded save on one of two exceptionally fortunate places. What the stubble will be is still a matter of conjecture. With warm weather as we are at present having, and not too much rain, is every prospect of a fair, though not thick stand. There are enough good eyes left, with suckers to give a satisfactory stand, if they are not killed by adverse weather before they come out of the ground.

The rain of Sunday, while not actually needed did no harm, save in retarding the work.

Mr. Henry Munson, on Enola, is enlarging and beautifying his residence, and when finished it will be not only commodious but thoroughly modern in appearance.

Judge Walter Guion has recently purchased the tract next to him, at one time the residence of Judge Nicholls. Mr. Mire is the present lessee. Mr. Edouard Rodrigue has purchased the home place of his mother. Mrs. L. U. Folse has returned from a visit to Nottaway in Iberville.

The Police Jury today formed a new drainage district, embracing a large portion of the 5th ward. The commissioners intend to drain the Marais, as well as to cut through a ridge in the rear, thus reducing swamp-level and affording much better drainage to the lands in cultivation. If this be successful, it will be a great stride toward prosperity, as not only the lands will be improved and the cultivatable area enlarged but the Marais, an eyesore, will be removed, and excellent roads secured.

MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The absence of precipitations of any magnitude during the first half of the month of March has enabled planters to rapidly advance field work, and to date on most places the cane has all been planted, and on some the stubble has been dug, the major portion of the plant cane harrowed and cane planting will be brought to a close by the end of the week should the weather continue fair. With the exception of one or two days the weather has lately been warm for the season and very favorable to enhance crop

prospects. A warm rain would now prove of benefit not only to the recently planted canes; but the physical condition of the soil would be materially improved. Until within the last few days vegetation has been backward, even garden plants have made but little progress. Some of the peach trees have a medium quantity of blossoms, others again are coming out in leaf without any prospect of fruit. The conviction seems to be gradually gaining ground that the canes, both plant and stubble, were more seriously damaged before than by the freeze; as the butts of the windrowed cane were invariably found more defective than the tops, the most exposed portions of the stalks, heavy cane, where the butts were better protected were more defective than where the windrows were comparatively light.

In riding through and by the fields, sprouts can be seen here and there; but the number is still very limited. Even when the stubble is sound and the seed good, sprouts very often do not appear in profusion until between the first and middle of April. On Hollywood, part of the estate of the late Hon. H. C. Minor, the manager, Mr. V. H. Kyle, informs the writer that the new ground stubble promises best to date, and on Ellendale of Mr. Ed. McCollam. Mr. Stratton states that the stiff land stubble there is coming out better than elsewhere. On the lower bayous Terrebonne and Little Calhou it very generally reported that the seed cane has been above average in quality, and the stubble on sandy soil but little affected. Should the season prove favorable the corn crop this season will be earlier than last year—some of the earliest planted is now marking the rows. The acreage will most certainly exceed that of last year as but little second year stubble will be retained. It is currently reported that one or two places will change ownership in the near future. Greenwood on the lower Bayou Black was sold on Saturday, but it is not publicly known who will cultivate the place the coming season.

Mr. Breaux, formerly with the Miles Planting Company, is now domiciled in the parish and is interested in Live Oak, the property of Gen. Quitman in anti-bellum days.

A telephone line is now in course of construction from Schriever, which will enable the people of Houma to communicate direct with those in New Orleans Thibodaux, etc.

Wednesday of last week, sunshine and cloudy; Thursday, partially cloudy; Friday, variable with warm south wind; Saturday, strong winds and cooler; Sunday, threatening in the morning and very light showers before sunset; Monday, fog in the morning and favorable later; Tuesday, a splendid growing day, and Wednesday, cloudy and colder since sunrise.

TERREBONNE.

Hon. Chas. A. O'Neill, son of that stalwart citizen, Col. John A. O'Neill of Franklin, was a recent arrival at the Grunewald hotel.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The ten or twelve days of weather favorable to cane planting, allowed the planters to get it all in the ground throughout the parish, so far as your correspondent has been able to learn; so, the showers falling Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night, were needed to a great extent, and were considered to have come in a most profitable season.

Manager Hanem, of Mr. Joseph Birg's Lacy place, says he found his seed cane excellent from beginning to end of the planting period, and does not account his loss anything above the ordinary whatever, which is the same as to say he sustained no loss. His acreage will therefore be what he expected from the first. He reports the conditions in his near neighborhood also very encouraging—the loss with some being nothing, and others very little.

Col. John A. O'Neill, of the Anastacia, and his son, Hon. Walter O'Neill, of the Linwood, report that their plant was found, upon second examination, to have been sound and much better generally than they expected before the work of planting had actually begun; the small portion found to be in a state of decay was only that situated near the cross-drains, some of which was spoiled by cutting.

Mr. Jacob Clausen, manager, and one of the owners of the Mary Land plantation, on Bayou Sale, has found that his loss only amounted to fifteen acres; and the shortage on Mr. Louis Kramer's Francis place, on the Teche, is also twelve or fifteen acres, and considering the enormous size of these two estates, thirty acres are as nothing.

Mr. C. S. Trimble has regained his courage during the last couple of weeks. His first impression was that his seed was a total loss, but upon a more extensive examination, it was found to be unsound only in spots, and happened in the end to be the very spots he had looked into in the first instance; and though his loss will be heavy as compared to some of his neighbors, it is unimportant, generally considered.

Senator Caffery's Bethia place sustained rather a heavy loss; and so did the Chatsworth, owned also by the Cafferys; and as the sugar house is situated on the former place, the seed cane necessary to put in a full crop on the Bethia, has been hauled from Chatsworth, a distance by the round-about way of about three miles, it being cheaper to haul the seed in the spring than the crop it would produce in the winter. The shortage by this means of both plantations will fall entirely upon the one furthest from the place of manufacture.

Some of the planters admit now that their early discouragement was founded largely upon the opinion of Dr. Stubbs—seeming to think that the prophetic eye of the eminent agricultural scientist had burrowed into

their several cane mats, and spoke from a personal observation of the seed itself. But the majority verdict among the St. Mary planters, regarding that portion which was lost, is that most, if not the whole, damage was done prior to the freeze of February 13th, by the incessant rains, together with a system of crop drainage incapable of carrying off the enormous volumes of water. Some of them lay the fault to bad drainage and heavy rains combined, while others holds that the loss was caused by improper drainage alone and in support of their theory, point to the fact that the rains were generally falling upon the fields of all alike; and that some were heavy losers, while others lost nothing, with adjoining fields.

ST. MARY.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

There has been a slight change in the weather since my last report. For two weeks we had magnificent planting weather, clear, for the most part warm with considerable wind from the south, which dried out the land rapidly, but yesterday the 12th, brought a refreshing shower which has been repeated to-day. This rain was not much out of place, though it was a little premature for some who had but little land prepared for planting when the weather cleared up. This rain will be of considerable benefit to the cane that has recently been planted for the reason that it will avoid to an extent dry rot that it was very much feared would take place, and especially where the cane was planted thick to insure a perfect stand. This spell of fine weather that we have just enjoyed has helped everything. Before the weather cleared up, the roads were in a fearful condition, so much so that it was almost an impossibility to travel with a team over any of the roads in the parish, stock were suffering from continual exposure to rain and cold, and man wore a long face because he was not permitted to do his essential and customary work, and business was at a standstill—but now it is different. The roads are in fine condition, stock are recovering very much from the set back they received from the effect of the weather and the farmer and business man are both wearing a smile and with a determined will behind that smile, are pushing their respective duties to completion. Quite a number of our cane planters have finished planting cane and the end or all will be reached this week if nothing prevents. The report sent in to you for the past two weeks remains unchanged. We will have $\frac{3}{4}$ of a crop in acreage. First stubbles will prove $\frac{3}{4}$ sound and good as previously reported, but second stubbles are doubtful. All planters who have finished are now busily engaged off barring and shaving their stubble. It will be but a few days now till the tale will be told as the ratoons are now

peeping out and marking the row and the seed is sprouting out nicely. A fairly good stand is anticipated generally. Rice farmers are rushing now to get their lands in shape for planting, and a few of them will begin planting this week. The best progress for a crop is along the Hall-Slutz Irrigating Co's. canal, south of Abbeville. Mr. R. H. Mills is putting in a small canal west of Abbeville two miles. His canal will branch out from Coulee Kinnique and will run out for about three miles. It will be about 40 feet wide, and though Mr. Mills is building it solely for his own use, he will irrigate several hundred acres of land for those adjacent to the canal. Mr. Mills has purchased several hundred acres of land along this canal and will put it all in rice this present year. Considerable corn has been planted this week, and planting will be pushed now until completed. Some cotton is being planted and considerable land is being put in readiness to plant—the acreage this year will be much larger than last.

Messrs. Wise & Lyons had the misfortune of having their rice barn burned a few nights ago on their plantation, four miles west of Abbeville, together with about 1500 bags of rice. The loss is estimated at \$5000, insured for \$3000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Preparations for planting are now going on in all the districts of this and the adjoining parishes. The past week was very favorable for the performance of farm work. Thousands of rich acres have been fitted by the plow and cultivator for the reception of seed. Corn planting will commence in earnest this week, and be pushed forward until all of it but the late corn is planted. The planting of cotton will follow next in rotation after corn.

From present indications and from all that can be learned, the acreage to cotton is going to be greatly increased over what it was in this parish last year.

Stubble cane it seems is so completely destroyed, that it is out of the question to attempt the cultivation of the same, which of itself forces the planters to increase their acreage to corn, cotton and peas, or permit the land to lay out, which is by no means desirable nor profitable. Plant cane, which is now being raised out of the windrow and mat for planting, presents a decidedly bad appearance. Serious doubts are expressed in regard to its coming up, that is, much of it.

Those who have heretofore placed their hopes in the future of cane, have had their prospects wrecked, and per force have once more turned to cotton hoping thereby to tide over the disaster for the time being at least. It was my good fortune to call one day during the past week on Mr. C. F. Knoll, Bunkie P.O., proprietor of the Ellen Kay and

Shirly plantations. I found Mr. Knoll and his stirring manager, Mr. R. Wood on the Shirly plantation busy directing a large force of plowmen turning the rich soil preparatory to planting corn, peas and cotton. Mr. Knoll, when approached by the Planter's scribe on the subject of cane, said that he felt somewhat disgusted, after years spent trying to fit his place for ideal cane growing and then to see his years of toil and study, labor of mind and body, swept away in a day. I asked if he intended to plant any cane at all this year. Mr. Knoll answered in the negative, stating that he would plow out all of his stubble. They are rotten, he said, and I will plow up and tear up all my stubble and plant corn and peas on the ground."

Remarking further, Mr. Knoll informed me that he did not intend to disturb his plant cane in the windrow, except where two rows had been thrown into one middle, in which case he would divide it by putting half of the cane into next middle to it; cover it, bar off and scrape off some of the earth on the cane in windrow. Then if enough of it should come up to justify working it, he would do so and try to get it to reproduce itself, and if needs be, would apply cotton seed meal. He has no confidence in his seed cane at all, and will plant 450 acres to cotton, and largely to corn and peas. Judging from what I have seen and can learn about the soundness of the seed cane in this and neighboring parishes, I am bound to conclude that Mr. Knoll has chosen a wise policy. The expense, trouble, time and labor laid out in digging out worthless seed cane to plant in other soils than that on which it rests in the windrow, is too much like sinking wealth in the earth for no profit. I will close this subject to-day and await developments.

Mr. Chas. Knoll, brother of Mr. C. F. Knoll, was planting some acres to cane, rather an experiment than otherwise, the day I was there. His seed cane was bad. I have read the admirable arguments put forward in the Planter by the sugar manufacturers relative to the purchase of cane on its quality, etc., and surmise from the various views which have so far been put forward, that the final outcome of all of it will be that each and all sugar manufacturers will in the end arrange a scale for purchasing cane to suit his own individual conveniences, which with all things considered, would no doubt meet with the approbation of the cane raisers.

A fine, warm rain fell on the afternoon of the 11th and 13th inst., to benefit plowing and planting, garden work, etc.

ERIN.

Dr. W. H. Dalrymple, the distinguished veterinary surgeon of Baton Rouge, who is connected with the Louisiana State Department of Agriculture, was in the city last Wednesday. Dr. Dalrymple registered at the Grunewald hotel,

MAR. 17.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	Mar. 11.	Mar. 13.	Mar. 14.	Mar. 15.	Mar. 16.	Mar. 17.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.	
SUGAR. Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal	3 1/8 @ 4 5/8	3 1/8 @ 4 5/8	3 1/8 @ 4 5/8	3 1/8 @ 4 5/8	3 1/8 @ 4 5/8	3 1/8 @ 4 5/8	— @ —	Firm.	
Choice.....	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	— @ —		
Strict Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 1 1/8 @ 3 3/4		
Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	3 1 1/8 @ 3 3/4		
Fully Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4		
Good Fair.....	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8		
Fair.....	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8	3 1/2 @ 3 5/8		
Good Common..	3 1/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 1/4 @ 3 1 1/2		
Common.....	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1 1/2	3 1 1/8 @ 3 3/4		
Inferior.....	3 @ 3 1 1/8	3 @ 3 1 1/8	3 @ 3 1 1/8	3 @ 3 1 1/8	3 @ 3 1 1/8	3 @ 3 1 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8		
Centrifugal.									
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 5/8 @ 4 1 1/4		Strong.
Off Granulated...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice White....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 7/8 @ 4 3/8		
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 4 3/8		
Gray White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice Yellow....	— @ —	4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —	— @ 4 1/4		
Prime Yellow....	4 3/8 @ 4 1 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1 1/4		
Off Yellow.....	4 1/4 @ 4 1 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1 1/8	4 @ 4 1 1/8		
Seconds.....	2 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4	2 3/4 @ 4	2 3/4 @ 4 1 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1 1/8		
MOLASSES. Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	None in first hands.	
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Good Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Good Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Good Common..	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Inferior.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Centrifugal.									
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 14		
Choice.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 13		
Strict Prime.....	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 12		
Good Prime.....	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	— @ 11		
Prime.....	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	— @ 10		
Good Fair.....	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 9		
Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 8		
Good Common..	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 7		
Common.....	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 6		
Inferior.....	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 5		
SYRUP.									

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Strong—Fair demand.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	4.84 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	4.72 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.91	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Steady.
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	11s. 3d.	Steady.
A. & G. Beet.....	10s. 3/4d.	9s. 11 1/4d.	9s. 11 1/4d.	9s. 9 3/4d.	9s. 11 1/4d.	9s. 10 1/4d.	9s. 0d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf.....	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	Strong.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	
Candy A.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 5 00	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Mar. 8	Tons	156,379
At four ports of Great Britain to Mar. 4.....	"	53,000
At Havana and Matanzas to Mar. 7	"	54,900

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Mar. 17, 1899.				Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Mar. 17, 1899.			
	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Received.....	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	375	6,463	3,099	Received.....	8,465	1,171,084	212,033
Sold.....	375	6,463	3,099	Sold.....	8,465	1,163,381	211,533
				Received same time last year	20,440	1,898,587	178,092

MAR. 17.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

RICE.	Mar. 11.	Mar. 13.	Mar. 14.	Mar. 15.	Mar. 16.	Mar. 17.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
ROUGH, per bbl...	1 50@4 50	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	2 00@4 25	Steady.
EXTRA FANCY....	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	—@—	
CLEAN, Fancy....	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	5½@5¾	
Choice....	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5½@5¾	
Prime....	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	
Good....	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4½@4¾	
Fair....	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	4¼@4¾	
Ordinary....	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	
Common....	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	3¼@3¾	
Screenings....	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	—@—	
Inferior....	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	Nominal	
No. 2....	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	1½@2	
BRAN, per ton....	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	9 50@10 00		Steady.
PELLET, per ton....	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	14 00@15 00	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Mar. 17, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Mar. 17, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BBL. CLEAN.	This year.	Last year.	SACKS ROUGH.	BBL. CLEAN.
Received	6,958	487	.....	.....	673,574	4,371
Sold	6,885	1,806	.....	.....	440,208	3,601

Sugar.

The sugar market was quiet at the end of the week and receipts from plantations were light.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals strong.

Rice.

Offerings of rough rice are small owing to light receipts. What comes on the market is readily absorbed at full prices. Clean rice is steady with moderate offerings.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

Former activity prevails and while there is no substantial change in the matter of prices there is abundant evidence that the market has good underpinning for apparent strength, and manifest upward tendency. Advices from all prominent trade centers show that stocks are generally light; some few have provided against probable requirements but in the main operations throughout the season have been of conservative character and only as warranted by immediate trade. Because of this the more optimistic argue that there is a land office business just ahead as soon as the weather settles and water routes open. As with the latter will come lowered freight which may more than offset any possible advance of market the demand from the Northern tier and far Western States is restricted but to other points entirely dependent upon rail or other "always-open" freighting opportunities the call is of liberal character. It would appear as though "all things work together for good" of rice and the demand must naturally be greatly increased because of the severe weather which a fortnight ago destroyed the early vegetables of the South and froze the greater bulk of the potatoes stored throughout the West. Advices from the South note limited receipts and that many of the mills are still shut down, thus curtailing the supply of

THE CUBAN SUGAR CROP OF 1898-99.

Statement of the Exports and Stocks of Sugar February 28, 1899, and same date last year.

	1898.			1899.		
	Bags.	Hogsheads	Tons.	Bags.	Hogsheads	Tons.
EXPORTS.						
Havana.....	26,325	.....	.....	35,321	.....	.....
Matanzas.....	107,469	.....	.....	50,768	.....	.....
Cardenas.....	128,615	.....	.....	67,811	.....	.....
Cienfuegos.....	176,708	.....	.....	88,437	.....	.....
Sagua.....	3,030	.....	.....	9,449	.....	.....
Calbarien.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Guantanamo.....	.....	.....	.....	6,025	.....	.....
Cuba.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Manzanillo.....	.....	.....	.....	4,200	.....	.....
Nuevitas.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gibara.....	.....	.....	.....	1,500	.....	.....
Zaza.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trinidad.....	19,239	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	461,331	.....	68,845	261,406	.....	86,177
STOCKS.						
Havana.....	59,961	.....	.....	39,545	.....	.....
Matanzas.....	192,662	.....	.....	99,442	.....	.....
Cardenas.....	154,888	.....	.....	61,045	.....	.....
Cienfuegos.....	106,780	.....	.....	68,833	.....	.....
Sagua.....	35,877	.....	.....	10,887	.....	.....
Calbarien.....	22,665	.....	.....	19,180	.....	.....
Guantanamo.....	.....	.....	.....	23,444	.....	.....
Cuba.....	.....	.....	.....	286	.....	.....
Manzanillo.....	.....	.....	.....	7,300	.....	.....
Nuevitas.....	.....	.....	.....	6,424	.....	.....
Gibara.....	.....	.....	.....	4,530	.....	.....
Zaza.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trinidad.....	3,369	.....	.....	5,120	.....	.....
	578,202	.....	80,019	360,986	.....	49,956
Local consumption, 2 months.....	.....	.....	143,964	.....	.....	86,135
	.....	.....	7,800	.....	.....	7,650
Stock of old crop, January 1.....	.....	.....	151,664	.....	.....	99,785
	.....	.....	1,515	.....	.....	4,336
Receipts at all ports to February 28.....	.....	.....	150,149	.....	.....	89,449
NOTE—Bags, 310 lbs. Hogsheads, 1,550 lbs. Tons, 2,240 lbs.						
Havana, February 23, 1899. JOAQUIN GUMA.						

cleaned. The immediate supply is also further shortened as with easy money no little cleaned stock has been withdrawn from market and will not be offered for sale until early summer. Cables and correspondence from abroad note widening operations generally and marked activity especially in the lower grades. Unless the near future brings forth evidences of radical enlargement of crop promises, decidedly higher price levels may be expected.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 653,645 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 492,376 sacks. Sales, cleaned (ets.) 158, 417 barrels; last year 97,008 barrels. Demand restricted on account of light offerings; market very strong.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina

crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 33,135 barrels. Sales 28,755 barrels. Good enquiry at firm quotations.

Personal.

Mr. E. B. Lapice, of Lauderdale, La., near which place he has some very extensive and well equipped sugar property, came up to the city during the week for a short visit, and took rooms at the St. Charles hotel.

Mr. F. B. Williams, of St. Mary parish, accompanied by Mrs. Williams, was one of the arrivals at the St. Charles during the week. Mr. Williams is one of the leading citizen of this vicinity.

Mr. Oscar Zenor, of St. Mary parish, was a recent arrival at the Hotel Royal, placing his name on the register there last Wednesday.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent machinist, with several years experience in leading railroad shops, wants work in repairing locomotive engines on sugar plantations. Will work by the day or by contract. He is a practical locomotive engineer and has had experience in repairing and running sugar house machinery. Address W. L., No. 1048 Magazine street, New Orleans.

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fietel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give A 1 references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHEF ENGINEER, LUTHER, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Landerdale P. O., La. 2-28-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Landerdale, La. 2-28-99

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 2-24-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A 1 references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3418 Constance street, New Orleans. 2-22-99

WANTED—A position as clerk in store by a young man of good habits and experience. Also have a practical knowledge of drugs. Good references. Address ROBERT, care Postmaster, Woodland, La. 2-23-99

WANTED—A position as carpenter or mill-wright on a sugar plantation. Best of references furnished. Address 418 N. Johnson street, New Orleans. 2-18-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 26 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 108, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—A position by an A No. 1. Sugar dryer, am a machinist with 14 years experience. Address FRANK LORENZ, 302 S. Basin, St., City. 2-15-99.

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1824 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 24-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La.

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nesser, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, timekeeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish A 1 references. Address "A. C.", this office. 1-9

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 621 Du Maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1085 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98.

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$80. Address F. E. C., Shady Side Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYER, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Solms P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation, by married man, 33 years of age, sober, energetic and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 266, New Iberia, La. 12-5-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOYER, care First New York Beet Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-6-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 23, City Hall. 12-9-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of Cane. Best references given. Address, M. E. W., Care Verdandah Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-23-98.

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 6324 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

M. FEITEL, President.

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WANTED TO PURCHASE.

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A Mill, Steam Train, with or without Vacuum Pan and Double Effect; sufficient capacity to take off a crop of about 400 acres of cane; must be in first-class condition. Address

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525 Tchoupitoulas St., New Orleans.

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,
A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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AND
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Texas Sugar Planters' Association.

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EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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The Cane Crop.

Planting operations have been so successfully pushed during the favorable weather which has recently prevailed that they are now almost completed throughout the sugar district. While here and there may be found some unfortunate planter whose seed cane seems to have been totally destroyed, the majority have planted a considerable part of their expected acreage, and in some cases all of it. The stubble is beginning to do a little sprouting and the situation in general now seems to warrant a cessation of the gloom and stagnation in which the whole sugar section has been shrouded for some weeks. Warm and seasonable weather for the next ten days will more conclusively show cause for a resumption of confidence and a renewal of business activity.

Beet Sugar in New Mexico.

The western states are certainly determined to develop the beet sugar industry with all possible rapidity, recognizing, as many of them do, its present profitable character and the absurdity of buying so much sugar away from home when it can be produced at home and to the advantage of every one concerned.

The last issue of the Pecos Valley Argus states that a bill has been introduced into the territorial legislature of New Mexico authorizing the payment of a small bounty encouraging sugar beet growing. It is proposed to appropriate the sum of \$15,000 during the years 1899, 1900 and 1901, for the purpose, giving any sugar factory in the Territory of New Mexico three-eighths of a cent per pound on every pound of sugar made, provided, that the factory shall pay \$5.25 per ton of beets delivered at the factory, testing not less than 12 per cent. sugar and 80 per cent. purity. A provision is made that the expenses of delivery of beets to the factory shall not be chargeable against the grower to a greater extent than 50 cents per net ton.

Some Variations in Sugar Canes.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In your issue of the 17th of December,

under the heading, "A Botanical Study," you refer to the instance of Mr. H. Chapman exhibiting a joint of cane with "double buds." For your information in this matter I have to say that "double buds" are not by any means rare with me. It is now some seven years since I saw the first of them, and at the present time within half a mile of where I am writing, can be seen a large stool of cane raised from a "double bud." The variety most given to this kind of thing is known as "ribbon" in this country. The characteristics of this variety are early germination, excessive suckering, foliage heavy and tenacious, color yellow to green; bud full and pointed, a biennial variety somewhat precarious in ripening. It will thus be seen it is not deficient in "prolific" qualities.

That there is no necessity for "further stooling power" with this variety may be inferred from the fact that in the early days of the industry on this river, ribbon cane was generally grown and was "planted on the square," six feet apart each way with one plant in a hole, which in two years would make a crop of from 80 to 100 tons per acre. Although suckering in cane is a good thing, generally speaking, under certain circumstances it becomes an evil. If cane is required to mature in twelve months and it persists in "making stool" instead of "making cane" it is voted a nuisance. It stands to reason that the one function can only be done at the expense of the other, as with a "given force" as represented by conditions of soil and climate, nature can only produce a certain amount of "cane growth" in a given time. As a rule, therefore, we find that extra good stooling varieties are not early maturing sorts, and vice versa. As in everything else in nature, you cannot have an advantage without a corresponding disadvantage, i. e., a given force cannot be in two places at the one time.

The result of numerous experiments convinces me that under similar conditions some varieties of cane ripen earlier than others, just as with varieties of potatoes. I have also found that some of the "earliest ripeners" are not the "best croppers," while it is possible for a "late ripening variety" to develop "a higher sugar content" than an early sort. That is to say varieties of cane vary in sugar content when ripe, as well as in time of ripening, apart from soil or climatic conditions. That conditions of soil and climate retard ripening is also too

well known, as, for instance, in the case of cane cut at the beginning of last campaign on this river, after an open winter that kept the cane growing all the time without an opportunity for maturing.

Essentially the conditions of forced growth as represented by "high cultivation" must retard maturity, as evidently you have been finding out in Louisiana lately. Sacrificing quantity to the advantage of quality opens out one way of improvement wherever possible, but improving the inherent saccharine quality of cane is the problem we are trying to solve, and owing to the peculiarly changeable nature of the conditions affecting cane growth it adds to the difficulty of solution.

The result of planting a double bud does not assure a "permanence of the type" as on examination of the stool already referred to no "double buds" are visible.

If worth recording I may mention that I have also seen "triple buds" in ribbon cane. Nature seemed to be making sure this variety would not become extinct. I may add that the conditions of growth were particularly unfavorable when double and triple buds and arrowing appeared on the ribbon cane. Dr. Stubbs' opinion on the foregoing would be very acceptable. Yours, etc.

G. PETTIGREW,

Tweed River, N. S. W., Australia,
February 3, 1899.

The Weather Service Report on the Damage by the Freeze of February 13th.

The monthly bulletin of the Louisiana Weather Service gives a report from nearly 150 correspondents as to the damage done throughout the state by the cold wave of February 11 to 13th. Some seven questions were asked of the various correspondents, the third of which inquired what damage was done to sugar. As considerable sugar cane is produced in the northern parishes of this state, the reports from some of them will be of considerable interest.

Webster reports much seed cane frozen; seed cane badly damaged. Bienville reports seed cane badly damaged; cane stubble destroyed; much seed cane ruined. Union reports some seed cane damaged. Lincoln reports seed cane in shock or bank considerably damaged; seed cane all right. Jackson reports cane in most places damaged; ribbon cane damaged. Ouachita reports stubble cane killed; windrowed cane injured; cane damaged considerably. Morehouse reports seed cane not injured. DeSoto reports all stubble dead and banked cane seriously injured. Red River reports seed cane killed. Natchitoches reports seed cane badly damaged. Winn reports cane crop shortened considerably. Caldwell reports cane damaged. Sabine reports seed cane killed and stubble damaged. Grant reports seed cane and stubble killed. Catahoula reports stubble injured; good deal of it frozen. Rapides reports stubble killed. Avoyelles reports badly damaged. Calcasieu reports damaged slightly. St. Landry reports badly damaged. West Feliciana reports stubble killed. East Feliciana reports stubble and seed cane killed. St. Helena reports stubble killed.

Washington reports no damage excepting that windrowed cane was ruined. Acadia reports no damage; cane in mats injured. Lafayette reports seriously damaged; great injury, especially to stubble cane; not seriously injured; much damage. St. Martin reports stubble good in localities; seed cane damaged. Iberville reports fall plant cane injured. East Baton Rouge reports plant and stubble injured, one eye in one hundred left. St. Tammany reports badly damaged. Cameron reports stubble cane dead. Vermilion reports seed and plant cane ruined. Assumption reports stubble entirely ruined; seed cane half rotten. Ascension reports cane very badly damaged, also stubble. St. James reports cane and stubble in very bad condition, ground frozen six to eight inches. St. John reports badly injured, some stubble and nearly all windrowed cane killed. St. Charles reports fall plant cane slightly injured, fully one-half stubble and windrowed cane killed. St. Bernard reports stubble not injured in the sandy land, in black soil half killed; seed cane not damaged. Plaquemines reports cane in windrow slightly damaged, mats and stubble fully half damaged; stubble and seed cane considerably injured. St. Mary reports seed and stubble considerably damaged; stubble and seed cane seriously injured. Terrebonne reports fall and spring plant cane damaged, some stubble believed to be uninjured.

It will be observed in these reports from the various parishes that the severest injury is reported from the northern tier of parishes, in the cotton belt, where sugar cane is only raised in a small way, chiefly for the manufacture of syrup for sale at home. The discordant reports from the same parish come from the different observers reporting their own views to the Weather Service. The reports from the sugar parishes, it will be noticed, are also somewhat discordant and the later data published in this journal shows a very marked improvement in these parishes.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The demand in both domestic and foreign shows marked increase; the total movement quite an item ahead of any previous week the current season. In the enlarged volume, foreign was the gainer; due to modified values on the high grade Java, enabling it to command patronage from the far West and other nearer points heretofore exclusively occupied by Japan. There appears to be a growing disposition on the part of the trade to diversify holdings, as by variety there is a lessening of the "deadly parallel" of competition incident to uniformity in style and price. Advices from the South, note good demand at all points with steadily hardening values. The ultra conservatives claim that there is a very considerable quantity of rice lying around the Southwest, on plantations and in the hands of local millers and traders. There is little doubt that the amount is sizable, but reckoning from a comparative point of view, it is really small, being totally inadequate to meet forward requirements. While the forward supply is still an unknown quantity, all evidences betoken the nearing of the end and confidence is unbounded; manifested to an eminent degree, especially in some who refuse to place any value upon

their holdings, predicting that early summer will bring fancy figures, far above those now current. Cables and correspondence from abroad note free movement; firm prices and further advances imminent. While the amount on passage has increased, the stocks at all points are light and the two combined deemed scanty as against the usual spring call; the appreciation of this fact being evidenced by the general anticipation of wants.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement, to date: Receipts, rough, 666,365 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over.) 497,425 sacks. Sales, cleaned, (est.) 161,142 barrels; last year 100,135 barrels. Good demand; market firm and $\frac{1}{4}$ c. advanced on ordinary to fair.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 33,805 barrels. Sales 29,980 barrels. Market active and advanced full $\frac{1}{4}$ c. on prime to choice grades.

Magazine Notes.

The March issue of that valuable periodical, the Political Science Quarterly, edited by the faculty of political science of Columbia University, has come to hand. The various essays are of a high order of excellence and peculiarly adapted to the issues that are now presenting themselves to American statesmen.

Among others we notice the following: Government of Distant Territory by Prof. J. W. Burgess; Dependencies and Protectorates, by Prof. Ernest Freund; England and Her Colonies, I, by Prof. John Davidson. Defects of the Old Radicalism, by William Clarke; The Sugar Situation in Europe, by J. F. Crowell; Taxation of Securities, by Prof. F. W. Taussig; Adam's Science of Finance, by Prof. E. R. A. Seligman.

The Reviews cover: Jenks' Laws and Politics in the Middle Ages; Ramsey's Foundations of England; Taylor's Origin and Growth of the English Constitution, Part II; Harris's Life in an Old English Town; Moses's Establishment of Spanish Rule in America; Green's Provincial Governor in the English Colonies of North America; Ford's Rise and Growth of American Politics; Urdahl's Fee System in the United States; Gomme's Principles of Local Government; Swain's Economic Aspect of Railroad Receiverships, etc.

The Politician Science Quarterly is published by Ginn & Co., Boston; yearly subscription, \$3.00.

Col. Lewis S. Clarke, of the Lagonda plantation, was in the city during the past week. Col. Clarke was registered at the St. Charles, where he usually puts up when in town.

Mr. Wibray J. Thompson, of the Calumet plantation, was a guest of the St. Charles on Tuesday, having come to the city on one of his brief business trips.

Mr. J. W. McBride, of Ellendale, where he has some fine sugar property, was at the St. Charles Hotel a few days ago.

To Minimize the Risks and Enhance the Chances of Profit in Cane Culture.

The tropical cane within the past six months has passed through an ordeal probably more severe than at any previous period since its first introduction into the State, and its survival should place it in the front rank as one of the hardest plants grown by the agriculturist in temperate climes, as it withstands climatic extremes better than cotton, corn or tobacco, the chief staple crops of this latitude. The detrimental meteorological influences in such combination may not be witnessed again in half a century, and none at present living seem to admit having seen the like in the distant past. The excessive rains in the fall, the absence of sunshine, and too early cold, were derogatory to the development of saccharine, and the canes were in wretched plight, both for seed and the factory. The evil was intensified by the prolonged supersaturation of the soil not only during the winter; but in some sections there was but little improvement until near the end of February, consequently the seed in the windrow was defective and the vitality of the stubble was impaired, very notably in the tenacious, and partially drained black soils prior to the advent of the lowest temperature ever recorded in this latitude.

The growers of crops of every variety the world over sustain serious losses from time to time from adverse meteorological and other influences, and the cultivator of cane must be prepared to sustain similar losses at intervals. To minimize risks should be the aim of the agriculturist, yet here the preservation of seed cane being of paramount importance, some of the prime essentials are either ignored or neglected, from which serious losses accrue, particularly when the somewhat unreliable ratoon crop is a partial failure. Many fields of cane put in windrow last fall were very unsuitable for seed after the storm in September, as the stalks were crooked and continued immature, and many of the top eyes became elongated—conditions extremely unfavorable any year; but intensified this last season by adverse climatic influences.

Some who have given the subject much consideration are inclined to the opinion that the canes are (like some other plants similarly treated) being impaired in hardness by the too frequent application of large doses of improperly balanced fertilizers—where there is a paucity of soluble phosphoric acid and potash and a preponderance of nitrogen in a potential form which becomes available by a more or less gradual decay or transformation—due to the action of myriads of micro-organisms. Nitrogen in certain forms, or at times, has, an effect yet unexplained on plants, as is witnessed in the elongation of the eye of the canes grown in fields seeded with cow peas when laying by the crop. Fresh vegetable or animal nitro-

gen applied to newly seeded beet fields will develop plants with a low sucrose content. The pea plant, after undergoing decomposition becomes an admirable manure for cane, and such is also the case with animal and vegetable nitrogen as found in tankage and cotton seed meal if supplemented with a fertilizer when the soluble phosphoric acid and potash preponderate.

After having been subjected to many vicissitudes rarely or never before encountered, the seed cane which has sustained the least injury is found on sandy soils, with a moderate, uniform covering, the tonnage not usually exceeding sixteen per acre; the stalks relatively straight, with the eyes in a normal condition, and the land, evidently, free of extraneous vegetation when the windrows were formed. They were generally ratoons of the first and second year, and had been stimulated with but a limited amount of fertilizer. The past season will be an object lesson in the treatment of canes destined for seed, and in the future fewer risks will be incurred than in the past. Sound seed cane, being of such vital importance, and very expensive at least, too much care cannot be bestowed in its culture and after preservation; yet in later years one could at times see canes that had been heavily fertilized—green, crooked, with enlarged eyes, and of heavy tonnage—severed sometimes six inches above ground by a motley crowd, many of whom never before windrowed a cane, who tossed the stalks indiscriminately one over the other in the rows in their efforts to keep pace with veterans at the work, hence seed of varying quality in the same field. After the windrows were made, the crooked mass, full of large air spaces, with many of the butts not touching the ground were covered with thick, tenacious furrow slices which retained the heat generated by the fermentation of the luxuriant leaves, at a temperature sufficient to injure the vitality of the swollen or elongated eyes. Nature in her efforts to replace the moisture evaporated at the eyes and nodes of the upper joints of the canes utilized the liquid near the butts, which in consequence became sponge-like, and when the windrows became saturated later, water was imbibed and the lower ends of the stalks became defective from what is generally styled wet rot.

Stubble fields, the ratoons of which are destined for seed, should be specially fertilized and cultivated. Chemicals may be more costly than other manures, yet the superior quality of the canes for seed will justify the extra expense. As a heavy tonnage is not sought, thorough tillage to exterminate noxious vegetation and place the soil in fine physical condition, should with an application in most instances of 300 pounds of high grade chemicals, with soluble phosphoric acid as the dominant, insure healthy growth in June, July and August, after which vegetation should be checked through the exhaustion of the stimulating fertilizer. As late cut canes generally ratoon the best, a portion of the

stubble of the first year could be left until the very end of each campaign, and the stubble therefrom the next year retained from which to grow canes for seed. Such fields would be virtually manurally exhausted, and the tonnage output the more easily controlled. If it pays the beet growers of Europe to expend both time and money to secure seed of high quality, it will certainly pay the cane growers to strive to have sound stalks for annual plantings, very particularly as the latter are the more expensive, and add materially to the cost of production of cane sugar as compared to that from beets.

The unprecedentedly low sucrose content of the canes during the last campaign, and the very probable curtailment of the coming crop will tend to, in some measure, revolutionize agricultural methods; because the conviction is becoming more widespread that the quality of the canes cannot be sacrificed to mere quantity either for seed or the factory. Canes of a relatively high saccharine strength must be produced or the industry must suffer a diminution in the chances of profitable production, therefore more attention will be bestowed on the quality of the plant food furnished the growing crops.

Every furrow slice cut to form the ridge, quarter drains, ditches and canals to free the fields of water is work performed to counteract the injury from excessive rains, and improve the physical quality of the soil, which more than aught else enhances the chances of success in special cultures in most countries. Much stress is laid by some on the necessity of soil analysis to guide in the application of manures to the cane fields of the State; when it is in most instances of very secondary consideration when compared with the necessity of thorough drainage and tillage.

The "Sugar Cane," by Prof. Stubbs, page 54, contains the following: "An average cane crop of 25 tons, including tops and fodder, will contain about the following: Lime, 20 pounds; potash, 60 pounds; phosphoric acid, 35 pounds, and nitrogen, 75 pounds. In an acre to the depth of 12 inches, estimated to weigh 5,000,000 pounds, there would be 25,000 pounds lime, 20,000 pounds potash, and 5,000 pounds each of phosphoric acid and nitrogen. Hence there is lime enough for 1250 crops of cane, potash for 333, phosphoric acid for 150, and nitrogen for 70." Although the cane soils contain such quantities of plant food according to chemical analysis; yet past experience has proved that the tonnage yield per acre on lands which have been under cultivation for fifty years, would, in most instances, prove disastrously low without a rotation with some leguminous plant or the application of extraneous manures.

At one period in the history of the industry progressive planters deemed it the practice for excellence to rotate with corn and peas at least once in four years, and on many of the best cultivated estates one-third of the plantation was reserved for plant cane, one for ratoons of the first year

and the balance for grain and the pea vine crop. During and since the advent of the bounty system, growing cane after cane became largely de rigueur, and the application of fertilizers has increased from three hundred pounds per acre to, in some instances, over twelve hundred pounds. When it is remembered that these large amounts of manure containing plant food are not thoroughly incorporated with the soil, but often left in a continuous mass in the furrows, where decomposition is retarded, and the roots unable to absorb rapidly, little cause for wonder that quantities of immature cane have been sent to the factories.

The time has arrived in the history of the industry when sentiment, past practices and prejudices are being rapidly ignored when the chances of profit are curtailed through their instrumentality. The tropical cane in this latitude is a slow grower until the warm weather in May, when the young sprouts begin to root independently of the parent stalks or stumps, after which, if the fields are in a physical condition such as to aid in the retention of soil moisture, and the land rich in soluble plant food, stalk development, will progress rapidly in the month of June (although hidden from view by the leaves), on which much depends to produce tonnage with a relatively high sucrose content, the quantity of sugar to be obtained per acre depending very materially not only on the friable condition of the soil, but on the time of application and quantity and quality of the extraneous manures. To apply immediately available elements in greater variety (as the compound manure should contain ammonia, nitrates, soda, potash, lime and sulphuric and phosphoric acid) to accelerate stalk elongation in June, July and August, instead of ingredients upon which the crop must await decomposition (tardy at times and too prolonged) will be to enhance the chances of securing canes during the campaign, relatively rich in saccharine, with a high co-efficient of purity, which will increase the value of the raw material to the seller and also the buyer, as the fuel bill and other varied costs in manufacture will be decreased.

As it is admitted that the nitrogen in sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda gives better results than that found in either cotton seed meal or tankage (although more expensive), and that bones subjected to the action of sulphuric acid are preferable to bone meal or tankage, a problem presents itself to the cane growers (whether sellers or otherwise, as canes in the future will be valued according to saccharine richness, and the purity of juice) to be solved by actual field trials and chemical analysis. Select a twenty acre field of first ratoons (unmanured as plant cane) and on ten acres apply 600 pounds of chemicals with 7 per cent nitrogen and 7 per cent phosphoric acid, and on the other ten acres apply 600 pounds of tankage with 7 per cent nitrogen and 7 per cent phosphoric acid. Each experimental

area to be manured, say, on the first of May. If the test were repeated for a term of years it would be found that the former ten acres would make more tonnage in June, July and August, and on the first of November would have less immature tops, and the increase in sugar content per acre would not only pay for the extra cost of fertilizer, but give a handsome profit on the investment, because of the availability of the plant food just when the canes should make their most rapid growth, and more time given to mature where the period is so limited as in this latitude. Under existing conditions no marked change will be made in the ingredients used, but when the canes are bought and sold according to chemical analysis, showing the available sugar per ton, then cane growers will be stimulated to deliver raw material of higher quality at the factories whose owners will the more fully appreciate the value of such as compared to canes with a low sucrose content and purity coefficient.

THOS. MANN CAGE.

Trade Notes.

The Fisher-Hogan Bagasse Burner.

Thanks to modern inventive science and energy a problem of great importance to sugar makers has been fully solved, and what was in years past an eyesore and downright nuisance to our planters, has become one of the most important economic factors in this world-wide industry. The easy and rapid consumption of bagasse is a veritable God-send to the sugar planters. Not only is the plantation rid of the stuff, but a large amount of more expensive fuel is saved. It is a well-known fact among engineers that green fuel that can be made to burn, makes an even and constant steam pressure, which is absolutely essential to obtain the greatest output from steam power plants.

The great satisfaction given to those who have used the Fisher-Hogan furnace warrants the entire confidence of planters who may be in need of new burners, and will necessarily convince all interested parties of the great economy and convenience of their improved bagasse burner. Their excellent references which appear on page 21, in their advertisement, should convince the most skeptical of the utility of their device.

The following well known and popular business men are officers of the company: President, Mr. Julian M. Swoop, owner of the Shakespeare Iron Works; Vice-President, Mr. James F. Hogan, well known among planters of the state, who has for some years past given his personal attention to the erection and introduction of these improved bagasse burners, in which he has been very successful; Constructing Engineer, Mr. James Fisher, who is well known as an expert sugar house engineer, and has been for many years with some of the most prominent houses in the state. He is the inventor of this peculiar method of feeding the bagasse to the furnace which constitutes one of the most important

features of the Fisher-Hogan burner. Their office is at the Shakespeare Iron Works, 913 Girod Street, New Orleans, and they will take pleasure in explaining in detail the workings of their burner. The Planter wishes the Fisher-Hogan Bagasse Furnace Co. well-earned and deserved success.

Grate Bars.

Notwithstanding the wonderful advance made in all kinds of sugar machinery in the direction of economy in steam production and fuel consumption, many planters are still using the old-fashioned grate bars that waste a large fraction of the coal placed thereon for burning. If any one will consider why we use grate bars at all, he will see that they are used for the purpose of burning the coal, affording the greatest air space with the least danger of wasting coal through these spaces, thus securing the most effective combustion of the coal, and at the same time grate bars adapted to this purpose should be durable, of moderate weight and hence of low cost. The Wood and Evans grate bars, advertised in this journal and made by Messrs. Jos. Sutton & Sons, 1149 South Peters St., New Orleans, make the claim, which seems well founded, that they give the most air space, are the most durable, the most effective, and have the least weight, and are of the lowest cost of any grate bars offered in the market. They solicit correspondence in regard to these bars.

Fireproof Steel and Iron Structures.

The Gillette-Herzog Mfg. Co., represented by Mr. F. T. Llewellyn, 1012 Hennen Building, New Orleans, desire attention called to the work that they are doing in this state, which has been giving excellent satisfaction and is erected at prices that defy competition. Some particulars are given in their behalf in their half-page advertisement on page XV and estimates will be given wherever requested.

In these days of cheap iron and steel, it is found that fire proof structures can be built perhaps as cheaply as the old-fashioned houses, and as practically every sugar planter needs some such work done for covering bagasse furnaces, boiler plants, sugar house extensions, etc., it will be worth the while of any and all of them to consult with Mr. Llewellyn concerning such work.

Artesian Wells.

Under the head of advertisements we have this week a card from The Fettel Well Co., of this city, this company is managed by Mr. Ike Fettel, well-known throughout the entire South as an expert artesian well contractor, having sunk wells for the largest corporations in this city, and also on a number of sugar and rice plantations, and for water work's plants throughout the South. Mr. Fettel says he has testimonials showing the ability, etc., of this company to fulfill their contracts and they are prepared to make propositions for artesian water supplies for any and all purposes.

Mr. M. Fettel, the well-known contractor, is president of The Fettel Well Company, and is esteemed one of our best business men.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

With the exception of a couple of light showers, the weather of the past week has been dry, and the planting campaign has accordingly been prosecuted without let or hindrance. A majority of planters have either finished planting or are about to do so, and in the course of a few days more, this branch of the season's work will have been concluded.

There is still a great degree of difference noticeable among the opinions and estimates emanating from equally good authorities in various localities, as to the present condition and future prospects of plant and stubble cane, the range of ideas and beliefs extending from total failure to a good average crop.

A report comes from Point Coupee to the effect that the seed cane on Widow C. C. Pitcher's Alma plantation, is so nearly all spoiled that barely thirty acres will be planted, instead of the 450 acres calculated upon. Mr. J. B. Churchill, who has the Alma place in charge, is justly regarded as one of the best planters in that section, and if he finds it necessary to reject so much of the seed it may be safely assumed that there is good reason for doing so. If the other Point Coupee plantations have no better outlook than Alma, this year's sugar crop in that parish will indeed be a small one.

Mr. Robert Storm, superintendent of the Home refinery in Rapides Parish, stopped off for a day's sojourn among his numerous Ascension friends, on the way back to Meeker from New Orleans last week, and he reported an anything but encouraging prospect of affairs in his section. The effects of the February blizzard were more severe there than in the lower portions of the sugar district.

Mr. Carroll Barton, states that he has made a full planting at his fine Magnolia plantation in Assumption Parish, and regards his chances good for a fair crop. The seed cane, as a rule, was in excellent condition, and his first year ratoon also promise well.

St. Emma and Palo Alto have likewise made full plantings, and the latter place is said to have a particularly good showing to judge from the seemingly sound condition of most of its plant and stubble.

St. Philomene, in upper Assumption, and Sleepy Hollow, in lower Ascension on Bayou Lafourche, are in about the same average condition as their larger neighbors, which is nothing to brag of.

Fall plant and stubble sprouts are peeping above the ground slowly and modestly, and it is hoped that the advent of warmer weather will encourage the shoots to do more and quicker shooting, to the end that the anxiety and gloom prevailing in many quarters may be to some extent relieved.

Col. Richard McCall is quoted as estimat-

ing McManor good for only half a crop this year, provided future conditions are not unfavorable.

Manager J. L. Foxwell, of Pike's Peak, St. James, made a flying trip to Donaldsonville last Sunday and informed your correspondent that stubble is coming up finely at Pike's Peak, and there is every prospect of a good crop there.

An intelligent young Donaldsonville business man, who last week made a trip through portions of Lafourche, Terrebonne and St. Mary Parishes, learned that Messrs. Underwood & Short had stopped planting on their Bellevue place, owing to the worthless condition of seed cane; that the general outlook in Terrebonne is good, and in Lafourche from fair to middling. On Ridgefield plantation, adjoining Thibodaux, Messrs. Nicholls & Henderson planted 225 acres out of a possible 250 and were encouraged to look for good results—much better than had been anticipated a few weeks ago.

Mr. J. W. Gleason has gladdened the eyes of his Ascension friends with the first sight of him they have enjoyed since he left here several months ago to place himself under a course of medical treatment in New Orleans. All were gratified to note his greatly improved appearance, and attribute it more to the happy influences attending his enlistment in Benedictine ranks than to the results of mere physic. Mr. Gleason was always looked upon as an incorrigible and hopeless bachelor, hence his conversion is all the more pleasing to his host of well wishers in

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Another week of favorable weather may be reported as well as a more hopeful view of the situation. The maximum temperature was 86 degrees on the 18th inst., and the minimum 35 degrees on the day following. There was a good shower on the 18th and a white frost on the 20th. Cane planting was continued, and there are yet a few who have not finished. Stubble shaving and digging are in progress, and so is corn planting. The work in general is well advanced, and with a continuance of favorable weather a fair crop will yet be made in the parish. Commercial men report a better feeling all along the line, and some of the orders, countermanded after the severe cold, are being sent out again, and, while there are a number who feel that the present capacity of their sugar houses is sufficient to take off the crop of 1899, there are others who are going ahead with improvements.

At Mr. Louis Lozano's Reliance plantation, a row of stubble was plowed out this week to make room for a canal, and every stubble had three or four spurs on it. An examination of the cane planted three weeks ago at the Milly plantation, on Bayou Plaquemine, showed sprouted eyes everywhere, and Messrs. LeBlanc & Danos feel that a per-

fect stand is assured. They have in plant cane, 225 acres.

Mr. Ulysse B. Dugas, one of the most prominent planters of Assumption Parish and member of the firm of Dugas & Landry, of Bayou Goula, was at Plaquemine last Wednesday. Mr. Dugas says that for some years at Nottoway 50 acres of seed cane were sufficient for planting their usual plant acreage, averaging about 200, but last year the cane being rather green, 60 acres were put down instead of 50. This cane planted only 140 acres. From general reports the condition of Nottoway's seed may be taken as the average of the cane in the lower section of the parish.

Messrs. Barrow & LeBlanc, of Plaquemine have contracted with Mr. Edwin Marionneaux, for the cane he is raising on the Holly farm and Belmont plantations this year on a basis of 80 per cent. Mr. Marionneaux is to deliver the cane in the back part of Pecan plantation which adjoins Holly farm.

Mr. F. Guidry, who purchased the Gold Mine plantation from Mr. J. Cointment, is putting it all in rice and has sold the seed cane thereon to his neighbor, Mr. Daniel Hurley, who will increase his planting considerably this year.

The O. K. Centrifugal houses are in the lead with contracts for buying cane and are offering 80 cents per cent on a basis of prime yellow clarified, at New Orleans Sugar Exchange quotations, no stipulation as to sucrose of sugar per cent being required, only sound cane cut in first red joint. These houses made a little money last year at these figures and are hopeful of better results this year.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

On the principle that "a short horse is soon curried" a very brief letter will suffice to detail existing conditions in this parish with reference to the cane crop. As a matter of fact, there is little or no change to report in the situation. This, in part, will explain the non-appearance during the past two weeks of my usual contribution to the Planter's reports from the several parishes.

During the first week or ten days following the memorable freeze of Feb. 11-13 we were as blue as could be, and the conviction was general that great damage had been done both seed and stubble. Later on, however, a reaction seemed to set in, and many planters began to hope and believe that the injury was not so great as had been at first feared. But as time wore on it began to be apparent that the first impressions were correct, and that the zero temperature had dealt the cane a deadly blow.

With the advent of better weather, which permitted the beginning of long-delayed field work, the actual condition of the cane began to be manifest. The approximate extent of the injury done is not yet known, but it is

heavy enough to fulfill the predictions made by the average pessimist. If there is any consolation in knowing just exactly what caused the disaster, it can be said that the consensus of opinion among the best-posted planters is that the incessant rains of the past fall and winter, did more to rot the cane than the freeze itself. This impression seems to be borne out by the peculiar manner in which the cane was affected. For instance, some canes in a windrow will be found quite good, while others a foot or two away are thoroughly spoiled. And so it is with individual canes. Some will have three or four good eyes in the middle or at either end of the stalk, the others will be hopelessly rotted. All of which would seem to indicate that water, and not cold, caused the injury. In planting, an effort is made to overcome these defects and get a good stand by "lapping" three and four, and in many cases, five stalks to the row. A striking peculiarity in connection with the condition of the seed is that it kept better in black land than in sandy soil. This can only be accounted for on the theory that the black land formed a sort of blanket over the cane and thus afforded it greater protection than the more porous sandy loam. As an illustration of the extent to which the planting has been cut short, may be mentioned the case of one plantation which usually grinds between 400 and 500 acres, where the spring planting was completed a few days ago, with a total of between 20 and 30 acres put down. On this place there is said to be considerable good stubble. The proprietor will put down the bulk of his land in corn and peas, and expects to make enough corn to last him two years.

Mr. P. E. Tucker, an old and highly esteemed planter of this parish, died in New Orleans last Monday. He was a Mississippian, but spent many years of his life in Terrebonne, coming to this parish some fifteen years ago and taking charge of Mrs. Wm. Von Phul's Belair plantation, which he cultivated up to last fall. He leaves many friends and acquaintances throughout the state who will keenly regret to learn of his death.

A light frost was seen last Monday morning in West Baton Rouge.

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather seems to be trying to make amends for its late bad behavior, and could scarcely be more favorable for agricultural interests. True the frost of Monday was not desirable, but the warm weather of last week, and the rain that came on Saturday evening, late, not interfering with work, all will help to dispel the gloomy outlook, so much a feature of the cane industry a few weeks ago. Some of the earliest cane planted is beginning to pop out, and the stubble is showing signs of life, and the present

warmth will soon bring it out of the ground. The pecan trees are budding, and the old inhabitants say that this is almost an infallible sign that the cold weather is a thing of the past.

Planting is on many places finished, and from what I can learn, there has never been a season offering greater puzzles as to the whys and wherefores of poor seed cane. This year seems to have been a year of contradictions, and many accepted theories as to cane seed did not seem to work. Of course there must be some explanation for the differences, but it is difficult always to find with mathematical exactitude the causes. For instance, the cane on sandy land well drained, (usually considered the ideal place for seed cane) is frequently poor, while many of the black land stretches show perfect seed. Even where the land did not drain well, the cane seems to have been good. We suppose that possibly the fact as to the sandy land seed not keeping well may be attributed to the cane there being crooked, and perhaps green. Yet this year seems to dispel the idea that green cane will not do for planting, for I notice that the top of the cane (the greenest part) is frequently perfect, while the bottom is very defective. A gentleman in discussing this point, told me the best seed that he ever had was put down in early September.

Perhaps the uniformly cool weather of fall and winter helped to keep perfect the seed in the land not so well drained. However, the freaks of this year, as developed in the vicissitudes of seed cane, will furnish a matter of careful study for some months. The general opinion of planters as to the stubble seems to grow more optimistic as time passes. Cane is a hardy plant and stands a great deal of hardships. We believe that very few of the bottom eyes were killed, and with the present warm days, they will soon come to the surface, and there is an old maxim that can now be quoted in connection therewith: "There is plenty of room at the top."

I have been trying in vain to estimate in some way the possible shortage in the plant cane. It is almost an impossible task, as the condition of the seed differs so greatly even in the same neighborhood. There are but few that will fall short fifty per cent compared with last year, and there are many that will make as large a planting as last year. As a rule, the amount of seed put down was in excess of the usual year, so that the shortage will be more in comparison with the amount they expected to plant, than in comparison with other years. In discussing this matter with one well-informed planter, he told me that the actual shortage would be but small, but that he feared that the stand would not be uniform, and in places very thin. I think that I do not err when I say that the cane has been planted more thickly this year than ever before. Even those with fair cane, frightened by the complaint of others, were afraid to plant as

usual, and four canes were put in. Where at all bad, the row was pretty well filled. With the ground in its present condition, and with no flooding rains, there is every reason to anticipate that the good eyes will quickly come up. MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Thus far the month of March has been more than usually favorable with no interference to the rapid advancement of field work. The pear trees are out in blossom and the pecan trees coming out in leaf—an indication that wintry weather has become a thing of the past. Although not yet numerous, yet sprouts of early planted cane and ratoons can be seen here and there, indicating that the ground is becoming warm, and the canes are beginning to feel the influence of the spring-like weather. But little cane remains to be planted—at Rebecca, of Mr. R. Cocke, where the plant cane acreage is very large, the last seed will be planted this week. A seasonable rain is now wanted, particularly by those who have been somewhat tardy in planting. A warm rain will tend to hasten the germination of the eye of planted canes and stubble. Canes are showing soundness where least expected. Seed in stiff lands on some places, has kept best—also the stubble. Mr. T. Casey, of Greenwood, on the lower bayou Black, related to the writer an unlooked for instance of good stubble on black land, after the wet winter and severe freeze. Plant cane was put in windrow for seed, and the stubble was left virtually on the bar, and it was supposed that the severe wet and cold winter had killed them; but when taking up the seed, it was found that the stumps presented as much vitality as elsewhere, where the conditions were deemed more favorable for their preservation.

Cane growers are becoming more and more convinced that they must resort to mules and machines peculiarly adapted to the plant. There is a growing desire to become possessed of a machine to shave stubble, without having to take the time and incur the expense of barring the cane rows prior to shaving. The neatest work the writer ever saw was recently done with a straight knife (made of a piece of circular saw) in a long box slide. There was a movable block just in front of the knife, which prevented the machine from cutting below the desired depth, regardless of the irregularities of the bar furrow. If canes can be shaved and the digger run prior to plowing, it will prove of immense advantage, as it will enable the planter to obviate plowing his cane middles when too wet. Compare the condition of the land where the canes were barred very early when the soil was clammy, and that where the work is now in progress. In the one instance hard clods are to be seen, and in the other the harrow

would put the soil in a very friable condition to mould to the stumps and aid in retaining soil moisture.

Cane is like corn, it revels in heat and humidity. No one ever dreams of leaving corn on the bar for days and weeks, yet such is the common practice with the more costly cane. Here and there one can see fields of stubble with but little vitality left, dry almost to the mother canes, left bare of earth, where the land is being baked like a brick. If what sound eyes there are survive should it continue dry, will simply demonstrate the wonderful tenacity to life of the plant—scarcely any other would survive such treatment. A flooding rain on fields in like condition, would put the land in a miserable plight for after cultivation.

Miss K. L. Minor has returned to South-down much improved in health, after an absence of nearly a year.

Wednesday, of last week, was warin and cloudy; Thursday fair, with cool East wind; Friday, variable; Saturday, threatening during the day and light rain about sunset; Sunday, bright and cooler; Monday, light frost with bright sunshine later; Tuesday, splendid growing weather, and Wednesday morning, balmy South wind.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

A sudden and rather unexpected change took place in the weather last Saturday night, to cold and dry, after a right heavy shower on Saturday evening. Early risers claim that frost fell lightly on Sunday and Monday mornings, but not of sufficient thickness to do other than chill the ground and slow up vegetation, which has now regained its former self. The Saturday evening shower is said to have come at a most opportune and profitable time.

Owing to the continued cold weather the stubble is sprouting very slowly, consequently the same satisfaction cannot be felt for it as is the case with plant cane, whose condition was thoroughly examined during the planting process; though, between now and the middle of April, with the present or ordinary temperature, calculations can be closely made as to its final output.

The parish road ordinance of St. Mary, which has been in operation here for many years, namely, letting out the entire system on contract to one individual, was repealed at the last meeting of the Police Jury by another ordinance which empowers the several members in their respective wards, to let out the work to whom they please, with the right of personal supervision during its construction. It is asserted by some that this is the superior plan, in that one road master could not oversee the work of the whole parish in the proper way. If this was ever a fact in former times, it is abundantly so at the present time, for the public roads were never known to be in such an advanced state

of dilapidation before; every lineal acre in the parish has to be overhauled and the drainage almost entirely reconstructed.

But the system for the distribution of the funds may be very seriously questioned. For instance, the pro rata to be expended in each ward will be determined by "the cost per mile for working the roads, calculated from the total expenditures of 1898 for that purpose, applied according to the number of miles in each ward." So, if a great deal of road work was done in one section during 1898, it is assumed that a great deal will have to be done there every succeeding year for all time, whether needed or not, while the others which may have remained during last year in comparatively fair condition, will never grow worse.

M. L. Harrison, the former road master for the parish, was given the road work of the town of Franklin and the Third Ward of the parish, which will keep him engaged for a long time, and upon which he is now working daily. Your correspondent is informed that the road machines are going in all directions in the other wards also.

At the meeting of the Police Jury of this parish on March 14th, the drainage district, mentioned in one of your correspondent's recent letters, was created, embracing all the plantations and intermediate lands from the Arlington around the curve of the Teche, up to and including the Harding estate, on the west bank of the bayou, and coming to a common point on the southern boundary line of W. W. Rice's Gold Ridge place, which takes in the town of Franklin and all of its suburbs; the district was named and designated "The Franklin Drainage District." The commissioners appointed, whose duty it will be to call the election, ascertain and promulgate the will of the majority in number and amount, whether for or against, and if in favor, the amount necessary to complete the work, are: Messrs. S. T. McCardell, owner of the Oak Hill; F. R. Caffery, one of the owners of the Bethia; E. J. Frostout; G. D. Palfrey; and M. Bell, one of the owners of Bellview, the Franklin Refinery, etc.

St. MARY.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Vermilion is still enjoying the finest of weather for any and all purposes. Farm work is being rapidly pushed forward and with a few more days favorable weather cane planting will be completed and early planting of corn finished. There have been several refreshing showers during this spell of good weather which were very acceptable to the cane planter at least. Plant cane is beginning to come out where it was planted shallow and the fall plant will soon be up to a good stand. Stubble is still very much in doubt in some sections and it is feared that the effects from the frozen tops will destroy it entirely. The acreage crop will be fairly up but the tonnage for the mill will be short

for the reason that it will require from one-third to one-half of the crop for seed to plant the 1900 crop. The stand is only speculative so far but by the 1st of April it can be very closely determined. There are a number of our small farmers however that will not ship a ton of cane this fall but will put up their entire crop for seed. The seed did not prove over 50 per cent good on an average, but this damage was not caused by the freeze of February 11th to 14th. Your correspondent has examined the seed cane in the different parts of the cane belt of Vermilion since the freeze and has failed to find a damage of over 5 per cent from the cold weather. The damage that is responsible for our short cane crop this year is directly traceable to the immense amount of rain that fell here from the 1st of October, 1898, to the 15th of February, 1899. The cane in this section is water soaked and not frozen. The fall planting of cane, which is very small in acreage, is as fine as was ever seen in this parish. This past winter's experience will doubtless teach our cane planters a lesson that will cause them to more thoroughly drain their lands. The natural drainage of Vermilion is as fine as any other section of Southern or Southwestern Louisiana, but artificial drainage there is none. The great mistake that our farmers have been making is that they try to make their crop with as little expense as possible and this will teach them ere long, if they have not already learned the lesson, that such action on their part is "penny wise and pound foolish." Had our lands been thoroughly drained the loss to seed cane would not have been over 10 per cent as the cane on well drained lands kept splendidly. "Experience teaches a dear school, etc.," and our people will learn before they are much older that it does not pay to cultivate lands without perfect drainage. There is being considerable cotton planted already and planting is being rapidly pushed to completion. The acreage will be greatly increased over last year. Rice planting is now the order of the day in many sections of the parish and there are thousands of acres of land that is being prepared for planting. Extensive preparations are being made in the western part of the parish in the Gueydan section for an immense rice crop this year. It is estimated that if a full crop is harvested that Gueydan's pasture will produce 250,000 barrels of rice this year. The Hall-Sluts Irrigating Company are making preparation for a large crop—they are extending their canal and will materially increase their acreage. R. H. Mills will push his canal to completion in time to water his crop when it needs watering.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The past week was very unfavorable to the planting interest of this part of the country. From the 13th to the 18th, with the

exception of one or two days it was damp and raining. On the afternoon of the 17th a heavy downpour of rain fell over this and adjoining parishes, in some places developing into a heavy hail storm, which seems to have gathered in the west and travelled east over the settlement of Elm Bayou to Avoyelles and Rapides line and north to Cheneyville. Just how far east the hail storm continued in its course the Planter's scribe has not at the present writing learned.

Owing to the fact that corn and other crops grown by the farmers living in the track of the hail storm were not up, the hail failed in its course to injure and to do much damage to the country over which it passed.

As far as at present can be learned cane planting is now about over.

Reports from the cane growers of and in the locality of Cheneyville is to the effect that on some places the seed cane when taken for planting seemed to be sound, while on some other and nearby places it is claimed that the seed cane was so badly damaged that it was hardly worth planting, but as a rule all who could, and had seed on hand, have done some planting in the hope to make some cane if only seed.

As a rule, it is now considered that little, if anything, can be done with stubble cane, except to plow it up and out of the way to furnish room for planting corn and peas. Owing to the destruction of the stubble and the poor condition of plant cane for planting, the wages of the bread winners have been reduced on the greater number of places giving employment to the wage earning classes throughout the greater part of this cane growing district. It is now conceded by the more prominent cane raisers of this and immediate adjoining parishes that it will require some years for them to get advanced as well into cane as they were considered to be at the close of the season of 1898.

The idea of building new factories for the manufacture of sugar has been laid to rest in the gloomy past.

Planting is later this year than ever before known.

On Saturday, the 18th, the mercury at noon rested at 78 degrees in the shade; by 3 o'clock the wind began to change to the north; Sunday morning, the 19th, 6 o'clock, the thermometer indicated 38 degrees, with frost perceptible. The morning of the 20th showed the mercury to have gone down again to 38 degrees, developing a light frost, but not heavy enough to do any serious harm to plant life. Corn planting is not half through with yet. The weather has been of such a nature that the land has warmed up and given up its overcharged supply of water so slowly that it has been out of the question to plow and plant satisfactorily to the farmers.

Those who plant cotton have experienced some trouble in finding sufficient seed sound enough for planting to insure a perfect stand of plants. Not a few of our progressive farmers have purchased cotton seed for planting from Texas, paying as much as \$12 per ton freight on seed, not including first cost of the seed. It would have been cheaper to the farmers to have purchased their cotton seed in Egypt or India. The freight rates could not probably have been greater than they were from Texas. Where are our railroad commissioners who are supposed to regulate freight rates?

ERIN.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

During the past week it has been rainy, but the showers were so light that they did not hinder the work in the least, but there

has been much heavy wind, and it has dried out the land considerably, and rice farming has gone forward this week with a rush and a great deal has been accomplished by way of preparing the soil, and a few have begun sowing on new land. As for the acreage being planted this season, we do not think it is very much in excess of that of last season, although some seem to think that the increase is one-half or more than last year.

I admit that there is a large amount of new land being prepared this spring for planting to rice, but there is a large acreage of old land turned out for pasturage or other use, and that does not seem to have been much considered by some.

Farmers are trying to grow a better grade of rice, and, in order to do so, they and that they must put aside the old foul land and begin on new soil to get the best results, and this ambition has lead many to abandon the old lands for a few seasons at least, until the wild rice can be exterminated. It is all folly to put good seed on old land that has been cropped to rice for years, but this has been done by many farmers for a long time, and they are now getting out of the notion.

If it remains as dry as at present, the farmers will get a good start with their plowing during the next ten days. Some are through with this work, but they are those who began early, and they will be the ones to have the early rice and reach a good market with their produce. Gang plows have been selling well this season, for any one who has the team, prefers a gang plow as it saves an extra hand and they have given better satisfaction than the new disc plow, if we may judge by the demand for either make of plow. There are a good many contracts being made for levee and canal work about the country, but it looks like it would be very late before the work would all be accomplished, and too late for use this season. Some large pumping plants are to be put in this spring on some of the new farms, and while they should be in by this time and fully tested, still they are not purchased yet. This late business in this line of work, was fully tested last season, and many lost by it, but it takes several years to remedy such simple things, and many of the large farmers will not contract with a water company for water, unless the company is ready for pumping before rice is planted, for they do not consider it wise to prepare several hundred acres of land only to learn after it is too late, that the water cannot be furnished in time.

Some wells have been finished this week and the water comes within a few feet of the surface, and wherever an attempt has been made to put down an artesian well, a good supply of water has been secured, and this style of well is most thought of by the farmers.

Labor is not very plentiful, and all good hands are picked up by canal companies and levee builders. The mule market is rather quiet just now, but there has been a large quantity of work stock sold in this parish since Jan. 1st, and some is still being sold. Corn is not planted yet, and it seems late when we think of the usual time for planting in past average seasons, but if the weather shapes well for the next ten days, much of the corn will be planted.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Regular spring weather has prevailed for

the past week, with just rain enough to keep the soil moist and make it work easy, but it has been windy, and the weather has indicated rain for several days, yet it does not come except in small quantities, and we do not object to that. The plow teams have been kept very busy this week and a good acreage of ground has been turned over, and still the work goes on, but there is quite a large acreage of low land which cannot be turned over yet, owing to the water and mud, but it will soon be in shape for the plow if it does not rain for the next week. The majority of farmers have been looking for a long dry spell this month, but there is no indication of it as yet, but farmers are cutting their sod about as fast as they plow it, so it will be ready if a dry spell sets in. Some few farmers did a little seeding the fore part of this week, and a few planted some corn, but we think the soil is a little too cold for planting. Considerable rice will be put in next week if the weather is favorable for it. The most of the large farmers are behind with their ploughing and this is going to make the seeding a little late with them, yet, with the team force at hand, they can dispatch the seeding in a hurry, if the rain holds off. It would make the seeding very late if we should have much rain from now on to the end of the spring's work. It is not the intention of the farmers to do much late planting this spring, for they lost so heavily by so doing last season; still, where they are sure of water, they will risk considerable along that line.

Work on many of the new canals began this week, and the work will continue until long after seeding, and many of the old canals will be lengthened and strengthened.

The well drills are all kept busy and can not begin to keep up with the demand, for farmers are bound to have the wells, as they are proving to be so much cheaper than the canal water, and one farmer is going to put down eight wells on his farm if he can get any one to do the work in time. Some farmers in easy reach of the canals are going to put down wells in preference to using the canal water, for the difference in price in the water will pay for the well. I notice that those who have sown rice this season, have put the seed on the raw ploughing without any previous preparation of the soil, and they are not putting the seed on thick enough, but this plan of planting is done very largely every season and a heavy loss to the farmer is the result, yet they do not seem to regard the extra work as being worth much, and this careless sham farming seems to get worse every season. If some farmers would only plant one-half the usual acreage, and then give the soil the proper attention, before and after the planting, they would make more money, and make it easier, and produce a better grade of rice for the market.

All our rice mills are doing well and some of them will run late in the season, for there is considerable rice in first hands, and the large mill companies buy up a large supply in the spring to run on after the most of the smaller mills have shut down. I have talked with many farmers who have been planting their seed cane and some of them tell me that they have lost two-thirds of their seed, while others state that fully half of the seed is killed, and some tell me that the stubble cane is more than half gone, and I can only account for this in the fact that the cold was much more severe on the prairie section of the state where there was no protection, and the ground froze deeper than in the timbered sections.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

There has been—as foreshadowed in my last letter—a reaction in the meteorological conditions, but it must be admitted that it arrived sooner than expected. Last week closed with mild and damp weather and this has kept on until the middle of the period under review, but then sharp northerly winds set in and with them the winter, although in a mild form, returned, the week closing with a light snow fall. Of course the farmers would have liked it much better if the warm and dry weather we enjoyed a fortnight ago, had been of a longer duration; on the other hand it may be better that the cold weather has returned now instead of later on, when the vegetation has achieved considerable progress. Although in the face of this change field work could not be done on a larger scale, the dry weather has been utilized as much as possible and preparatory operations and more especially the hauling and strewing of manure has been commenced and continued under fairly satisfactory circumstances. Such is also the situation in the other beet-growing countries of Europe, the temperature having everywhere undergone a marked fall except—strange to say—in Russia, where the weather has continued as mild as it has been all the winter through. Besides field work seems to have somewhat further advanced than in this country, in France, Austria and Holland, which, however, at this time of the year is of no account whatever.

There is every year in the month of February a large meeting of German agriculturists held at Berlin on the occasion of which the interests of German agriculture are discussed. Of particular interest and weight are the discussions of the German agricultural council, whose members are either large landowners or agronomists of high standing, both in practical and scientific relations. This council's proceedings generally take place in the presence of ministers or other representatives of the government, (a few years ago the Emperor himself condescended to attend a session) and it is therefore safe to say that the opinions and wishes enunciated, exercise a certain influence on the agrarian and economical legislation of the country. As usually some space is also allotted to the consideration of the sugar question, and without entering into details, I think it necessary to give you a short extract of the resolutions adopted by said counsel: As a measure tending to increase consumption, the restriction of the tax is recommended. This reduction shall take place within five years, so that every year four marks are cut off from the 20 marks for 100 kilos. now levied. But the bounty is to subsist to its full amount of abt. 2.20 marks (less legal deduction), until the en-

tire tax is abolished. The sale of denaturalized sugar must be facilitated and the same bounty must be granted to it, as to the other kinds of sugar. More stringent measures are to be taken against saccharine and other artificial sweets. Sugar should be definitely added to the rations of the military. The growing of other crops, more particularly of cereals should be favored in order to relieve the farmer from the necessity of growing sweets. In the relations with the United States, the most favored nation clause should be fairly recognized on both sides, and any difficulties impeding our exports to America should be discarded as soon as possible. Cane sugar experts should be sent to the colonies where cane sugar is grown with a view to reliably report on the state and condition of that industry. This is a pretty lengthy list of desiderata, which however, cannot be lightly passed over by the governments and by legislative bodies.

The German Sugar Cartel, of which I have written to you several times when first planned, and efforts were made to call it into life, is now practically completed; the contracts between the raw sugar manufacturers and the refiners being ready and agreed upon on both sides. The other steps necessary for the consolidation of the institution will no doubt be accomplished in a very short time. Your esteemed readers will, I suppose, remember that on account of the depressed sugar prices, some energetic action appeared necessary, to place again the industry on a sound basis, which shall be effected by the refiners fixing the prices of refined and keeping them on a certain level, in order to be able to pay more for raw sugar. Refiners who decline to adhere to the covenants get no raw sugar from the fabricants. A similar cartel exists already in Austria, where it works quite satisfactorily.

The saccharine question certainly is a kind of sea serpent, quite unexpectedly it emerges from the depths now and then, even in countries where it was believed to be settled long ago. Such is the case with regard to Russia. In that country, the general use of the stuff is prohibited by law, and classed among the poisonous substances, to be sold only in drug stores on medical prescriptions. But as it appears now, these regulations have not the desired effect, for, by analysing several articles of food, saccharine has been found in larger or smaller quantities. Recently the Petersburg society for the protection of public health has considered the question, and in order to put a stop to the adulterations, they propose to levy a heavy import duty on saccharine from foreign countries, or a high tax on inland production. Furthermore higher penalties for adulterations are considered necessary, besides a revision of the regulations for selling and buying saccharine. The society was informed that in 1896 alone, through the

customhouse of Warsaw 7.2 tons of saccharine has been imported into Russia.

The better feeling noted last week in the markets has maintained itself principally on account of American purchases. The quantity the latter country has taken is not so very large, (about 25,000 tons) but as a rule, the European markets cheer up when America is buying, and accordingly local dealers and refiners joined with the Americans and a brisk business ensued, which caused a marked advance of prices. In Magdeburg, they closed at M. 10.50—10.60 for actual 88 pct. sugars and at Hamburg at M. 9.80 for delivery February f. o. b. Hamburg. Refined were also somewhat more active, but the movement subsided when sellers asked for higher prices.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, March 4, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The time of transition from winter to spring was characterized last week by a cold snap in the first half of the period under review and by a subsequent rise of temperature together with some moist precipitations, which latter, from the standpoint of the agriculturist, are considered as the weak point of last week's weather, as they, by watering the fields afresh prevented the field work on dryer sites from being continued and on lower sections with marshy soil from being begun altogether. However the latter days of the week the weather was clearing up and provided that there is no early change to the reverse, everything will be all right and all fears of late sowings may be dispersed. Reports from foreign beet countries denote from France, genuine dry spring weather which has been amply taken advantage of for accomplishing as much field work as possible; Austria had variable weather, being a good deal less favorable for agricultural operations; in Holland and Belgium the weather has been not as fine as in France, but fairly satisfactory, and in Russia the mild weather keeps on, opening prospects for comparatively early sowings. But in Russia the weather is about as unreliable as in America and it would be somewhat hazardous to trust too much to present prospects.

The general assembly of the large German society of sugar manufacturers with its collateral sections will take place on May 29th to 31st in Breslau, the capital of the Prussian province of Silesia, where the first beet sugar factory has been built and set in operation.

The sugar question was on February 28th the subject of a long and heated discussion in the German Reichstag. The agrarian party think the only hope of salvation is when the tax on sugar and at the same time the bounty shall be abolished, an idea enunciated already by the agricultural council and mentioned in my last letter. For

these endeavors the agrarians coincide with part of the liberals, of the progressists and the socialists. But whilst the former believe the measure to be in their particular interest, the latter parties represent in the first place the one sided interests of the consumer. The agrarians take it for granted that a material lowering of, or an entire abolition, of the tax would cause such an increase of consumption, that the German sugar industry would be placed no longer under the necessity of exporting about two-thirds of the production, and they think besides that a marked increase of the home demand would lead to a not less marked improvement of the price. It is, however, obvious at the first glance that such a philosophy involves a contradiction, for the raised price would militate as much against an increase of consumption, as the tax is now in the way of it. But reducing the taxes or abolishing them, means reducing and finally abolishing the bounties. There is the question; can the German sugar growers dispense with the bounties when the other countries producing beet or cane sugar continue to pay them? As has been shown by the abortive result of the Brussels conference last year, it is next to impossible to arrive at an agreement in that respect. Those who proposed to reduce or abolish the German bounties, propose an experiment which they will perhaps one day regret having taken the responsibility of. Nobody would grudge to our people the enjoyment of cheap sugar. But it is a well-known fact, that cheapness alone is not the only cause of an increasing consumption. In this respect we must distinguish temporary and permanent causes. The former consist principally in the economic condition of the people, whilst the latter embrace life and habits of the nations and also their sugar legislation, and it is obvious that if one of these conditions is adverse to a marked progress of sugar consumption the other two will be hardly of much account. In Germany we see that sugar among a very large proportion of the population, is still far from being considered a necessity of life, and this is evident from the various measures proposed to wean the people to the use of sugar, which you in America do not need to do, although even there some room is left for an increased sugar consumption. As I wrote you, the agrarians wish the tax to be abolished within five years, every year one fifth of it. But I think this would produce the desired effect, as this gradual lightening of the tax burden would not be felt. Every reduction of the tax would be too slight to make any impression. The reduction would amount for one butner (50 kilos) 2 marks, that is for one German pound, 2 pfennigs or half a cent. Anyway if the government should be inclined to comply with the wishes of the agrarian party, only a thorough measure of that kind could be of any avail, and such for the present is out of the question, the government

needing the money, say about 100 millions of marks or 25 millions of dollars, at present squeezed out of sugar. Besides the argument of the agrarian party seems in this matter sadly at fault. The object in view is, no doubt, to get a better price for their sugar; but suppose the reduction of $\frac{1}{2}$ cent to the pound is added to the price of the untaxed product, where is then the cheapening of the article and the increase of consumption expected as a consequence of the demanded reduction or abolition of the tax? It is much to be regretted that the production and commerce of sugar more than of any other article of food, is dependent on legislation, but as it is, people must try to make the best of it, so that both the producers and the consumers' interest are sufficiently protected.

The markets opened this week in rather a quiet spirit, but as the undertone was unmistakably firm the outward appearance changed also soon for the better, and although business was less important than last week the tendency rallied and prices which had slightly declined on different commercial centers retrieved their losses, bidding fair to make a further advance in the near future, some statistical items being favorably interpreted and larger speculative operations being said to be planned by Paris bulls. In Germany prices were at first barely maintained but at the close they are 5 pfennigs higher, the quotation for 88 pct. rendement being M. 10.60—10.70 at Magdeburg and M. 9.77 at Hamburg, for delivery March f. o. b. Refined became later on more active but remained unchanged in price.

ROBT. HENRIC.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, March 4th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to same causes that prevailed last week no change has taken place in this market, the same disparity being noticed between buyers and sellers' views, on which account sales have been restricted to a few small parcels, chiefly for local consumption, at full prices, 2½ cts. for 94 test and 2.52 @ 2.62½ cents per lb. for 95-96 test, at which, about 1,500 bags were sold whereas quotations for good shipping classes do not go over 2% @ 2 7-16 cts. basis 96 test, and about 10,000 bags for export, on private terms.

Stocks have now accumulated to a fair extent and as soon as the demand improves it is likely that a fair bulk of business will be closed, since exporters will be able to select parcels to their convenience.

The continuance of good weather allows grinding operations to be kept up without noticeable interruptions and all the factories whose owners could dispose of necessary funds to cover first expenses and make the most indispensable repairs to their machinery are now fairly under way and endeavoring to retrieve the lost time.

Still no sign is as yet visible in the fields towards planting for next year.

Of the 15 large factories in the district of Remedius, seven are now grinding their own cane and that of the eight others, which will not light their fires this year. Owing to the agricultural possibilities of this country, the establishment of an Agricultural Bank would certainly be one of the best investments for foreign capital, as it is an opening about which nothing of positive result has as yet been done and parties willing to start business in this way, at the same time as they would render a great service to the agricultural community, would find it a remunerative investment for their money, by advancing determinate sums on sugar and tobacco crops.

Owing to the stringent situation the majority of planters are laboring under, few only are able to run their plantations without borrowing money and the balance, perhaps 90 per cent. have no other remedy than to succumb to lenders' demands and grant rates of interest varying between 1 and 2 per cent monthly. One case has been lately mentioned of a planter, who in order to obtain \$10,000 he needed to start grinding, was compelled to deliver his whole crop to a broker who charged no interest on advance money, but exacted a brokerage of 50 cents for each bag of sugar, worth, on an average, \$8.00, the interest being 6¼ per cent for three months, equivalent to 2.3-6¼ per cent per month.

About one-third of the population of Cuba depending for their living upon agricultural pursuits, it will be easily understood how prejudicial is the paralization of labor in the country, and the most efficient remedy for this deplorable condition of affairs would be, as said above, the establishment of a strong Agricultural Bank that would lend funds to agriculturists in general, on reasonable terms. This is a vital subject that ought to be taken into careful consideration by the American authorities if they wish Cuba to produce enough money to cover expenses incurred on account of the military occupation, besides providing relief to the thousands in need of work and who utterly depend on the development of the agricultural interests and principally on cane culture and sugar manufacture for their living.

Now that Spain has lost her colonial dominion, she is endeavoring to grow on her own soil some of the products she formerly imported from Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippine Islands and the United States. Applications have been made to the government by several agricultural boards, requesting the free culture of sugar cane and beet, cotton and tobacco, important prime materials for several of the national industries, and which the applicants assure can be grown in divers districts of the peninsula in sufficient quantity, not only for the supply of the home consumption, but also for export.

Sugar cane and tobacco could be cultivated in a limited zone, but as far as beet is concerned good sugar qualities are obtained in a large number of localities; it is as yet unknown if cotton culture will afford satisfactory results and the government is requested to award prizes to the agriculturists who, in the experiments which will soon be made in several of the central and southern provinces of the kingdom, obtain the best results in quality and quantity.

Planters' Board: The plan presented by the committee appointed to formulate a plan to reorganize labor in the country and regulate relations between planters and their creditors has given scope to numerous discriminations, especially on the part of planters' creditors, who have published in local papers violent attacks against the proposed plan and unanimously declared that if the board approve it, they will under no circumstances enter into arguments so prejudicial to their interests, although they are willing to grant their debtors all necessary facilities for payment, provided these, in their turn, evince the desire to fulfill their engagements, since the prevailing crisis is as prejudicial to the one as to the others.

T. D.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, March 10th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The demand, stimulated by better news from abroad, has ruled more active, giving margin to the transaction of a fair bulk of business, at steadier prices, say 2% and 2% cts. per pound, for good centrifugals, basis 9 test, at which the market closes rather quieter, owing to higher pretensions on sellers' part.

Exports have been larger this week than during any of the previous ones since the commencement of the crop, owing to the shipment at outports of several large parcels proceeding from plantations belonging to American companies or syndicates.

It is now fully ascertained that this crop will not only be much shorter than the last one, but that it will also fall considerably below the calculations made at the commencement, since grinding on a large number of plantations will soon come to an end, from want of cane. Well-posted parties already foretell that next year's crop will even result smaller than the present one, owing to the fact that cane that had been separated for seedlings is being cut and ground in several localities, from lack of funds for duly preparing the fields previous to their replanting.

Complaints are being formulated regarding the small quantity of cane planters can dispose of. Great difficulties are encountered from want of cars and oxen in its transportation to the sugar houses, and the quantity of sugar manufactured falls considerably below the average. At Matanzas, the larg-

est plantations, of a capacity of 700 and 800 bags per day, are turning out only 200 and 250, and it may be said that better results are obtained throughout the Island on few plantations only, working under exceptionally good conditions.

Owing to heavy rains, crop operations in the Remedios district have been seriously interfered with, and a certain quantity of cut cane that remained in the fields on account of the bad condition of the roads, has been lost, together with that which had been burnt either accidentally or purposely to facilitate its cutting.

The few parties who have so far determined to settle in the country and resume the culture of small farms, are the victims of numerous gangs of marauders, who deprive them, not only of any small quantity of money, provisions and clothing, but also of whatever scanty cattle they may possess.

In the Eastern part of the Island, new bands of armed men are reported as having appeared in several localities and are interfering with grinding operations on all plantations that are not strongly garrisoned.

Mr. Julius Azpetegua, proprietor of the Grand Central Factory, "Constancia," at Cienfuegos, has lately commissioned Major Alfred Lewis, of the Cuban army to organize a force of picked men, for the special object of protecting the plantation. This force comprises 25 mounted men, under the command of a second lieutenant, all proceeding from the Cuban army, the lieutenant earning \$50 and the soldiers \$25 each per month, with food and lodging.

The determination adopted by Sr. Azpetegua is a practical one, made necessary by the present condition of affairs in the fields of the Island, and may become the starting point for solving two important problems, such as providing Cuban soldiers, as soon as mustered out, with work, either as laborers or guards on sugar plantations, and to insure the safety of plantations and their hands against the aggressive marauders.

Steps are being taken to establish at Santa Clara, an agricultural school on the premises formerly occupied by the Agricultural Experimental Station. The establishment will be supported by the Santa Clara City Council and placed under the direction of the well-known agricultural engineer and writer, Sr. Juan B. Jimenez.

The plan formulated by the commission nominated by the planters' board to enter into arrangements with their creditors has been disapproved of, not only by the majority of creditors, but also by a large number of planters, who endorsed a letter published in several local papers, the contents of which may be condensed in following lines.

"We, several planters who claim to be honest men, wish to enter protest against the project to ask for an injunction against the foreclosing of mortgages recently formulated by the commission of the planters' board of this city.

"There are remedies which kill, and such

is the one proposed by the planters' board commission.

"It is a well-known fact that the majority of planters do not own sufficient means to purchase and run a plantation, and all they possess is through credit, and any measure to weaken or do away with credit would be their ruin; if the project approved by the board ever becomes a law, it will be a death-blow to the Cuban sugar industry.

"We do not think that the best way to inspire confidence among bankers, merchants and money lenders would be the enforcement of a law exempting planters from paying their legitimate debts; we therefore reject the project, which we do not consider the act of the whole board, but that of a certain number of its members, who, regardless of the future, only wish to be able to live a few years longer at the expense of their creditors.

"Far from endorsing the plan, we believe that the only efficacious means of improving the present condition of affairs, is to frankly recognize the legitimacy of credits against us and contracts entered upon, and to enter with our creditors into arrangements equally satisfactory to them and to ourselves.

"Until this be done, we shall have no money, no credit and no way to get it, and it will be impossible to raise even \$1,000 on a \$100,000 plantation, as we should lack means to guarantee the lender's rights.

"We certainly hope that Governor General Brooke will study the matter carefully and give a decision based on justice and honesty, and not according to the point of view of the selfish few, who, for the sake of evading legitimate debts, would deliberately ruin the thousands dependent on the sugar industry."

T. D.

Personal.

Mr. George H. Clinton, of St. Joseph, La., who is a sugar house chemist of considerable reputation, was a guest of the Grunewald last Sunday.

Mr. Henry A. Munson, a leading sugar planter of Assumption Parish, was a recent guest of the St. Charles. He was accompanied by Mrs. Munson.

Mr. Ed. Godchaux, of the splendid Elm Hall plantation in Assumption Parish was in the city on Tuesday last.

Mr. T. H. Roger and Mr. E. Roger, two of the best posted and most successful sugar planters in the state, came up to the city on Wednesday and took apartments at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. John Hill, the veteran sugar planter of Port Allen, West Baton Rouge Parish, and also his son, Mr. George Hill, were in the city on a visit a few days ago. They registered at the St. Charles.

Col. John R. Gheens, of the Golden Ranch plantation, in Lafourche Parish, was at the St. Charles Hotel on Wednesday. This is Col. Gheens' first visit to the city for some time, and the inference is that things are now beginning to thaw out in Lafourche.

BEEF SUGAR.

Oxnard, California.

As announced elsewhere, Mr. Baur, the executive officer and consulting engineer of the Oxnard Construction Co., who has charge of all the plans and construction work of the factories built by the Company, after spending part of two weeks arranging the plans of the work on the increased capacity, left for New York Thursday. He is well pleased with the outlook.

Col. Drifill informs the Courier that the work of completing the factory to its full capacity of 2000 tons of beets per day will be pushed as rapidly as the machinery arrives. The additional machinery has been purchased and part of it already shipped and on the way here. Mr. Kilby, a member of one of the machinery manufacturing firms, has been on the ground and in consultation with Mr. Baur.

No new contracts have been let except for additional beet sheds and some improvements in those already erected and the waste-water canal. The beet shed contract, which will require 200,000 feet of lumber in its construction, has been let to F. O. Engstrom. The additional buildings, etc., which the increase necessitates, were embraced in the original contract and will be erected by C. Leonardt, and the concrete and other material to be used are arriving daily.

The canal to tide-water will be open part of the way and covered a part of the way and a steel pipe will be used on another portion of the line. It will be substantially constructed and so arranged as not to injure anyone along the line.

There is no longer any doubt as to a season being full of activity in every line of work here dependent upon the factory. The construction work will require a large force from now until the campaign opens. As large an acreage as can be handled to advantage the first season of the factory's operations have been contracted and the way in which the beets are coming up with the little rainfall to date insures an abundant crop of high grade beets. Everything promises the complete fulfillment of the prediction of Oxnard's prosperity made in earlier issue of the Courier.—Courier, March 11.

Oxnard, California.

Mr. A. Hache, the agricultural manager for the Oxnard companies for California, informs the Courier that the beets first planted are coming up and give every promise of a good crop. All the conditions are much more favorable than last year. The farmers commenced preparing and planting earlier and the ground is in good condition and the full acreage will be planted. The farmers have discovered that it takes less moisture to raise beets than any other of the customary crops. The damp atmosphere and the fogs are fav-

orable to beet growth though too much west winds are not. Mr. Hache thinks that there will be moisture enough for a good crop from the above with such showers as we may naturally expect during the next three months. He says that it was the rain in May which made last year's crop, taken with the fog. It will be remembered that last year's beet crop was larger here than elsewhere in the State. Those who raised beets then made a profit. The crop would have been ample for running the factory then, if the farmers had gone ahead as they are doing this year and planted early. Instead of that they kept putting it off, thinking that they could rely upon later rains to raise a beet crop. In this they were disappointed and they only had a short crop of inferior quality. The beets raised, however, with last year's conditions were of high grade and made a profit. The deduction to be drawn from last year's experience is that a good beet crop can be more safely relied upon than any other. While rain is desirable it is chiefly necessary for other crops. Should we have but a light rainfall from now on those who have devoted a portion of their lands to beet growing will have every reason to congratulate themselves.—Courier Mar. 4.

Lehi, Utah.

Supt. Vallez returned from his eastern trip on Sunday and reports having a pleasant and profitable trip. He spent some time at Bay City, Mich., where they made a grand success this year, it being their first year. As a result of this and the encouragement of a State bounty, a number of new factories are going up in that State. In the vicinity of Bay City 15,000 acres will be planted in beets this year. Many eastern capitalists are now investing their money in this industry and the country is now having a healthy beet sugar boom which means a glorious future for our sugar industry. Experts in the business are in great demand and can command their own price.

While at Cleveland, Mr. Vallez and Mr. Ingalls ordered some of the new machinery to be put in this factory and it will be shipped and put in place as soon as possible. A large force of men were put to work this week tearing out the old char filters to make room for the osmose presses and evaporator to be put in there. The lime kiln will also be torn down and rebuilt so this large force will be kept on for some time and from 10 to 15 mechanics will be kept busy until July when they expect to start up on the syrup. If the present good weather continues the seed beets will be tested and planted about the first of next month.

Manager Cutler is still in the East working in the interest of the sugar industry in this State.—Banner, March 11.

Beet Sugar in the United States.

It is beyond human comprehension that the world produces annually about 8,000,

000 tons of sugar, but even a more startling statement is the one that the United States consumes a third of this immense quantity. Still another fact for which many readers are not prepared is the excess of beet sugar over cane sugar. The former is comparatively so recent a product that it is difficult to realize that it surpasses the cane product. The world's production of cane sugar for 1895 was 3,125,000 tons, while that of beet sugar was 4,975,000 tons. While the United States consumed 2,148,000 tons of beet sugar in 1895; it produced but 33,000 tons. The conditions since have been changing steadily with the increased production of beet sugar, the principal states in the industry being Nebraska and California, the latter having come into the lead in the past few years, while the industry is yet in its infancy. The growth of the sugar beet industry in California is shown by the following table of productions in tons of sugar, compiled by the state board of trade:

Year.	Watsonville.	Alv'rdo.	Chino.	Alamitos.	Total.
1888 . . .	1425	458	Nil	Nil	1910
1889 . . .	1585	872	Nil	Nil	2457
1890 . . .	1585	1403	Nil	Nil	3351
1891 . . .	2183	891	Nil	Nil	3074
1892 . . .	5634	1253	Nil	Nil	6887
1893 . . .	7645	2243	Nil	Nil	9688
1894 . . .	11935	2955	3725	Nil	18615
1895 . . .	10736	2700	10841	Nil	23827
1896 . . .	19185	4679	7951	Nil	31815
1897 . . .	14761	5089	12020	3500	35290

The totals for the year 1898 are not yet at hand, though it is certain that the product will show a material decrease from the preceding year, as a result of the partial drought which has prevailed. This is not what was expected for the year at the close of the preceding season, as it was planned to make the year which has just closed far greater in sugar production than its predecessor.

The Watsonville and Alvarado factories are in Northern California, and the Chino and Alamitos factories are in the South, giving the heaviest production of sugar thus far to the North. Whether this condition will remain is problematical, however. The largest sugar factory in the world has just been completed at Salinas, in Northern California, but on the other hand, an immense factory at Oxnard, Ventura county, would have begun operations this year had it not been for the partial failure of the crop. The Alamitos factory in its first year did but a small portion of the work for which it is equipped. There are plans being made for a half dozen other factories to be constructed in the next few years in Southern California. While the sugar beet is not suitable for all soils, there are large bodies of land throughout the State which can produce big crops of beets of high sugar percentage, and it would appear that the southern counties have fully an equal prospect with the more northern ones.

The lands adapted to beet growing are the

lower valleys, possessing alluvial deposits and freely subirrigated by underground streams. Such land is found in abundance through Orange county, through the southern portion of Los Angeles county, along the coast in general and in certain localities along water courses. The Alamitos factory draws its supply of beets from farms in Los Angeles and Orange counties while the Chino factory, in San Bernardino county, has a large tract of land well adapted to the crop, and also imports beets from Orange county, especially in the vicinity of Anaheim. During the past two years it has also received large supplies from Ventura county, where the owners of the Chino factory have built the Oxnard factory, which will be ready for a large harvest this year.

The sugar beet is white and ranges from three to six inches in diameter at the top, from which point it tapers gradually, being from six inches to two feet in length. The average crop is about eleven tons per acre, and the average sugar percentage is about 15. The prevailing price for beets is \$3.50 per ton for 12-per-cent beets, with 25 cent per ton added for each per cent of sugar above the standard. The richest beets grown stand to the credit of Ventura county, where the average from all farmers for a full year is 18 per cent, valued at \$5 per ton. The returns to the farmer range from \$40 to \$75 per acre for the average year, while with the assistance of boys in thinning the beets, one man can care for about sixty acres. Under these conditions the net profits for the crop are large for the average grower with good soil. Much of the land on which beets are grown is held in large tracts and is rented to the farmers for from \$8 to \$10 per acre a year, though many farmers own their own land. It thus becomes possible for the man of small means to get a foothold in the business. The majority of the owners of land at Chino started with very little capital, and have succeeded in paying for their land in the course of from five to eight years, though not without some self-denial.

The experience at Chino has illustrated the fact impressed on farmers in every other part of the world, that rotation of crops is essential for success. For a series of years the same land was used in the growing of beets. It became apparent that it would be necessary to combine some other industry with that of beet growing, and the ideal companion industry has been found in dairying. The beet pulp, after the extraction of the juice, makes an excellent food for cattle, increasing the percentage of butter fat and keeping the cattle in fine condition. This food is kept by the factory in silos, and is sold to the farmers for the almost nominal price of 40 cents per ton. This wonderfully cheap feed makes possible large profits from the dairy business, while the growing of alfalfa for a couple of years and plowing it under adds greatly to the plant food. The farmers are very generally entering into this industry in connection with

beet growing, and an era of greater prosperity than ever before experienced is promised at Chino.

In Orange county, where the growing of beets is a newer industry, no settled policy has yet been adopted, though the extensive dairy interests of that section warrant the belief that the same course will in time be followed there.

In Ventura county the industry is new and is tending to supplement bean growing to a degree. The large section of beet land about the new sugar factory has been about the most important bean center of the United States.

From the standpoint of the factories, it would appear from what little is known to outsiders that the industry is conducted with great profit. It is said that a factory with a capacity of 700 tons of beets per day requires a capital of about \$850,000, and that it should turn out in the course of a season's "campaign" of 100 days, 8,400 tons of white granulated sugar, on which a profit of 1 cent per pound would amount to \$168,000. It seems, however, that this estimate of the profits of sugar making is very conservative. Granulated sugar can undoubtedly be produced at a profit of 3 cents per pound from sugar beets, and as the world's consumption of sugar is increasing at the rate of 243,000 tons per annum, and as the United States is producing but a trivial portion of the sugar it consumes, there is no reason to doubt the immense field which is open for this industry.

Though it may be by accident, the consumption of sugar is a fair gauge of the civilization of any people, at least of their industrial activity, and the awakening of the Far East, through the influence of Europe in Asia and the Pacific Islands is sure to create a greater demand for sugar in those countries, eliminating, to a degree at least, the possibility of the Hawaiian and Philippine Islands from injurious competition with the California beet growers. The soil adapted to the beet in California probably does not exceed 1,000,000 acres, with a productive power of about a ton and a half of sugar to the acre, or sufficient to supply about one-fifth of the present consumption, and leaving a large deficiency above the present consumption beyond the possibilities of this State to produce, to be made good by other States or by importation from our colonies or foreign countries.

Confidence is placed in this State increasing its industry to the maximum limit, practically, as tests made in many States have shown that the beets produced in California average a much higher percentage of sugar than the products of other States, a fact which places a heavy handicap on the industry in other parts of the country. Though the limited land adapted to the beet gives to California the power of producing but a fifth of the sugar consumed in the country, that does not imply that it is a small item, as the beets would be worth about \$40,000,

000 to the farmers, and the sugar would have a marketable value at wholesale prices of over \$100,000,000 per year. It is thus evident that while California is making vast strides in the development of the beet sugar industry, there is reason to believe that this progress will not cease until the maximum of production is practically attained, and that that maximum is sufficiently great in importance to place the industry in the very fore front of the agricultural activity of the State.

It is true that the beet sugar industry does not imply as dense a population as the growing of fruits, which requires about a family for every five acres, for commercial packing, curing, shipping, manufacturing and horticultural purposes. With the sugar beet, the various allied industries require the work of one family to twenty acres, while the sustaining power of the industry, carried to its maximum would appear to be about 50,000 families, or 250,000 people. In this respect the sugar beet takes precedence of grain growing, and is only inferior to gardening and fruit growing. As it is hardly to be expected that the entire State can be transformed, literally, into gardens and orchards, the sugar beet industry, although the youngest of all, is welcomed as one of the most promising in permanency and steady financial returns yet established in California, and while great work has been accomplished in a short time, there is a field of magnificent proportions open to all, either in the growing of the beets or the manufacture of sugar.

Other States besides California and Nebraska have shown excellent results in the production of sugar beets. Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania and most of the Southern States have produced beets giving high sugar percentage.

The growth of the beet sugar industry all over the United States seems most likely.

Trade Notes.

Want to Buy Machinery.

Elsewhere in this issue we publish the advertisement of Messrs. McClure and Ridpath, 525 Tchoupitoulas street, who are desirous of purchasing some sugar house equipment. All interested should address them at once.

Personal.

Mr. R. R. Barrow, of Houma, La., was among the Sunday guests of the Grunewald city.

Mr. J. W. Foster, of St. Mary Parish, a brother of Governor Murphy J. Foster, and a gentleman connected more or less intimately with the sugar planting interests of his parish, was among the visitors to the city during the past week. He registered at the Hotel Royal.

Mr. S. Mills Mailhot, of the Oakley plantation, in Assumption Parish, was in town last Sunday, and stopped at the Hotel Denechaud. Hotel, his usual stopping place when in the Oakley is a fine place and is getting finer all the time, under the able management of Mr. Mailhot, than whom there is not a better man in the business.

MAR. 24.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	Mar. 18.	Mar. 20.	Mar. 21.	Mar. 22.	Mar. 23.	Mar. 24.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.	
SUGAR.									
Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	— @ —	Firm.	
Choice	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	— @ —		
Strict Prime	3 1/2 @ 3 7/8	3 1/2 @ 3 7/8	3 1/2 @ 3 7/8	3 1/2 @ 3 7/8	3 1/2 @ 3 7/8	3 1/2 @ 3 7/8	3 7/8 @ 3 1/2		
Prime	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 1/2		
Fully Fair	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/4 @ 3 1/8		
Good Fair	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 1/4	3 1/8 @ 3 3/8		
Fair	3 1/2 @ 3 3/8	3 1/2 @ 3 3/8	3 1/2 @ 3 3/8	3 1/2 @ 3 3/8	3 1/2 @ 3 3/8	3 1/2 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8		
Good Common	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8		
Common	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/2 @ 3 1/8	3 1/8 @ 3 1/8		
Inferior	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8		
Centrifugal.									
Plant'a Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		Firm.
Off Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice White	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
OE White	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Grey White	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Choice Yellow	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Prime Yellow	4 3/8 @ 4 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ —		
Off Yellow	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/2 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ —		
Seconds	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1/4		
MOLASSES.									
Open Kettle.									
O. K. Centrifugal	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	Strong.	
Fancy	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Choice	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Strict Prime	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Good Prime	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Prime	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Good Fair	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Fair	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Good Common	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Common	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Inferior	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		
Centrifugal.									
Fancy	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 14	Strong.	
Choice	16 @ —	16 @ —	16 @ —	16 @ —	16 @ —	16 @ —	— @ 13		
Strict Prime	15 @ —	15 @ —	15 @ —	15 @ —	15 @ —	15 @ —	— @ 12		
Good Prime	14 @ —	14 @ —	14 @ —	14 @ —	14 @ —	14 @ —	— @ 11		
Prime	12 @ —	12 @ —	12 @ —	12 @ —	12 @ —	12 @ —	— @ 10		
Good Fair	10 @ —	10 @ —	10 @ —	10 @ —	10 @ —	10 @ —	— @ 9		
Fair	9 @ —	9 @ —	9 @ —	9 @ —	9 @ —	9 @ —	— @ 8		
Good Common	8 @ —	8 @ —	8 @ —	8 @ —	8 @ —	8 @ —	— @ 7		
Common	7 @ —	7 @ —	7 @ —	7 @ —	7 @ —	7 @ —	— @ 6		
Inferior	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 5		
SYRUP.									

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:									
SUGAR.									
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw firm. Refined dull.	
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Granulated	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	4.84 @ —		
Standard A	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	4.72 @ —		
Dutch Granulated	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ —		
German Granul'd.	— @ 4.91	— @ 4.92	— @ 4.94	— @ 4.94	— @ 4.94	— @ 4.93	— @ —		
MOLASSES.									
N. O. Choice	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Cane quiet. Beet—Buyers at quotations.	
N. O. Fair	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
LONDON:									
Java, No. 15 D. S.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	11s. 3d.		
A. & G. Beet	9s. 10 1/4 d.	9s. 10 1/4 d.	9s. 11 1/4 d.	10s. 0d.	9s. 11 1/4 d.	9s. 11 1/4 d.	9s. 0 1/4 d.		

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Leaf	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	Firm.
Powdered	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	
Candy A	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 4 1/4	
Crystal Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Mar. 15	Tons	167,216
At four ports of Great Britain to Mar. 11	"	53,000
At Havana and Matanzas to Mar. 14	"	63,000

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Mar. 24, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received	336	5,937	3,335
Sold	336	5,937	3,335

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Mar. 24, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received	2,903	1,177,049	215,369
Sold	2,903	1,169,318	214,569
Received same time last year	31,043	1,360,537	178,216

MAR. 24

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

RICE.	Mar. 18.	Mar. 20.	Mar. 21.	Mar. 22.	Mar. 23.	Mar. 24.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
	ROUGH, per bbl...	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	2 00@4 25	Dull.
EXTRA FANCY....	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	— @ —	
CLEAN, Fancy....	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	5 3/4@6	
Choice....	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	
Prime....	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	
Good....	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	
Fair....	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	
Ordinary	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 3/4@3 3/4	
Common.	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	3 1/4@3 3/4	
Screenings	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	— @ —	
inferior..	1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2	1 1/2@2	Nominal	
No. 2.....	1 1/4@1 3/4	1 1/4@1 3/4	1 1/4@1 3/4	1 1/4@1 3/4	1 1/4@1 3/4	1 1/4@1 3/4	1 1/4@2	
BRAN, per ton...	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	9 50@10 00	
POLISH, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	14 00@15 00	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Mar. 24, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to Mar. 24, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BBLS. CLEAN.	This year.....	Last year.....	SACKS ROUGH.	BBLS. CLEAN.
Received.....	11,212	390	666,439	4,746	444,583	3,680
Sold.....	8,241	11,68				

Sugar.

The sugar market was steady and firm at the end of the week, with a fair volume of offerings. Receipts from the plantations were moderate.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals strong.

Rice.

The better qualities of rough rice were in active demand at the end of the week with offerings somewhat restricted. Lower grades were in fair supply and showed considerable movement. Clean rice was quiet and steady.

Sugar Consumption of the World.

The general position of sugar and the relation of supply to demand for several years is set forth in a table compiled by Willett & Gray and printed in the Statistical, as follows:

The compilers express the opinion that

489,212 tons, leaving a surplus for the next season of 1,353,856 tons.

In 1895-96 the total supplies were 8,587,362 tons, and the consumption 7,468,850 tons, leaving a surplus of 1,118,512 tons.

In 1896-97 the total supplies were 8,926,982 tons, and the consumption 7,956,011 tons, leaving a surplus of 732,971 tons.

In 1897,98 the total supplies were 8,707,922 tons, and the consumption 7,975,863 tons, leaving a surplus of 732,059 tons.

In the campaign 1898-99 the present estimates of crops (Licht for beet and Willett & Gray for cane), adding surplus from last campaign, would give total supplies of 8,684,319 tons, and Willett & Gray's estimate of the requirement for consumption is 8,250,000 tons, leaving a surplus of, say, 430,000 tons.

It is to be noted that the figures of consumption, by reason of certain unknown invisible stocks, rarely show a steady increase year by year, as the actual facts would show, if obtainable.

7,965,937 tons, but show a jump of 486,906 tons over the first two years. Very good reasons exist for another similar jump in the figures of consumption for the two following years, and hence the compilers include such in their estimate of consumption.

Willett & Gray say: "If we are conservative in our estimates, and the year 1899-1900 requires for consumption with average increase, say, 8,450,000 tons, then, with a supply at its beginning of 430,000 tons, the production of that campaign should reach, and promises to reach, at least 8,500,000 tons, or an increase of, say, 750,000 tons over 1897-98. The cane sugar crops of the world have been steadily held at about 3,000,000 tons for the past four campaigns, while the beet crops were subject to large variations—from 4,285,438 tons to 4,916,486 tons—but have never yet reached the height of the requirements for 1899-1900, say a possible 5,500,000 tons; for we question the ability of cane sugar countries to produce much in excess of their standard—3,000,000 tons in 1899-1900. The largest beet crop ever produced was 4,916,496 tons, and the largest cane crop was 4,916,496 tons, and the largest cane crop 3,531,413 tons, of which Cuba made 1,040,000 tons. This combination of facts and figures indicates to us that sugar has started on an improvement course for the next two campaigns."—American Grocer.

Personal.

Mr. Charles B. Maginnis, of the well-known firm of Caillouet and Maginnis, proprietors of the Woodlawn estate in Terrebonne Parish, was a recent arrival at the St. Charles.

Mr. C. C. Barton, a leading sugar planter of Assumption Parish, stopped for a short while at the Denechaud last week.

Mr. E. W. Deming returned during the week from the Hawaiian Islands, where he went on a combined business and pleasure trip.

Mr. T. A. Womack, a skillful sugar planter from Manchac, La., accompanied by several members of his family, arrived at the Grunewald on Tuesday and took quarters there for a brief stay.

Governor H. C. Warmouth, of the Lower Coast, was among the Wednesday arrivals at the St. Charles.

Mr. H. G. Bush, of the Lower Terrebonne Refinery, at Montegut, La., accompanied by his wife and daughter, was registered at the St. Charles during the week.

Mr. H. C. Barnett and Mrs. Barnett, from Shadyside plantation, were in the city on a visit a few days ago.

	1897-98. Tons.	1896-97. Tons.	1895-96. Tons.	1895-95. Tons.
Europe (Licht).....	523,130	749,587	880,193	307,947
United States and Cuba (Willett & Gray).....	447,841	368,925	473,663	211,178
Total stock, October 1.....	970,971	1,118,512	1,353,856	519,125
Beet crop, Europe (Licht).....	4,825,529	4,916,496	4,285,429	4,792,530
Cane crop, world (Willett & Gray).....	2,911,422	2,891,974	2,948,077	3,531,413
Total production.....	7,736,951	7,808,470	7,233,506	8,323,943
Total supply.....	8,707,922	8,926,982	8,587,362	8,843,068
Stock September 30—Europe (Licht).....	516,326	523,130	749,587	880,193
United States and Cuba (Willett & Gray).....	215,733	447,841	368,925	473,663
Total stock, Sept. 30.....	732,059	970,971	1,118,512	1,353,856
World's consumption, October 1 to September 30.....	7,975,863	7,956,011	7,468,850	7,489,212

the above table shows a movement towards a condition of supplies and demand which points conclusively to the culmination of the downward course of prices.

In 1894-95 the total supplies of the world were 8,843,068 tons, and the consumption 7,

The figures rather show increases by jumps in periods of two or more years. For instance, the years 1895-96 and 1896-97 were nearly alike in figures, and averaged 7,479,031 tons. The years 1897-98 and 1898-99 were again alike in figures, and averaged

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 483, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Thoroughly competent machinist, with several years experience in leading railroad shops, wants work in repairing locomotive engines on sugar plantations. Will work by the day or by contract. He is a practical locomotive engineer and has had experience in repairing and running sugar house machinery. Address W. L., No. 1046 Magazine street, New Orleans. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fictel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give A I references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-12-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHIEF ENGINEER, Lutocher, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 830 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-28-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 25 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 106, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La.

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 3-24-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A I references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3418 Constance street, New Orleans. 3-23-99

WANTED—A position as clerk in store by a young man of good habits and experience. Also have a practical knowledge of drugs. Good references. Address ROBERT, care Postmaster, Woodland, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—A position as carpenter or mill-wright on a sugar plantation. Best of references furnished. Address 418 N. Johnson street, New Orleans. 3-15-99

WANTED—A position by an A No. 1. Sugar dryer, am a machinist with 14 years experience. Address FRANK LORENZ, 302 S. Basin, St., City. 3-15-99

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1824 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 24-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La.

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Neeser, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, timekeeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish A I references. Address "A. C.", this office. 1-9

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. P. MARWIN, 831 Dumaine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1036 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$20. Address F. E. C., Shadydale Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYEE, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation or town store, by a young man of good habits, well qualified and with best references. Address G. J. A., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La.

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation for coming year. Have had many years' experience and can give good recommendations. Address W. P. ROCHELLE, Hohen Solms P. O., La. 12-10-98

WANTED—Position for coming year as manager or overseer on sugar plantation, by married man, 33 years of age, sober, energetic and fully competent. Have had long experience in cultivation of cane and handling labor. Address R., Box 256, New Iberia, La. 12-5-98

WANTED—Position as chemist for coming cane crop by a man of experience. Best of references from past and present employers. Can speak Holland German, French and English. Capable of taking entire charge of the chemical work of the factory. Address W. J. DOYER, care First New York Beet Sugar Company, Rome, N. Y. 12-6-98

WANTED—Position as overseer or manager by middle-aged married man, with 20 years experience, and up to date. Intelligent, practical and economical management assured. Best reference, "Actions speak louder than words." Address DRAINAGE, Room 22, City Hall. 12-3-98

WANTED—A position as Assistant Manager or Overseer on a Sugar Plantation. Forty-four years old, married. Twenty years experience in handling labor. Several years experience in cultivation of Cane. Best references given. Address, M. E. W., care Verandah Hotel, Baton Rouge, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—Man who wishes to learn profession of sugar boiling desires to correspond with a sugar maker who is engaged for coming Mexican or Cuban crop. State terms for instruction. Address, A. W. B., 6334 Patten St., New Orleans, La. 12-23-98

WANTED—Position as manager for 1899, by a first-class man of experience and fine references. Will take an assistantcy and work very reasonable. Address E. W. CRIGHTON, Baton Rouge, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position as second overseer or time-keeper on sugar plantation, for 1899. Address THEO. BAUDOIN, JR., Hahnville, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—A sugar house expert, who is now, and has been for the past five years, the head chemist for one of the largest sugar houses in Louisiana, is open for an engagement for coming crop in Mexico, Cuba or Central America. Will accept a position on any terms consistent with first-class work. Can furnish best of testimonials from present employers and from the University from which he graduated. Address LEDA, this office. 12-6-98

WANTED—Position for next crop by an A No. 1 sugar boiler. Is now employed on one of the largest places in the State. Would have no objection to living on the place and making himself generally useful. Is a good cooper. Address GEO. CODE, 4730 Tchoupitoulas street, city. 11-26-98

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

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ical, Political and Commercial.

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6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	106 00	140 00
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The Condition of the Cane Crop.

A decidedly more hopeful feeling is now manifested all over the sugar district and instances are recorded where the entire acreage set aside for the purpose has been planted with sound seed cane, while the stubbles are being resuscitated by the propitious weather which has prevailed. Field work has progressed actively and the operation of planting has now been practically finished everywhere. Every indication points to a confirmation of our estimate made soon after the freeze, and in the face of the alarming reports then current, that a three-fourths crop would be made in the State in spite of the remarkable temperature of February 13th. The rain which has just fallen and the warm weather which has accompanied it will be of untold value in developing the growth of the crop.

"Prehistoric Corn."

Mr. W. J. Warrington, of Bel Vista plantation, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, writes to the Louisiana Planter, sending a package of his "prehistoric corn." This corn seems to have been propagated from seed corn found in the Indian mounds, dating back to the time when the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, concerning which much has been said recently in the newspapers.

Mr. Warrington, writing of this corn, believes that its propagation will do much towards encouraging diversified crops in Louisiana. He recommends that it be planted early in deep plowed ground, two grains to a hill, and hills four feet apart. At least that has been found the most profitable way in Arkansas. The corn bears a great deal of rain and resists long droughts that burn up all other varieties. It makes excellent roasting ears, a fine flavored meal, very white, etc. Its yield both of fodder and corn is much greater than that obtained by Mr. Warrington's neighbors.

Mr. Warrington kindly offers to send a package of the corn to any one who desires to try it in Louisiana who may write him for same.

A Sugar Factory in Abbeville.

In a recent issue of the Republican Idea of Abbeville it is announced that an earnest effort is making to organize a 300-ton sugar factory in that town, so arranged as to readily admit of an increase of its capacity to the handling of 600 tons of cane per day.

Under the circumstances there prevailing it is stated that a 300-ton factory with the necessary apparatus can be constructed for \$60,000 and with an additional outlay of \$10,000 its capacity can be doubled. The citizens are asked to subscribe \$30,000, of which, however, only about \$6000 has been secured thus far.

Abbeville is an enterprising town of the parish of Vermilion, one of the richest in the state. It contains thousands of acres of fertile and valuable sugar lands which can readily be brought into cultivation, and now is the time for the good people there to make their enterprise a success.

The Rice Industry in Southwest Louisiana.

Few persons have any conception of the magnitude of the irrigating works now constructing or contemplated in southwest Louisiana. One of the recent ventures in that direction is on the part of the agents of the North American Land & Timber Co., who are such immense land owners in Calcasieu parish. The Commercial Tribune of Lake Charles says that this company has just secured for some other parties a water front on English Bayou and the right of way for the construction of an immense irrigating plant, capable of supplying water to some 1500 acres of land. The wonderfully level character of these prairie lands in southwest Louisiana

and the tight sub-soil, or hard pan lying about a foot below the surface, retaining irrigation water with such ease, together with the small levees required, so diminish the engineering difficulties in the way of irrigation that the cost of elevating water as needed, from 15 to 25 feet, is the only serious problem to be considered. With modern and economical steam producing apparatus this cost is reduced to a minimum and we shall probably soon hear the last of "providence" rice and note the fact that every farmer in southwestern Louisiana can secure an adequate supply of water.

It is going to take some time to bring about all these great improvements. While many large irrigating plants have been in operation for several years and have aided in securing the large rice crops produced in southwest Louisiana, thus far we have hardly yet begun to feel the effect of the vast enterprises inaugurated within the last year or two which promise to double or triple the rice supply from that part of our state within the next two or three years.

We can only wish these gentlemen success in their ventures and believe that the market of the United States is thoroughly competent to take at fair prices all of the rice that they will produce for some years to come. It will be necessary, however, for the producers to arrange to market their rice gradually, and not force it upon a glutted and unwilling market, thus reducing values one-half as has been so frequently done in the past.

Sugar Beets in South Dakota.

Prof. James H. Shepard, chemist and director of the U. S. Experiment Station in connection with the South Dakota Agricultural College at Brookings, has just published another bulletin of the result of the studies in sugar beet culture in 1898.

As has been frequently stated in this journal, it seems likely that the great states of the West, commonly known as the arid and semi-arid regions, where in agriculture is largely dependent upon irrigation, will in time become the center of the beet sugar industry of the United States. The fact that sugar beets can be successfully produced in California, with a very small rainfall, and that their successful production with

irrigation has been so thoroughly demonstrated at Lehi, Utah, stands as object lessons to these states and suggests that they should avail of this one agricultural industry in which every experiment made thus far exhibits the prospects of great success for them.

Director Shepard says that the work of the year must be considered as satisfactory; that the results obtained are reliable and definite; that on a commercial scale the tonnage could be readily increased and the cost of production decreased.

The average results for the state as summed up by him are simply surprising and would indicate that more wealth can be secured to the state by the development of this branch of agriculture than is at present possible in any other direction.

The average sucrose content of the beets is placed at 18.44%. The average purity at 88.91%. The average yield of beets per acre 16.30 tons and the average cost of producing the beets per acre \$37.64.

Sugar From the Philippines.

From a recent government publication on the Philippines we learn the quantity of sugar exported therefrom during the years 1892 and 1893. The exports for 1892 reach 228,662 short tons, valued at 1.39 cents per pound; those for 1893, 238,279 short tons, valued at 1.80 cents per pound.

The greater part of this sugar went to Great Britain, while China, Hong Kong and Singapore were the next largest receivers, the United States getting about 50,000 tons in 1892 and but about 11,000 tons in 1893.

As the Manila people aggregate millions in numbers and are said to be comparatively docile and industrious, we may readily imagine to what extent sugar would be produced there within a few years if our expansionists had full sway and the islands were received into the brotherhood of the states with little or no duty to be paid here on their produce.

The low prices made for sugar in 1892 may be an error, but are so reported and from them we may judge of the effect of an ad valorem tariff on such goods.

Sugar From Hawaii.

The annual report of the Hawaiian minister of finance gives the quantity of sugar exported for the year 1898 at 224,484 short tons, against 260,079 short tons the year before. While there was a diminution of 37,595 tons in quantity, there was an increase of a million and a quarter of dollars in the value of the sugar exported in 1898.

Of the sugar so exported 99.4 per cent came to the United States, and, of course, free of duty under the conditions of the reciprocity treaty. Of the exports to the United States, 83.25 per cent. went to Pacific ports and 16.19 per cent. went to Atlantic ports, a total of 38,756 short tons.

A noticeable feature of the trade conditions of Hawaii is that the total imports into the islands for 1898 aggregated in value 311,651,000 while the total exports for the same year aggregated \$17,347,000, a balance of trade in favor of the islands of \$5,696,000 against a corresponding balance of trade in their favor the year before of \$7,184,000.

It is now too late to complain of the apparent success of our fellow sugar producers in the Hawaiian islands, but if the Louisiana sugar industry could have written down to its credit during recent years an annual balance of trade of six or seven millions of dollars it would be in a much more prosperous condition than now.

Personal.

Hon. Andrew H. Gay, of the St. Louis and Union plantations in Iberville parish, came up to town the end of last week and took rooms at the St. Charles for a brief sojourn.

General William J. Behan, of the Alhambra plantation, was a recent visitor to New Orleans. Gen Behan registered at the St. Charles Hotel.

Mr. Ernest H. Barton, of Ascension parish, accompanied by several members of his family, was a guest of the Cosmopolitan last Monday.

Mr. S. Aoraham, a resident of the famous sugar producing section around Raceland, was in the city during the past week. He registered at the Cosmopolitan.

Mr. F. B. Williams, of St. Mary parish, was an arrival at the St. Charles Hotel on Wednesday.

Mr. R. R. Barrow, the Terrebonne parish sugar planter, was a guest of the Grunewald Hotel a few days ago, remaining only a brief period, as is customary with him.

Sugar in Florida.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The Florida papers are full of talk about sugar growing in this state, and that great quantities of syrup can and will be grown for refining purposes, and sold to a refinery to be built (prospectively) in Jacksonville, at 15 cts. and possibly 10 cts. a gallon; and it is claimed there is big money in it at these prices for both grower and factory.

The grower has, however, first to work his cane into syrup to contain seven pounds of sugar per gallon. Now the cost to grow cane and work it into a finished product approximates \$50.00 per acre; good seasons lowering it and bad ones raising it. I have heard a good deal about 600 and 800 gallons of syrup being made per acre in Florida. In the course of 24 years residence in this state I have not seen it, and I have visited many farmers' mills in various sections and noted results. In Pasco County, on the 28th parallel—fresh cleared hammock land, cane ground on 1st of January gave 420 gallons, at about 33 Baume—and the cane was an extra good stand and above the average for size and for growth and maturing, the fall and winter was an ideal cane season.

Now I wish to ask, that with an expense of \$50.00 per acre and 420 gallons syrup at 10 cts. or even 15 cts., will it be an extraordinary business? It is asserted that Florida cane contains 23% sucrose, and that Florida is the cradle of sugar growing in the United States. I believe Turnbull attempted to grow sugar at New Smyrna in 1767. The sugar infant seems never to have grown lusty enough to get out of the cradle. Has been weak all these past years.

So far as climatic influence is concerned, I have seen cane killed by frost on 1st Dec., on the 28th parallel, and in 24 hours too sour to make sugar. This is below the Louisiana sugar district. The warm weather in January and February generally starts out the growth and frost in March cuts it off. So the growth as a rule cannot be said to start until March; that does not give a longer growing season than Louisiana. Quantitative results are to be arrived at by the actual averages of practical work, not by speculative analyses in a chemical laboratory. Mr. Stockbridge in his report, page 20, gives the sucrose content of Florida cane from samples taken from various portions of the state, as follows:

	Nov. 20	Nov. 30	Dec. 10
red cane	14.22	15.34	15.60
Green cane	10.10	11.41	15.15
Ribbon cane		10.34	12.36

These analyses show a general average of 12.06, for late in season. This is only 0.56 above Dr. Stubbs average for Louisiana cane, for the grinding season from Oct. to 1st Jan.

In all this paper discussion of sugar growing in Florida, no reference has been made to the actual work at St. Cloud plantation, the only plantation in the state that can

furnish data. The only allusion made to that plantation was by the Tampa Herald calling in question some of the extraordinary statements about sugar possibilities in Florida. In answer to the Herald's query "what is the matter with St. Cloud," the Kissimmee Valley Gazette replies:

"It is patent to the most casual observer that in spite of the vast capital at the command of the owners, and their consequent ability to employ experts and utilize all available resources, and in spite of the bounty the enterprise has not been an unqualified success. This is proved by the curtailment of the area under cultivation, the reduction of the output, and the depreciation in the value of the shares of the company."

Instead of showing some tangible data from actual work, an attempt is made to assert the cane contains 23 per cent sucrose; regular sugar sticks. Who is the authority for this statement, as opposed to Mr. Stockbridge's published analyses.

Florida is sadly in need of a safe staple crop that would bring some revenue into the state, and anyone would welcome sugar production; or any other crop that would produce money. But to bring about sugar culture, it may possibly be necessary to produce something more tangible than that Florida cane contains 23 per cent sucrose, or that Florida cane stalks are solid sticks of sugar.

In conclusion I wish to say in regard to the "Florida Echo's" assertion that Louisiana has prevented the extension of sugar culture in the South and especially in Florida, that Louisiana has never worried about Florida—sugar culture began in Louisiana in 1795; since that time her planters have struggled against adverse conditions, against climate, floods, storms, labor conditions, high rates of interest and charges. Planter after planter has gone down in wreck, but by a magnificent indomitable energy and perseverance of her sugar planters the industry survives, and no one who knows them can but admire their heroic struggle during the past 100 years.

LAKE BUDDY.

San Antonio, Fla.

A Short Description of a Large French Beet Sugar Factory at Escaud-seuvres, near Cambrai, France.

The central beet sugar factory of Escaudseuvres, at the head of which is one of our most competent sugar men, Mr. Carmuset, works daily the juice of about 3,100 metrical tons of beets. In order to avoid the cost of transporting this quantity of beets to the central factory, sixteen small houses, called raperies, are built in the localities where the beets are raised. The most distant of these raperies is seventeen miles from the central factory, which receives the juice of all of the raperies through pipes of four to six inches diameter. It is proper here to say that each raperie is mounted with a diffusion battery, lime tank and com-

pression pumps. All of the juice is collected at the central factory into a large tank having a capacity of 11,000 gallons.

This juice so collected is again limed and heated with the vapor of the last pan of the multiple effect. First and second saturations are made in continuous carbonatation tanks of the Carmuset system.

Between each saturation and filtration through filter presses and mechanical filters, the juice is heated in the heaters of the vertical type with six circulations, by the vapors of the quadruple effect. Thirty filter presses of forty plates each and mechanical surface, are used for this work. Sulphuring is not used on the juices.

The juice after its complete filtration is then taken into the last vessel of the evaporating apparatus so that all ammoniacal gases are taken directly out by the condenser. From the 5th vessel juice is drawn by means of a pump and sent to the first one, and then from vessel to vessel, until the fourth is reached, in which the syrup indicates a density of 26 to 28 deg. Baume.

The capacity and dimensions of the quintuple effects are as follows:

First vessel, heating surface 4000 square feet, diameter 10 feet, 6 inches; second vessel, heating surface 10914 square feet, diameter 15 feet, 1 inch; third vessel, heating surface 14,420 square feet, diameter 16 feet, 9 inches; fourth vessel, heating surface 6,130 square feet, diameter 13 feet, 9 inches; fifth vessel, heating surface 16,664 square feet, diameter 18 feet, 5 inches.

This last pan is heated with the vapor coming from the fourth pan and vapor coming from the vacuum pans.

The syrup coming out of the fourth pan of the multiple effect is treated with sulphur and heated with the vapor from the first pan and filtered through mechanical filters.

The syrup is then treated in the vacuum pans, which are seven in number.

Two are 18 feet in diameter and 15,600 gallons (masse cuite capacity). Two are 16 feet, 5 inches in diameter and 13,350 gallons (masse cuite capacity). One is 14 feet, 9 inches in diameter and 12,250 gallons (masse cuite capacity). Two are 10 feet in diameter and 8,000 gallons (masse cuite capacity).

The masse cuite is then mixed and triturated in open mixers, then sent to the centrifugals, fitted with electric motors. The sugar is elevated directly to the packing room. The molasses from the centrifugals is treated with sulphurous acid and then drawn back into the saturation tanks.

The steam power is supplied by steam boilers having a total heating surface of 56,000 square feet.

All the power necessary for pulverizing lime stone, liming the juice, operating the saturation pumps, sulphuring, mixing and centrifugal work, is electrical. Three Corliss engines, having 1500 horse power, are used

for the purpose of giving motion to the electrical generators.

The lighting of the whole building is done with three turbo motors of the Laval system, having 400 horse power, receiving their steam from four special steel boilers of the locomotive type with a heating surface of about 4000 square feet.

The whole establishment was erected within one year by the well known firm of Cail, whose general shops and management are now located in the town of Douai (Nord) France.

L. MARC.

Sugar House Improvements in Hawaii.

Kukalau, Hawaii, Feb. 20, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Of modern mills in Hawaii, the new style mills of the Cora type are being adopted by nearly all of the planters, and they are giving the best possible satisfaction, and are found to be an immense improvement over the old style three-roller mill. The design, construction and siting of these mills are all changes in the right direction, and are calculated to insure durability and high extraction. The large size shafts and wide bearings, double gears, steel twin-plate and improved scrapers, are all necessary and important improvements, and they are just what have been needed for a long time. The hydraulic pressure regulation is also a decided improvement and works like a charm. However, I do not think the extraction is any better than with the mill set rigid, although it is undoubtedly safer where the hydraulics are used.

The following tests well show the relative extraction in some of our mills of the old style and the new. Old five-roller mill, with cane 15% sucrose,—and dry grinding gave bagasse containing 7½ to 8½ per cent sucrose and 50 per cent moisture; about 85 per cent extraction of sucrose. With 12% maceration bagasse contained 6 to 7 per cent sucrose, and 52 to 54 per cent moisture; extraction 89 per cent sucrose. With nine-roller mill, dry grinding bagasse contained 4 to 5 per cent sucrose, and 42 to 44 per cent moisture, 90 per cent extraction. With 12 to 15 per cent maceration, bagasse contained 3½ to 4 per cent sucrose and 44 to 45 per cent moisture; extraction 94 to 95 per cent of sucrose. 7.36 tons of cane per ton of sugar. Weight on top rollers 313.2, 334.0, 344 tons. The above figures show a decided gain for the nine-roller mill, and is better work, than was at one time done on diffusion.

Water tube boilers of the Heine type are rapidly coming into use here, and are giving the best satisfaction. I have not had experience enough with them to speak as to their economy over the old style, but they will undoubtedly steam faster than any boiler that I have had any experience with before. These boilers are set different from

most water tube boilers, for in most cases the flame passes up through the tubes after leaving the fire, while in this boiler the flame is carried through a flue to the end of the boiler, and then passes along the whole length of the tubes and returns along the boiler. I don't know if this is an advantage or not, but it develops an immense heat on the flue, and the temperature must exceed that of the furnace. It is this great heat in the flue which is said to be the great improvement in this style of boiler and which results in the perfect combustion of all the gases. As the heat surpasses anything that I have ever seen before in a bagasse furnace, it would seem impossible that anything in the way of a gas would pass through it and not be consumed.

Superheat clarification is still growing in favor here, and although it is admitted that it is an improvement on the old methods, it still has some drawbacks. For instance, if a mill is grinding but twelve hours a day, it is said to take half the night to boil the juice down as the clarifying containers are said to hold nearly twenty clarifiers of juice. But where they work continuously night and day, they are admitted to be far ahead of the open clarifiers.

GEO. OSBORNE.

Protection Against Puerto Rican and Cuban Sugar.

The official announcement by Special Agent C. F. Saylor of the Agricultural Department that we cannot afford to admit Porto Rican sugar free, but must place a duty on it, unless we wish to strike the home industry a fatal blow, is one that Congress cannot afford to overlook. What Mr. Saylor says of Porto Rico applies, of course, equally to Cuba and the Philippines should the President succeed in carrying through his imperialistic policy and annexing these islands.

Mr. Saylor makes the matter very clear. Porto Rico, he says, can raise sugar for two cents a pound because of the low price of labor, the cheapest in the world, and cheaper even than slave labor. The price of labor in the island is distressingly low, the cost of living being only five cents a day—soup, bread and potatoes. In time, if Porto Rico continues a part of the United States, the wages paid labor will advance and come up to the American standard. When that occurs the cost of producing sugar there and in the United States will be about the same, and a protective duty will be unnecessary; but in present conditions, with labor so degraded and wages so low, we will have to keep up a duty, Mr. Saylor says, unless we are willing to destroy the sugar cane and beet root industries in this country or bring down American labor to the Porto Rican level.

As for the proposition that the sugar industry should be sacrificed in order to secure cheap sugar, we have a startling evidence of its folly in the case of England,

India and the West Indies. The latter countries have been bankrupted by the British cheap sugar policy, and England may lose them in consequence; while India has revolted against bounty sugar and protected itself by the adoption of the American system of countervailing duties. Moreover, even if we sacrificed our farmers under the belief that it would give us cheap sugar, the chances are that we would completely fail and only play into the hands of the Sugar Trust, giving it greater power than ever over this important article.

Congress will undoubtedly be guided by Mr. Saylor's advice, and not let our new colonies inflict a serious blow upon our farmers.—Times-Democrat.

Trade Notes.

Kracke & Flanders.

This is the time of year when the planters naturally examine their roofs to find out what repairs and improvements are necessary for the coming season.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Messrs. Kracke & Flanders, of No. 640 Gravier Street, New Orleans, La., on our front page. Although a new advertisement, it is not a new firm by any means, they having been favorably known amongst the planting fraternity for the past ten years, or more. The past season proved a record breaker, they having done roofing and steam pipe covering work on seventy-five plantations, their specialty being the application of composition, tarred felt and shell roofing. Its special features are that it will withstand acid and vapor fumes, smoke and dampness without corroding, rusting, etc. It can be applied on an almost completely flat surface, thereby saving area of surface to be roofed, to say nothing of material to be saved in construction of wooden frame work, labor, etc.

Messrs. Kracke & Flanders say it does not crack from being jarred, or from settling of foundations, nor is it easily torn off of buildings by storms and hurricanes. It is taken at the same rate of insurance as other roofings, besides possessing the extra feature of being accessible and susceptible to usage in event of necessity. Its cost, as compared with any other material, they say, is one-half as cheap as slate, about one-quarter lower than galvanized iron and about as cheap as shingles. One more feature to be considered is its lack of condensing qualities, which is the main cause of rapid deterioration of metal roofs. The user has a guarantee for from three to ten years and should roof leak through any fault of material or construction, it will be looked after by the contractor free of further cost. The tar paper and shell roofing is composed of heavy paper saturated with tar, laid on the roof and lapped upon itself, with a cover of not less than 20 to 26 inches. After the first layer is applied, then another layer; then a coating of pitch until roof has been covered with four or five ply, as the case may be. The last coating is put on heavily, when it is white washed, gummed and shells, sand or gravel is imbedded.

The result is a homogeneous mass, absolutely water-proof, acid-proof and pliable.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Perhaps the local situation from an agricultural point of view cannot be better described than in the words of the manager of one of the largest and finest plantations in this parish, who responded to the request of your correspondent for a few notes on existent conditions and prospects with the following hastily penned observations:

"All's well that ends well!" Under the circumstances, crop prospects in this vicinity are far better than the most sanguine expectations after the freeze, for one already hears the voices of pessimists crying, 'I told you it would be good. I told you so! It's first-class!'

"Stubble and fall plant are marking the rows well. Spring plant (commonly called damaged seed) already proclaims promises of a good stand, and in some places, especially early planting is marking the rows.

"Cane planting in this section is a thing of the past, Brigadier-General John Tucker winding up yesterday (Tuesday). Though late in getting through, he confesses his seed was good, and it is suspected that he has joined the church and cannot bring himself to evade the truth by pretending that he had had seed. He must doubtless look to the future for the reward of his virtue, for if he makes a good crop, it will, of course, be attributed to the good condition of the material planted and he will receive no credit for it here below.

"This morning (Wednesday) the thermometer went to 32 degrees a mile from the river. A heavy white frost was visible in front and people of the back section of the plantation claim to have seen ice a sixteenth of an inch thick. A temperature of 90, with a little weekly warm shower, would be far more acceptable than this Klondike atmosphere, at least for sugar cane in lower Louisiana.

"Field work of all kinds is being actively pushed—shaving and digging stubble, scraping fall and spring plant, corn planting, etc. In fact any description of dirt delving is in order. After such a prolonged wet spell as we endured the lands become closely packed and hence are very hard. A warm rain would be very acceptable, and the sooner the better."

Belle Terre reports a shortage of about sixteen per cent in the acreage of plant cane, 210 acres having been covered instead of the 250 expected. The average shortage at Evan Hall and in the other plantations in that vicinity is estimated to range between one-quarter and one-third, with even larger deficits in a few instances.

At Armesise, in Assumption parish, only a half planting has been made, and on Westfield and Whitwell less than half the anticipated area has been planted owing to the

defective character of the seed. The total shortage on these three places is said to reach 500 acres.

Manager Scott Williams is quoted as having expressed the belief that Mr. Price's Acadia place, near Thibodaux, will not make more than a half crop this year.

A good spell of warm weather with occasional rains is needed to harmonize conflicting opinions and let us know how good or how bad the crop prospects really will be in

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has been good during the past week, though some of the mornings rather cool, and the wind tolerably constant. Warm rains are needed to help to get the crop out of the ground. Everybody we think has finished planting. Stubble digging, cane scraping and corn planting are the principal works under way. In some places the cane is beginning to mark the row. Stubbles, however, are not coming out as fast as our planters would like to see them and several told us that the stubble will not come. There was a heavy frost and light ice on Wednesday morning, but outside of scorching vegetables and retarding the cane a little, no damage was done.

The river has risen steadily for some days and is against the levee all along. Seepage water may be seen in numerous places. The covering of the batture makes it inconvenient for planters to receive their freight and we observed some this week hauling through water.

Mr. P. Didier Martinez of White Castle, the popular manager of General W. J. Behan's Alhambra Plantation says Alhambra must not be brought in the general average this year, for she is way ahead. The seed cane was in very good condition and a full planting of 350 acres was made. Not only that, but the cane promises a fine stand and the stubbles also. Plenty of the seed cane planted four and a half for one and some land had to be successional to put it all away.

A gentleman who this week rode over the Supple properties and the lands lately opened up in the rear of White Castle and Dorceyville, says the cane is coming up very nicely and that Mr. Thomas Supple thinks they will have as many tons for the mill this year as last. We are sorry to say, however, that reports from the wards over the river are not so encouraging and that some first year's stubble examined this week looked rather poor.

We were shown a strange freak this week by Mr. B. C. LeBlanc in the nature of a stubble with six sprouted eyes, two of which, being those two nearest the top which had been covered with less than an inch of dirt had grown into little shoots with green leaves. This stubble was from second year's

that was being plowed out for corn. Not another stubble for 50 feet on either side showed signs of life and as far as could be seen, the stubble mentioned had had no special protection. The stubble seemed to be one of those July suckers, and if all suckers had as much life in them as this, they are not as worthless as some of the sugar solons would have them to be.

District Court convened in regular jury session this week. Judge Talbot appointed Mr. D. H. Walsh, Manager of Hon. A. H. Gay's Union Plantation, foreman of the Grand Jury. Besides Mr. Walsh, the following sugar planters are members of that body: Ben C. LeBlanc, C. W. Locke, E. Hanlon, W. J. Thiry, G. R. Murrell, M. L. Randolph and F. D. Robertson, and that it is a fine body none will deny.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The tendency of the weather to vary from one extreme to the other as the seasons come and go is being forcibly exemplified just now. As has been frequently stated in this correspondence, the rainfall from June 1, 1898, to Feb. 15, 1899, was abnormal. From the last-named date, however, the rains began to decrease and a drouth now seems to be imminent. A shower fell here on March 18; then came a period of absolutely dry weather terminating in a decided change yesterday (Tuesday) morning, when the wind which had for days been blowing from the east and south, suddenly shifted to the northwest, bringing a light rain and much colder weather. The rain was not heavy enough to delay field work, which was continued uninterruptedly during the day. This (Wednesday) morning dawned clear and bright, with a good frost in evidence, while several claim to have seen ice. On Saturday several planters remarked that a rain would prove beneficial in several respects.

While, therefore, a more hopeful spirit seems prevalent just now than was the case a few weeks ago, that feeling is due more to the better weather than to an actual improvement in the condition of the cane. As to this, there is distressingly little to report. Field work is being pushed as rapidly as possible, and the planters are getting to that point where they can realize the injury done by the freeze and estimate with a fair degree of accuracy the probable outcome of existing conditions. These estimates range all the way from half a crop on some places to the saving of enough seed for next year's planting on others. This difference in estimates represents to a great extent the actual condition of both plant and stubble on the several plantations. For instance Hon. V. M. Lefebvre informs me that much of his seed cane is good, and that he has considerable stubble which promises to do well. Smithfield, too, if reports are to

be relied upon, is equally "well fixed." These places, representing almost the extreme ends of the parish, are among the more fortunate plantations. On others, as stated at one, the conditions are not so favorable, an abundance of seed cane for next year's planting being about all that is hoped for.

A number of planters have finished planting, having carefully culled the cane for that purpose. Where the stubbles have been dug and off-barred, some shoots can be seen peeping up here and there. Considerable stubble has, however, been plowed out entirely and the land prepared for corn and peas.

Despite last year's disastrous prices, the cotton planters are going ahead with their preparations for a new crop, but it is quite safe to say that there will be a material reduction in the cotton acreage this year in

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

A week of glorious weather has facilitated the farmers in their work, and for the most part the business of planting cane is over for the present season, and the attention of the farmer and tenant alike will be devoted to corn planting and stubble digging. The weather yesterday, (Sunday) and to-day has been decidedly warm, and the cane will come out quickly under the beneficial influences of these balmy spring days. In some places where shaved early the stubble is marking the row, and already the cane first planted is putting in an appearance, as if protesting against the pessimistic views as to its condition. Where the stubble has been shaved deep there is a decided improvement as compared with that shaved shallow. On some places where the corn was planted early, there is a good stand, and to show that there is warmth in Mother Earth, we may state that some planted three days ago is now showing up. A good rain would help all vegetation, and while nothing is yet suffering for the lack of moisture, still a warm rain would do much towards making the crops come out even more speedily. Rose-dale has a hundred arpents of early corn up, and will doubtless have roasting ears with the earliest planters.

We hear that Mr. Barton has rented his Little Texas plantation to his lower neighbor, who will take off the crop at Oakley. Extensive improvements will be made on Oakley, and she will be prepared to handle the increased acreage with dispatch. The lease is only for one year, and we believe the rental is based on the tonnage, but not knowing definitely, will not attempt to give particulars on hearsay.

We hear that Mr. Dugas, the managing partner on Sweet Home not being daunted by the snow will build a railroad tapping the section of country near Plattenville. We

suppose that the tram to the canal will be put in this year so as to help feed the hungry rollers to be erected on Oakley. Mr. Barton on Magnolia seems cheerful over a big planting and scoffs at those who predict a disastrous year everywhere. The snow did not effect the magnolias, and he expects his Magnolia to bloom as of yore.

Mr. Eugene Chauvin, of Trinity, is also one not discouraged, and is only two acres short after having re-planted seven of defective fall-plant. Trinity made a full planting, and under the skillful management of Mr. A. L. Munson will be heard from at the end of the campaign as usual.

A ride down the Attakapas Canal showed that the inhabitants of this fertile section are going into cane, and as much of the land is virgin soil, large tonnage will doubtless be obtained. The desire of the small planter to go into cane has not been dampened by the bad grinding season of last year, and everywhere one hears of new land be-put into cane this year. The Simon Abraham place, for a number of years devoted to the culture of rice, has this year gone into cane, and the adjoining place of Mr. Roger, we are told, will be planted in cane another year.

The present encouraging price that sugar commands, and the fact that the production in Cuba seems not to be large as expected gives renewed hope that the price will be a satisfactory one. The present spell of dry weather has proved a veritable Godsend to the roads, and travel is now resumed after a cessation of some months. The rising waters in the Lafourche threaten to make them bad again, as in many places the transpiration waters are showing alongside the roads.

Next week a jury term of court opens in Assumption, and unlike the last term, the jurors and witnesses can come by team. At a session in February, many were forced to take the little passenger boats in order to reach their destination.

Many of the trees that looked completely dead after the snow are now coming out, the sweet olives although badly bitten are once more showing the green, although in some instances not early enough to celebrate the birthday of Ireland's Saint. The umbrella China trees too are recovering from the numbing influences of the freeze, and even the grand duke jasmines out in the open ground are putting out their heads. Judging from the signs given above we do not think that the damage done was anything like as great as believed at the time of the freeze. The orange trees are thoroughly killed, though some of these may come up from the roots. However in a week or two more we can definitely gauge the harm done.

MORE ANON.

Mr. M. Bagley, a leading sugar planter of Ramsey, La., was at the Commercial recently.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The rainfall during the month has been below the normal in this parish, and but for a few cold days the temperature above the average. The light frosts at intervals and the dryness of the soil combined to retard vegetation somewhat. There were indications of rain on Tuesday with a light sprinkle, after which the wind veered to the north and the temperature fell rapidly before night and on the morning of Wednesday light frost was to be seen; but not sufficient to injure hardy plants such as cane. The dry north wind rapidly robs the ground of soil moisture where the earth is not in a friable condition. The public roads are now unpleasantly dusty, and the cisterns are in many instances without water. With the advent of another month, it is to be hoped this section will be favored with the proverbial April showers to soften the compacted soil and hasten the germination of the eyes of the plant cane and stubble. Canes planted before the freeze, and the late cut cane begin to mark the rows here and there.

At Ellendale of Mr. Ed. McCollam on the front the ratoons begin to appear nicely, and it is reported they are giving promise on the places of Mr. John D. Minor, on the lower Bayou Black. Mr. Cambon on the Grand Caillou is very sanguine as to the crop outlook, the seed cane up to the average, and the ratoons on black lands marking the rows. Mr. L. LeBlanc on the bayou on the lower Terrebonne, reports similar conditions. Canes fertilized with tankage in the drill are sprouting more rapidly than earlier planted fields without manure. Should the weather remain dry, probably stubble middles will be ploughed out as a precautionary measure to guard against the injury which would accrue from too heavy precipitations which frequently follow droughts of any duration.

It is stated that Greenwood located on the lower bayou Black has been purchased by a syndicate of citizens of the parish, with the intention of having a central factory, and purchase the canes grown on the lower bayou.

Within the past year Houma has made rapid progress, two hotels have been built; the Houma Bank building nearing completion is an elegant structure, and the Knights of Pythias are erecting commodious quarters.

Messrs Bonvillain & Bergeron have erected extensive brick sheds, and will build a patent kiln in which to burn brick, and will in the near future be able to more than supply the local demand.

Wednesday of last week, fair in the morning and partially cloudy later; Thursday, cloudy and fresh; Friday, variable, also Saturday; Sunday, fine and balmy; Monday, cloudy and warm; Tuesday, a sprinkle and colder as the day advanced, and Wednesday morning, frost and fine.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

At this present time the agricultural industry of St. Mary is being strained to its fullest tension. The cane being all down now, the planters have focussed their attention upon the soil to be used for the production of their corn crop, which is being broken up and planted as rapidly as possible, and the canals and ditches worked over while the weather is so highly favorable for such pursuits. Your correspondent is informed that the usual small corn acreage will be increased on each plantation that suffered loss of seed from the freeze of last month, to the extent of the shortage in cane acreage created thereby, together with a little heavier corn seeding among the stubble, which also suffered in some places more than usual; but taken as a whole, the increase will be unimportant. The rule has been in St. Mary, as it is in all other parishes of the sugar region, to only rest up the soil under clover and peas to the extent of maintaining a fair acreage for cane, together with such fertilization as was possible to carry along with the cane crop itself, and which custom would not have been invaded this season but from necessity.

The clear sky, hot sun and strong and prevailing South winds were drying out the fields too rapidly for an effective start, and when the splendid rain of Monday night and Tuesday arrived, which made the third series of showers since the planting season began, and which, in the opinion of your correspondent was the most timely and important this season, the fields were almost dusty. Today all Nature looks as clean and fresh as a new-blown rose, and the crops are receiving a beautiful and encouraging start, which will largely dispel the ill humor of a few weeks ago.

The parish road mules were sold last Saturday at public sale, to Messrs. J. D. Simms and M. L. Harrison, in conformity to the new road ordinance of the police jury mentioned in the notes of your correspondent last week. The highest price received was \$100 and the lowest \$35, which, after considering the condition and worth of the animals, was very low. There were few bidders, indicating that the demand at this season was at a low ebb.

The planters and others of observing turns, are still theorizing over the condition of the seed cane and the causes which created the shortage; and of course, as no two are just alike in their opinions, some must, of necessity, find themselves beyond the range of possibility, or at least, contrary to all former experiences. The only point of unanimity seems to be that they all intend to drain deeper and more perfectly hereafter.

ST. MARY.**Vermilion.**

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather continues very favorable for farm work, though it is getting to be a little dry at present. A light shower would do

a vast amount of good just now. It would assist the cane, corn, cotton and rice that has been planted to come up. Cane planting in this parish is nearing completion, by the end of this week there will be no more of this crop to plant. March planting of corn is about finished up and the ground is in readiness for the April and May planting. Cotton planting is being rapidly pushed to completion. Rice farmers have their lands in readiness for seeding and many of them have seeded at least half of their proposed acreage. The rice crop will be somewhat divided this year; an early planting has been put in the ground already which represents about one-half of the crop, in May the remainder will be seeded. This is rather an experiment. The storm of last September that wrought so much damage to the rice crop taught our rice planters that it was not safe to put their entire crop in at one seeding. Early rice suffered very much by the September, 1898, storm but the late planting stood the weather and sustained not near so much damage. The rice acreage will be very large this year. A great many unfortunate cane planters will put in a small rice crop to even up if possible, then along the irrigating canals every available acre will be seeded to rice. There will be from 40 to 50 thousand acres of land in rice in Vermillion parish this year and the acreage may reach 75 thousand acres. The rice culture is on to stay in Vermillion, not only are the present canals making extensive improvements but new canals are being projected and put in all over the central and western part of the parish. The Vermillion Development Company, of Gueydan, La., are extending their already large canal in several directions and making numerous improvements in that part already built; the Garland Canal Company has decided to dispose of their canal on which some improvements will be made; the Hall and Slutz Irrigating Co., will extend their canal several miles during the spring; R. H. Mills has contracted for a pumping outfit for his canal and work on the canal has been in progress for some time, the preliminary work is about completed and the levee work will be started shortly, then last but not least in fact largest is the S. S. Hunter canal project. This canal will be built from Vermillion river to the Gueydan pasture line, a distance of 20 miles. The right of way has been secured and the preliminary work including the survey will be started the 1st of April. Mr. Hunter Thatcher, of Shreveport, one of the projectors was in Abbeville last week and stated while here that the engineers would be on the ground not later than the 1st of April. This company does not expect to finish this canal in time to supply water for this crop but will be ready for the next. It is impossible to predict the benefit this enterprise will be to Vermillion parish and to the town of Abbeville.

The Rose Hill Planting and Refining Company has sold out their plant and plantation to the Rose Hill Sugar Company of New

Orleans. This plantation is now under the management of Isidore Hechinger, of New Orleans, who will make extensive improvement thereon. Mr. L. VonTreskow will be sugar house manager and Mr. A. Lacour will be general field manager. P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Warm and favorable weather for planting has been a prevailing feature in the season for some days past to the great benefit of all who are in any way engaged in the cultivation of the soil.

There are some of our progressive farmers who seem to think that a warm rain would at the present be beneficial to the soil as well as to the young plants now coming up. Some of the early and first planting of corn is now coming up and beginning to mark the rows from end to end.

Quite a heavy acreage was planted to corn during the past week. With the majority of the farmers, corn planting will be brought to a close during this and next week, after which date attention will be given to such crops as cotton, cane, sorghum and millet as field crops.

The cane growers are now quietly waiting and hopefully watching to see how much cane is going to come up.

A few instances are reported of cane coming up, but not in such an amount as to indicate anything definite about what the stand is going to be.

However, hope has not been lost. With the weather growing warmer the planters will not have long to await results.

From a letter written to the Planter's scribe by a friend living at Edgard, St. John's parish, of late date, it is learned that the cane prospects there are not in all respects as good as the planters would like to have them. My correspondent says that he finds much damage done to cane in some places and on other places comparatively little.

On Glendale plantation, formerly owned by George Sarpy, but since sold, the cane is all practically good. On several other places it is fair, but on the greater portion of the plantations cane prospects are only moderate, and I fear many will not grind this coming season. The first gloomy impression is now beginning to wear off; our people are growing more hopeful and with renewed courage they will set to work to again forge to the front.

Very few, if any of the planters in St. Landry, Avoyelles and Rapides parishes were able to find for planting any considerable amount of real sound seed cane. The most of it seems to have been damaged to some extent and therefore it is apprehended that whatever cane has been planted will in coming up develop an uneven stand.

I find that oats which were planted in December and January and were beginning to show above the surface just before the hard freeze on the 12th and 13th of February, were completely frozen out and killed, which will necessitate, on the part of some, the planting of a greater acreage to sorghum and forage corn for early feeding purposes.

The farmers are now busy with the preparation of land for the reception of cotton seed, the planting of which is later than as a rule it has been in past years. Garden work and vegetable growing are very backward this spring. I have known early potatoes here in past years for Easter, but not this spring. We will do well to get new potatoes by the first of May. Since the above was written a heavy rain has fallen over the country.

ERIN.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, Mar. 13, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Since a couple of weeks the weather has changed in such a manner that each period under review has been divided in two distinctly different parts, of which one belonged to the winter whilst the other ushered in the spring. But in spite of the latter fact, the cold at the beginning of the week has been more intense than even in the winter months properly called so, and it seemed that a real after winter would set in. However, the inconsistency of the weather, so characteristic of this season, has kept its own also during this week and since Wednesday the meteorological conditions have entirely changed their aspect. First copious rains set in and afterwards pretty dry and moderately warm weather followed, and such has been the spring-like part of the week. Unfortunately, both periods have been rather unfavorable for field work as in the former the soil was frozen whilst in the latter it was again too wet to admit of a regular tilling of the ground. If this operation could be pursued henceforward without any serious interruption, this would be about the normal and seasonable condition, whilst the advance sometimes hoped for must be considered as totally lost, at least in Germany, whilst in France, Holland and Belgium they seem to be a little ahead of the season. In Austria the situation is different according to locality, and in Russia the winter has reappeared, accompanied by snowfalls which for the time being prevents a vigorous beginning of field work. As to the latter country a large increase of beet plantings is expected on account of the addition of about 30 factories to the existing number of sugar producing establishments. By the way, this augmentation of the sugar productive capacity of the Russian Empire can by no means surprise anyone, the financial results of the last campaign having been the most brilliant imaginable, and it is said that there a dividend of 24 pct. ranks among the lowest. Besides rumors are afloat that a change of sugar legislation is contemplated in Russia, inasmuch as the quantity of sugar which each factory is permitted to bring in the home market without being subject to an extra duty, shall be raised from 60,000 poods to 100,000 poods, or say from 1000 tons to 1650 tons. This measure, if carried, would be beneficial both for the Russian and for the foreign sugar industry, as it tends to facilitate supplying the home market and consequently would diminish the necessity of exporting; and as the Russian fabricants now prefer to sell to eastern countries where they meet with less competition, the sugar manufacturers of Western Europe are in this way more enabled to hold their position on the English market—provided, how-

ever, that the increase of the Russian production is not assuming dimensions which may upset such calculations. For the present campaign it seems that the estimate of the Russian manufacturers will be notably exceeded, which, set down at 742,500 tons, bids fair to reach 786,000 tons. Also the saccharine question has attracted the attention of the sugar trade in Russia. In this country, as I wrote you once, saccharine is classed among the poisonous substances, and can only be obtained on medical prescription. One should think that legal provisions like those would settle the matter once for all, but it appears that this is by no means the case, as investigations have brought to light the fact that many articles of food are sweetened with it instead of with sugar. The Russian society for public health which last month was in session at St. Petersburg, openly declared that the existing law was of no avail and the use of saccharine and the adulterations therewith were increasing and as a remedy it was proposed to levy a high import duty and a correspondingly high tax on the production of the stuffs, to punish more severely the adulterations and to enforce more stringent regulations with regard to purchases in saccharine. The board of directors of the society of Russian sugar manufacturers applied also to the government for measures restricting the traffic in saccharine, which evidently is in a considerable degree injurious to the interest of the sugar industry. Besides the Russian fabricants are diverting their attention also to the increasing employment of starch and grape sugar (glucose), which, without paying any duty, is used as a substitute for sugar in sweetening cakes, candy, liquors etc. No doubt, all these substitutes for sugar would promptly disappear from the surface when the taxes on sugar were taken off, as the articles in question can compete only with sugar in account of this being free of any fiscal charges, (at least as a home product) but our ministers of finance would steadfastly object to any such measure. On the other hand they hesitate to tax an industry of which they are sure that it would be forthwith annihilated if subject to the corresponding tax like sugar. Things are in this respect in Germany about the same as in Russia, the only difference is that the sugar manufacturers there have already, but vainly, petitioned for a just taxation of glucose, whilst in Russia they are only just going to try that plan. In Germany the raw product of glucose, is, in most instances, the potato; in Russia, like in America, it is maize, and it is a well known fact that particularly in your country glucose is a formidable competitor of sugar and the growth of the glucose industry is not the least part due to the taxes levied on sugar, and there is not the least doubt that the rate of increase of sugar consumption in the United States would be quite a different one, if it were not for the ever increasing output of

the glucose factories in which now millions are invested.

As to the markets I am glad to say that the favorable tendency causing a further rising movement of prices has kept on. Improving statistics, a brisk demand from part of the trade, purchases for America and some speculative movement inspired by a certain group of Paris bull operators have contributed to this desirable result which is put in evidence by a higher range of prices all around. In Germany actual 88 pct. sugar gained at Magdeburg 20-25 pfennigs, and is quoted at the close at M. 10.90-11.05, whilst delivery, March, at Hamburg fetched M. 10.00 f. o. b. Refined: the tone of the market improved also considerable and prices advanced 12½-25 pfennigs.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, Mar. 17th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The good feeling reported last week has continued to prevail and large sales were made for export, at well supported prices, about 50,000 bags, centrifugals 95½-96½ test, having changed hands, at from 5-5.30 rs. per arroba, equivalent to 2.50, 2.65 cts. pound. As high as 268 1-2 cents was paid for a parcel 96 1-2 test, by a speculator

The certainty regarding a short crop imparts a firmer tone to the market and desirable classes cannot be obtained to-day unless full prices are paid for them.

Stocks at this place have unexpectedly increased owing to the strike of railroad workmen, at Matanzas, on which account a certain number of plantations which generally ship their proceeds at said port, were compelled to send them to this.

Grinding continues under the same difficulties previously announced and planters generally complain of the small yield in cane, owing to the lack of due assistance, and it is to be much more deplored that spring is almost at its end, and no preparations have as yet been made for the next campaign, which is likely to be even smaller than the one now under way.

In several of my previous letters to "The Planter," I have referred to the pressing necessity of attending in the first place to material reconstruction of this country's industries and more particularly to its agricultural interests, which the totality of the public wealth proceeds from, inasmuch as it is its principal source of revenue.

The most serious part is that we are almost at the end of March and the greater part of the sugar plantations remain in the most deplorable abandonment and it is likely that as soon as factories now grinding put out their fires, misery will again prevail throughout the country.

The United States government incurred a great error when it ordered rations to be issued to the needy, instead of having pro-

vided work for them, which is what the people want, and not rations or any temporary relief, and if the money spent in rations had been applied in furnishing to our country people agricultural implements, seedlings and oxen or mules, there is no doubt that the situation would have considerably improved and most of those who had been favored in this manner would already have returned at least half of the money advanced them.

It has already been seen that the sugar production of the whole Island only amounted to 93,785 tons, against 150,664 last year, at same date, and to fully realize the importance of these figures it must be borne in mind that last year war prevailed during grinding season, cane fields were incessantly destroyed by fire and it was difficult and dangerous to proceed to sugar making on account of the prohibition made by the insurgents, and to-day, though the war is over and planters have to contend only with monetary difficulties to take off their crop, this year's is by one-third smaller than the previous one, and, according to all probabilities, the next one will be still smaller.

The cause of this abnormal condition of affairs may be altogether accounted for in the lack of confidence, and as long as fears are entertained as to the disturbance of peace, no one will be willing to risk his money in agricultural pursuits.

The United States has made a lamentable mistake in endeavoring to settle the political question first, instead of devoting all its attention to the material reconstruction of the country, since there is no doubt that the decline of prices for sugar, below 2 cents in 1893 and 1894, which prevented planters from keeping their engagements and paying for the cane their tenants furnished them, gave more soldiers to the revolution than all the speeches of Marti or any other revolutionary leader, or even the reprobated government and the exactions of the Spaniards.

Had the people been able to continue enjoying their customary welfare it is almost certain that half of those who took to the field would have remained at home.

One of the debts that bears most heavily on sugar planters is that called "censos," and which consists of the rent the planter is to pay to the proprietor of the land his plantation is established upon. Those lands were formerly given by the kings of Spain to their favorites in reward of services rendered to the crown. Gifts of this sort were called mercedes (mercies), and the majority of the Cuban sugar and tobacco plantations were established on lands subject to censos, and as the ownership has been redeemed in few cases only, the number of planters is quite limited, who, besides the buildings and machinery also own the land cultivated.

During the past few years the rent above alluded to has remained unpaid and to-day the exigencies of the proprietors are another drawback to the development of the sugar

industry, which planters have to contend with, inasmuch as in several cases the standing cane has been embargoed and sold for payment of the land rent, and as the supply is so small, purchasers are easily found.

The administration has been petitioned to interfere, but the planters do not desire, as it would entail an injustice, the revocation of this delinquent debt. What they want is facility granted them to grind the cane they can dispose of, which would allow them to enter into arrangements with their creditors and thus be able to continue business.

T. D.

Naparima, Trinidad, B. W. I.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Cane harvest has begun in earnest now. The Usine St. Madeline is in full swing—canes are rich in juice, the only question being apparently whether there is enough on the ground to satisfy the capacious machinery which has been erected. This machinery is probably the finest in the West Indies by a long way, is capable of turning out daily 150 tons of sugars of all kinds. The establishment makes fine crystals second, third and sometimes fourth sugars, and the remnant goes into the fermenting vats for the manufacture of Rum, which in other words equals clean spirit 60% over proof. Work is continuous, night and day, except Sundays, and even then work commences at 12 midnight. In the succeeding 30 hours as much as 190 tons of sugar have been manufactured.

One of the latest additions to the machinery is the car rake, an invention which drops down on the top of a railway truck full of canes and empties it into the carrier regularly and in proper quantities for the capacity of the mills. By this arrangement the labor of some 60 people is otherwise available. The estates connected with this establishment are connected and traversed by some 46 miles of private railway, and numerous locomotives are constantly employed to transport the numerous car loads of canes from the various sections. The establishment is connected by telephone with the different sections, and each section cultivator gets orders somewhat as follows: "Supply by 10 a. m. to-morrow—12 car loads canes at Bristows Crossing." The result is that the manager can arrange for a full supply in accordance with his factory requirements, which will come in successively at stated times during the day.

The factory is supplied with the electric light are lamps of high power. W. Abel, the general superintendent is a genial Scotchman and a very able man—"Abel by nature as well as by name," is the common pronouncement when speaking of the establishment.

Mr. Abel speaks highly of the indentured Indian immigrant as a laborer—and probably gets as much or more work out of them than any man in the Colony. In fact, from

highest to lowest, from manager to tail-boy, all are fully employed.

The chemical laboratory attached to the place, enables the manager to know the average quality of the juice and the sugar he should have at the end of a day—in fact, it is a waste detector—which is death on all uncleanness tending to inversion. Sir Neville Lubbock, speaking of sugar generally in a speech at Trinidad, spoke very hopefully for the future and well he might, when he is chairman of a company controlling such a powerful institution as the Colonial Company's Estate and the Usine St. Madeline.

X.

British Honduras.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Toledo, B. H., Mar. 20th, '99.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The grinding season is well under way. The yield is admitted to be short, and as the largest plantation in the northern district has stopped running, the planters of this section hope there will be no surplus sugar produced. That, however, will not likely be the case, as the consumption has steadily fallen off, on account of hard times. Still the probability is that the market will be firm and the price will probably hold up to 3½ to 4 cts. Planters will consider this doing very well.

The season so far has been very favorable for grinding operations, and the different plantations are well under way with their crops, except two places where they have two crops to take off on one mill. It has been noticed that the sugar grains unusually well this season, and the proportion of molasses is small; this is perhaps on account of favorable weather which matured the cane better than usual. Dr. Pearce, who is making vacuum pan sugar is making an unusually nice quality of damp white sugar; his sugar is becoming more popular and meeting a larger demand. Manufacturers of aerated waters complained last season that his sugar would not give a good, clear syrup for their purpose, but they are well satisfied with it this season. Dr. Pearce is also graining his seconds in this pan. He has better arranged blowups. Dr. Pearce started a small vessel with a load of sugar (eighty barrels) down the Central American Coast, expecting to reach Bluefields, Nicaragua, but she was taken in a severe storm and wrecked, and not only was the cargo and vessel a total loss, but the super-cargo, and two passengers and one sailor were drowned, and those of the crew and passengers who were saved paid dearly for their lives.

There will be very little cane planted this season and no one speaks of any improvements, except perhaps that Dr. Pearce will purchase a new mill. The government and the sugar planters together are improving the main road to the seaside by giving out contracts every year to have gravel put on it. By this means and constant attention,

the road can be kept in fairly good condition all the year, after it is once graveled all the way.

TROPIC.

Barbados.

February ended as it began with frequent showers and cool strong winds, as if the sea breezes were tipped with frost, and the tempestuous weather of the north had dropped its wintry character only as it crossed the threshold of the tropics. Rainfall for two weeks, 2 inches, 15 parts. February four inches, 26 parts. Two days, March 32 parts.

March has opened with characteristic wildness, its first day showery and bleak. Altogether the weather has been very favorable to supplying, which has been very effectually carried out. The young crop continues steadily to take possession, and the forward fields are already beginning to make a brave show; nothing could be more promising than the present appearance of the crop which we hope to reap in 1900. But it is the crop left us by the tempest that now engages attention, the last crop of the century, soon to be harvested. The tentative trials have not been very promising, about one ton to the acre as reported in our last, but trimmings as a rule have only half the value of the solid field. The question is are fields solid? Twisted and broken by storm have they regained their normal state? Results so far seem to show that the canes have not regained that condition which under ordinary circumstances would be normal at this season. It must be remembered that they had to restore their foliage before they could re-commence growth, and start afresh sugar gathering; it took the canes at least eight weeks to re-instate themselves; therefore it is no wonder that they are not ripe, and pity it is that our imperfect machinery should compel us to reap at a loss, for if we do not agree to lose at the beginning the loss from rotten canes, &c., will be heavier in the end.

Cane fires have been all too frequent with us. On the night of Saturday the 18th February, the Island was alight with bonfires,—beacon answering to beacon as if by some preconcerted signal. The dried foliage or trash of ripening canes makes easy the work of the incendiary, while the crackling flames leap and spread as if on prairie grass with amazing rapidity. Were it not for the intervals of open lands or wide roads separating the cane fields the destruction from a single match which a child's hand might apply would be something terrible. As it is, the loss per annum from this lamentable cause cannot be less than 100 acres representing a money loss probably of £15,000, as canes are as a rule burnt at an immature period when they are weak in saccharine. On the occasion referred to not less than ten estates were ablaze at the same time,—Kirton in St. Philip suffering to the extent of 36 acres. There were altogether about one hundred acres destroyed on this memorable night, and as cane fires were all too frequent previously the sum

total destroyed is quite enough for one small island, and quite sufficient to rouse up fire insurance companies to inquire as to the best means of putting a stop to this senseless and wanton destruction. Pilgrim estate in Christ Church has been burnt three times losing altogether about 20 acres. An eyewitness reports that passing that way on his bicycle on the night of the 18th ulto. he found the public road near the yard of this estate blocked impassably by a threatening mob of not less than 500 men brandishing sticks. Turning aside by a cross road to avoid the crowd, he saw the manager's house surrounded by lawless men and two mounted policemen keeping guard at the front door of the house; passing further on to the scene of the fire he found it solitary and deserted, save and except for two donkey carts which their owners were diligently piling up with canes tugged out of that part of the field not yet reached by the fire. When it is remembered that this crop takes 14 months to mature and is, from first to last, a very expensive crop to raise, it is no wonder that estates so sorely handicapped both at home and abroad are unable to pay their way. Indeed, were the planter to open his eyes to the wanton depredations going on he would cease planting canes altogether. It is no uncommon sight to see gangs of lawless young men parading the public roads at night tugging out, and destroying the growing canes along the road-sides, merely for the sake of destruction, and with no one to say them nay. Perhaps the best way to keep such lawlessness in check is by placing the rural constabulary on a better and more efficient footing. These useful men are not paid for this duty, and they say honestly that they cannot do their duty because they cannot afford to lost two days work, the time each case would absorb, in the public service. It is certainly a penny-wise policy to enroll these men, and expect them at their own own charges to protect property and to keep order. It is a well-known fact that rural constables try to keep away from scenes of disturbance, and, under the circumstances, we cannot blame men who live solely by their earnings as laborers.

It may be an interesting puzzle for the factory committee to solve, and we may well ask what is to be done with burnt canes under the factory system. The fires occur irregularly and at intervals all over the country, and it would be quite impossible to set big factories to work to reap these scattered spots or fields; even the 36 acres burnt at Kirton would not be enough to start a large factory unless the balance of the crop was fit for reaping. With our small works there is no difficulty, the unripe canes are converted always at a loss into syrup for local consumption, and if at all fit into early sugar. But as these fires are usually intended to force the planter to begin prematurely the slow grind of his long drawn crop, in the interest of persons who only condescend to work in the reaping season, there may not be the same incentive to start factories capable of taking off the entire crop in the brief space of a few weeks.—Agricultural Reporter, March 4.

Barbados.

During the past fortnight we have not had a single clear day. Rain has regularly fallen and to the present the weather cannot be said to be settled. The crops, however, have been getting favorable winds to help them on. Almost all the mills—both wind and steam—are in action, but the usual murmur goes around that the results are not equal to anticipations. Shipments of the produce are being made, but prices do not improve.—Globe, Mar. 3.

Sugar in the Philippines.

Mr. N. E. Darling, of Manning, sends us a copy of Freedom, a paper sent to him by his son John who is now in Manila. It contains an article on the sugar industry in the Philippines. It is made from sugar cane which is crushed in rude mills of wood, stone or iron. In the Province of Pampanga where this industry is more advanced the juice is placed in the first boiler and a little lime is added. The juice is then heated and skimmed; it then goes to the second boilers, and more lime is added from time to time; it is here exposed to a great heat and a scum arises continually. The man in charge of the cooking of the juice knows when it has a sufficient amount of lime because the scum takes on a clear yellow color and the precipitates and impurities rise, and the scum changes in color to a dirty white. When the syrup reaches a temperature of 27 degrees (Baume) it begins to thicken and becomes a clear, coffee color. It is placed next in a receptacle which is used to receive the results of the day's work. In this receptacle the impurities settle and on the next day the juice is dipped out and cooked again until it thickens to a consistency of syrup and it is then placed in a cooler, which is a wooden trough two metres wide by three metres in length and some twenty centimeters deep; in this the syrup is kept stirred by means of a long spatula until the mass congeals into a powder formed of small dark crystals. This powder is crude sugar, containing a large quantity of molasses; it is next placed in conical molds made of gravel and each of these molds placed on gravel beds where the molasses gradually drains off. In order to hasten this process of freeing the sugar from molasses the natives cover the top of the sugar in the molds with the bark of the trunk of the banana plant, chopped up to the extent of some two or three centimetres. The dampness imparted to the sugar by this covering of banana bark precipitates the molasses and rapidly bleaches the mass.

There are to-day many well regulated sugar refineries owned by Filipinos and Spaniards, provided not only with good sugar mills operated with steam power, but vacuum pans, centrifugals, and all the latest improvements in sugar manufacturing machinery.—Lehi Banner.

BEET SUGAR.**Oxnard, California.**

Manager J. A. Driffill of the Oxnard Sugar Company, at the Van Nuys yesterday, said his company has already planted several hundred acres of sugar beets in Ventura County, and is now planting at the rate of 2000 acres per week.

"Ventura has had 6.30 inches of rain this season," continued Major Driffill. "We got five inches in one storm. We have not yet begun planting in Los Angeles county. I don't know just what we shall do. Two inches of rain would satisfy us. As it is, we shall likely plant the less dry portions of our land anyway. We are not branching out any, but will cover just about the same ground as last year. A wet season is perhaps just a bit better for sugar beets than a dry one or an average one, but these things regulate themselves to a great extent. That is, in a wet season the beets are larger and in a dry season the beets, though smaller, have more sugar."

Major Driffill denied the rumor that his company intends building a railroad to Hueneme, and that it intends to have anything to do with Hawaii's sugar business. He also said they would not lay portable tracks through the fields for gathering beets.—*Courier*, Mar. 18.

Watsonville, Cal.

A great part of the acreage of the Miller and Soap Lake ranches, near Gilroy, and of San Juan valley, which was reserved for beets early in the winter, was planted to barley a short time ago because of threatened drouth. The rains of the past two weeks have made certain the prospects for a good beet crop in the Gilroy district, and in part of the San Juan valley. The outlook has never been more favorable for such a crop in that district. If barley had been cheap seed this season much of that land would be given over to beet cultivation; and it is probable that arrangements will be made by which a large area of that section will be converted into beet fields. The Spreckels Sugar Co. feels much encouraged over the present outlook, and is anxious to have the largest possible acreage in beets. The price of this crop is fixed, the pay certain, and the condition of land in this vicinity gives promise of an enormous crop.—*Pajaronian*, March 27.

Omaha, Neb.

Carl Leonardt, the well-known contractor of this city, who erected the massive foundations and walls of the Chino and Oxnard beet sugar factories, has been summoned to Nebraska to erect the buildings of a beet sugar factory projected near Omaha. He left on Saturday for Omaha, to be absent about two months. A portion of his contracting plant will be shipped from Los Angeles. The factory is to be completed in

time for the fall campaign of the current year. The Oxnard Construction Company has the contract for equipping the factory ready for operation, including buildings and machinery. Its capacity is to be 1000 tons daily, which is equal to that of the Chino plant. It is to be erected by a wealthy cattle company of Nebraska, which will fatten its cattle from the beet pulp.—*L. A. Times*.

Molasses as a Stock Food.

You ask my comment on the following note from D. T. W., Beaver Creek, Col., and the clipping which he sends:

"I inclose cutting from a London paper showing how the Scotch cattle-feeder uses treacle (molasses) with his grain feed. Perhaps some Southern beef-grower who is near to cheap molasses might think it worth while to experiment with molasses as an addition to cotton seed."

For years we have been making use of the refuse molasses of our sugar-houses in feeding work animals—mules and horses. It has also been used for the purpose of supplementing grain, cotton-seed meal and bran in fattening cattle on a small scale. Nearly all of our plantations add regularly six to ten pounds of molasses (containing 80 per cent. of solids, of which 70 per cent. are carbohydrates, 2.50 per cent. albuminoids and the remainder mainly ash) to the other foods consumed by their work stock. I know of several plantations that feed almost exclusively upon rice, bran and molasses. I has further been demonstrated that the use of molasses has given increased power to the work animal in developing muscular energy.

This station has made a number of experiments upon feeding molasses to beef cattle and I send you a bulletin in regard to two series of these experiments. When fed in larger quantities than two or three pounds per day to milch cows the milk thereof seems tainted with its taste, giving an unusual and peculiar sweetness thereto. I would say, however, that our experiments, while very expensive along the line of feeding work stock, have not been numerous in producing beef cattle, because of the excellencies and cheapness of cotton-seed meal and hulls which now constitute almost the exclusive diet for fattening cattle in this country.

Articles upon the feeding value of molasses have at various times appeared in the Louisiana Planter, giving the results of experiments conducted at this station. There being as yet no cattle in this country to feed, and nearly everybody engaged in the sugar, rice or cotton industry, with little disposition to diversify, very few experiments along the line of fattening cattle with the use of molasses supplementing other foods have been made. There is no doubt, however, of the efficacy of molasses as an adjunct to concentrated foods in fattening beef cattle.

WM. C. STUBBS.

Louisiana Sugar Experiment Station, in Breeder's Gazette.

American Beet Sugar.

Incorporation papers of the American Beet Sugar Co. have been filed at Trenton, N. J., yesterday. The capital is \$20,000,000. The incorporators are Samuel C. Herriman, Loring T. Hildreth, John J. Griffin and F. Eugene Crassons. The incorporation of the company is in a way formal, the main facts about the company having been given in these columns some time ago. The company is an amalgamation of four beet sugar plants formerly owned by the Oxnard and Cutting interests. One of these plants is at Grand Island, Neb., another at Norfolk, Neb., a third at Chino Ranch, Southern California, and the fourth at Hueneme, Southern California. The consolidation was financed by Spencer Trask & Co. and Kuhn, Loeb & Co. of this city.

Of the \$20,000,000 capital \$5,000,000 is 6 per cent non-cumulative preferred stock, of which \$1,000,000 will be retained in the treasury. The remaining \$15,000,000 is common stock.

It is understood on good authority that Henry Oxnard will be president of the new company when its organization is completed, and that W. Bayard Cutting will be chairman of the board of directors. The other members of the board and other officers have not yet been decided upon. The attorneys for the company are Zabriskie, Burrill & Murray. The company is registered with the Corporation Trust Company of Jersey City.

It is stated that the new company is an entirely independent concern; that it has nothing whatever to do with the Sugar Trust (American Sugar Refining Company) nor is it in any way for the purpose, directly or indirectly, of being used as a means for harmonizing the conflicting refined sugar interests, but that its business would be absolutely confined to the manufacture and sale of beet sugars and business incidental thereto, independent of any other interests.—*Journal Commerce*.

Trade Notes.

Frank Paul Parber.

Probably nothing in any industrial plant or factory pays a greater interest upon its original cost than a properly designed system of elevating and conveying the material manufactured. We call our readers' attention to the advertisement on the second page of Mr. Frank P. Barber. He will, upon application, submit plans and estimate of cost, including installation, of the most suitable method for handling any material—sugars, bagasse, coal, earth, gravel, grain etc. As the agent here for the Weller Manufacturing Co. he will quote lowest prices on machinery for the transmission of power by belt or rope drive.

Mr. Barber is also the representative (for Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas) for Westinghouse, Church, Kerr & Co.—than which no engineering firm is more widely and favorably known. The Westinghouse Compound, Standard and Junior automatic Engines have a well-deserved reputation for reliability and economy with power users all over the country. The Westinghouse Machine Co. also builds engines in the larger sizes—one of 750 horse-power (the largest in the world) having been in successful operation for some time.

We trust our readers will get figures from Mr. Barber when they are in the market for steam or gas power, or elevating, conveying and power transmission machinery.

RICE.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The past week has been a very good time in which to do farm work, and it has been hastened along with unusual haste, and is still going on nicely at this writing. During the latter part of the week we had some high winds and a good rain at night sufficient to sprout the rice now in the soil, and it has helped the plowing very much. Seeding is now in full blast, and a good acreage was sown last week, during the latter part, and if the weather warms up quickly this rice will soon be up. At the close of this week the wind turned to the north and caused the thermometer to go down to 45, but it will not last long, though the chill will prevent rice from sprouting for a few days. Sowing has begun somewhat earlier this spring than we looked for, but our farmers are so well prepared for plowing this season that they make short work of it when they get at it in earnest, and this hastens the seeding, and that is why farmers fitted themselves with good teams and tools to work with. They are trying to avoid late seeding if possible.

There is a good market for feed for work stock, and nearly all of this feed is shipped in, as in former seasons, and it seems like they could raise more of this produce at home if they would only persist in doing so, when they have ample means for doing it. Very little rice is being marketed this month, and I think, as near as I can find out, that the supply is getting low. Our rice mills in all parts of the parish are still running, and some of them run nights, and the most of them have a good supply of rice on hand. Some of the smaller country mills have done a remarkable business this season, and they are still doing fine. Some twenty thousand sacks have been worked up by some of these small mills, and they have a good spell yet to run before the supply will give out. There is some rumor to the effect that a good mill will go up in Jennings this fall, but the parties have not yet decided on a location. That point seems to suit them better than other places, except on the river, but that would be off of the railroad.

Some good wells have been contracted for during the past week, and they will be put down in time to be used this season, and more will be contracted for soon, but all cannot be supplied in time for flooding this season, for the means for putting them down is too inadequate. A party has lately come into our parish who seems to thoroughly understand his business along this line, and he puts a well down in less than three days, all complete, ready to attach a pump to, for he has the necessary machinery for forcing the work ahead with dispatch.

A few gasoline engines have been sold this

spring for use in these wells, but a great many farmers will use the threshing engines, as they can get them at moderate figures, and wood is often quite handy; some use coal. Canal work is on the boom this week, and a large force is at work doing a big business every day, and the work will continue until pumping begins. Corn is being planted this week, and quite an acreage was planted last week, but the ground was so cold that it will not come up ahead of that planted this week, and the work will not be finished for some little time. A large force of men are at work in various places along the bayous, getting out wood for the various pumping plants, and there will be a large demand for wood this season, owing to so many new plants being put in.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The demand holds to former proportions and all evidences point to a large spring trade. It might be remarked that the chief call in domestic is for the ordinary to fair grades; while these have hardened a further item, they appear to be regarded as cheap, being still quite $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cts. under importing cost of equal grades in foreign. The larger enquiry at the moment in foreign is for Java and Patna, but not a little is doing in high grade Japan; recent imports of "the finest grown" enabling an exhibit such as has not been seen here for many a year, thus enlarging the assortment of this kind. Advices from the South note enlarging activity in every quarter. Receipts at all local centers are noteworthy, really liberal in comparison with any week the past two months; this is due to better weather and improving condition of roads. The bulk of present threshings are said to be "a sorry lot," far from worthless, however, as the rice, while unfit to enter grocery channels, can be profitably used in feeding stock. Most of the Louisiana mills have started up anew; the closing run of the season. It is safe to say that this, with the fact that the planters now need to realize so as to go on with preparations for the current year, will bring forward every last bit of the old crop within next fortnight or so. Cables and correspondence from abroad note continuance of former features; sharp demand and firm prices in all kinds of desirable character. Stocks light; receipts scarcely meet present requirements; sellers most independent and quite indifferent about entering upon any large contracts at current figures against future delivery.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 672,015 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over,) 502,059 sacks. Sales, cleaned (est.) 163,467 barrels; last year, 103,677 barrels. Enlarging inquiry and market firm with further hardening tendency on ordinary to fair grades.

Talmage Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 35,009 barrels. Sales 31,270 barrels. Good demand at full former quotations.

Trade Notes.

Peckinpough, Harrison & Co.

We are advised by Capt. Harrison that his fleet of wagon material is due to arrive at Waterloo next Thursday, and he says he has got a fine stock for the planters to make their selections from. He desires us to call attention to the fact that his goods will probably never be as cheap again as they are this year. The 10 per cent. discount he has given for the past five years he will be obliged to withdraw after this season and he desires all the sugar planters to take advantage of this opportunity.

Doubtless he will handle an immense trade during the cruise of the fleet.

Lillie Multiple Effects.

In addition to the sale recently chronicled by us of a 150,000 gallon Lillie quadruple effect to the Pioneer mill in the Hawaiian Islands we are now advised that orders have been received for a quadruple effect of 350,000 gallons daily capacity for the Ewa plantation, near Honolulu, and for a quadruple effect of 250,000 gallons daily capacity for the Waialua plantation. These sales indicate the steady progress being made by Mr. Lillie's apparatus all over the world.

Farrel Filter Press.

We are advised that the Farrel Foundry & Machine Co., have sold through their representative, R. S. Rickey, fifty-four of their Filter Presses which have been purchased by our most prominent sugar planters and have given universal satisfaction, to whom they refer. What is very remarkable is that they have never had to furnish any extra plates. Some have been in use for seven or eight years. The Farrel Foundry & Machine Co. are well prepared to build sugar mills, and have built many mills for Cuba and San Domingo, and have contracts now for five sugar mills to go out of this country.

M. Zier & Co.

We publish elsewhere in this issue the advertisement of the above named firm, which has placed a large number of boilers in the sugar houses of this State. They seem to make a most excellent and satisfactory boiler, and manufacture many types, including high pressure, return tubular and Scotch marine boilers. A recent contract just made by their Mr. Eury, who is at present in Louisiana, was for one battery of boilers 72" by 18" with 70 4" tubes to be erected at the Milly plantation of Messrs. LeBlanc & Danos in Iberville parish. Messrs. LeBlanc & Danos are among the most careful, well posted and successful sugar planters in the State, and their judgment in favor of the Zier boilers is a high testimonial.

Those of our planters who contemplate any change in their boiler equipment would do well to get estimates from M. Zier & Co., of New Albany, Indiana.

O. B. Danjean, of St. Charles parish, was a guest of one of our leading hotels recently.

Decision on Sugar Duties.

A decision of importance to refiners, wholesale dealers in sugar, grocers, etc., was handed down on Monday by the Board of General Appraisers in reference to the protests of Bartram Bros., B. H. Howell, Son & Co., and the American Sugar Refining Company against the tariff rates assessed upon sugars based upon what is known as the polariscope test, under the Tariff Act of July 24, 1897. It was claimed by the importers that these duties were excessive and that the test by the polariscope should be construed as meaning the commercial polariscope test used in general trading.

The finding of the board, the opinion being written by Judge Somerville, is summarized as follows:

The regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury of October 27, 1897, prescribing that a particular polariscope test made by special apparatus shall determine the classification of imported sugars in place of a former commercial test are not unreasonable or violative of any provision of law. It seems that the commercial test was adopted for arriving at market value rather than for the purpose of classification. The phrases "testing by the polariscope" and "degrees shown by the polariscope" as used in paragraph 209 of the Tariff Act of 1897 have no peculiar trade meaning, but are used descriptively in their ordinary signification as indicating a true polariscope test.

The opinion further says, in part:

"It is a matter of common knowledge, and is corroborated by the testimony in these cases, that the polariscope—an instrument for polarizing light and testing its properties—has been used to determine the percentage of pure sugar in any given sample, without regard to its color or condition. The sugar to be tested is weighed with great care and dissolved in an exact volume of water, usually contained in a flask; and a ray of polarized light is then passed through the solution. In this passage the ray is deflected in proportion to the amount of sucrose in the solution, the deviation being measured upon a scale of 100 degrees, the number of degrees indicating the percentage of pure sugar.

"In reference to the so-called commercial test, contended for as correct by the importer's counsel, the testimony taken at the hearing satisfactorily shows the following facts:

"During the time the Tariff Acts of 1883 and 1894 were in force it was the custom of merchants, in buying and selling sugar, to have two separate polariscopic tests made, each by a trade chemist employed by the respective parties to the transaction. Where these two tests differed a compromise or 'settlement' test was adopted, which was the average of degrees shown by the two tests.

"The testimony utterly fails to show any peculiar trade meaning attaching to the phrases 'testing by the polariscope' or 'degrees shown by the polariscope,' as used in paragraph 209, of the Tariff Act of 1897. These phrases are, manifestly, used descriptively, in their ordinary signification.

"The doctrine of commercial designation, as settled by the courts, has no bearing on the subject and refers merely to the denomination of imported merchandise subject to duty under tariff legislation. The rule is that the subjects or classes of subjects described in the schedules of a tariff act are understood to be used by Congress in their special commercial or trade meanings if the trade is shown to attach to them a signification different from their meaning in ordinary speech.

"The importers' contention, then, resolves itself into this: That, in using the phrase

'testing by the polariscope,' Congress referred to a particular system which had prevailed in the trade for twenty-five years or more, used in ascertaining market values of sugars dependent on actual sales by merchants, rather than to a true polariscopic test by improved instruments and advanced scientific methods, designated to determine classification rather than market value.

"These facts are pertinent, in view of the importers' contention that the system of sugar tests under the present regulations is not so accurate as the former system, leading to erroneous results, prejudicial to their interests, and that the Secretary's regulations authorizing such system are unauthorized by law.

"Weighing all the testimony, and viewing it in every aspect in which it can be legally considered, we see nothing unreasonable in the variation allowed by the regulations, based on the factor of temperature—certainly none which, in our judgment, would authorize this Board or the courts to pronounce this feature of the regulations illegal or violative of any provision of law.

"In conclusion we must note one fact of great importance as showing that under the regulations of 1897 results have been reached as to sugar tests far more accurate and uniform than any attained under previous methods. It appears that, under the old regulations and the commercial method, there was an ascertained difference of 0.6 of one per cent, on an average, between tests made at the port of New York and those made at Boston and Philadelphia, the three chief sugar ports of the country. This was demonstrated by an exchange of tests made at the different ports, from identical samples, the experiments continuing from day to day for over six months. Under the new regulations this difference is shown to have been reduced to about 0.1, or one-sixth of what it was under the old system. This is probably due, in part, to the fact that all the apparatus used for testing sugar, including polariscopes, weights, flasks, tubes and quartz plates, are now required to be standardized and their accuracy attested by the Office of Standard Weights and Measures, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, in conformity to the requirements of paragraph 77 of these regulations. Naturally, this leads to more uniform results, and is an improvement on the former practice.

"There remains but one other point to be specially considered. It is shown that, under the new regulations, chemically pure, or refined sugars, sometimes test over 100 degrees by the polariscope, reaching as much as 100 and two or three-tenths in addition. Of course, the practice of customs officials is to reject all such additional readings as errors authorized to be disregarded, and this fact is urged as a demonstration of the inaccuracy of the new system. Our judgment is that, while this fact may demonstrate the want of mathematical accuracy in sugar tests, it may be satisfactorily accounted for on one or more of the following grounds:

"First. There may be errors of observation in reading the scale, which runs to fractions of degrees, and which requires great accuracy. The present regulations, accordingly, make an allowance, as stated above, of two-tenths of 1 per cent for errors of observation, temperature, etc. The former regulations made an allowance of three-tenths of 1 per cent 'to eliminate the possible errors of observation.'

"Second. The flask holding the solution may contain too little water and slightly too much sugar, thus making the solution more concentrated and causing too high a polarization.

"Third. The presence of traces of 'raf-

finose' in the sugar would account for such a result. 'Raffinose' is defined as a colorless crystalline compound, represented by the chemical formula $C_{18}H_{32}O_{16}$. The scale on the instrument, which is designed only to polarize sucrose, the essential element of sugar, would thus indicate a higher polarization by reason of the presence of this 'raffinose.'

In the light of the evidence taken at the hearing these explanations seem not unreasonable. It is admitted on all sides that mathematical accuracy is not attainable by any such process.

"In cases of this kind, moreover, the settled rule is that the burden of proof is not on the Government to show that the Collector's classification is correct, but the presumption is in favor of its correctness, and the burden is upon the importer to show that it is not correct. In our opinion this burden of proof has not been successfully sustained by the importers, and their protests are accordingly overruled, the Collector's decision being affirmed in each case."—N. Y. Journal Commerce.

Personal.

Messrs. Fulton and Clarence Bourdier were the sugar boilers during the past campaign at the Waveland refinery, belonging to Messrs. Bourdier and Bellisien. They are the sons of one of the proprietors, and are skillful and well equipped boilers, capable of taking off a crop anywhere.

At the Lagonda plantation of Col. Lewis S. Clarke that reliable old timer, Capt. L. A. Roussel, is still officiating as superintendent and is doing it well. Mr. J. E. Munson, the true and tried overseer, is manipulating the field work with his accustomed energy and adding to his already fine reputation as a field marshal.

Mr. Hubert Edson, the widely known sugar house expert and chemist, still officiates as general superintendent at the Calumet factory of Mr. Daniel Thompson, and he had for his sugar boilers this past season the old reliable Arthur Tarby and Mr. A. C. Kimball. Mr. Kimball is the half brother of Mr. E. W. Deming of super-heat clarification fame.

At the Luckland place of Mr. Saunders on Bayou Teche, Mr. C. W. Simmons was the manager during the recent grinding season. Mr. Sydney Boudreaux was the sugar boiler and he is reported to be one of the finest men in the business. His brother, J. T. Boudreaux, Esq., who took off the crop at the Honduras plantation, is also a first-class expert at the vacuum pan.

On Messrs. Hausman Brothers and Norman's Victoria plantation the managers are the two Normans, William and Henry, and they evidently understand how to run a sugar estate. The sugar boiler during the past grinding campaign was that well known gentleman, Sydney Bernard, Esq., who has a reputation all over the State as a good and careful boiler.

Mr. J. A. Pharr, of St. Mary parish, was in the city last Friday, and put up at the St. Charles.

Mr. T. A. Shaffer, of Terrebonne parish, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He made his headquarters at the St. Charles Hotel.

MAR. 24.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	Mar. 25.	Mar. 27.	Mar. 28.	Mar. 29.	Mar. 30.	Mar. 31.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
SUGAR.								
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2			
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —			
Strict Prime.....	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8			
Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8			
Fully Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 3 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1/2			Firm.
Good Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4			
Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4			
Good Common..	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2			
Common.....	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2	3 3/8 @ 3 1/2			
Inferior.....	3 3/8 @ 3 1/4	3 3/8 @ 3 1/4	3 3/8 @ 3 1/4	3 3/8 @ 3 1/4	3 3/8 @ 3 1/4			
Centrifugal.								
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —			
Off Granulated...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —			
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —			
Off White.....	4 1/4 @ —	4 1/4 @ —	4 1/4 @ —	4 1/4 @ —	4 1/4 @ —			Firm.
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —			
Choice Yellow....	4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —			
Prime Yellow....	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4			
Off Yellow....	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8			
Seconds.....	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8			
MOLASSES.								
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal								
Fancy.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Choice.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Strict Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Good Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Good Fair.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Fair.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Good Common...	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Common.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Inferior.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —			
Choice.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16			
Strict Prime.....	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15			
Good Prime.....	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14	13 @ 14			
Prime.....	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12	11 @ 12			Strong.
Good Fair.....	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10	— @ 10			
Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9			
Good Common...	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8			
Common.....	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7			
Inferior.....	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7			
SYRUP.								

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Centrifugals, 98°..	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	4.84 @ —	Raw firm.
Standard A.....	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	4.72 @ —	Refined dull.
Dutch Granulated	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 4.93	— @ 4.93	— @ 4.93	— @ 4.93	— @ 4.93	— @ 4.93	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	11s. 3d.	Cane quiet.
A. & G. Beet.....	9s. 10 1/2 d.	9s. 10 1/2 d.	9s. 11 1/4 d.	9s. 11 1/4 d.	9s. 11 1/4 d.	9s. 11 1/4 d.	9s. 0 3/4 d.	Beet—Buyers at quotations.

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf.....	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	
Powdered.....	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Firm.
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Mar. 22	.....	Tons	190,812
At four ports of Great Britain to Mar. 23	.....	"	53,500
At Havana and Matanzas to Mar. 21	.....	"	66,500

	Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending Mar. 30, 1899.			Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to Mar. 30, 1899.		
	Sugar		Molasses	Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	279	3,903	2,120	9,082	1,180,906	217,496
Sold.....	279	3,903	2,120	9,082	1,173,221	216,686
Received same time last year	21,806	1,356,747	178,690			

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, Thibodaux, La. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Thoroughly competent machinist, with several years experience in leading railroad shops, wants work in repairing locomotive engines on sugar plantations. Will work by the day or by contract. He is a practical locomotive engineer and has had experience in repairing and running sugar house machinery. Address W. L., No. 1046 Magazine street, New Orleans.

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fielat, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give a 1 references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHEF ENGINEER, Lutoher, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STRICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-23-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a you g man 26 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 103, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La.

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 2-24-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A 1 references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3418 Constance street, New Orleans. 2-22-99

WANTED—A position as clerk in store by a young man of good habits and experience. Also have a practical knowledge of drugs. Good references. Address ROBERT, care Postmaster, Woodland, La. 2-23-99

WANTED—A position as carpenter or mill-wright on a sugar plantation. Best of references furnished. Address 418 N. Johnson street, New Orleans. 2-18-99

WANTED—A position by an A No. 1. Sugar dryer, am a machinist with 14 years experience. Address FRANK LORENZ, 302 S. Basin, St., City. 2-15-99

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1824 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 24-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker; by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La.

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nessler, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address 1, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-8

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Young man, single, well qualified; desires position as bookkeeper, timekeeper, or clerk on plantation. Can furnish A1 references. Address "A. C." this office. 1-9

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 521 Du-maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1035 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98.

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$30. Address F. E. C., Shady-side Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

WANTED—A man of experience desires a position as hostler on a sugar plantation for 1899. Good references. Write at once to EMPLOYE, Houmas Central Factory, Burnside, Louisiana. 12-21-98

For Sale Cheap.

- 1 6ft. Vacuum Pan, steam coils, piping and 1 ft. 1 lbs.
- 1 Vacuum Pump (Guld and Garrison), for same.
- 1 Sugar Mixer.
- 6 Centrifugals.

All complete, in good order.

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Plantation Boilers
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MANUFACTURED BY
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High Pressure,
Return Tubular and
Scotch Marine
A Specialty.

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

Vol. XXII.

NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 8, 1899.

No. 14.

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

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Accession Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
Kansas Sugar Growers' Association,
Texas Sugar Planters' Association.*

Published at New Orleans, La., every Saturday Morning

BY THE

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Devoted to Louisiana Agriculture in general, and to
the Sugar Industry in particular, and in all its
branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chem-
ical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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Space	1 month	3 month	6 month	12 month
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2 inch.....	9 50	24 00	36 00	48 00
3 inch.....	14 50	36 20	54 40	72 50
4 inch.....	19 00	47 50	71 25	95 00
5 inch.....	23 50	58 75	88 15	117 50
6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	105 00	140 00
7 inch.....	32 50	81 15	121 75	162 50
8 inch.....	36 00	90 00	135 00	180 00
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10 inch.....	40 00	100 00	150 00	200 00
Half Page.....	60 00	150 00	225 00	300 00
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All communications should be addressed to THE
LOUISIANA PLANTER, 330 Carondelet street, New Orleans,
La.

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Henry McCall, W. B. Schmidt,
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D. R. Calder, John Dymond, President.

April Weather.

The weather bureau has issued its bulletin with a review of April weather, covering the twenty-seven years of the service in New Orleans.

The average or normal temperature of April has been 69 deg. The warmest month was that of 1895, with an average of 72 deg. F., and the coldest that of 1898, with an average of 65 deg. F. The highest temperature was that of 88 deg. F., April 25, 1889, and the lowest that of 38 deg. F., on April 2, 1881.

The Cane Crop.

Our advices from the plantations this week indicate some disappointment over the slow germination of vegetable life occasioned by the remarkably cool weather for the season which we have experienced. At this writing the climatic conditions resemble January more than April, and until more warmth is injected into the situation, it is useless to look for any material crop development. The one redeeming feature of the week has been a more or less copious rainfall, which, although too cold, was without doubt beneficial, as it has moistened the soil and put it in better condition for reaping full benefit from the hot sunshine which we should certainly receive very shortly.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

This association will hold its April meeting next Thursday night at No. 712 Union St., New Orleans. The subject scheduled for discussion is: "The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane so as to Give the Best Results in Sugar," and some interesting papers have been prepared for the occasion. All interested, whether members of the association or not, are invited to be present.

Weather Data In St. James.

Mr. E. Cherbonnier, of Helvetia plantation in St. James parish, has favored the Louisiana Planter with a statement of the weather data at Helvetia during the month of March. The total rainfall for the month was 1½ inches, thus retaining for March its well-known reputation as a month of drought.

The average maximum temperature of the month was 74 deg. F., with a record of 89 deg. F., on March 27, with twelve days at and above 80 deg. F., during the month.

The average minimum temperature was 50 deg. F., with 28 deg. F., on March 5. Although the rainfall was so slight there were fifteen cloudy days during the month. The cloudy weather and the low average temperature must necessarily have had some effect in retarding the development of the cane crop.

The Seed Cane Question.

In another column in this issue will be found a letter from a distinguished citizen of this state, now retired, but of long sugar planting experience. In the letter he discusses the seed cane question in a very interesting manner. The unfortunate experiences of most of us during this past season make the seed cane question a very prominent one at the present time. As suggested in our correspondent's letter, it would be a very desirable subject to bring before the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association for discussion. We commend our correspondent's letter to the careful study of our readers.

The East Indian Rice Crop.

The Louisiana Planter has advices from Calcutta dated March 2. The estimates for Bengal, Madras and Lower Burmah, indicate a rice crop of 26 millions of tons, 5½ per cent above the aver-

age. The total area planted to rice amounts to fifty-two and two-thirds millions of acres.

in Burmah, while the crop is threshing out lighter than was anticipated, it is now estimated that there will be available for export the equivalent of about a million and a quarter tons of clean rice.

In Bengal, the conditions of the season are generally favorable and a larger area was planted in rice, which is due to seasonable weather and the substitution of rice for jute.

In Madras, the area planted exceeds the average and is slightly greater than that of last year, while the yield is estimated at 97 per cent of a normal crop.

In Madras, the consumption of rice at home is so great that the exports from the presidency will not be very large and probably not above the average, although the yield will be better than usual.

The Philippine Sugar Industry.

In Prof. Knapp's report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, giving the results of his agricultural explorations in the far East, he gives some interesting data in regard to the sugar industry of the Philippines. His opportunities for investigating in the islands were somewhat restricted by the state of war, but as his visit was made in December he had some good opportunities to examine into the cane sugar industry. He says the rich clay-loam soil of San Fernando is well adapted to sugar cane. In the island of Luzon the methods of sugar farming are quite different from those practiced in the United States. The cane is allowed to ratoon but is planted annually. At the time of cutting the cane for the mill the immature portion of the stock is planted in a field previously prepared. Very little cultivation is done. The cane matures in twelve months from planting and is harvested before the rainy season commences in May. The sugar factories in Luzon are the crudest conceivable. The mills are not better than farm sorghum mills. The kettles are simply wooden tubs with cast-iron bottoms, the sugar is drained upon the open kettle plan. The proprietor furnishes land and factory and the tenant furnishes

seed, does all the work in the field, delivers the cane to the mill and supplies most of the hands for making the sugar. The proprietor receives one-half the sugar and all the molasses. The tenant, in theory, is allowed the remainder, but in practice he usually receives about two-fifths of the sugar. Dr. Knapp was informed that in the islands of Panay, Negros and Cebu the sugar farms and factories are much more improved than in Luzon. Sugar lands produce from 3,000 to 8,000 pounds per acre, depending upon the cultivation and the factory.

Velvet Beans.

This wonderful plant, which in all the experiments made with it in Florida, Louisiana and the other Southern states, has shown as great as or greater capacity for fertilizing the soil than clay peas, and at the same time requires far less seed for planting a given area of land, is now offered by Mr. George H. Wright, of Orlando, Fla., who has been making a specialty of these beans since their extraordinary merits were discovered. Those interested would do well to write to Mr. George H. Wright, Orlando, Fla., for further particulars.

The Claims of Crowley as a Great Rice Center.

For a number of years the rice produced in southwestern Louisiana has been called Calcasieu rice. This was perhaps due to the fact that the North American Land & Timber Co. had purchased immense tracts of land in Calcasieu parish, had secured a large immigration into Calcasieu parish and proposed to develop rice culture there on a large scale.

The Crowley Signal, always zealous in advocating the interests of the town of Crowley and of the parish of Acadia, has challenged the propriety of calling southwest Louisiana rice by such a local name as that of "Calcasieu," claiming that the parish of Acadia is equally, if not more, conspicuous than Calcasieu as a rice producer. The Signal goes on to state that in the year 1898 some 32,500 acres of rice land were irrigated by six canals owned or controlled in Crowley that fully 15,000 acres were irrigated by private pumping plants. To

this it would add 15,000 acres of providence rice, which depends upon the rainfall for its success. In this way an aggregate of 62,500 acres is estimated as having been under cultivation in rice in Acadia parish last year and with a yield of only $7\frac{1}{2}$ bags per acre the total would reach nearly a half a million bags, and nearly 50 million pounds of clean rice.

Acadia parish has now some very aggressive and public spirited citizens and editors, all of whom, by their good work, have contributed to the wonderful success displayed there now on all sides. We hope for its continuance.

The Levee Problem.

Under the title of "The Riparian Lands of the Mississippi River; Past, Present, Prospective," Mr. Frank H. Tompkins, a well-known writer on levee topics, will treat the whole question of levees and kindred matters relating to the control of the floods of the river and the development of the alluvial Mississippi Valley. A prospectus which has been received at this office is a beautiful specimen of the printer's art, and is filled with endorsement and commendation from the most distinguished friends of the river and levees in Congress and in the valley. Without a single exception they all express the belief that an exhaustive treatment of the whole question from the standpoint of the latest investigations into the proper regimen of the great river, coupled with a full exposition of all of the varied interests at stake behind the levees, is of the greatest necessity now. The general tenor of the letters express confidence that this question has only to be thoroughly understood by the people of the whole country and by Congress to secure adequate appropriations.

Mr. Tompkins is well-known to the people of the valley and evidently knows them and their characteristics, for in concluding his announcement in the prospectus he declares that he would never have ventured to bring out a work costing tens of thousands of dollars if he had been less acquainted with them.

It is a happy grasping of, as Mr. Tompkins expresses it, "the spirit of the times" to make the book one of pictures. It is undoubtedly a fact that people read largely by pictures. The picture catches the eye and the description or explanation is read as a natural sequence. The two together cause the lasting impression. These pictures treating every phase of life and labor and conditions in the Mississippi valley will thus add strength to the text. Especially happy is Mr. Tompkins' idea that a copy of this work should be sent to every commercial and industrial organization in the country. These exist in the form of Boards of Trade, Chambers of Commerce, Granges, Patrons of Hus-

bandry, etc., in almost every county in the United States.

The recent favorable report made to the United States senate by the committee on commerce (a sub-committee having made the tour of investigation through the valley) shows that congress is ripe for action in this direction, and with the pressure of a strong public sentiment may take up this great subject and dispose of it for all time. We take it for granted that the people of the valley will give this important work support sufficient to allow its publication on the broad plans outlined.

Seed Cane.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Varying reports from so many planters in such different parts of the sugar region of Louisiana, relating to the condition of seed cane put up during the past autumn of 1898, naturally excites very laudable curiosity to know why such differences in the preservation of the vitality of this plant should obtain. From a recent article in the "Louisiana Planter," inference may be drawn, that degrees of latitude in which tests have been observed cannot be held to be the determining factor in this case since citations are made from the most northern parishes of this state, showing the most opposite conditions of seed cane put up from small patches of cane grown in those parishes. Credible reports from the central sugar region, as well as the extreme southern sugar districts have shown great differences in the conditions of the cane laid down for seed in these localities. Even on plantations adjoining, the most marked difference in the quality of the seed cane has been declared.

Examination into all the facts connected with the preservation of seed cane, to the end that positive knowledge might be obtained by which the planter in this matter could have future guidance apparently presents itself as an important subject for further study and discussion, by the experienced and intelligent body of gentlemen who constitute The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association. The collective experience of this body expressed upon this subject, through the medium of the "Louisiana Planter" would be read with great interest by the community of sugar planters, and would undoubtedly be of great value to them in their future efforts to secure the best results in seed cane preservation. It has been noticeable that in certain years, seed cane has been found sound mostly in all parts of this state. In other years the very reverse has been observed, although the processes of preserving seed cane have been the same in these years. This fact would seem to show that atmospheric influence rather than the methods pursued in putting up seed cane, had determined the condition of its preservation. Some agricultural writer has estimated the proportionate influence of man's agency in culture of fields as one, that of meteorological conditions four—co-operative forces necessary in all cases,

The importance of knowing how best to preserve seed cane is no new subject of today, but has occupied the minds of planters in the long past of cane culture, prominently so during the period intervening between the years 1852 and 1856, when a great deal of seed cane spoiled. The comparative values of matlaying and windrowing seed cane were then widely discussed. Putting the seed cane in ditches was tried by a few planters; others, few, attached much importance to lunar influence then urged to the notice of the writer by a planter of intelligence and education. Amongst the various attempts then made to secure sound seed, to the writer's knowledge, that of digging up the seed cane with grubbing hoes and placing it either in matlays or windrows was perfectly successful. The writer attests the entire success of this method from his personal observation on a number of plantations where it was practiced, and from his own experience in imitation of this practice.

It is obvious that fields from which the seed cane is dug up must be those from which the planter does not expect an immediate return of ratoons. It is also patent that it requires more labor to dig up a given amount of cane than to cut that amount with knives. But this difference in labor is more than compensated, in the estimation of the writer, by the certainty of the preservation of the seed and very measurably by the larger number of sound eyes which are attached to the lower end of the cane dug up, but which would be lost to that as usually cut. Any planter feeling interested in this matter, could test this method at very little expense, by putting up one acre of seed cane in the manner indicated. We believe planters generally concede that ripe cane keeps better than green cane. Should this be true the idea suggests itself to await the ripening effect of November weather upon cane before putting down seed. The large force of working hands then employed in harvesting crops could then put down all the requisite amount of cane in a very short time, should a freeze threaten, and the delay in grinding be more than compensated by the greater security of good seed. EX PLANTER.

The Indian Sugar Industry.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In a circular issued by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, dated Calcutta the 11th Jan. 1899, the Sugar Imports into British India for 1897-98 are stated to have been:

From Austria-Hungary	47,287 Tons
From Germany	60,165 Tons
Total	1,107,452 Tons.

representing a value of Rupees 23,233,092 or at 1s4d £ 1,548,868.

A five per cent Import duty on this amounting to Rs 1,161,654 or £ 77,443 is a direct gain to Government.

The bounty paid by the two above named countries, taken in a round figure at 25 s per ton, comes to Rs 2,014,725 or £ 134,315 which

is an indirect benefit bestowed by Government on the well to do classes by the admission of German sugar. In all the country gains Rs 3,176,379 or £ 211,758.

Forty tons of refined sugar require 100 tons of raw sugar. 107452 tons of imported sugar, if to be manufactured in India, would use up 268630 tons of raw sugar and of this quantity the Indian cultivator has been deprived of his market in 1897-98.

One acre may be taken at one and a fifth Behar biggah; the latter gives about 30 maunds of raw sugar. The area from which 268630 tons of raw sugar could have been obtained would be 201473 acres and the profit to the cultivator, that is to the poorer class of natives, taken at 50 Rs or £ 3 6-8 per biggah would have amounted to Rs 12,088,380 or £ 895892.

If judicious and timely administration had prevented the import of beet in 97-98, and if Indian refined sugar had been used, the country would have lost Rs 3,176,379 or £ 211,758, but gained Rs 12,088,380 or £ 895892 and would therefore have been Rs 8,912,001 or £ 594133 to the good.

On every five seer (10 lbs.) bag of refined beet sugar the Indian consumer buys, he adds 9 pies (3-4d) to the Government Revenue and obtains a present from Germany of 17 pies (1 1-4d) he deprives however his poorer brethren of 74 pies or over six annas (6d).

The total area under cane in 96-97 was 2651721 acres and on this the 201475 acres mentioned above are an increase of 13 per cent. being 316 square miles or a square measuring 17 3-4 miles in length and 17 3-4 miles in width. It would mean in other words, that to have grown the amount of cane producing 268630 tons of raw sugar, a strip of land 8 1-2 feet in width would have had to be added on one side of each acre. Some cynics think India incapable of this.

Improved machinery is often talked of as wanting, by people who are ignorant of the fact, that some of the modern refineries in India have the very latest English, American and German appliances and are therefore equipped to meet refined beet on an even footing, and it however most difficult to compete with it when handicapped as at present.

Given fair competition, cane sugar has in India a better chance than beet and by encouraging its manufacture Government would not only improve the status of the poor, but would revive one of the greatest manufactures of the country which is now fast dying out.

FAIR PLAY.

Personal.

Judge Taylor Beattie, of Lafourche Parish, was in the city on a visit a few days ago.

Mr. J. W. Shelby, of Jeanerette, La., was an arrival in the city on Tuesday. He registered at the St. Charles.

Mr. A. Lallande, a highly esteemed resident of Assumption Parish, and Mrs. Lallande were guests of the Hotel Denechaud recently.

Indian Sugar and Countervailing Duties.

It is announced from Calcutta that a bill is to be introduced into the Supreme Indian Legislative Council to enable the government to levy countervailing duties, on the American model, on bounty-fed sugar sent to India. If such a bill be passed, it is to be hoped that it will not receive the sanction of the home government, for on imperial grounds it would introduce a great element of discord and danger into our international trade arrangements, while it would do no good to Indian producers. Its sole effect would be to raise the price of German granulated to the Indian consumer to the extent of 1s 3d to 1s 6d per cwt. It is doubtful whether this would do any good even to Mauritius, which is suffering really because its sugar, though always fine in quality, and now better made, has till recently been poorly prepared, according to modern ideas, in large crystals of a greyish yellow, while granulated is small and snow white. As regards the Indian producer, to the best of our belief there is not at present a single modern sugar factory where good crystals are made direct from the cane. There are, we believe, a few refineries where crystals are made from raw sugar, but secondary and inferior processes cannot compete with German granulated. It is by no means probable, therefore, that the proposed countervailing duties will shut German sugar out of India. On the other hand, the effect will no doubt be to encourage to however small extent the continuance in India itself of the present terribly inefficient methods of manufacture. Literally millions—probably over three millions—of tons of sugar are made in the Indian Empire every year, in the form of goor, jaggery, and the like, which are more like mud than sugar. India is believed to be the native home of the sugar cane, and within its vast limits and with the great varieties of climate which the peninsula possesses, the cane is said to ripen all the year round. Labor is cheaper than in any other part of the world, machinery and European supervision are easily obtained, and in Bengal there is plenty of coal. Instead of taking alarm at trifling European imports, which have only to some extent taken the place of what have been received from Mauritius for years, the Indian government would do better to set up a few model sugar factories, to show what can be done on European methods in India itself. German granulated fetches quite double the price of native sugar, and a tax of, say, a rupee per cwt. cannot affect it much. It is surely more important to try and get a better price at home by improving the 3,000,000 tons produced than to vainly attempt to shut out the paltry quantity of some 60,000 or even 100,000 tons of German granulated, and at the same time confuse and very probably endanger the international trade of the whole British Empire. The quarrelling and

ill-feeling between Germany and the United States, of which we have not yet seen the end, are due to this countervailing idea, and it is the more inopportune to introduce it when Germany is sincerely desirous of putting an end to the bounties. The great European offender in this respect is France, and her sugar does not go to India, because what she makes is unsuitable. The Indian government could probably stop the use of granulated to-morrow by simply having the fact circulated among the priests and Brahmins that it was refined with animal charcoal, probably containing the bones of the sacred animal, the cow, and very probably those of the unclean animal, the pig, as well. No orthodox Hindoo would touch it if he knew this. Not that it would be desirable to pander to such superstition, but from an economical point of view it would be less objectionable than countervailing duties.

The "anti-bounty" mind has been naturally much exercised over the Indian question. Relatively trivial imports (such as we have named) are treated as threatening the destruction of the Indian industry, and dismal predictions are made of the extinction of large portions of the land revenue, on which the government lives, and of the abandonment of large quantities of irrigated land, to the great loss of the taxpayer, who has erected the canals. The irrigated area in 1896-7 under food crops was 27,500,000 acres. Of this, 25,500,000 was under cereals, and 2,000,000 under other food crops, sugar not being separately stated in the statistical abstract, but not likely to amount to any large total, as the cultivation is spread over the whole Empire, of which the irrigated land forms a small proportion. The whole outcry purports to be based upon the fact that the Indian sugar area fell off 8½ per cent in 1896-97; but surely the famine fully accounts for this, other foods being more profitable. The cat is let out of the bag by the assertion that Indian refined sugar, which used to sell at Rs. 11 to 16 per maund, could not compete with German beet sugar at Rs. 8 per maund. In fact, what the Indian sugar refiners want is protection, in order to raise the price they get 30 to 100 per cent. It is understood that for many years, and till quite recently, sugar cane was the most lucrative of all the Indian crops. In the bad sugar year (1896-97) the Indian area under sugar was below 20,000 acres less than in 1893-94, the only other year we have the figures for, so that if it fell off 8½ per cent as alleged, there must have been a great increase in 1894, 1895 and 1896. The Ryots, however, cannot escape the effects of the great depreciation in values all over the world, and this may lead to some redistribution of crops. But, if so, the land tax being on the cultivated area, we cannot see where the Indian revenue would lose. Sugar land, indeed, sometimes has a special rate levied, but otherwise it pays the rate of ordinary "wet crops." The substitution of one wet

crop for another could not have much effect over a term of years. It is possible that the Indian land revenue might decrease if the Ryots on the whole found their total earnings from land under all crops fall off so much, that the land tax had to be reassessed on a lower scale. This, however, if it ultimately took place, would be an effect of a general movement in the price of agricultural produce, and could not be affected by the substitution of one crop for another. At the present moment jaggery sugar is fetching 30 to 40 per cent more in this market than it did a few years back, and this does not look like the annihilation of the Indian sugar trade, with its cultivated area of nearly 2,789,000 acres in the unfavorable year 1896-97. It must be remembered that the position in the East Indies is totally different to that of our West Indian Islands. India is a producing and consuming country, and only at intervals an exporter, while most of her supplies of fine sugar have for years been imported, owing to the inferior Indian methods of manufacture. It is to be remembered, too, that as the economical condition of the Indian peoples improves, as we are glad to believe it does, they will, like ourselves, call for better sugar than the sticky black substitutes as yet supplied to them. If so, the crystals must be imported, as they are not locally produced. Low sea freights and railways in India have no doubt enabled foreign sugar to penetrate more deeply into the Empire, and the local government seems to have taken fright at what is a purely economical change, having nothing or next to nothing to do with bounties. It would have been better to take steps to put up model sugar factories in India itself, to teach the natives and Europeans also the vast field for profitable industry before them, than to attempt to perpetuate, by a paltry protection, the present miserable state of things. Other countries which can, and do, grow cane sugar have of late years made, or will shortly make (in the Philippines, for example) great strides in the improvement of their produce, and we fear, that unless India puts her shoulder to the wheel that the decay of her sugar industry will become still more apparent, while the imposition of countervailing duties will only tend to promote a sense of false security, postponing thereby the improvements in manufacture which are the basis of eventual success in the keen competition of the present day. The fact that America imposes countervailing duties on bounty-fed sugar to protect her own sugar industry, does not prevent her being a large buyer of beet sugar. The impending "destruction" of the Indian sugar industry appears to be a very sudden thing, for only two years ago the imports from the Continent fell off immensely when sugar was temporarily dearer. If India, with a costly freight, and enormous inland railway distances, cannot compete with a fall of 1s. or so in German granulated, the "native home of the cane" must indeed be in a bad manufacturing way. The following are the figures of the Continental sugar imports to India: 1894-95, 46,000; 1895-96, 14,400; 1896-97, 60,536; 1897-98, 107,383.—London Produce Markets Review,

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather continues to turn the cold shoulder toward the sugar interests of this section. What is particularly desirable just now is warm temperature with frequent rains to hasten germination and growth of the feeble and almost quiescent buds of our stubble and plant cane; what we are getting is unseasonably cold, dry weather. The already dubious prospect is therefore growing daily more so, and even the most hopeful of our planters and managers are beginning to fear that their erstwhile confident anticipations of fairly good stands, are in danger of disappointment. Much cane that would doubtless amount to something if it could have the fructifying influence of genial temperature and moisture is in danger of death from the inanition produced by a rough and cold.

After several months of innocuous desuetude far as the holding of its formal monthly sessions was concerned, the Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association of Louisiana came to the fore last Tuesday with the best meeting that has taken place in the rooms of the organization since the annual gathering last May. Hon. Henry McCall occupied the presidential chair and Hon. Paul Leche officiated as scribe, as usual while the attendance of members included Dr. W. M. McGallard, Ernest H. Barton, E. N. Pugh, R. McCall, J. Lebermuth, W. I. Barton, Myer Lemann, Henry C. Braud, Dr. J. D. Hanson, F. B. Lemann, C. Kline, Dr. E. K. Sims and L. E. Bentley.

After disposing of the routine business, including reading of minutes and the secretary-treasurer's report, the subject of the next meeting, when the annual election of officers is to be held, was taken up for discussion. A lengthy and interesting debate upon the condition and prospects of the community in general and the sugar industry in particular ensued, and while there was some doubt expressed as to the propriety of indulging in anything that savored of a jollification at a period of such uncertainty and threatening disaster as this, Mr. Henry C. Braud's reminder that next month's assembly will take place upon the association's fifteenth anniversary, led to the unanimous conclusion to commemorate the occasion with a dinner. Founded in 1884, the Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association has been intimately identified not only with the sugar interests, but all other industries, enterprises and movements affecting the progress and material welfare of the community. Few organizations of its character have exercised a wider or more beneficial influence pro bono publico, and all who have had a part in its work during the past fifteen years can point to its record with pardonable pride.

Messrs. Henry C. Braud, Col. A. D. Vega and L. E. Bentley were appointed as the

dinner committee, and if they are fortunate enough to provide as satisfactory a "feast of reason and flow of soul" as last year's, there will be no cause for complaint either from a gastronomic or intellectual standpoint. Mr. Myer Lemann had the honor of making the motion that produced the happy solution of the dinner problem, and he and Mr. Braud were warmly congratulated for the perspicuity and finesse they displayed in bringing harmonious unanimity out of temporary chaos and seemingly irreconcilable differences on the momentous question, "To eat or not to eat?"

As this letter closes, Wednesday night, a cold drizzle has set in, and if the rain will keep coming down and the thermometers will go up, there will be much thanksgiving in

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has been favorable enough during the past week, only the mornings are rather cool, and the cane does not come out as rapidly as our people would like to see it. The old adage about the watched pot never boiling may be appropriately applied, and we hope that the warm and much needed rain that is falling at this writing will bring the crop out and dispel the fears of the planter. Everybody finds his work well advanced, and there is a splendid stand of corn up throughout the parish.

A buggy trip from Plaquemine to White Castle shows the roads to be in excellent condition and we hope they will be thus maintained throughout the year. Cane in several places is beginning to mark the row nicely. Water was running through the rice flumes at Last Hope Plantation of Mr. J. D. Berrett, and the Dunboyne Plantation of Mr. Alonzo Landry, and mechanics were putting in order the flume of Mr. Oscar D. Billon at Upper Eimer Plantation.

The rice planters have had fine weather for their work and the larger part of their planting has already been made. Owing to the high stage of the water in the river the flooding is accomplished easily and with little expense. Messrs. Babin Bros. of St. Gabriel had planted up to Tuesday 375 acres at Indian Camp.

The sale of the Margaret Plantation near St. Gabriel, from the heirs of the late Sebastian Swoop to Mr. William Joseph O'Neil was filed at the clerk's office last week. The consideration paid was \$3000, and all agree that Mr. O'Neil got the cheapest plantation that has been sold in this parish for some time.

Mr. D. Hickey Walsh of Plaquemine, the popular manager of Hon. A. H. Gay's Union Plantation, has invented a most excellent cane sling, consisting of two lengths of suitable chain, connected together at one end and having hooks at the other provided with slotted hasps or keys. The ring connecting the two chains serves also to connect the

sling with the hoisting device. These slings were used last year on the Union Plantation, where some 27,000 tons of cane were transferred from cars to carriers at a cost not exceeding 3½ cents per ton.

Mr. John M. Keith, a member of the firm of Anderson, Keith & Co., of Memphis, Tenn., was married on Wednesday to Mrs. Marie Eugenie Folse, widow of the late Desire P. Landry. Mr. Keith has had his headquarters at White Castle for some time and has been a large and active buyer of the sugar and molasses made in this parish. Mr. and Mrs. Keith will reside at the beautiful home on Nottoway Plantation, of which Mrs. Keith is half owner.

The session of the district Court continues. The grand jury, unlike its predecessors, carried its sitting into this week, expecting to investigate the infractions of the Sunday law, selling liquors to minors, slot machines and the like. After due consideration of the matter and a tacit understanding that violations of that character would cease, the inquisitors adjourned last Tuesday after requesting the district judge to instruct the parish officers to help enforce these laws; and agreeably to this request, Judge Talbot ordered the sheriff to notify all merchants and saloon keepers of the wishes and intentions of the grand jury, and that that body would be assembled in May, June and September to see if the laws have been enforced.

IBERVILLE.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Latterly the weather has been variable, and too cool for the rapid growth of plants which is witnessed in the gardens and fields where progress has been retarded by the absence of heat, so necessary to health development in some sections of the parish the want of adequate moisture is a source of anxiety to planters, and fears are entertained for canes planted since the freeze in February. Generally the first planted corn came up a good stand, but replanting has been resorted to as the ravages of the worms in some parts of the parish destroyed the first seeding. The frost of last week not only retarded the growth of the corn, but tinted it yellow. The light showers which have fallen in some localities were rapidly evaporated by the cool north winds. The varied reports as to seed cane and stubble seeming upset theories and preconceived opinions.

It has been generally conceded that the red cane is the hardiest, yet in some instances this year it has been so defective as to be unfit for seed, yet Creole cane nearly windrowed on the same day and under like conditions kept well. In some instances seed cane windrowed on low black soils has kept better than when the soil was sandy and better drained. When the cane was moderate in quantity there, it has generally kept the best. As to the stubble, it is very

perplexing—some fields well worked and laid by with ample earth, show but indifferently and others again begin to mark the row. Mr. Breaux, the manager of Belle Farm of Mr. C. W. Gocage, informed the writer that the best stubble on the place is on black land which he never could lay by last year owing to the incessant rains. The stubble was shallow and very much exposed to the effects of low temperatures. In this parish the rainfall was very light in January until the twenty-seventh of the month, and no rain of any magnitude fell again until the middle of February. The chances of a stubble crop here are better than when the rains were heavy in January and part of February.

On Thursday, above and in town the showers were light, but below on Woodlawn and Ashland of Messrs. Cailluet and Maginnis' there was a seasonable rain, also at Presquille of Messrs. Gueno Bros., Front Lawn, the estate of the late Mr. A. Boudreaux, and on part of Myrtle Grove of Messrs. Barrow & Duplantis. Mr. Cailluet is very hopeful of the crop and anticipates a better stand of cane than was hoped for two weeks ago.

The ratoons begin to mark the row well in places, and on Woodlawn the writer saw the most promising stand of plant cane seen thus far this season. The cane was planted before the freeze and covered not very heavily. The first planted cane there on sandy soil is not so promising—the ground being colder.

Judge Cailluet opened court on Monday, but there are no cases of public interest. The telephone line is nearing completion, and they are now putting the wires in place.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

The condition of the cane crop around the Irish Bend is none of the best. Though the germinating season is moving along, the cane does not seem to move with it very fast. Much of the stubble and a larger percentage of the plant than most people would like, is virtually spoiled. The crop in that locality will be short beyond a doubt and the quantity will be too large for the benefit of the country. In some places corn is coming up and shows a good stand, but the cane along that long stretch of magnificent plantations is certainly a sorry looking sight, especially is this so with reference to the fall plant.

The rain of last Tuesday was a blessing to vegetation. With a few weeks of the proper kind of weather, we can all tell what the prospects of the coming season will be. At present they are none the best.

Another streak of phenomenal weather came forth on Tuesday morning resulting in the development of a heavy frost on Wednesday. This is another set back to both garden and the cane crops.

A representative of the Vindicator-News went over the route of the proposed drainage canal last Monday. The canal will have

one crook of about 30 degrees from Foster's drainer to the mouth of Mayer's bayou, the remaining portion of the line will be straight from the tanks to that point. The length of the canal will be about two miles—one-half of its length being through a marsh which at present represents no value whatever, but will be made valuable when the canal is finished. We do not know what fall the levels of the engineer will show, but we presume it will be about seven feet from the starting point. If so it will give us a most complete system of drainage, and besides a commercial artery to the sea for such small craft as will find Franklin the best and shortest route, as well as the best market for the immense fish and oyster trade. Let us have the canal.—Vindicator-News.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been more favorable for farm work as well as more stimulating to the young crop than the two weeks preceding. On Tuesday last, a nice spring rain visited this section, which was followed by another a few days later. These rains were very much needed, and though the rainfall was not sufficient to meet all requirements it was very beneficial. One drawback during this time was a spell of very cool weather; ice was very much in evidence on Wednesday morning, but there was no damage to the young corn or the early vegetables. The cool spell lasted for two or three days, and it is feared that cane will be checked in coming up and that cut-worms will destroy considerable corn, as this kind of weather is their native element. The weather, however, has changed, and to-day, Monday, is very dark and cloudy and favors rain very much. Cane planting is about completed—there is still a ragged end to finish up. The cane that was planted immediately after the weather cleared up in February, is coming up very nicely and stubbles that were off-buried and shaved two or three weeks ago, are now marking the rows in some sections. The cane planters are more hopeful now of a fairly good stand of both plant and stubble than they have ever been since the freeze. With a good rain now, the stand of cane could be decided on within a week's time. The weather has been so dry and the ground so cold since it was planted that in many places it has hardly commenced to sprout. The Planter correspondent drove over the cane section of the parish along the Iberia and Vermilion Railroad a few days ago, and we found that in the Deleambre country, on the dividing line between Iberia and Vermilion Parishes the stubble canes seem to be damaged very badly, as it is also around Puffette and Lee's switches in Iberia Parish. Stubbles on gray, sandy loam, where well-drained are much better than those on black, stiff lands. The Caffery Central Sugar Refinery and Railroad Com-

pany, Limited, of Franklin, La., has confidence in the coming crop in as much as they have entered the field already to close contracts for all delivery. The people along the I. & V. Ry., have confidence in the Caffery and are closing contracts with them readily. This staunch and upright institution has been standing by the people of Vermilion for several years and the cane growers appreciate it, and to show their appreciation they are staying with them. The present management of the Caffery has proved very satisfactory, and Mr. L. Forsyth, Jr., the superintendent and assistant general manager has completely gained the confidence of our cane growers and will have but little trouble to hold it.

Early planting of corn is coming up nicely, and if the insects will not make an inroad into it, the stand will be perfect. The acreage will be very large this year. The rapid advance in the price of corn here for the past 15 days has stimulated farmers to plant more corn. The price of corn rose from 50 cents to 90 cents per barrel in about 10 days, and the price is still on the advance.

Rice lands are being put in order as rapidly as possible and seeding has begun in earnest. Cotton planting is nearing a finish; the acreage will be nearly double that of 1898.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Cool days and nights prevailed during the past week and up to the morning of the 3rd inst. when it began to grow warmer and cloudy, threatening rain.

From what has been learned, it seems that corn is coming up to a nice even stand, but owing to the North winds, which prevailed for some days past, the young plants do not look altogether as fresh and vigorous as they would had the weather been warmer and more refreshing to plant life. However, the farmers are not disposed to complain, preferring to drive all farmwork forward to the best advantage under present conditions in the firm belief that as the days grow longer, the sun will warm up the air and the season improve to the benefit of all growing crops.

Cane is coming up slowly, but it is to be hoped that it will make something profitable. There is much anxiety felt in regard to the stand of cane expected.

There is not a cane raiser that I know of in the parishes of St. Landry, Avoyelles and Calcasieu, but who is anxious to make some cane, be the tonnage ever so light, that it may be reserved for seed for planting next season's crop. From present indications I doubt very much if there will be a factory in the parish that will attempt to manufacture a pound of sugar this coming grinding season, and of course, the cane now coming up should develop a tonnage much above present expectations by the time this month has come to its close. Providing favorable

weather has prevailed, the cane growers will then be in a fairly good position to know about what their prospects for cane are to be for this season.

Some of my farmer friends who obtained samples of seedling cane from Prof. Stubbs last fall, met with the misfortune to loose it in the 13th of February freeze. The ten stalks which were received by the Planter's scribe and carefully planted partly escaped the freeze, on examination I found some of the stalks injured and the eyes killed. The affected joints were cut off, and the sound looking part of cane and eyes planted, and I am proud to say it is now coming up through the soil to meet and greet the light and air, to make growth.

The farmers are now busily engaged plowing and preparing the soil for the reception of cotton seed.

Those who could afford to do so, commenced to plant cotton last week and will continue to plant as the ground is prepared during this and next week.

Two well-known gentlemen, one of them a planter and the other a mechanic, have set about perfecting a cotton-picking machine on new and entirely different principles from any machine of the sort heretofore set up. For the present I am not at liberty to mention the details of the machine, more than to state the project seems to look feasible.

I find that the farmers are looking forward to planting and growing more of forage plants, such as sorghum, millet, peas and velvet beans than has heretofore been the custom.

A warm April shower would be quite beneficial at this time to break the hard crust which has formed on much of the late seeded and plowed lands. During the morning of the 4th, the wind changed around to the North, bringing with it cloudy and cool weather, not at all agreeable to the farmers, now so anxious to see their crops up above ground and growing. Warmer weather and refreshing showers at this date would be pleasing and beneficial to all who cultivate the soil. ERIN.

The Manufacture of Sorghum Sugar.

The manufacture of sorghum sirup has changed but little in the past forty years. The processes now used are essentially the same as then. This lack of progress is in striking contrast with the improvements which have been made in nearly all other manufactures during that period. In 1860 the production of sorghum sirup amounted to 6,749,123 gallons; in 1870, 16,050,089; and in 1880, 28,444,202. In 1890 the production had fallen to 24,235,218 gallons, and it is believed that there has been a still further decline since then.

Sorghum is grown to a greater extent in this country than any other sirup-producing plant, and its juice can be made to produce sirup of as good quality as sugar-cane sirup. The manufacture of sorghum sirup has de-

clined because the quality of the sirup is such that others sirups are preferred by the general public, since it ranks in the northern markets with the middle grades of Louisiana centrifugal molasses. By improving the value of sorghum sirup the demand may be increased, its value raised, and its manufacture extended.

For the purpose of calling attention to the condition of this industry and to the difficulties of sorghum sirup manufacture, and with the hope of inducing sirup-makers to improve their processes, the United States Department of Agriculture has had prepared and will soon issue Farmers' Bulletin No. 90, entitled, "The Manufacture of Sorghum Sirup." This bulletin was prepared by A. A. Denton, Medicine Lodge, Kans., and discusses the entire subject of the manufacture of sorghum sirup, from the planting of the sorghum seed and cultivation of the plant, through the various processes to the finished product. Sorghum sirup and sugar-cane sirup are compared, statistics of sorghum production are given, and the necessity of improving the methods of clarification, especially in the semi-arid region, is pointed out.

Other matters which receive attention are the preparation of soil; planting and cultivation of sorghum; grinding cane; clarifying the juice; settling tanks for hot and cold clarification; skimming, settling and filtering; claying, evaporating and clarifying by superheating the juice.—Philad. Manufacturer.

Cane Buying in Queensland.

Amongst other matters referred to by the chairman of the Mount Bauple Central Mill Company at the annual meeting last Saturday, as reported in the "Maryborough Chronicle," was that of the cost of manufacture. He said.—With regard to the cost of manufacture there was a decided improvement, but the quality of the sugar had been rather a low one. During the year the directors had the advice of their chemist, Mr. Steele, on the matter, and one thing that had caused a good deal of dissatisfaction among the shareholders and the suppliers of cane was the decision of the mill manager and directors to make certain deductions owing to the inferior quality of cane that was delivered for a time. He knew that it had caused a good deal of dissatisfaction, and although the directors understood what was the cause of it, he thought it would be advisable in the interests of the mill that the shareholders had a knowledge of it, and he read a short extract from the report of Mr. Steele as follows: "The disgraceful state of the bulk of the cane, regarding entirely insufficient topping, calls for strong comment. No effort whatever seems to be made on the part of canegrowers to remedy this state of affairs, in spite of notices sent to them, and percentage deductions made on the cane at the

weighbridge. In the present state of affairs the manager would be thoroughly justified in absolutely refusing to take delivery of the cane which was insufficiently topped, and even in closing the mill if no improvement takes place in this matter." The report went on very much in the same manner all through, and in face of this the shareholders must be quite satisfied that the directors and those in charge did their duty in making the reductions. There would always be an amount of dissatisfaction in this respect, and the only remedy was by making the deductions on the chemical results of the cane. Other mills were doing this, but whether it was possible for it to be done in that mill was a matter for the directors and the shareholders to consider. Mr. A. B. Martin, late manager of the Marion Central Mill at Mackay, who had a long experience in sugar manufacture and canegrowing, had been appointed manager of the company, and would start upon his duties in a few days. With regard to the quantity of improvements effected, he said that the retiring directors last year brought forward a report from Mr. Fiddes, intimating that improvements and extensions up to £5600 would have to be expended on the mill and tramway before they would be able to do the work properly, and the result was he had waited upon the Hon. D. H. Dalrymple for a loan to that extent, but unfortunately when he was down there were seven other deputations from central mills all on the same errand. The result was that instead of getting £5600, which he asked for, they only got £3000, of which they had received £2999, and had used £2044, in addition, out of the earnings of the mill, making a total of £5044 expended. The improvements to the mill were permanent. If they got the balance of the loan it would be placed to their interest account.—Queenslander.

Trade Notes.

Westinghouse Engines.

In our trade notes last week concerning Mr. Frank Paul Barber, the enterprising local agent for Westinghouse, Church, Kerr & Co., we made the statement that there was a Westinghouse engine of 750 H. P., "the largest in the world," which had been in operation for some time. This statement was plainly an error and it should have specified that the 750 H. P. engine in question, was a gas engine and not a steam engine. A 750 H. P. steam engine would of course be nothing out of the ordinary, whereas a gas engine of that capacity, is, as Mr. Barber says, a record breaker.

Mr. Earl S. Barnett, of Shadyside Plantation, Bayou Teche, was in the city during the past week. He stopped at the S. Charles Hotel.

Mr. Edward Scannell, a leading cane raiser of St. James Parish, was a guest of the Commercial Hotel during the week.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

Berlin, March 18, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The report on the weather of last week may be briefly summarized by informing your esteemed readers that the first days were mild, or, for the season, rather warm, whilst the latter part of the period under review was very cool. But there have been almost no moist precipitations, and on account of this circumstance the weather can be called favorable. Our farmers, as a matter of course, took full advantage of this condition, so that field work in general made a big stride forward. The same can be said of the situation outside of Germany, only in Russia, although latterly mild weather has set in, the commencement of plowing, etc., is expected only to begin in a few days, provided, of course, that the weather will not undergo an unfavorable change. The area to be planted with beets this year will be, in Western Europe, apparently not much larger than last year, for quite apart from economical and commercial reasons militating against a larger acreage, the labor question begins to exercise some influence on the possibilities of extending the growing of beets. There is indeed no lack of laborers, but these prefer to go to the cities and work in factories, which movement in many sections, places the land owners in a really perplexing situation, and as the industries of the country at present are in a flourishing state, it is hard to take any measures for keeping the necessary number of hands for field work. For this reason it is also desirable to have the beet planting done as early as possible, for if it should be interrupted and delayed by adverse meteorological conditions, many farmers might see themselves deprived of the possibility of accomplishing it in due order and time.

As I wrote you already, in German agricultural circles, the question has been raised whether it might be advisable to change the present sugar law, with a view to facilitate the increase of consumption, which means reduction and finally abolition of the sugar bounties, which the Empire, of course, cannot afford to pay if the tax is taken off. To discuss this question more closely, a meeting was held the other day by agriculturists and sugar manufacturers, which resulted in the resolution to let, for the present, sugar legislation alone, more particularly for the reason that the so-called cartel—an agreement between refiners and raw sugar makers—was on the eve of being concluded. The object of this cartel is to regulate inland prices and until it comes into operation and it can be seen how it works, no action will be taken with regard to duties and bounties.

In the Belgian Chamber of Deputies the other day, a motion purporting to levy a

tax on imported beets at the rate of three francs per ton has been submitted to a special committee. The Minister of Finance reserved his decision for the time being. This is also a move of an agrarian character. Many Belgian factories situated along the Dutch frontier draw part of their beets from across the line, and those will be either deprived of this supply of new material, or it will be made more costly. A similar motion has, in Belgium, already, at several times, occupied the attention of legislative bodies, but it has so far never passed, because of its prejudicial bearing on the interests of the sugar industry of the country.

In Switzerland they are going to follow the example set by several states of the American Union, viz.: In giving bounties to beet growers. The governing council of the Canton of Bern has on the instance of the sugar factory Aarberg, submitted the motion to the federal council, to pay a bounty of 12 cts. for every 100 Kilogr. of beets furnished to the above factory.

The product of the Russian sugar factories, as is known, is principally so called white sand sugar, or white crystals, of which the sugar, fit for consumption, is made by the refineries. Besides they produce in Russia also but in a much smaller scale, yellow sand sugar, which is identical with 88 pt. rendement, the quality preferably dealt in on the markets on the world. But this yellow sand sugar is, in fiscal relations, placed in much more unfavorable conditions than the white, inasmuch as the former must be exported—sent directly abroad without receiving a drawback, whilst for white sugar, the tax paid is restituted on exportation. Furthermore the tax on white sand sugar is to a certain extent credited; on yellow it must be paid down right away when leaving the factory. These conditions virtually prevent the yellow description from being exported and the Russian factories have petitioned the Government to equalize the fiscal position of both sorts so that 88 pct. rendement may enjoy the same advantage as white crystals, the cause of this movement being that, in consideration that Russia must export a certain part of her production in case the quantity destined by the Minister of Finance for the home market is exceeded, it would be easier to find a market for the yellow description, as the refiners outside of Russia are working the same, and as it commands a universal price, and last, not least, as the yellow sugar can be made at a lower rate of cost than white. It will be interesting to know whether the Russian Government will comply with the wishes of the fabricants. If they do, this will mean increased competition against Germany and Austria, who particularly are selling their raw sugar in the form of 88 pct. rendement at home and abroad.

The markets opened this week still with a firm and ever-rising tendency; but soon they weakened and sellers were in a majority, so that the prices quickly receded. To-

wards the close, however, the tone changed again for the better, and part of the price dropped was recovered. These fluctuations were due at the beginning to less eager buying on the part of the trade whose demand was to some extent satisfied, and to speculators realizing profits, while later on favorable February statistics of Austria and Germany created again more confidence and led to more active buying. Prices closed at Germany a little lower than a week ago, namely at 10.80—11— at Magdeburg for actual 88 pct. and at Hamburg at M. 10, f. o. b. delivery March. For refined, the market has been quieter than last week, but prices are in some instances a fraction higher.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, Mar. 24th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to the prevailing quietness in foreign consuming centers, the demand here ruled rather quiet and sales reported during the past few days have been unimportant, but stocks being in strong hands, prices were generally well supported and all parcels sold obtained full prices, say, at from 2.65@2.70 pounds for 95@96 test and for a parcel 97@97 1-2 test, for local consumption, 2.75 was paid.

Sales made add up 15@20 thousand bags, chiefly for speculative purposes, exporters keeping aloof, quotations received from London and New York not allowing them to pay prices pretended by holders.

The fine weather which continues to prevail allows grinding to be kept up without any noticeable interruption and as cane supplies have by this time considerably dwindled down, it is likely that by the end of the month most of the factories will suspend work.

Cane fires commence to be reported and several large ones have recently occurred in the Sagua district; on this account plantations at Bermejil de Rodrigo and Amaro have lost part of the cane intended to be ground this year.

The assaults upon the police and the fights which recently took place in the streets of this city, are sufficient to impart an idea regarding what happens in the country; and labor on plantations can be performed only under the protection of armed guards, paid by the owners of the factories.

Following the example set by Sr. Julio Apezteguia, proprietor of the huge plantation "Constancia," whom I referred to in my previous letter, owners of plantations "Carolina," "Manuelita," "Deo Hermanses" and tenancies "Ariza" and "Limones," all at Cienfuegos, have requested Col. Joaquin Rodriguez, of the Cuban army, to organize for each of above named estates, a force of 25 Cuban soldiers, to be commanded by a lieutenant, who will earn \$50 monthly, and the soldiers \$25, the total force of 125 men

will be in charge of Col. Rodriguez, to whom \$100 monthly will be paid.

Such measures have been made necessary by the numerous gangs of marauders who scour the country and attack all unprotected places, sack them and have lately murdered a certain number of Spanish subjects under the pretense that they were enemies of the Cubans and had fought in the last war in favor of Spain.

The Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce has submitted to the approval of Governor General Brooke, a project to establish on this Island banks of universal guarantee, which will issue certificates or bonds with the guarantee of real estates or other properties which are valuable in the market.

The proprietors of said properties will sign a promissory note, whose payment will be guaranteed by a mortgage on their properties and in return the banks will deliver them bonds or certificates for half of the amount of the mortgaged properties, on which they will be able to raise money on moderate terms in the market.

The promissory notes will be issued at one year's term, within which the signers will have to cover them, and in case they remain unpaid ten days after the expiration of the term, their property will be sold at auction.

The interest levied by the bank on certificates delivered will be only 2 per cent per annum, which is considered quite sufficient to cover expenses incurred to run the banks.

The Central Bank will be established at Havana, with branches in all the largest towns on the island. T. D.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, March 30th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to the festivities of the week, this market has ruled inactive and prices retained their former nominal character, on the basis of 2½ & 2¾ cts. per pound, for good centrifugated sugars of 95 and 96 test, the smallness of disposable stock allowing holders to support their views.

Grinding continues on a very moderate scale, and owing to the scarcity of cane, several plantations will soon be compelled to put out their fires, after turning out a quantity of sugar, which in few cases only amounts to about one-half of a middling crop, the average for the greater part of districts falling considerably below; some districts will produce only 20 & 25 per cent of their customary crop.

Aware of the difficulties under which planters are laboring, Governor General Brooke has just signed a decree extending for another year, the effects of that issued by General Weyler and prorogued by General Blanco, referring to the collection, through judicial proceedings of planters' mortgaged debts, a measure which has met general approval, except on the part of

planters' creditors, who are thus compelled to add to their respective credits another year's interests and it is probable that when time comes to liquidate accounts in a definite manner, the prices at which mortgaged plantations will be sold, in few cases only will be sufficient to cover the total indebtedness bearing on same, owing to the enormous accumulation of interest.

An undeniable fact to-day is that it is almost impossible to live in the country, and new misdeeds committed by outlaws are daily reported from all parts. A gang of bandits who interfere with crop operations and threaten agriculturists in general, is said to have recently appeared at Guama Jay, in the vicinity of this city, and though several detachments of Cuban soldiers have been sent to pursue them, they have as yet been unable to meet them.

At Santiago de Cuba, these gangs of marauders that have considerably increased of late, no more satisfied with robbing and plundering now submit their victims to the most atrocious tortures, to compel them to declare where they have hidden their money. Several Spaniards have been murdered in vengeance of their former allegiance to the Spanish government, and others, Cuban country people, who were endeavoring to resume their agricultural pursuits, and who, on being deprived of all they possess, opposed resistance to the outlaws.

In spite of the vigilance exercised by the United States troops and the small Rural Guard bodies organized by some Municipalities for self-defense, several new bands have appeared at Santiago de Cuba and besides a certain number of country stores, they have also attacked plantations "Santa Ana" and "San Sebastian," which will oblige planters of that department to organize, as those of Cienfuegos, armed forces to protect their sugar estates.

Several persons have been arrested, under the charge of having participated in these criminal deeds and amongst those General Wood will order to be courtmartialled on this account, is an individual called Francisco Dieguez, who pretends to be a Cuban colonel.

Several small cane fires were lately reported; but the quantity of burnt cane is so insignificant that it will not affect the production in the least.

Owing to the condition of affairs prevailing in the country and the recent resolution passed by the Cuban Army Assembly, much mistrust prevails as yet and no capitalist, either native or foreign is willing to furnish planters with a dollar. On this account it is now certain that the next crop, if any at all, can be made, which is as yet rather doubtful, will by all means fall below the one that now touches its end.

Even if planters were able to secure funds to attend their fields during the summer and autumn, it would be rather difficult to find a sufficient number of hands to properly prepare them, since the majority of Span-

iards and Canarians who formerly were engaged in agricultural pursuits are fast leaving for their respective countries, and as to the Cuban soldiers, even in the case they were all willing to go and work on sugar plantations, after they be mustered out, they would hardly amount to a fifth part of the 200,000 laborers needed to raise the cane and take off an average crop. T. D.

Austria.

During the week the weather has assumed a spring-like character. The nights are still very cool, but in the day the temperature rises to 15 degrees C. In Vienna the average temperature for the week was 3.5 degrees C., against a normal of 2.7 degrees C. The weather has been favorable for field workers, but drought is generally complained of. Similar weather conditions are reported from Germany, but there are no further particulars to hand about the present Beet cultivation. In France, field work has made good progress, owing to the favorable weather, and most of the factories have already made their Beet contracts. According to a report of the situation from the Kiew exchange, thirty new factories will be opened in Russia during the next season (1899-1900).—Wochenschrift.

Personal.

Capt. John N. Pharr, of Glenwild and Fairview Plantations, St. Mary Parish, was in town on Monday. He stopped at the St. Charles.

Col. Lewis S. Clarke, of Lagonda Plantation, Bayou Teche, was in the city on a visit during the past week.

Mr. Wilbur J. Thompson, of Calumet Plantation, near Pattersonville, La., came up to the city last Monday and registered at the St. Charles Hotel.

Hon. W. E. Howell, sugar planter and legislator, from Lafourche Parish, was among the arrivals at the St. Charles Hotel last Sunday. Mr. Howell seems to be enjoying good health and retains that genial courtesy which has made him deservedly popular.

Mr. J. M. McBride, of Ellendale, Terrebonne Parish, was a Sunday guest of the St. Charles.

Mr. Geo. Hill, of Port Allen, La., son of Mr. John Hill, was in the city during the early part of the week. He came down on a business trip.

Mr. Frank J. Webb, of Baton Rouge, where he is the presiding genius of that large and successful enterprise, the Baton Rouge Sugar Co., came down to New Orleans last Sunday and took apartments at the St. Charles Hotel.

Mr. Walter I. Barton, of Ascension Parish, where he has a fine piece of sugar property, was in town recently, mingling with his friends. He stopped at Col. Blakely's hospitable inn.

J. Lebermuth, Esq., of Salsburg Plantation, Parish of St. James, was among those who were in town last Monday. He was at the St. Charles for a short time.

BEET SUGAR.**Santa Maria, California.**

Having arrived here, after a visit to several beet sugar factories of the west, I shall send you now a synopsis of the country and the beet sugar factory that is now being completed here.

This section of the country is known as the Santa Maria Valley and is bounded on the north, east and south by a range of mountains, and on the west by the Pacific ocean; having an area ten miles in breadth by twenty-five miles long. The climate is about the same all the year around, cool and pleasant; wheat, barley and fruits being the principal products at present.

The establishment here by the Union Sugar Company of a beet sugar factory, will now enable the farmers to plant beets, each farmer having contracted to plant a certain amount of his land in beets, thus giving assurance to the manufacturer that they will, if the conditions are favorable, have beets sufficient to operate their factory for five months in the year. The factory here is situated about seven miles southwest of the town and has a spur track running from the main track to the place, thereby connecting the factory and the town. All employees reside in the town, but go out and in every morning and evening.

The factory and out buildings are located on 4,000 acres of land belonging to the company and they will themselves plant a portion of it in beets, the balance being sand hills and Indian stone quarries. The factory is constructed of brick and steel and is a grand building, built in an odd shape, being five stories on one end, three in the middle and four on the other. Its dimensions are 240 feet long and 120 feet wide. There is now in position (with the exception of pipings and shaftings) machinery for a capacity of 450 to 500 tons, with an allowance made to double the same when crops justify.

The machinery at present comprises a diffusion battery of 14 cells made of boiler iron, 6 batteries of two each tubular boilers; quadruple effects with bottoms made of cast iron and the tops, domes and vapor pipes of boiler iron; vacuum pan 12 feet in diameter with 7 coils, the castings being made in sections. Two sets of 40 inch centrifugal machines, 4 in each set and a Hersey granulator with a sweater above.

Two Corliss engines supply all the power, one on each end of the building. All pumps in the house are of the Guild and Garrison make.

There seems to be an impression among the beet sugar manufacturers and the machinery men in California, that a beet sugar factory costs more to build than a sugar cane factory and that the machinery and methods of working beets are different from cane. This is a great mistake, where the cost of a beet sugar factory comes in is the expensive building and out buildings erected, which in

many instances double the cost of the machinery that goes into it (appearances cut a big figure in a beet factory); and another expense that must be something enormous, is the cost of erecting machinery, not having experienced men as they do in the cane producing countries. I am not afraid to say that in many instances the cost of erection comes not far from the original cost of the machinery.

In regard to the differences between the process of manufacture of beet and cane sugar, I will state that I have had experience in both, and that there is no difference between the workings of beets or cane, only in the different treatment of the juice or clarification. In beets they lime and pump gas into the juice. In cane they lime and pump sulphur into the juice. Outside of the above there is not a particle of difference; a beet superintendent by having a clarifier man could take charge of any cane house, so could a cane superintendent take charge of any beet house.

Summing up the beet industry of Southern California, I will say that as long as the country gets its supply of rain and no sand storms, and the factory the beets, there is a handsome profit in the industry for the manufacturer. But during the past year there was no rain, so there was no crop. This year came very near being the same but last week it rained some 5 inches which saved the country, so, with a few showers, next month a beet crop is assured for the coming season which starts in the latter part of August when the factory will be completed.

There is a controversy here among the beet sugar men as to whom credit should be given for the development of the beet industry. I can say from what I have seen and heard, and the opinion expressed by several prominent foundry men of San Francisco, that the credit should be given to the Dyer boys, as it was only push, energy and sticking qualities after failures that have brought the industry up to what it is to-day, a success. Take a trip through some of the large factories which they built in Utah and Oregon and the above expressed opinions will be confirmed.

BEET SUGAR.

Sugar Beet Seed.

During the past year the sugar beet industry in the United States has made remarkable progress. Eighteen large factories were in operation and nine are in process of construction. The greatest activity is manifested in Michigan, where one factory had a successful season, and six more factories are being built.

There is no doubt that many parts of Indiana are as favorably situated for the industry as is Michigan. The large bounty offered by Michigan is at present drawing a large amount of capital to that state. It is not likely that the Michigan bounty will re-

main at the present rate for a very long period, and then probably capital will seek the most favorable locations in Indiana. Many farmers in Indiana are already much interested in the matter and the results of many tests conducted last year are now published and ready for distribution by the Indiana Experiment Station. Numerous requests for seed have already been received.

Since the sugar beet is a highly bred plant it is of the utmost importance that only seed of the best quality should be used in conducting experiments to test the adaptability of a locality for sugar beet raising. Much of the commercial seed is of low quality and the use of such seed may result in indicating that a given locality is not capable of producing good beets, when the real trouble is with the seed.

On account of the vital importance of using seed of known quality the Station has secured through the United States Department of Agriculture a supply of seed of high grade, and will distribute this so long as it lasts to such farmers in Indiana as wish to try beet raising, and will follow the necessary methods as nearly as practicable. Seed will be furnished in quantities sufficient to plant one-eighth to one-half acre. Those applying for seed should state how much land will be used for beets and what kind of soil is available for the purpose. Full directions will be sent with the seed. Address applications to Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station, Lafayette, Ind.

The Beet Sugar Industry.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The beet sugar industry in Michigan appears to have struck a popular chord, judging from the manner in which the people generally have taken hold of the matter. There was but one factory in operation last year, the one in Bay City. The results from this factory were truly wonderful for a first campaign, with all the attendant drawbacks of new machinery and new men. Something over six millions of pounds of sugar were manufactured in less than four months, a most creditable showing. There are two more factories in process of construction in Bay City, one adjoining the Michigan Sugar Co.'s plant and the other across the river in West Bay City. Factories at several other points are being constructed to be in readiness for this season's crop.

Upwards of 14,000 acres of beets will be raised to supply the Bay City factory. As the lumber industry is on the wane in Michigan the sugar business comes as a very welcome solution to a very vexing problem. There is plenty of capital in the state and the capitalists, quite naturally, are eager to find some channel in which they may place their money so that it will bring the best returns. Their experience in Michigan and the experience of others in various states has taught them that the sugar industry is just the thing that they have been looking for.

X.

RICE.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

It begins to look a little like spring weather, and we are having just rain enough to keep the soil mellow, and the ploughing is well along now. Light showers and windy weather seems to be in order this month, but it does not hinder us from work to any great extent. A little more rain would be beneficial to the rice, not yet sprouted. A large acreage of rice has already been sown, but the cold weather prevents it from sprouting, and much of it was carelessly put in and the black birds picked up a large quantity of seed which will tend to make the stand thin. The black birds have been more numerous during the past winter and spring than for many seasons previous and they picked up large quantities of wild rice from the fields. They remained long enough to work considerable mischief to the fields recently planted. During the past week they have become less plentiful and we do not look for much more of their destructive work, for they are going off to nest.

Canal work is progressing finely as the soil is dry enough to work well, and the large graders are doing good work this season.

Much canal work was postponed last season owing to the soil being too soft to work the heavy graders, and this is one reason why some rice suffered for water last year, canals could not be finished in time. While our spring is opening a little later than usual this season, still there is a larger acreage of rice planted at this date than there was last season at the same time, and considerable rice will be planted this season, and if we may judge by all present indications there will not be as much late seeding done as last season. I notice that the press drills are beginning to come into popular favor with the large farmers and a good number are being used this season.

There was a good stand of rice produced last season by the drills, and a good yield would have been obtained in every case had water been secured in time. The mistakes of last season will be rectified this season as far as possible; so we look forward to more prosperity this season. With a good crop in sight our rice mills will be in better shape to handle the crop than last season and more mills will be built, should the crop prove as good as we now think it will.

Our farmers' institute, recently held at Jennings, proved of much interest to the farmers, especially that portion concerning rice. Some of our rice farmers are securing samples of the Japan rice, offered by our government, and much care will be given it in order to see what it will prove to be, and much interest is being taken in it by rice farmers. All small crops will be backward this season, and corn does not bid fair to be much about that. Oats are going to

know much about that. Oats are going to be a slim crop this season, and sweet potatoes are so scarce that there must necessarily be a small crop.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The movement of the week was of larger volume than for any similar period the current season. Fair trade is reported in the regular run of Japan; the grades in more prominent favor being ordinary to fair domestic, good to prime Java, high grade Patna and Japan. Advices from the South note steady demand at all points. Receipts of rough continue free, the natural sequence of normal weather conditions which enables the movement of crops and the desire of planters to clean out holdings so as to go forward with the work of the current year. It is quite apparent that "receipts are of remnant character" as they are individually considered and in the aggregate comparatively small. Cables and correspondence from abroad note moderate enquiry but firm prices as stocks are much less than at equal date late year.

Talmage, New Orleans telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 682,090 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 505,250 sacks. Sales, cleaned (est) 165,052 barrels; last year 106,272 barrels. Fair enquiry, principally for local and nearby trade.

Talmage, Charleston telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, clean, 35,409 barrels. Sales 31,570 barrels. Steady demand at former range.

Excellent Results.

Some of our unsuccessful sugar planters, or cane growers rather, are feeling somewhat disappointed because they come out short, or were eaten up by heavy expenses. We have all along maintained that there was more money for the small planter who made and harvested his own crop, and we have two examples which will prove this fact. Mr. Clebert Hollier, who lives near Breaux Bridge cultivated and sold to the Ruth refinery seven acres of cane that brought him the handsome return of \$530 which is without doubt very satisfactory, and we have Mr. Caleb Green, a young man also living near Breaux Bridge, who, out of three acres of cane also sold at Ruth, received \$291.80 and he came out with more cash than many who had gone into large expenses to make large crop. Small acreage, well cultivated without expense, and harvested by the cultivator himself is what will make our planters rich. The idea of small crops, with diversification of the crops is what this country needs, and it is the only hope and salvation of the planter.—St. Martinville Messenger.

Mr. Thomas A. Badeaux, a leading citizen of Thibodaux, was a guest of the Commercial Hotel a few days ago.

The Sugar Situation in Cuba.

It appears tolerably certain that, on account of the scarcity of cane and the lack of money to purchase the proper varieties for grinding, many "centrales" are making use of the seedlings. In this way the available supply from which to replant the fields next year is rapidly being exhausted. It was said here at one time that the sugar planters of Louisiana anticipated sending a vessel to Cuba, to procure seed cane wherewith to replant the fields in that state which have been destroyed by the terrible weather of the past winter. There is no question that any such an enterprise would be virtually a failure, as the supply of seed cane is very small, altogether insufficient even for the wants of the island.

It should be borne in mind always that the war in Cuba was waged with greatest severity against the sugar cane fields, nine-tenths of which were burned off two or three times a year, either by the rebels or by Spanish columns hunting for their elusive enemy. In the fertile province of Havana, there are not more than a dozen fields which remain intact the others have grown up since they were burned off, and the stubble is very rank and thick. The burning of a cane field did not necessarily destroy the plants, which here, with ordinary care, continue to yield a crop annually for ten, fifteen and even twenty years. Owing to the disturbed condition of affairs, no one replanted when his fields ceased to yield, but allowed the fincas to go to waste, grow up in bushes and become, to all intents, a part of the primeval. Hundreds of places suffered this fate, so that one may ride now for days at a time through the sugar district, where formerly existed enormous fields of waving cane, and see nothing but the scrubby trees and tangled bushes which constitute the principal elements of the luxuriant Cuban vegetation.

Now that order reigns again in the island, the problem is to remove these wild growths, and restore the fields to their former condition. It is here that the need of capital becomes immediately apparent. And capital is the one thing which the Cuban sugar planters most conspicuously lack. If they could get money easily, the regeneration of their fields could be accomplished with measurable certainty within the next five years. There are certain provisions in the laws regarding real estate, and certain rights which attach to the land, that interfere very materially with the mortgaging of property; otherwise money might be obtained from that source. Of these burdens the chief is the "censo" system of ground rents, which I have fully described in a previous letter. Many estates are also afflicted with charges in favor of the church; as, in former times, it was the custom of all pious persons to incorporate in their testaments a provision setting aside a portion of the income from the properties disposed of in the will for the benefit of the church, making the payment of this tribute the condition on which the legatee held the land. For

some years past these payments have naturally fallen into arrears, and as the Spanish law continues in force under the American domination, the time is coming when the church will be able to collect her dues, just as the holders of the Royal Mercies will eventually be in a position to compel the payment of the "censos."

The grinding season has, however, commenced and is now in full blast. The reports which reach the city are to the effect, that many mills are running on half-force, being unable through lack of funds to secure enough cane to keep them busy. Ordinarily, the mills, when they once begin, run day and night for six or seven months. Some big establishments, like those in the eastern end of the island controlled by the Havemeyers, only cease work for a month or two in the year. To the difficulties which arise from a lack of cash, are added also those which accrue from the scarcity of cane, and the prevalence of bad weather. The latter is reported with more or less regularity from all parts of the sugar district.

These remarks apply only to about fifty plantations, scattered throughout the island. The statistics of the destruction in the sugar regions occasioned by the war are startling. Only about twenty or twenty-five estates have escaped untouched. These were owned by persons of unlimited means, who made it a point of honor to maintain their places intact. Such a person is the Marquis Apeste-gula, the ex-leader of the autonomist party in Cuba, whose place, La Constantia, was defended by a system of forts and railroads and a force of about 5000 men, all of which cost him from \$30,000 to \$50,000 a month. The Cubans repeatedly attempted to raid the estate and did succeed occasionally in burning one or two of the outlying fields; but they were beaten off before any real damage was done. But the only other large plantation in that vicinity which was as well protected as La Constantia, and enjoyed a like fortunate escape, was Hormelguera. The rest all endured the varying extremes of war. It is estimated by competent authorities that about 100 plantations were completely destroyed, and about 450 were more or less injured, so that in many instances their output is either entirely eliminated from the estimate of the present crop, or contribute so little to swell the total that it is hardly worthy of notice. In fact, the output of these 550 plantations was, before the war, estimated at about 1,250,000 tons per annum, or a very large proportion of the entire crop of the island.

Whether or not these ruined and partly ruined plantations can be restored depends entirely on the success of their owners in getting money. If they can get the funds, four or five years, at the outside, and not less than two or three years, will enable them to get their "centrales" into condition again. By that time the fields will probably have been replanted and the first crop will be in a condition to be taken to the mill.

At the present moment the sugar districts are practically unpeopled and desolate. In the richest region of the island—between Matanzas and Cienfuegos—one may travel for days without coming across anything more pretentious than the blackened walls of burned sugar-houses.

In the province of Havana, where the war was at no time as bitter as it was in the provinces on either hand, the only plantation now grinding in a radius of twenty miles around the city is Toledo. The next place of any size which is working is Portugalete, on the road to San Jose de las Lajas. In the vicinity of Portugalete formerly stood six or seven large plantations, only one of which, La Merced, is intact to-day. The great plantation of La Amelia, which was one of the greatest estates of that region, was completely burned, and to-day the traveler sees nothing but the tall chimneys of the central projecting through heaps of debris and above the twisted beams of a destroyed shed.

One planter told me that he had owned three plantations previous to the war, of which the Cubans burned one, and another had been occupied by the insurgents as a hospital. The Spanish burned that place to drive the Cubans out; and as the owner having maintained a company of Spanish soldiers on the third, getting weary of the expense, withdrew them, another Spanish column burned that one, too. This same person had the satisfaction of seeing a schooner, loaded with his last hogsheads of sugar, sail out of Havana harbor and be captured by the American fleet; he stood on the seawall at La Punta and saw the fate of his vessel.

Some of these Cuban places were of princely size and equipment. Near Matanzas there is a finca belonging to a gentleman named Mendoza. Standing on his front gallery he pointed to a hill fifteen miles away, and remarked that all the intervening country was his, and the green on that distant hillside was his cane, and beyond were other fields—all his. Near Baracoa is a plantation where the fields stretch for ten miles on either side of the sugar-house. This place, in spite of its great length, is only four miles wide, and the owner says he planned the shape of the fields so that this would result; and by planting it in twelve sections, beginning at one end and sowing each section a month or so later than its predecessor, he has secured a constant progression of maturing cane. Month by month his crop ripens, and month by month he cuts it off and takes it to the mill. His estate begins to grind about December or the early part of January, and continues till November. The grinding term here corresponds, approximately, to that observed on the Havemeyer plantations, where the mills really stop grinding only because the supply of material is exhausted. These places sometimes make as much as 50,000,000 pounds of sugar per annum. One of them is equipped with three sets of triple effects, and has a crusher, besides nine

rollers. The larger places use about 3000 tons of cane per day. These, at least, were the figures which applied previous to the war. Taking an average of the yield of all the plantations of the island for that time, the yield was about 10,000 or 12,000 tons of sugar per annum. But now the average will not exceed 2000 or 2500 tons each.

In the province of Havana the variety of soil is such that plantations of cane and tobacco exist almost side by side. For example, the central at Toledo, a couple of miles from Marianao, is less than a league distant from Wajay, where some of the best tobacco in the island is grown. It is true that the land at Toledo has been fertilized for thirty years with the refuse of Havana, the grandfather of the present owner having purchased the place against the advice of everybody, who asserted that he could not possibly raise cane there. But by building a railroad he was able to haul immense quantities of garbage, which formed a rich compost and has made the soil as black and cohesive as the best sugar lands in the Yumuri valley. Red soil is generally preferred for tobacco and the black for sugar, and good cane grows in almost every quarter of the island. Some plantations have been established in the eastern and western extremities, but the bulk of the capital in the sugar business is located in the central part of the island, in the provinces of Havana, Matanzas and Santa Clara.

It was in these provinces that the Spanish sentiment was strongest and that the insurrection broke out last; consequently it is not surprising that the fighting was fiercest and the loss was correspondingly greater here. During the five or six years just preceding the war the southeast coast of Santiago was being developed as a sugar country, and several large centrals had been opened in the vicinity of Manzanillo and Guantamo. But these places, I understand, disappeared almost completely. Excepting the great plantations of which I have already spoken, the bulk of the sugar was grown on places averaging about 300 "caballerias," or about 10,000 acres in extent. Wherever a central stood, it was equipped with the very best modern machinery, purchased in England, France, Belgium, Germany and the United States. Most of it came from Europe, because not only was the machinery good, but the makers permitted the Cubans to enter into contracts by which they paid for their purchases on very easy terms. No attempt has been made in the island to manufacture sugar machinery, although quite a number of shops exist where repairs can be made, or small parts of sugar machinery made.

I give these details because obviously there is going to be a strong demand for machinery to re-equip the sugar region, and the United States, if it cares to handle this trade, will have to cater to the Cubans. The existing tariff, in spite of alleged revisions and re-

ductions by the Americans, continues to offer many impediments to commerce, more particularly to the importation of machinery, in which respect is even more burdensome than the Spanish charges were. At present the lack of capital prevents any large importation of machinery from being made, but eventually the question of these duties is likely to become a pressing one. Under the Spanish tariff, the planters paid a duty of 4 to 10 per cent ad valorem. The present tariff subjects this class of importations to duties ranging from 10 to 20 per cent ad valorem. On the other hand, the Spaniards imposed a tax on sugar lands, which amounted to about 2 per cent per annum on the total value of the crop, although this tax was very equitably levied, and imposed only on lands under cultivation. The law on this point remains unchanged.

I have observed on the plantations where cane is now being worked that the American cultivators are very generally used. Usually, they are drawn by a mule or an ox, the rows of cane being planted about six feet apart. The cultivator is used when the cane is about three feet high and just after the rainy season, at which time the plant begins to ripen. I have been told that further cultivation is unnecessary, and, in fact, injurious, as cane which is too persistently worked runs to roots and loses its fine qualities in the demands which increased growth impose upon its energies. Cane is planted here twice a year, in the spring and in the winter; but, as I have said above, the stubble continues to yield every year for years thereafter.

In this connection, it might be well to warn the planters who may contemplate going to Cuba for seed cane that here it has been found that the best results are obtained from the green cane of Tahiti. Comparatively little ribbon cane is grown, as experiment has proven it unsuited to the climate of this island.

One of the incidents which illustrate the enterprise of the Cuban sugar planters comes to mind. Some years ago an attempt was made to introduce the steam plow from England, but the experiment proved a failure. The soil was so tenacious and glutinous during the rainy season, and so hard during the dry period, that the consumption of coal by the plow ate up all the profits which its use was supposed to produce. Coal is very expensive here, costing about \$10 per ton, laid down on the plantation.

The great question which will have to be solved before the Cuban sugar industry can hope to cope with Louisiana's will be the labor problem. This year and next year it will present no special difficulties. There is labor to spare to work all the plantations which are working now. But if the time should come when the capacities of the island are brought up to the pitch which they had attained at the beginning of the war in 1895, there is no doubt whatsoever that the supply of labor will fall far short. In fact,

in 1870, it was noticed that the available labor in the island would not suffice if the output continued to increase as it had in the past.

Certain planters in that year began to experiment with portable railways in the hope that by using machinery the number of laborers needed would be reduced. These experiments led certain German firms to undertake the manufacture of portable railroads, and as they turned out an article with very light rails, and well suited to use in Cuba, the system soon became popular. Portable railways were tried in Louisiana about the same time, but it was found that our soil did not yield enough cane to the acre to justify the use of the appliance. No such trouble has occurred in Cuba, where the yield is wonderful.

At the present time the reconcentrados—such as survive—are returning to their former homes. In fact, the bulk of this hapless class of persons have left the cities around which they were herded, and resumed their pursuits in the country. These, together with the discharged Spanish soldiers, of whom there are thousands in the island, constitute the chief part of the present laboring class. The discharged soldiers are said to be extremely satisfactory, as they are docile, obedient and industrious. As soon as the Cuban army is paid off and dissolved, this will make available the labor of fully 30,000 men, who are now not merely idle, but unprofitable consumers. The one serious part of the existing situation is, how can labor be supplied for such a large number of men?

A number of capable men with whom I have discussed the labor situation here, say that the solution will be found in the encouragement of immigration from Italy. They point to the fact that the Italian has proven a first-rate laborer in Louisiana, where he has been employed quite extensively in the sugar plantations. It is apparent that the importation of negroes from the West Indian islands will not be very successful, first, because the population now contains quite enough of the colored element, which is already too aggressively conscious of its distinguished services in the war with Spain. In the second place, the Jamaicans, Haytians and Bermudans obtain better wages working in their own country, and being of that happy disposition that is satisfied with the day's gain, they feel no encouragement to immigrate in the hopes of bettering their financial condition, even did Cuba offer a field for that form of enterprise. The Italians seem to be well suited to the climate and are congenial to the people here, so that the chances are that once in the island, they would rapidly be absorbed into the population and become valuable citizens.

From these considerations, it does not seem to me at all likely that Louisiana has any reason to anticipate any competition from the Cuban sugar industry for many years to come. As a matter of fact, should

Cuba remain an independent nation, the difference made by the necessary duties would prevent Cuban sugars from ever injuring ours. Cuba and Louisiana combined yield only about one-half the sugar consumed in the United States. The price will, therefore, be fixed by the figure commanded by the foreign sugars. If, in order to get the foreign sugar we have to pay more than we might otherwise give, it is inevitable that the makers of sugar in Louisiana and Cuba will ask similar prices.

The producers won't sell for less than the imported sugars cost. This holds true, although it costs only about 1 1/2 cents to make and market sugar profitably. Notwithstanding the fact that railroad freights consume a large fraction of the gross returns, it is profitable to use the railroads, and so one finds every plantation, except the most insignificant ones, tapped by a railroad line or its connection. Each sugar province has its seaport; Havana, for instance, sends its sugar through the city of that name, and through Batabano, and Matanzas has Cardenas and Nuevitas, as well as the capital of the province, which is located on the northern seacoast. So that the railroad haul is not very far. These expenses are further balanced by the abounding fertility of the soil, which does not require fertilization as a general thing, by the cheapness of the labor at present, and by the weather conditions, which, in spite of the bad reports for the present season, are generally very favorable.

It is a very difficult task to collect information about the condition of the sugar country, as no one has thought to keep statistics of the destroyed plantations, and in the hurly-burly of the war, no one has had time to sift the various lies which both Cubans and Spaniards have put in circulation about the number and the names of estates that have been burned. Even now the only way one could get any accurate knowledge of the exact number of plantations which have been destroyed would be by visiting them. I have consulted the best available authorities, and they can give me nothing but estimates, which, accurate enough for the purposes of generalization on the ruin wrought by the war, do not give very clear ideas as to the exact plantations destroyed. There is a deep spirit of unrest in Cuba at this moment, and, although all signs point to an industrial revival, even the agriculturalist has a settled conviction that the great things in life are tied up with political issues. Until the "Cuban problem" shall have been settled forever, I fear that there will be no absolutely reliable statistics present regarding anything in the island.—John S. Kendall in the Picayune.

Sugar Patents.

Patent issued March 28, 1899. Reported specially for the Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, Patent Attorney, Washington, D. C. 622,105. Combined stubble-shaver and plant-cane scraper. A. M. Bernard, H. F. Reynaud and W. J. Bernard, New Iberia, La.

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1899.

	April 1.	April 3.	April 4.	April 5.	April 6.	April 7.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
SUGAR.								
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal		3 1/8 @ 4 1/2	3 1/8 @ 4 1/2	3 1/8 @ 4 1/2		3 1/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	Firm
Choice.....	HOLIDAY.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	HOLIDAY.	3 1/8 @ 4	3 1/8 @ —	
Strict Prime.....		3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8		3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 3/4	
Prime.....		3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 7/8		3 1/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/4 @ 3 3/4	
Fully Fair.....		3 3/4 @ 3 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1/2		3 3/4 @ 3 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 3/8	
Good Fair.....		3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4		3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/8	
Fair.....		3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4		3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	
Good Common.....		3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8		3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	
Common.....		3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 1/8		3 3/8 @ 3 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 3/8	
Inferior.....		3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4	3 @ 3 1/4		3 @ 3 1/8	2 3/4 @ 3 3/8	
Centrifugal.								
Plant'n Granul'ed		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 4 3/4	Strong
Off Granul'ed.....	HOLIDAY.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	HOLIDAY.	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Off White.....		4 1/2 @ —	4 1/2 @ —	4 1/2 @ —		4 1/2 @ —	4 1/8 @ —	
Grey White.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow.....		4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —	4 3/4 @ —		4 3/4 @ —	4 3/8 @ —	
Prime Yellow.....		4 1/4 @ 4 3/8	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8		4 1/4 @ 4 3/8	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8	
Off Yellow.....		4 1/4 @ 4 5/8	4 1/4 @ 4 5/8	4 1/4 @ 4 5/8		4 1/4 @ 4 5/8	4 1/4 @ 4 5/8	
Seconds.....		2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/4 @ 4 1/8		2 3/4 @ 4 1/8	2 3/8 @ 4 1/8	
MOLASSES.								
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal		None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		None in first hands.	None in first hands.	Quiet.
Fancy.....	HOLIDAY.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	HOLIDAY.	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 14	
Strict Prime.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 13	
Good Prime.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 12	
Prime.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 11	
Good Fair.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 10	
Fair.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 9	
Good Common.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 8	
Common.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 7	
Inferior.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 6	
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 14	Quiet.
Choice.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 13	
Strict Prime.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 12	
Good Prime.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 11	
Prime.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 10	
Good Fair.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 9	
Fair.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 8	
Good Common.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 7	
Common.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 6	
Inferior.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ 5	
SYRUP.								

OTHER MARKETS.

	April 1.	April 3.	April 4.	April 5.	April 6.	April 7.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw—Strong with upward tendency. Refined—Good demand.
Centrifugals, 96°	HOLIDAY.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....		— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.96	4.96 @ —	
Standard A.....		— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.72	— @ 4.84	4.84 @ —	
Dutch Granulated		— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 5.00	— @ —	
German Granul'd.		— @ 4.93	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.97	— @ 4.93	— @ 5.03	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.		Holiday.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 1 1/2 d.	11s. 3d.	Cane—Firmer and rather dearer. Beet—Very firm.
A. & G. Beet.....			10s. 1 1/4 d.	10s. 2 1/4 d.	9s. 11 1/4 d.	10s. 5 1/4 d.	9s. 0 3/4 d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Leaf.....	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	Strong.	
Powdered.....	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/8		
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 1/4		
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 5/8	— @ 5 1/8		
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
SYRUP.									
— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Mar. 29.....	Tons	192,969
At four ports of Great Britain to Mar. 28.....	"	52,600
At Havana and Matanzas to Mar. 28.....	"	79,500

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending April 7, 1899.				Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to April 7, 1899.			
	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.			Barrels.	Hhds.		Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	645	8,156	3,551	Received.....	9,727	1,189,061	221,047
Sold.....	645	8,907	4,056	Sold.....	9,727	1,182,128	220,752
				Received same time last year	22,009	1,361,723	181,201

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RICE.	APRIL 1899.							Tone of Market at Close of Week.	
	April 1.	April 3.	April 4.	April 5.	April 6.	April 7.	Same Day Last Year.		
ROUGH, per bbl...	1 50@4 75	1 50@4 75	Nominal	Nominal	Holiday.	Nominal	2 00@4 50	Dull.	
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4		6 1/2@6 3/4	6 1/2@6 3/4		— @ —
Fancy....	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2		6 @6 1/2	6 @6 1/2		5 1/2@6
Choice....	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4		5 1/4@5 3/4	5 1/4@5 3/4		5 1/4@5 3/8
Prime....	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8		4 3/4@5 1/8	4 3/4@5 1/8		4 3/4@5
Good....	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4		4 1/4@4 3/4	4 1/4@4 3/4		4 1/4@4 3/4
Fair....	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4		3 3/4@4 1/4	3 3/4@4 1/4		4 1/4@4 3/8
Ordinary	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4		3 @3 3/4	3 @3 3/4		3 3/4@4
Common.	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3		2 1/2@3	2 1/2@3		3 1/4@3 3/4
Screenings	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4		2 @2 3/4	2 @2 3/4		— @ —
Inferior..	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2		1 3/4@2	1 3/4@2		Nominal
No. 2.....	1 1/8@1 3/4	1 1/8@1 3/4	1 1/8@1 3/4	1 1/8@1 3/4		1 1/8@1 3/4	1 1/8@1 3/4		1 1/4@2
BRAN, per ton....	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00		12 00	12 00		9 50@10 00	Steady.
POLISH, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	14 00@15 00		

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending April 7, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to April 7, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BELS. CLEAN.
Received	2,598	342
Sold	1,569	1,154

	SACKS ROUGH.	BELS. CLEAN.
This year.....	673,972	5,385
Last year.....	448,481	3,940

Sugar.

The sugar market was rather quiet during the week under review, with movement and receipts moderate. Open kettle goods were firm at the close and centrifugals strong.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals quiet.

Rice.

The rough rice market was dull at the end of the week with light receipts. Clean rice was steady with a fair demand.

Sugar in India.

In India, sugar cane is grown both for eating and for manufacturing into Sugar. The chief edible cane, known as paunda, is chiefly grown in the neighborhood of important centres; a white variety largely found in Saharanpur is much exported to other districts, and has a ready sale as it is very juicy and sweet; a red variety is commonly grown everywhere, but is not so good to eat as the white, and is more dry. Paunda stalks are tall and thick, soft and full of sweet juice; the crop is a very remunerative one, but requires an immense amount of labor to produce; constant supervision, plentiful watering, and much manure are essential, which place it beyond the means of all but the wealthier cultivators. Another cane known as merthi, from the fact that it is most largely grown in the Meerut district, is both eaten and pressed for sugar; the stalk grows as tall as that of paunda, but is not so thick, and is much harder; the juice is viscous abundant, and sweet, but the Sugar made from it is not so white as that made from other varieties of cane, nor has it the same sweetening qualities, and merthi is not in consequence so much grown or pressed, except by poorer cultivators. Sugar is chiefly made from dholu cane, a variety that has a soft, thin, and rather short stalk; the juice is very plentiful, is easily extracted, and particularly sweet, while the Sugar made from it is very white and is the kind most largely used in confectionery; it is the most commonly grown cane, and is to be found in

every district all over India. An inferior sort of cane is known as sorta; it has a hard, crooked stalk, red marks on the knots, and gives but scanty juice; the Sugar made from it is neither very white nor sweet, and in consequence this variety was not so much grown, but its production is less costly, as comparatively little labor and manure are required, and it is therefore more suited to a poorer class of cultivator. By the introduction of iron crushing mills in place of the now old-fashioned stone and wooden kolus with beams the difficulty in pressing the hard stalk is now removed, and as the cost of production and labor entailed is so much smaller the growth of sorta cane is now greatly on the increase. All varieties of cane are now propagated from fresh seed every year, with the exception of a variety of paunda, known as munda, which is grown from the roots of the cane of the previous season; it is much shorter than the ordinary paunda, the knots in the stalk are closer, and the juice is not so sweet, but the facility with which it is grown makes this variety popular with cultivators.

Besides its great enemy beetroot, Sugar cane has another enemy in a red fungus known as trichosphaeria sacchari. This disease attacks the tissues and saps the juice, with the result that canes which would have given a large yield of rich juice are found to be absolutely valueless, and so far from themselves giving much juice, their presence among crushed canes leads to a very marked deterioration in the quality of Sugar produced, as well as a diminution in the quantity of Sugar obtained. This disease, which has produced such disastrous results in the West Indies and Demerara during the last few years, is supposed to have been introduced from the East, and has been recently noticed in the Mozaffarnagar district of these provinces, and in the valley of the Godavery in Madras. The disease declares itself by the leaves of the stalk turning yellow and the knots red, then the tissues attacked turn red and woolly, the leaves wither, and the whole cane dries up. The merthi variety of cane appears to be more susceptible to this fungoid disease than others, for other varie-

ties growing in the same field and under similar conditions are not attacked in the same way. The spores of the fungus may attach themselves to the stalk without doing much damage, but if the cuticle be pierced by any insect, such as a borer, they attack the tissues, and the cane is ruined; bad water, unsuitable manures, and a poor soil may cause a weak crop, but if once the pores enter the tissues the strongest and healthiest cane will wither away. The disease appears to be more prevalent during the hot weather than in the rains, as the spores of the fungus are liberated and dispersed by the hot winds. The preventive measures adopted are the removal and burning of diseased stalks, planting fields where the cane has been attacked with other crops, using perfectly healthy cane for propagation, and spraying the stalks with a weak solution of sulphate of copper. It has been observed that the fungus develops readily on young leaves of the bamboo, so a careful search should be made for such nurse plants, as the spores are easily carried for a considerable distance by the wind, and are likely to be disseminated in the hot weather.

Cultivators in these provinces usually have a corner of their cane fields for propagation, but are not careful to see that the best canes are left for seed, and when they bury the stalks still required for planting, do they select the finest canes and remove all bad ones? If the Government were to have a short, simple manual of instruction printed in the vernacular for the use of cultivators, giving a general description of the disease and of the preventive measures to be adopted—a manual on the same lines as that compiled by Dr. Hankin for the prevention of cholera and cleaning of wells—a great deal of good would result, and the bugbear of trichosphaeria sacchari would not be found so formidable a foe as that of beetroot. —Pioneer Mail.

Mr. John Peters, of St. Martinsville, where he is the resident manager of the Keystone Plantation, belonging to the estate of P. Petebone, was in the city on a visit a few days ago.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Warmoth, of Magnolia Plantation, on the lower coast, were at the St. Charles last Wednesday. The governor and his wife were en route for California where they will spend some four or five weeks. They expected to go direct to Los Angeles on the Sunset Limited.

At the Riverside Refinery of that estimable gentleman, Col. G. G. Zenor, the sugar boiler during the last campaign was Mr. S. L. De Gravelles, an expert at the proofstick, who has a reputation all over the state.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Gravier street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or assistant time keeper. "GEO.", care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHOLOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, Thibodaux, La. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Thoroughly competent machinist, with several years experience in leading railroad shops, wants work in repairing locomotive engines on sugar plantations. Will work by the day or by contract. He is a practical locomotive engineer and has had experience in repairing and running sugar house machinery. Address W. L., No. 1046 Magazine street, New Orleans.

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fictel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHIEF ENGINEER, Latcher, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give A 1 references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of references. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-23-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 28 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 103, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La.

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 3-24-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A 1 references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3418 Constance street, New Orleans. 2-22-99

WANTED—A position as clerk in store by a young man of good habits and experience. Also have a practical knowledge of drugs. Good references. Address ROBERT, care Postmaster, Woodland, La. 2-23-99

WANTED—A position as carpenter or mill-wright on a sugar plantation. Best of references furnished. Address 418 N. Johnson street, New Orleans. 2-13-99

WANTED—A position by an A No. 1. Sugar dryer, am a machinist with 14 years experience. Address FRANK LORENZ, 302 S. Basin, St., City. 2-15-99

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1824 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 24-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La.

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nesson, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 521 Dumaine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1035 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98.

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—Young sugar boiler to act as assistant boiler in refinery. Those thoroughly versed in refinery boiling will apply to C. R., care Louisiana Planter. 12-20-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office. 12-20-98

WANTED—A competent chemist willing to carry laboratory work for two or three weeks, beginning January 1st. Compensation \$30. Address F. E. C., Shadyside Plantation, Centerville, La. 12-20-98

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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

Vol. XXII.

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No. 15.

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

*Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association,
Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
Kansas Sugar Growers' Association,
Texas Sugar Planters' Association.*

Published at New Orleans, La., every Saturday Morning

BY THE

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MANUFACTURER CO.

Devoted to Louisiana Agriculture in general, and to the Sugar Industry in particular, and in all its branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chemical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPÉ.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D.
W. W. PUGII.

W. J. THOMPSON.
JOHN DYMOND.

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3 inch.....	14 50	36 20	54 40	72 50
4 inch.....	19 00	47 50	71 25	95 00
5 inch.....	23 50	58 75	88 15	117 50
6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	105 00	140 00
7 inch.....	32 50	81 15	121 75	162 50
8 inch.....	36 00	90 00	135 00	180 00
9 inch.....	38 00	95 00	142 50	190 00
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Half Page.....	60 00	150 00	225 00	300 00
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Louis Bush,
John Dymond, President.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

The April meeting of this association was held at its rooms on Union street last Thursday night and was both interesting and largely attended, among those present being Messrs. Henry McCall, W. C. Stubbs, John Dymond, L. A. Beanel, Victor Meyer, H. S. Crozier, H. G. Morgan, Jr., James Mallon, R. G. Comeaux, W. L. Goldsmith, J. S. Webster, G. G. Zenor and several others.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with. President Rost, who had been absent from the March meeting through ill health, then took occasion to offer his thanks to the association for re-electing him to the presidency during his absence, the annual election having been held at the last meeting.

Mr. W. L. Goldsmith, manager of the New Orleans Acid and Fertilizer Co. was unanimously elected a member of the association.

The topic of the evening, "The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane so as to give the Best Results in Sugar," was then taken up and papers thereon were read to the meeting by Mr. R. G. Comeaux, Mr. H. S. Crozier, Mr. W. L. Goldsmith and Dr. Wm. C. Stubbs. The papers were all received with thanks and ordered published, appearing elsewhere in this issue with the exception of the one prepared by Dr. Stubbs, the publication of which we have been obliged to defer until next week owing to lack of space. Considerable discussion of the subject matter of the papers then ensued, which was participated in by Messrs. McCall, Zenor, Dymond, Crozier, Goldsmith, Rost, Rickey, Stubbs and others, a full stenographic report of which will be given in our next issue. The discussion lasted until a late hour, and then, after leaving the selection of

a topic for discussion at the next meeting to the president, the association adjourned.

The Cane Crop.

Our advices from the country this week indicate more or less of a waiting attitude on the part of the planters, who are unable to judge definitely of their crop prospects until the weather becomes warm enough to advance vegetable life. So far as information can be secured, it appears that good stands of plant cane are anticipated from the acreage seeded, and in some instances the stand is too thick, the managers, fearing very defective seed, having put it down too abundantly. At this writing the weather is warm, with indications of the proverbial April showers, and it is probable that next week we will be able to record the marking of the rows all over the sugar district by both the plant cane and stubble.

Another Beet Sugar Factory in Michigan.

From the A. Wernicke Machine Works of Halle, A. S. Germany, whose advertisement will be found in this journal, the Planter has received some data concerning the immense beet sugar factory which the Wernicke Machine Works is now constructing at Caro, Michigan. The government reports have indicated for some time past that Caro was in the heart of the beet sugar belt, the beets grown there showing the highest percentage of sugar. Several gentlemen interested in the development of the beet sugar industry took up the matter of the erection of a beet sugar factory and had a conference with Mr. A. Maritzen, the Chicago representative of the Wernickes, the firm having an American office there. All the preliminaries were carefully and systematically worked out and temporary organization of the business was affected

last November. The announcements were then made to the public, contracts were prepared and beet acreage was solicited from the farmers. When the required amount was secured, or nearly so, a representative of the German firm was cabled for and Mr. Schroeder, of that firm, arrived in Detroit about the middle of January.

The local bankers of the town of Caro took up the matter of securing competent subscriptions to the capital stock of the company, laboring faithfully and persistently therein until finally the necessary stock subscription was secured. The enthusiasm of the citizens of the town of Caro when it was learned that the necessary subscription was secured was displayed by the ringing of bells, blowing of whistles and firing of bombs.

The organization includes a considerable amount of Detroit capital and is effected under the style of the Peninsular Sugar Refining Co., with a capital of \$300,000. A number of prominent capitalists were included in the directory and when the organization was announced it is said that the stock was subscribed for twice over.

After the formal organization, the contract for the construction of the factory was let to The A. Wernicke Machine Works, the specifications having been previously prepared and bids submitted.

The factory is to be completed and ready for operation early in September. The amount of money required for the construction of the factory gives but a partial idea of the magnitude of the work undertaken. It is estimated that when this factory goes into operation it will consume 600 tons of beets every twenty-four hours; that the product of the factory will be 75 tons of refined, granulated, white sugar, or 50 barrels each day, the whole work requiring the services of fully 130 men and the consumption of some 50 tons of coal per day.

The main building will be about 400 feet long and about 200 feet wide. The beet sheds, for storing beet roots to supply the factory for ten days, will cover several acres; besides these there will be buildings for blacksmithing, cooper shop, repair shop, plumbers' building, barn, etc., as well as a large

pumping station beside the river. The factory site covers fully forty acres of land and is located between the Michigan Central Railroad track and Cass river, at the foot of Almer street, just below the Fair grounds. The work of construction will be commenced as soon as the weather moderates. The orders for the structural iron and other materials having already been placed, 600 car loads of brick will be used for the walls and a thousand cords of stone for the foundation, and everything else will be along the same line of immensity.

The Wernicke Machine Works have built many beet factories in Germany and have now come to this country with a view of engaging seriously in similar construction here, they believing that the vast experience of their establishment will enable them to come to this country and erect factories here as cheaply and of perhaps greater efficiency than can be done with other establishments with less experience. As it will take some twenty-five factories like this one to supply Michigan alone with sugar, it will be seen that the possibilities of the beet sugar business are great almost beyond comprehension. The factory at Caro will be so built as to render its capacity of 500 to 600 tons of beets per day readily changeable to a capacity exceeding a thousand tons per day. The Wernicke Co. are prepared to build cane sugar factories as well as beet sugar factories.

The Japanese Sugar Tariff.

The new Japanese tariff, which went into effect on January 1, levies the following duties on sugars:

e allll shrdl shrdlu shrdlu shrdl shrd shrd
From treaty and non-treaty countries, up to No. 14 D.S. 7s. and 1d. additional each number.

From treaty countries. No. 15 to 20 D.S., 25/8.

From non-treaty countries. No. 15 to 20 D.S., 52/3.

From treaty countries. No. 20 and over 28/4.

From non-treaty countries. No. 20 and over 62/9.

Some weather Data.

The somewhat disappointing condition of the cane crop which we believe to be largely the result of the exceptionally cold weather that has prevailed since the great freeze in February, renders interesting some weather data with

which Mr. H. G. Morgan, Jr., has kindly favored the Planter. The data is from the diary kept at Mr. Morgan's Fairview plantation in the parish of St. Charles and reports for last Saturday, April 8, which sugar planters considered unpleasantly cold, white frost, weather clear and cool, with a minimum temperature of 46 degrees F.

On April 8, 1898, the same diary reports: White frost, clear and cool, with a minimum temperature of 44 degrees F.

It may be that our anxiety to force the cane crop ahead makes us apprehensive of greater dangers than exist. We here find that April 8, 1898, was even colder than April 8, 1899, and may we not infer that when warm, growing weather does come our cane crops will forge ahead rapidly.

The Merits of Florida as a Sugar State.

The Merits of Florida as a Sugar State. (1b)

An editorial scrap in the Florida Times-Union and Citizen in regard to the correspondence from San Antonio, Fla., on sugar in Florida, says, "the correspondence is unworthily published, thereby stigmatizing the correspondent and the publisher."

When the T. A. & C. assumes to arrogate to itself the prerogative of dictating to its contemporaries and their correspondents as to what is worthy or unworthy to publish, it just then assumes a liberty that carries it across the border line of its privileges. This attempt to dictate or smother a review and a discussion of the sugar industry in Florida has a decided smack of Caesarism.

The question of sugar in Florida is open to criticism, and is subject to be sifted that truthful conditions may be exposed, and the real status of sugar in Florida be laid bare. If Florida cane grows 37 tons per acre and holds 28 per cent sugar, the industry in Florida would not require argument to set it going. Capital has a way of discovering good investments without argument. If Florida is the cradle of sugar in the U. S. It is time to rock the infant out of it and stand it on its legs or bury it. It seems never to have acquired strength, whilst in Louisiana the industry extended, at once after Etienne de Bore made his first crop in 1795. In 30 years sugar culture had extended all over the Southern district of Louisiana. If Florida began in 1767, why is it today there is only one solitary plantation in the state, and that tottering. Did the cane in prior times yield less tonnage or less sucrose. Years ago in Louisiana with the old apparatus in use 5,000 pounds was frequently made per acre.

San Antonio, Fla.

LAKE BUDDY.

Mr. James C. Mahon, a leading sugar planter of the Bayou Sale section of St. Mary Parish, was in town on Thursday. Mr. Mahon made his headquarters at the Cosmopolitan.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The drizzle mentioned in the closing paragraph of last week's Ascension letter, as having set in Wednesday night, developed into a tip-top rain by Thursday morning, the precipitation measuring 1.75 inches at Donaldsonville, according to Local Observer Park's official gauge. The visitation did an immense deal of good and would have done as much again had it been followed by warmer weather. The temperature until to-day has continued to be unusually cool, however, and the progress being made by cane growth is therefore still of a very slow order. A perceptible elevation of temperature has occurred to-day and it is to be hoped the change will mark the end of the cool spell that has so greatly retarded vegetation.

Latest advices from the cane fields are somewhat more encouraging in tenor than those coming in a week ago. Plant cane is promising good stands, as a rule, and stubble, except in sandy lands, is also making a much better showing on many places than would have been deemed possible a fortnight back.

One of the finest crop prospects afforded in this parish is that on Cottage Farm, where the new proprietor, Mr. Fulgence Bourgeois, Jr., has secured an excellent stand of plant cane and reports stubble marking the rows in very encouraging fashion. Mr. Bourgeois thinks he had the best seed on the coast, taken altogether, and is confident that, with favorable future conditions, he will make an excellent crop.

Passengers arriving by Texas and Pacific and Mississippi Valley Railways report cane beginning to mark the rows, as plainly visible from the car windows.

Mr. Leone M. Soniat, of Iberville, last week replied as follows to a request from the Donaldsonville Chief for an opinion concerning the crop situation:

"I have not been over neighboring fields. On my own place and on small planters' places around, stubbles are coming out better than was expected immediately after the freeze, but it will take a few days of warm weather to show what they will do. My planting has been about half of what I expected last fall. It is showing up in places, but the same remark as to weather applies. So far as I can see, second year stubbles are all gone except in new lands."

To-day (Wednesday) Mr. Soniat writes: "During the long cold spell of this month cane has made but little progress, but I hope for the best with the present seasonable weather."

A letter from the Bayou Sale region of St. Mary parish to the editor of *The Chief* says: "This section was visited by a splendid rain which was very beneficial to crops, and the prospect out here in general is more encouraging than expected. First year stubbles

are coming out right nicely, but we won't have any second year stubble. Spring plant will be splendid; fall plant not so good."

The machinery of our new road system is being put in order for operation and the following excellent district boards have been appointed for the purpose of directing the work in the three districts into which the parish has been divided:

First district—Henry L. Weil, president; Henry McCall, secretary; J. E. St. Martin, E. H. Barton, Jules O. Ayraud, John F. Landry, Thos. Blouin.

Second district—J. C. Klos, president; L. W. Armitage, secretary; Henry C. Braud, Alex. Marchand, C. D. Gondran.

Third district—H. T. Brown, Amedee Frederic, E. D. Dixon, Lucien Goutreau, Leon Picard.

The first district body has charge of all the roads in the portion of the parish West of the Mississippi river; the second district comprises the river wards on the east bank, and the third district is formed of the two interior wards commonly known as the New River section. Considerable preliminary road work has been done, particularly in the first district, and this supplement by the ameliorating effects of dry weather has made most of the public thoroughfares again passably good in.

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has been favorable during the week to a certain extent only, for there were several frosts which in some places nipped tender vegetables and young cotton, requiring a new planting. Stubble digging was the main work under way this week, and we think the outlook for this branch of the crop is hardly as good as it was awhile back. One planter who was complaining said, when asked if he would get a half crop, "Oh, better than that." Another reports the stubble as coming, for a row that had to be plowed out showed plenty of sprouts for a good stand. Thus you see the conflicting reports are still coming in. At Cedar Grove 169 acres were planted where 400 ought to have been and at lower Elmer 35 where the planting should have covered four times as much. We were on Bayou Grosse Tete this week and observed on the front of Hon. A. H. Gay's Augusta plantation a fine stand of plant cane, and at others a good running stand.

A good number of cars of fertilizer were received this week, showing that our people do not apprehend a repetition of last year's wet season.

Mr. Frederick D. Robertson, of Plaquemine, sold his Homestead plantation to Hon. Andrew H. Gay, last Saturday, for \$50,000.00. Mr. Robertson reserved a nine acre tract in the lower front corner, opposite his "Island tract," on to which he will roll the dwelling in which he now resides; he also reserved

all the machinery in the sugar house, a part of which will no doubt find its way into the Hunter's Lodge sugar house on Bayou Jacob, belonging to Robertson Brothers. Homestead has an area of 1700 acres and will prove a most valuable addition to the Union Plantation of Mr. Gay, which it adjoins on the lower side.

While the price paid was way below what the place would have fetched in 1898, yet it shows that men like Mr. Gay have confidence in sugar, and are willing to invest their money in Louisiana land.

In a letter received from Mr. Desire Lorio, of this parish, who is now at Ahome, Sinaloa, Mexico, assisting Mr. Clarence O. Peltier, also of this parish, in taking off a sugar crop, he says, among other things: "You would be astonished to see how these poor Mexicans live; their food is merely corn and beans. They cannot do better, for they get from 25 to 30 cents per day in Mexican money. They grind their own corn with two pieces of rock and do not know what flour is. The cane here is much sweeter than in Louisiana. The rainy season lasts from July till September and after that they pump water on the cane as we do with rice in Louisiana. I have seen a thick heavy crop of cane coming from land on which I was told the original planting was made eighteen years ago. This crop was in every respect as good as others planted recently. We had a good deal of trouble to start up, but everything has been running well since, and if it continues we will be able to leave for home about the first of May. Mr. Lorio and Mr. Peltier are enjoying good health."

Mr. Michael Schlater, of Plaquemine, passed the octogenarian line this week, and is still hale and hearty, although he says he is not as good a man as he used to be, and will not undertake to put Enterprise back in cane. Mr. Schlater says that his father always told him that on the night he was born, April 10th, 1819, Louisiana was visited by a very severe cold spell. He says the sap under the bark of the sycamore trees froze, causing the bark to slip, and that crops and vegetables were killed to the ground.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather of the past two weeks has not been at all conducive to the growth of cane, or any other plant, for that matter. It is unseasonably cool and the result is that germination is exceedingly slow. The nights and mornings are almost cold, and even mid-day, with an abundance of sunshine, is not near as warm as it should be, considering the fact that the middle of April is at hand. Then, too, more rain is needed than has been falling latterly. We had quite a heavy shower last week, but as it was a cold rain and was followed by a north wind and a decided fall in the temperature, its beneficial effects are problematical. Indeed,

frost is said to have been in evidence Saturday and Sunday mornings. As a result of these untoward conditions, the crops are almost at a standstill and present an unhealthy color, corn, particularly, being of a yellowish cast.

What planting there was to do was completed some days ago. Cane planted early in the spring is beginning to peep up here and there, but as a general proposition it is too early to tell how the "stand" will pan out. A little more rain and hot, sunshiny weather is needed to bring out the cane, and until this welcome change for the better comes the planters will be more or less in the dark as to the probable outcome of the crop.

One has only to walk through the average cane field in order to realize the havoc wrought by the freeze of Feb. 11-13. In some "cuts" the stubble has been literally wiped out. Yesterday the writer walked through a piece of cane land that had given 27 tons to the acre last fall. About a month ago these stubbles were dug, but to-day one lonesome shoot is the only promise of a crop in that ground. Other planters have stubble that is coming out quite nicely and promises well. A few planters here will probably grind a week or two next fall, but in many cases others are simply hoping to raise this year a sufficiency of cane for next year's planting, for seed cane will be at a premium. That much seems reasonably certain.

In view of the disaster to seed cane, it is quite safe to say that next fall, when seed is being put down for the crop of 1900, it will be placed with a care never before exercised. It is quite generally conceded that many planters and managers have heretofore been unduly careless in putting down seed cane, and that a portion of the loss by the zero weather of February was due to this cause.

Mr. Hugh Chamberlain, of Batture plantation, had the misfortune last week to suffer a serious loss in the burning of his stable, which contained a large quantity of feed and nearly all of his farming implements. Insurance light.

The river continues to rise at this point.

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past ten days has not been wholly bad, yet not altogether what was most needed. The good rain of last Wednesday night did a great deal of good to the corn planted as well as to the cane, both plant and stubble, and could it have been followed by several days of good weather the effect on the crop would have been very perceptible. As it was a certain amount of benefit was realized, particularly in the improved condition of the land, that was getting rather rough and cloddy and needed just such a rain to put it in real good order. The cold weather that followed (with frost

three successive mornings) has been a setback to all vegetation. However, in spite of this, planters seem to be more encouraged, and several have lately informed me that they thought the stand of stubble would be much better than anticipated. The plant cane is popping out pretty generally, with a week of warm weather (particularly warm nights); on most places a fair stand will be realized. In fact several have told me that they were sorry that they had planted so thickly, as they would have done better had they stretched their cane somewhat. The planting community will probably not own the soft impeachment, but we think there is a wee bit of truth in the idea that the snow and ominous predictions then made resulted in a small sized panic, and in the planting of cane thicker than there was any actual necessity for, and in consequence an unusually heavy stand is coming up. Of course it is much better to have a thick stand than a thin one, but at the same time a too heavy stand means a shorter planting.

The Lafourche continues to rise slowly, and is now at a very pretty height, giving good steamboat navigation, and at the same time will furnish our rice planters with a plentiful supply of water at cheap rates. A larger area than usual will be devoted to the cultivation of this cereal the present year. The development of this industry means much for the prosperity of this section, and we trust that it will reach the proportions it had once attained. It has been found that a field planted in rice for a year or two, and then put in cane is much the better for the rotation of crops. The Live Oak place will this year be cultivated altogether in rice; the Pothier place adjoining has this year partly gone into cane, and will probably in a year or two go back altogether in cane. The amount of corn planted this year will also be large, and the supply of feed to be bought another year will be considerably curtailed. The work on the Lafourche branch seems to be slow, and we hear nothing of its early completion. Mr. Leo Cancienne, who had expected to put up a refinery, informed me to-day that he had given up the matter for the present year, as he could not count upon getting his machinery by rail. He has three rows of stubble that are the talk of the neighborhood, they are in a warm spot, and mark the rows very distinctly. He told us that he was not uneasy about the rest, as he thought it needed only a few days of hot weather to make it come up. The stubble crop on Woodlawn is showing up very prettily, and less fortunate planters are wanting to know the secret of Mr. Flower's success. The fact that on some few places the stubble is marking the row well leads us to infer that Mr. Cancienne is right and that it is only a question of a few hot days when the laggards will come into line.

The death of Mr. Pierre Gilbert removes from Assumption one of its best known citizens. He had become almost a part of the clerk's office, and his fine memory, and thorough acquaintance with the archives of

the parish will cause him to be greatly missed. A brave Confederate soldier, a wide-awake progressive citizen, genial in disposition, he always took a prominent part in public affairs, and his absence will be felt. His funeral was probably the largest attended ever held in Assumption.

The roads are in much better condition than they have been for some time, and yet the waters from the Lafourche, trickling through the levees are making them bad in some places, and a little attention now bestowed will greatly facilitate travel.

We learn indirectly that the cane of Messrs. D. Himel and Folse & Naquin will be bought this year by Mr. Landry, the managing partner of Cedar Grove. Not having recently seen any of the parties to the supposed sale of cane we cannot vouch for the correctness of the rumor.

MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

This section was favored with seasonable showers last week which were of immense benefit to the recently planted canes, stubble and young corn, yet vegetation has been somewhat retarded by the cool weather which followed the rainfall. The crops are retarded by the backward season, experienced elsewhere to a greater extent than here near the Gulf. Many of the eyes of the stubble and the planted canes as yet show but slight signs of germination, due to the absence of heat, still cane sprouts are here and there forcing themselves to the surface where the conditions are most favorable. Planters have been favored with most admirable weather to advance field work; and in the next two or three weeks all of the heavy work of ridge forming, etc., should be done, whilst the weather remains cool, as the chances are when May arrives the temperature will be such as to tax the power of endurance of man and beast. If possible, on the first of May, middles should be all ploughed out, fields fertilized and free of extraneous grass and weeds. The chances are the canes in many fields may be bunchy and the stand not up to the average; and consequently every effort should be made to produce as many suckers as possible to make up for the deficiency in original stand.

It is generally conceded that canes sucker best when the covering is limited, as depth of earth retards the operation. In ante-bellum days Mr. Henry Doyle, one of the most successful planters in the State, had a single plough for each mule on the place, and when he decided the time had arrived, the cane was barred with the single plough and some soil was removed from around the canes. They were left in that condition until the eyes began to elongate on the young sprouts and then the earth was rapidly returned to the canes. He has been known to work a piece of cane twenty times before giving it the laying by working. To secure the best

results on most places this crop will have to be carefully nursed and frequently cultivated to eradicate all extraneous vegetation. The fields should be put in admirable condition to produce a large crop next year, as the prospects for good prices are favorable, due to the want of capital to develop the sugar industry of Cuba.

On some places canes are being scraped for the second time, the stubble all fertilized and young corn being worked, and soon all the cane middles will be ploughed out to ratoons and plant cane. The canes are coming out in a very perplexing manner. On Southdown, the estate of the late Hon. H. C. Minor, the last planted cane is coming up much better than the first seeded fields, although on the latter pea vines were groyn last year. The canes on the front of Argyle and Crescent farm of Messrs. Bonvillain Bros., are making a good showing when the backwardness of the season is remembered.

Wednesday of last week was cloudy and cool in the morning, with showers in the afternoon, and rains during the night and early on Thursday; Friday, cloudy and cool; Saturday, frost in the morning and fine later in the day; Sunday, cool, with bright sunshine, also on Monday and Tuesday; and Wednesday morning warmer and partially cloudy.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The condition of the weather at this particular time, is all that could be reasonably desired or expected. While the crops have been dreadfully in need of rain, and were showing discouraging headway, owing to the dry, cool weather, the rains of some days ago have rightened things out to a very appreciable extent, being so heavy upon the lower lands as to necessitate the running of the drainage machinery, and heavy enough upon all to satisfy the needs of vegetation completely for some days; while the temperature, at or near the same time, went up much higher and warmed the growing things up to a lively degree.

This the planters have taken advantage of, and have done a great deal of work towards breaking up and cultivating during that time, until now every field has been gone over.

The stubble and plant cane have taken another start from the set back of the cool weather, but have not got well under way at this writing. The stubble was severely injured several eyes down, throwing all of the strength of the roots into the lower ones, which it is claimed, will mature them to a greater extent than though the higher ones had not been injured.

The corn is being injured by the worms, which have lately made their appearance, and which are devouring both seed and plants. This will entail an additional expense upon the planter in going over and

re-dropping. The plentitude of the worms is credited by some to the heavy rainy season that was broken last month, while others contend that they are not more plentiful than usual, but that their visitation upon the corn plants is due to the scarcity or the lateness of other vegetation, upon which they must subsist.

Mr. A. H. Barman, a prosperous merchant of Bayou Sale, and Miss Annie Clausen, eldest daughter of Mr. Jacob Clausen, manager and one of the principal owners of Maryland plantation, on Bayou Sale, were married a few days ago. Miss Clausen is one of the prettiest young women in this parish.

Mr. S. T. McCardell, owner of the Oak Hill, and one of the prime movers in our enormous drainage canal movement, was in Franklin, Tuesday, in connection with the enterprise. Mr. McCardell will receive a benefit from the cutting of the water way which he is willing and anxious to pay for. The last preliminaries towards holding the election have been gone through with, leaving the next move to be the election itself; and since so little opposition has manifested itself so far, one is warranted in the prediction that the vote of the qualified people will be practically unanimous in favor of the plan.

ST. MARY.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been very cool and disagreeable and its effects on the young crop are anything but beneficial. Cane, corn, cotton and rice will all suffer more or less from the cold weather. The weather was not cold enough to kill even the tenderest plants but the growth of all vegetation is checked and several days of warm clear weather will be required to start it off growing again as it should at this season of the year. There were reports of ice in several sections of the parish the early part of last week and it was even cold enough that a fire was very comfortable all during the day. However, the temperature has considerably moderated and today, Monday 10th, very pleasant with a warm, gentle breeze from the South. Some apprehensions are felt for the safety of corn and cotton from the ravages of the cut worm and reports from sections where the land was not broken before the severe cold weathr in February are to the effect that they have made their appearance and are sweeping every thing in their reach. Seeds planted in lands broken before the freeze have come up very nicely and the worms are not bothering it. Plant cane is coming up splendidly now and the prospects are that fairly good stand will be obtained; in some sections where the cane was planted very thick to insure a good stand, a perfect stand has already showed itself and more coming. Stubble is not so favorable. In some sections the stubble is perfectly sound and good and a perfect stand

is already in sight, notwithstanding the very late spring, but in other sections there will be little or no stubble at all. Something very strange about the stubble in many places it comes out of the ground very nicely but as soon as the sun strikes it, it withers and dies. This is a mystery to many of our cane planters. The first cane that was planted after the freeze is now being off barred and scraped and early corn is being ploughed or harrowed, cotton is not large enough to work yet. Rice planting is being pushed to completion and the weather is very favorable for the progress of the work. R. H. Mills is progressing very nicely with his irrigating canal and with no hindrances he will be ready to flood his fields by the 15th of May or the 1st of June, he will be able to put water on his rice before that time.

The eighth ward of this parish is coming prominently to the front and in so doing displays push and energy of which her citizens have plenty. By a special election held in that ward on the 5th inst. for stock law or no stock law the stock law carried by a large majority and on the day following a number of the more progressive citizens of that ward who enjoy good roads and bridges organized an improvement association, the purpose of which is to raise money to open roads and build bridges in the 8th ward. The Police Jury of the parish have absolutely neglected the roads in that section of the parish and the roads that are there now were built by private individuals. Not until after the 6th ward was divided and the 8th ward created with that hustler, Mr. W. Quereau, as police juryman representing same, was there ever a word said about opening public roads in the western part of the parish, but the move that is now on foot it is safe to say that West Vermilion will have roads in the near future second to none in the state.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to the unsettled condition of the weather since the first of the month, planting has been delayed from time to time until now the farmers are becoming restless under the strain, hoping for a fair and better season in which to terminate planting.

The 8th and 9th inst. developed light frost. At six o'clock a. m., on the 9th, the mercury indicated 36 degrees. The morning of the 10th was very little warmer, the thermometer at six o'clock indicating 42 degrees; cold and disagreeable to all young and tender plants. The 11th was much warmer, the wind blowing strongly from the South, the barrometer indicating rain, and the 12th was warm and cloudy.

Cane from all accounts is coming up too slow, but the season has been so cool since cane planting was brought to a finish that it is a wonder that there is as much of it up to-day as there really is.

I find that there are some few cane raisers who seem to think that they will succeed in getting a fair stand of cane this season, at least over a part of the acreage planted to cane. On the other hand planters are met with who seemingly doubt getting anything like a stand of cane this season. They reason that a large per cent of the seed planted was, when put in the ground, to all practical purposes damaged to such an extent that there was not life sufficient in the canes planted to sustain for any length of time an eye if it should germinate. Therefore this reason is put forward to prove that this season will produce many very bad and gappy stands of cane. Another item to be taken into consideration is, that we have not had a warm spring shower since the season opened, but of cold rains the planters have had the greatest abundance, too much for the good of all who are in any manner engaged in the cultivation of the soil for a living.

If cane, what there is of it, should develop something nice in these upper parishes, in this year of grace, it may be set down as an assured fact that hereafter no pains will be spared by the cane growers in trying to put up their seed cane in such a manner as to preserve it from the destructive effects of frost and freezing.

At this point it might be well enough to suggest that as far as observation has extended canes rich in saccharine contents are less subjected to the effects of frost than poor or watery canes. The future will evidently demand cane rich in its sugar contents.

The cool weather which prevailed during the past week and in the first days of this week was decidedly trying on the young corn plants which were just coming out above the surface of the ground. On some places the later planting of corn is not doing as well as it should or would have done had the weather been more favorable to plant life.

Cotton which was planted ten days ago is not up, nor is it now expected to come out. Much replanting will have to be done to get anything like a perfect stand of cotton.

Much of the cotton seed, like cane, is found to be defective this spring. Therefore the farmers have to be very careful when selecting seed for planting to secure a good and perfect stand of plants.

The farmers have not to date finished seeding their lands to cotton, nor will they come to a finish this week should it rain.

There is considerable inquiry this spring for sorghum seed and velvet beans for planting purposes.

Millet will be planted by some of our progressive farmers for hay making. Forage corn has been planted on most places to grow for early food for feeding work stock. As the season grows warmer it is expected that farm work will advance and improve to the interest and advantage of the farmers and planters

ERIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Unruly as have been the winter months the spring has been an exceptionally fine one so far. Fair weather has predominated generally with occasional showers falling most appropriately. Barring the effects of the freeze which unhappily will prominently appear throughout this year's crop, everything has more or less regained its lost vigor; the gardens are assuming a very pleasant outlook, and even the crops are all beginning to sprout and in some places the rows are well marked by their green hue. Still vegetation has been greatly retarded by the rather cool snaps which have kept up quite steadily since the middle of March, thus preventing the general growth of the canes.

The corn crop shows a very good stand and promises a very fair outcome from present indications. All the rice planters of our district have started their crop work, most of them have finished planting and with the river that is now at our levees, flooding is done easily and with little expense, and so they are taking advantage of it.

Mr. Fred Jacobshagen has planted 175 acres of this cereal on the Tippecanoe plantation, where there are very fine and well drained lands for the purpose, and also all the necessary implements, the property being formerly cultivated altogether in rice.

Mr. J. W. Pugh, of St. Elmo plantation, has decided to rebuild his sugar house which was destroyed by fire at the close of the past year. Many of the neighboring small planters were pleased to hear of this, as a factory in that vicinity is very necessary for purchasing canes. We understand that the work will be shortly begun.

Our parish has again been visited by fire during the past week, the beautiful residence of Dr. F. P. Chopin, on the right bank, having been completely destroyed Friday evening; and also the store of Messrs. Bienvenue Bros., on the Gramercy place, was burned to the ground last Thursday.

On Monday evening, at St. Michael's Church, were married Miss Alice Pitre, of Convent, and Mr. L. S. Toups, of Lafourche. The bride is a charming young brunette, and the groom a promising young planter of our sister parish.

On the Model Farm of Mr. Alfred Plaisance there have been recently built two pretty and neat little buildings, one on the lower side to be used for the office of the Pontchartrain Levee Board, and the other on the upper side, for the Convent P. O., and "St. James Gazette"—both will prove quite an addition to the rising little Convent villa.

Miss Lena Vega, of Donaldsonville, is being entertained in St. James by Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Vega, of Alta Villa.

CONVENT.

Mr. L. Geismar, of Geismar, La., was a guest of the Cosmopolitan Hotel during the week.

The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane so as to Give the Best Results in Sugar.

(A paper by MR. H. S. CROZIER, read before the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association April 13th 1899.)

Never in the history of Louisiana has a more important subject come up for discussion; and never was there a more propitious time presented for this discussion, because it is very important to connect the topic of our last discussion, as it is necessary to unite them both for the mutual interest of the buyer and seller of cane. This subject has been almost ignored by the association, and has been absorbed in discussing only the manufacturing part of our industry. I have been attending these meetings for the last ten years, and heard about every department of the sugar house, from the top of the chimney to the skim ditch. There never was a more serious mistake made on earth than not connecting the field and the factory; because the field and factory are linked together by the strongest and most inseparable connections, owing to the peculiar relation affecting the cost of sugar according to the yield and percentage of the raw material. As the sucrose runs up or down in the stalk of cane, the scale of profit is regulated, as the thermometer marks the temperature of the weather. For instance, if it cost \$2 a ton to raise a ton of cane making a hundred pounds of sugar at 3 cents, you give two-thirds of the value for the labor; if you raise 175 pounds you give only about two-fifths of the product for labor. If we pay for our labor in sugar, you can readily see at a glance how it would affect the relative value of work paid for out of the product of a ton of cane. Three conditions in the last twelve months have cast a dark cloud over our industry, which threatens us with a loss that seems almost too distressing to contemplate. First the complication with Cuba which threatens us with a competition with Cuba's riper cane under peculiar circumstances. Second, the most phenomenal peculiarities surrounding the character and qualities of our cane harvested this last season. Thirdly the unprecedented cold that filled us with a gloom and fear that we have never experienced before, as Nature seems to have robbed us of our climate, which has been a precious inheritance that was so essential to our tropical plant that has been protected so many winters by the balmy breezes of our Gulf that softened the wintry blasts in our tropical clime. None of these obstacles however can we control; but their serious consequences combined have impressed upon us the importance of first preserving our cane for the factory, and our attention has by this severe lesson been forced to direct itself with redoubled energy towards the practice of economy and the best method of producing a ton of cane that will be best suited for the factory and of the greatest profit for the grower. Two of the foregoing

conditions prove also to the Louisiana planters more than ever that our crop is an artificial one and that it is necessary to resort to some artificial means not only to protect it from the cold, but to force its development in such a manner as will secure the best results. The very fact that all the Louisiana planters united in desperate efforts to establish some method of buying cane on its intrinsic value in order to protect themselves against green cane, shows that it is necessary for the grower of cane to resort to some means of making it less green. It is also a positive admission on the part of the planters that there is a possible chance of arriving at some medium, which through the co-operation of science and nature, with judgment and cultivation and fertilizing, that some of the obstacles will be overcome, that go to produce green cane. Now the question is what are we to do? This part of the industry has been absolutely neglected, and the impression prevailed that no means were in our power to improve the sugar contents, and at our last meeting the planters came to the front and said, "if you do not grow riper cane, we will not buy it." I am sure the multiplicity of obstacles that block the rugged road that leads us in the direction of making riper cane will spring up from every direction and every voice at this meeting. Success is a good criterion and is generally a target for us to make our pattern; but even this fails in sugar culture, as the field for economy is so latitudinal that many leakages in one branch or other are overbalanced by strict economy in other departments of the plantation administration. With these wide differences of management they often produce the same financial result. Now causes and effects have established rules in nature, as well as mechanical, therefore the causes which produce green cane affect the causes which make it less green, and if we admit our knowledge of most of the conditions that produce green cane we should be able to control to some extent the conditions that make it less green, which is equivalent to making more sugar. I do not agree with the authorities that say we cannot increase tonnage and at the same time increase sucrose; because the object of fertilizer is to increase tonnage and force maturity; and the sooner we expose the red joint the sooner we develop maturity, which naturally makes more sugar even if we resort to mechanical means of topping properly to reduce tonnage. All cane should be fertilized when planted, as it absolutely secures the stubble crop under ordinary circumstances, and the vitality of the roots produce an early development in our stubble crops which is of the greatest importance, as it is the first cane ground, and its development depends on the fertility of the land to reach this development as early in the season as possible. Suckers are produced from two causes. One is to check the cane out of the ground, so that the root vitality will be strengthened in this manner and sub-

sequently throws out suckers. But by fertilizing with the proper fertilizers you strengthen this root vitality sufficient to grow and put out suckers at the same time, even when your cane is dirtied in dry weather. You can also increase your tonnage by planting a six foot row instead of seven foot row. This would give you five more rows to the acre that can be cultivated more economically and the fact that the nature of our plant is a social one, the sooner we shade the ground the sooner we force the growth of the cane, by retaining moisture. Five foot rows have another advantage over seven foot rows. Often in plowing out the middles of a seven foot row the mules make sixteen hundred tracks on the sides of the plowed ground. This can be obviated in a five foot row with cultivators and advance plow. Great importance should be attached to the manner of squaring up the edges of the row; so the cultivators can lift the dirt which softens the crust and holds moisture, which is a substitute for late plowing. Care should be taken to keep the beds square, so that the fertilizers will not be washed in the direction of the water furrow. Good judgment in cultivation I consider has as much to do in effecting good results in the direction of ripe cane, and a uniform tonnage seems to be more desirable. One of the most discouraging features suggested to me that will continue to present an interruption in the direction of riper cane is the fact that the greater portion of Louisiana interests are in full control of agents and managers, whose ambition is to please the fancy of the owner of vigorous top-heavy cane, that he watches growing for nine months. And while he justly claims that he has done his duty well, the sugar maker growls, the mill trembles, the coal pile is never still, the hot room is jammed, and as the angry smoke rolls out the big chimneys, all seem to join in a chorus of indignation at the manager; since he had one year to study the conditions that made these troubles, and the factory only a few hours. If he too were interested in the sucrose, I am sure we would have much better results. One-half per cent sucrose on the tonnage of last season would have given a thousand overseers additional wages of \$3,600 each. Now this subject is too serious for the planters to be deceived into thinking that sugar contents cannot be improved. Every intelligent planter knows that phosphates force maturity in every crop under the American sun; and as sugar cane is the only crop under the American sun that does not mature, how very important it is for us all to join in the crusade against green cane and march back along the line and study from our experience the conditions that make it less green if we cannot make it riper. I call your attention to a few examples that I hope will be calculated to increase your prejudice against green cane.

12 per cent sugar at 3 cents is the same as 9 per cent sugar at 4 cents. 9 per cent sugar with 75 per cent ext. equals 135 pounds at 4

cents, or \$5.40 per ton. 12 per cent sugar, 75 per cent ext. equals 180 pounds at 3 cents, or \$5.40 per ton. 15 per cent increase in extraction is not equal to 2 per cent increase in sugar. 65 per cent, or 1,350 pounds, 12 per cent sugar, 162 pounds at 3 cents, \$4.96. 80 per cent ext., 1,600 pounds x 10 per cent sugar is 160 pounds at 3 cents, \$4.80 per ton. 1 per cent ext. is equal to 2 pounds of sugar to the ton. 1 per cent sucrose is equal to 15 pounds of sugar. 2 per cent increase in sugar makes 20 ton cane equal to 20 ton cane.

I have known instances where there was a difference of \$30,000 in crops of equal tonnage. I think the great solution of this problem of how to make riper cane has been partly solved when we decide to buy cane on its intrinsic value. In 1894 two planters in the same neighborhood, one had 80 per cent extraction, the other 60 per cent extraction, but both made the same sugar on the same number of tons, masquite worked alike. The difference was 400 pounds of juice to the ton, on 20,000 tons was 8,000,000 pounds of juice, necessitating the use of over a million pounds of coal. I consider that this subject has also been seriously neglected from a scientific standpoint as the organic materials of the cane have never been analyzed sufficiently at the different stages to study the conditions more closely. Sucrose at the time of harvest seems to be our only desire to determine results without causes. Sugar cane, is said to be a species of grass; if this is the case, we all know that in the phosphate lands the grass is far superior to any other grass in the world, and we should never use ammoniates on cane of any nature without using phosphates. The wheat grower with his hundred and fifty pounds of bone goods has not only doubled his crop, but lays the foundation for productive leguminous crops, and the cotton planter has brought his product into the market one month earlier. I do not think it is admissible for me to discuss the quality and relative values of fertilizers. I will only cite some of the reasons why complete fertilizers are not more used. Many an overseer refuses to buy tankage because the cane is tinged with a yellowish cast before harvest. A great many object to it on account of its odor. Planters should not be prejudiced by the competition in the competitive brands of fertilizers; they should study closely the commercial values and use every effort to get the managers to use them intelligently. Cane intended for the mill in October should not be fertilized and cultivated in the same manner as cane we expect to grind two or three months later. The more we fertilize and the less we cultivate late is, in my opinion, the best way to mature cane.

Mr. J. B. Brown, of Ivanhoe plantation, and Mrs. Brown, were in the city on a visit a few days ago. They registered at the Commercial Hotel.

Mr. J. Supple, a leading Iberville Parish sugar planter, accompanied by Mrs. Supple, took apartments at the Grunewald during the week.

Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane so as to Give Best Results in Sugar.

(A paper by MR. R. G. COMEAUX, read before the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association April 13th, 1899.)

The subject adopted for discussion tonight is one of vital importance; it is one upon which will depend largely the destiny of the sugar industry of Louisiana.

The time is not far distant when we will be brought in competition with the world in the production of sugar, when we will compete with those countries, who, favored either by nature, or by science well applied, have been able to make their cane or beets produce much over 200 lbs. of sugar per ton.

When we consider the disastrous results of the season just elapsed, and all on account of cane which was deficient in sugar qualities, then it strikes us forcibly that something must be done to improve our cane.

The question is now asked, what is the best method of planting, fertilizing and cultivating cane, so as to give best results in sugar? I dare say, if the question was put to one hundred people who are growing cane in Louisiana, that hardly two would give exactly the same method. If such should be the case, and I believe it would, then why should there be so many different methods of growing the same cane on the same lands.

The old method, and one still largely in vogue, that of deep plowing in cane late in July, or until the mules are entirely hid by the cane tops, will have to cease.

The season in Louisiana is too short for cane to mature, and as its age dates from the day it is laid by, to the day it is cut, then it is evident that cane laid by in the middle of July, and cut in October for the mill, would be very immature, unless the fall months were either very dry or the land was so poor as to cease nourishing the cane along in September. For the reason last given, cane in old worn out lands produces plenty of sugar, but as that kind of cane always results in low tonnage, does it pay? Is there no means by which we can combine the two—heavy tonnage and good sugar yield? I believe that if ever the chemist is to help the sugar planter, he will start right here; he will analyze our soils, and tell us in what properties it is deficient.

It is useless to believe that we can dispense with the use of commercial fertilizers in the growing of sugar cane; still many contend, that fertilizers produce green cane.

The first requisite to grow cane successfully, is to have good drainage; the second in my opinion is fertilizers judiciously applied. In all styles of business, we have systems; have methods expressed and well defined on paper, which are guides to run the business, and we have recourse to them from time to time, as the occasion requires; until we have learned to make a success of our business, but in my long experience of raising sugar cane, I have not yet seen a method or treatise on cane growing, a method, by the use of which a beginner could start in the

business, and by giving proper care and attention, be guided safely to success. It is the general belief, that no definite method can be formulated, by which cane can be cultivated uniformly through the different seasons. It is very true, our seasons are unfavorable sometimes, but if we notice closely, this condition does not extend throughout the whole year, each year having some good, as well as some bad features.

As I have already stated, every man growing cane has his own method, and while many may claim their method to be the best, still I think it will be necessary to combine the best points from the different methods, and by that means conclude upon a general method. In order to do so it will be necessary to get individual ideas. Individual ideas are not easily obtained, especially when wanted on subjects on which one feels not over-confident in himself. While I am no exception to the rule, I am willing to come in for my share of criticisms, and will give my method of growing cane.

Sugar cane is a hardy plant, it stands the vicissitudes of our climate better, and is safer than any of the staple crops which we grow, still for all its advantages we make failures of it sometimes.

In order to grow a good crop of cane it is necessary to first plow the land deep in the fall. The effect of the freezes helps a great deal to pulverize the soil, so as to make it impart its goodness to the canes as soon as they begin to sprout.

Were it not for the inconvenience of loading and hauling cane in wagons with tread too wide to fit the rows, cane could be planted in rows $5\frac{1}{2}$ or 6 feet apart; but where lands are sandy and strong, cane grows of such length, that when cut they overlap narrow rows, and much of the ends are crushed by the wagon wheels as they drive through the cuts. I have therefore been compelled on that account, to adopt as the distance between rows, 6 feet in black, and $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet in sandy lands. It has always been the custom to leave cane on the bar furrow until it was up to a stand, and even longer, that the sun might heat the roots. That I believe is an error. Cane should, as early in the spring as is considered safe, from the cold, be barred off and scraped very close, but it should remain in that bare condition only a few days, when a light furrow should be brought up on each side to retain moisture; from thence cultivators with narrow shovels can be worked frequently to great advantage.

It is just at this stage that commercial fertilizers cut a most important figure; not being versed in chemistry, I will only speak from experience.

Eight years ago I began to use fertilizers. The first year I used 8 tons; since that time, I have increased the amount gradually every year, until last season I used 104 tons. I have not yet reached the limit, and still consider it safe to use more.

My first idea of using fertilizers on sugar cane was gotten from Mr. Maginnis, of the Planters' Fertilizer Co. Although Mr. Ma-

ginnis had not been long in the sugar business, he contended that even in well prepared pea vine land, cane could be made to ripen sooner if a certain amount of fertilizer was used at planting time. He claimed that as soon as the mother canes came out of the ground, the extra nourishment afforded, would bring the suckers out at once, and that the growth would be so rapid, as to permit laying by three or four weeks sooner than usual.

Starting with that idea as a basis, I find from actual practice that I can use fertilizers with safety.

As far as I can see, our lands for sugar are deficient in two ingredients—ammonia and phosphates. To get the required amount of each is what we have to determine. In order to avoid confusion, I have confined myself to two grades of fertilizers, namely: standard high grade and McCall's formula, both made by the Standard Guano & Chemical Manufacturing Company. High grade is used in plant cane, at the rate of 300 lbs. per acre in pea vine land, and McCall's formula is used in stubble in amounts to suit requirements of land, from 500 to 800 lbs. per acre.

The method of cultivation depends a great deal upon the strength of the land. Where lands are poor, deep plowing has to be resorted to, in order to keep the cane growing, but if fertilizer enough is used in the drill, cultivation can be lightened so as to simply bring the dirt up from the middles, covering the roots gradually without cutting them.

This work can be done to great advantage with cultivators, of which we have a great number, and by the frequent use of which grass is destroyed in the bud, thus reducing hoe work. Cultivators made by the John Deere Co., of Illinois, are well suited for cane work; they are built strong, and with shovel attachments, can be run deep on the sides of cane, until it is two feet high; from then on, the disk cultivator should be used, leaving two or three furrows only in middles for the plow.

Cane should be hilled up finally, as much as possible. In order to cheapen this work, I have a fluke attachment for Avery's Advance plow, which, if run after middles are plowed out last time, crushes the furrows, and raises fine dirt up to the cane. When cane is laid by in this manner, it offers much resistance to the wind, and is always straighter when cut for the mill.

The laying by of cane should not be later than July 4th.

The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane so as to Give Best Results in Sugar.

(A paper by MR. W. L. GOLDSMITH, read before the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association April 13th, 1899.)

Mr. President and Gentlemen: My first sentence shall be one of thanks for your very kind invitation to submit this evening, a paper on the question of: "The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing, and Cultivating

Sugar Cane, so as to Give Best Results in Sugar." Vast question, this. Either of the three natural divisions—planting, fertilizing or cultivating—is a big question. As I am a manufacturer of fertilizer, I will, with your permission, select the second division, to-wit: "The Best Method of Fertilizing Cane, so as to Give Best Results in Sugar."

Indulge me, please, in a few personal and preliminary remarks.

I come, not to teach, but to be taught; not to give, but to receive information. Content will I be, if I can add my humble mite of information toward the future prosperity and glory of your great industry.

And again: As manager of the New Orleans Acid & Fertilizer Company, I beg to say that we have invested, in a plant in Gretna, La., just across the river, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, exclusive of real estate, and have fitted up this plant with every possible scientific and practical arrangement known to the business. We have a competent and experienced corps of employes, embracing chemists.

This is said to show the mutuality of our interests, and the faith we have in the future of sugar.

I desire to remark in the outset that, unless there is proper preparation for planting, and cultivation thereafter, we cannot get even passable results from the very best fertilizer, but each depends upon the other, and, where we have thorough preparation, the right kind of fertilizer, and proper cultivation, success will be sure to follow. It may be defeated once in a while on account of the seasons, but, in a given number of years, the general average will be great success.

We believe that the sore trials through which this industry has gone during the past year, will prove a blessing in disguise, for we believe that mistakes have been made in the use of the proper fertilizer, best adapted to the sugar cane.

While the sugar interests have exhausted every means possible to invent and employ machinery to extract the last drop of juice from the cane, which is commendable, we fear that sufficient interest has not been given to enriching this juice in saccharine matter. The growers of beet sugar, both in Germany and in this country, have perhaps paid more attention to the fertilization of their crops than we.

All plant and animal life require three distinct elements of nourishment—nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash; and we contend that it is just as important to know the chemistry of plant food, as it is of animal and human food. No family can prosper in health, that richest of blessings, unless they understand the chemistry of the kitchen. People require nourishing foods, and that of different kinds—vegetable, bread and meat. Exclusive use of either one is injudicious. Neither will plants thrive best on one kind of food alone. They must have nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, and, as a general

rule, all three of these chief fertilizer ingredients, are absolutely necessary.

Time will not permit me even to mention the various sources of nitrogen, composing the 3 great classes of mineral, vegetable and animal nitrogen. Suffice it to say, that this information is of utmost importance, as the range is from worthless to good; from cotton seed meal, our own native product, which is, perhaps the best, to scrap leather, which is almost worthless.

The same can be said of potash salts. Phosphoric acid, however, is the same, derived from whatever source. The essential thing is to get available phosphoric acid, that which is changed from tricalcic, (or natural) to monocalcic and dicalcic. By available we mean such as will afford plant food during the life of the growing plant.

Judging from the analysis and observation of the soil of the sugar cane district of Louisiana, it is comparatively well supplied with potash and nitrogen, but not with phosphoric acid.

Nitrogen, as you know, stimulates growth, potash strengthens and straightens the stalk, while phosphoric acid enriches, with saccharine matter, the sap, and hastens maturity from two to four weeks.

A good fertilizer for the average lands of Louisiana should contain about 3 per cent of ammonia, 7 per cent to 8 per cent of phosphoric acid, and 1 per cent of potash, and from 400 to 800 pounds used per acre.

The use of fertilizer containing from 8 per cent to 10 per cent of nitrogen, we deem neither economical nor judicious. Ammonia, which is one of the most volatile of gasses, will generally expend itself in a comparatively short time, and, even when derived from a vegetable source, such as cotton seed meal (which is slowest in decomposition), a very large percentage will leach out and pass away, without nourishing the plant; and that left behind will unduly stimulate it to a luxuriant overgrowth.

We all know how a crop highly stimulated with ammonia appears—large luxuriant stalks which challenge our admiration, and which are a delight to look upon, and to show to our neighbors, but too often it is like unto the "Whited Sepulchre"—beautiful to look upon, but within, full of insipid sap. There is something more to be desired than luxuriant growth, frail and tender, to be blown about and tangled by every wind. It would be better to have a smaller stalk, nourished with ammonia derived from nitrate of soda and cotton seed meal combined, the first to give quick and active support to the young and needy plant during the cold spring weather, and the latter, by its slower decomposition, to nourish and feed it during its first two or three months, with sufficient potash to strengthen and straighten its stalk, and plenty of phosphoric acid to enrich and nourish, with saccharine matter, its juice. Man cannot create life, but he can nourish it into vigorous growth and abundant fruitage, or can starve and kill it.

I mentioned above what I deem the best fertilizer for our average soil, but every rule has its exceptions. I am aware that every planter is the best judge of his own soil and therefore, should know best what fertilizer to use. I do say, however, that no fertilizer should be used that does not contain a large percentage of phosphoric acid. If either one of the above named valuable ingredients is to be left out, do not let it be the phosphoric acid; and if any one of the three above named ingredients is to be used alone, by all means let it be the phosphoric acid. A great deal of our virgin soil needs nothing but phosphoric acid to enrich the juice of the cane, and to force it to an earlier maturity, while other soil may need potash and nitrogen. But, in a great majority of cases, a moderate use of potash and nitrogen is sufficient, inasmuch as the soil, if properly prepared and cultivated, will furnish an almost sufficient supply of these two valuable ingredients, but, in no case can a soil be found in the sugar district of Louisiana, that would not be greatly benefited by the liberal use of phosphoric acid.

The kind of phosphoric acid which is best, is that which has the largest percentage of it immediately available, such as water soluble and citrate soluble phosphoric acid. The insoluble phosphoric acid, such as raw bone, or bone phosphates which have not been acidulated, is too slow in decomposition to answer the purpose. The raw bone in our markets takes one, two and three years to naturally decompose in the soil, and furnish phosphoric acid as plant food for the growing cane.

Science has acidulated bone phosphate, and has made 90 per cent immediately available as plant food. I cannot see the economy of a planter burying his money in the ground in the shape of insoluble phosphoric acid, be it derived from raw bone or bone phosphates, there to lay unremunerative for one, two and three years, when, for the same or less money, he can buy a fertilizer containing a large per cent of water soluble and citrate soluble phosphoric acid, which are immediately available as plant food, and a small per cent of insoluble phosphoric acid, which will be available the second year, on account of its finely ground condition.

The present method of applying fertilizer, as it is now practiced, is perhaps as good as any. The plant canes, whether fall or spring, should be placed in furrows that have been previously drilled or strewed with the fertilizer, and thoroughly intermixed with the soil by running a plow after the drill; or, if stubble, it should be fertilized after the off-barring, and just before the soil is turned back to the cane.

We believe that one application of a well balanced fertilizer, at the proper time, would be best, but, in seasons like the present, where so much valuable time has been lost by wet and cold weather, the crop, whether plant cane or stubble, should be liberally fertilized at as early a day as possible, by

strewing the fertilizer in a furrow from twelve to fourteen inches from the cane. Especially it is important to make up lost time by thoroughly fertilizing the present crop.

We all know that the sweetest cane is that which is most matured when the fall time comes; therefore, it behooves us to push forward, by the liberal use of phosphoric acid, the crop to as early maturity as possible, so that its sap will be as full of sucrose as possible before the harvest time arrives.

Especially is this important in view of getting the best seed cane. One should fertilize his entire crop if possible, but certainly the cane intended for seed should be fertilized judiciously and liberally, thus guaranteeing straight, strong and healthy cane.

I say judiciously, because if fertilized with an unbalanced ration where nitrogen predominates, our cane will be crooked, green, and sappy, with protruding eyes, and heavy tonnage. But, as above stated, whether the cane is for seed or for the mill, it is of utmost importance that it should receive the proper nourishment in the way of a fertilizer well balanced in its essential parts, which will produce a straight, strong, and not overgrown cane, but rich in sucrose.

Results are what we want, rather than appearances, and we believe that the time is coming when our planters will lean more than ever upon their chemists, and the suggestions of science, and will pay closer attention, not only to preparing and cultivating, but to the judicious and proper fertilization of their cane.

But, as above stated, in its last analysis, it is narrowed down to this: The planter should, and must know better than any one else, the character of his soil, and the kind, quality and quantity of fertilizer necessary and best adapted to his soils and crops.

We have faith in the superior methods and intelligence of our planters. We, therefore, do not indulge in the fearful forebodings heard concerning the future of this great industry. In our humble opinion, Louisiana will still be the "Queen of Sugar," although the Beet Sugar of the West and the tropical isles, including the "Queen of the Antilles," have sprung forward, with unshackled limbs, to vex us with their competition.

This country, with a sugar consumption of over two millions tons, and only producing about twenty-five per cent of this amount, and requiring one half the price of our vast cotton crop to pay for the importation of the seventy-five per cent, presents strong reasons for encouragement.

Surely the government and the people of the United States, considering the vast interests, not only of the beet, maple and cane industries, but capitalists, factors, mill men, railroads, and hundreds of other dependent occupations, will not permit free sugar from these outside lands of pauper labor, to ruin one of her greatest industries. We certainly have not freed Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines in order to enslave ourselves.

This country cannot, and will not allow her labor and capital unaided to compete with the cheap labor of these places. Self preservation is the first great law of nations, as of nature, and this great injustice will not be accomplished. This suicidal policy will not prevail.

We have shown our faith, as mentioned in the first part of this paper, by making large investments in your midst, to furnish proper fertilizer material. We can furnish any grade of fertilizer, or any kind of material that a planter may want, in any kind of combination he may desire. He must judge the wants of his soil, and we will supply it.

We are deeply interested in this question; interested second only to the planter. If he lives, we will live. If he perishes, we will perish. But our faith, as above stated, is as bright as the Morning Star. We do not think of failure for a moment. The past year, with all its trials and tribulations, has not in the least diminished our faith, and we confidently look forward to a brighter and more glorious future for sugar than ever before known.

Indian Production of Sugar.

In a circular the Government of India goes on to point out that the area under Sugar cane in India is estimated at about 2,500,000 acres, and the output of "course, refined" sugar at about the same number of tons, one ton being the estimated output per acre. Taking the value of this coarse, unrefined Sugar at 100 rupees a ton, the total value of the Indian production of Sugar is estimated by the Indian Government at Rs25,000,000. The total value of the imports of Sugar of all kinds into India in the year 1897-98 was returned at Rs4,700,000. On these figures the comment of the Government of India is that "the imports bear a considerable proportion, as regards value, to the production of the country." The proportion, it will be observed, is only a trifle over 1 to 6. The comparison, however, is between commodities of very different intrinsic value. The Indian "coarse unrefined" Sugar, to use the phrase of the Government of India, is stuff that looks more like mud than Sugar. It is squeezed from the Sugar cane by the rudest of presses, and is prepared by methods whose only claim to respect lies in their hoary antiquity. A large part of the imported Sugar, on the other hand, is the purest Sugar that German chemical science can prepare. Not unnaturally the market prices of the two commodities somewhat differ. According to a trade paper German Granulated Sugar fetches at least double the price of native-Indian Sugar. Therefore, to get a true picture of the relation of foreign imports to Indian production, we must compare quantities as well as values. This comparison shows that as against an estimated Indian production of 2,500,000 tons of Sugar, the import in the last recorded year of all foreign Sugar, Beet and Cane combined, was

only 230,000 tons. In other words the importation was less than one-tenth of the Indian production. A Government that can take alarm at such a proportion as this must be timorous indeed.—Produce Market Review.

Trade Notes. Hauptman & Loeb.

As contracts of any magnitude for sugar machinery have unfortunately been a little bit scarce hitherto this season, it is refreshing to chronicle the deal recently made by Mr. L. A. Ellis, of Sartartia, Texas, with that well-known firm, Hauptman & Loeb, for an extensive outfit for his sugar house, comprising vacuum pan, pumps, double effect, centrifugals, etc. Messrs. Hauptman & Loeb are a thoroughly live and wide-awake firm, and as they handle some of the finest and most reliable machinery in the market, they find that business comes their way, even in a dull year like the present.

Sugar in London.

The Raw market has been rather unsettled, but prices have quickly recovered from any decline and close without showing any particular change. Rumors have been current of a possibility of a reimposition by this country of a duty on Sugar, but the success of the proposals of the Indian Government, which were approved of by the Ministers here, might encourage them to make the attempt. Be this as it may, the rumor has led to some little buying. There is one thing almost certain, and that is, that the position of sugar at the moment is too strong to admit of any set-back in values, and it would be wise, therefore, to carry rather larger stocks than is the plan nowadays. The present firmness of the market is strong evidence of the generally good opinion of the position, for the actual demand from the trade is by no means heavy. The fact that the visible supplies show a considerable deficit, and are shrinking fast, does not seem to be sufficiently realized by the retailers. A firm tone has been shown in the American markets, although their stocks show a small increase, but the receipts in Cuba are again below the figures of last year, and do not seem capable of expansion just now. The small stock of Cane Sugar here does not admit of any important business so far as refining kinds are concerned, while Grocery sorts, which have been obtainable in moderate quantities only, continue in poor demand at a decline of 3d per cwt. on the pale kinds. The imports of Crystallized Raws to London for the week ending 16th inst., amounted to 684 tons, and for this year to 5,630 tons, against 5,805 tons in 1898.—P. M. Review, March 18.

Mr. W. K. Morrow, who hails from Sugar Land, Texas, the site of Col. E. H. Cunningham's big refinery, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He put up at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

Berlin, March 25th, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Some weeks ago you had an unexpected and untimely freeze; last week we had it. In the midst of the transition from winter to spring, a sudden reaction has taken place and immediately we had winter again and much harder than it ever has appeared in the present season. A sharp northerly wind began blowing last Sunday and during the following days most dismal weather prevailed. The temperature sank as low as 8.5 degrees below freezing point and snow storms of the most violent kind visited many parts of the country, causing serious interruptions to communication. And all this exactly at the astronomic commencement of spring (March 21st). The phenomenally bad weather put, of course, a stop to any kind of field work and it seems that the extraordinary mild winter, will, like last year, be followed by a late and uncongenial spring, delaying the sowings of summer cereals and particularly those of the beets. Little could be done yet even in preparatory work, and, of course, everybody longs for real and not theoretical spring. The sudden change has taken place in all Central Europe, but in the western part of it, in France, Holland and Belgium, the consequences of it are not felt so deeply as here and in Austria, as in the former quarters field work previous to the blizzard, had been fairly advanced. Russia reports also cooler weather, but the temperature has not the normal degree of the season. It is now certain that in the last named empire 25 new factories will be started and five others are in the way of construction and intended to begin work in the campaign 1900-1901. But there is in Russia already much competition for beets and it is doubtful whether so many sugar producing establishments can be worked with the high profits hitherto obtained. This depends, however, in the first line on the increase of home consumption, if the Russian fabricants are unable to place a large part of their augmented production on the interior market, on which they get the well paying high prices, it is sure that by an abnormal increase of the output they will not improve their situation, which, however, is so excellent at present, that the shareholders, (unhappy wretches who in these latter years had to pocket 30, 40, 50 and more pct.) could readily do with a five or ten pct. less dividend.

A strong fact it is that whilst on one side the system of countervailing duties on bounty receiving beet sugar is gaining ground on the other side the bounties themselves make also headway. As I wrote you a week ago the Swiss Government probably will grant them in favor of the new sugar factory Aarberg, and now comes news that Chili will pay a subsidy of 2 centares per kilo. beet

sugar, quite apart from the bounties paid by many States of the American Union for the encouragement of the beet sugar industry. The country which latterly has resorted to countervailing duties is British East India, where the importation of granulated beet sugar is on the increase. But it may be safely asserted that the Indians will not be deterred from buying granulated by raising the price to the extent of the bounty received, for there is not the least doubt that European beet sugar has found a ready sale in India on account of its superior quality, and that will be also the case, further on, when the sugar is a little dearer, so that the effect will be for the producer certainly not the expected one. Also in America the countervailing duties are certainly not of the desired effect, for the refineries do not cease to buy beet sugar and as to prices it is evident that the producer does not get the difference between the subsidized and the non-subsidized sugar, but it is pocketed by the refineries and at present perhaps not even those on account of the underselling war between the two groups of refineries. The Austrian Government is said to have protested against the imposition of countervailing duties on Austrian sugar, whilst Germany has no reason to do so, because of her not being in a relation based on a commercial treaty with East India, but we shall certainly cease to admit Indian goods under the favored nation clause if our sugars are burdened with countervailing duties. Hitherto Germany treated Indian imports out of regard to England as enjoying the advantages of the most favored nation.

In Sweden a member of the upper chamber submitted a motion purporting to reduce the import duty on sugar and to abolish the inland duty entirely. The motion was declined in both legislative bodies.

The report of the Sugar Refinery Frelstedt, which in November was partially destroyed by fire, shows, that this establishment worked, up to November 10, 1898, 615,500 centners molasses (@ 50 kilogs.) as against 566,000 centners in 1897. But in spite of the interruption of work the factory, which is exclusively converting molasses into sugar obtained a profit of M. 138,277, of which a dividend of 7 pct., as against 6 pct. in 1897, was paid to the shareholders. The factory is one of the molasses working houses, and the shareholders are in general raw sugar manufacturers who furnish the raw material, the molasses, so that there is no fear of being not sufficiently provided with it.

The statistical position of the three principal beet sugar countries—Germany, Austria and France—is now decidedly improving, the final stocks being (on Feb. 28th) 31,100 tons smaller than last year and their decrease in February exceeding that of last year by about 90,000 tons.

The markets present no particular of interest for the period under review. At the beginning they have been quiet with prices receding a little. During the second part of

the week the tendency rallied somewhat and generally values recovered or even surpassed a little the small losses. Business was restricted, principally on account of the small offerings of actual sugar of which the stocks in the factories are now very small. In Germany 88 pct. rendement prompt delivery is quoted at M. 10.85-11.05, whilst delivery March in Hamburg is sold at M. 9-97. Refined continued quiet without quotable change of prices.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, April 7th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to advices of an advance in prices for beet sugar in Europe, and higher quotations in the United States for cane produce, shippers at this place increased their offers, which gave scope to the sale of about 100,000 bags, the greater part on the coast, at from 5.15@5.30 rs. per cirrobe, equivalent to 2.57½@2.65 cts. per lb. for good centrifugated sugars, 95½@96½ test at which the market, though quiet, closes strongly supported, owing chiefly to the unimportance of disposable stocks of good classes at our principal shipping ports.

Crop reports—Grinding is slow and were it not for the small parcels occasionally coming in, anyone might think it was already over in the most important producing districts on the Island. The yield of the cane in sugar is so small, owing to the lack of proper attendance to the fields in due time, that it will hardly cover manufacturing expenses.

According to the Cardenas papers, the scarcity of bags in that locality is keenly felt and interferes with grinding to such an extent that several plantations will soon be compelled to stop working for want of bags to pack the sugar in, those which were formerly sold at 15 and 16 cents are worth to day 28@30 cents and none hardly are obtainable, even at these high figures.

At Porto Principe, in the central part of the Island, an American syndicate, has just purchased for \$500,000 American gold, an area of 500 cabillerias, about 168,000 acres, of good cane lands, whereon they contemplate to build several large central factories. Would to God now that confidence is re-established and peace restored in the country, the example set by the New York syndicate, might be followed by many more, for their own benefit and in Cuba's behalf!

General Brooke has prorogued for one month, to investigate into the matter, and not one year, as I erroneously said in my previous letter, the decree issued in 1896 by General Weyler, and extended to another year by General Blanco in 1898, for the protection of those mortgages in the Havana, Pinar del Rio, Matanzas and Santa Clara provinces, whose plantations were unremunerative owing to the war. According to the said decree all judicial proceedings

against plantations and collection of interests on mortgages were suspended for one year, and as the effects of the decree were prorogued for three successive years, planters have had a respite.

An effort has been made to secure from General Brooke another delay, but it is doubtful whether it will be granted, since it entails a great injustice, as it would mean ruin and starvation for the majority of planters' creditors.

Banditism continues active in the eastern region of this Island and amongst the misdeeds recently committed by the outlaws, the following are mentioned: On March 31st they raided the small town of Sama, looted the residences of several citizens, shot and killed a local store keeper, stole \$500 from his cash drawer and set fire to the premises; at Holguin they also looted the store of a Spaniard, whom they wounded as well as his father, and shamefully ill-treated his wife and daughter; near Magari a United States army commissary train was held up and robbed by another party who killed the officer in charge.

It is also reported that bandits have appeared in Matanzas province and are burning cane fields around Sabanilla.

The position as may be seen is not pleasant to those who are compelled to work and live in the country; though the war is over, confidence and security prevail nowhere.

In the midst of the war agricultural labor was conducted with less exposure than today, in spite of the American and Cuban armies that occupy the country to guarantee peace and security to all those willing to devote their capital and personal energies to agricultural pursuits.

D. T.

Barbados.

The weather of March, as befits the Mad Month, has been somewhat uncertain, gusty with light showers; however, for the last two or three days it has been more settled and suitable for reaping. Rainfall for fortnight one inch and 69 parts. Although the canes are not ripe, and will hardly be at their prime before the end of April, or beginning of May, yet there can be no further dallying, but reaping must be pushed on, to save the inevitable loss which occurs when too much of the crop lies rotting in the fields late in June and July. As things are with us we cannot harvest our crop in its prime; inefficient machinery is no hand-maid of economy, while efficiency with economy is our greatest need. The problem is how best to obtain it without dislocation of our social state. The schemes so far put forth do not take into consideration the needs of our many-sided labor, and its dove tailed interests, which have grown up with, and are now part and parcel of, our industrial fabric. Our factory scheme must not only be designated for efficient reaping, but also must be carefully adjusted to the needs of the population. To safeguard these needs the design

must be local, and the working mutual. On any other but mutual lines, we should soon have to go on our knees to the imperial government for a few more thousands to assist at least one-third of the working population to emigrate; while the remaining two-thirds workers would hardly be able to grow canes profitably at 101 per ton and out of nothing per annum to support the ever-increasing army of paupers which uncontrolled illegitimacy and lack of useful training for the young are continually banking up on the patient camel back of the productive and industrious section of the people. We have now very nearly reached the last straw stage, and our island has a very tough nut to crack in determining the best means of carrying on in the general interests of the community. It has to be done somehow; nor can we lose sight of the fact that the development of Cuba and Porto Rico will all too soon exclude us from our only market in the United States. The market problem and the machinery problem are so interlaced that it is impossible to separate them, and while we are waiting Micawber-like the problem is becoming more intense everyday, and is not likely to solve itself. Would that we could follow the independent action of India and protect our own industry; no doubt this splendid move will ultimately lead to the abolition of the bounties, but the immediate effect will probably be to drive continental sugar into our already too congested markets.

Cane fires have again been all too frequent, and, in the parlance of the streets, some very "pretty" cane fires have during the fortnight crimsoned the skies. A few nights ago St. Philip and Christ church were again conspicuous, while in other places fire has answered to fire. Locust Hall has again suffered; but why Locust Hall so soon again? this time to the tune of about 12 acres. The proprietor of this estate is one of the most genial and kind hearted of men, and earned the gratitude of the people of his district in his single-minded efforts to afford relief to the sufferers from the storm, for many of whom he found shelter, and was a most active and conscientious appraiser of damage done to laborers' houses thus actively furthering the work of restoration. So, why select him for fiery vengeance? It is strange but true, but the philanthropic owner of Pilgrim, Christ church, was repaid in a similar way, by a big bon-fire of twenty acres of his choicest canes. This sort of thing is quite enough to deter the most tender hearted of philanthropists who when the next calamity occurs will naturally be timid in offering their services.

The sugar made is of splendid quality, well grained, and solid as iron in hogshead, or barrel; but the quantity is all too small. One hogshead per acre and a fraction over is about all of yield reported throughout the length and breadth of the Island, indeed from the northern parishes report says that the canes are giving less than an hogshead.

From such hard firm sugar very little molasses flows, but the quality of the latter is very fine indeed, thick, clear and syrupy.

Next month the yield will surely go up as the canes mature under hotter suns. The cold, showery weather prevailing for the past three months has rather tended to retard the maturing process in canes which had been thrown back at least two months in their growth by the storm. Planters would like to make haste slowly in reaping just now, but these are the windy months, and wind mills must be kept on the turn lest the latter loss be greater than the former.

The young crop is coming on very prettily, and certainly the tourists from America who scampered through the island last Sunday (12th inst.) must have been struck by the scant evidence remaining of the devastating storm of the memorable 10th September, 1898. Garden like culture, and green fields of young and old canes side by side, together with a general air of thriftiness about the plantations could not fail to impress the strangers.—Agricultural Reporter, March 18.

Personal.

Mr. W. N. Hamilton was the chemist at Captain John N. Pharr's Glenwild place during the past grinding season, and was ably assisted by Mr. E. E. Colvin of Columbus, Kansas. These gentlemen not only handle the ordinary work of a large plantation laboratory, but also took care of the elaborate system of testing purchased cane in vogue at Captain Pharr's. The engineer at Glenwild was Mr. Geo. Watkins, of Berwick City, one of the best men in the business.

Mr. Alex. Lepine and Mrs. Lepine, were registered at the Hotel Grunewald during the week. Mr. Lepine is a prominent sugar planter of Lafourche Parish.

Col. Lewis S. Clarke, of Lagonda plantation, arrived in the city on the Monday night train of the Southern Pacific R. R. and took up his usual quarters in the St. Charles Hotel.

Mr. Charles A. O'Neill, of Franklin, was in town during the past week. Mr. O'Neill is a leading citizen of his locality and registered at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. D. J. Kerr, manager of the extensive North Bend, Midway, and other properties of the S. M. Swenson estate on Bayou Sale, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. Mr. Kerr is one of the most successful managers in the state. He put up at the St. Charles Hotel.

Mr. Ed. Elliott was the capable engineer in charge of the machinery at the Avoca place of Dr. C. B. Darrall, this past campaign. Mr. Elliott is one of the best known men in the state and has been intimately identified with the construction of a great deal of sugar machinery. Avoca's engine room ran like clockwork under his skillful supervision.

Mr. John J. Shaffer and Mrs. Shaffer, were arrivals at the St. Charles hotel on Wednesday night, coming in by the late train on the Southern Pacific from their plantation home.

BET SUGAR.**Eddy, New Mexico.**

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In the issue of April 1st, the Planter published an able article on sugar beets, mentioning two districts where they were now being successfully cultivated.

Within the last three years a new sugar beet producing district has been added to the list, one that now promises to become widely known in the next few years; that is the Eddy district in the Pecos Valley.

The factory erected at Eddy has a capacity of 200 tons daily, susceptible of being largely increased as the area of beets planted is extended. Thus far in its history the factory has never been able to run to its full limit as the beet crop has never yet assumed sufficient magnitude. Each year, however, it has nearly doubled, and it is thought that this year, from the increased number of people who are planting the beet, the factory can run to its full capacity during nearly its entire season.

The farmers receive \$4.25 for their beets per ton on the cars and every inducement is being held out by the company to promote the industry in the valley. The company disposes of its pulp to sheep feeders at forty cents a ton and sheep men are eagerly seeking contracts for large quantities to be delivered during the campaign which begins about November 1st. It is claimed for this feed that it lends, when fed in connection with alfalfa, a delicate flavor to mutton that can be imparted to it by no other feed.

Beet planting has commenced now in some parts of the valley and will continue as late as June 1st. The average yield per acre is about twelve tons and that is a very conservative estimate, and the cost of production will hardly exceed \$20, which includes the water tax of \$1.25 an acre.

That this industry is only as yet in its infancy in the valley just now no one doubts. It has about doubled each year since 1896, when it started, and the conditions are more favorable now by far than they were then. More people are planting land in beets who hitherto relied entirely on alfalfa or Kaffir corn and anticipate an increased revenue from the acres thus employed. X.

Chino, California.

Henry T. Oxnard, president of the Chino Valley Beet Sugar Company, authorizes us to say that the company has decided to modify the terms of the contracts for this season, by which the farmers will materially benefit. Instead of requiring a purity coefficient test of 78 per cent on all beets below 12 per cent in sugar, the company now agrees that on 11 per cent beets the reduction will be made only on those whose purity is below 75, and on 10 per cent beets the reduction will be made only on those whose purity coefficient is under 73. This means really an increase in price of 45 cents per ton on beets whose sugar percentage is 11,

with a purity coefficient of 75, and 75 cents per ton on beets whose sugar percentage is 10, with a purity coefficient of 73.

As there are very few beets raised here whose purity goes below these figures, this virtually means an elimination of the purity clause in the contract, and the additions it will make on the farmer's side of the balance sheet next fall will be very material and most acceptable. On some soils it has appeared to be impossible to produce beets up to the required 78 per cent purity, and the price therefore suffered a reduction in spite of the efforts of the farmer.

Mr. Oxnard has realized this fact, and had determined before making his present visit here, to modify the contract in this regard. He has since received a request from a number of farmers to eliminate the purity clause, but as his offer amounts to practically the same thing, he has decided to allow it to remain that way. The modification is entirely voluntary on his part.

The farmers have passed through one season of poor crops, and the coming season not yet fully assured. With this condition surrounding them, our farmers will appreciate every modification to their advantage in the terms of the beet contracts.

Chino beet farmers will be glad to learn that it will be possible to supply themselves with beet pulp directly from the factory next summer and fall in quantities as they may require for a few cows each. The sugar factory management announces that it has retained a limited quantity of pulp, which it will furnish to the beet farmers as they may need it, while the factory is in operation, at the nominal price of 10 cents per ton.

The management does this in a desire to encourage the farmers to keep a few dairy cows and as a matter of justice, believing that the beet grower should be the first to have the benefit of this cheap dairy food. The price it will be seen is a mere nominal one, and will enable all the growers who are keeping a few cows to lay in an abundant supply of feed for the fall and winter months at little cost.

It will not be the intention to sell the pulp in large quantities or for speculation, but rather to distribute it to the growers.

We believe the sugar company deserves full credit for this arrangement, inasmuch as they could sell the entire output in bulk with much less inconvenience to themselves, and for an equal or greater return.

Our farmers now have assurances of all the pulp feed they may need, and we expect to see silos built all about the valley for economical handling of this and other forage.—Champion, March 31.

Oxnard, California.

Henry T. Oxnard left yesterday afternoon for Oxnard, after spending several days here looking after the company's interests. In a short interview he expressed himself as quite satisfied with the conditions here, although not disdaining another good rain,

He is well pleased that a considerable acreage is being planted to alfalfa, as it will renew much land which has become impoverished through continuous beet cropping. He believes that proper rotation of crops is the particular need of our soil, and that alfalfa is in that line; but that at the same time the extreme of overplanting of alfalfa, or planting it where it will not thrive, should not be indulged in. Mr. Oxnard says that the work of doubling the capacity of the Oxnard factory will be pushed so as to have the whole completed in time for this season's crop.—Champion, March 31.

Agricultural Management of the Sugar Beet.

The recent rains have increased the labors of Agricultural Manager L. Hache in the sections growing beets for the Chino factory. For some time it looked as though only the minimum acreage would be planted there, but now everything indicates that the maximum crops will be grown at Chino and Anaheim as well as Oxnard.

The agricultural department maintained by the Oxnards in connection with their beet-sugar factories is rendering the farmers engaged in beet raising invaluable services. The head of the department and those under him are scientific and practical farmers. They do not simply set in an office and theorize, but they are in the field with the farmer giving him the immediate use and benefit of the latest scientific information of the world and practical experience as well. In this section Mr. Hache, when here, spends most of his time in the saddle, his favorite method of getting about among the beet raisers, and Messrs Herz and Winterhelder are constantly driving about keeping an eye upon every acre of beets growing in this valley. This gives to every beet farmer, besides his own knowledge and experience, that of trained specialists in beet culture. It also enables the agricultural department to keep track of each locality and determine the manner of cultivation and conditions under which the best results are obtained for future guidance.

As the growing of one crop where rotation is the inflexible rule as with beet raising, has a very important bearing upon every other crop, the result of this careful supervision must be to the general benefit. Beet raising requires almost garden cultivation and we can expect to see not only large crops of beets with a high percentage of saccharine content, but a gradual increase in the yield of the crops in rotation with it. This has been the result of the cultivation of the sugar-beet in Europe, and the largest crops are grown in the localities where the beet-sugar industry has been established. And the increase is directly traceable to the introduction of that industry.

This valley is very rich and has for years been noted for its large yield of barley and other grains, beans, and in fact of everything attempted to be grown, but in a few years, if the advice of the agricultural department is followed and the waste properties of the soil kept up by feeding beet tops and pulp and returning the manure to the land, the record of the past will be largely discounted.

The introduction of the beet-sugar industry has inaugurated a system of higher cultivation that will inevitably increase the yield of every crop grown and bring to the farmer an increased revenue from his land and labor.—Oxnard Courier, April 1.

APR. 14.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	April 8.	April 10.	April 11.	April 12.	April 13.	April 14.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
SUGAR. Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	32 1/2 @ 4 1/2	3 3/8 @ 4 1/2	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2	3 3/8 @ 4 1/2	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2	Firm.
Choice	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	
Strict Prime	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 4	
Prime	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Fully Fair	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Good Fair	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	
Fair	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	
Good Common	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	
Common	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	
Inferior	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	
Centrifugal.								
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 1/2 @ —	Strong.
Off Granulated	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off White	4 1/2 @ —	4 1/2 @ —	4 1/2 @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 1/2 @ —	
Grey White	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	
Prime Yellow	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	
Off Yellow	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	
Seconds	2 3/4 @ 4 1/2	2 3/4 @ 4 1/2	2 3/4 @ 4 1/2	2 3/4 @ 4 1/2	2 3/4 @ 4 1/2	2 3/4 @ 4 1/2	2 3/4 @ 4 1/2	
MOLASSES. Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Quiet.
Fancy	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Choice	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Strict Prime	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Prime	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Prime	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Fair	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Fair	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Common	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Common	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Inferior	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Centrifugal.								
Fancy	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	Quiet.
Choice	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Strict Prime	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Good Prime	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Prime	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Good Fair	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Fair	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Good Common	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Common	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Inferior	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
SYRUP.								

OTHER MARKETS.

	April 8.	April 10.	April 11.	April 12.	April 13.	April 14.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.	
NEW YORK:									
SUGAR.									
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw—Steady. Refined—Fair demand.	
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
Granulated	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	4.90 @ —		
Standard A	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	4.78 @ —		
Dutch Granulated	— @ 5.00	— @ 5.00	— @ 5.00	— @ 5.10	— @ 5.10	— @ 5.10	— @ —		
German Granul'd.	— @ 5.03	— @ 5.06	— @ 5.06	— @ 5.06	— @ 5.06	— @ 5.10	— @ —		
MOLASSES.									
N. O. Choice	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Cane—Firm and rather dearer. Beet—Firmer, rather dearer.	
N. O. Fair	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		
LONDON:									
Java, No. 15 D. S.	12s. 1 1/2 d.	12s. 3d.	12s. 3d.	12s. 3d.	12s. 3d.	12s. 3d.	11s. 3d.		
A. & G. Beet	10s. 5 1/2 d.	10s. 7 1/2 d.	10s. 7 1/2 d.	10s. 7 1/2 d.	10s. 8 1/4 d.	10s. 9 1/2 d.	9s. 0d.		

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

	April 8.	April 10.	April 11.	April 12.	April 13.	April 14.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
Cut Loaf	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	Strong.
Powdered	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5.13	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Candy A	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Crystal Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Apr. 6	Tons	203,849
At four ports of Great Britain to Apr. 6	"	32,000
At Havana and Matanzas to Apr. 6	"	87,500

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending April 14, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to April 14, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses	Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received	209	5,228	2,822	9,936	1,194,284	223,969
Sold	300	5,323	2,822	9,936	1,187,351	223,574
Received same time last year	—	—	—	22,178	1,376,399	182,110

APR. 14.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

RICE.	April 8.	April 10.	April 11.	April 12.	April 13.	April 14.	Same Day Last Year.	To 13 of Market at Close of Week.
	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal		
ROUGH, per bbl...	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	3 00 @ 4 85	Dull.
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	5 1/2 @ 5 1/2	
Fancy	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	4 3/4 @ 4 7/8	
Choice	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	
Prime	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	
Good	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 @ 3 3/4	
Fair	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	2 3/4 @ 3	
Ordinary	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	— @ —	
Common	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	Nominal	
Screenings	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	2 @ 2 1/2	
Inferior	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	9 50 @ 10 00	
No. 2	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	14 00 @ 15 00	
FRAN, per ton	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal		
POLISH, per ton								

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending April 14, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to April 14, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

Received	SACKS ROUGH. BELLS. CLEAN.		This year	SACKS ROUGH. BELLS. CLEAN.	
	749	377		676,117	5,762
Sold	4,325	1,687	Last year	451,293	5,013

Sugar.

The sugar market was quiet and steady at the end of the week and prices were well maintained. The demand was sufficient to promptly absorb all offerings.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugal molasses quiet.

Rice.

The rough rice market was dull and nominal at the end of the week. The receipts were light and the offerings limited, particularly in the higher grades. Clean rice was steady and in fair demand.

James F. Hogan.

We clip the following from the N. O. States:

"The announcement this morning of the death of Mr. James F. Hogan caused regret in a large section of the country.

"Mr. Hogan was born in Dungavin, County Waterford, Ireland, 58 years ago. He came to this country when 4 years of age with his parents, settling in Alabama. He passed through the Civil War with Foulus Battery from Tuscaloosa, Ala., and was severely wounded at the battle of Missionary Ridge. After the war he settled in Mobile, Ala., remaining there until he took up his residence in this city, twenty-three years ago. He was connected with the National Supply Co., for a period of fifteen years, and in this capacity traveled through Louisiana to all the sugar plantations, and often boasted of the number of staunch friends he had among the planters.

"He was the best-liked and one of the most respected traveling representatives that ever went among them.

"Mr. Hogan was the patentee of the Hogan hollow blast grate bar, one of the most useful inventions of its kind. A few years ago he associated himself with Mr. Julian M. Swoop and James Fisher, forming the Fisher-Hogan Bagasse Furnace Co., Ltd., and at the time of his death was the vice-president of the company, which under his management has been very successful. Mr. Hogan leaves a wife and one son, as well as two brothers, Rev. John A. Hogan, S. J., now located at the Jesuits College, Grand Coteau, La., and Mr. W. J. Hogan, of Natchez, Miss."

The death of Mr. Hogan will cause no interruption in the business of the Fisher-Hogan Bagasse Burner Co., Ltd.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

Wholesale activity has prevailed throughout the week and the aggregate was quite up to its predecessor. At the moment there is a considerable spot stock of foreign; imports having recently been made with somewhat free hand in anticipation of the larger call incident to the opening of navigation. Holders maintain a firm front as no resupply can be obtained at former cost. Advices from the South note enlarging demand and the presence of a considerable volume of buying orders at figures closely approximating current prices makes sentiment decidedly bullish. Count of stock, rough and cleaned at all points, 1st inst. showed same to be much less than at equal date last year. Straggling receipts at local milling centers is thought to auger the end of the crop in planter's hands. Prices at all points are strong and sharp advances may be expected almost any day especially in the ordinary to fair grades. As regards higher grades the impression prevails that they are nearing the danger line, being already relatively dear in comparison with foreign of similar character. Cables and correspondence from abroad note decreasing shipments and with light stocks current prices are regarded as reasonable. While there are no important reasons now in sight for greatly higher prices, the situation may be said to be upon a supply and demand basis with gradually hardening tendency.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough 687,525 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 508,040 sacks. Sales, cleaned (ets) 166,402 barrels, last year 109,012 barrels. Good inquiry; prices firm; outlook favoring early advance.

Talmage, Charleston telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 35,709 barrels. Sales 32,003 barrels. Fair enquiry at former value and a large waiting list ready and willing to operate at least fraction off current figures.

Sugar in London.

Apart from the fact that both the German and Austro-Hungarian governments have entered a protest against the exclusion of

their sugar from India, nothing of importance has occurred to disturb the steadily increasing strength of the market. It must not be forgotten that if the new duties shut sugar out from India, it will have to find a market here instead, but we do not believe that any perceptible effect will follow. Be this as it may, the supply hitherto has not been in excess of the demand, and, so long as the French people hold their sugar as they are doing now, there need be little fear of any extraordinary pressure this season. So far as countervailing duties in this country are concerned, the suggestion does not seem to have been taken seriously by the retailers, judging by the normal demand existing, and now that the deficit in the revenue will apparently prove considerably smaller than was expected at one time, it is hardly likely that the government will institute a tax, the collection of which would prove far more difficult and costly than it used to be. As regards the American markets, values have been firmly maintained, although their weekly receipts have been rather heavy, producing a sensible addition to their stocks. The difficulty of obtaining cane refining kinds here continues strongly marked, but soft grocery sugars have been more plentiful owing to the arrival of some Argentine syrups; it is to be regretted that the shipments of yellow crystals from that country have ceased now that the United Kingdom is so poorly supplied with crystallized raws from the West Indies and Demerara. For the moment there is rather more offering from the latter colonies, but the demand has proved quite equal to the supply, and values have consequently been well maintained. The imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 23rd inst. amounted to 368 tons, and for this year to 5,998 tons against 5,805 tons in 1889.—Produce Market Review, March 25.

The management of the Waubun plantation of Captain John T. Moore near Schriever was this year again performed by his two sons, Messrs. John T. Moore, Jr., and Charles V. Moore. If there is anything in heredity, these two young men should make fine sugar planters, and the condition of things at Waubun seems to indicate that they are such already.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A position by a first-class, allround machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or assistant time keeper. "GEO.", care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, Thibodaux, La. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Thoroughly competent machinist, with several years experience in leading railroad shops, wants work in repairing locomotive engines on sugar plantations. Will work by the day or by contract. He is a practical locomotive engineer and has had experience in repairing and running sugar house machinery. Address W. L., No. 1016 Magazine street, New Orleans.

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fletel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHIEF ENGINEER, Lutoher, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give A I references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 163, New Orleans, La. 3-9-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 3-23-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a you g man 25 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 106, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La.

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 3-24-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A I references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3418 Constance street, New Orleans. 3-22-99

WANTED—A position as clerk in store by a young man of good habits and experience. Also have a practical knowledge of drugs. Good references. Address ROBERT, care Postmaster, Woodland, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—A position as carpenter or mill-wright on a sugar plantation. Best of references furnished. Address 418 N. Johnson street, New Orleans. 3-18-99

WANTED—A position by an A No. 1. Sugar dryer, am a machinist with 14 years experience. Address FRANK LORENZ, 302 S. Basin, St., City. 2-15-99.

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1524 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 25-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 25-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 24-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 24-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La.

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nesser, La. 14-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-6

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc., that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-98

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 521 Du-maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1036 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. PROCTOR, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a mechanical engineer and practical machinist who has passed all the branches of the technical high school in Germany, has had 14 years experience in sugar house work, is in position many years, but wants to change as Chief Engineer or Superintendent for construction or repairing of sugar houses. Can give best of references. Address, SUGAR HOUSE SPECIAL, care Louisiana Planter. 12-26-98.

WANTED—Position as first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man 30 years of age, well versed in the routine work of a plantation. Address ELY STRODE, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as manager on a sugar plantation. Satisfaction guaranteed. After two months' trial, if owner is not pleased, no salary will be expected. Address WALTER SCOTT, care Louisiana Planter. 12-31-98

WANTED—Situation as chemist or assistant in sugar house, by a young man who has had four years' experience and can furnish best of references. Address D. H. STRUTHERS, Craig, Nebraska. 12-17-98

WANTED—Position in Cuba, Florida or elsewhere, by an all around up-to-date plantation manager. Am now managing a large plantation and can furnish first-class references. Address FARMER, Baldwin P. O., La. 12-21-98

WANTED—By a young man of 24, a position in the West Indies, Mexico or elsewhere, as chemist. Have had experience and can furnish good references. Am a university graduate. Speak German and French. Unmarried. Address E. P. IRWIN, Sugar Land, Texas. 12-21-98

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana sugar plantation as an assistant or junior overseer, by one who has had similar experience in the West Indies. Commencing salary. Address B. A. W., care this office.

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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,
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Jes. Webre,	Jules J. Jacob.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Henry McCall,
Lucien Soniat, W. B. Schmidt,
D. R. Calder, Louis Bush,
John Dymond, President.

Sugar Imports.

The government reports indicate that the imports of sugar during March, or rather that the duties paid on imported sugars during March have been nearly the highest reached at any time under the Dingley bill. The amount of sugar imported subject to duty was 369,645,444 pounds, valued at \$8,195,915, and the duties collected thereon were \$6,061,600. The actual imports during the month reached 413,011,377 pounds, valued at \$9,173,385. The imports for March, 1898, were 322,855,164 pounds, valued at \$6,638,676.

From these data it will be seen that the average import value of sugars imported in March, 1899, was 2.22 cents per pound and that the average for March, 1898, was 2.06 cents per pound.

Weather in St. James.

The Planter has received from Mr. E. Cherbonnier, owner of Helvetia plantation, in the parish of St. James, a memorandum of his record of the weather during the first half of April, which shows how very unsatisfactory the weather was for the promotion of the growth of the cane crop up to that date. Although we are in the month of April, proverbial for its showers, the rainfall reached but 1½ inches, this falling on the 5th and 6th. During the fifteen days there were but three bright and three clear days, the rest being cloudy and foggy, while the average minimum temperature was but 49 degrees F., and the average maximum but 72 degrees F. Experience has shown that the growth of sugar cane is practically suspended at temperatures below 60 degrees F., and these figures and the absence of rain and sunshiny weather show why the cane crop has done so poorly during the first half of April.

The Planter is greatly obliged to Mr. Cherbonnier for the data given.

The Cane Crop.

The past week is universally reported by our correspondents as having been the most favorable, from a weather standpoint, that we have experienced in the sugar belt this spring. The temperature rose to something like a seasonable point, there were welcome and highly beneficial rainfalls, and the general information sent in to us is to the effect that the appearance, not only of plant cane but stubble as well, is everywhere better than has recently been considered possible. Such good results, indeed, have followed the short spell of warm weather that the planters are encouraged to believe that the advent of our usual hot and growing May weather will bring out everything, except the second stubble, in a way that will prove highly gratifying. At this writing a soaking and persistent rain is falling, but there are unfortunately indications of cooler weather to follow.

Cuban Sugar Crop.

As will be seen in another column Mr. Joaquin Guma reports the deliveries of the Cuban sugar crop to March 31 at about 188,000 tons, against 232,000 tons at the same time last year, with every indication of a considerably smaller crop this year than the last. Mr. Guma believes that the total crop when it shall have been delivered will not exceed 290,000 to 295,000 tons, against 305,543 tons last year.

The Velvet Bean.

Mr. Albert H. Benson, director of the experiment farms in Queensland, Australia, has been giving some attention to the velvet bean, which, during the last few years, has attracted so much attention in Florida and Louisiana, threatening to supersede the favorite cow pea because of its luxuriant growth and excellent effect upon the soil. Mr. Benson says that the plant has been

wrongly named, as it is not *dolichos multiflores*, but is recognized by Mr. F. M. Bailey, to whom he submitted specimens, as *mucuna pruriens*, var. *utilis*, a variety of the plant commonly known as cowhage, or cow itch. The observations of Mr. Benson were based upon the growth that came from some fourteen of the beans planted at Redland Bay in a deep loam of red color. The beans made a heavy growth and bloomed profusely. Mr. Benson seems to be hopeful as to the value of the velvet bean for the improvement of the lands in Australia.

Sugar Beets in Kansas.

A recent bulletin from the Kansas State Agricultural Experiment Station at Manhattan gives an account of the experiments carried on for the last two years in the production of sugar beets. A few years ago Kansas had such high expectations in regard to developing the sorghum sugar industry that the prophetic words of Dr. Wiley, who was then, as some of us thought, unduly severe in his judgment of sorghum as a sugar plant, fell upon unwilling ears, and Kansas continued her experiments in sorghum until failure resulted all along the line. It is pleasant now to see the interest Kansas takes in sugar beets, and it would seem fair to hope that success with that plant as a sugar producer will be permanent.

Sorghum culture was peculiarly adapted to the state of Kansas on account of the limited rainfall there. We find, however, that in California, with a very limited rainfall, good crops of sugar beets are produced and it may be that Kansas will have equal capacity in that direction.

Thus far there seems to have been some difficulty to induce the farmers of Kansas to experiment with sugar beets with that care and precision of work that is essential to the determination of success or non-success with beets in the state. Doubtless the failure of sorghum deters many from taking much interest now in the sugar beet, although its success in so many of the other states should certainly inspire renewed efforts in Kansas.

The average total solids in the juice of the beets reported on by the state ex-

periment station were 15.52 per cent. in 1897 and 14.71 in 1898. The sucrose in the juice was 11.88 per cent. in 1897 and 11.56 in 1898, with a purity of 76.1 per cent. in 1897 and 77.8 in 1898. It is intended to repeat the experiments again in 1899 and certainly the data thus far secured would indicate that the sugar beet can be grown and beet sugar made in Kansas more profitably than the average results realized from corn and wheat.

The Beet Sugar Factories of the United States.

Few persons have any conception of the rapid growth of the beet sugar industry as evidenced by the various factories already in operation and those that are building for the campaign of 1899. There were eighteen factories reported in operation in the season 1898-99, which had a capacity for daily consuming 12,700 tons of beets. This estimate includes the two factories at Salinas and Oxnard, California, which can hardly be considered in operation yet, and as they are the largest in the country, with a capacity of the two for consuming 5000 tons, there would be left 16 factories in full operation this last season capable of consuming 7,700 tons of beets per day.

There are twelve factories now constructing which are expected to be ready for the coming campaign, with a daily capacity of 5,300 tons, and if we add to this the two large California factories, the fourteen would have a capacity of consuming together 10,300 tons, or a total beet consuming capacity for all the factories of 18,000 tons of beets per day which would produce 1800 tons of beet sugar per day.

The beet sugar crop of 1897 is estimated at about 41,000 tons. Owing to the drought that prevailed on the Pacific coast during the growing season of 1898 the beet crop was very short and but 34,000 tons of beet sugar were produced. There has now been an immense increase in acreage of beets planted, and if all these beet sugar factories get a full supply of beets, as they are now expecting to, and run for 100 to 110 days, producing 1800 tons of sugar per day, we should have a beet sugar crop for the year 1899-1900 of nearly 200,

000 tons, which, while it lasted, would supply one-third of the entire demand of the whole Union.

It is, of course, not likely that this vast increase in beet sugar production will be realized, but the factories are already built and are now building with a contract capacity to consume the beets that would produce this sugar, and if the beets can be had and if the season be reasonably favorable; we may find some astonishingly large figures realized in the way of beet sugar production among our western confreres.

The Pump Trust.

The International Steam Pump Company is capitalized at \$27,500,000, of which \$12,500,000 is in 6 per cent cumulative preferred stock and \$15,000,000 in common stock. The company is a consolidation of five steam-pump manufacturing concerns, said to control about 90 per cent of the trade, except for high-pressure pumps. These companies, with property assets and profits as officially stated in the prospectus, are as follows:

Henry R. Worthington—Assets, \$6,148,355.64; estimated net profits the past year, \$550,000.

Blake & Knowles Steam Pump Works—Assets, \$1,178,000; estimated net profits, \$425,000.

Deane Steam Pump Works—Assets, \$1,155,600; actual net earnings for 1898, \$111,973.

Laidlaw-Dunn-Gordon Company—Assets, \$800,000; estimated profits, \$70,000.

Snow Steam Pump Works—Assets, \$700,000; profits, \$55,000.

The assets as above given make no allowance for goodwill. It will be seen, therefore, that the actual assets as estimated aggregate about \$12,000,000, or about cover the preferred stock in the new company, leaving \$15,000,000 for the goodwill.

The prospectus sets forth that under the consolidation net profits should increase \$1,300,000, which would mean a total of \$2,500,000. In other words it is predicted that under consolidation the net profits will be more than doubled.—New York Journal of Commerce.

Sugar Patents.

Patents of interest to the sugar industry issued April 4, 1897. Reported specially for the Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, patent attorney, Washington, D. C. 622319 evaporating apparatus. David Augsburgberger, Berne, Ind.

Mr. E. W. Deming met with a painful but fortunately not serious accident during the past week through the ignition of some gasoline on his pleasure launch "Zeta." Mr. Deming's face was badly burned but he will soon be all right again.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather of the past week has been entirely seasonable and as a result improving advices are coming in from the plantations. Fine stands of plant cane are commonly confessed, even in localities where this sole saving feature of a lugubrious crop forecast was erstwhile lacking, and many instances are reported of a decidedly more hopeful prospect with regard to stubble.

Col. J. Emile St. Martin is one of the planters in this vicinity whose estimate of the chances for a fair crop this year has risen several degrees of late. His competent manager, Mr. L. M. St. Martin, whose conservative judgment in such matters seldom overreaches the mark aimed at, thinks the combined contribution of Pelico, Arlington and Bar Harbor to the New Hope factory for the season of 1899 will reach 5,000 tons, against 7,300 in 1898 and 4,600 in 1897, the product in the last named year having been curtailed by the destruction of Bar Harbor's crop by overflow. The colonel says he will be quite satisfied if the prognostication of a 5,000-ton yield is realized, considering the shortage in planting and the almost total failure of the second-year stubble, which now seems apparent.

The outlook at the fine, large Evan Hall estate of the McCall Bros. Planting and Manufacturing Company, has also exhibited marked improvement, and there is good ground for the assumption that plant cane will make a fine stand, and first-year ratoons a fairly good one on Evan Hall. Second-year ratoons have made no demonstration above ground as yet, and the chances are slim for such a result later. Both digging and shaving of stubble have been practiced on this place, and it may be that this fact accounts in some measure for the more forward state of this part of the growing crop than on neighboring plantations where only digging is done.

Mr. E. H. Barton reports the stubble still exceedingly backward at St. Emma, and what it will bring forth is yet conjectural. He thinks another month of time will be required to furnish the basis of any intelligent estimate of the outcome.

Messrs. Kessler Bros. are said to have a good prospect, considering the season, on their Voiron plantation in Assumption parish, and if it be true, as reported, that they calculate their probable shortage at only twenty per cent, they may indeed be classed among the most favored of Louisiana sugar planters in this unpropitious year.

Mr. George B. Reuss has added to the already extensive character of his investment in sugar property by purchasing the lower Eimer plantation in Iberville parish, from J. B. Lotz. The act of sale was passed this week and the purchase price was \$36,615, exclusive of certain advances previously made

by the purchaser, Mr. Reuss, thus demonstrates his faith in the future of the domestic sugar industry, and that his judgment will be amply vindicated is the abiding faith of

ASCENSION.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been unusually favorable. The warm days toward the end of the week, followed by the rains of Saturday and Sunday and the cloudy weather of today (Monday) will no doubt do a world of good to the crops. There is no complaint so far as to the stand of plant, and the general opinion seems to be without exception that there will be more on the ground than last year. The stand of corn is good everywhere and everything points to a very large corn crop. As to the stubble there is still much uneasiness, and probably there is good ground therefor. The next ten days will tell the story, for after the rains and the warm weather that is now with us we ought soon to know just how good or how bad the stubble crop will be. In a brief conversation with Mr. Oscar Folse I learned that I had been misinformed as to the selling of the cane of Folse & Naquin to Cedar Grove. He seemed also to think that there had been no contract as yet by which the cane of Mr. D. Himel on St. Martin had been bought by Messrs. Landry and Meyer. The fall cane on Oakley is beginning to show up, and while a heavy stand will not be obtained, still a regular stand is promised and with suckers will be worth while keeping. The Oakley Planting Company has already received two large rollers, and work on the new building will be rapidly pushed to completion. Messrs. Bergeron and Martin, progressive tenants on Himalaya have some very advanced plant cane in new ground. Their new ground stubble is also making a good appearance. Our police jury laid a per capita and vehicle tax at its last meeting. This tax we understand will be devoted to the improvement of the roads.

Court will adjourn this week after a session of three weeks. Two murder cases were tried. The criminal docket was light, and the grand jury had but little to do.

Mr. E. L. Monnet after a brief visit to Donaldsonville has returned in better health. His many friends will wish him a speedy release from his indisposition. Last Monday the spacious grounds at Glenwood were filled with the children of the Episcopal church, a festival being given by Mr. and Mrs. Munson, Glenwood is one of the show places on Bayou Lafourche, the house and yards being handsome and kept in perfect order. Mr. and Mrs. Munson take great pride in this annual festival and see that the children have the best of times.

Mr. Jas. E. Kent has sold his livery stable to Mr. Ralph J. Beaseley, who has relinquished planting this year.

Messrs. Edward N. Pugh, R. McCulloh and Judge Taylor Beattie were in attendance on court last week. MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The precipitations of recent date have been abundant in this section and favorable to both cane and corn, and the latter is now assuming a thrifty appearance. In many places the canes planted before and after the freeze are marking the rows nicely, and sprouts are appearing in the stubble fields on sandy as well as black lands. What is somewhat unusual, in places, canes cut early during the last campaign are ratooning as well if not better than others where the fields were left standing until near the end of grinding.

It is at present impossible to form an opinion as to what the thickness of the stand will be, either on plant cane fields or ratoons. In some instances the stand of plant cane promises to be up to the average; but from the quality of the majority of the seed it will be somewhat irregular, and the ratoons will be somewhat thin.

A half a stand of cane on the first of May with a very favorable season thereafter will give better results than a full stand with an inclement season to cultivate and lay by the crop. In the early seventies on the first of May the stand of plant cane was exceptionally fine; but from the eighth of the month until the rain and wind storm in October, the precipitations were far above the normal.

The output was disastrously low, but little of the plant cane area gave over sixteen hundred pounds of open kettle sugar per acre.

Should the weather prove favorable during the month of May and June the crop prospects may improve far beyond expectations. What the cane growers now require is warm, dry weather, to effectively cultivate the fields, as tillth is essential to healthy growth. Thus far this week the land has been too moist to plough, and from present indications the soil may not be sufficiently dry to do really good work until near the end of the week. To plough land too wet at this season of the year is to counteract the benefits of fall ploughing and early spring work. After the recent showers with warm weather, grass will grow apace, consequently planters desire comparatively dry weather to enable them to cultivate rapidly. Frequent, somewhat shallow culture will prove of greater benefit to the growing crops than the tedious, slow, deep ploughing with the double plough.

This season planters will make an effort to lay by the corn areas as early as circumstances will permit to give them more time to carefully nurse the plant cane and ratoon fields. To fertilize corn with tankage is to increase the yield of grain, augment the pea vine crop, and enrich the soil for the plant cane crop to follow.

The syndicate which recently purchased the Greenwood property on the lower bayou Black, six in number, are all citizens of the parish, namely, Messrs. Emile Daigle, A. Blum, L. F. Sutton, V. H. Kyle, Henry Berger and Peter Berger.

Wednesday of last week was balmy and partially cloudy; Thursday, warm with clouds and sunshine; Friday, a splendid growing day; Saturday, warm and cloudy in the morning with showers in the evening; Sunday, misty early in the day and sprinkles at intervals later; Monday, cloudy; Tuesday, misty in the morning and local showers later; and Wednesday morning, cloudy with prospects of clearing weather.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for ten or fifteen days previous to last Saturday, has been both cool and dry. The several rains that have visited our section since the beginning of the planting season, having been followed by crisping north winds, the moisture failed largely of its effect as a life-giver; and, in addition to this, the ground was too cold for any appreciable growth of vegetation otherwise. But last Saturday the drought aforesaid, was broken by a light shower in the afternoon, which was followed by a heavy and substantial rain on Sunday, Sunday night and so on, though, unfortunately, these too, were attended by cool weather, greatly retarding the progress of the crops, which, it seems, cannot get a warm spell of any profitable length along with other favorable conditions.

What the planter needs now, is one good start for his crop, which he would abundantly receive with a few successive days of warm, summer weather. While this could not be termed an unusually cool spring, it is one at the same time, that has followed after a long and severe winter, during which time the crops did absolutely no growing, so they are necessarily late.

Some of our planters have been passing the digger over the stubble alone several times, others are following it with the hoe, while others still are hoeing out the dirt without the aid of the digger. Belleview plantation has about 250 acres of stubble that is not worth cultivating either singly or in conjunction with corn, so it has been completely overturned and the land will be used for corn alone. Though enough stubble and seed cane combined, have been saved for seed in 1900—Belleview being, by long odds, the heaviest loser in St. Mary, from the February freeze. Mr. J. J. Shaffer, on the Anna plantation, which adjoins Belleview, is also plowing up a great portion of his stubble, being too heavily injured to justify cultivation. It is said these two plantations sustained a heavier loss of seed and stubble than all of the balance of the Irish Bend together.

Mr. C. S. Trimble, on the east bank of the Teche, says that while he will make more than seed this season, it will require at least four years to regain what he considers to be his loss, with an ordinary yield all round. He made, in view of this, a reduction in his price for labor of ten cents from 70, which will be resorted to, your correspondent believes, in many other places where the crops will be short.

The small planters who sell by the ton, are stirring around for prices on their cane, and one buyer has said that 80 cents per cent will be his highest price during the present season, in all likelihood. But your correspondent is informed that others have expressed the intention of offering more, in view of the fact that competition from the manufactories in the lower portion of the parish will be more threatening this year than ever before, on account of the general scarcity of a full grinding season. But while it may be too early to call attention to this fact, it is nevertheless noticeable that nothing is being said of the intention of purchasing on the sucrose test scale, for which it is to the advantage of St. Mary sugar growers to agitate, owing to the superiority in saccharine of their cane as compared to other parishes along with whom they must sell, and for whose shortcomings in grade they must share by a corresponding reduction upon the price of their own, under the general schedule. Of course it is to be presumed that Messrs. J. N. Pharr and others, who have adopted the ad valorem scheme a couple or more years ago, will follow it out again this year.

Mr. C. D. Kemper, the assistant manager of the Caffery refinery, of this parish, intends erecting a large plantation store on the Peoples' plantation, near New Iberia, which is owned and has been cultivated since its purchase two or three years ago, by the management of the Caffery.

ST. MARY.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been exceptional growing weather. Winter seems to have faded and passed away for good, this change having taken place on last Tuesday. The weather for several days previous to that was very cold and very damaging to the young crops, but the change came and with it a most magnificent rain that was very badly needed. We have had some very dry weather and with the cool spell at the same time, all crops were checked in growth or from coming up at all, but now everything has taken on a different aspect—corn, cane, cotton, rice, potatoes and vegetables are coming up and growing nicely. Cane (plant), is making a fine showing and by the last of this week a full stand will be up. The first planting has already come up to a complete stand and the last planting is coming up nicely. In many places the

stand will be too thick. Many planters, for fear they would miss a stand, put down more cane than was necessary to obtain a stand, and as much of the cane that was adjudged bad proved to be good seed, the stand will be too heavy. First plant is being worked out and it looks strong and fine, off barring and scraping is rapidly being pushed, and a few days more will see it completed. Stubble in some sections is coming out nicely, but as a general thing the stand will not measure up to expectations. On grey lands the first stubbles are very good, but black land stubbles are poor. This is due to the rain and not the cold weather. The grey lands are light and porous and drain easily, but the black lands are heavier and pack very closely, consequently hold water longer. The outlook now is that there will be about the same tonnage of cane for the mill this year with a much larger acreage to draw from. All in all the cane crop is not so bad. Corn is very promising, and that part of the crop planted on lands broken before the freeze is unmolested by the cut worm and is growing nicely. April planting is about completed, which finishes up the planting for 1899. With ordinary seasons a heavy crop may be expected. Cotton is coming up slowly; the cold weather was very injurious to it and several weeks will elapse before it recovers from the setback. There was an average acreage planted, and favorable seasons will bring forth an average crop. Seeding the fields to rice is the most important farm work in progress in the central-western and western parts of the parish at present. The first planting of rice is up and looks strong and healthy and the rains that we have been having for the past few days, will push recent planting out of the ground and stimulate that that is already up to vigorous growth. There will be no decrease in the acreage previously reported, but instead the acreage will be larger than was at first anticipated. The prospect for a full crop is very flattering. Potatoes and vegetables are looking fine.

The Planter correspondent took a trip through the Western part of the parish some days ago, and while in the neighborhood of Gueydan learned that charbon had already made its appearance in that section, and several mules had succumbed to the disease.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

It is nothing less than a pleasure to the Planter's scribe to find farm and planting conditions improving to the delight and benefit of the agricultural and business interest of this and adjoining localities.

The past six or eight days developed warmer weather, with light showers on the 16th and 17th, barely enough to soften and make pliable the top of the soil to permit young plants to break through to sunlight and air.

I have just finished looking over my weather journal report for April, 1898, and find that last April was by no means a favorable month to the farming interest. It was wet, too much rain, and at times quite cool. Farm work backward, etc. After all it seems that in the mad rush to push forward, we too soon forgot the past, having in mind the present and future only, and grow too restless over events which take place in the elements and are unavoidable.

In looking around the country in quest of news, I find that the cane prospects are now improving and growing brighter. The warm, damp and foggy nights and mornings which prevailed over our fair section of the country during the past week, caused the cane to come out through the surface in places unexpectedly and hardly looked for.

From reliable reports received from Rapides. It is learned that the prospects for cane in the vicinity of Loyd, Lecompte, Meeker and other places are now much better than anticipated some weeks past.

The Home Place plantation, estate of the late Jos. H. Meeker, as well as the places tributary to the Meeker Central factory, are now coming forward with surprisingly fair stands of cane.

Truly surprising it is found that the stubble when it was in a manner protected, is beginning to show marked indications of life and ratoons, which is something remarkable.

These reports are very encouraging at this day and date, being proof plain that the rich soils of Rapides are quick to respond to the laws of nature.

The cane raisers of Meeker and adjoining localities are now more hopeful since the young sprigs of cane have started to shoot up through the soil to mark the rows.

An increased acreage has, and is now being planted to corn; a heavy pea crop will be put in for hay-making and fertilizing purposes, and with a heavy acreage to cotton, all combined, with present cane and crop prospects so flattering, has had a decided effect upon the feelings of the planters and farmers, clearing away the dark clouds of gloom created by the February freeze, letting in the bright warm light of summer to lead them on the way to progress and prosperity. From a gentleman just calling from Barbrecq it has been learned that the crops at Barbrecq and neighborhood are beginning to grow and improve, since the favorable weather of the past week came in. Cane in particular was coming up better and more promising than at the date of planting it was expected to do, and was causing the cane growers of Barbrecq and vicinity to look and feel more hopeful for the future.

A heavy corn and pea crop is now planted, and being planted by the farmers in the country which is tributary to Barbrecq, and plantations. A number of other points and localities heard from, report crop prospects as improving, with indication for further

improvement as the weather and season grow favorable.

About the only trouble to be found at present with the farmers, is that some of the first planting of cotton is not coming up to as perfect a stand as they would like to have it, which if investigated, would no doubt be found to have been caused from planting unsound and defective seed.

The first planting of corn is now growing and promising. It is now being plowed and worked the first time. The later planted corn and cotton is beginning to grow up and out through the soil, and will soon demand attention and cultivation.

As the winter clouds disappear, the farmers and planters are beginning to feel better and more hopeful for growing good crops.

ERIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

As the month of April advances, the temperature is growing a little warmer and the sun's rays somewhat more effective. The mornings still continue rather cool but spring is developing rapidly. The stubbles have doubtless sustained a terrible blow as they are very bad off everywhere, the spring plant though is doing very nicely and promises a fair outcome.

The rice and corn crops have suffered a little from these cool snaps but still have both a very good stand in our parish, merely awaiting the arrival of warm days to show up with rapid growth. The season so far has proved quite favorable for rice, which strictly demands the fair weather we are enjoying.

St. James has during the past week lost one of its most highly respected citizens, Mr. Louis J. Folse, who, with his esteemed family, has removed to Iberville parish, where he expects to reside permanently. Mr. Folse has been engaged in cane culture since his youth, and was for a long time half owner of Felicity plantation, with Mr. R. Beltran.

A year ago he sold his interest in this fine sugar estate to Mr. Rost (who now owns the entire plantation) and moved to Convent, where he resided until this last week. Mr. Folse is an expert sugar planter and no doubt he will soon return to his chosen industry.

The cane growers of the lower part of our parish have signed a contract of right of way to the Oneda Planting and Manufacturing Company, granting the privilege of building a railroad for transporting canes all along that district.

We note with pleasure that Mr. Felicien Waguespack, of Sport plantation is recovering from a fall, from which he sustained rather painful injuries. Mr. Waguespack is a prominent sugar planter of the first ward, and has always been most successful. He owns one of the nicest and neatest sugar estates of our parish.

Last Wednesday were married at the Catholic church. Mr. Henry Mathern and Miss Amanda Bourgeois, both of our parish.
CONVENT.

Trade Notes.

Diebold Safes.

We invite the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Mr. A. Roy, which appears in this Journal. Mr. Roy has been for more than a quarter of a century sole agent in Louisiana for that well-known and popular concern, the Diebold Safe & Lock Co., of Canton, Ohio. The excellence of their work and the severe tests that their safes have been put to in this city, is a sufficient guarantee that they are perfectly reliable in the crucial test. The splendid references which Mr. Roy has from John Gauche's Sons and B. J. Montgomery, occupants of the Moresque Building at the time it was consumed by fire two years since, should convince the most skeptical of the entire reliability of Diebold Safes. Old residents say that it was the hottest fire that ever occurred here during their long experience. Having been an eye witness to that great conflagration, we can truthfully say that it was a veritable seething caldron of angry flames, which continued for hours. Yet, when the Diebold Safes, used in that building were opened, their contents of money, papers and books were found intact. The well-earned popularity of Mr. Roy, together with the unquestioned merit of his goods makes him at once a leader in his especial line. Our planters who are need of safes, would do well to give him a call before purchasing elsewhere. He can be found always in a pleasant mood, at his place of business, 719 Common St., opposite the St. Charles Hotel.

The Bodley-Mallon Cane Carrier Feeder.

Elsewhere in this issue we print one of a long series of testimonials received by the Bodley Wagon Co., concerning their widely-known device for feeding the cane carrier. A new testimonial will appear every week for the next three months, and we cordially commend them to the attention of our readers.

Personal.

Mr. and Mrs. E. B. LaPice, and Master J. West LaPice, of Lauderdale, La., were in the city on Sunday. They had apartments at the St. Charles Hotel.

Mr. George M. Boote, one of our best sugar planting experts, was in the city last Sunday, accompanied by his wife, and registered at the Hotel Grunewald. Mr. Boote is now raising a good crop of cane, in spite of the season.

Capt. T. D. Stewart, of Irish Bend, St. Mary parish, was in town during the past week and put up at the St. Charles. Capt. Stewart is a leading citizen of his locality and is widely known as a genial gentleman and good business man.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

Berlin, Apr. 1st, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The unexpected and decided change, consisting in a sharp reaction towards winter, reported last week, has been followed by a not less radical variation, but in the opposite direction. The first days of the week were still very cold and new snow storms have been very far from suggesting the idea of an early advent of spring. Nevertheless, the season in the course of the week has become spring-like; the temperature which in some places last week had fallen as low as 10° C., has risen in the latter days to 14° C. But as the change was accompanied by rains, and a layer of snow had to be shaved off, the soil, at least on the surface, was too wet as yet to admit a regular resumption of field work. For that we need a couple of dry days, and if these would set in it can be hoped that the agricultural operations will be taken up shortly after the Easter holidays, which indeed would not be too early, but neither too late, so that the beet sowings could be effected in the second half of April. The opinions as to the advisability of early sowings are still somewhat unsettled. On one side it is asserted that the earlier the seed is confided to the ground, the better will be the results of the crop; whilst on the other hand, late sowings are recommended. In explanation it must be added that the former rules will hold good when the weather continues warm and wet. But the seed and its germination and coming up is greatly endangered when dry and cold weather sets in after the sowing of the beets. The young plants then are suffering, dry up and dwindle away, and even if their coming up should be fairly complete, frosts could be injurious to them. The more spring-like turn the weather has taken in Germany, is also reported from abroad, so that everywhere an energetic commencement of field work after Easter, is expected.

The never-ending bounty question is again furnishing rather sensational matter for the newspaper press. A reassembling of the Brussels' Conference in August is spoken of, and this time the program of it is said not to aim at a radical abolition, but at a gradual diminution; the latter more particularly with reference to France, whose indirect premium is to be always curtailed by one-quarter, in the case that the export is exceeding 235,000 tons, and this proceeding shall be continued until the entire indirect bounty is taken off. Besides a tax shall be levied from the exported sugar to the extent of the bounty paid in the preceding year, but 50,000 tons shall be exempt from this measure; that much for France. Germany is to reduce her bounty to the rate in force prior to 1896, and the other countries are to accommodate their legislation to the basis of the German law. It is, how-

ever, exceedingly doubtful that steps will be taken in that direction, and it seems that only the introduction of countervailing duties in British India has called forth a renewed talk about bounties and their eventual suppression. I am sure that nothing practical will result, but as a chronicler, I had to note the matter dutifully.

From an Austrian consular report, I gather that the four beet sugar factories existing in Italy turned out in 1898-1899, 7,769.3 tons of sugar as against 5,343.5 tons in 1897-1898. This increase, however, is expected to be surpassed very much in 1899-1900, for which period the production is estimated to reach 14,000 or 15,000 tons, on the ground that besides the above four factories, seven new ones will be started. But a great many more sugar mills are projected to be built in the near future, and if all of the schemes now spoken of are carried out, the beet sugar production of Italy will in a couple of years amount to 40,000 or 50,000 tons, which is about the half of what the Italian Kingdom consumes.

Spain, on the other hand will, to all appearance be able to produce in the very near future all her requirements, and it is believed that she will by and by enter upon the line of exporting countries. The beet sugar industry increases there at a rather rapid pace. Ten or twelve years ago Spain produced only 30,000 or 40,000 tons; at present she is turning out 40,000 tons, and some years hence she bids fair to produce 70,000 or 75,000 tons, which is all she needs under present conditions of consumption. This remarkable growth is due in a high measure to the protection the sugar enjoys in Spain, and which is now the more effective, as certain large colonies have ceased to compete on the markets of the mother country. You see matters have developed exactly the way I have foretold in one of my letters; being driven out of her West Indian colonies, Spain will produce at home more sugar, and thus increase the supply of sugar, which is certainly not too small at the time being.

In spite of all prohibitory laws and heavy taxation, saccharine and similar artificial sweets are making headway everywhere. There is now news from Sweden to hand, that in that country large quantities of the stuff are used, although the sale is only permitted at drug stores. But it seems that there are no regulations for those establishments, so that they sell it almost to everybody, which must be concluded from the large quantities smuggled into the country.

The market, although on account of the nearby Easter holidays is very quiet, offered some interest, inasmuch as notwithstanding the restricted business, prices ruled rather firm, which no doubt augurs well for the future of the article. Besides at the last hour the figures of the stocks in German factories of first runnings were published, showing a much larger decrease than in March, 1898. Actual 88 pct. is quoted at Magdeburg a trifle higher than last week,

and closes at M. 10.85—11.07½, whilst delivery March at Hamburg fetched M. 10.05 f. o. b. In refined, quite insignificant business without change in prices.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, April 14th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Prices abroad having advanced further, the demand at this place continued active and the greater part of stocks of desirable classes, was disposed of at higher prices, say at from 2.62½@2.85 cts. lb. for centrifuged sugars, basis 96@96 1-2 test at which about 95,000 bags changed hands, market closing today rather quieter, owing to the unimportance of stocks in first hands.

Speculators have evinced good disposition to secure large parcels of good quality for which they would have readily paid a fraction above exporters' offers, but owing to scantiness of stocks, business in this line has been rather limited.

The sale of 3,500 bags, molasses sugars, 86@88 test was also reported during the past week, at from 2½@2 5-16 cts. per pound.

As previously stated, this year's crop will be a very poor one and according to calculation, the next one will be smaller still, inasmuch as the monetary and labor difficulties, which planters have to contend with, have been of late considerably increased by the exigencies of their creditors, in whose behalf their plantations have been mortgaged and any decision given by the government (to which the matter has been submitted) in favor of such creditors, would irretrievably complete the ruin of the majority of the Cuban sugar producers, even of those who would still retain the possession of their estates, as they should be altogether unable to run them from want of necessary funds, or credit to raise money.

General Brooke requested one month to study the question and give his decision and not being willing to assume the responsibility, as he is well aware that it is impossible to satisfy all parties therein interested, he has sent his secretary to Washington, to submit the case to the government.

In this province of Havana, the fields of only three plantations have so far been replanted, the proprietors of all others either lack confidence in the future of the staple or money and credit to resume cane planting, and to make to their machinery the necessary repairs, in order to put again their factories on a working footing.

The following fires in cane fields have been reported, previous to the setting in of the rainy season; one, on plantation "Les Pinos," at Cabezos, in the province of Matanzas, which destroyed about 60,000 arrobes, of standing cane; at Bahia Honda, in this province of Havana, factories "San-

tiago," "Nueve Feresa," "Mercedes," and "Remedios," lost in a like manner one million arrobes of cane, from which about 85,000 bags of sugar might have been obtained, had it not been for the scarceness of oxen, which prevented it from being hauled in due time alongside the mills or factories. "Bramales" and "Louisa," whose machinery has been thoroughly repaired and which today are in fit condition to grind the totality of the cane grown in their neighborhood.

At Camajuani, in the Remedios district, the establishment is contemplated of two agricultural tenancies, whereon tobacco will be grown on a large scale, and it is generally anticipated that this method applied to tobacco will prove as satisfactory as it did as far as sugar cane is concerned.

A terrific whirlwind, accompanied by hail and rain visited Placetas, in the Remedios district, last Saturday afternoon and inflicted heavy damages upon both buildings and growing crops and it has been raining ever since in that locality.

Advices from the country are each day more conflicting as to bandits who control the greater part of the eastern region of the island and in the vicinity of Holguin, in the province of Santiago de Cuba, there is a well organized band of about 100 men, divided in small parties of 8 and 10 men, who scour the country and have succeeded in utterly paralyzing agricultural labor in that part of the country.

It is an undeniable fact that there have always been bandits in Cuba and it is not surprising that under the present demoralized social state of the country, their number should have increased, as it generally happened in all countries immediately after a civil war; it is a phenomenon which directly proceeds from a state of anarchy; but it is to be hoped that the aggravation of the evil will produce the remedy, as soon as the honest and working part of the population shake off the drowsiness that paralyzes their energy and fully realize that brigandage is a scourge which must be done away with and that the time has come to restore order in the country and to impart confidence to its inhabitants at large.

In former times, under the Spanish regime, it was more difficult than today to pursue and exterminate bandits, on account of a certain political character that was attributed to them, which made them more sympathetic to the country folks, who often bestowed their protection upon them; but as they lack today of such political character and prejudice everybody's interest, regardless of whomsoever they may be, they have made themselves hateful and as no one would now protect them any longer, it will be an easy task to get rid of them as soon as our people come to the determination of putting an end to their depredations

T. D.

Mr. W. W. Duson, of Crowley, than whom there is scarcely a more widely known man in the State, was among the guests of the Commercial Hotel a few days ago.

RICE.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

While we have had fair weather this week yet we cannot brag very much over it, for it has been rather cold, and such weather is not the best for the rice which is swelling, the soil yet remaining too cold for the seed, and it would be better for the farmers, if they did not have a kernel planted yet. I have examined considerable rice which was sown some two weeks ago, and it was in bad condition, for lots of it was rotted, owing to the cold, wet soil. In some sections of the country there is a large acreage of rice in just this condition, and it is feared the stand will be thin, and this will greatly lessen the profits of the farmer. Some of our old farmers, who have had nearly a life's experience in rice culture, always watch the weather in the spring, and never plant until the soil is warm enough, even if they have to wait until middle of May. Some seasons rice can be planted by the middle of April with good results, but when the spring is as backward as it is this season, then it is far better to wait until the soil gets warm, for the stand will be better, and the rice will come on faster when it once starts. But where farmers have a large acreage of rice to plant, they begin early so as to hasten the work, but it is not always the best way to do. A large acreage of rice was planted this week, and it can not do anything until the soil warms up, and it will be all right if it does not swell, and it may be all right any way, if the weather does not keep too cold. A large acreage of sod has been turned over this week, and it will be a good while before farmers get all their ploughing done, yet a few will get through seeding in a few days. A few patches of rice is up—it sprouted during the warm spell—and it presents a sickly appearance, owing to cold weather, and even the wild rice that has come up in the fields, looks yellow, and when this hardy variety turns yellow, it is too early to plant rice.

There is very little rice now remaining in first hands, and what little there is, will undoubtedly go to the local mills, for shipping rice is dangerous business of late years, since so many commission merchants are failing. Our rice mills seem to have all they can handle as yet, but the most of them do not run nights.

They have a very successful rice mill at Galveston which has been doing good work this season, and has worked up considerable of our rice, and that point is getting to be quite a good rice market, and bids fair to become much better in the future.

A number of pumps arrived last week to be used for lifting water from the wells which have been drilled this winter and spring, and more are to arrive soon.

The drilling outfit of the Andrews Artesian Well Co. came down to Jennings this week to do some work, any they seem to be well equipped for the business, and, no doubt, they can get plenty of work, for there has been plenty of it in sight until just recently. Some have given up drilling this season, owing to their financial condition being such that it would not justify them in putting down a well. Of the many wells which have been put down during the past two seasons in this section, I have not heard of any complaints of them, all seem to furnish an inexhaustible supply of water. Corn throughout the parish, looks sickly, owing to the cold late spring, and the corn planted now, will come on as soon and make better corn than the yellow crop now standing in a stunted condition.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

We have more rain to record this week. The weather, during the first of the week, was pleasant and rather dry, but towards the close of the week, it indicated rain, and it finally came in earnest, and every foot of ground is thoroughly soaked, and all farm work is at a standstill. There was a heavy fall of rain during the past twenty-four hours, and some localities are under water, but it will not be long before it runs off and work can be resumed. All those who have breaking to do, can do it now while the old land is drying off, but there is not very much ploughing to do now. There is a large acreage of rice to be sown, and those who have put off the planting of rice until now, are more fortunate than those who sowed some two or three weeks ago, for that rice is not doing very well, and the stand will be thin. Some of it has been planted in moist soil for three weeks, and it is not all up yet, and I doubt if it will come up. So much cold weather has been a drawback to the rice in the ground, but farmers hustled this work, for they were looking for a dry spell and wanted to get the rice sprouted before the dry weather set in, but many think they have missed it. Many are still waiting for the weather to become warmer before sowing, and they are wise in doing so. Several wells are now being put down near Jennings, and some of them are to be eight inches in diameter, and are to furnish water for one hundred and fifty acres of rice. That will be doing well for one well, but the parties who are putting down the wells, claim it can be done.

One farmer will put down two six-inch wells and then connect them to one pump, and some think that plan is better than one well, of larger size. But there is quite a diversity of opinions bearing upon this subject, and the matter cannot be determined until it has been tested, and it is liable to be tested this season.

If farmers were able to pay for having wells put down, there would not be very much demand for the canal water, except on the large farms, for all the small farmers are in favor of the cheaper way, and the best way. Then they are not at the mercy of any body else, and can get water when they want it, without begging for it and having to pay six dollars per acre for water. Expenses have got to be curtailed more than they have in the past, or some one is going to see hard times, unless they are clear of debt. In some of my rambles about the parish recently, I noticed some farmers sowing Japan rice which had as high as twenty kernels of wild rice in a single hand full, and still those farmers thought it would not do much harm. As long as farmers are this careless about their seed rice, they cannot expect to ever rid their fields of red rice, or hope to obtain top prices for the product from such crops, but it takes years of drilling to convince some people that they are making a mistake in farming, and some will never learn it, and will finally give up farming and say it does not pay. Farmers are now beginning to see that the freeze of the past winter did much more damage to their cane than they had any idea of, and the crop will be short in this parish this season, for there was very little planted this spring, the seed cane being nearly all frozen.

Corn is yet looking very poorly, and some farmers tell me that they will have to plant over, as the stand is so thin.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane so as to Give the Best Results in Sugar.

(A paper by Dr. W. C. STUBBS, read before the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association April 13th, 1890.)

The subject this evening is a comprehensive one and has already been covered "in extenso" in a book of over 200 pages recently published by your speaker. To this work I refer all interested for details. It is difficult to treat satisfactorily such a subject in a few pages. The questions of soils, seasons, climate, drainage, preparation of land, fertilization, irrigation, cultivation, etc., are all involved in the discussion of properly growing sugar cane.

The alluvial soils of the Mississippi and Red Rivers, with their outlying bayous, show by chemical analysis a high degree of fertility. To render this fertility available, certain physical conditions must be established. Drainage is of first importance. Few plantations are sufficiently drained. As a rule, when one thinks he is well drained, it is best to duplicate his ditches and deepen his drains.

When thorough drainage is established, then the proper preparation of the soil can be essayed with an assurance ultimately of that tilth which is absolutely necessary to wring from the soil maximum results. The physical properties of most of our soils, forbid thorough pulverization when freshly broken. Therefore deep plowing, with heavy ridding should precede planting sufficiently long to enable sunshine and showers to disintegrate thoroughly and bring a condition commonly known as "an ash bank." The "modus operandi" best suggested by extensive experiment, is to break broadcast as deeply as possible, burying pea vines or other vegetable matter growing on the soil, throw at once ridges five to seven feet wide and open the middle with a double mould plow and clean out the quarter drains. The latter should be six inches below the middle of the rows and numerous enough to convey rapidly to the ditches our heaviest rainfalls. It should be remembered that every flat surface, with an impervious subsoil, in order to be placed in a condition of the highest tilth, must be artificially constructed into hills and valleys, and the valleys must have their channels of drainage. Hence, throwing up our soils into high ridges or rows and maintaining them thus, as far as possible through all the operations of cane growing, from preparation of soil to lay-by of the crop is almost an agricultural commandment to the prosperous sugar planter upon our alluvial soils. Frequently a heavy rain falling upon the temporary beds will destroy the tilth which a previous preparation of months had secured. The reason is obvious. All plant food is elaborated by microbes which abundantly fill all fertile soils in good tilth. The existence and rapid multiplication of these microbes depend upon, (1) a thorough aeration of the soil, (2) a certain amount of heat, (3) a certain sup-

TABLE NO. 1.

KIND OF CULTIVATION.	No. stalks per acre.			Tons per acre.	Brix.	Suc.	Glu.
	What came up.	At lay-by.	At harvest.				
I. Double Horse Plow.....	23,819	39,651	28,820	39.78	15.46	12.48	1.11
II. Two Horse Plow and Disc Cultivator.....	19,572	44,562	30,853	39.51	15.12	12.31	1.05
III. Two Horse Plow, Disc and Middle Cultivator.....	19,525	48,233	21,738	42.55	15.40	12.89	.96
IV. Disc Cultivator and D. M. Plow.....	17,918	44,697	23,738	38.37	15.01	12.63	1.01
V. Disc and Middle Cultivator.....	18,316	44,310	21,130	41.20	14.88	12.17	1.01
III. compared with I.....	-2,244	+8,631	+0,909	+5.78	-.06	+.41	-.15
III. compared with II.....	-1,017	-3,721	-1,120	+3.02	+.28	+.51	-.09
III. compared with IV.....	+ 877	-3,616	+0,032	-4.19	+.39	-.21	-.10
III. compared with V.....	+ 179	-3,948	+0,603	+1.36	+.52	+.72	-.70
V. compared with I.....	-1,470	+4,694	+0,301	+4.42	-.58	-.31	-.08
V. compared with II.....	-1,226	-3,222	-0,723	+1.66	-.21	-.19	-.03
V compared with IV.....	+0,398	-0,327	-0,803	-2.83	-.13	-.15	-.02

TABLE NO. 2.

KIND OF CULTIVATION.	No. stalks per acre.			Tons per acre.	Brix.	Suc.	Glu.
	What came up.	At lay-by.	At harvest.				
I. Two Horse Plow.....	22,777	32,828	25,496	26.10	13.21	9.65	1.38
II. Two Horse Plow and Disc Cultivator.....	21,043	31,239	23,644	31.05	13.23	9.65	1.71
III. Two Horse Plow, Disc and Middle Cultivator.....	22,923	32,465	21,135	31.16	13.63	10.27	1.62
IV. Disc Cultivator and D. M. Plow.....	21,961	31,211	21,157	31.21	13.42	9.80	1.51
V. Disc and Middle Cultivator.....	22,857	31,300	25,913	33.35	13.21	9.86	1.70
V. compared with I.....	+0,030	+1,493	+432	+7.25	+.03	+.21	-.13
V. compared with II.....	+1,774	+100	721	+2.30	+.01	+.21	-.04
V. compared with III.....	-0,061	+1,944	+1,781	+2.19	-.44	-.41	-.01
V. compared with IV.....	+0,893	-1,033	+1,761	-2.11	-.13	+.03	-.11

ply of moisture, existing only as capillary water, (4) the presence of organic matter containing nitrogen, (5) the presence of a small amount of alkali, e. g., lime. Whenever a soil is flat and is flooded by water, air is excluded, capillarity is superseded by bottom water, heat is consumed in producing evaporation, and the microbes are literally killed by the million. Hence the danger always of destroying tilth by a heavy rainfall upon a flat soil, and the necessity, if maximum crops are expected, of maintaining permanent ridges throughout the year. If the preparation just described be performed in the fall or early winter, the spring will find these ridges loose, pulverable and in excellent tilth. Usually, at planting these ridges are opened with a double mould board plow, and two or more running stalks of cane deposited into this furrow and covered with a disc cultivator, plow or hoe. Two stalks of good cane have been found abundant for the thickest desirable stand, and the disc cultivator is an efficient and economical implement for covering the cane.

In the spring, in off-barring plant or stubble cane, great care should be exercised to wrap up well and high the middle, reversing now the ridges, leaving draining channels on either side of the cane or stubble. If this be carefully done, it will be found on returning the dirt to the cane that it retains its pulverable condition and excellent tilth.

Fertilizers should be applied in the open furrow and well mixed with the soil just before planting the cane, or else distributed and well mixed with the soil on either side of the cane or stubble before returning the dirt to the cane. After fertilizing and return the dirt i. e., re-establishing the original rows, by splitting out the middles, the plows should be sent to the implement room to remain until next fall or spring. Cultivators alone should be used for cultivation of the crop. The disc cultivators, so constructed as to conform to the existing ridge and yet capable of being disced so as to throw any desired dirt to the cane, are ex-

cellent implements for cane culture. These followed by middle cultivators which at one movement sweep out the middles, throwing up the dirt to the spaces removed by the disc and leaving a central furrow for drainage, give, in our experience, the most effective and economical methods of cultivation. Quarter drains should be opened directly behind plows and cultivators. The above implements will cultivate from 10 to 12 acres per day; will pulverize or keep in pulverable condition the soil, promote nitrification, conserve moisture and maintain tilth. They can be adjusted to throw any amount of dirt to the cane desired, and as lay-by approaches, the height of the ridges can be increased to any desired height. At lay-by, if the old orthodox method be followed, large lay-by discs, followed by middle cultivator with its two forward shovels, will perform work satisfactorily, I believe, to the most fastidious. The above system of cultivation appeals to the intelligent planter from almost every standpoint. It maintains tilth and avoids the barbarous practice of lacerating cane roots. It conserves moisture and promotes rapid growth. It minimizes expensive hoe labor and diminishes, by the large area cultivated daily, the cost of plow labor, permitting, if desired, (and it is always desirable), more frequent cultivations of the crop. Four years ago, comparative experiments with different methods of cultivation were begun. The first two years only two methods were adopted. First, with two-horse plow only, all through the season; second, after the middles were returned to the cane by the two-horse plow, the disc and middle cultivators only were used. Through two years plant and stubble, the latter method gave an average of over 10 tons cane and 700 lbs. sugar per acre each year over the former.

Two years ago, a large plat was laid out for cultivation experiments. Five systems were adopted. First, double horse plow. It was used alone in all the operations of cultivation. Second, the disc cultivator was used

to cultivate the upper portion of the rows while the middles were split out by the two-horse plow. Third, the two-horse plow was used to return the furrows to the cane, after a stand was secured and all subsequent cultivation performed by the disc cultivator and the middle cultivator. Fourth, the furrows were returned to the cane by double board plow, and in all the subsequent operations, the disc cultivator, followed by double mould plow were used. Five, the furrows returned to the cane with the middle cultivator and all subsequent cultures made with disc and middle cultivators.

These methods were triplicated in the plat and so arranged as to preclude any possibility of variation in the soil. There were fifteen sub-plats of from three to six rows each. To avoid any error which variation in rows in different plats might occasion, every row was separately counted, weighed and juices carefully analyzed. It would be impracticable in a short paper to give you the details of these experiments, which show a remarkable unanimity of results on every row in each set of experiments. But the average of each method is given for each year. Table No. 1 is plant cane of 1897. Table No. 2 is 1st year stubble of 1898. The plat is the sandiest on the station and was in excellent tilth both years.

The season of 1897 was almost an ideal one, giving us a large tonnage with fair sugar content. The season 1898 was execrable in every respect and cultivation experiments were not as clearly differentiated on account of excessive rains prevailing throughout the last half of the season. Yet both years were pronounced against cultivation with two-horse plow—5.78 tons in 1897 and 7.25 tons in 1898.

The use of disc cultivator with either two-horse plow or double mould board plow are great improvements over two-horse plows alone, but inferior to the use of disc and middle cultivator.

FERTILIZERS FOR CANE.

We have several times discussed fertilizers for cane before this association and have gone into minute details on this subject in a book recently published. It is therefore unnecessary to dwell upon this subject tonight. A few salient points may however be given.

Analyses conducted by our stations have shown that a ton of cane when the tops and leaves are burnt on the field, removes from the soil 3.4 lbs. nitrogen, 1.48 lbs. phosphoric acid and 2.17 lbs. potash. A crop of thirty tons will remove therefore about 102 lbs. nitrogen, 45 lbs. phosphoric acid, and 65 lbs. potash.

These ingredients are nearly supplied in 1500 lbs. cotton seed meal, using the standard analysis as a basis of calculation, viz: 7 per cent nitrogen, 3 per cent phosphoric acid and 2 per cent potash. The 1500 lbs. will therefore contain 105 lbs. nitrogen, 45 lbs. phosphoric acid and 30 lbs. potash, leaving only 35 lbs. potash to be supplied,

The above analysis shows that cane shares with other grasses, its fondness for nitrogen, and to grow maximum crops goodly quantities of this ingredient must be present. The triennial growth of cow peas, besides the many physical benefits accruing to our soils, add from 100 to 150 lbs. of nitrogen to each acre—a contribution from the air, the great reservoir of this element. They do not, nor cannot increase the supply of either phosphoric acid or potash in the soil. They may, and do perhaps, transfer these ingredients by their tap roots, from sub-soil to soil and thus increase the available supply for the cane crop, which forages mainly in the upper layers of the soil.

But if the soil be deficient in them, they must be supplied in some form of fertilizers. Knowing therefore the demands of the cane plant, it behooves us to learn how far our soils can supply them without assistance. When the sugar station was first established, a series of experiments of a permanent character was instituted, seeking a solution to the following questions: (1). Do these soils need nitrogen, phosphoric acid or potash? (2). If so, in what forms? (3). In what quantities. 24 lbs., 36 lbs. and 25 lbs. were respectively assumed as one ration of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash.

Our experiments at Kenner, covering four years, assured us that in our short and variable seasons, two rations each of above ingredients were maximum quantities which the cane plant would appropriate. Therefore, further experiments using three rations of each were abandoned on our removal to Audubon Park.

In 1890 the station was removed from Kenner to its present abode. There were selected three plats of about one acre each, of apparently uniform fertility, for replies to above questions for each ingredient. These plats were each divided into twenty sub-plats for experiments. No. 1 was dedicated to nitrogen as manures, No. 2 to phosphoric acid manures and No. 3 to potassic manures.

Every available commercial form of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash was utilized. These forms were used singly and combined in one and two rations, with two rations of the remaining two ingredients; recognizing the fact that to test the want of any soil for any one ingredient, all of the others must be present in ample quantities. Between each form or group, a check is made omitting the ingredient under test and using only the other two.

Also at regular intervals a plat was left without fertilizer of any character to test the natural need of the soil.

Since 1890 these plats have received each year the same fertilizer and will be continued indefinitely.

The average of eight years upon these soils have shown that nitrogen is the dominant ingredient in all fertilizers for cane, and that phosphoric acid in moderate quantities is also required. Potash has not been

found at all beneficial. While sulphate of ammonia has shown each year a slight superiority over the other forms of nitrogen, its high price gives no financial benefit to the planter. Cotton seed meal comes next, followed closely by dried blood, nitrate soda tankage and fish scrap, in the order named. All should be combined with available phosphates.

Of the various forms of phosphates used, the soluble gave decidedly best results, followed by slag meal, floats, bone black ground bones, &c.

A combination therefore of nitrogen and phosphoric acid in available forms is therefore best adapted to sugar cane.

The next question arises, how we shall combine them—how much of each shall we use per acre? How deep shall they be applied and how they shall be distributed in the soil.

It has been found also that but few of our seasons give us rainfalls in quantity and distribution sufficient to enable the cane to appropriate 48 pounds of nitrogen. Hence a larger quantity is excessive, and it may be a waste. It is therefore safe to recommend quantities of nitrogen varying between 24 and 48 pounds per acre for our cane crop. Again, different soils and different kinds of cane require varying quantities of nitrogen. Plant cane upon pea vine land, will not require the same amount as upon "succession" land, i. e., upon soils from which a crop of stubble cane has just been taken and which has been continuously in cane for years without the intervention of a leguminous crop to restore nitrogen. Indeed such soils are frequently in an execrable physical condition, which not only precludes the possibility of themselves furnishing plant food, but also prevents them from assimilating much of that presented in the form of commercial fertilizers. Hence the unsatisfactory results from manuring succession canes, so often experienced by planters. It is doubtful whether one-half of the plant food applied to succession canes in commercial fertilizers, is recovered in the canes in the average season.

Pea vine lands put in plant cane, on account of their excellent physical conditions, not only yield up readily the nitrogen stored up by the peas, but can also assimilate large quantities of plant food supplied as fertilizers. Hence such canes usually make large crops.

Since nitrogen is the chief ingredient taken from the soil by a crop of cane, it follows that with each successive crop of cane grown on the land, without the intervention of a restorative leguminous crop, there arises an increased demand for nitrogen. Hence stubble canes require larger quantities than plant cane, and the older the stubble, the larger its requirements for this element to make a given tonnage.

From investigations made by this station, a crop of cow peas when turned under at the proper time, will add at least 100 lbs.

of nitrogen per acre, most, if not all of which, it is believed, is gathered from the air. The average crop of plant cane grown upon pea vine land is not far from thirty tons per acre. The first year stubble following this plant, should give twenty tons per acre, and if kept for the second year stubble, a crop of at least 15 tons per acre should be obtained. The three years cropping would give 65 tons of cane which, together with tops and fodder (which are burned) would remove from the soil 221 pounds nitrogen. Of this amount, 100 pounds would be furnished by the peas, most of which go to the plant cane, leaving 121 pounds to be supplied by fertilizers in order that the soil may retain the original fertility. It will require over 1700 pounds of cotton seed meal to supply this quantity of nitrogen, or 970 pounds for first year stubble and 730 pounds for the second year stubble. These quantities are usually in excess of practice, because there is a certain amount of nitrogen furnished by the soil every year, and secondly our crops of peas give frequently larger quantities of nitrogen than given above, and, lastly, such tonnage through three years is rarely obtained. However, this will serve as an illustration of the value of nitrogen to the sugar cane crop.

It is therefore advisable to decrease the nitrogen in a fertilizer for cane upon a pea fallow and increase the phosphoric acid—a ratio of one of nitrogen to two of phosphoric acid—would best meet the requirements of cane on such land. This ratio is about obtained in a mixture of equal parts of cotton seed meal and acid phosphate.

Upon first year's stubble—succession plant and second year stubble, the nitrogen should be greatly increased. The ratio may extend from one to one, to two to one, and sometimes even three to one in order to supply the deficiencies of the soil.

Plant cane, particularly in the spring may very properly receive a portion, and the rest early in May. With fall planting, the farmer should decide upon the chances of leaching against benefits to his crop, by character of soil worked. It is safer, if not always more remunerative to apply in spring.

Stubble cane should not be fertilized till the roots from each sprout are sufficiently developed to appropriate the fertilizer. It has been found by numerous experiments at Audubon Park that fertilizers pay best by applying them all at once. Sometimes seasons occur making two or more applications slightly more profitable, but through a series of years, one application has given most satisfactory results. The depth at which fertilizers should be placed, lies between two and six inches according to soil and seasons.

Mr. J. W. Libby, of the firm of Libby & Blouin, proprietors of the Bush Grove place at Lafourche Crossing, was in town on Tuesday last.

The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane to Give the Best Results in Sugar.

(Discussion by the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association. JUDGE EMILE ROST in the chair; MR. REGINALD DYKERS at the desk.)

Chairman: Gentlemen, it was my misfortune not to be able at the last meeting to attend the election of officers, and I see by the minutes of the last meeting that I was re-elected president of this association. For this honor which you have conferred upon me I wish to tender my thanks. I am not by any means ambitious to continue in the responsible position to which I have been again elected, but as the association has thought it proper to continue me in the same office, all that I can do or say is to promise to do my best. As I have already had occasion to say, if the association finds better material for the presidency, I am always willing and ready to step down and out. I thank you.

The regular topic of discussion this evening is, "The Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane, to Give the Best Results in Sugar." The gentlemen who have prepared papers on this subject will be called upon to present and read them to the association.

Papers were presented by Mr. R. G. Comeaux, Mr. H. S. Crozier, Mr. W. L. Goldsmith and Prof. W. C. Stubbs, all of which, except Dr. Stubbs', appearing in this issue, appeared in our last week's issue; a vote of thanks being tendered the contributors by the association.

Prof. Stubbs: I want to say to Mr. Comeaux that the Experiment Station, aided by the Geological Survey of this State, has analyzed probably 150 or 200 soils, covering nearly the entire sugar belt, and we are perfectly cognizant of the composition and conditions of nearly all the sugar soils in the State.

Member: I would like to ask Prof. Stubbs if this is a good year to fertilize?

Prof. Stubbs: I would refer you to my paper. Whenever your stubble is sufficiently developed, with long rootlets to appropriate the fertilizer, and you see that you have stand enough, it is an excellent thing to do; it is an excellent idea to fertilize this year if you have a stand of cane.

Mr. Hy. McCall: I think, after hearing Prof. Stubbs' able paper, that there is really nothing for any one to say on the subject. I think Prof. Stubbs has covered the ground so thoroughly that there is really nothing to say. We might ask him some questions, but I do not know that I have anything at all to say, Mr. President.

Chair: The subject has been presented in various papers, and the matter gone over thoroughly by each. If any one present has any views to express, the chair would be glad to have them presented. Professor, I would like to ask you if dissolved bones and acid phosphate are not the same thing.

Prof. Stubbs: No, sir; dissolved bones are bones treated with acid, and contain, besides phosphoric acid, a considerable percent of nitrogen—2 to probably 3.1-2 per cent.; whereas acid phosphate is a mineral phosphate, which has been dug out of the earth—containing no organic matter or nitrogen. Dissolved bones contain nitrogen. In other words, to make myself plain: If we take a bone and burn it, we bring it down to burnt bone, and the organic matter will be destroyed; nothing will be left but what we call in chemistry tricalcic phosphate. Now, takes these bones and treat them with acid and we will get acid phosphate. Rock phosphate is nothing more

nor less than the remains of the bones of extinct animals, through a long process of time. Now, we go into these mines and dig up this rock phosphate and treat it with acid, and in this way get what we now designate as acid phosphate.

Mr. Rickey: I think the subject has been thoroughly covered by the able papers that have been presented here to-night. As many of the gentlemen present to-night know, I visited the planters many years ago, introducing commercial fertilizers. At that time I think fully 90 per cent. of all the sugar planters in the State who were using fertilizers at all used cotton seed meal only. I found in investigating the sugar district and in talking up fertilizer to the sugar planters that it was a question, as a rule, that had not been thoroughly investigated and understood. My plan at that time, and for all subsequent time, was to say to the sugar planter: Take a quantity of this fertilizer, try it and see what the result is. I pursued that plan, and induced a great many sugar planters in the State to try it; first small quantities of fertilizer, which were gradually increased—beginning with 5 tons and going up to 100 tons. I found by careful investigation, following the use of fertilizer, going into the fields with the managers, seeing the condition of the cane in different stages, in some instances taking the chemists and going into the sugar houses, and having the cane analyzed to ascertain as far as it was possible, the difference between the different kinds of cane as they were fertilized in the field. Now, my observation has been that the best results have been obtained by those planters who have taken this fertilizer and used it a succession of years. As Prof. Stubbs has told you here to-night, he has been making these experiments for eight years. I know of planters in the State who began using fertilizers and continued the use of the same fertilizer for a series of ten years. They tell me they have never changed this fertilizer, and have obtained the most satisfactory results. I believe that this is a question the sugar planters are solving and will continue to solve year after year, and that the time is coming when the sugar planters of the State of Louisiana will go to the manufacturers and say to them, "Gentlemen, we want so many units of ammonia, so many units of phosphoric acid and so many units of potash; what will it cost us?" And I believe that is the only intelligent way of getting at the fertilizers. Every sugar planter here present knows that the seasons have a great deal to do with any kind of fertilizer. I think the manufacturers propose not to dictate so much to the planter as to what they ought to use, because the planter as a rule understands his soil; knows what the different kinds of soil require, and they are perhaps the best judges. I think the proper thing for the manufacturers to do is to say to these gentlemen: "We will furnish you with just what you want."

Chair, I was going to ask you, Professor, in connection with the remarks just made, whether, in your experiments at the station, I did not understand you to say some days since that the station had never been able to present a formula which would be adopted, and which would give maximum results in sugar under all circumstances?

Prof. Stubbs: I stated to-night in my paper you cannot do it on all canes, and you cannot possibly do it in all seasons, because seasons vary; and I find, by reference to the records of our station, that where the fertilizers have been applied upon the same soil for eight years, there is a variation from 9 per cent up to 16 per cent sucrose, all by the same fertilizer, and the variation is

simply due to the difference in seasons. Therefore seasons and soils are larger factors in the production of sugar than any other. There is one thing I want to say to you; several speakers here to-night are on the right track. The sooner we can get the cane out of the soil in the spring, the sooner we can force them into vigorous growth by cultivation and a proper balanced ration, and the sooner we can force that cane on to lay by early in May, the maturer and riper will be the cane. I have laid by since I have been here in May (when ever the seasons were at all propitious), and in September it was found that the cane was ripe and mature and contained a good sugar content. The planter, therefore, can aid wonderfully in getting a large sugar content, or a better sugar content, by expediting his work; getting the soil in thorough preparation before the cane starts to grow, then fertilize properly, and force it from the word "go," so to speak, and lay by early. Cultivate carefully without rupturing the roots, and, my word for it, you will get more sugar.

Now I wish to call attention of the planters to a matter of interest to you all. One of our planters a few weeks ago bought a large quantity of cotton seed meal, and brought us a sample. It had a beautiful yellow color. He had bought it by sight, and it had every appearance of being a first-class meal. We analyzed it, and to our horror found it contained only 3 per cent of nitrogen. We re-analyzed it, and immediately posted a man off to the planter to inform him to hold off and not to buy the goods too largely, and that he should not pay for the goods until further investigation. We went to work and made a physical analysis. We separated the meal carefully, and found fifty per cent of meal and 50 percent of hulls—about half and half—and the hulls were so adroitly concealed in the meal by a process of polishing, and were pulverized with so much fineness that it required the microscope to detect it. By this work we found small reddish particles, which were so finely imbedded in the meal that they could not be detected with the naked eye. It was a yellow meal—at least had that appearance. You could not detect the imposition with the naked eye. This stuff contained one-half meal and one-half hulls. We immediately posted the planter, and he rejected and sent back from his plantation 90 odd tons. I have not been able to find out where the meal came from. It went away from Louisiana after the exposure. I mention this so that planters may be just as careful as they can possibly be. Under our fertilizing law we cannot inspect cotton seed meal. Three-quarters of the cotton seed meal in the Southern States goes out to foreign ports, to England and to the North, where it is used for food. We have no control over it under our fertilizing law whatever. We are willing to aid those who buy it if they will send us a sample. You can withhold payment until you find out whether the meal is pure or not. I have not the slightest idea where the meal we analyzed came from. This occurred two months ago.

Chair: The sample you refer to was bright yellow?

Prof. Stubbs: Just as pretty yellow as I ever saw. The cuticle had been taken off and exposed the hull of orange color inside and had been ground to a complete powder, and this was thoroughly macerated and mixed with the yellow meal. The imposition could not be detected by the naked eye, and our analysis developed that only one-half was pure meal, the other half being hulls with no nitrogen in it. If any

of the gentlemen present here to-night contemplate buying cotton seed meal, I would advise them to have analysis made first. I don't want to condemn our home product; it is as Mr. Goldsmith said here this evening, our cheapest and best form of nitrogen.

Cotton seed meal contains 7 per cent of nitrogen, 140 pounds to the ton. If you will calculate the value, estimating the nitrogen at 15 cents per pound, and multiplying 140 by 15, you will get twenty odd dollars; and yet you pay but \$16 or \$17 per ton in this country for this cheap form of nitrogen. Therefore I don't mean to say we should discontinue its use; but I mention the incident referred to, so that all who buy it may, before using it, send us a sample, and we will determine its true composition.

Mr. Goldsmith: Don't you think it would be a good idea to have cotton seed meal analyzed like other fertilizers are analyzed under the law. You can make a law to cover it.

Prof. Stubbs: This meal is not sold only as a fertilizer, but also as a food for cattle. We are feeding about 30,000 head of cattle annually in this State with cotton seed meal, and I do not believe I underestimate the number when I say this.

Mr. Goldsmith: In Georgia they have a law that requires them to analyze cotton seed meal within the State if it is sold for fertilizer.

Prof. Stubbs: I was not aware there was such a law.

Mr. Goldsmith: Yes, sir. It is a late law, however. If you will examine it you will find it. I will furnish you with a copy if you will kindly step into my office in the Liverpool and London and Globe building. Cotton seed meal, when sold for fertilizing purposes, is required to be analyzed like any other fertilizer. This is but right, proper and just, in order to guard against just such instances as you mentioned just now. Georgia has that law, and they pay as much for inspection and tagging cotton seed meal as on the commercial fertilizers. This is done now.

Prof. Stubbs: The uses of cotton seed meal are inseparable. For instance, at Calhoun we have a dairy, and I am feeding some beef cattle. I use that meal for feeding dairy cattle and for fertilizer. Whenever I want a few sacks or a ton for fertilizing purposes I use it.

Mr. Goldsmith: Don't you think the planter ought to be protected by some such law?

Prof. Stubbs: They shall be protected if they will take advantage of my offer.

Mr. Goldsmith: In buying it, you could state whether it is intended for food or as a fertilizer.

Prof. Stubbs: Take my case. I don't know what I am going to do with it; whether I am going to use it for food or as a fertilizer.

Mr. Goldsmith: Most planters buy it for planting.

Prof. Stubbs: I suppose the sugar planters do; but the day may not be far distant when some of our planters may use cotton seed meal mixed perhaps with our low grade molasses and alfalfa and other products readily grown upon this soil for fattening cattle, just as is done in the beet country, where beet pulp is a refuse product.

Mr. Goldsmith: I think it is very important, this inspection law. Every honest manufacturer will sustain it; and we think that cotton seed meal ought to be subjected to the same law as commercial fertilizer. That point was raised in Georgia. I sold fertilizer in Georgia for a long time. In Georgia

they have to say whether it is intended for food or for plant; and if for planting purposes it is subjected to the same analysis as other common fertilizers. It is nothing but right that they should do it. It is a duty the State owes to the planters and commercial fertilizer manufacturers.

Col. Zenor: Don't you think it would be a good idea to expose this transaction?

Prof. Stubbs: We intend exposing it in our regular fertilizer bulletin, giving the analysis, but we cannot find out where it came from.

Col. Zenor: This planter knows.

Prof. Stubbs: No, he bought it from a broker in this city and he refused to give the information; the broker, seeing the analysis, said it was a mistake. The meal was shipped back.

Mr. Crozier: Did you ever see cotton seed meal with rice hulls?

Prof. Stubbs: No, sir. This broker sent the cotton seed meal back to the man he got it from, and we have not been able to find out where it came from.

Chair: You spoke of the sample containing 50 percent hulls. Is it not a fact that all cotton seed meal contains a small proportion of hulls?

Prof. Stubbs: There is a probability of a few hulls being mixed with the meal, but not to speak of, unless it be caused by defective machinery; not through the culpability of the manufacturer. But when they are there through defective machinery, they are apparent to the naked eye—the little black speck will soon reveal itself to the ordinary eye. The lot that I just alluded to, however, was beautiful.

Chair: That was prepared with extra care.

Prof. Stubbs: With extra care.

Col. Zenor: And in good condition.

Mr. Crozier: Is it a fact that with the better quality of meal you get a higher percentage of moisture?

Prof. Stubbs: No, sir; not necessarily. The higher the moisture it contains probably the lower nitrogen content. The drier the meal, for instance, the higher must be its content of nitrogen. Off-colored meal is frequently higher in nitrogen than brighter meal, because in the process of fermentation some of the moisture has been driven off, and all of the remaining substances are, therefore, more concentrated. Cotton seed meal when perfectly fresh is yellow and harmless to ordinary stock, but if it be exposed for some time to the weather, it will gradually lose its yellow color and turn brown. When it begins to assume that brown color it has passed the condition where it is fit for stock feed, but is still as good as ever for fertilizing purposes. This gradual assumption of brown color is the first step towards fermentation and decay. This fermentation develops ptomaines, which may be poisonous to live stock.

Col. Richard McCall: About how high should the percentage of ammonia run?

Prof. Stubbs: Eight and one-half percent is about the best.

Col. Richard McCall: I cannot remember who offered me meal in the early part of this year. I was offered meal with a guarantee of 10 per cent. I was wondering how in the world he got 10 per cent in that meal.

Mr. Goldsmith: I want to make myself understood. I think this association at the proper time ought to insist on an inspection of cotton seed meal. We are the largest manufacturers of cotton seed meal in the State of Louisiana, and we don't fear inspection. I think cotton seed meal ought to be inspected like commercial fertilizers, and ought to be analyzed and tagged just like all fertilizers are branded with an hon-

est tag; because this imposition will be practiced on planters and every one else. In Georgia all cotton seed meal for planting purposes is tagged and analyzed just like commercial fertilizers, and the planters in Louisiana, I think, ought to insist on it here.

Prof. Stubbs: We can have city inspectors of flour, but no State inspectors. I believe this question of inspecting fertilizers, as you mention, came up before our legislature some time ago. It was there discussed at some length, and it was argued that there would be some impediment in the way because of the food value that this has. I know we cannot have a State inspector of flour; and I think we have a law in our constitution that there shall not be a State inspection of feed-stuff.

Mr. Goldsmith: I was not speaking of the local aspect.

Chair: The inspection law, as it exists in our statutes, expressly excludes cotton seed meal from the law.

Mr. Goldsmith: It was so in Georgia, but now cotton seed meal is included, as is anything else for planting—all are inspected just as are commercial fertilizers. I do not know of any local barrier in the way here. Perhaps there is; if not, cotton seed meal ought to be on the same footing as commercial fertilizers. I want to say this in justice to the manufacturers of cotton seed meal in Louisiana.

Chair: You stated this was the question during a recent session of the legislature; it was about feed. While you cannot require the inspection of analysis of cotton seed meal as a fertilizer, you can now guard against such infringements and fraud as was referred here to-night by Prof. Stubbs by submitting a sample to him, and this ought to be done.

Col. Zenor: In this connection there is something which suggests itself to my mind possibly I may call it experience. I claim to be about the first person in Louisiana to apply cotton seed to sugar and with magnificent results. This was in 1871. It came about in this way: I was working a piece of land near the village of Patterson that was so exhausted before the war; the gentleman who had been interested in it told me the land was practically good for nothing; that it would not grow corn, and he was doubtful if it would grow cow-peas. I told him I was going to plant it in cane. The New Iberia oil mill gave me some seed that was decayed (it was entirely unfit for meal), on the condition that I would pay for sacking and cost of transportation. They gave me nearly four tons. I burnt some oyster shells in a little kiln, which made doubtful lime. I took this seed, moistened it, and with this lime drove it into the furrow ahead of planting my cane. I put, I suppose, one ton of this seed to the acre. Well, sir, the results were simply magnificent. People riding along the road (this was on the Morgan road from Morgan City and Patterson), would stop and look at that cane. From the time it came out it was a great size; simply enormous. It was ground on a very inferior mill, almost worthless (I am sure I didn't get half the sugar out of it), and I got three hogsheads of 1200 pounds each to the acre. With a good mill I believe I would have gotten at least three tons. I just mention this to show what things will happen and what results can be accomplished under certain circumstances, but it evidently shows that the combination of this cotton seed and oyster shell lime was an excellent thing for cane. It was not only of enormous size, but rich in sucrose.

Col. McCall: Professor, do you think much of lime?

Prof. Stubbs: Not much on our soils. I have at the station about two acres upon which I spread between three and four hundred barrels of lime that I found on the park and that were in my way. This lime was covered up, having been a remnant left over from the exposition. It was still intact, and I spread from three to four hundred barrels upon two acres. I have worked it ever since and carefully noted the results during the past four or five years, and I do not believe it has been beneficial—no benefit was derived from it. You can still see white streaks in the land.

Col. Richard McCall: Col. Zenor speaks about an experience of his in '71. I went to Washington, in St. Landry parish, in '70. I met Mr. Morgan there, formerly from the lower coast. He had the old Over..... place. He told me if I would go over there he would show me a magnificent stand of plant cane, but what he had besides was the most gorgeous stand of cotton. He had planted live seed, and everything came up. He had a superb stand of cotton; about this high (indicating), with a gorgeous stand of cane.

Prof. Stubbs: Col. Zenor planted his cane right on this cotton seed?

Col. Richard McCall: Yes, sir.

Prof. Stubbs: You thereby enabled that cane to come out early. You made a hot-bed running underneath every row, and the fermentation produced so much heat that the cane came out early.

Col. Richard McCall: You made a remark in your paper which is a practical suggestion, and my belief is, while it may do more towards cheapening the cost of cultivation than anything else, that is, the doing away with the ordinary double moulded board plow in cultivation, so far it seems almost impossible to get any one who will propose to take that thing up practically. I believe on sandy land that thing might be done with the assistance of the double-moulded board plow in the middle; but when it comes to black soils, tough soils, I have my serious doubts whether any disc cultivator that you might send could do the work. You have worked your black soil; but your soil is entirely different from our soil. You do your work; you handle your soil just as you please. We have to work our soils in all kinds and conditions of weather; often we have to absolutely work the middles of our rows wet. We haul our cane out, as much as ten thousand tons; drag it out in wet weather. What was the result? You could not get the plows to go down. You have to cut, and what you fail to cut with your four-horse plow, we have to cut, according to your theory, with the disc, that is sliding—with a sliding motion. I claim you cannot do it on black land.

Prof. Stubbs: I don't exactly do away with the disc cultivator.

Col. Richard McCall: No, but I say I do not believe it is feasible on our black, stiff lands to do so. If you will take a piece of land and prepare your soil to a point of cultivation, possibly the disc cultivator could work and will scrape this loose earth towards the cane, but when it comes to cutting it and moving it, I don't believe I can do it.

Prof. Stubbs: I don't understand your argument. I don't propose to use the disc cultivator until after you split out the middles and have thrown everything back to the cane and started to cultivate.

Col. Richard McCall: But you have to keep down in the middle to get there.

Prof. Stubbs: We cultivate with the middle cultivator, which is entirely different. It has five teeth, and with it I can go as deep as you can with the double moulded board plow. If I cannot do it with two

horses, why, I take four; but I can put in four mules with these middle cultivators and can just tear up any soil.

Col. Richard McCall: Then what is the advantage of your middle cultivator over the plow?

Prof. Stubbs: As it passes along it pulverizes the soil and leaves a pulverable surface, whereas the other throws the dirt up in flakes—the cultivator I speak of tears it. You must not expect to get your land in tith after you start cultivation; that ought to be done previous to your starting. As I remarked, a planter ought to put his soil in good tith before starting to cultivate. I have forty-five acres under cultivation with diversified crops. Besides sugar cane, corn and sorghum, I have four or five acres in garden crops. I have four mules and three negroes. I believe my cultivation, with my limited force, is as difficult as yours; and what I can do, you can do. I believe you can do it, because, when you compare your force of men and your mules with mine, in proportion to the acreage, you will find you are just about as I am. Now I don't want you to take my word for it—if you will let Mr. Mallon put in these machines and start with you, and get them adapted to your wants, I believe you will be pleased with them. Six years ago Mr. Mallon came up to the station and wanted me to try his cultivator on some of our soil, but I refused, thinking it would not cultivate properly our cane. He then asked if I would give him an extra patch. I assigned to him an acre and told him to go ahead; at the end of the year his acre was a long ways ahead of mine.

Since that time I have been cultivating continuously cane and other crops on the station, using the disc cultivator for straddling the rows and throwing the dirt to the cane, and the middle cultivator for splitting out the middles, both being drawn by two mules. I do not use the plow in cultivation.

Mr. John Dymond: I can say little concerning the matter. I rather thought that the scientists would get away from us, but it seems not. I shall drop back to the original text—the best method of cultivating cane, as well as fertilizing it. It seems to me that perhaps the most important paper of the evening was that of Mr. Comeaux, which dealt with the cultivation of cane. I was quite interested in it, particularly in the remark he made concerning leaving cane on the bar furrow until the stand had developed. Some ten years ago, when I first visited Donaldsonville, I met the senior Mr. Hanson, who was discussing the stand of cane on the lower coast, and he remarked that in the Parish of Ascension they were in the habit of barring off, and throwing back some three or four times. Col. Richard McCall, in discussing the matter, has stated that some of his friends bar the cane off, and leave the cane on the bar furrow as Mr. Comeaux suggests. Mr. Comeaux has, in his remarks on the early culture of cane, touched on a vital point, and one that is not very well understood. Mr. Cage, in the Parish of Terrebonne, in one of his articles to the Planter, claims it is dangerous to leave stubble—or plant cane on the bar furrow, especially this season, and if left in that condition it is liable to die from the effects of the drought. Mr. Theodore Wilkinson told me some years ago that he had never known stubble cane to be injured by exposure in the spring, but that plant cane in stiff lands, was liable to die out in that way. I was told only yesterday by a colored man, who is a success as a planter, that he was going to bar off his stubble now and that he was going to throw the earth right back. He argued he would get his stand cane more quickly by throwing back the

earth at once. This is in black land, where the cane has not yet appeared. In light, sandy lands, if you leave much earth to the cane, it will never come up. I think I heard Dr. Stubbs say within a week—he or some one else—that canes had developed eyes after lying in the ground one year. Just so with canes in sandy land—they will not germinate if you leave much earth about them. This question of leaving cane on the bar furrow ought to be better understood than it is now. Only a month ago we were told we were going to ruin our crops if we let them stand so. This feature has not been discussed to-night except in Mr. Comeaux's paper.

Col. McCall: It ought not to remain very long on the bar.

Mr. Dymond: I thought perhaps Mr. Comeaux had in view some particular land, based upon his own experience—black lands or mixed lands. I have a certain piece of land on the Belair plantation that the overseer told me thirty years ago would not grow sugar cane, because it was composed of nearly all river sand and contained no fertility. That land to-day is in first stubble and is making the best start of any. We dig the stubble by hand and the rows now are all marked. We had never gotten stands of canes there because the land was so friable that the canes when planted were covered too deeply. We never uncover the canes. After having imperfect crops there for many years, I learned we should scrape our canes in sandy land until the canes were cut by the hoe, and since I have been doing that, we find that we always get a stand of cane in this land. That has led me to make this remark of how such earth will maintain life in these sandy lands. After some desultory remarks the discussion closed

Talmage on the Rice Market.

There has been unusually light call during the past week locally and from the region roundabout of which this is the trade center. With evidence from every quarter showing general prosperity, the question naturally arises, "what's the matter", and to this query comes the universal answer, "roads almost impassable and trade well nigh impossible." It's here to be done; only deferred. Fortunately for the market the lack in this immediate locality has been nearly made up by the suddenly enlarged demand from the South and extreme West. Spite the heavy freights, the chief business has been in the superfine qualities—Patna, Japan and a special Foreign import grown from Gold Seed Carolina, which corresponds exactly to choicest of the home product raised from seed named. Advices from the South note good disposition toward trade, but increasing difficulty to meet same on account of narrowing assortments. Holders are quite indifferent, knowing full well that the stock in hand is short of local requirements and its marketing therefore assured at present and probably enhancing values long before new crop can be reached. Cables and correspondence from abroad note free arrivals and liberal quantity en route of all far eastern new crops. The markets, however, are in good shape and maintain previous firm front as most of the receipts are under contract and long since disposed of. The surplus or spot stock as heretofore, is light at all

points, and no accumulation being made whereby to bring them up to normal quantity.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 691,530 sacks; last year, (inclusive of amount carried over), 510,575 sacks. Sales, cleaned, (est), 168,227 barrels; last year, 110,250 barrels. Steady demand at former range.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 36,285 barrels. Sales, 32,190 barrels. Good enquiry at full recent quotations Market firm, with upward tendency.

Trade Notes.

Rope Power Transmission.

We have recently had our attention called to a new and novel method of transmitting power by means of manila rope, grooved iron sheaves and tension carriage. Manufacturers say it is rapidly displacing leather and rubber belts, where they are run at high speed, or the amount of power to be transmitted is considerable. They also claim that in a rope drive the quantity of power transmitted is far more independent of the tension, for the adhesion is attained by the wedging of the rope into a "v" shaped groove, any tendency to slipping merely driving the rope tighter into the groove. Further than this, in the very nature of the winding of a rope drive, the tension carriage, under every condition of weather, no matter how continuous the service, will maintain exactly the same tension at all times on any strand of the drive.

Besides this, the evenness of the tension permits the transmission of large amount of power, with very short centers, and but little space on the shafts. Power may be carried to almost any distance, around corners, over any obstacle, under-ground, anywhere in fact, and it is altogether unnecessary to have the driving and driven shafts in line.

Manila rope will transmit power equally well though exposed to any conditions of weather—out of doors, snow, rain, steam, etc., have no effect in changing the tension or the grip of the ropes; and under no condition is there any slippage possible, the movement being almost as positive as toothed gearing, without the inherent objections to the latter.

An admirable illustration of what can be accomplished in this line was shown last season on the "Myrtle Grove" plantation, of Hon. T. S. Wilkinson. Mr. Wilkinson had a Corliss Engine, with a great deal more power than was necessary to operate his mill; so he conceived the idea of doing away with the crusher engine, and transmitting power direct to the crusher from the mill engine shaft.

This was accomplished by means of a manila rope transmission, designed and furnished by the Link-Belt Machinery Company, of this city. It being the first drive of the kind ever put in for this purpose,

there was more or less speculation on the part of mill crusher and engine manufacturers, as to whether it would work or not; and if so, whether it would be altogether desirable. The Link-Belt people say Mr. Wilkinson informs them that the results were very gratifying, and that it was satisfactory to him in every respect.

The Link-Belt people have recently designed and contracted to furnish a similar drive to the Adeline Sugar Factory Company, Ltd. They are also furnishing them a quarter twist rope drive for their drainage plant. They are also furnishing manila rope drives for drainage plants at Magnolia and Raceland plantations; and have orders for about twenty drives in western Louisiana among rice planters, for driving irrigating pumps.

Personal.

Mr. S. M. Mayer was the manager of the Island of Cuba plantation this past season and is evidently a man of the highest ability in all matters pertaining to a sugar plantation. Mr. Mayer is also interested in the Cedar Grove plantation of Landry and Mayer on Bayou Lafourche, a piece of sugar property which is being finely developed.

Mr. Frank A. Monroe, Jr., a son of the distinguished justice of the Supreme Court, was the head chemist this past campaign in the finely equipped laboratory of Messrs. E. & J. Kock, on their Belle Alliance plantation. Mr. Monroe is a graduate of the sugar school department at the Tulane University, over which Dr. L. W. Wilkinson so ably presides. He was assisted in the chemical work of the house by Mr. B. Lestrappes. The old reliable J. C. Riley was the engineer again at Belle Alliance, and he is evidently the right man in the right place.

Dr. E. J. Sanders, of St. Mary parish, was among the recent visitors to the city. Dr. Sanders put up at his usual abiding place, the St. Charles Hotel.

Mr. Thomas Butler, a leading citizen of St. Francisville, La., was a recent arrival at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. G. E. Gillis, manager of the Poydras plantation of the Poydras Planting and Manufacturing Co., on the Lower Coast, was in the city last Wednesday.

That estimable lady, Mrs. John Vegas, of St. James parish, was a visitor to New Orleans during the past week and took apartments at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. T. H. Benners, of Birmingham, one of the high officials of that splendid and rapidly growing concern, the Birmingham Machine and Foundry Co., was a guest of the Grunewald on Wednesday last.

Mr. Harry Rollins, who has been assistant superintendent at the Adeline Central Factory of Messrs. Oxnard & Sprague, has accepted a position with the Oxnards at Oxnard, Cal., in their great beet sugar house. Mr. Rollins left for his new field of labor on the 21st inst.

APR. 21.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

RICE.	April 15.	April 17.	April 18.	April 19.	April 20.	April 21.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.	
	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal			
ROUGH, per bbl...	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	2 25 @ 4 75	Dull.	
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	5 1/2 @ 6 1/8		
Fancy	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/2 @ 5 1/2		
Choice	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	5 @ 5 1/4		
Prime	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 3/4 @ 5		
Good	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/8		
Fair	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	4 @ 4 1/4		
Ordinary	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	3 1/2 @ 4		
Common	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	— @ —		
Screenings	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	2 3/4 @ 3		
Inferior	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	2 @ 2 1/2		
No. 2	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	10 00 @ 10 50		
BRAN, per ton	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	— @ —		Steady.
POLISH, per ton									

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending April 21, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to April 21, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUN.	BBL. CLEAN.	This year	Last year	SACKS ROUN.	BBL. CLEAN
Received	1,838	167	678,585	6,119		
Sold	2,537	1,319	451,586	6,410		

Sugar.

The local sugar market was steady and firm at the end of the week. The demand was amply sufficient to absorb the rather light arrivals.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals quiet.

Rice.

Rough rice was dull at the end of the week, and business was confined almost entirely to the lower grades. Receipts were meagre. Clean rice was steady and in good demand, but offerings were restricted.

Sugar in London.

The raw market opened after the holidays with a very firm tone, and, with only occasional weakness, prices have risen almost uninterruptedly. The advance in values in America is understood to be the reason of the improvement here, and as Continental holders show little disposition to accept the higher prices now obtainable a further rise may take place. At the same time it will be as well to remember that some difficulty has been experienced hitherto this season in maintaining the price of 88 per cent. Beet when it has exceeded 10s per cwt., and as it is now well above that figure, some slight set back may occur but that present values will be maintained throughout this season is generally believed. The fact that the sowings of the next beet crop will probably be from 5 per cent to 7 1/2 per cent larger than last year has had no effect on the market on this occasion, and, with bad accounts from Cuba as to the present and the following crop or crops, there is apparently no likelihood of too much sugar for some time. As regards cane sugar it is almost impossible to obtain useful refining kinds, but the supply of grocery crystallized raws has received considerable additions within the last few days. Larger offerings may, therefore, be expected, but unfortunately a

THE CUBAN SUGAR CROP OF 1898-99.

Statement of the Exports and Stocks of Sugar March 31, 1899, and same date last year.

	1898.			1899.		
	Bags.	Hogsheads	Tons.	Bags.	Hogsheads	Tons.
EXPORTS.						
Havana	37,383	....	....	53,558	....	....
Matanzas	149,432	....	....	130,800	....	....
Cardenas	180,200	....	....	122,538	....	....
Cienfuegos	323,861	....	....	185,084	....	....
Sagua	41,440	....	....	18,955	....	....
Caibarien	....	....	....	25,730	....	....
Guantanamo	1,500	....	....	21,622	....	....
Cuba	....	....	....	....	....	....
Manzanillo	....	....	....	10,390	....	....
Nuevitas	....	....	....	....	....	....
Gibara	....	....	....	16,275	....	....
Zaza	....	....	....	....	....	....
Trinidad	27,015	....	....	10,073	....	....
	765,891	....	105,994	595,655	....	82,484
STOCKS.						
Havana	89,344	....	....	99,520	....	....
Matanzas	292,539	....	....	125,941	....	....
Cardenas	251,258	....	....	188,568	....	....
Cienfuegos	95,670	....	....	94,477	....	....
Sagua	48,015	....	....	40,094	....	....
Caibarien	50,538	....	....	35,163	....	....
Guantanamo	9,147	....	....	36,500	....	....
Cuba	....	....	....	1,941	....	....
Manzanillo	....	....	....	16,770	....	....
Nuevitas	....	....	....	12,551	....	....
Gibara	....	....	....	2,810	....	....
Zaza	....	....	....	....	....	....
Trinidad	3,515	....	....	7,050	....	....
	840,021	....	116,253	641,688	....	89,605

Local consumption, 3 months	222,247	11,800	171,239
	233,547	1,515	182,279
Stock of old crop, January 1	232,032	....	4,336
Receipts at all ports to March 31	....	....	177,903
NOTE—Bags, 310 lbs. Hogsheads, 1,560 lbs. Tons, 2,240 lbs.			
Havana, March 31, 1899.			
JOAQUIN GUMA.			

great deal of the sugar is distinctly lacking the qualities required for the London market, while the relatively high values obtainable continue to be a great hindrance to the free sale of these kinds. The imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 6th inst. amounted to 1,988 tons, and for this year to 10,046 tons against 6,649 tons in 1898.—Produce Market Review, April 8.

Sugar in London.

Considering the usual interruption to business, owing to Easter, the market has shown surprising firmness, and any slight reduction in the value of beet is immediately followed by a recovery. The falling off in the imports of raw sugar (principally beet) to this country is seen in the published figures, the de-

ficit since January 1st amounting to 28,000 tons, while refined sugar shows an increase of 23,000 tons. This is a strong proof of the tendency to make less 88 per cent beet, and of unfortunately thus adding to the present difficulties of the British refiners. The American markets have been quiet in tone like our own, but values have been maintained, and, owing to lighter imports, no material increase has taken place in their stocks. No public sales have been held this week, nor will they be resumed until April 7th, and, privately, business in Cane kinds has been restricted to a few lots of crystallized raw sugars. The imports of these descriptions to London for the week ending 30th March amounted to 2,060 tons, and for this year to 8,058 tons against 5,805 tons in 1898.—Produce Market Review, April 1.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 references. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LELER, care M. E. Sepp, 2583 8th Avenue, New York. 4-14-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-13-99

WANTED—Position by an experienced young man as book-keeper, stenographer, or both; address X. Y. Z., care this office. 4-15-99

WANTED—Position as assistant overseer on a Louisiana sugar plantation, by young man who has had experience as a planter in field and factory in the West Indies; salary no object; address MOURANT, Burnside P. O., Ascension Parish, La. 4-14-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—Position as blacksmith by a middle-aged man of 19 years practical experience on large sugar plantations in Louisiana; good references. T. P. DAKIN, Gibson, La. 4-19-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 423 to 436 South Peters st. 4-13-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartartia, Texas. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class references, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gillis of Poydras plantation, and others; address MRS. S. TERRELL, 2221 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, around machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or assistant time keeper. "Geo.", care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, Thibodaux, La. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 483, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Thoroughly competent machinist, with several years experience in leading railroad shops, wants work in repairing locomotive engines on sugar plantations. Will work by the day or by contract. He is a practical locomotive engineer and has had experience in repairing and running sugar house machinery. Address W. L., No. 1048 Magazine street, New Orleans.

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fietel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHIEF ENGINEER, Lutocher, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give A 1 references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STRICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-23-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a you g man 25 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 108, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La.

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 2-21-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A 1 references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3418 Constance street, New Orleans. 2-22-99

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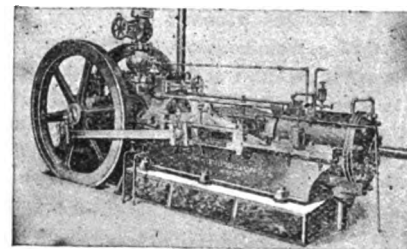
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Gentlemen—I take pleasure in stating that the two carrier feeders which you furnished me have given perfect and entire satisfaction this past season. They saved me not less than \$25 in 24 hours, and for the next crop I expect that they will save me not less than \$36 per 24 hours, as I expect to grind 800 tons every 24 hours, whereas the last crop I only ground 600 tons. Yours truly, ADRIEN GONSOULIN.

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

Vol. XXII.

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No. 17.

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AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

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Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
Kansas Sugar Growers' Association,
Texas Sugar Planters' Association.*

Published at New Orleans, La., every Saturday Morning

BY THE

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the Sugar Industry in particular, and in all its
branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chem-
ical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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The Sugar Cane and Its Cultivation, by Wilhelm Kruger, Ph. D.

We have received a handsomely bound copy of a work recently published by Wilh. Kruger, Ph. D., superintendent of the Bacteriological Division of the Agricultural and Chemical Experiment Station, Halle, A. S., Schallehn & Wollbruck, publishers, Madgeburg and Vienna, price 30 M. The book is entitled "The Sugar Cane and its Cultivation, with Particular regard to the Conditions and Investigations in Java." The contents of this book indicate its character. It opens by giving the general literature upon sugar cane, and also mentions the institutions giving instruction in the culture and manufacture of sugar-cane and its products. Among these the author mentions the Louisiana Sugar Experiment Station, and the Audubon Sugar School of the State University at Baton Rouge. He also mentions this paper as one of the weekly periodicals giving valuable information in regard to the culture and manufacture of sugar-cane and its products.

The first chapter discusses the position of sugar cane in the plant system, giving a large number of species with numerous varieties; and while we regard the discussion of these numerous species as being more scientific than practical yet it is interesting and instructive to see the manner in which it has been done. The second chapter treats of the structure, development and physiology of the cane and gives a clear insight into the manner in which cane grows and develops. The third chapter discusses the habitat of sugar-cane, and the cultivated varieties derived from the wild kind. The fourth chapter gives a history of the cane and its preparation into sugar from the earliest times down to the present day. The fifth chapter deals exclusively with the history and cultivation of the sugar-cane in Java.

In this chapter we find a discussion of the varieties, so-called, of the cultivated cane and those grown in different countries of the world, and at the same time those found adapted to the seasons in Java. The seventh chapter gives the chemical composition of the sugar-cane, with different kinds of fertilizers. The eighth chapter discusses the requisite climate conditions, and the ninth chapter the soils best adapted for cane cultivation. The tenth chapter gives the cultivation and preparation of the soil. Chapter eleven is devoted to the fertilization of cane as practiced in different parts of the world with experiments with different kinds of fertilizers. The rotation of crops is treated extensively in the twelfth chapter; while the selection and handling of seed cane constitute the subject matter of chapter 13. The proper methods of planting and cultivation, are subjects for the fourteenth and fifteenth chapters; while the enemies and diseases of the sugar-cane form the subject of the extensive chapter sixteen. Harvesting the cane, the tonnage, the cost of cultivating it, the cost of manufacturing cane-sugar and the world's production of sugar and list of sugar-producing countries, are treated of in the concluding chapters. The book is extremely full of information, and is well written.

In the first chapter we find twelve distinct species, giving Saccharum Officinarum, one to which we have been in the habit of referring in the canes cultivated in this country. He claims it was not found wild, its original habitat being Cochin China, Malay Archipelago or Bengal, and they have separate varieties of these species. Of the canes cultivated in Java he thinks that they belong to the following species, Saccharum Spontaneum (L), Saccharum Soltwedeli (Kobus), and Saccharum Officinarum (L). He says that canes closely related to the cultivated canes of the

country are found even in the Pacific Islands, while their original home was doubtless in the region of the Ganges delta. He further gives the history of the cultivation of the cane and the simple methods originally pursued of preparing sugar, and claims that in the early stages the fermentation of the juices and the preparation of effervescing beverages were more the object of the producers of cane than the production of sugar therefrom. He alludes to a knowledge of sugar-cane by the ancient Greeks, Romans, Phoenicians, Egyptians and Jews. He traces the growth of sugar cane and sugar in Persia, and claims that it was at one time largely used as a medicine by Persian physicians. He also follows its developments in Arabia, Egypt, and its general distribution into Africa and Europe, Babylon, Cairo, Nubia, Morocco, Italy, Sicily, Andalusia, Granada, Valencia, Madagascar, Sokotra, Zanzibar, Bourbon, etc. He traces sugar-cane and sugar during the middle ages of Europe and then takes up its cultivation in Asia, China, Japan and the Archipelagos, then its cultivation in Manila, Formosa, Cochinchina, Java and Hawaii. He then follows it into the New World, and claims Columbus brought it from the Canaries to St. Domingo, Cuba, Mexico, South America and Paraguay.

The history of the cane in Java is an interesting one. It was first introduced by the government in partnership with the natives. The first vacuum pan was introduced into Java at Probolinggo in 1836, and an experiment station was founded in West Java in 1886, one year after the establishment of the one in Louisiana. Another was established in East Java in 1887. In 1893 there was formed a syndicate of the sugar manufacturers of Java.

In describing the so-called varieties, he gives different methods of variation, color, size and form of internodes, nodes and the formation of eyes, smooth or hairy stalks, form, buds, etc., botanical characteristics of flower, stalks and blossoms, suckering, chemical constitution, and then with these characteristics he differentiates them into the varieties found throughout the world. The va-

rieties most cultivated in Java are the Cheribon, Djapara, Tangerang, Lozier, Red Fiji, and in the West Indies, Bourbon, in Porto Rico the Crystallina, in Brazil the Cayanna and Otaheite, and in Louisiana the Red Ribbon and Purple, in Mauritius and Reunion, the Bourbon, Bamboo, Mackay and Lozier, in Australia the Bourbon, and in the Sandwich Islands the Lahaina and Rose Bamboo. The chemical constituents of the cane are given in detail.

Under the preparation of soil for cane culture he emphasizes drainage, good roads, and mentions the fact that steam plowing is largely in vogue in Java; tile draining is not practicable, while irrigation is performed in some parts of the Island with success. He gives the manurial constituents of sugar-cane and the fertilizer found adapted to the same, and gives the natural sources of fertilizers in Java, viz: peanut oil cake, bat guano, residues from indigo factories, leguminous crops. He also discusses the methods of applying fertilizers, the benefits derived therefrom, and when to apply them, with quantities per acre. He gives the following as an excellent rotation for the sugar-cane in Java—sugar-cane, leguminous crop, rice, leguminous crop, rice, sugar-cane.

He further discusses seedlings and the method of their selection, how to germinate the seed and the successful method of cultivating the seedlings. He also refers to the method of planting the bottom, middle and tops of ordinary cane, width of rows, quantity of seed-cane per acre, depth of planting, and care and cultivation during the growth, laying by the cane, protection against external damage, winds, animals, etc. Removal of trash from the cane, and influence of light in ripening the cane are all thoroughly discussed. Among the enemies of the cane he mentions rats and cattle and of diseases those chiefly of the fungus order of plant life. Under the head of harvesting cane he discusses the ripeness of the cane, how it shall be cut, cost of cultivation, cost of producing sugar, and the world's production of sugar. The book is extremely valuable, is written in German, handsomely bound, and excellently illustrated with colored plates.

John C. Riley.

This gentleman died in this city on the 8th inst. and in his death the sugar industry of Louisiana has lost one of its brightest lights. Mr. Riley was one of the most unassuming gentlemen connected with the sugar industry of this State, and yet one of the most thorough and accomplished engineers in the profession. For a considerable time Mr. Riley was chief engineer of the Belle Alliance plantation on Bayou Lafourche, belonging to Messrs. E. & J. Kock, and in the immense sugar factory on that large plantation he had a fine field for the development of his progressive ideas, realizing as he did finally his great professional ambition in making the Belle Alliance sugar-house one of the largest, best and most economical sugar-houses in the State. Mr. Riley always had a thorough comprehension of the mechanical problems that were presented to him for solution and he approached them with that breadth of thought and careful research and long experience that insured success wherever success was possible.

The writer of these lines first met Mr. Riley in the Belle Alliance sugar-house and became there interested and surprised at the extent of Mr. Riley's learning and ability in sugar engineering, and desires to contribute these few lines to the memory of one to whom our industry owes a great deal.

Anthrax in Delaware.

A recent bulletin from the Delaware College Experiment Station gives some data concerning the study of anthrax, or charbon, in that institution. It seems that the sewage from the morocco shops carries the anthrax spores into the Delaware river. Seven meadows belonging to as many different farms were watered by a stream into which some of this sewage had been allowed to flow, and in 1897 anthrax killed milk cows which were pastured upon five of these meadows. Vaccination was practiced upon several of the properties after the attention of the State agricultural authorities had been drawn thereto, and where this was done no deaths followed, while a new tenant, unfamiliar

with the surroundings, and unwilling to take such precautions, lost four cows in rapid succession and later on lost four more. A careful diagnosis revealed anthrax in each instance. The herd of about ten head of cows was then removed from the suspected meadow and they were then vaccinated, finally a colt was left behind, which subsequently died from anthrax.

The whole situation was of such gravity that after consultation with the veterinarian and director of the experiment station, a would-be purchaser of this property, was advised to complete the purchase on the following conditions:

First. That for a few years to come he shall cause the vaccination of his milch cows to be made each spring prior to pasturing on his meadow.

Second. That he shall cause an immediate investigation in case of sudden and not clearly explained cases of death of live stock.

Third. That he shall not pasture high-priced horses upon his lowlands unless, with the consent of their owners, they have been subjected to relatively recent vaccination.

Efforts are also making to insure the protection of the country by sterilizing the wastes from the morocco shops and from the woolen mills using imported wool. A cargo of hides imported from Singapore carried the anthrax into a Pennsylvania valley. So much is done in Delaware in the way of manufactures of morocco and kid leather that the question presented is a very serious one and hence the necessity of urgent action to prevent the dissemination of this virulent disease.

The Cane Crop.

The past week has brought us excellent weather for aiding crop development and the effect of it is readily apparent in all sections of the sugar belt. The planters of the upper tier of parishes which were so severely hit by the freeze, and where the crop was at one time thought to be almost completely ruined, are now particularly loud in their expressions of qualification regarding the way the canes are coming up. Instead of an entire failure it now seems probable that a half crop, or thereabouts, will be made in those parishes, and the state, as a whole, should make two-thirds and perhaps the three-fourths' crop which we predicted the week after the freeze.

Cane Growing for Central Factories.

(Read before the Central Louisiana Agricultural Society by N. S. DOUGHERTY, Esq.)

The first requisite for successful cane culture is good drainage, and on our hill lands this is quite as important as on the alluvial lands, on account of the impervious nature of the soil and the consequent large percentage of the rainfall which must be disposed of as surface water. The system of drainage must be open ditches, as we look upon tile drainage in Louisiana yet as an experiment, on account of the silt deposited in the tile, and because of the excessive rainfall at times, which must be disposed of as soon as possible. Imperfect drainage is a source of loss that is not properly estimated, nor can the benefits of perfect drainage be over-estimated.

There will scarcely be a cut in any field a rainy season that will not reveal a poor crop if the drainage is at all defective. Cultivation is retarded, the full benefit of fertilizing is not received, water standing in puddles stops up subdrains and excludes air from the earth—in fact, arrests the entire chemical process of elaborating plant food from the food elements found in the soil. These are some of the most important reasons why lands should be well drained. Others are preservation of stubble and fall plant cane and the keeping of the cane seed in windrow. Since it is known we have very heavy rains, and it is important to get the water off soon after it falls, it will be plain we must have open ditches, deep and large, with a continuous fall to the canals, and both unobstructed.

I have used in some cuts plowed ditches and, where carefully made, work well; but, as with open ditches, they require constant attention to keep them free from weeds and grass and deposits below where the quarter drains discharge. The quarter drains should be put in wherever required and kept open at all times, and must be six inches below the bottom of the middle of the row, and the eyes of the rows open. In the spring of the year this is probably the most important point in securing good stands.

In all bottoms or low places in the field it will be seen imperfect stands prevail if the quarter drains are not properly placed and kept open. If the above rules are observed good drainage will be obtained.

The land is now broken with two-mule plows, the rows being thrown in beds six feet apart. This distance suits all implements used in the cultivation; gives room for two large mules in the row to plow. The drill for seed is opened in this bed, going down nearly as low as the middles. This done by two furrows of the plow and one furrow of a fluke, the seed is put in, two canes and a lap of six inches, always having the top laps on the butts. Fall and spring planting are the same in this particular, and good seed presumed. The seed is covered by running over the row with one of the revolving disc cultivators. In the fall three

to four inches of soil is best, and if the earth is cloddy a roller is run over the row to press the earth, thus preventing dry rot. In the spring one to two inches of loose, well pulverized soil is about right, and no rolling is required, unless the land is very rough. The work of covering is finished by having the hand-hoes go over and cover places that have been omitted by the machine. I prefer covering cane with this machine to plows, because it throws a more uniform quantity of pulverized soil and it does the work at one-half the cost; and it lifts up the earth and drops it in the row, while the plow pushes it in and often crowds the cane too close together. The machine fills up the trench and leaves the row a little pointed to shed water in case of very heavy rains. If the seed is defective the farmer must use his own judgment in trying to get in sufficient to secure a good stand. The stand should be about one cane per foot when it first comes up, and if it suckers well, two or three per foot should be harvested. That means a row of three acres in length will have from 1,260 to 1,890 well developed canes on it. It is well to mention here the great importance of securing a good stand of plant cane, it being its nature to grow best when thick, and because the stubbles are to be cultivated the coming year.

A good stand can be cultivated for less than a poor one. Fertilizing, which is now generally done, costs as much for an imperfect stand as for a perfect one. As before stated, good drainage is absolutely necessary to accomplish this. I have made some repetition in relation to these two important points—good stands and perfect drainage; but the great importance of the first and the imperative necessity of the latter are sufficient justification for it. The cultivation will be commenced by bedding up the middle with two-mule plows, and if the cane has been planted in the fall and covered very heavily, a stubble shaver can be run over the row to take off the top soil. The hand hoe is now expected to remove the soil to within one inch of the seed, so that the sun may warm up the eyes and cause germination. This work is done early in the spring, but after danger of frost is supposed to be over. As our seasons are short, it is desirable that the cane may attain a good growth for an early lay-by. The stubble cane should have the middle bedded, the same as plant cane, and the shaver run over the rows, cutting off the first two inches of the stubble and leaving the row fresh and clean. The stubble-digger is now used, going over the shaved stubble twice to the row, pulverizing the earth completely, and letting light and air penetrate to the dormant eyes, thus warming them into early and vigorous growth.

From this point the cultivation and fertilization of stubble cane is the same as plant cane.

FERTILIZING.

Now is the time to apply fertilizer, the object being to obtain maximum tonnage with maximum sugar content. The sacrifice of sugar for excessive tonnage will give the factory just cause to look with suspicion on your cane. The time to apply, and the kind and quality, are questions which each planter will determine according to the requirements of his soil. I recommend applying the fertilizer in one application, at the first working, for several reasons. It will furnish food for the young roots and force a rapid growth, an early suckering, and when the fertilizer is exhausted the cane will ripen, if favorable weather prevails. That which has given me best results has been, 200 pounds of cotton seed meal and 200 pounds of acid phosphate per acre for plant cane; and 300 pounds of cotton seed meal and 100 pounds of acid phosphate for stubble. Every planter can determine the quality of his fertilizer by submitting a sample to the state chemist for analysis, which is done free of charge. I mention this, because it sometimes happens that the use of fertilizers does not give satisfactory results, and this analysis will determine whether or not the fertilizer is the fault. It must be understood that no plant can use fertilizer in the shape in which it is put on the ground. It is necessary to have moisture and good tilage to properly prepare it for plant food. Should these conditions be absent, unsatisfactory results must be the consequence. On our hill lands, after heavy rains, the soil bakes and becomes very hard, forming a crust on the top. This condition checks all chemical operations which may have been commenced for producing plant food, from the fertilizer. As soon as the condition of the soil will permit, this top crust should be broken and the soil left well pulverized. Strong, rich lands will utilize heavier applications of fertilizer than poor lands, and for this reason it is very desirable before planting cane on poor soils to rotate them for two years in corn and peas. With appropriate fertilizer, should the peas be turned under in the fall while the vines are yet green, an excellent crop of cane will be obtained.

As some of the farmers in our section are anticipating planting cane on lands that have been previously planted in cotton, I will say that the fertilizer recommended for plant cane has given the very best results obtained by me in the past five years on my cotton lands—both tonnage and sugar content being considered. We now have the middles bedded and the fertilizer put out on the cane. The latter operation is done by a machine that will do over eight to twelve acres per day, and is operated by two mules and one man. The next work the plant receives is to plow out the middles, but not putting any dirt in the drill, only throwing furrows from the plow alongside the row. The cane now, if good growth has been obtained, should be from ten inches to a foot

high, and will begin suckering. This is a natural function of the plant and will, under favorable weather conditions, be very rapidly brought out, and good growth continue. But often this state of the plant growth comes during a dry spell, and suckering is retarded, and in extreme cases it is prevented until the necessary conditions are present.

Some planters claim to be able to promote suckering by cultivation. For example: To force the plant which has come up to suffer for dirt, to give it too much dirt, or to off-bar very close, giving a severe root pruning. Some propose one plan, and others a different one. How successful these methods are, or which is the proper one, I am unable to say, but I recommend keeping the plant in a vigorous state of growth. I know that some seasons I have harvested cane which had suckered much more than others, and I attribute the reason for not suckering to the lack of fertility and moisture. Cane in rich land, well fertilized and well cultivated, will usually sucker enough. The process of cultivation from this point is very simple and should be very fast. Running over the rows once in every ten days or two weeks with disc cultivators, putting a little dirt in the cane at each working, with only the use of the hand hoe to keep grass out of the drill. The middle left after running the disc cultivator is either thrown out by two furrows of a plow, one furrow of a double mould board plow or a middle cultivator. I think probably the latter will give best results and reduce cost of cultivation. The quarter drains should be well opened after each working. This cultivation is to continue until the cane is of sufficient size to shade the ground enough to prevent growth of weeds and grass, and then the work of laying by begins.

This is only another cultivation with the disc machines, set to throw all the earth possible, and the team required to go a little faster so that the soil is pitched up close around the cane, otherwise, where the cane is very thick, a hollow place will be left and subsequent rains and winds will open the hollow to the roots of the plant, thus exposing the stubble to cold and wet in winter and cause loss thereby. The middles of the rows are plowed out deep and the earth thrown up on the bed. The rows, when finished, should present broad, flat beds, with a narrow, deep trench between them, rather than a sharp, narrow bed, with a deep, wide trench. The former will not be washed down as much as the latter, and if the rainfall is moderate the broad bed will absorb it, when the sharp row would shed it off. All the quarter drains should be opened as previously stated, six inches below the rows, and the ends of the rows hoed up well and cleaned of weeds and grass. Close attention should be given ditches where quarter drains discharge, and deposits from same removed, if they in any way obstruct drainage. The crop is now laid by, and if weath-

er conditions prevail a bountiful harvest can be looked for.

CARE OF IMPLEMENTS AND ROAD WORKING.

The disc machines which have been used throughout the cultivation with such good effect, should be taken to the shop and gone over by a careful man and all nuts tightened up, and the machine otherwise put in first-class condition. The same attention should be given all other implements on the plantation, and all polished parts painted to prevent rust. Plantation roads and bridges should be looked after and put in good shape for shedding water. If the wagons have not been overhauled since cane planting, they should be gone over now. The land that is to be planted in the fall and spring should now be occupied by corn and peas and as the men will want work, the ditches can be cleaned down and spaded out, if necessary. After corn and hay have been harvested the land should be in fine condition for fall planting. This can be done either by breaking the land as for spring planting, or, if the season has been a dry one and the land is soft and mellow, the same beds can be opened and cane planted in them, as for spring planting; the cane being cut in the field the same as for mill, except the leaves are not stripped off. The cane is then thrown in the wagon and delivered to the planting field. I like to have one-half or more of my cane planted in the fall because it takes less seed, is less expensive, and generally fall planting will give best cane.

ROWING SEED CANE.

This is usually done about the last of October, when prevented from hauling cane to the factory by rain, the wet ground being the best condition for putting down seed. All hands are put to work cutting down and putting the cane in windrow. The selection of cane for seed is given little or no attention, that being used which is on high and dry land, and usually being first year's stubble, the second year's having been planted in the fall. As much cane should be put in the windrow as can be covered, the cane being put down so as to have the tops cover the butts, and all the butts coming in contact with the ground. Either two or four mule plows are used to cover, but the best implement I have used for this purpose is the disc plow. It puts the earth better over the cane than any of the others. The science of the job seems to be to have the plow follow the row, covering the cane as fast as possible after it is put on the ground, to prevent drying out, and at the same time to have all the leaves completely covered. The finishing touch is put on by the hand hoe coming over and patching up all places omitted by the plows, and the quarter drains opened with as much care as possible.

We now come to the harvesting of the crop—cutting cane, loading carts and driving wagons are the classes of work to be accomplished, and the manager will have an opportunity to show his best ability in class-

ing the labor. Driving wagons requires skill and intelligence, and it is always desirable to select men with good, even tempers for teamsters. After fitting them out with mules and wagons keep them constantly at this work, as they will become expert by practice, and all the wagon drivers should be under immediate supervision of a smart, quick-witted person, to have the harness properly adjusted and see that the teams are well matched and that they are worked so as to keep them well and in good condition. The work required of the team at this season is fast and laborious, straining work, and exactly contrary to the slow work which has been required of them during the cultivation season, and besides the mules are working four in a team, instead of two, as they were when plowing. Some time is, of course, required to have them trained for the new condition and get them hardened to wagon work. Four well-trained mules will deliver an average of thirteen tons of cane per day for the entire season at a distance varying from half a mile or two miles, average weather, without being hurt. The same team untrained, and with a change of drivers every few days, will not deliver more than ten tons per day, and will be absolutely worn out at the end of the season.

These are details which cut a great figure in the cost of delivering cane to the factory. Since it is the daily average which must be obtained by the factory, too much is objectionable on account of loss by evaporation and chemical changes, which begin soon after the cane is cut and cause a loss of sugar, enough must be delivered daily to keep the factory running to its full capacity. Thus it will be seen, in commencing the work, a sufficient force of teams and labor should be provided to deliver one-sixtieth of your crop per day. It will be better to have more than required than to have to rush beyond the capacity of the force. Some days will come when the factory will desire more than your regular pro rata, and if prepared to deliver, it will be a source of great pleasure.

Loading wagons is laborious, skillful work, and requires men trained to do it. A well-trained set of men will load ten to twelve tons of straight cane per man per day with less effort than untrained men can do eight to ten tons. For this reason it is desirable to select the men and keep them continuously at this work for them to become sufficiently scientific for economical loading.

Cane cutting has been passed over without, probably, enough being said as to classification of the hands. This is work that an intelligent overseer can soon teach his cutters, if he is a close watcher and exact in his demands. Contracts with factories usually require cane topped in the first red joints and stripped clean of trash. The bottom should be cut as low as possible. A good cane cutter should cut from three and one-half to four and one-half tons per day when cane is thick and straight, and

the field of cutters should be classed so as to leave the cost of cutting at about 25 cents—not more than 30 cents—with good, straight, thick crop. This will be too good an average for a lot of hands that are constantly changing work and dropping out two or three days in each week. When cane is crooked and down on the ground the cost of cutting runs up very rapidly, owing to how badly blown the cane is. In some cases the cost will reach as high as 50 cents per ton, though that is excessively high for any such work where cane is a regular stand.

I think it will be appropriate before closing the subject to have something to say in reference to the work and care of the team. The work, from early spring—plowing, pulling stubble diggers and disc cultivators—is slow but heavy work, the only important points to be looked after being to have the team well matched as to weight and gait, and to see that the harness fits properly, and be careful not to over-drive them. But when the work of laying by comes on, the weather being very hot and the plowing deeper than usual, and at times the ground being hard, the work is excessively laborious. To prevent fatal effects from the excessive heat of the sun, nature has provided the animal with the means of keeping wet with perspiration, and the animal that sweats will probably go through without any permanent injury; but there are always some animals which do not sweat, from some cause unknown to the planter, and it is to these that injury is likely to occur from sunstroke. The dry, glossy appearance of the coat is calculated to deceive the unpracticed eye and consequent injury before you are aware of the danger. Animals that do not sweat should be watched very closely, and if they blow too much should be stopped in the shade. A good plan in these long, hot days is to have the team taken out at early dawn and worked until about 11 o'clock and then returned to the stable and allowed to rest for one hour before feeding, and to remain in the stable until about 3 o'clock, and work can be continued in the evening until dark. In this way as much will be accomplished and with a great deal more comfort to the mules. The collars and bridles should be made to fit the animals and kept clean. Sore shoulders and sore mouths come oftener from ill-fitting harness than from any other cause. The sweat on the collars and the saliva on the bits left in the sun at noontime become hard and sharp, and when replaced on the animals after dinner cut and chafe if not cleaned off, and soon the mule is unable to work.

Great care should be exercised in having the mule harnessed to the plow and never permitting the backband too far back on the loins.

The details mentioned as to care of mules will be picked up very quickly by the plowmen if the overseer is a man who appreciates the importance of such things and is exact-

ing with his men, and the mules will at once show it and it will be manifest in the feed bill, it of course being cheaper to feed mules in good condition and properly worked than other with sore shoulders and overworked and ill-treated. It would be a great education for those who use teams to have a branch of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals organized in our midst and a great protection to dumb brutes. I am sure such a society would be well received by the best people of our community. These societies are sources of great good in other towns and cities, and would be here.

Conclusion.

The cost of making and delivering a ton of cane to the factory is put down at from \$2.25 to \$3, and will be divided about as follows: Cultivation, 50 cents, which means the cultivation of sufficient land in corn and peas to nearly feed the team, and also the cultivation of cane for seed. Fertilizing, including the cost of cow peas, 30 cents; land rent, 30 cents, and harvesting crop 50 cents, extra feed, buying and keeping in repair implements, wagons, blacksmithing, roads, bridges, harness, plows, hoes, axes, over-seeing, interest, insurance and taxes, ditching and other annual expenses which cannot be named, 75 cents per ton, making a total of \$2.35. Harvesting we put down as follows: Cutting, 30 cents; loading, 8 cents; driving, 8 cents; working roads, 4 cents. Total, 50 cents.

This estimate is made on a basis of 15 to 17 tons per acre, as much as I think the average hill planter will produce, one year with another, both stubble and plant cane. The above is about what results have been obtained on my place for an average of five years, and I am sure as good an average can be made by others. No effort at all has been made to color the statement with the object of inducing other to rush into cane culture to recoup losses made in cotton culture, nor have I made the cost appear too high to prevent others trying cane.

The object has been to give as near as possible my own average result for five years, and then let each farmer decide for himself whether or no it will be profitable for him to venture into the enterprise. I shall be glad to have this paper extensively criticized, so that if there are errors we will find them and avoid future loss.

Every planter should bear in mind the importance of keeping a correct account of all plantation work, and often summing up to see what his work is costing, and make a record of it. All such records are valuable, if accurate, and it is absolutely the only way anyone can tell what he is doing. I am so thoroughly convinced of the importance of this matter of accounts and records that I have little confidence in statements of cost of cane culture from parties who do not work that way.

I think we all feel proud to have been of assistance to our neighbors, and if there is anything at all in this paper which will lighten the way of any planter, I shall feel well paid for the labor of writing it.

I presume we all consider sugar cane a tropical plant, and the culture profitable only in temperate climates, and for that reason I hesitate just now to advise parties who have other means of losing all the capital they have, to rush into it, as we seem to be making new records as to rainfall and climate which indicate more of a frigid temperature than is good for profitable cane culture.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

During the past two weeks the early days were rather cool, but since last Monday the weather has been splendid and the good effects on the cane can be seen on all places. Large quantities of fertilizers are being applied in the hope of pushing things forward, for they are generally backward and unless helped the cane will be small at rolling season. The plant cane seems to be coming splendidly, but the stubbles rather slowly, though I learn from several that a close inspection shows stubbles in black and mixed land to be coming out first rate while those in sandy and light soils are hardly worth cultivating. The corn crop is in splendid shape and will be the largest ever raised in the parish. The register at the U. S. engineer's office at Plaquemine indicates a maximum temperature on April 23rd of 70 degrees and a minimum of 47 degrees on April 12th. The rain fall during the two weeks was .95 of an inch on April 20th.

Hon. Jas. A. Ware thinks many in his section will do well to get seed out of their stubble, and this opinion is shared by others. Mr. Thomas Supple finds his stubbles coming nicely and will get 60 to 75 per cent of a stand; and his plant cane is all right. The stubbles on the Trinity plantation on Bayou Grosse-Tete are beginning to mark the rows and at the Corinne plantation of Mr. S. V. Farnaris, Jr., the spring plant is coming to a perfect stand, while the fall plant is only tolerably good.

From the sheriff's office we learn that the shortage of the sugar crop of last year on the west bank of the Mississippi river in the parish was over 20,000,000 lbs. compared with 1897, or about 40 per cent. At a value of 4½ cents per lb., this shows a loss sustained through bad weather of nearly a million dollars.

Lands on Bayou Jacob have been changing hands rapidly lately. Following the sale of Homestead plantation, from Mr. F. D. Robertson to Hon. A. H. Gay, came that of the Enterprise plantation by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Schlater, (Mr. Schlater reserving the old homestead and 16 acres of land) and a trade for the Kuneman plantation has been made between the heirs of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Gay and the Messrs Wilbert. These two acquisitions will prove valuable additions to their fine Myrtle Grove plantation. They have been out of cane for several years but preparations for putting them back have already begun, and new fences and buildings will no doubt soon be under way too, for the Messrs. Wilbert believe in keeping such in first class condition. Another year will witness a large increase in the sugar output of the Bayou Jacob section.

The state engineers have staked off a new levee in front of the Evergreen plantation

of Mrs. Henry H. Baker, starting at the upper line and running clear across the place. This will necessitate the removal of the residence of Manager Laville and seven or eight cabins. The loss in land will exceed 34 acres, a good part of which is in plant cane and the stand is splendid. We hear the authorities have agreed to wait till fall to build the levee so as to permit the saving of the present crop.

Mr. Hiram Sigler, of Rosedale, aged 84 years, a native of Pennsylvania, but a resident of this parish for more than half a century, was buried this week.

Death also claimed Mrs. Tennessee Robertson, widow of the late Samuel Matthews and a sister of Messrs. Frederick D. James M. and William B. Robertson, and Mrs. Mary R. Weisinger. The deceased leaves five children, among whom are Mr. Crusoe Matthews and Mrs. T. Weisinger Schlater, of Plaquemine.

IBERVILLE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather last week was unusually wet for April, but little field work was accomplished, but as work was generally ahead of the crops, there can be no complaint on that ground. However more sunshine was needed, and warmer weather, and the absence of these elements has not accelerated the growth of the cane. The stubble is still showing up somewhat, but dry, warm days and warmer nights are now badly needed to bring it out. Several planters have told me that a recent examination of the stubble not yet up has revealed good eyes, in some instances just beginning to swell. Monday and to-day have been hot, and a continuance of this weather for ten days will bring up all of the good eyes or a very large proportion thereof. The plant is coming up well. I have heard little or no complaint of a poor stand, and in riding around the stand of cane seen is refreshing to the eye after the numerous complaints heard during the planting season. It really looks as if a good many of the bad canes now are up, if one can judge from the appearance of the cane on the rows.

Woodlawn is drying out seconds, and the yield per car seems better than during grinding. Elm Hall is also hard at work drying its string sugars, a considerable task as a large proportion of seconds is always kept to be worked out when the grinding rush is over. I believe that Oakley will soon start active work on the tramway to the Attakapas canal. The right of way has been cleared, and soon the grading will be commenced. There will be a start made very shortly on the canal in Drainage District No. 1. We understand that Mr. Lee Canclenne has the work in charge. It has been determined to do it with the spade, and great benefits in the way of drainage will follow this improvement.

We can report but little improvement in the condition of the public roads. Travel by land along the bayou front is rendered impossible in many places, and the fields are used by many in order to get to their destinations. The water from the dredging has brought about to a great extent this state of affairs. I hear some complaints as to ravages of worms on early corn, but it does not seem to be a general complaint. I learn that Mr. U. B. Dugas, the managing partner on "Sweet Home," has bought the cane on the Vives plantation, and will buy the cane from these places. He is adding thus to the capacity of his house, and will doubtless be able to handle expeditiously the increased tonnage of cane that will be brought to the mill by his railway.

The news of crevasses in the Lafourche once more emphasizes the necessity of co-operation between the Police Juries and citizens of Lafourche and Assumption in an effort to remove the obstructions now clogging the egress of the water in lower Lafourche. A united effort ought to result in the removal of these obstructions, and would in the opinion of many result in the freedom of both places from the dangers of overflow. At present Lafourche bears the brunt of the present system of improvement, a system that seems to look to the enlargement of the Lafourche at Donaldsonville, and "innocuous desuetude" at the mouth. As a result the water backs up in Lafourche, crevasses occur, after a gallant fight, when there is no danger in Assumption. My attention was called to the fact, that, with more water in the Lafourche than there was ten years ago, the current is nothing like as rapid as it was then. The presence of a crevasse below is shown in the rapid fall of the Lafourche in Assumption and a very perceptible increase in the rapidity of its current. The planter who would attempt to take off his water by increasing the ditches in the front of his place and doing no work in the canals behind would scarcely be considered a Solomon (to put it mildly) and yet all of the recent dredging on the Lafourche has been above Lockport, most of it nearer Donaldsonville, and the islands and obstructions below are left there for nature to remove. We speak of the success of our levee system and how much the government has done for the improvement of the Lafourche and yet every spring there comes from lower Lafourche the same story of vain struggles against high-water. We have tried for a number of years the system referred to, and its lack of success is marked in the yearly overflow of a portion of the Parish of Lafourche. Would it not be well to change the prescription, and relieve the dropsical symptoms by tapping the lower extremities. We say they have a just right to complain.

MORE ANON.

Mr. J. G. Oxnard, of New York, was one of the distinguished arrivals at the Cosmopolitan hotel during the week.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Until the heavy precipitations during Thursday night and on Friday, the rainfall had been abundant in some localities and inadequate in others. Field work has been retarded and ploughing was only resumed by some on Tuesday.

Grass is now rampant in the fields, and dry weather for ten days or two weeks will prove of great benefit to enable planters to destroy the extraneous vegetation and put the soil in a friable condition. Latterly the weather has been propitious, and the corn crops have made rapid progress, and the cane fields in places have improved notably. Regular stands of cane will be the exception, not the rule, going to prove that the seed was defective when planted. Ratoons are appearing but slowly in the first year stubble fields, and in those of the second year in most instances nothing can be seen.

The majority of the planters have planted corn on the stubble rows as a precautionary measure should the stubble fail to ratoon.

It is reported that the canes, both plant and stubble are coming up much better on the lower portions of the bayous Terrebonne, Little Caillou, Grand Caillou and Dularge than in the upper portion of the parish. Proximity to the gulf may account for the difference.

From recent indications the grinding season will be short and the campaign will not begin until late. It is generally conceded that plants of the grass family tiller or sucker more profusely where the land is rich than on poor soils. False economy may prompt some to curtail expenses by decreasing the fertilizer bill, when in reality thin, bunched canes should by all means be stimulated to induce the original sprouts to sucker profusely. To incorporate two or three hundred pounds of cotton seed meal with the soil in close proximity to the plant cane will be to enhance the chances of increasing the number of suckers and impart vigor to the young sprouts. Canes sucker easier and more profusely when the covering does not exceed an inch of compacted earth. The soil banked to but not on the canes will retain soil moisture and encourage early rooting.

The plant cane fields on Southdown, the Hon. H. C. Minor estate, have improved very materially in the past ten days; also those at Concord, of Col. Wm. Minor. Adjoining Concord Mr. Banin Bonvillain has the most uniform stand of ratoons the writer has seen this season, and the plant cane is above the average for this year. On the same place and in close proximity are stubbles as backward as elsewhere.

One Wednesday of last week, cloudy in the morning, with local showers in the afternoon; Thursday, threatening early in the day, sprinkles later and heavy rains during the night with thunder and a northeast gale,

shifting to southeast on Friday morning, after which the wind abated and showers fell in the afternoon; Saturday, Sunday and Monday, bright sunshine; Tuesday, heavy fog in the morning—a splendid growing day later; and Wednesday fog, with indications of favorable weather.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Since the rains of last Saturday and Monday, the 15th and 17th, the planters of this parish have experienced the best and most effective growing weather that has been enjoyed since the beginning of the cultivating season, in point of both temperature and soil moisture; and during this time the crops have made a wonderful showing in growth, especially the plant cane upon those places that suffered loss from the freeze, together with both plant and stubble in the uninjured fields.

Mr. L. P. Patout's Vacherie plantation, in the Cyremont district, has five hundred and fifty acres of plant cane and four hundred acres of stubble; and it is estimated that he will make two and a half millions this season. He lost absolutely nothing from the freeze (or whatever was the cause of the loss with others) and, in consequence, expects to gather a full harvest.

Mr. Sosthene Robichaux, on the Augusta plantation, has six hundred acres of plant and a splendid stand of stubble.

The Maryland, owned in part and managed by Mr. Jacob Clausen, has 100 acres of stubble and one hundred and fifty acres of plant. She expects to crush four thousand tons of her own, and will contract for enough outside cane to complete her own yield into a full grinding season.

Mr. P. D. Guidry, of outer Cyremont, has a magnificent crop. He realized nine hundred thousand pounds upon his little place last year. All of the above mentioned planters are only syrup makers, having the degrees of granulation put on by the Franklin refinery, and most of whom ship in tanks over the Southern Pacific.

Last Thursday was cloudy during the forenoon and a good rain fell in the evening and all night Thursday night and the whole of the following day; the rain of Thursday night was accompanied by heavy winds. The Friday rain was the heaviest we have had thus far this planting season; but the skies were cleared away by Saturday morning with a temperature slightly chilly, which absorbed the surplus moisture, allowing the planters to return to their fields with the work of cultivation.

The Cote Blanche plantation in this parish, which has been owned and operated for the last few years by Mr. Walter J. Suthon, was advertised to be sold from the court building in Franklin last Saturday, the 22nd; but owing to the height at which the

appraisement was placed, to-wit: \$96,000, no bid was received and no adjudication made, as the sale could not have been made for less than two-thirds of sum of the appraisement. Under the law, the property will have to be re-advertised for fifteen days and sold on a twelve months' credit. Cote Blanche plantation is one of a chain of islands running around our Gulf coast; it faces Cote Blanche bay, and is severed from the main land of Cyremont in the rear by a small stream; its green and waving hills can be seen for miles around, over the low, flat country, out of which its crests rise to an elevation of sixty or eighty feet. The hill facing the water is covered with trees of all kinds, some of them in avenues, and among them once grew various kinds of fruit and flowers rarely seen in this portion of the world, being the abode, in antebellum times, of a succession of rich and luxury-loving Southern people. Many of our business people have discussed the project of buying it, at different times during the last dozen or more years, and converting it into a watering place, as its base is lashed by a splendid bathing surf, while from around the summit of its hills, beautiful little springs in all directions are hurrying down to the sea. And even as a sugar plantation its soil is very strong and especially adapted to the production of sugar cane, always registering a high tonnage and rich in its saccharine; but for some cause it has never been classed as a profitable investment with its enormous arable acreage, compared with star sugar estates in this parish.

Your correspondent has been informed that Mr. Millard Bosworth's refinery and mill, on his Mathilda plantation in this parish, up near the Iberia line, was consumed by fire last Saturday night. The structure is estimated by sugar men here to have been worth about \$40,000, and no insurance is said, positively, to have rested over it. The house has not been used for two years past, Mr. Bosworth selling his cane by the ton to Messrs. Oxnard & Sprague's Adeline refinery, situated near by.

Mr. James C. Mahon, one of the most successful sugar planters in this section, died last Friday morning at his home on the South Bend plantation, on lower Bayou Sale, at the age of 54 years; and his funeral took place from the Episcopal Church in Franklin the following day at 7 o'clock. The funeral procession was the longest ever seen in Franklin before, to have come from so long a distance, about twenty miles.

Mr. Mahon was born in the West Indies, and came to this parish about thirty years ago. At that time he was penniless; but by his intelligence, industry and honesty, became by degrees the owner of the South Bend estate, which he ably and successfully managed up to the time of his last sickness. He was one of the most popular and highly respected men in this parish, a congenial

stranger, a warm and hospitable friend, an oracle and an idol in his neighborhood.

ST. MARY.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The past week has been one of rain with us in Vermilion. We have just passed through a regular typical spell of January weather. It began raining on Saturday evening, the 17th, and rained daily till the 21st, and during the time it was very cool for a day or two. On the 22nd the weather changed and since that time it has been simply fine growing weather. The sky is clear and the thermometer stands at about 80 degrees. While it rained it rained and the result was at least five inches of rain fell from the 17th to the 21st. Rain was needed very badly but when it came there was too much of it. It checked the growth of cane and corn and gave the cut worms a fresh chance and opened up new avenues to them to continue their ravages on the corn and cotton. Considerable complaint has been brought in for the past day or two of the destructive work of the worms and especially from sections where the land was not plowed before the severe cold weather in February; well drained land is less inhabited by those pests than low soggy places. Cane is coming up splendidly; it is just simply outdoing itself so to speak. The stand will be so much better than was expected that the farmers are at a loss to know how to express their appreciation of this good fortune. The plant cane is up to a good stand already and the first stubbles are coming out nicely. It looks very much now as if the stand will be perfect in plant and at least 85 per cent in first stubbles. The ground is still cold and stubbles are slow in coming out of the ground though they show to be good; but a few days of such weather as we are having now will bring them out a whooping. In many places where the seed was thought to be affected and where it was planted thick to insure a good stand the stand will be double. The stand of corn throughout the corn section of the parish is splendid as far as can be ascertained. Worms have devastated some sections but not of such import as to affect the general stand. Replanting and thinning to a stand is the attention that corn is receiving and as soon as this is completed it will be ploughed or harrowed as the surroundings require. Cotton planting is about finished up and though the young plants have suffered considerably from the excessive rains and the continued cool weather a regular stand is still reported. Cut worms have not been idle in getting in their work in the cotton fields and in some sections the stand has been impaired but not generally. Quite a good bit of attention is being paid to rice now, both providence and irrigated rice. Farmers who are so fortunately situated as to be on an irrigating canal and

who raise nothing but rice are now waiting for their rice to get large enough to turn water on their fields, or the most of them are, for the bulk of the rice that is to be irrigated has been planted already, and the small fry farmer who plants his patch of providence rice as a surplus crop has just commenced to prepare his land for seeding. He is not anxious to prepare his land early for if he did the weeds and grass would run away with his rice before the June rains come. The general outlook for a crop for 1899 is much brighter than it was two months ago.

Mr. S. S. Hunter, of Shreveport, with other gentlemen was here the latter part of last week looking into the feasibility of building a huge irrigating canal from Abbeville to Gueydan. The survey will be started this week by Capt. Kerr of the State Board of Engineers.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

All gloom and gloomy forebodings as far as they related to the season and crop prospects, have now about disappeared. Warm refreshing showers fell over the country on the 21st and 22nd, with the clouds clearing off on the 23rd, permitting the warm sun to penetrate the soil and quicken plant life. The farmers have grown more hopeful and apparently more determined in their endeavors to so work and cultivate the soil that it may, at harvest time, yield bountiful returns in payment for the labor and means laid out upon it. Cane prospects are improving, to the great admiration of the cane raisers. While on a short turn over the country last week, I must say that I was most agreeably surprised to find some beautiful stands of cane, growing from plant cane, too, which, when planted, had such a dead and frozen appearance it was not at the time thought to be worth the trouble and cost of planting it.

If the Planter's correspondent has been correctly informed, Lienster plantation succeeded in planting this spring some 200 acres to cane, which is now reported to be coming up to a good stand. Some of the first year's stubble on Lienster is said to be showing indications of making something.

Mr. J. Y. Lilly, Bunkie P. O., and a number of prominent cane raisers in the vicinity of Lienster and Evergreen are now reported as having prospects for obtaining fair stands of cane.

Mr. Jeff. Caldwell, Eola P. O., has on his fine farm some acres of beautiful cane growing from this spring's planting. Mr. Caldwell has never failed to make paying crops of cane, corn, cotton and peas. He plants alfalfa for pasturing and haying purposes.

Mr. A. O'Quinn is another progressive small farmer on Bayou Boeuf, Haasville P. O., engaged in raising cane, corn, cotton and peas. Mr. O'Quinn has several acres of

spring planted cane now up to a good stand, which will, if taken by comparison, stand the test in color, growth and evenness of stand in the row with the best cane in the three parishes of Rapides, Avoyelles and St. Landry.

Mr. R. Weir has a pretty place fronting on Bayou Boeuf and some 75 acres in cultivation, planting such crops as corn, peas, cotton and cane. Mr. Weir has prospects for getting a fine stand of cane, better than he expected, from the looks of his seed cane when he planted it.

Mr. Chas. O'Quinn, Eola P. O., cultivates his fine place and rich acres to cane, cotton, corn and peas. His cane was planted late, but it is now marking the rows. Corn and cotton are coming up and growing in a soil of rich sandy loam, watered by Bayou Boeuf.

A number of small farmers living lower down on the bayou at and near "Gold Dust," are reported as having from fair to good stands of cane to grow and develop something profitable to market or for planting next season's crop with.

Two well known cane raisers, being very busy, failed to put down their seed cane until quite late in the fall. Finally, when they did cut their cane for seed the ground was so wet and muddy it was next to impossible to properly cover the cane, as it laid in the windrow, in which mud-covered condition it was left to take care of itself, regardless of the coming events or results. But strange to state, this very same cane was found this spring to be comparatively free from the blight of the winter's frost, better, sounder and less injured than seed cane in the same field which had been laid down and covered in the most careful, painstaking manner. How are we to account for this apparently strange incident?

Reports from the cane raisers of Rapides and St. Landry are highly encouraging. Most places have seeded more acres to corn this spring than it has been the custom to do. All who can do so will plant peas for building and improving the soil.

Cotton is coming up and presents a fair stand on many places. Sorghum is being planted for fodder and as a green summer food for stock.

ERIN.

St. Mary.

The crops in lower St. Mary are coming out handsomely. All the way from Centreville to Patterson the stubble is showing above the ground and promises a fair stand, while the plant is just "bursting the ground open" to get out.

Shady Side, one of the best equipped as well as one of the largest sugar plantations in the state, displays signs of a good crop—not quite as much however as it would have been with a good season, but far beyond the estimates of some months ago. The acreage will be about 80 per cent of the estimated quantity, which is satisfactory,

considering the general outlook in the sugar district. We are informed that seed will be put down for a very large crop next year, and that Shady Side, with favorable conditions, will pass her own previous records.

Calumet, the previous leader in production per ton and also in classification, has commenced to show up in promises of a fair crop, coupled with this year's conditions of course, and will have a good quantity of cane for the mill. Calumet sugar house is an up-to-date affair, embracing every appliance known to the scientific manufacture of sugar. Nothing is wasted that can be granulated. Like Shady Side, Calumet, is cobwebbed with railroad tracks to transport the cane to the mill. The fields of both places being so large—eight plantations being embraced in the two present ones, make such measures necessary to save the crops.

Mr. Oscar Zenor's Avalon place will make a fair crop. Both plant and stubble is coming out well, and the corn crop will simply be enormous. Everything is in tip top shape, the fields clean and the working stock in splendid condition.

Among the best cane we have seen along the route was a section of plant cane along the front of Dr. Sanders' Luckland plantation. In its advanced state of primary growth, it lines the row from end to end.

We spent a few hours in Patterson and were royally treated by our good friends in that progressive town, which has grown so large that enormous tracts of lands—plantations and pastures—have been taken in and transformed into handsome homes for its ever increasing population—emigrant as well as the home made quality. Patterson will be twice its present size in a few years if the same progressive spirit is displayed as now pervades the atmosphere. We will have more to say about our sister city in a later issue.—Vindicator News, Apr. 14.

Gov. Warmoth Abroad.

Col. H. C. Warmoth, the handsome and genial ex-Governor of Louisiana, is visiting relatives in this city and making little excursions about the country between times. His last trip was to Oxnard and its great sugar factory, from which he returns brim full of enthusiasm. The Colonel's appreciativeness is based on long experience of his own, for he is a veteran planter himself.

"The Oxnard factory is the finest in the world in every respect—size, efficiency, beauty, output, machinery, management, everything. I have seen all the principal factories in this country, Germany, France, Belgium and other countries, and I can assure you that nothing in the world compares with the Oxnard. While I was up there they took me driving around the fields, and I tell you it is a beautiful sight; the crop is magnificent and everybody is crazy about it. I don't wonder. Why, even the chil-

dren have their beet farms. I saw one little girl 10 years old who has a thirty-acre farm, employs men to work it, and is as independent as a princess. Think of it!

"They can easily work 2,000 tons of beets there every day; that is, let me see, 250 to 300 pounds of sugar to the ton of beets is 250 to 300 tons of sugar, isn't it? Three hundred tons of sugar a day. They will keep that up for about 100 days, and that makes 60,000,000 pounds, doesn't it, of sugar?

"Overproduction? Not a bit of danger. Everybody will use sugar and cry for more, that's all. Why, that is a giant factory, of course, compared with the rest, but there are a host of others, up and building. In your vicinity you have the Alamitos and Chino factories, and there are still others. Then in New York, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Louisiana, Illinois, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and other states there is a steady growth of the sugar industry. The machinery manufacturers are overwhelmed with orders, and the end is not yet.

"There is no place like California for ease of production. Down in Louisiana we think we cultivate our fields pretty well, intensively in fact. But since seeing the beautiful stretches of soil here I am going back and tell our manager to put on a few more mules and a few more men to get our fields in order.

"You see we have two great difficulties to contend with that you are free from, the grass and the rain. Sometimes it rains so persistently that before we can get into the fields the grass has simply overgrown everything and choked it up. It's an awful labor to get rid of the grass; you can't get it out with a cultivator; you must pull it by hand, and carefully too, or the crop comes up with it. It costs us twice as much to raise a crop as it does you. If you worked half as hard as we do you would do wonders, bigger wonders than you do now.

"I asked my friend Mr. B. F. Allen, of the Forestry Bureau here, how many men he kept on his 40-acre ranch out at Covina. 'Well,' he said, 'one man all the time, two men sometimes, three men once in a while, and four men on rare occasions.' If he were running 40 acres in Louisiana he would have to reverse the order. I have 100 men on my 1,000 acre plantation, to say nothing of three others of 800 acres each.

"Oranges? Well, there won't be an orange shipped out of Louisiana this season. My neighbor had 20,000 orange trees, planted four years ago—beauties—and not one left. I am going to put the whole place in cane.

"But for the most part the orchards will be replanted; we never give up. Oranges are not the big industry that sugar is though, either here or in the South. You have an enviable future before you in many directions, but that is one of the best."

Governor Warmoth then fell to campaigning with Major Klokke, who happened in and sugar was forgotten. "The Governor,

though a northern man by birth, was Lieutenant-Colonel of the Thirty-second Missouri during the Civil War, serving in Sherman's division. He is a good story-teller, and has plenty of them at command, both of peace and war. It is pleasant to know that he is coming out next year for the summer, with his family. His home is at "Magnolia plantation," Lawrence, Louisiana.—H. P. Earle, in Los Angeles Express.

Personal.

Mr. B. A. Oxnard, the prominent sugar planter and co-proprietor with Mr. Sprague in the splendid Adeline Central Factory, was married during the past week to one of the most charming young ladies of New Orleans.

Hon. Andrew H. Gay and Mrs. Gay, of the Union and St. Louis plantations, in the parish of Iberville, were in the city on a visit a few days ago and registered at the St. Charles hotel.

Mr. Henry Hauseman, of St. Mary parish, was at the Grunewald on Sunday. He was accompanied by several congenial friends.

At the splendid Belle Terre place, Mr. J. E. LeBlanc is still officiating as manager and keeping everything in the admirable condition for which he is famous. Mr. LeBlanc is one of the leading managers of the state and has been an honored and efficient member of the Police Jury of his parish for a number of years.

Mr. J. Allen Barnett and his mother, Mrs. J. W. Barnett, of Shadyside plantation on Bayou Teche, were guests of the St. Charles hotel during the past few days.

Senator Don. Caffery, of Franklin, who combines his senatorial duties with the arduous work of running a sugar plantation, was a guest of the St. Charles hotel during the week.

Hon. William E. Howell, of Lafourche, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He stopped at his usual abiding place, the St. Charles.

Mr. Robert Oxnard, of San Francisco, Cal., accompanied by his son, had apartments at the St. Charles hotel during the week.

Mr. A. T. Ambrose is still in charge at the large Point Houmas place, and he keeps things hustling in a way that is pushing the plantation higher and higher in the scale of efficiency. The general verdict about Mr. Ambrose is that he is "all right."

The Minnie place of Mr. H. W. Barton, one of the best sugar plantations for its size in the state, had Anthony Bringier, Esq., at the vacuum pan during the past crop, and has never had cause to regret it. He is a first-class sugar boiler in every respect and a thoroughly well trained, steady and efficient man.

Mr. C. L. DeGravelles, of St. Mary parish, one of the leading sugar boilers of the state, was in the city during the past week. Mr. DeGravelles stopped at the Commercial hotel.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

Berlin, Apr. 8th, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The week under review opened cool and cloudy and at different points night frosts were observed, then we had, just at Easter, two mild days, but this short period of agreeable weather was cut short by thunderstorms and the following days were rough and wet, so that the hope of beet growers to begin right after the Easter holidays, with field work in view of effecting the sowings of the sugar plant were realized only in a small measure. The time for early sowing is past already and now it depends on the weather whether we shall have late sowings, which for the present looks very probable, on the ground that the winter and the spring, so far, have been very much like the corresponding seasons of last year, when the sowings experienced a large delay, resulting in a short crop per acre. In Austria the situation is about the same as in this country. In the Western part of Central Europe, however, that is in France, Belgium and Holland, they have been more favored by the weather and therefore work there is somewhat more advanced. In Russia an aggressive return of the winter is reported, but at the end of the week warmer weather has again set in there and accordingly an early commencement of field work is hoped for.

There are now some figures to hand with regard to the probable extent of this year's beet sowings in Europe. In Germany the society of raw sugar manufacturers has held a provisional inquiry on the subject, with the result that about 2.3 per cent less will be planted as compared with last year. Of France no figures are yet obtainable, but it is believed that slight increase will take place. Nothing reliable is heard yet from Austria, but certain sections of the Empire report that no noteworthy increase is contemplated. However a very large augmentation is quite certain in Russia where 470,000 desjatines will be sown as against 402,000 desjatines in 1898. Some persons even speak of 500,000 desjatines (1 desj. equals 1.09 hectare), and it must be expected that the Russian crop this year will exceed one million tons, but if the yield per acre and in the factory were like those obtained in Germany, the figure of two millions would be approached if not exceeded. This extraordinary growth of the Russian sugar industry is due to the brilliant results the fabricants of this country have obtained of late and of which I wrote you already. There is also something alarming for the other beet countries in this enormous increase of production, but the danger seems to be mitigated by the quickly increasing consumption of Russia and the equally rapid growth of exportation to eastern countries, which is now highly facilitated by the large

Russian railroad through Siberia, a great part of which is already finished.

On the 11th inst. Professor Dr. Carl Scheibler, imperial privy councillor, died of an asthmatic disease in this city in his 73rd year. He was one of the greatest chemists of the age, and the sugar industry owes him the greater part of its modern scientific development. From 1866 to 1878 he was the director of the laboratory of the large German beet sugar society and from 1872 to 1877 he acted as editor of the "Zeitschrift des Vereins die Deutsche Rubenzuckerindustrie"—the monthly paper of the society. His merits in both these positions and his scientific inventions and discoveries insure him one of the first places in the history of the sugar industry. It may be, by the way, also mentioned that the deceased was the inventor of smokeless powder.

The Russian sugar manufacturers on their last general assembly have appropriated 5,000 roubles (a rouble equals 50 cents) for measures to fight saccharine, 1,000 roubles for the discovery of means for the destruction of animal enemies of the beet, and 1,000 roubles a year have been set aside as an honorary salary for Mr. Tolpygin, the eminent Russian sugar statistician and scientist in acknowledgement of his merits for the sugar industry of the Russian Empire.

There have been some balance sheets of German sugar refineries published from which I extract the following:

The Provincial sugar refinery of Stettin obtained in 1898 a gross profit of M. 728,115, of which after the deductions for sinking fund and reserves, a dividend on the capital of M. 3,600,000 of 10 pct. is paid. The Rositz sugar refinery pays a dividend of 12½ pct., as against 14 pct. last year. The capital of the latter establishment amounts to M. 5,000,000. A loss, however, of 106,638 marks was sustained by the Bremen refinery, whose capital is M. 2,000,000.

A delegation of French beet growers, petitioning for the maintenance of the present sugar legislation, which means, of course, of the present high bounties, has been received by the prime minister, Mr. Dupuy, who gave them the most reassuring answer. There is, however, notwithstanding, much talk of a new conference, but so far all rumors in this respect appear to be devoid of any real foundation and it is indeed surprising that many so-called sugar authorities place some confidence in this talk.

For the markets the last week, beginning only after the Easter holidays, was short, but most important. The firm tone observable already last week at the close has developed into a veritable bull movement and prices all around advanced daily in a quite unaccustomed scale. The cause of this extraordinary improvement is bad news from Cuba and favorable statistical figures of Austria, which induced bona fide and speculative buyers to operate more free-

ly than for a long time since. Actual sugars, which are now scarce in first hands, fetched on the basis of 88 pct. rendement M. 11.15-11.35 and delivery April f. o. b. Hamburg is quoted at M. 10.42, which is 30-40 pfennigs higher than last week and the tendency at the close points to further advances. Refined have also improved, but the margin between the raw and refined product is not yet satisfactory.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

Havana, April 21st, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The demand is well kept up, especially on the part of speculators, who have succeeded in securing a certain number of large parcels of high test, for which they paid prices which quotations from abroad do not justify, since they exceed by 1-16@1-8 of a cent the average of those ruling in New York at the time the operation was closed.

Owing to the scarcity of suitable classes for exports, and high pretensions entertained by holders, transactions have been light and buyers generally keep aloof.

Sales reported add up about 95,000 bags centrifugals, 94-96½ test at from 5¼@6¼ rs. per arroba, equivalent to 2.87½@3-12½ cents per pound, market closing to-day strong, though quiet, at from 3@3½ cts. for good centrifugated sugars, basis 95½@96½ test.

In accordance with all that has heretofore been said as to the smallness of this year's crop, owing chiefly to the lack of due assistance upon the fields, scarceness of oxen and other no less important difficulties, Mr. Guma has just published his monthly statement, in which receipts at all the ports of the Island till March 31st, are reckoned at 177,903 tons, against 232,032 tons, same date last year, showing a decrease of 54,129 tons for this year.

In a note at the foot of above referred to statement, Mr. Guma furthermore says:

"On account of the small quantity of sugar received at shipping ports and reports regarding the poor yield of cane, on one side and taking into due consideration, on the other, the fact that the production of the eastern region of the island will also be much smaller than expected. I do not think the total production this year will go over 290,000 or 295,000 tons."

Though the crop at Guantanamo, is rather reduced, as well as in all other districts, planters in that locality are seriously contemplating to commence at an early date the preparation of their fields in order to extend as far as they possibly can cane planting for the next campaign.

In my previous letter, I erroneously said that, if ground in due time, the one million arrobes of standing cane that was burnt at Bahia Honda, might have yielded 85,000 bags of sugar, instead of 85,000 arrobes, equiva-

lent to about 700 bags, of 72 arrobes each, provided a yield of 8½ per cent might have been obtained from the juice.

The Cuban planters' commissioners at Washington, are striving hard with the government to obtain at least a respite of ten years for the settlement of mortgages on plantations, which have already fallen due and whose payment was successively postponed for three years.

Planters pretend they need 18 months to liquidate the crop, which is just ending, and that the year postponement the government offers them is not sufficient, and claim a three years extension, as a minimum.

It is likely that the committee's efforts will be unsuccessful, since it is a well known fact that a powerful syndicate or ring has been organized in New York, with the object of acquiring in Cuba as many sugar plantations and other properties as they may be able to; the plan these financiers propose to carry out is to bring enough pressure to bear upon President McKinley to get him to decline to interfere into the matter of extending the time in which mortgages are to be paid.

Through this scheme, a large number of valuable plantations would be sold by auction and the syndicate might purchase them for half or less of their actual value.

The prime question is now to know if President McKinley will submit to the syndicate's exigencies and refuse to grant the Cuban planters the respite they are so much in need of to continue business.

A band of 18 or 20 mounted and well-armed men, several of whom were masked, entered, on Saturday last, at about 9 a. m., the small town of Carmito, about 12 miles from this city, sacked several stores and private dwellings, murdered three men and wounded several others, escaping with their spoils.

This daring misdeed seems to have at last awakened the attention of the authorities, which was heretofore totally concentrated on collecting taxes and custom house duties, and after the Military Governor had conferred with the Governor General, orders were issued for the immediate organization of a corps of rural guards, which will be formed with picked men from the Cuban army, but until they are organized and ready to go into commission, the country people will remain unprotected, since the American troops have all been gathered into the larger towns and cities and fortresses around the latter.

T. D.

Porto Rico.

Fajardo, Porto Rico, April 9, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The sugar season is now in full blast and owing to most favorable weather, great progress is being made on all sides with good results and as prices are favorable the planters are all happy, only wishing that they had more cane to grind. The coffee

prospects, so far as can be judged at this early date are also favorable.

At the present moment there is some discontent owing to the recent publication of new tax regulations, but as several orders have been changed soon after their issue, we are in hopes that we shall not have to pay them.

The Insular Commission has been here and made a seemingly thorough inquiry into the state and needs of the island, and it is possible that some good may come of it, but if they rush into print and assure people in the States of the possibility of making \$120 per acre from cane planting, it would be better that they had not come.

It cannot be denied that a change for the better has taken place in many ways. One or two so-called politicians have left the island and if others would go, too, their loss would be for the good of the island and to some extent aid progress.

UBIQUE.

Barbados.

Reaping is being pushed on as vigorously as the light and fitful March winds and the trash spilling showers will permit. There has been slight improvement in the yield. Here and there 1¾ hogsheads may have been reached, but the average so far cannot be estimated beyond 1½ hogsheads to the acre; still the slight tendency to improve is encouraging, and may afford us better results in April and May. The fact is, the canes were much more injured by the storm than people allowed themselves to believe; as we have before observed they were strewn on the ground in such a manner that the fields of canes on the morning after the storm had a shortened appearance as if two feet at least of their growth had been mysteriously subtracted. Thus layered they rooted at every joint in contact with the ground, sprouted from every eye, and proceeded to straighten themselves by upward new growth; the lower two-thirds of almost every cane examined is thus found to have been sucked of its saccharine by its own efforts to recover, while the remaining one-third at the top is immature. The young deluge, too, which accompanied and persistently continued for several days after the storm could not fail to wash away the surface of the soil, to bare the roots, and deprive them of their food. The crop now in process of reaping has surely had a hard time of it, and if 1½ hogsheads to the acre has been left us we have cause to be thankful, it might just as well have been nothing at all.

The young canes are thriving nicely, there is a pretty and regular spring all over the Island; and many fields are so forward that several planters are resorting to the old custom of cutting back. Fear of fungus microbes finding entrance through wounds caused this practice to be abandoned for several years, but now that the fungus scare like the storm scare has become dim, primeval history, and lost its terrors, people are

becoming bold once more. But apart from wounds to growing plants becoming inlets of disease, it is a moot question whether it is really advantageous to cut back young and quickly growing plants. Their vitality must be decreased, or used up in the process of repairs, thus retarding growth while the free suckering, which it is the object of the planter to promote must necessarily be of a weak and grassy nature.

For the most part, the young fields have been handed over to the farmers whose duty it is to keep them free from weeds, and to stir the surface mould; but on some estates draining and forking are still being done with the object, we believe, of keeping hands employed in the spirit of agricultural philanthropy, but not to be commended from an economical point of view. Forking at this time cannot but tend to break and injure the roots of the young plants, and unnecessarily expose them during the period of hot suns and drying winds. It seems to us to be rather late in the season for such work, which, begun in November, ought to be closed by the end of January. Still we cannot be hypercritical and must allow a broad margin to local judgment and local conditions—conditions which vary immensely even on estates that butt and bound.

The sugar made is of excellent quality, while the molasses is scant but thin and syrupy. The usual order of things seems to have been reversed, the immature canes ought to give a weak sugar with plenty of molasses; what he is losing in molasses the planter is getting in solid sugar. Prices have been somewhat more hopeful, as times go, \$1.90 for hogsheads, and \$2.00 for bags, while for extra quality of muscovado, the local consumption market has been giving even as much as \$2.40 for barrel sugar. As the crop must be short as a whole, it is to be hoped that the life-saving extra cents will continue to the end of the season. Molasses has begun thus early to fluctuate, opening at 12c. It has already proved fickle and sunk to 11c. In West Indian markets the downward scale is manipulated with much more facility than the upward, and as our market thermometer begins to fall, we may be prepared for that further decline which invariably stops short, only just before the actual extinction point is reached. Were we not the tantalized victims, we could almost admire the systematic skill which so admirably regulates these prices; the spicing with little hopes of continued rise at brief intervals is the acme of financial art.—Reporter, April 1.

Secretary Alger's Order.

New York, March 31.—Before the departure of Secretary Alger from Washington, he approved a circular authorizing candies in half-pound packages to be kept on hand as staples to officers and enlisted men of the army. This is similar to action taken in European armies based on recent discoveries as to the food value of sugar.

BEEET SUGAR.**Salinas, California.**

Salinas, Cal., April 12, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

On his way to San Francisco the writer stopped over a few days at Salinas to visit the largest sugar factory in the United States, if not in the world, where the finishing touches are now being given to the enormous mass of machinery that is to handle 3500 tons of beets a day. On entering this vast estate of Spreckels, from the south, the railroad train first crosses a high range of mountains and then gradually descends until the banks of the Salinas river are reached, where the beet field commences, and from there on for about 80 miles, or more, is nothing but beet lands.

Everyone, at present, is busy planting, as beets are somewhat behind, and with all this land which, probably, is not half of what will be cultivated, the factory will not be able to run to full capacity. So they have decided not to run the Watsonville factory (which is owned by Spreckels, too,) this coming season, but to haul all beets to the Salinas factory.

On a visitor first entering the grounds of the factory proper he is not struck with the grandeur of the building, as is generally the case in this country, but finds a plain structure, a mass of brick and steel some five stories high. On entering the building you stare with amazement, hardly knowing which way to steer amongst such a mass of ponderous machinery, and to try to describe it would fill several pages, but I will give a description of some of the principal parts so an idea can be formed.

There are four sets of diffusion batteries, 14 cells in each battery; they run parallel with the building; two quadruple effects and one double effect; seven fourteen-foot vacuum pans (Deely make) and two German vacuum pans, each vacuum pan having its own mixer and four centrifugals. The vacuum pans are connected in sets of two and three to a large vapor pipe having a cut-off over each pan, and leading to one condenser, so that one pump can run three pans at the same time. There are 64 crystallizers, each having a capacity to hold a strike of string sugars.

The boilers are the Babcock and Wilcox make, 14 sets of 6000 h. p. There are no granulators as crude sugar will be made and sent to the refinery. All pumps are of the fly wheel style, very massive. The machinery in the house is all of German make, except the pans and boilers.

Besides the factory Spreckels owns all the land; has his own railroads, irrigating plants, and his town called Spreckels.

SUGAR BEETS.

Gen. W. J. Behan, of the Alhambra plantation was in the city last Wednesday.

Another New York Beet Sugar Company.

There has recently been incorporated under the laws of New Jersey the Jefferson Sugar Refining Company, Watertown, N. Y., with a capital of \$600,000. The incorporators are A. H. Sawyer, Charles H. Pennington, G. C. McMullen, and John N. Carlisle, of Watertown; George E. Schull, of Carthage; George E. Wood, of Dexter; and George E. Moyer, of Passaic, N. J. The company do not expect to have their factory ready for this campaign, but for that of 1900. During the present year extensive experiments will be conducted, and every means will be taken to have the farmers well prepared to raise a large crop next year. Many experiments have been conducted in that section during the last three years, and very satisfactory results have been obtained. Considerable acreage has also been grown for the Rome factory.—American Grocer.

American Beet Sugar Company.

Several of our exchanges the first of the week announced in a sensational way the sale of the Chino sugar factory to a new company. They had evidently just heard of a transaction which took place about two months ago, and announced in the Champion at that time, and developed the facts by imagination. Heretofore the Oxnards have operated under four different corporations—the Oxnard Beet Sugar Company at Grand Island, Neb., the Norfolk Beet Sugar Company at Norfolk, Neb., the Chino Valley Beet Sugar Company at Chino and the Pacific Beet Sugar Company at Oxnard.

These four corporations have now been merged into one, called the American Beet Sugar Company. Henry T. Oxnard is president of this, as he was of each of the four separate companies. The capitalization of the new company is \$20,000,000, of which \$5,000,000 is preferred and \$15,000,000 common stock. Among the new stockholders in the organization are the banking houses of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., and Spencer, Trask & Co. of New York.

When asked last week whether the reorganization would make any local changes here, Mr. Henry T. Oxnard said that it would make none whatever in the management or operation. The name of Chino Valley Beet Sugar Company will, however, give place to the American Beet Sugar Company.

It is the object of the company to buy or build other sugar factories, and Mr. Oxnard states that two new ones will be built ready for operation next year. He declines to say where they will be located.—Chino Champion, April 6.

Is a New Sugar Combination Probable?

A Wall street rumor connects Standard Oil interests with the movement in the stock of the American Sugar Refining Company, with

a view of combining present competitive interests into one huge trust. Such a move, if consummated, would invite fresh competition of a very strong character. It would place a premium on the starting of new refineries free from the burden which an excessive stock issue imposes.

The history of the American Sugar Refining Company demonstrates the profit there is in refining sugar, and more than confirms the statement once made by the prince of sugar refiners, Theodore A. Havemeyer, that he wanted no better business than refining sugar at a net profit of one sixteenth of a cent per pound.

Up to the recent war the trust has had an average net profit of one-third of a cent per pound. This has enabled it to pay 12 per cent dividends on \$37,500,000 common stock, 7 per cent on \$37,500,000 preferred, and put over \$11,000,000 to surplus account. Since its organization it has paid in dividends over \$50,000,000.

Any industry as profitable as that can never escape competition by combination on combination. The present war is, as stated by an authority in the trade, "a war of giants," and is likely to be a fight to the finish, or the survival of fittest.—American Grocer.

Trade Notes.

Mr. Philip Hirsch.

We publish on our back cover this week the advertisement of the above named gentleman, who is the nephew of the late Hon. Philip Hirsch, so well and favorably known all over the sugar district. The present Mr. Hirsch is carrying on the extensive cooperage business of his uncle with the same careful attention to every detail and the same earnest desire to give perfect satisfaction which was always the rule at that establishment, and which served more than anything else to build up the business to its present large proportions. In the past our sugar planters did a large amount of business with Philip Hirsch and although in his death they lost a friend whom they could always rely on, they have now the satisfaction of knowing that just as everything was before so it will be in the future, as under the careful supervision of the present proprietor there will be no change whatever in the excellence of the material handled and the care with which the business is conducted. Mr. Hirsch is headquarters for sugar barrels, sugar hogsheads, and molasses barrels, as well as sugar barrel material of all descriptions. His factory is at the corner of St. Louis and Miro streets, and his main office is at No. 335 North Front street, near the Sugar Exchange, just as it has always been. He is equipped with two long distance telephones, numbers 1118 and 243, so that sugar planters can communicate with him direct by wire from the country.

Mr. Emile Kahn, a planter of Lafourche parish, was a guest of the Commercial hotel on Wednesday last.

RICE.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Since my last writing we have had another heavy rain which put a good deal of water on the ground in some places, but it did not come down so heavy in the west portion of the parish as it did in the eastern half. All the rice fields which were reached by the storm, were filled with water and all work was at a stand still for several days. There has been some fears of its doing the rice more or less injury, but I have not heard of any serious damage being done to the sown rice as yet. But the cold rain caused many farmers to delay their seeding until the weather was warmer, for the early sown rice does not show a good stand and some of it must be re-planted or there will not be a quarter of a crop.

Much of the early rice which was planted as early as April 22nd is just appearing above ground, and does not look extra well, and will not come on ahead of what is sown now. All those who sow from now on, are certain of a good stand if they put on seed enough, for the soil is getting warm and will soon start the rice.

Many farmers discontinued the sowing of rice and turned their attention to levee building, and while the soil is wet is the best time to do this work, but by Monday next there will be a large acreage of rice in, and within a week, the greater portion of the rice crop will be in. Some early planted rice, which has had the advantage of sun and rain, is up about four inches and shallow water has been turned on, yet it is a trifle early to hold water on rice, it might do much better without it if the soil is wet. Canal work is going on in good shape, although this work has been hindered some by the rainy weather, yet there has been a large amount of this work accomplished during the past eight weeks. But there must be a large amount of work in the country of some sort by the way the teams are selling, as well as harness and agricultural implements, and I rather guess it is all for rice, for farmers have gone wild over rice and left most everything else behind. Feed is shipped into this parish in almost train load lots and it goes like hot cakes in a cold morning in January. But some of the small farmers, especially the Creoles, try to grow what food they want on the farm, but they do not have any to spare for the larger farmers, and the large farmers devote all their attention to rice and buy all the feed which amounts to a big trade. Our well makers are still at work putting down some first class wells, and it will be some time yet before this work will be done for the season. There would be plenty of work in this line, if farmers could afford to get the work done, for the majority are very much in favor of the wells,

and only last week a test was made with some of the wells, and they more than fulfilled expectations, and the test was made with less power than it was expected it could be done with. The wells are here to stay, and if the crop of this season should prove to be a good one, a great many more wells will be put down next season. All our small crops look very backward and much later than they are in common seasons, but the rice planting was begun earlier this season than last, and it would have proven an advantage if the season had opened in more favorable shape. Cane is improving very slowly and we do not expect very much from this crop as it was badly injured by the freeze, and no one will have enough syrup to carry them through the season.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

An uneventful week and a shrunken demand; not that there is any abatement of confidence but simply "too much weather" throughout the North and Northwest. For this reason and again, waiting the opening of water routes, purchases are only being made to meet immediate needs. The call from the South and extreme West continues on liberal scale, including several cars of fancy sorts to the Pacific coast. Advices from the South note light demand along the Atlantic coast but with meagre supply prices are firmly maintained; in New Orleans there is only fair inquiry, but with small receipts scarce equal to the daily call, the market rules firm with advancing tendency. Work on the new crop is going forward slowly; planting later than usual on account of cold spring; Georgia will undertake less than last year; South Carolina and Louisiana more. In the latter State the freeze-out of sugar cane and difficulty encountered by planters in securing advances wherewith to start anew may compel many of them to turn to the next best and cheapest crop, rice, and as a result there may be a radical extension of the culture. Cables and correspondence from abroad note steady movement and market features unchanged.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 694,615 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over), 516,350 sacks. Sales, cleaned, (Est.) 170,252 barrels; last year, 111,575 barrels. Moderate demand during week with marked enlargement toward close. Prices firm with advancing tendency.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 36,285 barrels. Sales, 32,555 barrels. Quiet but firm. Stocks light and holders indifferent, expecting appreciating values when spring trade is fully opened.

The Sugar War.

The fierce competition which marks the sugar refining interest never was stronger than at present. It looks now as if the

outcome of the trouble would be a complete revolution in methods of distribution. We would not be surprised if eventually refiners were forced to sell sugar direct to consumers, just as milk, soap, and other articles are now sold. The introduction of package sugar was an innovation that is still in its infancy. The two-pound paper package has been followed by the two-pound and five-pound cotton packages, and in time the packages will be made to conform to the wants of consumers in various sections. And then we shall have the dollar package, and soft sugars, as well as hards, in packages finish, or the survival of fittest.—American Grocer.

Sugar Production in Java in 1898.

The sugar planters of Java have profited greatly by the curtailment of the sugar producing capacity of Cuba, and during the year 1898 the sugar output of that colony amounted to 2,880,267 piculs (1 Javanese picul equals 135.1 pounds), an increase of about 600,000 piculs over the production in 1896. Of this output 13,042,000 florins (1 florin equals 40.2 cents) worth went to Hongkong, 11,800,000 florins worth to Port Said for orders, 7,100,000 florins to English Channel ports for orders, 4,700,000 florins to the United States, 3,900,000 florins to Portugal for orders, 3,200,000 florins to Australia, 2,700,000 florins to Singapore, 1,600,000 to England and 1,100,000 to Portugal. The French Consul at Batavia is of the opinion that the Javanese will doubtless lose their American and much of their European trade when the Cuban plantations are again in operation, yet the Dutch East Indians are confident that this loss will in a short time be offset by an increase in their sales in the Eastern markets, and the Javanese planters are bending every effort towards securing permanent control of these fields.—Manufacturer.

Netherlands Sugar Bounty.

U. S. Treasury Department, April 5, 1899.

Sir: The department, being informed that sugars produced in the Netherlands during the sugar-account year 1898-99 (from September 1 to August 31) will earn bounties considerably less than those ascertained for the year 1897-98, and proclaimed in Circular No. 199, of December 12, 1898 (Synopsis 20407), you are hereby authorized to suspend the liquidation of entries covering sugars produced in that country until the next ascertainment and proclamation under the provisions of section 5 of the Act of July 24, 1897.

The duties on such entries will be estimated on the basis of the bounties specified in said Circular No. 199, and will be liquidated, as to sugars which may be shown by satisfactory evidence to have been produced in the Netherlands after August 31, 1898, on the basis of the bounties to be proclaimed hereafter.

Respectfully yours,

O. L. SPAULDING, Assistant Sec'y.
Collector of Customs, New York, N. Y.

APR. 28.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR.	April 22.	April 24.	April 25.	April 26.	April 27.	April 28.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.		
SUGAR. Open Kettle.										
O. K. Centrifugal Choice.....	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	Firm		
Strict Prime.....	37/8 @ 4	37/8 @ 4	37/8 @ 4	37/8 @ 4	37/8 @ 4	37/8 @ 4	37/8 @ 3 1/2			
Prime.....	37/8 @ 3 1/2	37/8 @ 3 1/2	37/8 @ 3 1/2	37/8 @ 3 1/2	37/8 @ 3 1/2	37/8 @ 3 1/2	37/8 @ 3 1/2			
Fully Fair.....	37/8 @ 3 7/8	37/8 @ 3 7/8	37/8 @ 3 7/8	37/8 @ 3 7/8	37/8 @ 3 7/8	37/8 @ 3 7/8	37/8 @ 3 7/8			
Good Fair.....	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4			
Fair.....	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4			
Good Common..	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4			
Common.....	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4	37/8 @ 3 3/4			
Inferior.....	— @ 3 3/8	— @ 3 3/8	— @ 3 3/8	— @ 3 3/8	— @ 3 3/8	— @ 3 3/8	2 3/4 @ 3 1/8			
Centrifugal.										
Plant'n Granul'ed Off Granulated... Choice White..... Off White..... Grey White..... Choice Yellow..... Prime Yellow..... Off Yellow..... Seconds	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/2 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 3 @ 4 1/4	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/2 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 3 @ 4 1/4	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/2 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 3 @ 4 1/4	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/2 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 3 @ 4 1/4	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/2 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 3 @ 4 1/4	— @ — — @ — — @ — — @ — 4 1/2 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 4 3/8 @ 4 1/2 3 @ 4 1/4	— @ 4 7/8 — @ 4 1/2 — @ — — @ — 4 1/2 @ 4 1/2 4 1/2 @ 4 1/2 4 1/2 @ 4 1/2 2 3/4 @ 4		Quiet	
MOLASSES. Open Kettle.										
O. K. Centrifugal Fancy..... Choice..... Strict Prime..... Good Prime..... Prime..... Good Fair..... Fair..... Good Common... Common..... Inferior.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.			Quiet.
Centrifugal.										
Fancy..... Choice..... Strict Prime..... Good Prime..... Prime..... Good Fair..... Fair..... Good Common... Common..... Inferior.....	— @ — — @ 16 — @ 15 — @ 13 — @ 11 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6	— @ — — @ 16 — @ 15 — @ 13 — @ 11 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6	— @ — — @ 16 — @ 15 — @ 13 — @ 11 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6	— @ — — @ 16 — @ 15 — @ 13 — @ 11 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6	— @ — — @ 16 — @ 15 — @ 13 — @ 11 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6	— @ — — @ 16 — @ 15 — @ 13 — @ 11 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6	— @ — — @ 16 — @ 15 — @ 13 — @ 11 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6	12 @ 13 12 @ 13 — @ 11 — @ 10 — @ 9 — @ 8 — @ 7 — @ 6 — @ 4		
SYRUP.										

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:	April 22.	April 24.	April 25.	April 26.	April 27.	April 28.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw - Strong; holders ask h'gh'r prices Refined—Quiet.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	5.15 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	5.03 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ —	
German Granul'ed.	— @ 5.09	— @ 5.10	— @ 5.11	— @ 5.12	— @ 5.12	— @ 5.14	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Cane—Quiet. Beet—Firmer, with increased demand.
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	12s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	11s. 7 1/2 d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	10s. 11 1/2 d.	10s. 10 1/2 d.	11s. d.	10s. 11 1/2 d.	10s. 11 1/2 d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.	9s. 6d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/4	Steady.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/4	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 1/2	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 3/8	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Apr. 20 Tons 201,711
 At four ports of Great Britain to Apr. 20 " 50,500
 At Havana and Matanzas to Apr. 20 " 89,500

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending April 28, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to April 28, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses	Received.....	Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.			Barrels.	Hhds.		Barrels.
Received.....	67	6,026	1,654	10,157	1,207,145	227,242	
Sold.....	67	4,626	1,949	10,157	1,197,678	227,242	
				Received same time last year	22,378	1,395,686	184,694

APR. 28.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

RICE.	April 22.	April 21.	April 25.	April 23.	April 27.	April 23.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	2 50@4 75	Dull.
ROUGH, per bbl...	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	— @ —	Steady.
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	
Fancy....	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/2 @ 5 3/4	
Choice...	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	5 1/4 @ 5 3/8	
Prime....	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	5 @ 5 1/8	
Good....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	4 3/4 @ 5	
Fair....	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 5/8	
Ordinary	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	4 1/4 @ 4 3/8	
Common.	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	— @ —	
Screenings	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	2 1/2 @ 3 1/4	
Inferior...	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	2 @ 2 1/4	
No. 2....	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	11 00 @ —	
BRAN, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	— @ —	
POLISH, per ton...								

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending April 28, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to April 28, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BRLS. CLEAN.	This year	SACKS ROUGH.	BRLS. CLEAN.	Last year
Received	749	164	679,352	459,447	6,283	7,033
Sold	902	574				

Sugar.

The sugar market was quiet and steady at the end of the week, with moderate receipts, and a demand about sufficient to absorb all offerings.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals quiet.

Rice.

There is but little movement in rough rice. Clean rice is in fair demand, but the supply is limited.

Farmers' National Congress.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The next session of the Farmers' National Congress will meet at Boston, October 3, 4, 5 and 6. Section 2 of the Constitution of the Farmers' National Congress determines the membership and reads as follows:

Sec. 2. The voting membership of this Congress shall be as follows: A member from each congressional district and two at large, to be appointed by the governor of each State (and such governors are requested to appoint practical farmers as such delegates); each Agricultural College and Experiment Station shall be entitled to a delegate; and each national and State society or organization, created and maintained for the fostering of any agricultural interest in the Western Continent, shall be entitled to a delegate. These organizations, societies, etc., shall supply a certified statement of the existence of said organization.

Will you please give this communication a place in your columns, which we know are read by the officers of many of the organizations entitled to representation in the Congress. It is hoped that if this meets their eye they will take the proper steps to have delegates appointed to the next annual meeting of the Congress.

Respectfully yours,
W. D. HOARD, President,
Fort Atkinson, Wis.

JOHN M. STAHL, Secretary.
4328 Langley Ave., Chicago, Ill.

The Sugar Industry of Mexico.

According to the Economista Mexicano, the Republic of Mexico is producing at the present time from seventy to ninety thousand tons of sugar, which is entirely consumed by her 14,000,000 inhabitants. Sugar cane is being cultivated in about 2800 haciendas and ranchos, which produce sugar, "panocha" and aguardiente; in Cuba, on the other hand, 500 plantations are producing 1,000,000 tons of sugar. In other words, in Cuba four and a half times less of places of production, produce more than twelve times the quantity produced in Mexico.

Sugar planting is carried on in Mexico today for the most part as it has been for centuries, according to the most antiquated and traditional systems. In a few plantations of greater importance a combination of old and modern methods is employed, but all these plants are situated in regions that have an altitude of from 100 to 800 metres above the sea level. The conditions existing in such altitudes are unfavorable ones for the raising of the sugar cane and are making its propagation difficult.

In close proximity to the coast, on the other hand, the climate is both hot and humid, no irrigation is ever required, the cane grows rapidly, is ripe for cutting in less than one year and during from eight to fifteen years vigorous sprouts can be obtained from the original planting, and in this way the cost of cultivation which makes the best cane fields in Cuba.

In the relatively high altitudes where sugar cane is grown, wood for fuel is scarce, of poor quality and expensive, which practically limits the fuel the planter can use to the "bagazo" (what remains of the cane after grinding.) The cane is moreover very hard and the percentage of sugar is small.

On the East fuel is to be had in abundance and its cost does not stand in the way of the employment of the most perfect proceedings for the extraction of the juice. The climate makes the cane very soft and by using the system of diffusion it will yield from twelve to thirteen per cent. of sugar, or when a good system of grinding only is employed, fully 10 per cent., which is the average yield from the Antilles.

Sugar War in San Francisco.

San Francisco, April 6.—There is a sugar war on in this city. The "Chronicle" says that a local firm is importing cane sugar from Java and Manila refined in English and Scotch factories at Hong Kong. It is carried by steamers of the California & Oriental Steamship Company, which is part of the Santa Fe system. Heretofore these sugars have been landed in San Deigo and reshipped to this city, but in future the sugar will be landed in San Francisco. Several cuts in the price have been made, the total reduction being nearly one cent a pound.—Telegram.

The Springville (Utah) Factory.

Manager T. R. Cutler, Superintendents Austin and Vallez of the Utah Sugar Company, were in Springville on Wednesday, and staked off the location for a sugar factory which that company is to build here. They also took measurements of the Big Hollow stream of water, to see how much of the stream they will require for the use of the factory. They show every indication of meaning business and work will undoubtedly start on the grounds and buildings right away. Manager Cutler said in the presence of your correspondent that the machinery to grind and crush the beets would be put in in time to work up this season's beet crop. The products of the beets will not be refined, but the juice will be conveyed to the factory at Lehi, by the means of a pipe-line from the factory here to the one at Lehi, where the juice will be refined. Manager Cutler said that this move was made necessary on account of the railroads, saying that they would not be able to furnish the cars necessary for the proper handling of this year's beet crop. Mr. Cutler further stated that next year the Springville beet growers would receive the same price for their beets as the Lehi farmers.—Tribune.

Mr. Henry T. Oxnard, of California, where he is at present busy with the great beet sugar factory at the town of Oxnard, came to New Orleans during the week for the purpose of attending the wedding of Mr. B. A. Oxnard, and took apartments at the St. Charles hotel.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A position as superintendent or head sugar maker, by a man of large experience, either in plantation sugar house or sugar refinery. Can furnish good references. Would prove a valuable and all-around faithful man in any sugar house. Address P. R., care Louisiana Planter. 4-23-99

WANTED—Position by an all-around handy man; can do carpentry, painting, milk cows and make himself useful about a place. First-class references; address CHAS. TREPAONIER, 1426 St. Ann street, New Orleans. 4-21-99

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 references. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LEGER, care M. E. Sepp, 523 8th Avenue, New York. 4-21-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-13-99

WANTED—Position by an experienced young man as book-keeper, stenographer, or both; address X. Y. Z., care this office. 4-15-99

WANTED—Position as assistant overseer on a Louisiana sugar plantation, by young man who has had experience as a planter in field and factory in the West Indies; salary no object; address MOURANT, Burnside P. O., Ascension Parish, La. 4-14-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—Position as blacksmith by a middle-aged man of 19 years practical experience on large sugar plantations in Louisiana; good references. T. P. DAKIN, Gibson, La. 4-19-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 423 to 436 South Peters street. 4-13-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartartia, Texas. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class references, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gillis of Poydras plantation, and others; address Mrs. S. TERRELL, 2221 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, all-around machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or assistant time keeper. "Geo.", care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, Thibodaux, La. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fictel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6011 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHIEF ENGINEER, Lutchter, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give a 1 references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-28-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 26 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 106, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La.

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 2-24-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A 1 references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3415 Constance street, New Orleans. 2-22-99

WANTED—A position as clerk in store by a young man of good habits and experience. Also have a practical knowledge of drugs. Good references. Address ROBERT, care Postmaster, Woodland, La. 2-23-99

WANTED—A position as carpenter or millwright on a sugar plantation. Best of references furnished. Address 418 N. Johnson street, New Orleans. 2-13-99

WANTED—A position by an A No. 1. Sugar dryer, am a machinist with 14 years experience. Address FRANK LORENZ, 302 S. Basin, St., City. 2-15-99

WANTED—A young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education, one accustomed to hardships, would like to procure a position as assistant overseer on a plantation. The above would prove a valuable and "all around" faithful man. Address H. G. I., 1824 Clio street, New Orleans, La. 2-5-99

WANTED—By a graduate of a first-class technical engineering school, position as assistant engineer and electrician, or will take charge of small house. Best of references furnished. Address Box 217, New Iberia, La. 2-6-99

WANTED—Position as clerk or assistant overseer on large sugar plantation. Best of references as to ability, etc. Address 100, care Louisiana Planter. 2-15-99

WANTED—Position as chief or second engineer; 16 years' experience in cane and beet. Address F. O. W., this office. 2-4-99

WANTED—A position for the 1899 crop as vacuum pan sugar maker, by an up-to-date sugar boiler. Will guarantee to give entire satisfaction, or no salary will be expected. Address J. J. LANDRY, Convent, La.

WANTED—A position as overseer on a sugar plantation by a first-class man; address J. F. LETEFF, Nesser, La. 1-4-99

WANTED—Experienced lady stenographer; desires position in the South. Address I, 320 N. Main street, Louisiana, Mo. 1-5

WANTED—Position as bookkeeper or clerk by young married man; a thorough accountant, quick and accurate at figures, and can furnish any references as to capabilities, etc. that may be required. Address E. T., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—An experienced and practical sugar house chemist would like situation in Cuba or Porto Rico. Speaks English only. Address W., care Louisiana Planter. 1-4-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first overseer on a sugar plantation by a man of family. References furnished. Call on or address F. F. MERWIN, 531 Du-maine street, New Orleans. 12-31-98

WANTED—Position as Overseer or Manager on some plantation. Well experienced. Can furnish best of references. J. A. LARKIN, Benton P. O., La. 12-25-98

WANTED—By a sober, honest and experienced man who can come well recommended, a position as time keeper, or record keeper, on a sugar plantation. Address C. A. B., 1035 N. Derbigny street, New Orleans. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a good double-effect man with nine years' experience. References first-class. Address PAUL PARR, Gibson, La., care Greenwood Plantation. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position to take charge of the housekeeping department on a plantation. Understand the curing of meat, preserving and pickling, and the cutting and fitting of plantation out-door clothing. Can furnish best of recommendations. Address MRS. BROCK, Alexandria, La. 12-7-98

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHLOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-27-99

JNO. DYMOND, Jr.,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
339 Carondelet Street,
New Orleans, La.

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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AND

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W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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7 inch.....	32 50	81 15	121 75	162 50
8 inch.....	36 00	90 00	135 00	180 00
9 inch.....	38 00	95 00	142 50	190 00
10 inch.....	40 00	100 00	150 00	200 00
Half Page.....	60 00	150 00	225 00	300 00
Full Page.....	100 00	250 00	400 00	500 00

All communications should be addressed to THE LOUISIANA PLANTER, 339 Carondelet street, New Orleans, La.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Henry McCall, W. B. Schmidt,
Lucien Soniat, Louis Bush,
D. R. Calder,
John Dymond, President.

The Cane Crop.

The warm and favorable weather we have now enjoyed for some days has served to elucidate the crop situation to some extent and to bring out the laggard stubbles which possessed sufficient vitality to come out at all. The damage inflicted by the unusual weather of last winter is now more clearly defined and it is possible to judge of its magnitude better than has hitherto been the case. Unfortunately the stubble cane has apparently been very seriously hurt everywhere. It has not come out as well as had been hoped, though in some cases excellent results are reported. The plant cane, while less in acreage, shows a good stand.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

The May meeting of this association will be held on Thursday evening, May 11th, at 8 o'clock, at No. 712 Union street, New Orleans. The subject of "How to Secure the Best Results in the Preservation of Seed Cane" will be discussed and all interested, whether members of the association or not, are invited to be present.

How to Bring Out the Sugar Canes.

A correspondent in the Attakapas wrote us a few days ago that where he had dug his stubble cane practically down to the mother cane he already had a full stand, while where the earth was not nearly so much removed he still finds the eyes sound and sprouting, but very backward. This is attributed to the fact that the ground has been cold up to the present time and without exposure to the influence of the sun germination has been almost impossible. He states further that the cane planted before the freeze promises very well and is quite vigorous.

Thomas' American Grocery Trade Reference Book.

The Planter is indebted to the Thomas Publishing Co., of New York, for a copy of its American Grocery Trade Reference Book for 1899. This compilation includes classified lists of all the jobbers, manufacturers, importers, producers, commission and brokerage concerns connected in a wholesale way with the grocery and allied interests of the United States. The work has been made as complete and accurate as possible and is intended to accomplish for the grocery trade what the reference hand books of the same firm have already done so well for the hardware and machinery trades of the United States. Complete schedules are given of all the dealers and brokers in any of the grocery or collateral trades, the lists being made up first by the articles dealt in, giving the brokers' and dealers' addresses and secondly by the various states and cities, giving the dealers and brokers therein.

The book is published at \$3.50 and will be issued annually and it will be sent postpaid by remitting this amount to the Thomas Publishing Co., of New York.

The Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Press Association.

The annual meeting of the Louisiana Press Association, which was held in Baton Rouge last week, April 25, 26 and 27, was a very enjoyable affair—one of the best in the history of the association. The city of Baton Rouge gave the members of the association a royal welcome, and all concerned, from the governor down to the car drivers, seemed bent on making the members feel at home in Baton Rouge.

Apart from the routine business of the association there were addresses of welcome by the Governor of the State

and also by the Mayor of the City, represented by Col. T. Jones Cross; a reception at the Governor's mansion; a banquet at the Veranda; an excursion to Jackson, to visit the great Insane Asylum there, and also the Centenary College, and a reception and school exercises by the sisters and pupils of St. Joseph's Conventual School.

The papers read before the association were plain, practical essays, all tending to treat improved methods of newspaper work and management. The press of the State, while not entirely, was largely represented, and the members, in parting, were unanimous in their expression of satisfaction and pleasure from the meeting and their enjoyment of the whole-souled hospitality displayed towards the press by the good people of Baton Rouge.

Before adjourning the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Louisiana State University, under the control of Col. Thos. D. Boyd, is carrying on a grand educational work in the State; its 287 cadet students display excellent discipline, studious manners and good behavior; that the University deserves the support of the press of the state and should be enabled to enlarge its work, to increase its efficiency in full accord with twentieth century standards.

Second. That the Louisiana Insane Asylum caught us by the immensity of the charitable work there done, by the extraordinary discipline maintained and by the general good nature and pleasant relations subsisting between the 1112 patients and the management. The imperative necessity for immediate enlargement of the asylum or the transference of some of its patients to other quarters that might be erected for the purpose is self-evident. The increase in population of the state carries with it more than a proportion of its increase in the demand careful provision for the same.

Third—That the Louisiana Institute for the Blind is a most deserving state institution; that the educational work there being done in enabling the blind to earn a livelihood merits the support of the press of this state, and that all blind young persons should be sent to the institute to avail of its advantages.

Fourth—That the state institute for the deaf and dumb is also one of the most useful of the state's grand charities; that the education of the deaf and dumb to the self-supporting condition here attained makes this one of our most successful state institutions, and it should be supported by the press.

Fifth—That the Louisiana State Penitentiary we found to be in excellent condition, the health and comfort of its inmates carefully considered and maintained and the discipline excellent.

Resolved, further, That considering that the enormous crops of cotton which are annually raised in the South bringing financial embarrassment to many growers thereof in lieu of profit, and causing commercial and

industrial depression, where smaller crops formerly brought animation, comfort and wealth; considering that the people of the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama and other Southern states, are successfully engaging in cotton manufactories and by that means striving to wrest the control of the price of the raw cotton and of its futures from the foreign buyers and manufacturers; considering that these enormous crops of raw cotton are, notwithstanding temporary embarrassment they are causing, demonstrating the capacity of the South to dominate the cotton production of the world; considering that time has revolutionized the trade and industrial methods of the world; and further considering that our people must adapt themselves to such changes;

Be it resolved, That the entire press of Louisiana, be and is hereby earnestly requested and invited to unite in the advocacy of the following special measures:

1st. The erection of cotton manufactories at every point in the state affording the requisite facilities.

2nd. The creation of other manufactories for which the state possesses so varied and numerous material.

3rd. Diversification of production.

4th. The full development of the stock raising industry, including the fattening of stock for home and distant markets.

5th. The creation of new inventions and the perfecting of those already in existence.

6th. The speedy completion of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, and the extension of our commerce in Latin America.

7th. Public improvements of every character.

Resolved, That the press of Louisiana should deem it a pleasant duty and privilege to profote the success of the State Reunion of Confederate Veterans to be held in the city of Baton Rouge on the 3rd and 4th of July, 1899.

Resolved, That the grateful thanks of the Louisiana Press Association are due to the good people of Baton Rouge for the cordial reception, unbounded courtesy and generous hospitality extended our members and for the admirable and perfect arrangements made for our comfort and entertainment during the delightful session of the association just closed in this beautiful Capital City. Among the many ladies, gentlemen and organizations, who with their associates, members and employes have thus placed us under a lasting obligation, it is a pleasure to mention the following:

1st. Mrs. J. W. Bates, chairman of the ladies' entertainment committee.

2nd. Mrs. F. H. Loucks, chairman decorating committee.

3rd. Mayor Hart, chairman reception committee.

4th. Ben. R. Rayer, chairman finance committee.

5th. Miss Lucy Bates, chairman music committee.

6th. The Sisters of St. Joseph's Convent.

7th. The president, faculty and band of the cadet corps of the Louisiana State University.

8th. The management and orchestra of the institute for the blind.

9th. The Electric Railway Company.

10th. The Independent Silver Cornet Band and the Girls Mandolin Clubs.

11th. The girls chorus of Miss Mayo's school.

12th. The Verandah and Grand hotels.

Resolved, That the success of our meeting has been largely due to transportation facilities extended our members by the fol-

lowing railroads: Illinois Central; Yazoo and Mississippi Valley; Texas and Pacific; Southern Pacific; Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific; Missouri Pacific; Kansas City, Watkins and Gulf; East and West Texas, and the St. Louis and Southwestern, and to these roads our thanks are gratefully rendered.

Resolved, That we are specially indebted to the courtesy of the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley and the Jackson and McManus railroad for the delightful excursion to Jackson, and to the people of that lovely little town, the authorities of the Louisiana State Insane Asylum, Centenary College and Milwood Institute for hospitality, courtesies and entertainment that combined to render this excursion one of the most enjoyable features of our annual meeting.

The Weather in St. James.

Mr. E. Cherbonnier, of the Helvetia plantation, St. James parish, has kindly given the planter his weather observations for the last half of April. The maximum temperature reached was 92 deg. F. on April 29, and the minimum 48 deg. F. on April 23. One and three-quarter inches of rainfall were recorded, that of April 21 reaching three-quarters of an inch. The average minimum temperature for the fifteen days was 58 deg. F., and the average maximum was 82 deg. F.

Mr. Cherbonnier made a series of observations to discover the relative open air temperature and that four inches below the surface of the ground. These observations revealed some interesting facts, as will be seen by the tabulated statement, which is as follows:

Date.	Time	Outside.	4 in. Under Ground.
April 25	6:00 A. M.	68 deg.	61 deg.
April 25	3:00 P. M.	84 deg.	76 deg.
April 25	6:00 P. M.	74 deg.	76 deg.
April 26	6:30 A. M.	70 deg.	66 deg.
April 26	3:00 P. M.	88 deg.	86 deg.
April 26	6:30 P. M.	88 deg.	86 deg.
April 27	6:30 A. M.	72 deg.	68 deg.
April 27	3:00 P. M.	86 deg.	86 deg.
April 27	6:30 P. M.	88 deg.	87 deg.
April 28	7:00 A. M.	74 deg.	71 deg.
April 28	3:00 P. M.	90 deg.	80 deg.
April 28	7:00 P. M.	78 deg.	83 deg.

It will be noticed that on April 25 a temperature of 84 deg. F. was reached at 3 p. m. At the same hour the temperature below the surface was recorded at 76 deg. F. Three hours later the open air thermometer recorded 74 deg. F., while the underground thermometer recorded the same temperature as at 3 p. m. Again, on the 28th, the 3 p. m. temperature reached 90 deg. F., while the underground thermometer recorded but 80, while at 7 p. m. the exposed thermometer indicated 78 and the un-

detached thermometer had risen to 83. From the table it will be seen that all of the 6 p. m. temperatures were relatively high, indicating that the earth had become heated by the temperature during the day, and while the temperature of the air falls rapidly in the evening, the earth radiates its heat somewhat slowly, maintaining a high temperature for a considerable time and becoming relatively cold only the following morning.

The slowness of the growth of the cane crop this season makes these observations of Mr. Cherbonnier's very interesting, indicating as they do the average low temperature of the month of April and thus perhaps largely accounting for the slow growth.

May Weather.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau has just published data from the records at New Orleans, covering a period of 27 years. The mean or normal temperature has been 75 deg. F., the warmest May was that of 1896, with an average of 78 deg. F., while the coldest May was that of 1877, with an average of 73 deg. F. The highest temperature reached was 93 deg. F. on May 25, 1898, and the lowest temperature was 63 deg. F. on May 7, 1891. The average rainfall for the month has been 4.47 inches, with 18.68 inches in 1873 as the greatest rainfall. The lowest rainfall was that of last year, when only .02 inches fell during the month of May.

Chino Factory Sold.

The Oxnard-Hamilton beet sugar properties, in which are included the factories located at Chino, Hueneme and Grand Island, Neb., have been sold to a new corporation just organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey. Henry Oxnard, who is now at the Hotel Van Nuys admitted the facts of the sale to-day.

The three factories in question have been the property of Henry and James Oxnard and James G. Hamilton. The last named is a New Yorker.

The price paid for the two California factories could not be learned to-day. Experts place the figures at \$1,500,000 for each plant, the amount being based upon the earning capacity of each factory.

The identity of the purchasers has not been disclosed, the new company having been capitalized at \$1,000,000. The Clark

factory, located at Los Alamitos, is not in the new deal.

It was stated at the office of J. Ross Clark to-day that Senator W. A. Clark would not part with his beet sugar holdings for any amount that any individual or syndicate could afford to pay. The Los Alamitos factory represents an investment of \$1,000,000 to Senator Clark, and he does not care to unload, as he placed his money originally not for speculation but for legitimate investment, and he is satisfied with the returns earned by the property.

The indications are that the coming beet campaign in this section will net a two-thirds yield. Upon this basis, the Chino factory will handle 66,000 tons, the Hueneme factory 75,000 tons, and the Los Alamitos factory 50,000 tons. This yield will mean \$4 to the growers for every ton handled. This means \$764,000, nearly all of which finds its way finally to Los Angeles in the purchase of machinery, supplies and other necessities.

The length of the season at the three Southern California factories is usually 120 days. Upon the basis of a two-thirds crop the season this year will last 80 days. The campaign will be inaugurated somewhat later than usual this year, because of the recent rains which failed to arrive until long after they had been due. Operations will begin August 1.

Magazine Notes.

The German appreciation of Kipling, which *The Living Age* has translated from the *Englische Studien*, is keen, just and discriminating. Kipling is widely read, and to judge from this estimate, is well understood in Germany.

People who find a good deal of current fiction somewhat too gruesome and gory will appreciate Mr. Robertson's essay on *The Murder Novel*, which forms the leading article in *The Living Age* for April 29.

Henri Lavedan's story of *A French Courtship*, which *The Living Age* translates in its numbers for April 22 and 29, has a very delightful humor and naivete.

Mr. R. R. Barrow, of Houma, La., a leading Terrebonne parish capitalist and sugar planter, registered at the Hotel Grunewald on Monday last.

Shall We Severely Expose Our Planted Canes and Stubbles to Secure a Stand?

Editor Louisiana Planter:

At the last meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association papers were read on the "Best Method of Planting, Fertilizing and Cultivating Cane so as to give the Best Results in Sugar," and the subject was then discussed by the members. In this State the cane growers cultivate a tropical plant in a semi tropical climate where the period for maturing is curtailed by low temperatures, and extremes of wet and dry weather. The

reasons why opinions differ so widely as to the treatment of cane is simply due to its extreme hardness. During the discussion Mr. Dymond justly stated: "This question of leaving cane on the bar furrow ought to be better understood than it is now," and quoted instances where opinions differed. Mr. Comeaux in his paper stated, "It has always been the custom to leave cane on the bar furrow until it was up to a stand and even longer, that the sun might heat the roots. That I believe is an error. Cane should, as early in the spring as is considered safe from the cold, be barred off and scraped very close, but it should remain in that bare condition only a few days when a light furrow should be brought up on each side to retain moisture." The writer has been opposed to leaving cane on the bar for divers reasons, although he had an experience in 1870 which would seemingly refute the objections. From early in March until about the twentieth of June no rain fell to reach the mother canes planted. When the last twenty acres of cane were barred the clods were very large and the land so hard that the men could only peck, not dig the stubble. The stubble remained on the bar during the longest drought experienced here since 1865, yet the yield amounted to 1½ hds. of sugar per acre with single mill and open kettle.

Because canes are extremely hardy is no reason why their vitality should be taxed by subjecting them to unnecessary extremes of dry or wet surrounding. Sprouts when once above ground will survive with a soil almost constantly saturated, yet canes cannot be profitably grown from year to year when the drainage is very defective. The market gardener here and elsewhere in colder climes wants to hasten vegetation and early maturity, but he does not remove the earth from the sides of his plants and leave them in that plight to accomplish his end, he places an enriched soil in fine condition around his plants and trusts to sunlight and soil moisture to develop luxuriant and healthy vegetation.

Some years ago the writer was discussing the treatment of stubble fields with Major Lagarde who stated: "On my way down the Lafourche I came to a small planter who was molding some stubble where no sprouts were yet visible. I told him he was making a mistake and the reply was 'Major, that stubble is sick and wants nursing.' Two weeks later I had occasion to pass down the bayou from Thibodaux to Lockport and the finest stand I saw was where the small planter had molded his cane. A year or two later I went to a meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association, where "The Proper Time to Fertilize Stubble" was the subject of discussion. The consensus of opinion seemed to be in favor of a somewhat late application, and as I had already manured my fields I had to be content and await developments." That season Major Lagarde on Leighton had the

finest ratoons on the bayou from Napoleonville to Lockport.

Some years sprouts begin to throw out independent roots early in May and sometimes not until several weeks later. The cane grower wants not only tonnage but maturity, and the time of application of fertilizers must depend on the quality of the ingredients; if chemicals soluble in water are used no harm will be done if the manure is not put on the fields until the young canes begin to root. If tankage, etc., are used where decomposition from nitrogen to nitric acid must take place before the plant food is available, then the earlier manuring will prove of benefit. If micro-organisms are so essential to healthy plant life, and myriads are killed by soil saturation, why convert what should be ridges into water furrows and thereby risk the destruction of what should be conserved and encouraged to multiply indefinitely? It would prove of interest to cane growers here to learn how plant cane and stubble areas are treated in Spain and Queensland in Australia where the cane is cultivated in the frost belt as here, and if possible where the practice of barring cane originated.

THOS. MANN CAGE.

Sugar and Expansion.

San Francisco, Cal., Apr. 26, 1899.

What effect will territorial expansion have upon sugar making in the United States?

One answer seems to be that the beet sugar industry of this country and also the domestic cane sugar interest are seriously threatened.

Handicapped as the beet sugar makers and sugar beet growers have been in competing with the bounty-fostered industry of Continental Europe, they must, plainly, in the near future face an enormous increase in the output of cane sugar from Cuba and our new possessions in the far East.

If it be admitted that the Philippine Islands will soon be developed by American capital, along with the admission goes the corollary that the work of developing must be done by Chinese or Filipino laborers, with whom the white man cannot compete out there because of climate and wages. With this sort of labor and with the improved methods and machinery that will surely be introduced, it seems that the output of sugar from those islands must inevitably, within the next five years, be immensely increased.

The principal sugar-producing districts in the Philippines are on the islands of Luzon, Negros, Panay and Cebu. It is not now possible to say how great in these districts is the acreage upon which cane can be successfully grown; but the statement is made that the average yield for each acre under cultivation during the old regime was thirty tons of cane, which is a moderate one. Negros has the finest cane-producing lands, but not more than one-half of these lands

has ever been brought under cultivation. In all of the districts mentioned the sugar estates have heretofore been small. An estate that turned out five hundred tons of sugar annually was a large one, and at no time have there been more than ten or twelve estates in the entire archipelago that produced more than one thousand tons of raw sugar each during a season. There is every reason to believe that in the near future there will be plantations in the group fully equal to those that were in operation in Cuba before the late war, from which ten thousand to fifteen thousand tons were not unusual yields.

In the Philippines the methods of manufacturing are generally the most primitive conceivable. Except in Negros, vertical mills, made of wood or stone and with the native carabao or water buffalo for motive power, are still in use, having undergone little change since they were first introduced by the Chinese centuries ago. On Negros there are a number of European-made mills, and on Luzon there are perhaps as many as ten private estates where vacuum pans have been in use. Will not all of this old-fashioned machinery be supplanted by the latest modern contrivances from the United States in much-the same way that the most modern appliances from this country have taken the place in Cuba of machinery made in Glasgow and Belgium?

On all of the far Eastern islands transportation facilities are abominable, and from the greater number of plantations to the coast there are no canals, no dirt roads worthy of the name, and no railways. The sugar is usually carried to market or to tide water in buffalo carts. No port has yet been found in Negros where large vessels can take cargo, so that sugar from that island is taken to Iloilo on the island of Panay in schooners carrying from forty to one hundred tons.

Undoubtedly Americans will bring about an industrial revolution in our Oriental archipelago; for nowhere else will the soil give such wonderful returns, when properly worked, as in these islands. The Spaniards and the natives were content to get as much as possible from the soil with the least possible effort, and tried for no more. This is shown in the table following by the total exports of sugar, in tons, from the islands between 1883 and 1889:

From—	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Manila—Dry.....	62,004	46,481	47,542	62,594	62,167	63,890	.....
Wet.....	33,692	17,777	18,196	21,610	21,302	27,738	.....
Cebu—Dry.....	16,807	13,404	23,678	15,190	12,765	13,094	.....
Wet.....	5,688	3,870	4,519	2,950	5,060	3,600	.....
Iloilo—Dry.....	80,702	39,841	102,369	81,201	71,722	72,982	.....
Wet.....	12,694	1,665	7,210	2,255	6,125	4,115	.....
Totals.....	211,592	121,978	203,482	185,800	179,181	185,319	218,925

There are no data from which the cost of producing this sugar can be compiled, nor would knowledge of such cost be of much use, for under improved conditions and methods an entirely new basis will be established.

The world's production of beet sugar increased from 2,690,000 tons in 1884 to 4,790,000 tons in 1894, under the export bounty system, a gain of 78 per cent. During the same period the output of cane sugar increased from 2,180,000 tons to 3,080,000 tons, or only 41 per cent. But this proportion will surely be very different under the changed conditions. Even now there is a crisis in France in the sugar industry resulting from over-production, due to the export bounty and consequent low prices. Many who have France's interests at heart are advising her to turn from sugar making to manufacturing alcohol.

After Cuba shall have been restored to her old place as a sugar producer and the Philippines shall have entered the market in earnest with their great output from large plantations worked by cheap laborers, the governments of Continental Europe are likely to find it but sorry work protecting by bounties their beet sugar makers. Nor is it easy to see much more hope for the sugar makers and sugar growers of the United States; for cannot our faraway possessions say, with at least a show of demanding only justice, that they are entitled to as fair treatment as that given to the Hawaiian Islands, from which sugar has been admitted free of duty ever since 1876?—F. R. W., in N. Y. Journal Commerce.

Personal.

Among the visitors to this city last week was Mr. Charles S. Parker, of Liverpool, Eng. Mr. Parker is extensively engaged in sugar producing in British Guiana, where he has a factory which annually produces over 20,000,000 pounds of high grade sugar. He is just completing a trip around the world, starting some five months ago from Liverpool. He has visited the sugar producing sections of Egypt, Australia, Hawaii, California and lastly Louisiana. While here he was the guest of Mr. E. W. Deming, who had arranged to show him some of the larger Louisiana houses.

Hon. Charles A. O'Neill, a leading barrister and highly esteemed citizen of the town of Franklin, La., was in the city on a visit a few days ago and registered at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. A. W. Conerly, of Terrebonne parish, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He stopped at one of our leading hotels.

1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
62,004	46,481	47,542	62,594	62,167	63,890	.....
33,692	17,777	18,196	21,610	21,302	27,738	.....
16,807	13,404	23,678	15,190	12,765	13,094	.....
5,688	3,870	4,519	2,950	5,060	3,600	.....
80,702	39,841	102,369	81,201	71,722	72,982	.....
12,694	1,665	7,210	2,255	6,125	4,115	.....
211,592	121,978	203,482	185,800	179,181	185,319	218,925

Mr. J. F. Wellington, who is largely interested in the rice section of this state, was a recent guest of the Hotel Grunewald, registering from Jennings, La.

Mr. F. A. Coombs was a guest of the St. Charles hotel last Sunday.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has assumed a seasonable form now, the average of temperature being properly high, and the only amendment that might render the meteorological situation entirely acceptable would be an occasional warm shower.

The summary of Local Observer W. D. Park for April, shows a maximum temperature of 91 degrees, a minimum of 39 degrees, and a total rainfall for the month of 3.70 inches. There were 20 clear days, 7 partly cloudy and 3 cloudy. On 5 days the precipitation exceeded .01 of an inch, and there was a light frost on the 8th. A thunderstorm occurred the night of the 20th, followed by a high wind the morning of the 21st, causing considerable damage to fencing and fruit trees. The maximum temperature for April, 1898, was 88 degrees, the minimum 40 degrees and the precipitation only 2.10 inches. The past month was therefore more generally favorable to crop interests than the corresponding period of a year ago, but unfortunately there is not the same agricultural basis to build on there was in the spring of 1898.

Taking the reports from the sugar plantations by and large, the situation may be summarized as follows: Spring plant cane, with the exception of a small proportion put into the ground later than the rest is showing a very good stand; first-year ratoons are fair in some places and indifferent in many others, while second-year ratoons are generally bad, but showing a reasonably good stand in some instances.

The principal event of local interest this week has been the annual meeting, election of officers and fifteenth anniversary banquet of the Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association of Louisiana, which took place last Tuesday.

The meeting was well attended, among those present besides President Henry McCall and Secretary F. B. Lemann, being Drs. W. M. McCallard, John D. Hanson and E. K. Sims, Judge Waller Guion, Col. R. McCall and J. E. St. Martin, Capt. R. Prosper Landry, Messrs. E. H. Barton, Myer Lemann, W. I. Barton, E. N. Pugh, Carroll Barton, Henry C. Braud, G. A. Gondran, R. N. Sims, Jr., C. Kline, S. H. St. Martin and L. E. Bentley. Among those who sent excuses for non attendance were Messrs. James P. Kock, Arthur Jacobs, Adolphe Netter, A. D. Vega, J. Lebermuth, D. D. Dalferes and J. S. Lombard

Routine business was disposed of in due form including the adoption of a resolution restoring the dues of regular members from \$18 to \$24 per year, after which the present officers were unanimously re-elected as follows: Henry McCall, president Bernard Lemann, first vice-president; Dr. W. M. Mc-

Galliard, second-vice president; F. B. Lemann, secretary and treasurer.

Falling health led to the resignation of Capt. John T. Nolan, whose place on the board of directors was filled by the election of Mr. E. H. Barton. The board as at present constituted comprises the following gentlemen in addition to the officers: James P. Kock, R. McCall, E. N. Pugh, R. N. Sims, J. E. St. Martin, C. Kline and E. H. Barton.

The following resolution, offered by Hon. Henry McCall, was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the interests of the whole country, the reinforcement of our navy, the enlargement of foreign markets for our surplus product, the increased employment of our workmen would be all promoted by the restoration of our merchant marine to its former position on the seas of the world; therefore be it

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the Ascension Branch of the Sugar Planters' Association of Louisiana, it is the duty of congress, at the earliest day possible, to enact legislation to secure such restoration, on the lines of that recently reported favorably to both houses of congress by the committee on the part of the senate and the committee on the merchant marine and fisheries on the part of the house.

Further resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be mailed to Capt. A. K. Miller, of New Orleans, president of the American Shipping and Industrial League.

The banquet followed, but that is another story to be told in next week's letter from

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has been favorable during the past week, but occasional showers would be appreciated as the soil is getting pretty dry. On April 29th the maximum temperature, as reported at the U. S. engineer's office at Plaquemine, reached the 93 degree mark; the lowest temperature was on April 26th, 60 degrees. Everything seems to be growing and even the stubbles, which have been very slow this year, are showing up at last. A gentleman, who pulled up 36 bunches last week told us he found two and three good vigorous sprouts on all the bunches but 5, and he felt satisfied that he would yet get a fair stand. A ride along the coast from Plaquemine to Ascension line, right bank, however discloses very few cuts of stubble showing even a half stand. The stand of plant cane is good.

Hon. Fred Wilbert, of Plaquemine, who has large planting interests on Bayous Jacob and Sorrell says he feels very much gratified at the way things are looking now.

Mr. Eli Laville, of Plaquemine, the clever manager of Mrs. H. H. Baker's Evergreen plantation, says the new levee will take over 60 acres of their finest land. Evergreen's crop is one of the best in the parish and Mr.

Laville has received many compliments from all who have seen it.

We hear of a small reduction in wages on several places in the parish, but we do not think this move will be general.

Messrs. Holloway & Postell, of Plaquemine, have planted cotton in some of their stubbles on the Star plantation. They did the same on several small pieces last year and seem satisfied with the result.

Mr. Joseph D. Berret, of Soulouque, one of the best rice planters in the state realized a handsome profit on his rice crop of last year by holding it over till this spring.

The Police Jury held its regular meeting last Monday and among other things, appropriated \$250.00 for the Richland road in the first ward. The neighborhood to which this road leads is now very thickly settled with small farmers, who by putting their own labor in with the help extended them by the parish, can make this road one of the best in the parish. A motion to levy a per capita tax of \$1.00 for road purposes was voted down. The parish health officer was authorized to select a site for a pest house, several straggling cases of smallpox having found their way into the parish. Planters should watch closely and should also require their laborers to get vaccinated.

Hon. Judges J. M. Thompson and W. W. Leake held a session of the 4th circuit, at Plaquemine, this week and tried four cases, to-wit: A. V. Coco, vs. Dr. G. R. Fox; Amedee Levert, vs. Serena Jackson, et als.; Dr. G. R. Fox, vs. Mrs. Josephine Dunlap; and Grace Bros., vs. Mitchell Zeringue, et al. The judgment of the lower court in the last named suit was reversed while those rendered in the three first mentioned were affirmed.

Messrs. Harley and Samuel Matthews of Nashville, Tennessee, who were brought here by the sad death of their mother last week, after spending several days in the parish with relatives have returned.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

There has been a slight change for the better here during the past two weeks in the condition of the cane crop. This improvement seems to apply more to the upper half than the lower portion of the parish. In this connection it is noted as a peculiar fact that the central and upper portions of the parish suffer less in unfavorable seasons than the lower section.

Under the influence of the warmer weather now prevailing considerable cane, both plant and stubble, has come out during the past two or three weeks, and it is generally believed and hoped that more will yet come when the weather conditions are more favorable. For, although the days are warmer than they were three weeks ago, the weather is still unseasonably cool and decidedly too dry. Rain is badly needed everywhere. It is generally conceded that it will

be at least two weeks before it can be learned just to what extent the cane will come out, while some planters contend that June 7 will have come and gone ere the situation can be sized up accurately.

In the opening sentence of this communication it is stated that "there has been a slight change for the better here." This in a restricted sense. As an illustration of what is here meant, the case may be cited of a large plantation whose proprietor two weeks ago did not expect to make enough cane to plant his place for at least two years. On Monday the gentleman stated that some of his cane had come out surprisingly well lately, and that he thought they would at least make seed enough this season to plant the place next year. Two other plantations here are not so fortunate, as their owners at present despair of growing a sufficiency of seed cane this year. Several places will probably grind, if only for a couple or three weeks. That is to say, they have more than enough seed cane in sight. In view of the generally unfavorable weather conditions that have prevailed, and are still prevailing, it seems quite certain that the crop will be late, but as few planters expect to grind, that fact is of little consequence.

Mr. John Cronan, who has always made good crops on his own property and, more recently, on the Bellevalle plantation, which he leases, is endeavoring to "tide over" the situation by putting in 100 acres of cotton on Bellevalle. While several of the larger planters some weeks ago had expressed an intention to experiment with cotton, Mr. Cronan, so far as I can learn, is the only one who has carried his intention into execution. The result of his efforts will be watched with interest. Apropos of the fleecy staple it is almost impossible to get good cotton seed here, and, consequently, the stands are very defective. In many cases, it has been found necessary to replant. The incessant rains of last fall and the zero temperature of February seem to have seriously injured the cotton seed as well as the cane.

Berthelot Brothers, who are cultivating rice on Limerick plantation, have flattering prospects of an excellent crop.

A soaking rain would be of great benefit just now to

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

No complaint can be urged against the excellent weather given us for the past ten days. It has been exceptionally warm, and under the influence of the genial rays of the sun all vegetation has taken a new lease of life. The corn crop will be a large one, and everything now points to a larger than average yield of corn per acre, as an almost perfect stand has been secured, and the ground was probably in better condition than ever before. It is growing rapidly, and the planter is anticipating the time when

it will have been laid by and he can devote his best efforts to the cane. The plant looks thrifty, and is better than was usually anticipated, thus showing that the destruction wrought by the cold weather of February was but small. Many contend that the harm was done not by the cold, but by the wet winter, and the cool spring following. The stubble is coming still, and many eyes are still to be found to reward the patience of the investigator. Dust is now in evidence, and the dry spell, has enabled the farmer to catch up with his work. So far there seems hope for a fair crop, and perhaps with the best of weather we may exceed the sugar returns of last year.

A careful observer told me that on cane marking the rows the latter part of April, he had obtained from stubble an average of twenty-two tons per acre, however, another year he had been only able to get to fifteen tons to the acre. There is no doubt that sugar cane is a rank grower, and if given favorable seasons it will rapidly make up for lost time. A comparison of the temperature of last week with that of April a year ago, shows a higher degree this year, in fact, it exceeds the normal, which is a condition of climate most favorable for the cane.

Among the crops showing up very prettily along the public road, we may mention Locust Grove, whereon an excellent stand of plant cane can be seen. Mr. Roussel claims that he is too modest to put his best cane in front, so that we surmise that Locust Grove will be heard from when we begin to spin yarns about tonnage. The cane on Oakley and Little Texas has come out surprisingly within the past ten days, and prospects look bright as to a question of stand. The prettiest plant cane I have seen was on Georgia, the product of the seed I referred to in one of my letters in the early spring. The stubble here as well, seems to be improving in quality. Elm Hill and Foley are not boasting, but their managers have a contented look that argues well for future results, and is a fair indication that they are no worse off than their neighbors. It has been stated that the Elm Hill crop, both stubble and plant, will equal that of the same time last year.

While a warm rain now, not too heavy, would do good, we are not suffering for it. As a rule, a dry May means a good crop year. The reason for this is obvious, for a dry May means cane well worked, and thorough culture of cane and an early "lay-by" are regarded as almost sure precursors of good sugar yields, the year 1898 to the contrary notwithstanding.

We regret to record the fact that Mr. E. L. Monnot is still confined to the house; his many friends will join me in the hope that he will soon be up and about again.

Mrs. Walter Stella, (better known as Miss Fanny Foley,) will spend a few weeks at the old homestead.

Mrs. Race is visiting Glenwood, after an absence of some years.

Mrs. Espy Williams has been the guest of Mrs. Ford at Bellewood for some days, enjoying the country hospitality so charmingly extended.

The water in the Lafourche continues to fall, and no danger from the water in sight is felt in Assumption. MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

With more than ten days without any rainfall and the weather otherwise generally propitious, field work has made rapid progress and the crops of both cane and corn have notably improved, and quantities of the latter are being laid by and peas planted, a much earlier date than last year. In localities where the worms were not destructive, the prospects for a corn crop are above the average, and the acreage will certainly exceed that of last season. Last year but little cane was planted with the land in good condition; but this spring in this parish the bulk of the plant cane was seeded with the land in good order, and had the seed cane been sound before and after the freeze, the stand of plant cane would have been up to the average. As it is in very many instances the outlook for plant cane is far superior to what was hoped for by many a day or two after the exceedingly low temperature in February. Although new sprouts appear from day to day in the stubble fields, yet but few now hope for an approximation to an average stand, and consequently corn has been largely planted, to be thinned out later should the rains appear. The lands are generally in better tilth than last season and middles are being ploughed out to plant cane and stubble.

It will be ten days or two weeks yet before any just estimate can be formed of the crop prospect, and even then much will depend on the kind of season until the crop is laid by in July. Last year in this parish May was dry, followed by precipitations far above the normal until October, one of the most unpropitious seasons ever experienced in this latitude. The chances are this season will be far more favorable than last year and the output from the plant cane area crop requires assiduous cultivation with the land well ridged to expedite the flow of water from the field, whereby the number of working days may be increased should showers interfere with cultivation. In this latitude clean water furrows are essential to frequent tillage—so necessary to augment crop yields. A warm shower might prove acceptable to some, but dry weather is infinitely preferable to frequent rains, as the crop requires rapid cultivation to put the soil in a friable condition for rapid and profuse rooting. There are those who may treat with derision the idea that waves of thought affect peoples and nations, yet in time such may be recognized as a fact. One can see the ripple on the shore in cane culture, beginning with the realization that

constant clod cumulation with the double plough is diametrically opposed to correct tillage.

At a recent meeting of the Drainage Commission No. 1, the chairman, Mr. R. R. Barrow, stated: "When we reach Schriever we will have cut out the following bayous since Dec. 13th, 1893:

Little Caillou	10½ miles
Terrebonne	22 miles
Bayou Cane	½ miles
Canal to Prairie	¾ miles
La Cache bayou	3 miles
La Cache canal	½ miles
Bayou Chauvin and canal	4½ miles
Bayou Sale	4 miles

Making a total of 45¾ miles

"Your commission hope to finish the work on upper Terrebonne shortly and to remove the dredge finishing up the work as they go to the bayou Du Large section of our district."

Wednesday of last week, heavy fog in the early morning and partially cloudy later; Thursday, fog and fine; Friday, fog and favorable growing weather during the day; similar conditions on Saturday; Sunday and Monday, clouds and sunshine; Tuesday, cloudy and threatening; and Wednesday morning, warm and partially cloudy.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

We have not had a rain at this writing since the 18th of April, and during that period of time a great deal of field cultivating has gone on, under a temperature that is the exact number for rapid growth of crops, and favorable, too, for giving the grass a back set from which it will not recover until the laying-by season, unless we are overtaken by an excessive rainy spell during the growing period. But while we are not having an over supply of what our cultured brother in Terrebonne invariably styles "precipitations," we have had, during the past six or ten days, several threatening "agglutinations," but they each resulted in very complete "scatterations," and, as a consequence, the dust upon the public roads, has continued to grow thicker, and the South winds have distributed it to some extent upon the vegetation growing near the roadways throughout the parish; but "conglomerations" of lowering mien, have been hanging over us to-day, though no rain.

Senator Caffery, owner of Bethia plantation, half a mile above Franklin, is at home again, after his long labor at the Nation's Capital, in a vigorous and praiseworthy campaign in opposition to the ratification of the Paris "acquisition" treaty, disguised as a treaty of peace. While Mr. Caffery is not considered an old man in the Senate, (owing to the fact that it is a body of white heads) he is looked upon as a land mark in this parish, and as holding his age in high preservation. The Senator has been identified

with the interests of the sugar industry for many years, and has always been a forcible exponent of land reclamation, perfect drainage and the central factory corporation for the small planter, and by him (the planter) owned and operated.

Upon enquiry, of persons in authority, your correspondent learns that the Franklin refinery, basing its calculations on ordinary results, expects today between seven and eight millions this season. This concern is exclusively a refinery, having no crushing apparatus whatever, and running at full time, its capacity will exceed very largely, a million a week; but so many of our planters have put in a full train of machinery from the mill to the packer that its patronage has been somewhat interfered with in recent years.

Mr. A. A. Bonvillain's several plantations in the Cypremont district are all about up and coming now, and from present indications he says he can safely count upon a full stand of cane, less ten per cent.

Mr. W. B. Kemper, owner of the Chou-pique plantation, says his shortage will be as much as fifteen per cent. But both these planters will make up the scarcity as near as possible, with heavy corn planting.

Mr. A. M. Underwood, of the Belleview, on the Teche, is merely throwing dirt to his cane in the windrow, as he claims it were impossible to economically take up and plant it in the regular way, owing to the extent of his loss from the freeze.

Messrs. J. N. Pharr and J. W. Barnett, two of the most extensive planters in the lower section of this parish, have contemplated the erection of cane hoists on the rail and water ways of this portion of St. Mary for several years past, which would be of great benefit to those producers who sell by the ton, and your correspondent learns that they will put them in without fail, in time for the present harvest season, if the gross yield indicates a disposition to allow it.

Mr. J. P. Kemper, proprietor of the great farm implement and cultivator house, with headquarters at Franklin, is the inventor of a cable-rake carrier feeder, of which little is known as yet, but which has been pronounced by planters and mechanical men as embracing every essential to its ultimate success. Only one has ever been erected so far, and that upon one of Mrs. Ernest Burguieres' places in Cypremont, over which some misunderstanding in the contract of erection is being contested in the courts at Franklin. But Mr. Kemper declares that the decision will not effect the future of his invention for good or ill, as he expects to build under an absolute guarantee.

Some of the plant cane was thought to be more seriously damaged at the time it was put in the ground than was really so, and, consequently, is coming up too thickly.

The question of diversified staples, which was one of the most universally accepted theories for working out the destiny of the cotton producer in this country a few years

ago, could have been resorted to, and will be, to some extent, among the cane growers this year in St. Mary. Being safely conceded that an acre of land does not produce as many tons of cane now as it did twenty thirty and fifty years previously, even when accompanied by the strongest, costliest and most adaptable fertilizer, it is a very necessary conclusion, in the absence of any other reasonable excuse, that the soil itself is growing gradually weaker by reason of a continuous consumption of its substance by the production of sugar cane.

Your correspondent considers the editorial article in the Planter of last week, April 29th, a very clear introduction to the German book of Dr. Kruger, upon the history, several kinds, individual characteristics and methods and extent of production of sugar cane in the different countries of the world, and would suggest that the producers of the different sugars of this country be urged, through their scientific and progressive institutions, to obtain a copyright from the publisher for an English edition, or to interest the publisher himself in a translation into our language, upon his own account, if such is not already in course of contemplation.

ST. MARY.

St. Mary.

The cane is coming out beautifully, and each planter wears a smile on his face a yard and a half long.

The crops in the upper portion of St. Mary are quite good. The Adeline plantation which embraces the largest sugar plantations in upper St. Mary has a good crop of cane and the acreage is large. The corn crop is also all that could be expected and will serve all purposes for another season.

The weather is simply getting hot. An occasional rain during this kind of weather will be of immense benefit to the crops of all sorts.

The sugar house on Matilda plantation was burned to the ground last Saturday night. In its day, it was considered to be one of the best in St. Mary, but the immense improvements in the sugar manufacturing business, developed within late years, it had become outclassed, and the proprietor sold his cane crop to the immense Adeline plant. The Matilda contained a vacuum pan and all its appurtenances of sufficient capacity to manufacture raw sugar, but did not contain equipments necessary for the refined article. The house had not been in actual use for two years. We did not learn whether or not there was any insurance policy bearing upon the loss.

The Cote Blanche plantation was offered but there being no bidders, was not sold. The property was appraised at \$96,000, two-thirds of which appraisement was necessary for the first bid. It will be sold on credit after re-advertisement of ten days. It will be sold at private sale for less than the two-thirds figure.—Vindicator News, April 28.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been very fine for farm work and the improvement in the young crop is very perceptible. The weather has been warm with a stiff south wind which has dried out the superabundance of water in the land. The ground is now in fine shape for stirring, and the farmers are not losing any time from their work. Cane, corn and cotton are all being worked out this week, except corn that is being killed by the worms. Cane is still coming out and the stand will come up to that mentioned in our last week's report, but it is feared that on account of the lateness of its coming up that it will not sucker nor grow to be of any size. Your correspondent was out a few days ago examining cane and saw considerable plant as well as stubble that was just peeping out of the ground. The stand will be very fair, but the results may repeat those of 1895. In the spring of 1895, after the snow in February, the stubble cane was very late in coming out, and though the stand was regular, the cane did not mature over two feet for the mill. It is to be hoped that 1899 will not repeat 1895. At least seventy-five per cent of the plant, however, is up to a good stand and is being worked out this week, while fifty per cent of the first stubbles show an average stand. Every stimulus will be put behind this cane to push it to maturity, and if the seasons are favorable the results may be materially changed. Intense cultivation will be practiced this year throughout the cane belt—a system of farming never before practiced by the farmers in Vermilion. Corn is recovering from the set back caused by the excessive rains of week-before-last, and is regaining its fresh green color. Where the worms killed it out and where the stand was not completely destroyed it is being replanted, and where it was completely destroyed it is being planted over again. The prospects for a corn crop are flattering, and a fine yield may be expected. Cotton was damaged considerably by the continued cool nights; the worms assailed it and destroyed the stand in many places, and the cool weather stopped the growth of that remaining and caused it to look very sick and turn red. In many places it was necessary to plant over. The outlook for cotton is anything but promising. It is a fact that cotton planting has not been finished yet; many farmers are just ready to plant, and many of them who have their lands ready to plant have no seed to plant them with. Cotton seed is quite scarce in the parish. Rice planting is being pushed to completion, and though the crop will not be fully put in before the last of May, the bulk of the crop has already been seeded down. The first planting along the irrigating canals has been flooded already and is looking fine. The general crop will be flooded by the 15th of May and the future prospects are very

bright. R. H. Mills is pushing his canal to completion and by the 20th of May expects to be ready to furnish water to those along his canal and also to flood his own crop. When completed this will be one of the prettiest little canals in the rice section, and will have a capacity of irrigating 5000 acres of rice. P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Enjoyable weather has at last come and of that warm soft and partly cloudy nature so much in demand by the planters at this season of the year, to impart life and growth to plants.

The first day of May opened nice and pleasant, with slight indications for rain, which if not too heavy, would not be felt amiss for such field plants as cotton would feel the beneficial effect at this date of a warm shower.

Corn, where thoroughly cultivated, is growing, the young and tender plants presenting a fine color, seemingly doing as well as the planters should expect. A number of our stirring farmers have informed me that it is their intention to begin laying by some of their first planting of corn next week, not forgetting to, at the same time, plant peas and enough of them to insure a full crop of vines to cover the ground, shade and enrich the soil.

The cane crops of our fair parishes are now showing up surprisingly well and beyond the expectations of the cane raisers at planting time.

Mr. Jas. B. Stewart, of St. John parish, called on the Planter's scribe on the 30th ult. Mr. Stewart was employed last season by the McCracken Bros. in their Powhontas sugar factory as master mechanic and directing engineer, and is also an expert sugar maker. With his assistant, Mr. Mason, of New Orleans, he is just now finishing work on a large lot of thirds left over in tanks and cars from the '98 crop. Mr. Stewart informs me that the outlook in St. John is not as bright as he would like to see it, but is truly glad that conditions are not found to be worse than they are after such a hard winter.

St. John has some places and fields presenting fair stands of growing canes, but, as said, Mr. Stewart seems to think that few if any of the sugar factories in his parish will be able to do much of any grinding this coming fall.

The Powhontas plantation, Mr. C. G. Fusilier managing, with Mr. Wilkerson, assistant, has 150 acres of plant cane, but, as I understand, no stubble. Mr. Fusilier is surely fortunate in planting as many acres as he has for a hard year like this one has been.

Not only is he fortunate in the number of acres he has to cane, but also in the splendid stand which is now in view.

The Messrs. McCracken Bros. seem to be,

as I have been informed, very well pleased with the results so far obtained on Powhontas. The acreage which will be devoted to corn and peas will be in excess of that of last season.

One object sought for will be to build up and improve the soil during the year for next season's cane crop. One cause contributing to the sound keeping quality of the seed cane found on the Powhontas plantation this spring, was its superior richness in saccharine contents, together with the splendid work and care taken in cutting, laying down in windrow, covering, etc.

Late advices from Barbreeck and vicinity indicate from fair to good stand of cane in the locality. Mr. Campbell, managing Cumberland plantation, Barbreeck P. O., has some 75 acres of plant cane now about up to a good stand.

Mr. Campbell will plant an increased acreage to peas, corn and some cotton.

Mr. Henry Shaw, in command of Barbreeck plantation, has prospects for a fair stand of cane. He has planted a large acreage to corn to be set to peas at time of laying by. Mr. Shaw will plant a number of acres to cotton, more, I think, to fill out the round of work and time than otherwise.

Prospects in Rapides are said to be improving with cane coming out and up to nice stands. A large area planted to corn and later to be planted to peas. With cotton now coming up and beginning to grow, business is brightening up.

Alexandria, the "Future Great" and coming Chicago and railroad center of Louisiana, like the magnet, is drawing, by attraction, more and more railroads to center there.

With prospects and projects for big cotton and other factories, the "Future Great" has a golden dream of reality in its future.

ERIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Daily improvements are noticed in the, up to now, distressing state of the crops. The weather is certainly propitious. We had a very good rain ten days ago, and since have had warm, sunny days, with damp fogs in the morning, several times falling as a thick dew.

The crops themselves seem to slightly improve daily; new stalks peep out, and we hope thus for an additional improvement. The spring plant is doing remarkably well, almost everywhere, and the stubbles, where the shucks had not been burnt prior to the devastating blizzard, have been very well protected—as the difference is easily seen.

During the last rain we had, a strong gale, almost a hurricane, which blew quite heavily for over two hours and caused considerable damage here and there. Fences were blown down in a great many places, some little shanties succumbed to the forcible wind, and a smoke stack on the Union Sugar House of Mrs. Jacobshagen, was broken and

fell; also several large trees, were torn up by the roots.

The Uncle Sam factory has just finished drying sugars. Wilton factory, also, has just terminated the same process.

The river which has been at our levees for quite a while not far from the danger line, is now slowly and silently creeping away from our embankments and all are glad to see the departure of such a dreaded visitor.

The weather since this morning is somewhat cloudy and the probabilities are that we may have a good shower very shortly, which would be most welcome.

CONVENT.

Lower Coast.

Bertrandville, La., Apr. 25, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In the last discussion by the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association, it was said that the scientist would have to take a back seat, but when one looks at the tables you publish with the paper of Prof. Stubbs, it will be seen that he has been doing remarkably well with his way of cultivating and fertilizing, securing about 40 tons of cane to the acre with 12 per cent of sucrose. This is better than the average planter has done. Again, he makes about 300 tons of cane to one acre which cannot be beaten by any planter. I agree entirely with Dr. Stubbs in his way of cultivation. We can cultivate and fertilize but we cannot make the weather, and the weather is all to make the crop.

It was very amusing to hear from some old fogies and ex-planters right after the late freeze, that the cane was not hurt at all when they had lots of precedents against them and the more so now, when they try to make others believe that the freeze did not hurt the canes as much as the wet weather. Any planter who takes any interest in his cane should have known that before the freeze the stubble cane was alright. In black land there was more cane out before the freeze than there is now, and again wherever the trash had not been burned when the freeze came along the stand of cane is perfect now. That should be enough to show that it was the freeze that did the damage.

Now in regard to cultivating cane so as to give the best result in sugar I believe that to cultivate as little as possible we should, of course, help nature to get the cane out by taking the dirt away from the cane and fertilizing wherever the land requires it as soon as the young cane makes roots so as to give them a good start. After that they will take care of themselves. In short, I think we should cultivate early and stop early and the weather must do the rest.

The ground temperature on the morning of the 25th inst, three inches down was 62 degrees, and above the ground 60 degrees F. That shows that the earth has warmed up

and anything alive will soon be above the ground now. The cane is making great progress and it is thought now that 2-3 of a crop of what was expected before the freeze will be made in this neighborhood.

H. M.

Trade Notes.

Mr. Geo. P. Anderton.

This wide-awake gentleman informs us that he has just closed a deal for the sale of the entire machinery of the Promised Land place on the lower coast to some Chicago parties who intend to take it to Mexico and erect it there. Mr. Anderton will have charge of the installation of the machinery in its new abiding place, which is located on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and he will have full charge of the sugar house until it is started and in complete running order. The projectors of this new Mexican enterprise are evidently men of good judgment and discretion, for in selecting Mr. Anderton, they have got hold of a good engineer and a practical sugar house expert. We congratulate all parties to the deal.

The Texas & Pacific Railway.

The Planter has received the Texas & Pacific Railway quarterly, volume 2, No. 3, for April, 1899, which is a very handsome pamphlet, published by the general passenger department of the Texas & Pacific Railway Co., at Dallas. Along with a lot of literary matter, ranging all the way from the illustrated poem of the man with the hoe to a modern tournament, describing the sale of the famous thoroughbred Hereford bull, Sir Bredwell, and the many advantages and wonderful improvements in the Texas & Pacific Railway during the last twenty years, altogether make up a beautifully illustrated and descriptive pamphlet that will certainly attract more attention to this great trunk line.

Personal.

Mr. S. S. Lees, of the C. S. Burt Co., Lim., has returned from a business trip to the North and West.

Hon. Andrew H. Gay, of the St. Louis and Union plantations, in Iberville parish, was registered at the St. Charles hotel during the week.

Mr. J. Lebermuth, of St. James parish, one of the best planters and cultivators in the state, and a leading citizen of his parish and vicinity, was a recent guest of one of our leading hotels, having come to the city on a brief trip.

Mr. J. W. Libby has returned from a very interesting and entertaining trip to the Island of Cuba, whither he went to look into conditions, and see for himself what the prospects were for the industrial development of the island. Captain Pearl Wight, of the well-known firm of Woodward, Wight & Co., Limited., accompanied Mr. Libby.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

Berlin, April 15th, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

It is by no means surprising in April to see the meteorological conditions change day by day or even every few hours, and the agriculturists are in general well prepared for such an emergency, but in years like the present, when the previously prevailing weather has been quite unfavorable to field-work, the variability of the atmospheric circumstances add only to the uneasiness of the farmer, and this has been the case last week, more particularly on account of the frequent moist precipitations experienced in almost all our beet districts; and as the temperature has grown, also very cold, in some places those precipitations degenerated into snow storms; which in other quarters have been so abundant that the rivers, especially the Rhine, began to rise to a threatening extent. In the face of this course of the weather, it need hardly be remarked that the beet growers had not much cause to rejoice over it. Beet planting, it is true, has begun, but in consequence of the many interruptions it advanced only very slowly, and unless an early change takes place late sowings must be anticipated. Similar reports are to hand from Belgium and Holland, where likewise the weather has assumed again a very winterlike appearance. In Austria it has rained also a good deal, but the intervals occurring were long enough to permit a more continuous working on the fields, and in France the situation is even a shade more satisfactory. In Russia it is getting to be more like spring, and an early commencement of field work appears now to be certain.

Saccharine continues to be fought relentlessly in all countries, only it seems that the stuff does not suffer very much by the attacks directed against it from all quarters. In France they will try to kill it now by a tax on the consumption of the article and by placing the saccharine factories under the supervision of officers of the treasury; such, at least, is the view of a motion submitted to the French Lower Chamber by the deputy, Fleury Ravarin, who proposes to put a tax on saccharine to the extent of fr. 60 for one kilogramme, (\$12 for 2.3 American pds.) Besides the bill drawn up for the restriction of the duty-free use of saccharine contains very strict regulations for the manufacture and sale of the article, and it remains to be seen, in the first place, whether the bill will become a law, and if so, whether it will be of the desired effect. As I wrote you once, it was also intended in Germany to levy a tax on saccharine, the amount of which was to be fixed in proportion to the sweetening power as compared with sugar, so that the tax on saccharine would have been made to amount to

about 300 times as much as that on sugar. But such a high tax would no doubt involve an enormous temptation for smuggling, which on account of the possibility to handle the stuff in the easiest manner imaginable, offers not the least difficulty and almost no danger of detection. The effect of high taxation therefore would be most probably that the bulk of saccharine produced would be exported and clandestinely re-imported, by which means a fraudulent traffic would be established both to the detriment of the treasury and of the public, who are not cognizant at all that they are good customers of the saccharine factories. It is anyway exceedingly difficult to fight successfully those artificial sweets as is evident from the fact that their production has steadily increased. As a kind of curiosity it may be noted that the sugar manufacturers in Russia demand that the word saccharine should be replaced by some other designation, because the Russian word for sugar, *sacchar*, is so very much like the name of its substitute.

The results of the imperial insurance of German workmen and women employed in the sugar industry of this country are embodied in the following figures for 1898:

The entire number of insured persons, laborers and officers, amounted to 100,738 who received an aggregate sum of wages and salaries of 45,648,544 marks. There have been last year 509 accidents for which the insurance office had to pay damages, including 66 deaths. Of former years the number of cases carried over was 3067, so that in 1898 the number of accidents for which the claims had been recognized rose to 3576. The amount thus paid out last year was 713,537 marks, whilst the receipts amounted to 862,350 marks contributed by the sugar factories and refineries. The institute has now also a reserve fund of 2,073,588 marks, the interest of which henceforth shall be used for the covering of expenses, which goes to lighten a little the burden of the industry.

The German sugar production of the campaign, 1898-1899, reaches now 1,645,647 tons as against 1,761,710 tons in 1897-1898. This represents a yield in the factory of 13.13 pct. as against 12.50 pct. at the same time of the preceding year. As will be remembered our estimate of this year's crop has been 1,717,000 tons, and it seems that it will be carried out very accurately.

The sugar imports into Great Britain amounted in the month of March to 129,487 tons raw value, and since January 1st, 356,572 tons. For the first quarter of this year the English imports keep very much on a par with those of last year, when they comprised 132,224 tons in March and 357,072 tons from January to March. The import of this year is, however, notable for a marked increase of refined, of which 34,230 tons more than in the first quarter of 1898 were imported.

The markets continued in their firm at-

titude noted previously. Local refiners and exporters competed actively for the small stocks of actual sugar still available, but more important transactions took place in delivery next campaign on which the principal interest concentrated. The upward movement was stimulated again by Paris speculators and by American buyers who are said to have purchased about 30,000 tons. Actual 88 pct. advanced this week in Magdeburg to M. 11.70-11.85 and delivery April fetched at last at Hamburg M. 11.80 f. o. b. Refined were firm and 25-38 pfennigs higher.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor *Louisiana Planter*:

Since the opening of the present campaign, prices have constantly shown an upward tendency which speculators' combinations have altogether been unable to check; the principal reasons why prices all around have ruled with so much firmness was the anticipated, and to-day fully confirmed decrease in this Island's production, and the total lack of confidence in the results of the International Sugar Bounty Congress, whose dissolution the cable has recently announced, the suspension of their sessions being an evident sign of an acknowledgement of impotency on their part.

The market here on this account, has ruled steady and though exporters have reduced their offers, sellers continue reluctant to make the least concession in prices and the few parcels brought forward, were acquired at full figures by local speculators, who readily granted at from 6 to 6¼ rs. per arroba, equivalent to 3 to 3½ cts. per pound, for all parcels to their convenience, whereas exporters' offers do not go over 2.81 to 2.87½ cts. for 95-96 test of good classes.

About 25,000 bags centrifugals changed hands within above limits and 1,500 bags molasses sugars, 89-90 test were also sold, at from 2.31 to 3 cts. per lb.

No important change to report as yet, and the number of plantations still at work is quite limited, the poor yield of the small quantity of cane that has not as yet been ground offering no enticement to planters to keep their factories running. Receipts at our shipping ports are accordingly each day, lighter and lighter, and it is likely that they will altogether cease prior to the 15th of May, next.

It has been repeatedly said that the President of the United States, favorably impressed by the planters' demands, was disposed to grant them a long term for the settlement of mortgage obligations; but fearing that the military occupation of Cuba would probably not last over one year, the Government could not well make the extension effective beyond that period, without incurring liabilities which the new government of the island might disapprove on the withdrawal of the Americans.

This question is now thoroughly settled. Secretary Desvernine is back here and has obtained from President McKinley a statement that the decree of suspending foreclosure proceedings in mortgage cases shall be extended two years more, dating from May 1st. The question of interests already fallen due has not been taken into consideration.

This respite will be of no use to the majority of planters whose properties are affected by mortgages, inasmuch as they are most likely to find themselves within twenty four months in the same tight position as they are to-day, provided circumstances do not improve.

The extension has been limited to debts secured by mortgages on ground rents and though the planters' representatives at Washington, contended for the suspension of payment of interests pending final liquidation, they failed to secure this important point; the government disapproved such a pretension, stating at the same time that it could not apply a principle which was directly opposed by common justice, and it was also suggested to said representatives, that were they so persistent in that cause, they would seriously injure the credit of the island in the most serious manner. They were told that on assuming the control of the island, the United States Government had declared its purpose not to impair existing obligations. To assent to the repudiation of any debt, interest or otherwise, would be a direct contravention of the policy indorsed and proclaimed by President McKinley and his Cabinet regarding Cuba.

As to limiting the period for two years, it was said that the government would not undertake to exercise any control over the affairs of the island, beyond the period of its occupancy, but if at the end of twenty-four months another extension for a limited time were necessary and Cuba were still occupied by American forces, it might be granted, but for the present, no longer obligation could be assumed.

The most equitable plan that has heretofore been formulated to settle this important question, is the following, based on the two years' respite, just granted to planters by the United States Government:

A board of planters and creditors should be appointed and made arbitrators, under the presidency of the secretaries of finance and agriculture; plantations to be then assessed, earning ability estimated, and from the commencement of the fiscal year 1900-1901, planters to pay to their creditors from 50 to 70 per cent of their net profits.

As a natural thing, planters are reluctant to accept this arrangement, which is, according to impartial parties, the only scheme that might prevent them from altogether losing their property within two years.

The excitement caused during the past few weeks by the appearance of small parties of bandits in several localities, has subsided owing to the disbanding of the outlaws; and in the Province of Santiago de

Cuba, where they were more numerous and daring, tranquility seems to be utterly restored through the energetic measures enforced by General Wood and skillfully executed by the American military commanders and the Cuban officers of the Rural Guard of recent creation.

At Manzanillo and Guantanamo, the crop, whose operations bandits seriously interfered with at the beginning, could be quietly completed. T. D.

Porto Rico.

April 14th, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In your issue of April 1 I find an article from the Times-Democrat on "Protection against Porto Rican and Cuban Sugar."

I have no desire to enter the controversy of "Protection," but as a resident of several years in Porto Rico, during which time I had every facility of becoming thoroughly acquainted with the laboring class, I cannot allow to pass unchallenged the very erroneous statements throughout the article which show that the writer is perfectly ignorant of his subject in hand, and it will be a great injury to Porto Rico if Congress is guided by such advice as Mr. Saylor gives.

"The low price of labor, the cheapest in the World" is diametrically opposed to fact. In East India the field laborer earns somewhat less than one quarter of the same man in this island, and the English West Indian islands do not average one shilling or twenty-four cents as a day's wages, it must also be remembered that in most of those islands the women work in the fields and are paid six pence or twelve cents; and I could quote many other countries where labor is even cheaper still.

The usual daily rate of field labor here is fifty cents currency, equal to-day to thirty cents gold or six cents above the adjacent islands, and in many parts the cane planter pays above fifty cents. No man can feed himself on five cents, the sum generally paid is twelve cents for each meal or half of his day's wages for two meals.

Soup! bread! potatoes!

I have never seen a laborer taking soup; they buy bread when they go to the pueblos and for potatoes should be written sweet potatoes. Labor is not, by any means degraded, and as I have shown, wages are not low.

The laborer comes to work as the sun rises and works contentedly till sundown and with the intermission of a few minutes for a mid-day meal, accompanied generally by a bottle of coffee with milk, they work honestly the whole day long.

I have had a very large experience of labor in many climes and I can only speak favorably of the Porto Rican.

Going somewhat beyond my original intention of touching only the laborer we may very fairly ask is Porto Rico part of the

United States or is it not? If it is surely we have a right to look for equal treatment with other parts of that country, but if it is not, why does the government compel us to strip sugar in American bottoms?

It would also be of some interest to know when the government will cease to send useless commissions of inquiry, who give their opinions individually, to the public press before making any report to the government that sent them. It is ridiculous to read that Mr. So-and-So, of such and such commission, says a military government is an absolute necessity, and then to read that some commissioner says the government should be handed over to the civil authorities at once. Which of these two may be right I do not offer an opinion just here, but an indiscreet remark falling from the lips of any one holding the position of a commissioner would most undoubtedly do the whole island much harm. Men who, after spending an hour or so on a sugar estate that they have been invited to visit, assert that the industry can, if properly managed, be made to give a profit of \$120 per acre; who come down during the dry season when there is a monthly rainfall of only 5 or 6 inches and talk of how easy it would be to make roads here as they do in the State of ———; who make a visit to an important town and leave after two hours and a half and the notice of their coming only arrives whilst they are in the town are not very likely to do us much good, and if such commissioners express their contempt for or ridicule the acts of the military governor, they are not likely to gain the respect of those who come in contact with them.

Thanking you for the space you have kindly allowed me to take up, I am

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR C. HANSARD.

Argentine.

Buenos Ayres, March 12, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

I suppose this correspondence to be the first original matter ever published in your paper about the sugar industry in the Argentine Republic. Until now our country was known abroad only as a producer of cereals, cattle and sheep, and few people there have an idea of the progress the cane sugar industry has realized during the last few years. Nevertheless, Argentine, with a population of five millions of people—great sugar eaters, most of them, like all true peoples—produces more than enough for her needs and her manufacturers are already trying to find a market for the surplus of their products.

Paraguay is to-day practically the only sugar producer of the Argentine provinces. Of the forty-nine sugar factories which actually exist in the Republic, thirty-four are situated in the province of Tucuman; the remaining are distributed as follows: two

in the province of Santiago del Estero, two in Salta, three in Jujuy, one in Corrientes, one Santa Fe, three in the territory of Chaco, two in that of Formosa and one in Misiones.

So you may see, the Argentine Republic has not hundreds or thousands of sugar houses such as exist in Peru or Mexico; nevertheless, her production is by far superior to that of those two countries. The reason of this is obvious; Argentine has no old fashioned mills, nor petty sugar houses; all her factories are provided with modern first-class machinery and conducted by experienced chemists and sugar engineers. Many of them can sustain a comparison with the best managed of the Hawaiian Islands, Cuba or Louisiana. Their annual production varies from about five millions to 25,000 kilos, and there are only eight of them whose production does not amount to one million of kilos.

The Tucuman province is situated between 26 degrees and 28 degrees south latitude, i. e., in the extreme southern limit of the cane growing region. The cane, therefore, frequently suffers from frost. The mean crop per hectare is of about thirty-five tons of cane (14 tons per acre).

Five years ago the cane began to suffer from a disease known here as "polvillo." At the beginning of 1895 the "Centro Azucarero" sent the Italian naturalist, Dr. Spengazzini, to Tucuman, recommending to him the study of polvillo. But as Dr. Spengazzini spent only a short time in the cane region, his investigations gave no result. A few months ago, the national government, at the request of the same Centro Azucarero appointed a commission for the study of the disease. The damage done by the polvillo until now is of little amount; but it is feared that its development may bring about serious disturbances in the sugar industry.

Another step taken by the government in favor of the sugar industry is its recent intervention against the abuse brought about by the sale of saccharine. At the request of the "Centro" above named, the president of Sanitary department presented a report condemning strongly the substitution of sugar in foods by the nauseous drug called saccharine.

In my next correspondence I shall entertain you on the economical situation of the industry in this country, as well as of the principal peculiarities of the sugar making here.

SOUTHERN CROSS.

Mr. C. S. McFarland, of Burnside, La., where he superintends some of the large sugar planting interests of the Miles P. & M. Co., Lim., was in the city on a visit a few days ago, registering at the Commercial. Mr. McFarland is one of the best sugar house experts in the state.

Mr. E. W. Deming left on Tuesday last for a short business trip to the North and East.

BET SUGAR.**Eddy, New Mexico.**

April 26, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Since my last report of conditions of the sugar beet industry in the Pecos Valley a close estimate of the coming crop has been made by the factory people and they place it at 16,000 tons. They state that if there is any deviation from that figure it will be an increase rather than a decrease. This yield at \$4.25 a ton means the distribution of \$78,000 to the farmers of the valley.

Analyses of the Eddy beets show 15 per cent sucrose on the average, and 84 per cent purity. These averages hold up well throughout the season. The beet farmer has one great advantage here that is not found in other beet growing districts. Here the farmer leaves his beets in the ground until he wants to deliver them to the factory. The winter climate is so mild that it admits of this.

The alfalfa yield this season will be larger than ever before, as the area devoted to that clover has been greatly extended. The demand for the hay is far in excess of the supply. Ten dollars a ton is readily paid. Sheep feeders expect this year to feed 10,000 lambs and muttons on beet pulp and alfalfa and before the cattle and sheep feeding season is over it is quite likely that the price of good alfalfa hay will advance materially.

The success of the sugar factory and the energy and ability which characterizes its present management have done more for the Pecos Valley and Eddy especially than any other enterprise ever promoted here. Last year, even when they were compelled from lack of beets to run on short time, their pay roll averaged \$200 a day, and this year, with a much larger crop in prospect, that figure will be materially increased. This factory has been the means of building many a home for its employees and is destined to build many more.

ARGUS.

Chino, California.

Last Friday the Chino Valley Beet Sugar company ceased to exist—at least so far as holding any property or interests here. On that date the factory here, with all its equipment and nearly 5000 acres of land, passed to the American Beet Sugar Company—which, however, is but a reorganization and combination of the former Oxnard-Hamilton-Cutting companies. The change is one in name only; but the company here should now be addressed as the American Beet Sugar Company.

Manager Pardonner informs us that there are planted to date on the Chino ranch over 2800 acres, and outside for this factory about 1800 acres. The crop on the moist lands is doing very nicely, with a good promise of a harvest. The dryer lands, however, should

have some rain yet to assure a crop. Altogether, the prospects are better than they were last year at this time for a beet crop, and with some good late showers we should have a lively harvest. Some fields are already being thinned and by next week the work of thinning will be in full blast. The factory management is laying all its plans and preparing the factory for a big manufacturing campaign this fall.—Champion, April 21.

Modern Methods of Building Sugar Factories.

San Francisco, Cal., April 25, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

There are very few persons outside of those who are interested or living in the radius of a beet sugar factory who know how or why certain particular sections of a State are selected for the erection of a factory. With the promoters of a beet factory, it is optional with them as to whether a factory is one or fifty miles from a beet field or in one town or another. The selection depends on what town offers the best inducements, in other words put up the most cash or, as they call it, subsidy (there are exceptions in a few cases). This subsidy is raised by either a vote or a volunteer subscription. Every farmer, banker, merchant, hotel man, property owner and even laborer, who lives in the town or vicinity, has got to contribute. This subsidy must be either in cash, notes, or if neither, then it must be worked out in labor in the construction of the building, the tax on each ranging from one hundred to one thousand dollars. The notes being gilt-edged are readily accepted by the banks at par value. So in this way are secured from eighty to ninety thousand dollars. Besides this amount the railroads contribute about ten thousand and the town proper donates the site to the factory, bringing the total up to over one hundred thousand dollars. Besides, so enthusiastic do the people of the town get that the lumber and brick men invariably contract to supply the material below the cost of production.

So with a binding contract from each farmer for a number of years to cultivate and deliver so many acres of beets, and the one hundred thousand dollars (which, by the way, is not paid until thirty days after the factory is in operation). The promoters inform the people that they accept their offer and will erect a 350 ton factory that is going to cost three hundred thousand dollars.

Talk about Louisiana, with her up-to-date methods, the Hawaiian Islands where plantation stock jumped up 80 per cent last week, I will say that there are no such opportunities offered there as there are here in the West for men with plenty of brains and some little capital.

BET SUGAR.

Mr. C. C. Williams, of Lafourche, and Mrs. Williams, were guests of the Cosmopolitan hotel a few days ago.

Lehi, Utah.

For two weeks a gang of 40 men and boys have been at work digging out of the pits, sorting, testing and planting "mother beets" for seed. Last fall 170 tons of the best beets brought to the factory were pitted in the field south of the factory. Out of these 125 tons were found to be in good condition and were up to the standard in sugar. This is the first year the beets have been pitted, having been stored in the sheds before, but it is found that they keep much better in the pits. The 125 tons have been planted covering about 45 acres which is the largest acreage of seed beets ever planted here. These have been put on the choicest land and will yield many tons of seed. Lehi grown seed has produced splendid results in the past and the growing of seed promises to be an important branch of the industry.

The newly elected board of directors of the Utah Sugar Co., held a meeting at Salt Lake on Monday and elected the following officers: George Q. Cannon, president; T. R. Cutler, vice-president and manager; Horace G. Whitney, secretary and treasurer. The board received the report of General Manager Cutler to the effect that the site of the auxiliary factory near Springville has been determined on and that orders had been placed for the first installment of machinery and the piping necessary to conduct the juice from the Springville plant to the refinery at Lehi. The board then took up the question of obtaining the funds necessary to complete the enlargement, and it was decided to sell 40,000 additional shares of the treasury stocks at par (\$400,000) the same to be paid for in four quarterly installments of 25 per cent each, the first on October 1, 1899, the subscription to be taken at once. This amount with the available cash in the treasury, it was decided, would increase the capacity of the Lehi factory to at least 1,000 tons of beets per day, building the auxiliary at Springville this year and the one in Salt Lake county next year, the location of which has not yet been decided on.

As some of the stockholders objected to Manager Cutler taking half of the new stock to be issued by the company he has relinquished his claim and the stock will be divided pro rata among the stockholders. The issue has been cut down to \$375,000 which exactly doubles the stock now out so every shareholder will be entitled to one full share for every share he now owns.—Banner.

Mr. C. Trahan, a prominent sugar planter of the parish of Iberville, accompanied by Mrs. Trahan and Miss Trahan, arrived in the city on a visit during the past week, and stopped at one of our leading hotels.

Mr. S. Abraham, of Raceland, La., near which place he possesses extensive mercantile and sugar planting interests, was registered at the Cosmopolitan last Tuesday.

RICE.

Calcasieu.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

This week has been dry and more or less windy. A few light showers fell, but they were not worth a passing notice and did very little good. But we are not in need of moisture this week and it will be some little time before we will complain of dry weather.

April was a wet month with us and twelve inches of water fell, but we are drying off fast and there are not many fields which are now too wet to plow. There was a large acreage of rice sown the past week but there is still a large acreage to be planted. Much of the early sown rice is up but the stand, in most cases, is poor and considerable of it would be far more profitable if the land was replanted.

Those who planted two weeks ago and planted or rolled the soil have a good stand of rice and all up even and doing finely, while other fields, planted at the same time, but not planked or rolled, is not all up and the stand is very uneven and too thin. Rice planted with the drill is doing the best this season, so far, and farmers are beginning to see the value of the drills where the soil is put in proper shape and the drills set right. The press drills are gaining favor fast, as they possess points of superiority not found in other styles, and all the large farmers will be using this style of drill before many years, for they recognize the fact that a crop of rice, on good clean soil, is worth putting in well. The press drills are most too expensive for the small farmers, but they often find opportunities for hiring the drills of the larger farmers. When our farmers get into the practice of preparing their soil better before planting rice, and when they plant the seed with a press drill and give the soil proper working after sowing, they will realize much more from a given acreage, than in the old way, and this will be a step towards economy. Then if they will give the rice a proper flooding and harvest the crop when it is ready, they will realize a much larger benefit than they do from the present management. Farmers are wanting to institute a stock company, for erecting a mill, composed of rice farmers exclusively, and make the shares small, and not allow each stockholder but one share, thus bringing into the company a large number of shareholders, so the business will not be in the hands of a few selfish ones who would control the business and take unnecessary advantage of the farmers. Then they wish to place a reliable party at some good distributing point to sell the clean rice. If this can be done, it will largely do away with the selfish work now going on by the mills of the country, and prevent commission merchants from exacting more than their just dues. Farmers are endeavoring to obtain a better

control of the rice market, and if the above plan could be worked out, a large number of rice farmers would be greatly benefitted.

The well business has been going on lively this week, and some farmers who allowed the canal to run through their land, have refused to buy the water, and are now putting down wells, and the irrigating companies are much waked up over the well problem, but they still insist on taking two sacks per acre, and this amounts to six dollars per acre for the water. Rice will be planted all this month, but the heft of the crop is in now and about one third of the total acreage which will be planted this season, is up.

CALCASIEU RICE BIRD.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

Another disappointing week; not that there is nothing doing, "furfrummit" but the greater demand incident to this time of year fails to materialize by reason of backing weather conditions. The outlook is regarded as excellent; this based partially on the liberal call from the South and Southwest, also on well ascertained business to come from larger points along the lakes, early next month. Good inquiry continues from the Pacific Coast and as heretofore, entirely for fancy sorts. Advices from the South note characteristics of market similar to those prevailing at this point; limited demand from the North with normal demand for local use and from contiguous territory. Receipts are most trifling and most of the mills have shut down for the season. Offerings of cleaned in consequence are limited and firmly held. Cables and correspondence from abroad note large business doing in (Rangoon) Java of ordinary make. Better grades, however, are held back as first quality Paddy is limited and millers therefore regard the outlook favorable for higher prices.

Talmage, New Orleans telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 697,520 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 523,625 sacks. Sales, cleaned (Est.) 171,872 barrels; last year 114,905 barrels. Fair inquiry at former prices.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 36,285 barrels. Sales 32,920 barrels. Steady demand, principally local and to Southern points.

Immense Rice Acreage.

It is conservatively estimated on good authority, that the total acreage of irrigated rice this year in Southwest Louisiana will reach over 170,000 acres.—West Lake Herald.

Rice Canal.

Surveyor Bradford, of Acadia, is securing right-of-way and making a survey for a rice canal to run west from near the junction of Bayous Boeuf and Cocodrie. The

right-of-way wanted is 250 feet wide, so the canal capacity is to be commensurate with the water supply furnished by the two bayous, which is practically limitless. It is said that the project is backed by English capital in all required quantities, and that right-of-way will no doubt be promptly given.

The canal will be of immeasurable value to the cotton planters of the St. Landry prairies, and it is to be hoped that the preliminaries will soon be arranged and work commenced.—Opelousas Tribune.

Rice Items.

A. Brechner contracted yesterday with Snyder & Cook for two deep wells on their farm just south of town, and the firm have bought of Black Bros. & Co, a 15 h. p. engine, a 20 h. p. boiler and a 6-inch Van Wie pump for raising water. The number of deep wells going down this year in this vicinity is remarkable and shows that farmers have enough of the uncertainty of providence rice.

Lake Charles parties contemplate building a canal to connect Grand Lake with Lake Arthur. The Commercial Tribune says of the new project:

"The surveyors will go to the line of the proposed canal soon and accurate measurements as well as grades will be taken. Men of means stand ready to help the project financially. In the Lake Arthur country the building of a canal means lower freight rates for all the rice farmers and less handling of the freight. For Lake Charles the canal will bring trade and more rice coming into this market * * * It is proposed to push the canal through this summer if possible and have it ready to deliver the fall crops and supplies.—Crowley Signal.

B. M. Lambert was in from his Prairie Hayes farm Sunday and reports that he has 650 acres of rice planted. Three hundred acres are up and make a fine showing. The work of planting is going on rapidly in all parts of the country and a large acreage is already up. It was feared a few weeks ago that the season would be quite backward, but if matters are kept going as they are now being pushed the harvest will not be much later than usual.—Crowley Signal.

Gueydan, La., May 2.—The Gueydan Rice Milling Company, Limited, was organized here to-day, cash capital \$40,000, with R. H. Washburn, president; O. E. Gammill, vice-president; W. G. Francis, secretary and treasurer. Committees were appointed on a building site and machinery, also committee on charter and by-laws. Everything went off smoothly, and with the list of stockholders, together with the officers of the company, insures great success to the undertaking. Mr. Francis, who was elected secretary and treasurer, is from Chicago, and represents considerable capital. He has been here only a few days, but was so highly pleased with the general outlook and prospects here for a rice mill that he came in for a large share of the stock in the mill. The mill will be erected in time for the milling of the coming crop.

MAY 5.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR. Open Kettle.	April 29.	May 1.	May 2.	May 3.	May 4.	May 5.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
O. K. Centrifugal	3 7/8 @ 4 1/2	3 7/8 @ 4 1/2	3 7/8 @ 4 1/2	3 7/8 @ 4 1/2	3 7/8 @ 4 1/2	3 7/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	Firm.
Choice.....	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	4 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	
Strict Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 7/8 @ 3 1/2	
Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 3 1/2	
Fully Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	
Good Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	
Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	
Good Common..	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	
Common.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	
Inferior.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	
Centrifugal.								Strong
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off Granulated...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow.....	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	
Prime Yellow.....	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	
Off Yellow.....	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	
Seconds.....	3 @ 4 1/4	3 @ 4 1/4	3 @ 4 1/4	3 @ 4 1/4	3 @ 4 1/4	3 @ 4 1/4	3 @ 4 1/4	
MOLASSES.								Quiet.
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Fancy.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Choice.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Strict Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Fair.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Fair.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Common..	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Common.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Inferior.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Good Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	11	
Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	11	
Good Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	9	
Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	8	
Good Common..	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	8	
Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	7	
Inferior.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	6	
Inferior.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	5	
Inferior.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw - Strong; little offering. Refined - Fair demand.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 5.18	— @ 5.08	5.15 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.84	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	5.00 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ —	
German Granul'td.	— @ 5.15	— @ 5.17	— @ 5.19	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.17	— @ 5.20	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Cane - Firm, rather dearer. Beet - Steady, prices fully maintained.
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	12s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	12s. 9d.	12s. 9d.	13s. 0d.	11s. 9d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	11s. 2 1/4 d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 4 1/2 d.	11s. 6d.	11s. 4 1/2 d.	11s. 5 1/4 d.	9s. 3d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Leaf.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	Strong.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 3/8	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to Apr. 19	Tons 201,711
At four ports of Great Britain to Apr. 29	“ 48,500
At Havana and Matanzas to Apr. 25	“ 85,500

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending May 5, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to May 5, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.		Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	..	6,127	2,359	Received.....	10,157	1,213,272	229,601
Sold.....	..	6,691	2,359	Sold.....	10,157	1,204,869	229,601
				Received same time last year	22,431	1,410,913	186,045

MAY 5.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

RICE.	April 29.	May 1.	May 2.	May 3.	May 4.	May 5.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
ROUGH, per bbl...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	2 25@5 35	Dull.
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	— @ —	
Fancy	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 1/4 @ 6 1/2	
Choice	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 3/4 @ 6	
Prime	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	5 1/4 @ 5 3/8	
Good	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/8	
Fair	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	5 @ 5 1/8	
Ordinary	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	4 3/4 @ 4 3/4	
Common	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	4 1/4 @ 4 1/4	
Screenings	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	— @ —	
Inferior	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	— @ —	
No. 2	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	2 @ 2 1/4	
BRAN, per ton	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00 @ —	Steady.
POLISH, per ton	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	16 00 @ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending May 5, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to May 5, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

Received	SACKS ROUGH.	BBLs. CLEAN.	This year	BRAN ROUGH.	BRAN CLEAN.
Sold	596	283		681,072	6,766
	686	734	Last year	463,837	7,645

Sugar.

The local sugar market was strong at the end of the week, in sympathy with New York, but offerings were somewhat restricted.

Molasses.

No open kettle molasses in first hands. Centrifugals quiet.

Rice.

Paucity of receipts greatly restricted the movement in rough rice at the end of the week. Clean rice was in fair demand, with prices steady and offerings moderate.

Personal.

Mr. J. T. Witherspoon, for many years a trusted and highly valued officer of the local branch of the American Sugar Refining Co., has been promoted to the position of general manager of New Orleans plant, to succeed Mr. George S. Eastwick, resigned. Mr. Witherspoon is a New Orleans man, a son of the late lamented Dr. Witherspoon, and his promotion is a source of gratification to his numerous friends. Mr. Eastwick leaves shortly for Europe, which he has long desired to visit.

Sugar in London.

The steady advance which has characterized the market of late has become more rapid, and although a tendency to snatch profits brought about a temporary decline early in the week, a sharp recovery then took place, and a further advance has since been established. Although some misgivings have been previously expressed as to the permanency of the present improvement in values, it is evident that a better chance exists at this comparatively advanced period of the sugar year than it did six months back, when the pressure of new supplies was just beginning to be felt, whereas now the falling off of the same will soon begin to be noticeable. The scarcity of 88 per cent beet, and a renewal of the demand for it by American refiners, continues a strong feature of the position; while the accounts of the poor yield of juice in Cuba point to a further re-

duction in results, the falling off compared with last year already amounting to nearly 60,000 tons. There has been a good demand here for the lower kinds of cane for refining purposes, and firm prices have been eagerly paid both for the small quantity available and for forward delivery; but grocery crystallized has been rather too freely offered, and values are about 3d per cwt. lower for the medium kinds. With the recent advance in London yellow crystals, however, the disproportion of the relative value of these two kinds has been considerably reduced, and a better demand for crystallized raws should consequently occur. It is now possible to buy well-made sugar at a more moderate price and, although this still remains high, the competition with America for crystallized West Indian sugar continues so strong that any serious decline in values here would be immediately followed by a diversion of supplies to the United States. At present the market here is well supplied, the imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 13th inst., amounting to 1,127 tons, and for this year to 11,173 tons against 9,302 tons in 1898.—P. M. Review, April 15.

Sugar in London.

After the extremely heavy and considerable advance in values which has lately characterized the market, the reaction which has taken place is neither unexpected nor unnatural. The position of sugar is, however, too strong to admit of any collapse of importance and, although the speculative energy of the market may be spent for a while, a recurrence of the movement is most likely to occur later on. Of course, the sugar which is held against market commitments is not actually consumed, but, if figures are to be relied on, there is little possibility of any weight of sugar being brought forward from an unexpected quarter, though on the other hand any sugar which may be shut out from the Indian markets will probably find its way here instead. The visible supplies of European sugar, however, continue to steadily decrease at the present time, and the existence of such remunerative prices

as are now obtainable has up to the present failed to bring to light invisible stocks. The American markets have shown considerable firmness, although the receipts for sugar for the past week were rather larger and their stocks were slightly heavier; the receipts from Cuba, however, showed a falling off. There has been rather less inquiry for cane refining kinds here, but with little offering, values have been maintained. Grocery Crystallized, on the other hand, remains under a cloud, and the advance in value which has taken place in its dangerous rivals, foreign granulated and London yellow crystals—has apparently not been sufficient to restore crystallized raw sugar to the place it once held in public estimation, as unfortunately the advantage of a farthing or a half-penny per lb. in the retail price far outweighs the preference which a good many people would still give to cane sugar. The imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 20th inst. amounted to 197 tons, and for this year to 11,370 tons against 9,549 tons in 1898.—Produce Market Review, April 22.

Rice Items.

It would surprise you to visit the rice belt of Louisiana right now and see for yourself the immense amount of machinery being put in on the rice plantations, said F. H. Thompson, of New York, at the Cosmopolitan hotel, represents one of the largest machinery establishments in the United States. He had just returned from the mammoth Lowry place on the Mermentau river near Lake Arthur, where some new engines are being put up for the pumping plant.

Thousands and thousands of dollars are being invested in pumping plants this year, Mr. Thompson added. The days of providence rice are numbered. The province crop is an uncertainty—some years it cannot be beaten, then again it will fail for several years in succession. Rice growers in Louisiana are getting too scientific, too matter-of-fact to take these chances, when with pumping plants the crop is a dead sure thing. I believe the real wealth of South-west Louisiana has never been dreamed of, let alone calculated.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Position on a sugar plantation as blacksmith, wheelwright and horse-shoer; address SIDNEY G. ROUSSELL, Edgard, La. 5-1-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper, overseer, clerk or general office or store work. Can give the best of city and outside references; address A. H. NOENINGER, care of Room 203, Board of Trade Building, New Orleans. 4-28-99

WANTED—Position as assistant chemist, book-keeper or time-keeper, by young man, aged 24, college graduate. Have done some work in sugar analysis. Have some knowledge of German; address Box 33, State College, Pa. 4-28-99

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as manager or assistant; address MANAGER H. A., care General Delivery, New Orleans. 5-3-99

WANTED—A position as superintendent or head sugar maker, by a man of large experience, either in plantation sugar house or sugar refinery. Can furnish good references. Would prove a valuable and all-around faithful man in any sugar house. Address P. R., care Louisiana Planter. 4-23-99

WANTED—Position by an all-around handy man; can do carpentry, painting, milk cows and make himself useful about a place. First-class references; address CHAS. TREPAGNIER, 1426 St. Ann street, New Orleans. 4-21-99

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 references. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LELER, care M. E. Sepp, 383 8th Avenue, New York. 4-14-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-13-99

WANTED—Position by an experienced young man as book-keeper, stenographer, or both; address X. Y. Z., care this office. 4-15-99

WANTED—Position as assistant overseer on a Louisiana sugar plantation, by young man who has had experience as a planter in field and factory in the West Indies; salary no object; address MOURANT, Burnside P. O., Ascension Parish, La. 4-14-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—Position as blacksmith by a middle-aged man of 19 years practical experience on large sugar plantations in Louisiana; good references. T. P. DAKIN, Gibson, La. 4-19-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 423 to 436 South Peters street. 4-13-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartartia, Texas. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class references, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gillis of Poydrus plantation, and others; address MRS. S. TERRELLE, 2221 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, all-around machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OURRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or assistant time keeper. "Geo.", care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED—A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. H., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, Thibodaux, La. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 11 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fictel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6011 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give A 1 references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHIEF ENGINEER, LUTCHER, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-23-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 28 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 106, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La.

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 2-24-99

WANTED—An experienced young man, single, is open for engagement as time-keeper or clerk in country store. A 1 references from last employer. Address RIGHT-OFF, 3418 Constance street, New Orleans. 2-22-99

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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER, A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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AND

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EDITORIAL CORPS.

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JOHN DYMOND.

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The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

The May meeting of this association was held last Thursday evening at its rooms on Union street, with President Emile Rost in the chair, Secretary Dykers at the desk, and a large attendance of members and others. Among those present was a distinguished guest in the person of Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who is at present in this state for the purpose of investigating the agricultural conditions and resources existing in this part of the country.

On motion the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with. A communication was then read from Mr. H. N. Elmer of Chicago relative to a new device for the mechanical cultivation of sugar plantations. The secretary was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of this communication and express the thanks of the association to Mr. Elmer. On motion of Hon. John Dymond a committee of three was appointed to draft suitable resolutions expressing the sorrow of the association at the recent death of General William Porcher Miles of Ascension Parish, one of its most distinguished members. President Rost appointed Messrs. Dymond, Zenor and Stubbs on this committee and they drew up the following resolutions:

Whereas, a wise and inscrutable providence has seen fit to take from us General William Porcher Miles, who was a member of this association and a man who represented the highest development of those precepts of chivalry, courtesy and hospitality implanted among us by the illustrious pioneers of the Louisiana sugar industry, and

Whereas, it is proper that we should express our grief when those die who have been for years our counsellors and friends, who have shared both our prosperity and our distress, and who have led us by their example to take fresh courage and to believe more firmly in the great future of our chosen industry, and

Whereas, We recognize that in this loss, so recent that we can scarcely yet realize it,

we have had taken from us a man who was a type that is only too quickly passing away;

Therefore, Be it Resolved, That this association deeply mourns so serious a blow as has befallen it in this death of one who was both an exemplar and a friend;

Be it further Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of General Miles, and be spread upon the minutes of the association.

JOHN DYMOND,
W. C. STUBBS,
G. G. ZENOR,
Committee.

Judge Rost then, in a few appropriate words, introduced the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Wilson, and stated that it was the first time in fifteen years that the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association had had the honor of entertaining the incumbent of that high office. On motion duly made it was decided that the regular topic of the evening, "How to Secure the Best Results in the Preservation of Seed Cane," should be postponed until the next meeting and that Mr. Wilson should be requested to favor the association with a few remarks. Amid hearty applause, Mr. Wilson kindly consented; stating, however, that he had come to Louisiana not to instruct, but to learn. He spoke for about three quarters of an hour and was frequently interrupted by applause. His remarks covered considerable ground, touching upon fertilizing, stock raising, the importance of the Mississippi river as an outlet for the immense products of the west, the advisability of digging a canal through the Isthmus, the growth of the beet sugar industry, the probable stability of the present tariff conditions, and kindred topics. Several inquiries were made by some of the gentlemen present, at the conclusion of his address and the meeting was one of the most pleasant and profitable ever held by the association. The thanks of the meeting were tendered the Secretary by a unanimous rising vote, Gov. Warmoth, who was

present, and who has recently returned from a trip through the beet growing section of California, was, on the suggestion of Mr. Crozier, invited to give a description of what he had seen and learned, and he complied in a most entertaining way, dwelling at some length on the magnitude and excellence of the great sugar manufacturing establishments he had visited. Gov. Warmoth was thanked for his entertaining talk, and we will print in this journal next week a full stenographic report of the whole meeting, including a complete transcript of the address of the Secretary of Agriculture.

There being no further business before the meeting adjournment was had until the second Thursday in June.

The Cane Crop.

The weather during the past week has been hot, and had it been accompanied by some rainfall it would have been ideal for cane growing purposes. Unfortunately it has been very dry, however, and while the crop can scarcely be said to have suffered so far, it is on the verge of doing so, and its cup of affliction having been so bountifully filled already the planters are particularly anxious that no further untoward conditions shall assail it. Excellent opportunity has been afforded by the dry spell to do cultivating work, and the cane is now far ahead of the grass, a circumstance of which the value will become more fully apparent should frequent rains arrive during the latter part of May and in June.

William Porcher Miles.

This distinguished gentleman, sugar planter and citizen, died at Burnside, Thursday morning. It was only early this week that it became generally known that General Miles was seriously ill and the news of his death comes as a shock to thousands of his friends in this state and elsewhere.

General Miles had reached the advanced age of 77 years, but his erect bearing, cheerful temperament and genial manners always left the impression of far fewer years. William Porcher Miles was a South Carolinian of the old Huguenot stock that has lent so many

illustrious names to the history of the Palmetto State. He was a typical Southern gentleman of the old school, of great natural ability, highly educated, energetic progressive and generous. He represented South Carolina in the Federal Congress before the civil war, and became a member of the Confederate Congress, retiring from public life at the close of the war.

After the death of John Burnside, the owner of the famous sugar plantations of the Houmas tract, some 20 years ago, General Miles came into the control of these plantations through their inheritance by his children, who were the grandchildren of Oliver Biene, Mr. Burnside's legatee. General Miles' excellent management of this property led to the acquisition of a number of adjacent properties, and finally to the organization of a corporation to carry on the business of the whole, which became known as the Miles group of plantations on the east bank and the Miles group on the west bank, forming an aggregate of 12 or 15 sugar plantations among the best improved in the state.

In the center of the Houmas group at the present town of Burnside he built the well known Houmas Central Factory with a capacity to grind 1500 tons of sugar cane per day, perhaps the largest in the state at the time of its construction and one of the best at the present time.

For a number of years General Miles was the president of the Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association. He was one of the founders of the Sugar Experiment Station and also one of the founders of this journal. He was always ready to lend his efforts and his means to promote the welfare of Louisiana. His memory will be cherished in the years to come by those of us who have known him so well in this state.

Cane Sales in Lafayette Parish.

From the last issue of the Lafayette Gazette we learn that a meeting of cane planters occurred there recently and at the meeting the contract submitted by the Lafayette Sugar Refining Co. was discussed. The main points in the con-

tract were not given, but it seems that the cane planters there believe that the sugar factory ought not to have the right to reject the cane under the proposed conditions; that the juice test of 12 per cent. sucrose was too high; that the regulation for daily delivery was unfair; that the proposed nullification of the contract by the company under certain contingencies was unfair.

It is of course impossible to render any proper judgment concerning this matter without more data than was published in the Gazette. It is to be hoped that a satisfactory settlement will be reached, one that will be to the interest of the factory as well as to the cane growers.

Rice in Ouachita Parish.

From a recent issue of the Caldwell Watchman we learn that Messrs. Alexander and Grewe of Ouachita parish have planted 150 acres of their land this year in rice and will irrigate the crop with water from the Ouachita river. The Watchman says that this is quite a radical departure from the beaten track so faithfully followed hitherto by the Louisiana cotton planters and hopes that the venture will bring success.

An Experiment Station in Jamaica.

Dr. Morris, from whose agricultural mission in the British West Indies so much has been hoped, is certainly creating a very active inquiry as to better agricultural methods in the English West Indies and from a recent issue of the Jamaica Gleaner we learn that an experimental station for Jamaica is now under consideration, a special committee appointed to examine into the matter having recently made a report, in which the whole subject matter is thoroughly discussed. It is contemplated to carry on a school and experiment station, teaching agricultural chemistry the theory of agriculture, with the incidental studies of plant physiology, botany, etc., and all this supplemented by actual instruction in agricultural methods and practice in the field. The present scheme contemplates an outlay of some \$6500, which may do for a beginning, but our good friends in Jamaica will have to go into the matter

on a more extended scale if they propose to keep up with modern agriculture as now practiced in the United States.

Prospective Sugar Production in Cuba.

The amount of sugar that may be produced in the island of Cuba during the first crop of the new century, and the rapidity with which the industry may be rehabilitated may have so marked an influence upon the future price of this great staple, that whatever throws any new light upon these two complex problems, must have considerable interest not only for those commercially and industrially concerned, but also for the public at large. The absence however of reliable data in respect to the number of factories destroyed beyond repair, of those partially burnt in which enough machinery may be saved from the general wreck to warrant reconstruction, and the extent of cane fields that may still be reclaimed, makes all attempts at even approximate calculations hazardous in the extreme.

Until a census be taken by thoroughly competent commissions visiting in detail the different sections, all estimates made will be a mere summing up of very uncertain probabilities.

Nevertheless, something may be said that will tend in a measure to the elucidation of important phases of these intricate problems. There is one conspicuous error that may be controverted and put to rest at once—the supposition, that all the Cuban factories that have succumbed, owe their ruin to the devastation of the war. This is so far from being the case, that it was on the contrary the general suspension of work on the part of the factories, in consequence of the low price of sugar, that made the revolution possible, by leaving thousands of laborers and mechanics without pacific means of subsistence. A large number would not have survived had no war or general destruction supervened, owing to a variety of causes which single or combined, extraneous or innate, made competition impossible at the low cost of production reached by German manufacturers. Some of these doomed estates were among the first to introduce vacuum apparatus many years ago, but their appliances in spite of the remodellings effected from time to time, still retained inherent defects that, besides exacting a great excess of labor, gave a scant yield of sugar. Others, owning none but exhausted lands, having to haul their cane long distances and compete in its purchase with richer and better equipped factories. Others again although possessed of all the most modern improvements, had in obtaining them become so overburdened by debt at high rates of interest and others were situated in hilly districts where extreme economy in the cultivation and transportation of cane is impossible. All factories handicapped in one or more of these ways, would, had no war taken place, have been forced to suspend operations, selling the cane of their tenants to more fortunate rivals, and finally become extinct by the disposal of

the better part of their machinery. It does not seem at all improbable that, if we add to the number that must inevitably, through these defects have succumbed to the low price of sugar, those of the better class destroyed beyond repair by Cubans and Spaniards during the war, fully one-half of the Cuban factories will never permanently renew their operations. But as many of those that will disappear were among the poorest and smallest, this does not imply a reduction of manufacturing facilities to one-half the former output. The largest, wealthiest and best estates have as a rule been saved, but under heavy loss and expense.

The ideal sugar factory in Cuba is today one owning a large extent of rich sugar lands upon the coast, where there is depth of water to permit loading its products from its own storehouse and at its own wharf in chartered steamers to take them direct to their market at the seaports of the United States. Such a factory, besides getting a high grade of raw material at an extremely low cost, pays no lighterage, no land freight on cane or sugar, no brokerage, storage or commissions, no analyses, no weighing, or loss from mistakes in that operation. Such factories can compete advantageously with those of any country in the world, and it is upon these lines that any great increase of production may be expected after those fitted to survive have by replanting their fields, again reached their normal crop.

The greatest difficulty the revival or rehabilitation of the Cuban industry will have to meet, is the scarcity of labor. The supposition that fully one-half of the population that directly contributed to the production of sugar has disappeared through death in battle, disease, starvation or Weyler's butcheries, is in no wise exaggerated. But besides this there is yet another very considerable loss in the evident disinclination of many of their former laborers, to return to their tasks upon the plantations. This seems to be in part due to the low wages offered, and in part to a dislike for hard work, engendered by four years of enforced idleness. The landed proprietors (not sugar producers) are availing themselves of this new tendency, giving out small farms on shares, and it seems but too natural that in a country where land is cheap, and a man by working faithfully two or three hours a day upon a few acres of good soil, can support a family, the number of small farms should increase, and if this new departure continues as it probably will, the effect though beneficial to the country at large, will delay the increase of sugar production very perceptibly.

This enormous diminution in the laboring class devoted to sugar production, will necessitate the importation of two or three hundred thousand laborers, before Cuba's maximum production can again be reached, and there is no apparent source of supply for this demand but Italy. Without taking into account many other impediments, the enormous amount of shipping requisite for their transportation, would seem to preclude the attainment of this indispensable accession in less than three or four years, despite any amount of "booming" the industry is likely to receive. There is as yet no prospect that its revival will be so rapid, that its yearly increment will compensate the general increase of consumption (even supposing that Spain and Italy cease, as they probably will, to be purchasers abroad) or that Cuba will become a disturbing factor in the sugar market for years to come unless annexation stimulates its advance.

The increase of next year's crop (if any increase there be) would naturally depend upon the amount of new plantings, and the ex-

tent of old fields resuscitated by intelligent cultivation. In both these items there are enormous possibilities for economy and gain if one fact, so generally ignored, were duly recognized and utilized in the present strait. It is evident that the stools of a plant that replants and renews itself yearly by sending out subterraneous stalks filled with eyes that germinate and form independent roots, never really becomes old, and that if it fails to give a remunerative crop, it is not due to any inherent defect, but solely to the fact, that the conditions of the soil that surrounds it are such, as either fail to nourish, or mechanically impede its development. In any good soil in Cuba, these conditions may be so improved by the intelligent use of the plow and cultivator, that any abandoned field which has live roots enough to compensate the labor of freeing it from weeds, can be made to give a good crop—a better one, in fact, than in normal conditions is obtained by the old system of hand work. So, also, may the stools of those fields not worth preserving, be dug out with the plow—subdivided and planted in rows in lieu of seed cane, with the advantage of gaining two or three months in growth, because the subterranean stalks begin tillering with the first spring rains. The writer has proven upon a large scale the efficacy of these resources, by such simple means it would be possible so far as the cultural phase of the question is implicated to attenuate so far the difficulties of the situation as to attain an area of cane for the coming crop that would yield perhaps half a million tons; but the majority of Cuban cane growers are too much wedded to routine to suddenly adopt any such radical change even temporarily.

There are new influences at work that will undoubtedly in time bring the cost of sugar production in Cuba down to an astonishingly low figure. Two important factors in this direction will be the great reduction in the cost of living which is already being felt, and that of industrial supplies which soon will be. Besides these, there is a very large margin left for improvement in the production of the raw material, and a greater still for an increase of yield by more scientific work in the sugar house. When the cane producer learns to cultivate his crop just as an American farmer does a field of corn, and Cuban factories are controlled by men as high in technical attainments as those who direct German sugar-houses, Cuba will have no competitor she need fear unless Germany finally establishes a new industry in her African possessions.

Both the rapidity and extent of agricultural progress in Cuba will depend greatly upon the number of American farmers who may make this their home. If the inclination of many of the U. S. volunteers sent here, is a true index, the number will be large; and although in all likelihood they will prefer crop more remunerative, the cultivation of a sufficient amount of cane to supply fodder for their live stock during the driest months, when pasture fails is a necessity upon Cuban farms and the practices which they introduce will be a series of object lessons to their Cuban neighbors, that will sooner or later revolutionize cane production.

It is to be supposed that the measure adopted for the relief of encumbered estates will enable some of these to begin active work upon the coming crop, but there seems to be little ground to hope as yet that it will exceed the present one, or that the future increase of Cuban production will be rapid enough to have any great influence upon the price of sugar.

SANTIAGO DOD.

Florida as a Sugar Producer.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Florida as a state has advantages and resources that are peculiar to Florida. Having traveled in most of the states North and East of the Rocky Mountains, and having lived in quite a number of them, qualify me in saying that none of the states compare with Florida in the diversity of her production, crops, and seasons.

The climatic conditions are all that could be asked for, if we except twenty-four to forty-eight hours in the winter season when a Northwestern blizzard strikes a tangent in this direction, ruining the semitropical products of the country that absorb so much of the time, and labor of our people. Notwithstanding the great losses sustained year after year, the people of Florida, as a whole, are always hopeful, and courageous. Indeed they look with suspicion upon the person that sees all there is to see, or says all there is to say, regarding the drawbacks and backsets that are to be encountered by the newcomer that locates here.

There seems to be a general tendency in this direction, shared in alike by the press and people.

Thousands of good people have come to Florida to secure the benefit of her climate, which is good, supposing, on the representations made on products and prices, that an honest living could be eked out of her soil, only to find out after diligent and persistent effort, again and again repeated, that very little but disappointment awaited them on every hand. Usually, the exchequer, which was limited when they came, is by this time at a low ebb. But the climate abounds. O, yes; and the newcomer takes all the satisfaction he can out of it, but the wife and little ones are not used to living on it exclusively, so he feels that he is at the end of his resources, a condition that might have been avoided had he been correctly informed, and adopted methods that were peculiar to Florida.

The Florida press and some of her enthusiastic admirers, have proclaimed loudly to the world that the resources of the state in the production of sugar cane were almost unlimited. In other words they have claimed that there were millions in it. But I fear it will be a long time before they will materialize. As a rule the writers of such statements are theorists, not practical men. They do not produce cane in any quantity, neither are they instrumental in having it done.

It is a fact that we can raise a fine quality of sugar cane, and it is equally true that we can produce a fair quantity to the acre, perhaps as much as can be produced in other cane growing sections; but we must place the elements in the soil to make the cane, otherwise we fail.

Cane patches in Florida are usually fine and numerous, but they are only patches and limited to the area compassed.

Twelve years of careful observation justify me in making this statement. But what of the muck lands, so much talked of; will they not produce cane? Yes, for a short time; but the fact that the managers of the St. Cloud sugar plantation have been using a large quantity of their muck land for vegetable growing, an industry so complicated, and filled with uncertainty, argues very strongly against the profitable growing of cane on muck land in Florida.

Sugar cane growing in Florida has passed the experimental stage. And the muck lands of Florida are accessible to capitalists, and the fact that they are not taken up and utilized when there are millions of capital seeking profitable investment, tends to corroborate what I say. If we could demonstrate to capitalists that our lands are fruitful, they would speedily take up every available spot in the state, for the reason that our climatic conditions are favorable alike to growing and manufacturing the crop.

Florida is noted for its resources in small things. Those that succeed here succeed in a small way, comparatively speaking. The man that despises the day of small things should stay away from Florida. The man that aspires to run a large farm, plantation, or business can find fields more inviting, fields that will pay a better dividend on his investments.

Industrious, economical people can earn a livelihood in Florida, and those that want to settle into a quiet way of living, those wishing to cultivate a spirit of contentment and patience, those wishing to live largely in communion with nature and climate, will find in Florida all that they need.

W. W. DANIS.

The Origin of the Velvet Bean.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In a recent date of your very valuable paper, you say that Mr. Albert H. Benson, director of the experimental station and farms, Queensland, Australia, has been giving some attention to the velvet bean, which during the last few years, has attracted so much attention in Florida and Louisiana, threatening to supersede the favorite cow pea, etc. Mr. Benson says the plant has been wrongly named, as it is not *dolichos multiflorus*, but is recognized by Mr. P. M. Bailey, to whom he submitted specimens, as *mucima pueriens*, var. *utilis*, a variety of the plant commonly known as cow hags or cow itch. The same error was made in Kingston, Jamaica, British West Indies. But on a close comparison of the velvet bean plant with the cow itch plant that grows wild in Jamaica by Mr. George Levy, Secretary Royal Agricultural Society of Kingston, he readily saw the difference, and said the cow itch is entirely different, and the velvet bean has been identified as *mucima pueriens* var. *utilis*. The question of what it is, is a secondary matter, so it makes good pork,

plenty of forage and enriches and renovates worn out land, and this the velvet bean certainly has done and is doing.

The velvet bean has come to stay.

Yours truly, GEO. H. WRIGHT.

The Sugar Boom in Hawaii.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Kukaiou, Hawaii, April 20, 1899.

There is quite a boom in sugar stocks out here at present, and in consequence quite a number of new plantations are being started, but it is feared by many persons, that not all of these ventures will prove successful. The main cause of this activity is the increased water supply, which is derived from artesian wells, which has caused much of what was supposed to be worthless land to come into the market. But on many of these new plantations the water will have to be pumped to an elevation of 800 ft. which is a very costly undertaking, and which only very high prices of sugar can stand. In many places too the land seems almost entirely covered with rocks, and looks little calculated to raise much of a crop. In other places the soil is all right, but the water supply is limited, and uncertain, and others again are started under even worse apparent conditions.

Still they all sell like hot cakes, in fact, there is quite a scramble for them, and quite a number of the investors are basking in what is called a fool's paradise, and are said to be receiving big dividends from watered stock, or from the money that they have paid for the stock. Many persons also fear, that this dealing in stock will rapidly descend to a species of gambling, and there are said to be schemes on foot to entrap the unwary and to fleece them of their hard earned savings. It is to be hoped that these are false reports. Many of these new ventures will undoubtedly prove valuable properties. But none of them can hope to rival, or even to equal the Ewa plantation, although it is thought that the Oahu plantation may come near it.

Annexation is another cause for the expansion of the sugar industry out here, as it has brought in confidence and capital. It is the money from America which is said to be the chief cause of the advance in the sugar securities of these islands, although the Rothschilds are said to be at the back of some of the biggest deals.

Another cause for this advancement results from the improved machinery, which is fast replacing the old style three-roller mill, and is giving such good results. The yield from these new plantations will undoubtedly increase the output of these islands, but not to such an extent as to cause you any uneasiness; although I must now admit that you were nearer in your estimate of the possible yield that these islands could produce than I was. I must say, that none of us had any idea then that water could be gotten in such abundance.

There is one thing, however, which will soon put a stop to the development of Hawaii, and that is the limited labor supply, which is a very serious question, and is beginning to be felt already. How it is to be met and overcome is one of those questions which is most difficult of solution of any that we have to deal with at the present time.

GEO. OSBORNE,

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Warm weather has set in earnestly, and under its benign influence there is being noticed a gradual and almost general improvement of crop prospects. In some instances the progress has been exceedingly rapid within the past two weeks, producing a veritable transformation in the appearance of stubble rows and fields, well marked lines of green shoots now appearing above the erstwhile barren and unpromising surface of the ground.

One of the most favorable reports of this character which has lately reached "Ascension's" ears comes from the Miles Company's Monroe plantation, where Manager J. J. Boote, who erstwhile apprehended an almost total failure of the stubble crop, is now expressing confidence in a fair stand.

What is most desired now is rain. As a prominent planter says "we are needing rain darned bad, for cane, corn and cisterna." A promising bank of clouds was visible in the South this afternoon, but the prospect tonight is not favorable for the early precipitation so generally desired.

The banquet with which the fifteenth anniversary of the Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association of Louisiana was commemorated on the 2nd inst., was one of the most enjoyable affairs of its kind, both in a gastronomic and an intellectual sense, that our "Planters' Club" has yet conducted, and those who have attended the dinners of former years will readily appreciate what this statement implies. The company was congenial, the menu all-satisfying in variety and preparation, the service excellent, the wines just right in quality and quantity, the toasts timely and the responses eloquent and felicitous. Hon. Henry McCall, the repeatedly re-elected president of the association, occupied the head of the table and exercised the functions of toastmaster with his usual ability and good judgment. The first of the following list of sentiments was offered by Dr. W. M. McGalliard, the fifth by Col. R. McCall, the twelfth by Mr. E. N. Pugh and the others by the toastmaster:

1. Our president. Response by Hon. Henry McCall.
2. Our vice-president. Response by Dr. W. M. McGalliard.
3. The bar. Response by E. N. Pugh.
4. The medical profession. Responses by Drs. Jno. D. Hanson and E. K. Sims.
5. The health of our living ex-presidents, Hons. J. L. Brent and Wm. Porcher Miles, and the memory of our dead ex-president, Mr. R. T. Hanson. Drunk standing and in silence. Mr. Henry C. Braud responded on behalf of Mr. Miles.
6. The press. Response by L. E. Bentley.
7. The railway commission. Response by R. N. Sims, Jr.

8. The commercial interests of the town and parish. Response by C. Kline.

9. The planters of Ascension. Response by R. McCall.

10. The soldiers of Ascension. Response by Capt. R. P. Landry.

11. The women of Ascension. Response by L. E. Bentley.

12. The army and navy of the United States and the Ascension boys of the First regiment. Offered by E. N. Pugh.

13. The police jury of Ascension. Response by Col. J. Emile St. Martin.

The pleasant reunion closed with a general discussion of the police jury's new road system, which elicited much commendation.

It will sadden very many of the Planter's readers beyond the limits of Ascension, as it does everybody in this parish, to know that Hon. Wm. Porcher Miles, the peerless citizen, planter and gentleman—the truest type and representative of the old regime of Southern chivalry and refinement—is lying at the point of death in Houmas house, the elegant mansion on the river bank at Burnside. The long life of honor, benevolence and usefulness is near its close and the last flickering spark will no doubt have been extinguished ere these lines are printed. The loss of this grand old man will be regarded in the light of a public calamity in this community.

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The dry weather is still with us and a good rain would be of untold advantage, especially with the hot days we are having, the thermometer running up into the nineties every day. Work goes on briskly. The plant cane is reported from all sides to be good but there are many complaints about the stubble. The most advanced cane is beginning to sucker and the stand promises to be all that could be desired.

We have lately been along the line of the Texas & Pacific as far up as Boyce. Crops generally are backward and, owing to the dry weather, cotton in stiff lands is not coming up. In the Lecompte neighborhood, it looks as if a large part of the stubbles have been plowed out and the land planted in cotton. Further North nearly all the small patches of cane which were kept up in the hope of a central factory going up at Alexandria some day, have been killed.

From a gentleman who has lately ridden over the fine Supple places, we learn that on Catherine and Kinsdale plantations there will be a three-quarter stand of stubble, while the plant cane was as pretty as any he had ever seen. Mr. Thomas Supple has planted thirty acres of the velvet-bean this year, believing that it will make more hay than the cow-pea, and that, the foliage being so much heavier, it will kill all weeds and grasses far better than the peas. Here as elsewhere rain is badly needed.

Mr. Rudolph G. Comeaux, of Plaquemine, who planted Irish potatoes between the rows of his fall plant cane on his Mayflower plantation reports that the potatoes are doing well, though not yielding as bountifully as he has hoped. Mr. Comeaux did not get a good stand in his fall plant and he is not expecting much from his stubbles.

Mr. Edwin Manomeaux, of Plaquemine, says if he could have got some cotton seed in the neighborhood he would have planted it in his stubble.

The corn crop is going to be immense this year and as a full crop of corn one year means a full crop of everything else the next, we may look for Iberville's banner year in 1900. Among those who will make more corn than can be consumed on the plantation are Messrs. Barrow & LeBlanc, of Plaquemine, and they are contracting now to sell corn in the fall. We think there are many others who can well afford to do the same.

The water in the Mississippi is falling fast, with hardly any prospect of coming up again, and all feel that the danger of high water this year has passed.

District Court convened in Civil session this week, but the docket is light.

Hon. George M. Bowle, the prominent mill man of White Castle, told us a few days since that the demand for lumber was never better. Their business for February was the best of any preceding month since the establishment of their mill; March went ahead of February, only to be surpassed by April.

IBERVILLE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has grown to be entirely too dry for effective advancement of the crops, as it is now one month since we received a rain, and as it was badly needed at that time, the moisture did not long remain upon the surface of the ground. But as indications of rain are making their appearance nearly every day, it is reasonable to expect one within the next week or ten days.

What the planters have lacked in showers they have made up by thorough cultivation and drainage, so that a rainy season of unusual length would not have a serious effect, since the crops are so far in advance of the grass that the latter would not likely reach a stage to impair their maturity before the laying by season.

The Germana plantation and the entire estate of Valentine Schwan, deceased, was seized by process of sequestration last Friday, and taken in charge by the Sheriff of this parish. The ownership of the effects of the estate is claimed by foreign heirs, and at the time of the seizure the property was in the hands of Mr. Wm. Schwan, a son of the deceased. Mr. Schwan left a will, and between the time of his death in February last, and the seizure last week, the whole estate had been opened and closed under the will.

Mr. Schwan was a German by birth, and came to this country about thirty or forty years ago, without money; he went from one occupation to another several times, and finally to the cultivation and manufacture of sugar. He was also a member of the mercantile wholesale firm of V. Schwan & Co., of New Orleans, and at the time of his death was estimated to be worth several hundred thousand dollars.

The largest corn acreage your correspondent believes, on any one plantation in the upper portion of the parish, is at the Bellevue, which has planted eight hundred acres. There are larger plantations in the parish than Bellevue, but none of them lost as heavily in their seed cane from the freeze of last winter.

Mr. James W. Barnett's Shady Side, which is in the lower section, has eight hundred and fifty acres of very fine corn, some of which has been laid by. Shady Side has also one thousand acres of cane, which will show a higher average than any on the water ways of this parish so far.

Mr. L. S. Clarke, of the Lagonda plantation, says he will be satisfied with a half crop all around this season, which he expects to surpass in a small degree.

Capt. J. N. Pharr's Glenwild and Fairview plantations, further down the river, are much better, compared with Mr. Clarke's; but they will finish the season with a considerable shortage, nevertheless.

The South Bend plantation, of the late James C. Mahon, is offered for sale by the heirs and Mrs. Mahon. The succession owes no debts, but it was a request of Mr. Mahon, just prior to his death, that the estate be sold, his children being too young and inexperienced, in his opinion, to assume the management with success. South Bend is a magnificent estate, in thorough cultivable condition, and has a splendid crop at this time.

ST. MARY.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been simply fine for growing purposes. It has been clear and warm and the young crops are responding readily to the influences of the weather. Farmers in some sections of the country are wishing for rain, but the general crop does not need it. A little rain on stubble cane would not hurt, but even that can stand for at least a week yet without suffering. Plant cane and corn is just simply outdoing itself. The stand of cane is still improving—stubble continues to come out and will yet, it looks, give a fair stand. There is but little question as to there being an average stand in the plant cane and with favorable seasons, the crop will be fine and the tonnage per acre will equal that of last year. Your correspondent was driving through the cane district a few days ago and was surprised to see the plant cane so far

advanced. It is now suckering very nicely and as soon as this stage is passed, it will be thoroughly dirtied and put in position to receive the rains. Stubble cannot be depended on to any great extent—if a half crop is harvested from the stubble it will be large returns. The stands may be almost perfect, but it will be so late in coming up that the growth will be short. The corn crop is very fine and the acreage is the largest, probably, that was ever planted here. If nothing prevents, there will be sufficient corn raised in Vermilion Parish this year to supply herself and each parish that joins her. Corn is raised very cheap here and yields from 30 to 40 bushels per acre. The average cost of raising corn here is about 10 cents per barrel, and it readily sells for 50 cents per barrel, which shows a handsome profit. Cotton is very backward, many planters having to plant over and the seed being very scarce, has put them to considerable trouble. The first planting of rice is looking very fine and the outlook is promising for a full crop. The future for the rice industry in Vermilion Parish is very bright. Irrigating canals are being put in all through the central and Western part of the parish and more to follow. Capt. F. M. Kerr of the State Board of Engineers completed a survey on the 7th inst. for a large canal to run west from the Vermilion river to the Gueydan Pasture line, a distance of 20 miles. This canal will be 200 feet wide and will irrigate a larger scope of country than any other canal in this section of the state. The Vermilion Development Co., of West Vermilion, in and around the thriving town of Gueydan, are extending their canals. They recently purchased the Garland canal and in addition to that they purchased the plantation on which it was located, known as the Garland Ranch, 1000 acres of fine rice lands for which they paid \$22,500. This company will very probably extend their canal several miles further west now and connect with the canal recently purchased on this estate.

The cane planters on the Vermilion river and in the vicinity of the Rose Hill Sugar Company's plant, held a meeting at the Court House in Abbeville last Saturday to protest against the contract offered by that company this season. A committee was appointed to confer with the manager of the mill to see if a better contract could not be had, otherwise they would look for outside purchasers. It will be remembered that a similar meeting was held by the cane growers in Lafayette some time ago to protest against the same contract.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

A good rain, if it could be had this week, would be very beneficial to the growing crops.

Our last rain fell on the 21st ult., since which date there has been a number of cloudy days and foggy mornings and at times

marked indications of rain, which however, wore away giving place to warm sunshine and south winds.

It cannot be said that crops are really suffering for the want of rain, but at the same time corn, cotton and cane would feel the beneficial effect of a good heavy rain to penetrate and refresh the soil.

Corn is growing and promising if the season is favorable to make a heavy yield this coming autumn. The cotton plant is beginning to grow, but it needs rain to help it along.

Some places report bad stands of cotton. In such instances the gaps have been filled out by planting corn.

The only trouble when growing a mixed crop of corn and cotton is the greater cost of gathering the corn, when grown in and along with cotton; such work having to be performed by bringing into play the old time sled, mule and cotton basket, for driving in and between the cotton rows to "pull" the corn.

As far as is known, cane seems to be growing and improving in appearance as well as in stand.

Of course the cane raisers would like to get rain during this week to help their respective cane crops forward, but the cane is young yet and there is considerable moisture still left in the soil from the last rain. By carefully pulverizing the soil around and near the tender shoots of cane it will keep up growth for a week or ten days before beginning to actually suffer for the want of rain.

Corn, cotton and cane on the Ellen Kay and Shirly plantations, the fine property of Mr. C. F. Knoll, Bunkie P. O., give promise of fine yields. The fields present a splendid appearance clothed in verdant crops. The cultivation on these places is, to say the least, superb.

Mr. M. Bubenzer, Bunkie P. O., has a fine place adjoining Mr. Knoll's Shirly Plantation. Mr. Bubenzer plants cane, corn and I understand some cotton.

Mr. A. D. Havard's fine plantation, Bunkie P. O., fronting on both sides of Bayou Boeuf and just north of Mr. Knoll, is in a good state of cultivation and planted this year principally to corn and cotton.

Mr. Geo. Bennette, Bennetteville P. O., has a beautiful country home and plantation. Mr. Bennette has on his place this season, so I learn, fifty acres of plant cane up to a nice stand. If not mistaken, I think it was Mr. Bennette's intention to have built a syrup factory this season, but owing to the destructive freeze of the past winter, his cane was cut short, precluding the possibility of building the factory for the present at any rate.

Crop prospects in the vicinity of Cheneyville are reported as very favorable. Mr. W. P. Ford, one of Cheneyville's up-to-date planters, has a splendid stand of cane. Others who are engaged in planting there have from fair to good stands of cane, corn and cotton,

the acreage to cane is not large, but it may be termed a good stroke of luck to them to get in as many acres to cane as they have after such a cold winter.

Planting prospects in the districts around Loyd, Meeker, Lecompte and Lamourie are said to be very promising.

The farmers growing such crops as cane, cotton and corn in the neighborhoods of Cotton Port, Evergreen, Leinster and Bunkie, have made fair progress to date along all lines in farming and planting.

With the exception of lack of rain during this week, there is little or nothing else to complain of.

The 8th inst. was the warmest day so far this season to be noted by the Planter's scribe, the mercury at one o'clock resting for a short space of time at 92 in the shade.

ERIN.

Texas Bagasse Paper.

E. H. Cunningham & Co., at Sugarland, twenty-five miles west of Houston on the G. H. & S. A., and the home office at the Sugar Land Railroad, has the largest factory in Texas and perhaps the largest individual factory in the United States. The estimated value of their plantation, sugar mills, sugar refinery and paper mills is \$2,500,000. The manuscript man had time to go through only the paper mills which cover a space of about 300x600 feet. They manufacture their paper of bagasse—a Spanish word meaning "good for nothing"—in fact it is the pulp and hard substance of the sugar cane, after the saccharine juice has been extracted. This bagasse is first carried from the cane-crushing rollers by means of a system of endless chains 1,000 feet and thrown into a big pile. Here it is allowed to mellow, or ferment, to be taken up again by a chain conveyor and carried up into the second floor and dumped into a very large steam rotary boiler, where it is cooked with caustic soda for the purpose of disintegrating the fibers. This cooking requires about four hours. The pulp is then dropped into great draining tanks where the caustic liquor and the dirt are washed out, leaving the bagasse in a measure clean. However, to further clean it and reduce it to a still finer pulp, it is forced into a series of from fifteen to twenty tanks, wherein are renovating and heating machinery, with pure artesian water, thus reducing the bagasse to a perfect fine and smooth pulp. Thence it is landed by some machinery into a "Jordan engine," and here is where the pulp is reduced or cut into a fiber of the desired length as the different kinds of paper require. Thence this fiber is pumped, still in a wet state and all the time being washed, through a machine-stuffed chest, on to the paper machine, where more pure water is added to reduce it to a perfect fiber. Thence it passes into a sand settler where all sand and foreign substances are eliminated. Thence it passes into a "flow box" or "leveler," which equalizes it and passes it, still

through pure water, on to an endless fine wire cloth. Up to this time this bagasse pulp and fiber was immersed through water. But here it begins to emerge and passes from this cloth wire on to couch rollers and by means of light compound pressure is further dried and spread into a consistency to be handled by hand. From these rollers it passes on to a fine woolen felt roller, the first process of smoothing and drying. Thence (and here you can call it wet paper) it passes on to and through a series of rubber and moss rollers to further extract water and smooth it, and these rollers pass the damp paper to a series of sixteen great drying cylinders, each making the paper smoother and dryer and tougher. Even here this bagasse, pulp, fiber and paper is not allowed to rest. It must move on, and it passes on to the "callender," or steel rollers where it gets its smooth finish, and is folded on large reels, it passing from the last roller in one continuous sheet sixteen feet wide, but being cut by knives into length of rolls as you see it on the merchant's counter. The capacity of this paper mill is 60 tons a day and is driven by a 500 horse power engine which eats up two carloads of Texas lignite coal each twenty-four hours, Sundays excepted. When the MS. man emerged from this wonderful institution he thanked the superintendent, Mr. C. G. Morrision, waved good bye to Messrs. Cunningham & Morrow and caught the Macaroni for home.—Houston Post.

Sugar Cane.—The Big Crop in Florida.

The following article on sugar cane, by L. D. Graham, in the Kissimee Valley Gazette, will be interesting to many of our readers:

I have seen many articles on cane culture and its advantages in this section of Florida and the whole State as a remunerative crop. I will say that I was raised in a sugar growing country, namely the State of Louisiana. In my part of Louisiana cane cannot be planted earlier than the last of January, and must be harvested by the first of December giving only about eight or nine months in which to grow and manufacture the crop. Yet men have made fortunes growing cane under these conditions. Then why cannot we do as well or better in our favored section, where we can plant in December giving us three or more months more growing season than the section of Louisiana referred to? Another advantage we have is our rainy season is certain to come on in June or July lasting through August and September. In the same growing season for sugar cane in Louisiana especially the northern belt of the cane growing section, they are liable to have a drouth in the summer, which will cut the crop short. Here we never have a summer drouth, but in the fall we have dry weather and cool nights, just what we want to mature our cane. Hence our cane contains a larger percentage of saccharine matter than in other sections. Now as to the land; there is none better than our muck,

but this is out of the reach of the average farmer. However we have another land in the country, and thousands, of acres too which is within the reach of all. This is our low black pine land bordering on the lakes and swamps. These lands can be bought for from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per acre, and properly drained and cultivated will grow as fine sugar cane as one would want to see. The only thing I can see in the way of growing sugar cane is a question of a market for the output. The only solution for this, however, is a sugar refinery somewhere in the State, and I know of no place more centrally located than Jacksonville. With a refinery in Jacksonville and a little encouragement and push on the part of the farmers we need not kick any more about cold weather, hard times, dead orange trees and frozen out vegetables. For my part I began two years ago to prepare for what I thought would be the ultimate outcome of the disaster, which struck us in '94 and '95 and has continued to touch us up a little ever since, and that is to secure the proper lands and plant sugar cane. I am getting fairly started and hope to be ready when the refinery is going.—Florida Agriculturist.

Personal.

Mr. A. Schierholz, a mechanical engineer of high reputation, who is now officiating as consulting engineer for one of the large sugar companies recently organized in Honolulu, was in Louisiana during the past week, being the guest of Mr. E. W. Deming during his stay. Mr. Schierholz says his company proposes to build a 1,600 ton factory in the Hawaiian Islands. He left on Wednesday for the North and East.

Mr. M. Hanlon, a highly esteemed citizen of the Bayou Goula neighborhood, where he enjoys the reputation of being a skillful sugar planter, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. Mr. Hanlon put up at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. John R. Todd, a leading sugar planter of St. Mary parish, who possesses a fine piece of sugar property near Bayou Sale was a recent visitor to the city. Mr. Todd stopped at one of our leading hotels.

Mr. John D. Minor, son of the late Hon. H. C. Minor, of Terrebonne parish, was a guest of the Commercial hotel last Tuesday. Mr. Minor seems to inherit his father's masterly skill as a sugar planter and controls wisely and well the broad acreage of the Southdown place.

At the Rich Bend place, in St. James parish, there is a splendid illustration of the capabilities of the gentler sex to properly conduct such a complex establishment as a sugar plantation. At Rich Bend, Mrs. John Vegas, the proprietress has everything under her personal supervision and control, and stays in the sugar house during the grinding season to see that everything is running along as it should. Louisiana has good cause to be proud of this brave and successful lady.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

Berlin, April 22, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Last week has, with regard to the weather, seen at last a change in the seasonable and desired direction. There have been at the beginning of the period under review still some moist precipitations, but they decreased in number and abundance and towards the middle of the week ceased entirely. The following dry days have been, as a matter of course, used to the greatest extent possible by the farmers for field work which is now pretty well advanced. The sowings of summer cereals are almost everywhere finished and those of the beets are progressing under satisfactory conditions. If the dry weather keeps on for some time to come it is very likely that a small advance will be obtained as against last year, which, however, as is known, was marked by exceptionally late sowings. Subsequent to the rains which were partly adduced by thunderstorms, the temperature went very low, and in this respect a change remains still desirable inasmuch as for the germinating and coming up of the seed, more warmth is required. Any way to insure a good coming up and consequently a full stand of the young plants warm and moist weather is now necessary, otherwise a defective stand may result in large resowings which cause an additional outlay of work and money quite apart from the doubtful crop which must be expected from them. A change for the better is also reported from the other beet growing countries. Of the latter it seems that France, Belgium and Holland stood most in need of it, very inclement meteorological conditions having prevailed there of late. Austria appears to be a little ahead of Germany and in Russia fieldwork has just been commenced. As a whole the situation of the European beet culture at the time being is not altogether unfavorable and there is at least a much better starting than last year.

On the occasion of the introduction of countervailing duties in the East Indies on bounty paid beet sugar the question has again risen to the surface as to whether a partial abolition of the bounties is feasible, in order to paralyze the countervailing duties. When the United States proceeded to establish this kind of protectionism, in many political and special papers in this country it was recommended to give simply no bounty to sugar destined for America, for, it was argued, the bounty would go into the treasury of the United States and thus would be anyway lost to the German producer. In reality things are however quite different. The effect of the countervailing duty in the first place is that the American or any foreign consumer does not buy any bounty paid sugar as long as he can avoid it, for the consumer must pay the countervailing duty,

and, in the case of America, the refiners of that country, and they ask in the sugar price from the public and they cash even the amount of the duty if they themselves have paid none at all. But if there is no more cane sugar or sugar that receives no bounty available, then the American consumer or refiner must buy bounty paid sugar, and in this contingency the German producer gets duties. And how could it be otherwise? The German manufacturer sells his sugar at the price which comprises the bounty. The exporter who buys it furnishes the sugar at the market price of the world and must of course get back the amount of the bounty which he has paid to the producer. Suppose now the bounty to be abolished for sugar directed to America; he would either pay no bounty to the manufacturer, and in this case the manufacturer would sell him not one pound, or he pays the bounty out his pocket, for the government would not refund it to him. To sum up, the countervailing duty may tend to deprive a country of production of a given market, but it does not deprive it of the bounty it legally gets. That is put in evidence now when America buys in Germany almost every week, but it must be added that American refiners prefer German sugar on account of the latter country paying the lowest bounty. In the East Indian question, however, Austrian interests are principally at stake and there it has been again proposed to do away with the bounties on sugar for that destination. But such a scheme would meet with the same obstacles as shown above and besides the Austrian sugar industry does not care to have the bounties partially abolished even if this were satisfactorily demonstrated to be possible. It should be added that your neighbor, Canada, also levies a differential duty on bounty paid sugar, or speaking rightly, that she allows a rebate on sugar from English colonies; but there is nevertheless a lively importation of beet sugar carried on to that country.

The Prussian ministry of war have decided that the experiments with the use of sugar in the army shall be continued this year on a larger scale. The military authorities want to make sure whether the men, using sugar are more capable of withstanding the hardships of war than those who get none. Of three army corps, two companies of two regiments shall be furnished with sugar rations prepared in different forms, in order to make a more thorough trial in that direction.

I will give you some facts concerning the statistical position of the three European beet sugar countries, Germany, Austria and France, up to March 31st. The production of those three countries amounted in the present campaign to 3,437,431 tons (in 1897-98, 3,327,445 tons), the importation was 62,098 tons (74,834 tons); exportations, 1,364,201 tons (1,279,802 tons); consumption, 1,188,348 tons (1,093,983 tons); final stocks, 1,693,891 tons (1,781,188 tons). These figures are no doubt favorable as in spite of a larger production, the final stocks are considerably smaller.

The markets opened this week still with a firm and rising tendency, but in the midst of the period under review, the bullish spell was broken, Paris and Austrian operators suddenly realizing profits and instead of buying, were largely offering. This caused some collapse, especially of terminal prices for near deliveries, whilst next crop rather held its own. In actual goods, which anyway are scarce, the business came to a complete standstill and there are no quotations given at the end of the week; but delivery April is quoted at Hamburg at M. 10-85 f. o. b. Refined are firm and 25-38 penings higher.

ROBT. HENNIO.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to advices of firmness in the foreign leading markets, prices at this place have recovered from their former downfall and buyers, especially speculators, have shown much eagerness to operate, and had stocks been larger, there is no doubt that transactions might have been of an unusually large bulk, whereas, owing to the high pretensions of seller's transactions, have been rather limited and added up only 10,000 bags, centrifugal, 96-97 test, at from 3 @ 3½ cents per pound. Market closing to-day, quiet, but strong at from 3½ @ 3 5-16 cents per pound for good centrifugal sugar, basis 96 test.

Grinding may now be considered as terminated for this year and according to official statements, the total production amounted to 307,903 tons against 232,032 tons last year, which shows a difference of 75,871 tons, in favor of this year.

Whilst all plantations in this part of the island have already terminated their crop, it is announced that central factories 'Natividad' and 'Mapos,' at Santi Spiritu, will commence grinding this week; but owing to the advanced period of the season, it is likely that the report is untrue, since the quantity of sugar they might manufacture during this month, the only one as yet available for grinding, provided it does not rain again, would not be sufficient to cover starting expenses.

The excitement that prevailed during the past few weeks regarding bandits has almost totally subsided and the few bands that still hold the field in the Santiago de Cuba province are being so actively pursued by American cavalry and Cuban forces that they are no more to be feared, and the men who compose them are fast surrendering in order to save their lives.

With the organization of the Rural Guard the gangs that were committing misdeeds in the western part of the island, have also totally disappeared.

President McKinley's decree postponing for two years foreclosure proceedings in mortgage cases, reads as follows:

"An extension of two years, terminating on the 1st day of May, 1901, is hereby grant-

ed for the collection of all obligations whether or not secured by mortgage on real property, where it may be necessary to sell property or its products to make collection. This extension shall not apply to obligations contracted since the 31st day of December, 1898."

Above decree has been received with much dissatisfaction by the country in general, except planters, who solicited it in the belief that it would improve their situation, which it has, on the contrary impaired, since it utterly does away with whatever small credit was left them. It is not likely that after they have publicly done all in their power to obtain from the United States the promulgation of a decree declaring them relieved of all their obligations toward their creditors, that they will now find any capitalist willing to advance them money to replant their fields, repair their machinery and put again their plantations in producing condition.

The enactment of such a law is not only a flagrant infraction of the stipulations of the treaty of Paris, but also against justice and opposed to the rules contained in the commercial codes of all nations and President McKinley ought to be well aware of all this; it is therefore a mystery to every one what might have been the political reasons brought to bear upon his mind, in order to convince him of the necessity of signing an order, whose first consequences will soon be keenly felt by the very ones who made the greatest efforts for its promulgation.

The extension embraces not only mortgage obligations referring to plantations and rural property, but also those that affect city or urban property, against which all judicial proceedings for payment will be suspended for two years, whereas other debtors, perhaps in a worse situation than planters and other land owners, may be prosecuted with all the rigor of the law.

Neither Governor General Brooke nor War Secretary Alger, when he was here a month ago, durst assume such a responsibility as the one President McKinley has so willingly overburdened himself with and this complex problem, far from being solved, has just entered into a new and more delicate phase.

T. D.

Cane Culture by Steam in Queensland.

A few weeks ago Messrs. Young Bros., of Fairymead, imported two improved steam ploughing engines and implements for use on their Fairymead and other cane-growing properties. The plant is now erected, and has been put to work, with such satisfactory results that an exhibition of the machinery is to be given at Fairymead this afternoon (weather permitting), so that neighbouring planters and others interested may be able to see the grand work done by this system of cultivation.

Messrs. I and H. M'Laren, of Leeds, the makers of the Fairymead plant—and who have a world-wide reputation as makers of road locomotives, steam ploughing engines,

&c.—recognizing that for new country the old style of ploughing engines was unsuitable, re-designed them, with the result that, although they still have the same effective horse power and greater strength of parts—through putting in steel castings instead of cast iron—the present engines are only two-thirds the weight of the old design, thus making them much more useful, economical, and far easier to handle over rough country.

The method of cultivation adopted is what is known as the "double engine" system—this is, an engine on each headland with a horizontal winding drum under the boiler, with from 400 to 900 yards of steel wire rope on each drum, so that a paddock up to half-a-mile long may be negotiated. The engines are worked alternately, pulling the implement to and fro across the paddock. The engines are very powerful, having a working pressure of 160 lbs., and giving off 130 indicated horse-power each.

A paddock of forty-five acres has been cultivated to a depth of 2 ft., being just finished before the severe rains of last week, and although it was very heavy work breaking the hard pan at the bottom of the ordinary horse cultivation, the engines ran very smoothly and without a hitch, which speaks well for the workmanship and general arrangement of the parts. The work done was of a most satisfactory nature, the ground being thoroughly stirred to a depth of 2 ft.; yet no sour subsoil was brought to the top.

The cultivator is a very strong implement, having seven tynes, and so made that it may be worked at any depth from 6 in. to 3 ft.; and on a simple slide bar behind a set of horse harrows is attached, which makes a fine finish. The steam harrows are used for more cloddy ground. They are very strong, take in 18 ft. width, and are drawn across the paddock at a rate of about six miles an hour, thus insuring thorough harrowing.

The ploughs have not yet arrived, as they are being fitted with improvements to make them specially suitable for cane plantation work. The engines are fitted with two winding speeds—the fast speed for harrowing and light cultivating, the slow speed for heavy cultivation.—Bundaberg Mail.

Opportunities in Porto Rico.

Mr. J. E. Stringer, Boston representative of the Eastern Refinery Company, 131 Washington street, has just returned from a two months' business trip in Porto Rico, where he has made a thorough investigation of the natural and trade resources of the island in connection with his purchases of sugar and molasses. Mr. Stringer, when interviewed yesterday at his New York office by a representative of this journal, said: "I was agreeably surprised at the condition of Porto Rico. From all the accounts which I had had previous to my journey to the island I imagined the country was in a deplorable condition, financially and industrially, but my opinions have decidedly changed after a careful study of present conditions. The natives are of a fairly high order of intelligence, the whites and mulattoes preponderating in a ratio of three to one as compared with the negro population. The country has not been devastated by war, as has been the case with Cuba, and as a result the inhabitants are in better condition for the introduction of American industries and methods. Every tradesman has a leaning to-

ward American goods and is willing to adopt American ways. The Americans are respected in every walk of life, and with the increase of schools the respect for all things pertaining to this country is growing. The enthusiasm for the American citizen is no mere gush of a temporary sentiment, but the Stars and Stripes are respected even by the school children, who are taught to salute the flag with the greatest reverence. An American is as safe in Porto Rico as in any part of this city. The upper classes are on a high plane—socially, intellectually and morally—and with such classes in the preponderance the future of the island is assured.

"With regard to trade conditions, I would say that the prospects for the introduction of American capital are excellent. Money is needed in the island; the people are not destitute as in Cuba, but the majority of Americans who have gone to the island have expected to attain large results without any outlay, which, of course, is ridiculous; but opportunities for small as well as large capitalists are numerous. The low price of coffee in the island has affected trade somewhat, but the United States is not securing all the benefit it might from this trade. At present Bordeaux is probably paying the highest price for Porto Rican coffee, but we could undoubtedly control this trade were the attempt to be made. The bulk of the sugar and molasses comes to this country. None is refined in Porto Rico except what is consumed locally, which is refined on the various plantations. The quality of the molasses is excellent, but on account of the uncertainties of the war planters have not raised as large crops as formerly. Prices are firm and somewhat higher than during the last few years. The prospects for the sugar and molasses crops were never brighter.

"There is opportunity for the introduction of manufacturing industries, for the country is sadly in need of materials with which to perform various processes. Various instruments and implements can be manufactured to advantage in the country. There is little need for the introduction of American labor, for native workmen can be hired for much less and will do their work well. Considering the tools which they have it is remarkable what fine work they are able to accomplish. Skilled labor can be had against which it would be difficult for American labor to compete.

"We have no extensive competition from other nations in the island. The English, French and Germans are there, but we are given the preference, other things being equal, and this state of affairs will become more intensified as time goes on. The opportunities for investment are excellent. The money lenders, included among whom are the English, and French especially, have been securing high rates of interest on their loans, many investments being made on a basis of 12 per cent. Of course, it may be readily seen why these investors have not been open in their praise of the opportunities of the island. The native populace would be glad to secure loans on a lower basis, and a great deal of money could be placed on bond and mortgage at 6 per cent, with excellent securities. An American has just made a loan of \$80,000 at 8 per cent, and I know of another instance of an option taken on a coffee plantation which requires \$600,000 and will guarantee 6 per cent for twenty-five years. Money, to be made, must be worked for in Porto Rico as well as in any other country, but there are opportunities for work which seem to promise good results beyond general belief."—N. Y. Journal Commerce.

BET SUGAR.

Oxnard, California.

Henry T. Oxnard called at the Courier office before leaving for San Francisco yesterday. He expressed himself as very well satisfied with all his interests here. He is much pleased with the town and the progress that has been made. As he says "this is just the commencement." The future is bright with promise. A first-class hotel and a substantial bank, which will be an Oxnard institution, are assured before the campaign opens. In relation to the reported sale of the Oxnard Companies and their relations to the so-called sugar trust, he stated that the reported interview with him published in the Los Angeles Times was substantially correct, with the exception of the inference that it was the intention of American Beet Sugar Company, of which he is president, to erect two new factories in this state. Two new factories will be erected by the company, and one of them will be in the arid region, Utah, Colorado or Arizona.

He considers this locality as an ideal place for the beet sugar industry and predicts that the best results will be obtained here, and that the record of this factory will be unequalled anywhere else.

The following report of an interview with Mr. Oxnard, which touches upon many points of local as well as general interest, is reproduced from the Los Angeles Times of April 4th.

Henry T. Oxnard, the well-known manufacturer of beet sugar, was seen last evening at the Van Nuys and expressed himself very freely on the reports which have been widely published of late regarding the alleged sale of the four beet-sugar factories of which he was president, and also regarding the outlook for the beet-sugar enterprise.

Mr. Oxnard was very indignant at alleged interviews which have been published by an evening paper in this city, purporting to have been the result of conversation with himself and Mr. Clark of the Los Alamitos factory. He said that the paper in question quoted both of them as making statements which were absolutely false, and that neither had ever had any conversation with any representative of the paper in question regarding the reported sale of the sugar plants.

"The whole truth of the matter is simply this," said Mr. Oxnard. "There has been no sale whatever. The four sugar factories at Chino and Oxnard, this state, and at Grand Island and Norfolk, Neb., each had an independent organization, although I have been president of them all. For business reasons it was thought best to consolidate them in one company, of which I have been elected president. This new company has taken in new capital, which is now practically unlimited, but every man in the original companies has an interest in the new, corresponding to his investment. This new organization is not only able to go ahead with the busi-

ness of the four factories which it possesses, but it is amply able to proceed with any new venture which it may in the future decide upon."

This statement opened the way for the direct query whether the company had any projects in view of the immediate future.

To this Mr. Oxnard replied: "We intend to build two more factories to be ready for business next year."

He declined to answer the direct question as to the probable location of them in this state. He said: "We are prepared to do business anywhere in this state or anywhere on American territory. We have not yet decided on the location of these factories."

Later, however, Mr. Oxnard said: "The future of the beet-sugar industry is extremely bright, particularly in this state; brighter here than in any other part of the country." This would certainly indicate that the state has the best of prospects for securing the factories which he said his company is to build.

There is a belief on the part of some people that this new organization, which is called the American Beet Sugar Company is to some extent affiliated with the American Sugar Refining Company (the so-called Sugar Trust), and this has been implied in some recent publications. Mr. Oxnard was asked in regard to this question and he replied:

"There is not, there never has been, and so far as I can say, there never will be, the slightest relationship between these two organizations. No man in the trust owns a dollar's interest in this organization, nor ever owned a dollar's worth in the organizations which have just been united. The two organizations are naturally opposed to one another, for every pound of beet sugar we make is so much less to be refined by the trust, and Mr. Havemeyer would tell you the same thing."

"Regarding the prospect for beet-sugar," said Mr. Oxnard, "we have just built the factory at the town of Oxnard, and by the time it is completed it will represent an investment of fully \$2,000,000. That is the best testimony I can give of our confidence in the industry. We would not have made that investment if we did not feel very sure of the result."

Being asked in regard to the effect on the beet-sugar industry of the annexation of the Hawaiian and Philippine Islands, he said:

"I do not believe that any serious results will come to the industry from the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands, but the Philippines are an unknown quantity, of which we stand in great fear. They are a very dangerous element, on account of the cheap labor there."

Asked in regard to the outlook for the beet crop in California for the present year, Mr. Oxnard said: "The prospects at Chino are not quite so bright as at Oxnard. At the former place probably about five thousand tons of sugar will be made from beets grown

at Chino and the portions of Orange county which ship to that point. That is about two-thirds of a crop, we estimate. At Oxnard we expect to make about twelve thousand tons of sugar, which is all we care to handle. This is the first year at that factory and there are always delays with new machinery, and it would not be safe to undertake to run at full capacity. What is a full product at Oxnard for this year, however, would be about three-fourths of a year after this. It is probable that Southern California will produce about two hundred thousand tons of beets. We expect to run each of these two factories about ninety days."—Courier, April 8.

Oxnard, California.

The welcome showers drove the beet thinners out of the fields and for several days this week they were very much in evidence on the streets. The work of beet thinning is well under way and the number of men at work is variously estimated, by some as high as 1,000.

The beet thinners, who worked in the fields at Chino claim that it is much harder here. The stand of beets is better and more beets have to be pulled up. There are few bare places which elsewhere give the men a gain. Experts who were good for an acre or more a day elsewhere, claim that three-quarters of an acre is the best they can do here.

This class of beet field work is usually let by contract to some man who represents a number of men working co-operatively, or who employes others, it is customary for the contractor to employ some expert as a pace setter. A man who can thin an acre of beets a day commands as high as \$2.00 per day as a pace setter. The other employes are paid in the proportion their work bears to that of the pace setter. The weak, lazy and unskillful get the smallest wage. Besides that the contractor runs a commissary department and feeds the gang. They sleep in tents or in the shade of trees near where they work.

It is an interesting sight to see a gang of men stretched out across a field, each man takes two rows and goes through on hands and knees pulling up surplus beets and weeds. The contractor watches them to see that the work is done in such a manner as will secure the payment of the contract price.

The prices paid by the farmers run from \$4.50 to \$6.00 depending upon a variety of conditions. His measure of profit is determined by the skill and faithfulness of the pace setter. If he can secure a pace setter who will thin an acre of beets a day, to whom he pays \$2.00 and found, which means about fifty cents more, the net cost to him will be \$1.75 per acre and he will receive the difference between that and the contract price to pay him for his work and the profits.

This is a class of work at which women and children can and do work. It is tiresome on account of the position the body is in, but it does not require any great muscular strength.

It is a business, however, at which an energetic, skillful man can make good wages and if conditions are favorable, the profits of the contractor should be considerable.—*courier*, April 29.

Los Alamitos, Cal.

A visit to Los Alamitos Wednesday developed the fact that that section is weathering the drought very well and that beet growers are finding but little fault with the present outlook.

The work of thinning the beets commenced about the first of the present month and will last until the middle of May. There are between 300 and 400 persons engaged in this work, and are paid \$3 an acre, which net them about \$1.50 a day.

There are 5900 acres planted to beets this year, which will yield about 50,000 or 60,000 tons. The price paid for beets is to be \$3.80 per ton for beets averaging 12 per cent. sugar and 25 cents for each per cent. above that. The heavy fogs of the past two weeks have done much good and the yield will be much larger than was expected.

The factory will begin operation about July 1, and will have a run of over five weeks.—*Santa Ana Blade*.

Springville Sugar Factory.

Springville, April 25.—The long hoped for sugar factory for Springville is now practically an assured fact. Manager Cutler, Superintendent Austin and Vallez and Secretary Evans of the Utah Sugar Company were in town today, and spent the day with surveyors laying out the factory grounds and staking out two beet sheds.

With the sugar company officers were Superintendent Welby and Chief Engineer Yard of the Rio Grande Western, who were present to see what side tracks and switches their company would need to put in. The location of the factory was slightly changed to make it easier to put in their tracks. The factory grounds as now laid off includes about forty acres, and is located about half way between Springville and Spanish Fork.

The factory will have a grinding capacity of 450 to 500 tons daily, which is fifty tons more than the Lehi factory. The two sheds staked off today were each 700 feet long, and have a storage capacity of 3,000 tons each. This makes the two sheds here equal to about three of the sheds at Lehi. The juice of the beets ground in the factory here will be run to Lehi factory through a five-inch pipe-line, twenty-one miles long, with a fall of 100 feet. The pipe will be here by June 1st and machinery by July 1st. Work on the factory will begin as soon as the deed for the land is proven. Every effort is making to speed this.—*Salt Lake Tribune*.

The Root System of the Sugar Beet.

Prof. Ten Eyck of the North Dakota Experiment Station has made a study of the root systems of wheat, oats, flax, corn, potatoes and sugar beets, and the results of his investigation are embodied in Bulletin No. 36, of that station. The land in which the roots were grown was typical Red river valley soil, being a deep black loam, underlaid by a subsoil of lighter color which is commonly called clay, but is in reality a compact, heavy loam. As to the sugar beet the bulletin informs us that its root system differs from that of any of the other plants studied. The beet itself is really the enlarged upper part of the tap-root which extends almost perpendicularly downward into the ground, becoming rapidly smaller in diameter, the lower part being quite small and thread-like and reaching, in the case under investigation, a depth of over three feet. From the central root branches spread outward and downward into the soil on all sides. The upper main branches are the largest and extend outward almost horizontally for more than two feet. Those deeper down incline more and more until the last branches run nearly parallel to the tap root. The soil about the main roots is filled with long, white, hair-like fibers.

The sugar beet is a deep feeder. The main lateral roots start out four to five inches from the surface, and there is not much root development in the upper six inches of soil. This study of the root system of the sugar beet shows why sugar beets require a deep, well-loosened soil.—*Oregon Agriculturist*.

Sugar Exports to Canada.

The war between the rival American sugar refiners and the low prices resulting from it are causing considerable agitation among Canadian sugar refiners and among the Canadian wholesale grocers who usually do business with such refiners. It appears that notwithstanding the Canadian duty of 1.26 cents upon refined sugar there has been a very decided increase in the exports of American refined sugars into the Dominion. American refiners at the present time if not selling actually at a loss are very close to the mark, and as they are able to obtain a drawback of duties they have paid on the raw sugars from which the refined is prepared it is now possible to export to Canada, as sugar is a staple in which a difference of even 1-32 cent per pound will influence distribution.

The Canadian wholesale grocers, in conjunction with the Canadian sugar refiners, have, it is reported, united to secure such legislation as shall prevent the importation of American refined sugars into Canada. It is also reported that the combination of these interests also proposes an agreement not to purchase any other than Canadian refined sugars.

In the sugar trade here it is argued that it would be obviously unwise and unfair for

the Canadian parliament to enact any discriminative legislation against American sugar, as the influences that are now allowing the American competition are entirely abnormal and may cease at a moment's notice, while on the other hand, if legislation were secured to meet this temporary condition, it would probably take years to have it reversed.

Canada sugar refiners are now receiving more protection than they had under the late government. Canada refiners assert that the American imports are due to bounty fed United States sugars. "This, of course, is ridiculous," said a prominent member of the sugar trade yesterday, "the only drawback allowed by the United States on refined sugars exported is the duty actually paid on the raw article from which they are manufactured—in other words, the refiners practically refine in bond. Any effort on the part of the Canadian parliament to increase the duty on American refined sugars would practically mean discrimination, and under such circumstances would have the attention of the United States government. As an instance of discriminative legislation, take the Canadian tea and coffee duties; tea and coffee are imported into Canada from Great Britain and place of growth free. If imported from the United States 10 per cent duty is charged. The only duties imposed on tea and coffee from Canada into the United States is the regular duty in force of 10 cents per pound on tea, while coffee is admitted free. Certainly it would appear unwise for the Canadian parliament to legislate in such a manner as to show any additional discriminations against importations from this country."—*New York Journal of Commerce*.

Trade Notes.

Anthrax or Charbon.

The season is now approaching when an outbreak of charbon is liable to occur. Past experience should be sufficient warning to many stock owners to provide against a future attack, and no doubt these lessons of the past will be the means of saving the life of many a valuable animal. But time slips by so rapidly, and the cares of life are so numerous, that others may be caught napping when the critical moment arrives, and only arouse to find their stock dead or dying from this terrible disease. When it is considered how easily, how cheaply, live stock may be inoculated against charbon, it seems strange that every susceptible animal in infected districts is not vaccinated with Pasteur vaccine. The time, trouble and expense are so trifling that it is much cheaper to vaccinate a hundred head than it is to lose a single animal. The warning here given is sounded in ample time; and it is to be hoped that every stockowner in the charbon "belt" will from this moment be haunted by this friendly advice—vaccinate, vaccinate. Those who are unacquainted with Pasteur vaccine, or with the extent and success of its use in this country should write to the Pasteur Vaccine Co., No. 58 Fifth avenue, Chicago, who will gladly furnish literature pertaining to the subject.

RICE.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

Another slow disappointing week until just at the close there was a rush of orders and requests for samples. The former might be called "only a spurt" but the latter gives promise of "more to follow" in way of business. Until the limited demand of the past few weeks, stocks have accumulated somewhat but with shutting down of shipments, are not regarded as excessive and if there be the usual spring call, further supply will have to be sought abroad. Late receipts have been largely of new crop Java and it being of more recent growth than other styles, shows up finely in the matter of color. Advices from the South note movement local and to near-by points; stock is limited and firmly held, as owners are quite assured that it is short of requirements up to new crop. Shipments of rough have ceased from most localities and all mills save one have closed for the season. Encouraging reports are being received from every section regarding the crop of the current year. Seeding is steadily progressing and a much larger acreage being prepared than was anticipated. Cables and correspondence from abroad note quickened demand and firmer prices, more especially on nice selections. So little of the present receipts of uncleaned are first-class that millers fear to contract against future delivery in high grades.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 699,345 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 531,700 sacks. Sales, cleaned (est) 172,382 barrels; last year 116,500 barrels. Featureless; demand local.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 36,285 barrels. Sales, 33,150 barrels. Fair enquiry at full values.

Rice Canal Extensions.

B. M. Lambert and E. Hamilton went out Thursday on a surveying tour. They are running the line for an extension to the Abbott-Duson canal. The work on the other canals is being pushed rapidly and in some instances is already completed. The new plant at the Crowley canal is almost finished and is as fine a specimen as will be found in the country. The new pump will throw twice as much water as the one formerly used, and in order to properly cover the new engine, boilers and machinery the house has been enlarged to about three times the size of the former one.—Crowley Signal.

Messrs E. S. French, of Shelbyville, Ill., and Ellsworth French, of Shell Beach, were in the city last night says the American. Each returned to his home today. These gentlemen are interested in a large rice plantation in the Lake Arthur country. They will have 400 acres in rice this season on their own place. Their canal has

been extended over a mile and many additional acres will be planted, the Frenchs have a fine place. They report that the farmers in that country are much interested in the proposed canal to connect Lake Benton with Sweet lake. The canal would add greatly to profits of the rice farmers in that territory by reducing freight rates.—West-lake Herald.

More Irrigated Rice.

A canal project, of which very little has been said, is being worked out near Kinder. O. E. Moore, civil engineer, of this city has been working on the canal for some time.

The canal is now in process of construction. The embankments for the main canal and laterals are being raised.

The water will be taken from the Calcasieu river by a lift of 31 feet. The main canals and laterals to be constructed this year will be three to four miles long. Construction is being pushed and Mr. Moore expects to have the plant in operation in time to water 400 or 500 acres of rice land on his own place. The possibilities of the canal have not been fully developed.—Lake Charles Commercial Tribune.

New Policy of the American Sugar Refining Company.

The recent rumors in grocery circles, mentioned in these columns on Wednesday, that the Sugar Trust was offering sugar direct to retailers in certain sections, particularly in Charleston and the Northwest, have caused no little concern among brokers and the jobbing trade. If true the rumors, it is acknowledged, mean the open abandonment of the factor and equality plans of distribution, and the organization by the Trust of a system of distributing machinery that will eventually revolutionize current trade methods.

It will be stated on authority that thus far there has been no change in the Sugar Trust's policy of distributing its sugars, and it may also be stated on authority that the Trust is not desirous of selling over the heads of the jobbers who are now its factors. For the last two years or so, however, the American Sugar Refining Company has not regarded the factor plan from the same view point as the wholesale grocers. The latter when the plan was first promulgated regarded it an agreement whereby the Trust would sell only through factors who were wholesale grocers. But the Trust has for some time been filling orders from all buyers it deemed desirable customers regardless of whether such customers were jobbers or retailers. All that was necessary was for the buyer to take a minimum quantity of sugar. In the South no serious attempt seems to be in progress on the part of the grocers to maintain the factor plan, and the same is true of certain parts of the West. But in these sections where the grocers themselves are showing a disposition to comply with the factor conditions the Sugar Trust people are, according to an official of the company,

doing all that is possible to aid them. In other words, they will not in those districts sell to retailers in less than 100-barrel lots. "There has been no change in our policy whatever," said a representative of the American Sugar Refining Company to a reporter of this journal; "we are strictly observing the factor and equality plans in all sections where the grocers themselves are observing them."

Sugar refiners generally—the Trust as well as outsiders—look to the jobbers themselves to maintain the factor and equality plans. No recent instances are known where any of the refiners have attempted to discipline infractions of either plan in the form of price cutting, as each refiner knows that it would be a very easy matter for a large customer to obtain his supplies from a competing refiner.

While the Trust has not yet deviated from the factor plan it is nevertheless true that it proposes to do so just as soon as its interests require such action. A representative of the company yesterday denied a report that the Trust had issued a circular letter threatening to abandon the factor system of distribution if the wholesale grocers to whom the circular was addressed did not purchase all their supplies from the Trust. "We have issued no such circular," said the representative of the Trust who was questioned, "but we certainly are doing our very best to get our customers to buy all their supplies from us. That is, however, simply what any business house in any line of trade would endeavor to do."

The explanation regarding the alleged circular is, however, purely technical. It is a fact that letters have been written by representatives of the Trust to some large consumers and that traveling representatives of the Trust have personally presented the same arguments to other large consumers, setting forth the desirability of such consumers purchasing all their supplies from the Trust and intimating that otherwise the factor plan cannot be maintained. The arguments have been made that the Trust is always able to promptly fill all orders, while more or less limited by the comparative supplies from other refiners are necessarily limitations of the plants. Consequently with as low prices as are named by competitors and a guarantee on prices the Trust people argue they are entitled to the full support of their customers. These representations have been regarded in the form of a threat that the continuance of the factor plan is conditioned upon their adoption of a policy of exclusive dealings with the Trust.

These conditions certainly do not suggest any negotiations looking to any immediate termination of the contest between the rival refiners. The net price for granulated sugar listed by all refiners is 5½ cents, which, with discounts off, makes the net figure 4.84 cents. Raw sugar on the basis of 96 degrees centrifugal is 4½ cents bid, making the difference between the refined and raw article 34

cents per hundred pounds—the smallest difference that has thus far existed. In view of the strength in the raw sugar market and the fact that refiners are giving buyers thirty to sixty-day guarantees on refined sugar does not indicate evidence of an understanding among the conflicting interests. There is no doubt but what the independent refiners who worked in harmony with the Trust before the Doscher and the Arbuckles started up, are in favor of establishing similar conditions at the present time, but as far as can be learned there is no basis for reports of an alleged recent conference, and in Sugar Trust circles the conditions of compromise alleged to have been reached at the conference are in themselves a sufficient stamp of their own unreliability. These conditions, according to street report, are that the Arbuckles are to be allotted 10 per cent of the combined output of all the refineries, and are to have given them in addition the Woolston Spice Company, which, it will be recalled, Sugar Trust interests purchased in order to fight the Arbuckles in the coffee roasting field; Doscher was to be accorded 10 per cent of the total output, and the Howell refineries were to have 28 per cent. As the total output is about 40,000 barrels per day, the foregoing arrangement would give the Arbuckles 4,000 barrels per day, which is more than their refining capacity, while the Woolston Spice Company is to be thrown in as a bonus. Doscher, according to reports, will on the same basis get a 4,000-barrel a day allotment, which is 500 barrels a day more than his capacity. Such an arrangement, it will be observed, would be far from being a compromise, but would, as a matter of fact, be more than a defeat for Mr. Havemeyer, since it would be giving to the outsiders more than they ask, or under current conditions at least, more than they can command. Such an arrangement could not, it is argued, be explained on the ground that the advances in prices of refined that it would be possible to secure as a result of ending the war would more than compensate for the less smaller proportion of business the Trust would have left. Any material advance in refined sugar prices would, it is argued, quickly bring supplies of foreign refined sugars to this side. The only foundation for such a basis of compromise could, it is argued, only be the acquirement of control of the Sugar Trust by actual purchase of sugar certificates in the open market. H. H. Rogers of the Standard Oil Company, is credited with having been an active buyer of sugar certificates for some months, and the theory is suggested in some quarters that Mr. Rogers may be engineering a combination of all refineries, or, in other words, to organize a greater Sugar Trust. This, however, is not credited in usually well-informed circles, and friends of Mr. H. O. Havemeyer say that such a thing is the last thing he would consider. Mr. Havemeyer, under the amended by-laws adopted at the annual meeting of

the American Sugar Refining Company in January, has, it will be recalled, been given despotic power in the management of the Trust's business, and it is regarded as a safe supposition that any movement—consolidation or otherwise—that did not have Mr. Havemeyer's co-operation, would have very uphill work.

The reported settlement of the coffee roasters war appears to have as little basis as the similar report regarding sugar refiners. The Arbuckles are asking $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per pound more for their Ariso brand than the Woolson people are for their Lion brand, but in some sections of the country the different interpretation of the equality plan by the two companies reduces the difference to about $\frac{1}{4}$ cent. It is understood that many of the consolidation rumors of late have emanated from Chicago sources, which are credited with endeavoring to market Glucose stock on the strength of the reports. It will be recalled that a few weeks ago reports were circulated that the Sugar Trust had purchased the control of the Glucose Company, but this report, as far as could be learned, proved to have no substantial foundation.—New York Journal of Commerce, April 7.

The Velvet Bean.

A successful rival of the well-known cow-pea of the South has now made its appearance, and will get a fair test this season in nearly every county in the cotton-growing states. It is known as the velvet-bean. It is supposed to have been introduced into southern Florida from Brazil, yet some are of the opinion that it was introduced years ago from the agricultural section of the patent office.

Practical experience, supplemented by careful chemical analyses, has demonstrated the fact that the value of the velvet-bean for feeding purposes, exclusive of the shells or pods, much exceeds that of the cow-pea. Protein is one of the most important constituents of food for live stock, and exists in a greater proportion in the bean than in the pea. Protein furnishes the materials for the lean flesh, blood, skin, muscles, tendons, nerves, hair, horns, wool, casein of milk, albumen of eggs, etc. Ground with the pod the velvet-bean makes a most excellent feed for milk-cows, producing fine, solid butter of an excellent flavor. When shelled and ground and used as feed for horses, the meal, if supplemented by the usual supply of forage, forms a rich and nutritious feed. As feed for stock, the vines when cured as hay are equally valuable.

The estimated yield of green forage an acre, when produced on land of only average fertility, ranges from ten to twelve tons. As the vines are slender, and consequently contain less moisture than those of the cow-pea, it is much more easily cured and converted into hay. The difficulty in making hay out of the vines of the cow-pea has measurably prevented its general use for hay-making

purposes. Even on comparatively poor land the vines from the velvet-bean grow from ten to twenty feet in length, and on fairly good land a growth of from twenty-five to thirty feet is not unusual. Experience has shown that the velvet-bean is one of the most rapid and efficient nitrogen-gatherers known. The nitrogenous nodules on the roots are often as large as hazelnuts. These form in great abundance and are evidently the habitat of some form of nitrifying bacillus. To secure the best results the beans should be planted early in April, as the velvet-bean does not get its nitrogen-gathering capabilities in complete working order until late in the season. This bean has been very aptly termed a nitrogen-fertilizer factory. The amount of forage (vines and leaves) that it produces is astonishing as compared with the quantity yielded by the cow-pea.

The vines usually come into full bloom in August, producing long clusters of somewhat large purple flowers, reminding one of the wistaria. The plant is therefore quite an ornamental one, which accounts for the first use of it in Florida, where it was grown as an ornamental plant on trellises for shading piazzas. The pods are very thick and leathery in appearance, and contain from three to five large, plump, fine-looking beans. These are irregularly colored with purplish and brown patches. The foliage is much like that of other beans. The estimated yield of beans an acre ranges from twenty to thirty bushels. Florida-grown seed can be obtained of the leading Southern and Eastern seed-houses. As yet, all the seed obtainable is that grown in Florida.

As it is not probable that the beans will ripen North of the cotton-growing states, the crop is likely to prove the most valuable when grown with the most rank-growing varieties of field-corn, so as to obtain the greatest number of tons an acre for ensilage purposes. This combination is a most desirable one for the purpose. Otherwise, the greatest profit is likely to accrue to farmers along the Northern border of its successful growth, by using it as a crop to plow under for fertilizing purposes.—W. M. K., in Farm and Fireside.

Personal.

Senator Donelson Caffery, of Franklin, La., was a guest of the St. Charles hotel on Wednesday last.

Among the distinguished visitors to the city during the past week was the Hon. James Wilson, of Iowa, secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Secretary Wilson is a learned, earnest and hard working member of President McKinley's cabinet and the country owes him a great deal.

At the St. Claire plantation is still to be found the old reliable Jean Baptist Dubourg, without whom all could scarcely be as it should at this fine old place. St. Claire now has a vacuum pan and Mr. Dubourg consequently feels that his responsibilities have been increased.

MAY 12.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR. Open Kettle.	May 6.	May 8.	May 9.	May 10.	May 11.	May 12.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.			
O. K. Centrifugal	37/8 @ 4 1/2	HOLIDAY.	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	Firm			
Choice.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2		4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2		— @ 4 1/2		
Strict Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		
Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		
Fully Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		
Good Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		
Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		
Good Common..	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		
Common.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		
Inferior.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2	3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		3 3/4 @ 4 1/2		
Centrifugal.	— @ —		HOLIDAY.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	Quiet	
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —		— @ —
Off Granulated	— @ —			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —		— @ —
Choice White.....	— @ —			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —		— @ —
Off White.....	— @ —			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —		— @ 4 5/8
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —			
Choice Yellow....	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —		4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —			
Prime Yellow.....	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —		4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —			
Off Yellow.....	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —		4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —	4 7/8 @ —			
Seconds.....	3 @ —	3 @ —		3 @ —	3 @ —	3 @ —	3 @ —	3 @ —			
MOLASSES.	— @ —	HOLIDAY.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Quiet.			
Open Kettle.	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —		
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —		
Fancy.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		12 @ 13		
Choice.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		12 @ 13		
Strict Prime.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		11 @ 11		
Good Prime.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		10 @ 10		
Prime.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		9 @ 9		
Good Fair.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		8 @ 8		
Fair.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		7 @ 7		
Good Common..	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		6 @ 6		
Common.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		5 @ 5		
Inferior.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		4 @ 4		
Centrifugal.	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —		
Fancy.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —		
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —				
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —				
Good Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —				
Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —				
Good Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —				
Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —				
Good Common..	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —				
Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —				
Inferior.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —				
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —			

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	HOLIDAY.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw—Quiet.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Refined—Quiet.
Granulated.....	— @ 5.08		— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	5.08 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.96		— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	4.96 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 5.25		— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 5.15		— @ 5.15	— @ 5.15	— @ 5.15	— @ 5.10	— @ —	
MOLASSES.	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	13s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	Cane—Buyers and sellers apart; nothing doing.
A. & G. Beet.....	11s. 2 1/2 d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.	10s. 11 1/2 d.	10s. 10 1/2 d.	9s. 4 1/2 d.	— @ —	Beet—Dull; easier.

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Leaf.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2
Rosetta Extra C	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to May 3	Tons	220,321
At four ports of Great Britain to Apr. 29	"	49,500
At Havana and Matanzas to May 2	"	91,000

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending May 12, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to May 12, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses	Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.		Hhds.	Barrels.	
Received.....	30	12,211	1,025	10,187	1,225,483	230,626
Sold.....	30	14,071	1,025	10,187	1,218,440	230,626
Received same time last year				22,612	1,423,069	187,702

MAY 12.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

RICE.	May 6.	May 8.	May 9.	May 10.	May 11.	May 12.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.	
	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal			
ROUGH, per bbl...	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	2 25 @ 5 35	Dull.	
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	- @ -		
Fancy	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	6 1/4 @ 6 3/4		
Prime	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	5 3/4 @ 6		
Good	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 5/8		
Fair	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	5 3/8 @ 5 1/2		
Ordinary	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/8		
Common	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	4 7/8 @ 4 1/2		
Screenings	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	- @ -		
Inferior	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	- @ -		
No. 2	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	2 @ 2 1/4		
BRAN, per ton	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 50 @ 13 00		Dull.
POLISH, per ton	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	16 00 @ -		

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending May 12, 1899.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.
Received	544	72
Sold	2,605	93

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to May 12, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.
This year	680,620	6,638
Last year	464,894	7,867

Sugar.

The local sugar market was a little quiet at the end of the week, but there was better trading, owing to fair receipts.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals quiet.

Rice.

Receipts of rough were very light at the end of the week, and trading was consequently rather restricted on account of lack of offerings. The clean market was very dull and little or no business was reported.

Additional Duties on Sugar Imported From, and the Product of Belgium.

Treasury Department,
Office of the Secretary,
Washington, D. C., April 18, 1899.

To officers of the customs and others concerned:

Section 5 of the act of July 24, 1897, provides as follows:

That whenever any country, dependency, or colony shall pay or bestow, directly or indirectly, any bounty or grant upon the exportation of any article or merchandise from such country, dependency, or colony, and such article or merchandise is dutiable under the provisions of this Act, then upon the importation of any such article or merchandise into the United States, whether the same shall be imported directly from the country of production or otherwise, and whether such article or merchandise is imported in the same condition as when exported from the country of production or has been changed in condition by remanufacture or otherwise, there shall be levied and paid, in all such cases, in addition to the duties otherwise imposed by this act, an additional duty equal to the net amount of such bounty or grant, however the same be paid or bestowed. The net amount of all such bounties or grants shall from time to time be ascertained, determined, and declared by the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall make all needful regulations for the identification of such articles and merchandise and

for the assessment and collection of such additional duties.

In pursuance of these provisions, the following amounts of bounties paid or bestowed on the export of sugars by Belgium are hereby declared for the assessment of additional duties on sugars imported from, or the product of, that country, viz: On raw sugar, 4.05 francs per 100 kilograms; on refined sugar, 4.60 francs per 100 kilograms.

L. F. GAGE, Secretary.

Trade Notes.

American Holst and Derrick Co.

We print elsewhere in this issue the advertisement of this well-known concern, which has supplied our sugar planters with a large amount of apparatus for the economical and rapid handling of sugar cane. Mr. McQuiston their local representative whose office is at 904 Hennen building, New Orleans, is thoroughly familiar with all sorts of plantation cane handling problems, and there are few situations which he cannot solve and mitigate.

A Rapid Whitewasher.

The advertisement of a new interesting labor device is now appearing in this paper, namely the Bean Pneumatic Coating or Whitewashing Machine. Although a comparatively new thing in this state, the Bean Coating Machine has been on the market for the past ten years, during which time it has been steadily improved and perfected, and it is in no sense an experiment. The machine consists of a specially constructed pump connected with a steel cylinder by means of which the coating liquid is placed under a pressure and gradually released in the form of a fine spray. This spray leaves the nozzle without spattering, coating the surface to be whitewashed evenly and completely, and reaching nooks and crevices which could not be touched with a brush. A few moments pumping will charge the machine so that it will coat automatically for ten to fifteen minutes. Each machine is equipped with twenty-five feet of hose and a bamboo rod, which when attached, enables the operator to reach ceilings, rafters, etc., without the aid of ladders or scaffolding.

The manufacturers of this machine claim that it will save at least 75 per cent of the labor required to do the work with a brush, and that any ordinarily intelligent laborer can do more work and quicker work with it than ten men with brushes.

Mr. J. H. Duggan, No. 219 N. Peters St., New Orleans, who is the agent for this machine, informs us that he will take pleasure in sending a descriptive catalogue giving full particulars, testimonials, etc., concerning it, to intending purchasers.

Personal.

Mr. Ozeme Naquin, a prominent man from Thibodaux, came up to the city during the past week on a flying trip and registered at the Commercial.

Mr. W. J. Gibbens, of the progressive engineering and machinery firm of Gibbens & Stream, has recently returned from a trip through Cuba.

Col. Gus. A. Breaux, of Lafayette, La., was in the city last Thursday.

Mr. Frank Nicholls, of the well-known sugar planting firm of Nicholls and Henderson, near Thibodeau, La., was in the city last Thursday, and attended the regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association. Their Ridgefield plantation is a model of excellence in every respect.

Gov. H. C. Warmoth, of the Lower Coast, was in the city during the past week and attended the regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association on Thursday night.

A Sugar War.

There is a sugar war on in San Francisco. The Chronicle says that a local firm is importing cane sugar from Java and Manila, refined in English and Scotch factories at Hong-Kong. It is carried by the steamers of the California & Oriental Steamship Co., which is part of the Santa Fe system. Several cuts in the price have been made, the reduction being nearly one cent a pound.—Grocer's Criterion.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Position for the 1899 crop as book-keeper or assistant. Can give best of references. Twenty-two years old and a graduate of a good business college; address A. E. Smith, Ozan, Ky. 5-9-99

WANTED—A first-class and competent assistant sugar boiler wishes position for coming season. Best references furnished; address Proof Stick, Box 62, Donaldsonville, La. 5-6-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first assistant, or as overseer. Experienced with teams and general plantation work. Eighteen years experience and can furnish best of references; address A. C., care this office.

WANTED—Position by a young man as time or book-keeper. Can give best of reference; address ARTHUR, care P. M., Little Cypress, Ky. 5-10-99

WANTED—Situation by an experienced machinist and sugar plantation engineer. Strictly sober and attentive to business. Would like to secure work the year round if possible at reduced salary, or take repairs and crop on very reasonable terms. Good references furnished; address P. H. E. ENGINEER, 724 Fern street, New Orleans. 5-10-99

WANTED—A middle-aged German man for yard and to make himself generally useful. Address Mrs. J. L. DARRAGH, Justine Plantation, Centerville, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position on a sugar plantation as blacksmith, wheelwright and horse-shoer; address SIDNEY G. ROUSSELL, Edgard, La. 5-1-99

WANTED—Any sugar planter requiring the services of a competent and sober mechanical engineer, with references, will please address ENGINEER, No. 4721 Magazine street, New Orleans, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper, overseer, clerk or general office or store work. Can give the best of city and outside references; address A. H. NOENINGER, care of Room 200, Board of Trade Building, New Orleans. 4-29-99

WANTED—Position as assistant chemist, book-keeper or time-keeper, by young man, aged 24, college graduate. Have done some work in sugar analysis. Have some knowledge of German; address Box 33, State College, Pa. 4-23-99

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as manager or assistant; address MANAGER H. A., care General Delivery, New Orleans. 5-9-99

WANTED—A position as superintendent or head sugar maker, by a man of large experience, either in plantation sugar house or sugar refinery. Can furnish good references. Would prove a valuable and all-around faithful man in any sugar house. Address P. R., care Louisiana Planter. 4-29-99

WANTED—Position by an all-around handy man: can do carpentry, painting, milk cows and make himself useful about a place. First-class references; address CHAS. TREPAGNIER, 1426 St. Ann street, New Orleans. 4-21-99

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 reference. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LELER, care M. E. Sepp, 2583 8th Avenue, New York. 4-14-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-13-99

WANTED—Position by an experienced young man as book-keeper, stenographer, or both; address X. Y. Z., care this office. 4-15-99

WANTED—Position as assistant overseer on a Louisiana sugar plantation, by young man who has had experience as a planter in field and factory in the West Indies; salary no object; address MOURANT, Burnside P. O., Ascension Parish, La. 4-14-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 423 to 436 South Peters st. 4-13-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or assistant time keeper. "Geo.", care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartoria, Texas. 4-10-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class reference, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-10-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gillis of Foydras plantation, and others; address Mrs. S. TERRELL, 221 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, all-around machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROWNER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, Thibodaux, La. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fletel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give A 1 references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHAS ENGINEER, Litcher, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 192, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-23-99

WANTED—The best sugar maker in Louisiana, who is sober, good-natured, a man who understands the use of steam and can properly handle a vacuum pan. To meet our requirements he must be a thorough and close boiler of first and particularly of molasses sugars (2nd and 3rd). State salary expected. None but the most competent need apply. Address C. M., this office. 2-27-99

WANTED—A position as second overseer on plantation by a young man 26 years old, single and sober. Am willing to work for moderate wages. Can furnish references from former employer. Address T. R. NESOM, Terrell, Texas.

WANTED—A position by a good sugar boiler. Nine years' experience. Address H. 106, this office.

WANTED—Position by a steam and electrical engineer who can make repairs in sugar house, and who can superintend railroad construction. Good references. Address H. M. S., Laurel Hill, La.

WANTED—Position by engineer and two sons to repair and take off crop of 1899. Familiar with all the details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale, La.

WANTED—A situation as clarifier on some large plantation this season of 1899. Best of references furnished. Address L. H. HINCKLEY, Charenton, La. 3-24-99

The Lima Locomotive and Machine Company, LIMA, OHIO.

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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

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Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
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Kansas Sugar Growers' Association,
Texas Sugar Planters' Association.*

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MANUFACTURER CO.

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the Sugar Industry in particular, and in all its
branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chem-
ical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPS.

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W. J. THOMPSON.
JOHN DYMOND.

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The Cane Crop.

The persistent drought we are now experiencing is a source of some anxiety to our planters, although the cane is standing the lack of moisture remarkably well. A continuation of these dry conditions for another week or ten days, however, will render the situation serious, to a certain extent, although sugar cane has a remarkable power of recuperation from drought. A lack of rainfall such as this, at a time when the young canes would be so greatly benefited by a little moisture, makes evident the great value of irrigation, and our flat lands and numerous water courses would render the process comparatively simple and easy. All our correspondents speak hopefully of the general crop prospect, and aside from the want of rain the situation appears to be encouraging and to show a constant and well defined improvement. The fields are in fine shape to reap the full benefit of the rain when it does come; and surely our summer showers cannot now be far off.

Leon Godchaux.

The sugar planters of Louisiana, who last week mourned the death of one of their most conspicuous members in the death of William Porcher Miles, have that said duty brought to them again this week by the sudden and entirely unexpected death of Leon Godchaux. Mr. Godchaux died Thursday afternoon at his residence in this city, aged 75 years, the greater part of which long and useful life he spent in Louisiana and chiefly in this city. Mr. Godchaux was a Frenchman by birth and located in Louisiana when he was quite a young man and engaged in merchandising on his own account.

As a merchant Mr. Godchaux soon became conspicuous, his excellent judgment, great ability, sterling integrity

and infinite tact placing him in the front ranks in the commercial world. He rarely made a mistake and acquired wealth rapidly and fairly.

Mr. Godchaux's planting experience began just before the Civil War, when he acquired the now famous Reserve plantation in St. John parish, whereon he has since built the Reserve Central Factory, said to be the best sugar factory in the State. More than thirty years ago the writer of these lines frequently bought the Reserve sugars just arriving from the upper coast by steamboat, Mr. Godchaux anxiously and critically supervising the sales which were made by his broker, at that time Mr. Auguste Cabiro, if we remember correctly.

About this time the increased demand for advances to produce their crops indicated by the sugar planters generally attracted Mr. Godchaux's attention and his large capital enabled him to make such advances to a large extent and he had in this business the reputation of being a fair, just, high-toned and honorable merchant. The declining prices of sugars and the floods and frosts of unpropitious seasons led to many failures among the sugar planters and to protect himself Mr. Godchaux was led in to the purchase of many valuable sugar properties, which, by consolidation and improvement have now become the leading sugar properties of the State, including the noted Reserve Central, hereinbefore alluded to, and also the Elm Hall and Raceland Factories on Bayou Lafourche. Altogether some fourteen plantations are merged in these great properties and the centrals buy sugar cane from scores of other plantations.

Mr. Godchaux has always been one of our most progressive sugar planters. He was an earnest and active member of the Sugar Planters' Association, one of the founders of the Sugar Experiment Station and also of this journal, and he al-

ways contributed freely of his means to advance the cause of sugar. He conducted his plantation work on the intensive system and along the most intelligent lines, utilizing every modern invention and method.

In Leon Godehaux Louisiana loses its greatest sugar planter, one of its largest merchants, one of its best men and an excellent citizen. The planters and the people of the State deplore his death and sympathize with the members of his family in their irreparable loss.

Sugar Cane in Trinidad.

The Planter is in receipt of Prof. J. H. Hart's report as superintendent of the Royal Botanic Gardens of Trinidad, and notes with interest the continued experiments with Demerara, Barbados and Trinidad seedling sugar canes, some of which seem to be of great promise and which are designated in Prof. Hart's reports under the initials respectively of D., B. and T.

While these seedlings may not here develop the exceptional merit that seems to be indicated in tropical Trinidad, yet they are quite worthy of our consideration, and Prof. Stubbs, at our own sugar experiment station, is also experimenting with them with a view of finally selecting those best adapted to our climatic conditions.

We can best give Prof. Hart's statements in his own language, and as follows:

The experimental cultivation of the Demerara and Barbados seedlings has been continued at St. Clair. A large number of both have been selected, but the Demerara seedlings have so far proved the better of the lot. A report on the results of the trials, was published in May, 1898, but as these results properly fall into the work of the year under report a recapitulation of the principal points is given.

The sugar cane year in Trinidad does not end until April or May, and the returns, of course, cannot be given until the crop is harvested. The experiments under report therefore, are those of canes planted in April, 1897, and reaped in April, 1898. The next crop to be reported on will be reaped in April, 1899. A few observations on the growth of this lot since planting from cuttings in April, of 1898, are given while the full report on the latter will be given as usual after harvest. Some 2,000 seedlings were raised in the season 1896-97, out of which only 126 stools were selected for test, the remainder having to be discarded, as naturally follows, where selections from seedlings is being carried on. Most of the 126 have been grown on for a second year's trial, for harvest in 1899. It has been found that there was a marked likeness to the ma-

ternal parent in many of the canes grown from seed. Those from D 95 gave stools having a high sugar value. The same feature appeared among seedlings raised from D 102, and in vegetative characters also these closely resembled their maternal parent. The sugar value of canes raised from "Caledonian Queen," considered by Harrison & Jenman to be synonymous with "White Transparent," is considerably lower than either of the foregoing. Canes raised here from seed harvested in Demerara (4) were of low sugar value. The highest sugar value was obtained from a cane raised in Trinidad (T 111) from seed of D 74, grown in Trinidad. The percentage of available sucrose in this cane was 21.3. Another cane T 2 gave 18.2 per cent; while the original D 74 gave 18.2 per cent. T 77 gave 18.3 per cent; T 19, 20 per cent; T 211, 18.8 per cent; T 62, 18 per cent; and T 43, 18.2 per cent. The best of the Demerara lot, so far as our experience goes appears to be D74—D 78—D 115—102—and D 116. D 95 is the sweetest cane, but in vigor or growth and capability of resisting rust and other diseases, it is not equal to some of the others. I received at the end of the year three selections from the Demerara raisers, and six from Barbados. These will be grown on for comparison with those previously raised, and as guides to the value of our own seedlings. Plots of one-twentieth of an acre of the best Demerara kinds are now standing at St. Clair and show clearly the well-marked characters of each variety.

In cane growing, as in nearly every other cultivation, every grower has his fancy. In Barbados growers appear to prefer yellow canes, and the prejudice against a colored cane is somewhat marked. In Trinidad also, the same view holds good on several large estates. Most of the Demerara seedlings of the first sets raised, are colored more or less, but later acquisitions of the yellow strain, have now been secured. It would be very convenient if growers could furnish a reason for the preference of yellow over dark colored. Of the Trinidad canes the best, so far, is T 2 a colored cane raised from Barbados seed. In our first selection from seedlings, 20 varieties gave an average return of available sucrose of 18.6 per cent, while standard varieties grown on the same ground, gave 14.7 per cent only. Our seedlings raised from seed harvested in 1897, have grown well, and we have now some 3,000 on the ground, and selections from these will be tested in April and May next. It is considered, that if two good canes per thousand are secured the work is all that can be desired, and if only one good cane in every 5,000 is secured, the work is highly successful, for if the end in view is ultimately attained—namely, the raising of a hardy cane which will give a twenty per cent field return, the growth of a thousand canes, more or less, is a matter of little moment. So far the growth of the plant canes from the seedlings of 1896-97 is all that could be desired, but it is not expected that more than one-tenth of these will be considered fit to pass on for the 3rd years' trial, through the absence of qualities which go to make up a "good all round" cane.

Number T 111 the cane showing highest available yield of sugar has done fairly well, and will stand for its second examination in April next, and will then go on for its third year's trial. Whether it will prove good enough to pass on for further trials is a question for the future; for every cane in the selector's hands must stand or fall on its own merits, otherwise there would be no regularity, and the tests would be of no value. No matter how much a cane may strike the eye, it must go to the manure

heap, unless it can successfully pass repeated trials.

The seedlings of 1897-98 (i. e.) seedlings raised from seeds sown in November, 1897, were late in being planted, owing to the press of new work on hand, and many of them have not had a chance to make sufficient growth to show their characters well during the coming harvest. The canes on certain of the first planted areas, however, show sufficient character to enable us to judge them qualified to pass their first field test, and will come on for examination in April.

The later growth, however, must await the following season. Not more than 5 per cent of loss occurred from planting out the young seedlings in the field, as we took great care to well harden them previous to planting. They were attacked, however, by mole crickets and many were cut when over two feet in height. A remedy was devised, however, to stop this loss. It consisted of placing a collar of bamboo over the plant and pressing it slightly into the ground, allowing the plant to grow through, until it obtained sufficient strength to resist the attack.

The crop of seed harvested in November, 1898, was very small, owing principally to the transfer of the work from the old establishment, but a good germination took place and we have quite sufficient for the year's work, some 3,000 plants.

The varieties received from the Barbados station were B 147, B 347, B 306, B 208, B 156 and B 264. Of these B 147 is very highly spoken of. It is yellow cane of the Bourbon type, and all the others possess similar characters.

I obtained seeds of the Bourbon cane from various planters during the season, November, 1898. In all some forty bags were received, but with all this material, not a single plant was raised. Our experience goes to show that the Bourbon planted by itself is infertile.

Close observation of the seedling canes show that they have a period of ripening, different with each kind. Some require as much as twelve months to ripen, some fifteen months, while not a few are ready for the mill in nine or ten months of good weather. D 74—planted in April arrowed (flowered) and produced fertile seed in November and will be fully ripe at twelve months old. D 61, on the contrary, will not be ripe until over fourteen months old, being quite grassy up to six months old; and T 2 is of a similar character. The Bourbon, as usually planted, takes some fifteen months; in fact it is the rule to plant in the months of October and November for the crop to be reaped fifteen months afterwards. The cane crop in Trinidad commences some time in January, but often is not general until February and often continues until April or May.

If a cane could be raised that would come to maturity regularly in ten or twelve months, it should be of great advantage to the sugar planter, and even if one could be obtained which would ripen in nine months, it would in many ways be a boon to the planter. Some say that this would be no advantage, as during the months previous to taking off crop, labor would be wasted if they had no planting to do, and that it is better to grow canes for fifteen months before cutting them. It would appear but reasonable, however, that where growing and manufacturing are separated, it would be better, and to the advantage of the farmers, to get their crops to maturity as quickly as possible. I find that many of the seedlings show a precocity for ripening early, and a watch will be kept to secure if possi-

ble any variety which may be valuable for this reason.

A very curious kind of cane has been received from Kew called the Japanese cane. The growth so far is decidedly weedy, but it shows strong vitality, and it may be found useful for bearing seed for experiment. Its sugar content will be tested in April.

To prevent applications being made to which we are unable to respond, it is to be noted that we have only a single plant of a seeding the first year, and some eight or ten the second year, but during the third season, moderate numbers will be available for distribution. When plants of the best kinds are available, they will be duly advertised, but it would not be in any way a wise proceeding, to take plants on a first, or even on a second analysis, as subsequent trials might find them completely unable to maintain any superiority which they might have shown on the first or second occasion.

U. S. Patents in the Colonies.

The Louisiana Planter is informed that owners of United States patents or designs and of trade-marks, prints or labels registered in the United States Patent Office can now have their rights extended so as to include the territory subject to military government by the United States forces. An order recently issued by the governmental authorities provides for such extension upon the owner of the patent, design, trade-mark, print or label filing a certified copy of the patent or design, or certificate of registration, with the Governor General of the island wherein such protection is desired.

Secretary Wilson in the Country.

Secretary Wilson, of the agricultural department, was entertained yesterday by the sugar people of Louisiana. He was taken over the sugar belt, shown the great sugar machinery of the state and the immense plantations.

A special train was run over the Mississippi Valley Railroad yesterday morning covering the plantation district within forty miles of New Orleans. Secretary Wilson was very much interested in the growth of stubble cane, after the freeze of last winter. He was much interested in the rice plantations he saw as the train covered the distance between points the local committee thought of interest to the cabinet officer. The lack of the industry of stock raising was a point that he laid great stress on, and saw no reason why Louisiana should not raise as fine horses as any state in the Union.

The special train with the distinguished party on board left the Illinois Central depot at 9 o'clock in the morning. It consisted of two coaches and a baggage car. The country gone through was pointed out to Mr. Wilson, the points of interest explained until the Gramercy plantation was reached and there the party alighted and visited the great sugar mill. C. T. Raynor, superintendent; H. S. Bell, secretary, and R. R. Childs, bookkeeper, showed the visitors about and explained to them the improvements on

the old process. An hour was spent at this plantation and Secretary Wilson looked over the mill, carefully observing how it was managed and worked. Then the train was boarded and the engineer turned the engine toward Reserve plantation, the immense place of Leon Godchaux. Mr. Wilson went all over this place, looked up every new and unfamiliar piece of machinery, asked questions and volunteered answers to natural queries about the cultivation of beet sugar as local men propounded them.

At Reserve plantation, the management had thoughtfully provided lunch for the travelers, and after walking over several plantations one does develop an appetite. It seemed so with most of the people, and when Colonel James D. Hill, who presided, called the lunch to order it was with grateful hearts that the company seated themselves. At the right of the colonel sat Secretary Wilson, and on his left Senator McEnergy, and the balance of the company in the order most suited to everyone.

Colonel Hill, when the time came for toasts, in welcoming the distinguished guest, said:

"I had great pleasure yesterday in welcoming you, Mr. Secretary, to the City of New Orleans, and I feel flattered at the request of the sugar industries to preside here to-day, and to welcome you as you have continued your journeying among the fertile fields of our state. All relations of business or government have a new hue given by personal intercourse, which creates between persons sentiments and sympathies which would never have existed if they were known to each other only by hearsay. You come in our midst, a cabinet officer, with the purpose, which you have often expressed, of endeavoring to add by observation to your information. Sugar has made the City of New Orleans, and after you have passed through the fields lining the mighty father of waters and have inspected the great institutions of Gramercy and Reserve, you can see that in the factory and fields have been expended millions of money, giving sustenance to thousands of people. We here assembled know that no wanton act could be undertaken against these tremendous interests raising money from out of our fertile soil but you would be found a champion guarding our interests as your own, as they form part of the great agricultural interests of this country, which are specially under your supervision."

Secretary Wilson responded in a few words, saying that Colonel Hill came from the same part of Scotland that he did, but that Colonel Hill, with southern surroundings, had been made a finished orator, while the speaker undertook to state only plain facts as results of his observation. He had picked up facts enough since his arrival in the South, he said, and was pleased with the welcome he received, and had watched, with ever-growing interest the wonderful fields and manufacturing industries along the Mississippi river.

"These things have made me a friend of Louisiana," continued Mr. Wilson, "and wherever my influence can be exerted for your good you can depend on me."

Senator McEnergy referred to the fact that Mr. Wilson's was the first visit paid by a cabinet officer to Louisiana, even for pleasure. He appreciated the visit, and said it would be to the benefit of the state.

Governor Warmoth said that he and Sen-

ator McEnergy had not always voted the same way, but when Senator McEnergy voted for the Dingley bill it was one time, and a time when the people of his state felt he did right.

Then followed a few remarks apropos of the occasion by Edward Godchaux, Theodore Wilkinson, John M. Parker, J. C. Murphy and Prof. Stubbs.

Lunch being over and the party having visited the machinery plant on the Reserve plantation, the train was taken for home, after a most enjoyable day.

To Mr. Hearn must be given much of the credit for the management of the excursion. Under his direction everything went without a slip and all were taken care of.

The day was most profitably and pleasantly spent. These committees had charge of the outing:

From the Sugar Exchange: J. C. Murphy, James Hearn, W. J. Barkley, P. A. Lelong, G. O. Allain.

Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association: Judge E. Rost, J. S. Webster, H. G. Morgan, Sr., H. G. Morgan, Jr.

American Cane Growers' Association: C. A. Farwell, H. C. Warmoth, Colonel James D. Hill, D. D. Colcock.

Guests: Senator S. D. McEnergy, Prof. W. C. Stubbs, Theo. S. Wilkinson, Secretary Wilson and son, Mr. Caffin from Iowa, John M. Parker, George Gillis, Edward Godchaux, C. H. Menge, Prof. Wilkinson, H. H. Smith, N. S. Hoskins, W. F. Pickard, Joseph Goodrich, Chas. Beattie, Walter Godchaux.

By the arrangement of these committees the party left New Orleans at 9 o'clock in the morning and returned about 5 o'clock in the afternoon. They had visited some of the most interesting points as regards the sugar industry in Louisiana, and certainly the largest plant for the grinding of the cane in the state.

Mr. Wilson expressed himself as favorably impressed with the sights shown him, and saw that millions of dollars were invested in the sugar interests of Louisiana. In talking to a newspaper man, Mr. Wilson said very earnestly that he was much interested in the cane industry.

"As regards the importation of cane sugar from the islands south of the United States," said Mr. Wilson, "the people of Louisiana need not fear, that sugar under the present administration at Washington will ever be admitted free or at a duty that would injure the sugar industry of the United States. The Government must look not only at Louisiana, but all over the country, for we are growing beet sugar very extensively throughout the West, and we must take care of that industry."

"I came down here," continued Mr. Wilson, "to see what the farmers of Louisiana wanted. I don't represent any section; I am a part of the National Government, and am just as much interested in the development of the industries of Louisiana as of Arizona, and we are spending thousands of dollars annually in developing that arid waste. We have spent much money experimenting with date palms from Morocco, which are being transplanted to Arizona, as the climates are similar and atmospheric conditions nearly the same. Last year we bought much rice seed from Japan, and distributed it about in southern countries to experiment with. Louisiana got one-quarter of the quantity. We, in our department, are always looking about to improve the conditions of all the states, and so we try to improve Louisiana."

Secretary Wilson will to-day visit the Agricultural Experimental Station at Audubon Park.—Picanne, May 12.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has been at summer heat all the week and this is very agreeable to the planters. Rain, however, is badly needed, and unless it comes soon the crops will suffer. On Sunday afternoon there was a light rain at St. Gabriel and at Point Pleasant, just opposite.

Last week Mr. Edwin Marionneaux, of Plaquemine, sent to the Iberville South a stalk of cane which was planted in 1898, and which had two eyes that sprouted only this year. Two eyes of this stalk grew last year, producing two fine stalks of cane and two eyes sprouted only this year and doubtless would have produced two stalks, but for the fact that it was such a curiosity Mr. Marionneaux sent it to the South with a note asking, "What do we know about cane, anyway?" We have since been told that the eyes of cane frequently remain dormant a whole year and come up the year following. It is evident that we have much to learn about cane, for we have seen several instances where the best planters were mistaken this year. In one case an old planter destroyed his entire seed because he thought it was all spoiled, yet his neighbor, with no better seed, made a good planting and got a first-class stand. Another instance was a lot of cane that was planted in the fall and which experienced planters said was gone up. The owner wanted to plow it out, but was prevailed upon to let it be for awhile. We saw the cane this week and found a fair stand and we feel satisfied it will, with proper care and attention, produce from 20 to 25 tons per acre. The third instance was in the case of a lot of stubble with not more than three inches of dirt over them, and which, although thought to be killed, is up to a better stand to-day than any other cane on the place and is pointed to with pride by the planter.

Mr. John Terrell, the clever manager of Hon. Andrew H. Gay's Augusta Plantation, is at home again after an absence of several months in New Orleans, where he had undergone medical treatment for a wounded foot. Although not entirely well, Mr. Terrell is happy to be on horseback again, and his numerous friends throughout the parish are glad to be able to welcome him home and to know that he has regained his health.

The friends of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew H. Gay, Jr., of Plaquemine, sympathize with them in the death of their infant, Andrew H. Gay, Jr.

We had the pleasure this week of riding over the Trinity Plantation on Bayou Grosse-Tete, belonging to Widow Joseph Webre, of Rosedale, in company with Mr. J. A. Webre, the clever manager of this fine estate. Quite a change has been wrought in the appearance of Trinity and it will soon be one of the finest sugar estates in Louisiana. Like most

other places the shortage in plant cane was about 25 per cent of expectations, 100 acres having been planted where 124 were expected. The stand is fairly good. There are on the place 170 acres of first year's stubbles, some of which are very good, and some second year's which have been filled up with corn. The corn crop will largely exceed the need of the place and Mr. Webre would like to contract now to sell several thousand barrels in the fall. Rain is badly needed. Trinity's cane will go to Cinclare this year, but we venture to say that before many years a fine Central factory will be built at Trinity.

That splendid mechanic, Mr. Clarence O. Peltier, of Dorceyville, who has been taking off a crop of sugar at Ahome, State of Sinaloa, Mexico, returned home last Monday.

IBERVILLE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather, but for the lack of rain, would have been perfect for the last ten days. It enabled much necessary field work to be done, and now the crops are all ready for a good rain. Notwithstanding the prolonged dry spell, the canes are growing rapidly, and the stubble comes out like the tardy school boy on his way to school. It is astonishing how much has come out of the ground within the past ten days, and it is still showing up, not as rapidly as before, but still there are plenty of young sprouts peeping forth. An all day show rain, followed by dry weather is just what the farmers are now longing for. It would enable them to get the corn out of the way, and to devote their best attention to the cane. The effect of a rain would be to bring to the surface thousands of grass seeds now waiting for more moisture before coming out, and, of course, the farmer would like time to get around and destroy these weed germs. It is usually the case that a dry cultivating season in May, followed by a moderately dry June, is considered propitious for big crops. This is almost the inevitable result if we get with these conditions a plenty of rain in July, August, and the early part of September, then a dry spell with cool nights to ripen the cane. With these conditions we believe the crop of '99 would surprise many who are despondent. The plant cane is growing rapidly, and is generally above the average year as to stand, though backward as to size. The stubble is good, bad and indifferent. "Sweet Home" has a very thrifty cut along the public road, and we are told that this is but a fair specimen of the crop. Foley, Elm Hall and Madewood, all have fair stubble crops. As a rule the new ground stubble is good. Those who fertilized the plant cane last year seem to have secured good results in this year's stubble, and that whether the brand was tankage, or meal, or acid phosphate. The stubble rows next to hedges are well to the front showing that this protection was to a certain extent beneficial. The

weather compared with normal has been warmer than we usually have. There is a good deal of sickness caused, doubtless, from the dust, and water supply in the cisterns getting low. A recent visit to "Melrose," the plantation of Messrs. Prejean and Abraham, in cane, this year for the first time in years, showed that very much work had been done in renovating the place, in draining it, and putting it in fine condition. Owing to the bad seed cane a shorter planting was made than expected, but Mr. Prejean has some remarkably pretty plant, and I learn has 150 acres of choice rice. He had expected to plant more than double the cane actually planted, but has had to supplement his cane with rice and a large acreage of corn. This place, when thoroughly developed and drained, will make a very valuable estate, as it has lain idle or been simply worked in rice and corn for a number of years, and consequently the land is like virgin soil. A recent trip to New Orleans along the T. & P. road demonstrated that the crops of Assumption will compare quite favorably with those along that line of road. However, just at present "the river" is being favored with showers that would greatly add to the appearance of all crops here. I have seen some corn laid by, with a good stand of peas showing. The corn crop promises to be very good, and a much larger acreage than usual was planted.

Rice planters wear happy smiles and seem to think that there will be money in rice this year. The acreage of this crop has been increased in Assumption, and the yield together with the price will, no doubt, prove that the rice planter is not much wrong in his opinion. Albemarle has some land in rice this year, and the two places above are almost entirely devoted to this cereal.

Mr. E. L. Monnot has returned from a short stay in Donaldsonville, and will leave in a few days for the Teche on a visit to his brother at Vaufrey. He is very much better, and will, no doubt, rapidly regain his strength.

The Lafourche is falling rapidly, and the danger from high water (never very near this season) has disappeared. If the fall continues our rice men will, before very long, have to start their pumps.

We regret to record the serious illness of Mrs. Ulysse Dugas, in New Orleans, but learn that her condition is improved to-day. We hope that the crisis is over, and that she will speedily recover her health.

Cloudy weather to-day (Tuesday), but no rain yet.

MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

As there has been no rainfall since the night of the 21st of April and the following afternoon, the crops of cane and corn would be immensely benefited by seasonable showers, particularly the latter, which in many instances is being checked in growth. For-

lunately, corn recuperates very rapidly after showers if stunted from dry weather. Field work is well advanced and the crops generally free of extraneous vegetation.

Taken in its entirety the stand of plant cane is far superior to what was generally anticipated, there having been an unusual amount of defective seed planted both before and after the unprecedentedly severe freeze. Until recently the season has been backward and the temperature below the normal, and in consequence the canes are small for the middle of May. The stubble is simply enigmatic coming up best where least expected and almost a failure where a good stand was expected. Where fields were wind-rowed early for the mill; the stubble seems to be in places more defective than canes left standing later or left standing until cut for the mill. The canes were green and growing when the cold wave came, and warm weather following the windrowing caused the eyes to elongate at once, and the wet weather in winter impaired vitality. The acreage in corn is unusually large, and the major portion has been laid by and the peas planted.

During this dry weather some are correctly putting the earth well up to the canes, fearing that wet weather will follow the drought. In places the plant cane sprouts are beginning to sucker and put out independent roots. The canes are generally of good color, due to the fact that the lands are in better till than usual, as there has been an absence of flooding rains this spring. Prior to the commencement of the campaign this fall, conditions will differ materially even an adjoining plantations, and in different sections of the parish. On some places it may take more than the stubble acreage for seed, and others again may send a quantity to the mill. The reports from the lower Terrebonne, from Canal Belanger to the lowest places on the bayou are very favorable, also from the lower Little Caillou, so much so that some predict that the lower Terrebonne Refinery will probably receive about the same tonnage as last year. Latterly, personal inspection has not been general, yet the crops seen on the upper Grand Caillou and the Terrebonne show very marked improvement both in the plant cane and ratoons.

This week the crops were seen on Woodlawn and Ashland, of Messrs. Caillouet and Maginnis, that on the former place is the best seen thus far this season. The writer rode over part of the place with the Manager Mr. J. Dillard and found the fields well worked, and of the four hundred acres of plant cane three hundred as to stand will compare with average years. The ratoons from the last cut and earliest dug canes are very good and other fields, although defective, are much better than was expected. On the Terrebonne Messrs. Gueno Bros., of Presqu'ile and Messrs. Barrow and Duplantis, of Myrtle Grove, have fields of promising cane. Through the courtesy of Mr. John T. More, Jr., of Waubun, the writer received recently a beautiful

photograph of a thirty acre field of velvet beans. Mr. Moore stated in his letter: "We have followed the velvet bean crop with cane and find the land in better shape than where pea vines were planted.

"Our experience with alfalfa, another valuable forage crop, has been very satisfactory. We can say this after three years of experiments, and claiming to be the pioneers in planting it in this section, we will be more than glad to give any one the benefit of our experience."

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

At the present time a good substantial shower would be of incalculable benefit to the growing crops; but the drought is in no wise, alarming thus far. On the contrary, while the ground seems to be almost parching upon the surface, vegetation continues green and vigorous in color, and upon examination it is found that a great deal of moisture still lies just below the outer crust, and within easy reach of the plant roots. But, of course, this too will disappear in the process of consumption within a short while, unless a rain intervenes, after which time there will be no other appreciable mediating influence between the sun and the plant, when the effects of the drought will become immediately apparent. But while the healthy and more acclimated vegetation of the field is thus far uninjured, the truck gardening industry (which was resorted to in St. Mary more extensively this spring than has been seen before in many years, owing to the anticipation of dull times as a result of the cane crop shortage) has been dealt rather a heavy blow, and a good many garden crops, which were very promising in appearance three weeks ago, principally the Irish potato crop, are now a total failure.

The corn crop is being laid by all over the parish, after being hilled or "dirted" as heavily as possible, on account of the dry weather. And as the plant and stubble cane shortage will be substituted by a corresponding increase in the acreage of the corn, the latter crop will be largely in excess of the usual yield, on some plantations.

The Caffery refinery corporation, situated in this parish, actively speaking, owns the Peoples plantation in the parish of Iberia, together with several other smaller tracts; but does not expect to crush a single ton of cane from these several estates this winter, on account of the greatness of its loss of seed from the freeze. All the cane raised on this land, will, on the other hand, be put down for seed for next season, which will practically render it wholly dependent upon contract cane for its raw material during the grinding season, for which it is now offering 80 cents per cent for 12 degrees sucrose test, and which your correspondent learns is very close, either upon the one side or the other,

to what the remainder of the competing buyers are offering or intend to offer.

The election authorized by the newly constituted drainage district, which proposes the cutting of the 50 foot canal from the Irish Bend section out to the high seas, a distance of three and a half miles, at the approximated cost of fifteen thousand dollars, and which election was originally called for the 3rd of June, has been changed to the 13th, owing to several informalities in the original notices of election. It is expected that the levy of the extra tax will be carried almost unanimously.

The writ of sequestration issued from the District Court of St. Mary, placing the estate of Valentine Schwan in the hands of the sheriff, pending the claim of foreign heirs, was dissolved, after trial, by the court granting it, last Monday. The claimants are resident in Germany, represented by D. Caffery & Son; the defendants by several local firms and Hon. Chas. F. Buck of Orleans parish between whom and Senator Caffery the contest was carried on. About two hundred and fifty thousand dollars' worth of property was seized under the writ, and other efforts will be made to prevent its going back into the hands of the prima facie heirs.

ST. MARY.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather for the past week has been very fine for all purposes with the exception that it was a little too dry at the last part of the week and still continues dry. The wind has been blowing from the southeast for several days and the dust at times is almost unbreathable. We have not had rain since the 22nd of April and a good rain now would be of vast benefit to the cane crop and also to the providence rice crop. Corn is not suffering for rain yet and is growing very fast. The corn crop is simply fine and with a rain within the next eight or ten days it will be virtually safe. Cane is doing as well as could be expected. Plant cane is growing notwithstanding the dry weather but the stubble seems to be at a stand still. The stubble crop will not be as good as was at first expected. The stand in some sections is very good and even but it just peeped out of the ground and stopped. It needs a good rain now to push it off. Most cane farmers are waiting for their cane to sucker to put dirt to it but it is suckering very slowly on account of the dry weather. The first planting, however, has been dirted as it suckered before the ground got so dry. The outlook for a fair tonnage on plant cane is very bright but stubble cannot be depended on unless it gets a rain in a very few days. The rice crop is looking fine. Along the irrigating canals the planters have turned water on their early rice and it is growing fast. Providence rice does not look so promising and it will be materially damaged if rains do not come to its aid shortly. All in all though the outlook

for a full rice crop never was brighter in the rice section of this parish than at the present time. The rice promoter is still making extensive improvements in the different parts of the parish, and the result of his expenditures will be large return from irrigated rice in dollars and cents to the fortunate individual that is along his line and to the promoter in handsome profits on his investment. The time is not far distant when the entire western part of Vermillion parish will be one continuous net work of irrigating canals and Lake Arthur or the Mermentau river and the Vermillion river will be connected. Your correspondent has been reliably informed that the Vermillion Development Company, since buying the Garland canal and plantation, are now taking the right of way east from the Garland farm in the direction of Abbeville then with the Hunter canal running out from the Vermillion river west twenty miles the connection can very easily be made between the Bayou Queue de Tortue and the Vermillion, then the laterals and side canals that will be necessary to irrigate the lands each side of the main canals will just about cover the entire country.

The cotton crop is very backward this year. The first planting proved to be a failure and the scarcity of seed curtailed the acreage to some extent. Where good seed was planted at the last planting the stand is very good and the plant looks fine. The acreage will be some larger than last year though not extremely heavy.

Mr. Will Norman, a prominent sugar planter of Patterson, La., was in Abbeville for a few hours last Sunday, 14th. This was Mr. Norman's first trip to Vermillion and he like all others liked the Vermillion lands.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Plan'er:

The farmers have made rapid progress since the first of this month, which today is shown by the splendid appearance of the fields and growing crops over all this progressive upper cane producing district.

In so far as the weather is concerned, it is hot and dry. The indications have been favorable for rain since the 12th inst, but with the exception of a very light sprinkle, not enough to lay the dust, on the afternoon of the 14th inst, no rain has fallen since the 21st ult., consequently the ground under the influence of the constant hot penetrating suns has become very dry and dusty. During the past five days the thermometer has registered at two o'clock p. m. from 92 degrees to 96 degrees in the shade, which is just about hot enough for any purpose to please the planters. The south winds, blowing brisk, have a tendency to make it possible for men and teams to work and endure such oppressive heat.

At this point it is well to note that May, '98, was a decidedly dry month, no rain falling to amount to anything until the month

was closing out, when the rainy season set in, lasting until the close of the year. Are we to have a repetition of the same during this season?

While on the wing last week, I had the pleasure to stop off at "Gold Dust" station on the Alexandria branch of the S. P. railroad, and make a brief visit to a number of places in that locality. Calling first on Mr. S. O. Presser, Barbreck P. O., I mounted one of Mr. Presser's fine saddle horses and accompanied him over some 250 or more acres of fine lands planted to corn, cotton and cane. Of cane Mr. Presser has but 13 acres, having met with the misfortune of losing a large body of seed cane by the February blizzard. But he feels confident that, with the splendid stand which he now has on his 18 acre plot of cane, providing the season is propitious, he will make an ample supply of seed with which to plant a fair acreage to cane next year, or enough at least to drop the cultivation of cotton, which he is growing heartily sick of.

Mr. Presser has a heavy acreage planted to corn and cotton. Both of these crops are in good tillth and growing, but beginning to need rain.

Mr. Presser bestows time and labor to growing fine strains of milk cows. Alderneys I think he told me, no matter, he has a fine herd, fat and sleek, grazing on a pasture of nutritious grass. Plenty of rich milk and butter, poultry and fat pigs, last but not least, a pleasant family, contented and happy in their commodious Southern built home, large and roomy, shaded by live oaks and grand old pecan trees.

My next step was to make a rather hasty flight through Mr. W. L. O'Quinn's fine plantation fronting Mr. Presser's place, but on the east bank of Bayou Boeuf. Mr. O'Quinn has a beautiful home place in a shady grove of trees and flowers entermingled. Mr. O'Quinn lost heavily of seed cane by the past winter's freeze, but out of the wreck managed to get enough of seed to plant some 21 acres to cane, which is now up and growing with prospects for maturing a fine quantity of seed with which to plant next year's cane crop.

Mr. O'Quinn has two fine places, the other one being to the north of Mr. Presser, on the west bank of Bayou Boeuf. The soil of both places is principally sandy loam and exactly fitted to the production of cane rich in sugar.

Mr. O'Quinn has perforce planted heavy crops in acreage to corn, cotton and peas. His fields are well cultivated but rain would be beneficial.

The Augusta Planting and Sugar Manufacturing Co.'s fields join Messrs. O'Quinn and Presser on the south, and have, so I was informed, 150 acres to cane this season. Seed cane was cut short by the past winter's freeze. Cane on the Augusta plantation is up to a good stand and they expect to make a paying crop. The acreage on this place to corn and peas is very large, besides, I

understand they have some cotton planted. My time was so limited I failed to call on the stirring managers Mr. A. Lesseps and Mr. Robichaux. Rapid strides have been made along all lines of field work.

Cane is beginning to sucker. It is growing and has a healthy appearance.

Crops in the vicinity of "Gold Dust," show nice, neat cultivation and growth, but at present need rain. ERIN.

Trade Notes.

The Battle Creek Steam Pump Co.

We print elsewhere this week the half-page advertisement of the above named concern, which is one of the most celebrated pump building establishments in the world to-day. The Marsh pumps are in extensive use throughout the Louisiana sugar district and they rank high in the estimation of those who have used them. From a letter recently written us by the Battle Creek Steam Pump Co., we extract the following:

"It may be well to inform you that Marsh pumps, including the dry vacuum pumps, have been adopted for the new beet sugar factories now building at Rochester, Kalamazoo, Alma and Bay City, Michigan. We furnished all the pumps for the new beet sugar factory at Crockett, Cal., a year ago, including the dry vacuum pumps. We have made and sold since January 1st over 2000 marsh pumps, and are over 1000 pumps behind our orders to-day. We have enough business in hand to operate our factory for two months. A fair percentage of our business is done with sugar factories in this country, as well as Mexico, Hawaiian Islands, Cuba, Holland, France, Germany and Russia. We are increasing our facilities by extending our factory and putting in new machinery. We are at present working 125 men twelve and one-half hours per day."

Personal.

The Planter is glad to learn from that prince of good fellows, Mr. John R. Gheens, of Golden Ranch plantation, that the recent cravasse in Bayou Lafourche did not injure his crop, which was protected by his splendid system of private levees. Two of his tenants has a little cane outside the levee, however, which was lost. Mr. Gheens says that his crop needs rain badly. His plant cane he reports to be pretty good, but stubbles only "so so."

Mr. Thos Supple, of Bayou Goula, Iberville Parish, where he is at the head of one of the finest sugar manufacturing plants in the State, was in the city on a visit a few days ago, accompanied by his wife. They stopped at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. J. N. Caillouet, a leading sugar planter of Terrebonne Parish, La., was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He stopped at the Commercial Hotel.

Mr. D. J. Kerr, manager of the North Bend and Midway places, on Bayou Sale, which belong to the estate of the late S. M. Swenson, was a guest of the St. Charles last Sunday.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

Berlin, April 29, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The week under review opened, after some thunderstorms, rather cool, and in the western part of the country rainy, whilst in the eastern provinces dry weather was predominating. This meant, on the whole, a reaction which only at the end of the week was recovered by the setting in of a somewhat higher aerial temperature which contributed to restore something like seasonable weather. The sowings of beets have made some further progress, but in consequence of the prevailing wetness, the western part of the country is less advanced than the eastern, and as to the coming up, little can be said so far, the temperature having been too cold throughout the country, and it is reported already that fields, sown exceptionally early, have been turned over and resown, an operation which must be expected on a larger scale if no decided change takes place at an early day. The situation therefore is in general a little less satisfactory than a week ago, and such is also the case in the other beet growing countries. Especially in France, who formerly was ahead of the other countries. They are now complaining of cold and wet weather, which is unfavorable both for agricultural operations and for the germination of the beet kernels previously confided to the ground. Austria, Belgium and Holland are more or less in the same plight, whilst Russia, where the sowings of the beets have just begun, longs for a good rain. You see, like in Germany, which is situated in the center of Europe, the continent itself is wet in the west and dry in the east.

The addition of sugar to the fodder of the cattle having, as I have written you some time ago, proved a perfect success it was of paramount importance, that the regulations for the sale of the product, which in order to prevent fraudulent abuses with regard to duty, had been very stringent, should be made less strict. There had been—I speak of course of Germany—mainly two grievances. In the first place a multitude of legal proceedings which the stuff had to undergo before the farmers were able to use it in the proper way, and secondly the kind and manner of admixture for denaturalizing the sugar. In both ways the administration has fully complied with the wishes of those interested in the business in question. The legal proceedings are simplified, so that according to the wishes of the sugar manufacturers, cattle sugar may be bought freely and with respect to the denaturalizing addition, the admixture of oil cake flour is reduced from 50 to 30 per cent and fish guano may be added only in a proportion of 20 per cent. There is, in consequence, every reason to expect, that the lower products of our sugar factories will be largely employed now by cattle breeders. The effect of sugar add-

ed to the fodder is a two fold one; it makes the fodder more palatable and the animals develop more appetite, whilst on the other hand the sugar is a fattening substance in itself.

In Sweden there has been last year a short crop, which was quite insufficient to cover the requirements of consumption. The consequence is an increased importation which for the first of the present year will amount to about 40,000 bags, whilst last year in the same period only 2,600 bags had been imported. Now this shortage of production has led to the idea of increasing the productive capacity of the country or in other words, to build more factories, a tendency which even degenerated into a kind of beet sugar factory craze, a great number of projected factories springing up in different parts of the country. One of these projects has caused a good deal of talk. It originated with the factory of Roma, which intended to build another sugar producing establishment, but this scheme met with the sharp opposition of the other factories, who, in the province of Schoonen, threatened to build also a new factory. This threat for the time being has caused the administration of the Roma factory to lay the project in question aside, but the public at large sides in general with the last named enterprising establishment, the more so as the province of Gothland, in which Roma is situated has undergone an extraordinary economical improvement since the sugar industry has taken root there, and it is therefore hoped on all hands that Roma will eventually not flinch and in spite of all opposition will carry out its former projects. There are a couple of other projects spoken of in Sweden.

A German consular report from Queensland has some interesting details from which we clip the following. In the campaign year 1897-98 the area planted in Queensland with cane amounted to 102,152 acres, but only 66,099 acres were ground, as against 92,250 and 66,640 acres in 1896-97. The crop although taken off from about the same surface was a little smaller than in 1896-97, and it amounted to 97,916 tons as against 102,774 tons in the preceeding year. Of last crop whose value is estimated at £881,000, 66,557 tons were exported and 31,359 remained for home consumption. It is, however, doubtful whether this quantity was really used up as the consumption of the preceding period has not exceeded 26,000 tons. Still, the use of sugar in breweries and jam factories is said to be rapidly increasing.

The markets bore at the beginning of the week a very quiet aspect and it looked very much as if the upward movement had reached its end, both buyers and sellers maintaining quite a reserved attitude. This pause, however, was of a shorter duration than generally expected, and towards the close business was actively resumed, bona fide buyers as well as speculators having re-entered the market. A very firm tone prevailed in the last hour, as it became known that German

stocks of first runnings in first hands amounted to only 40,150 tons as against 165,000 tons at the same time of last year. Prices consequently moved again in an upward direction, but are quoted still a little below the highest point reached previously, 88 pct. rendement fetching at Madgeburg M. 11.90—12.00, and at M. 11.05 f. o. b. at Hamburg, delivery April. Refined were at first well maintained, later on, however, a little weaker without quotable change of price.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

Havana, May 10th, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The demand continued fairly active, but owing to reduced stocks and higher pretensions entertained by holders, business transacted was light again and only 18,000 bags changed hands on the basis of 3 cts. pound, for good centrifugated sugars 96-97 test, at which market closes strong, despite recent advices of a quieter demand and a slight decline in prices in New York.

According to recent advices from Liverpool, the decrease in this year's crop and the anticipated one in that of next year, both on this island and in the Philippines, have caused prices to advance, not only for produce of this year, but also for that of the next crop, speculators having already closed several transactions for future delivery, at prices ranging at from 1s. 6d. & 1s. 9d. higher than those ruling for parcels on the spot, which gave margin to another rise of ½ cent per lb. in New York, and induces sellers at this place to enhance their pretensions until placing them altogether out of exporters' reach.

Grinding on this island may now be considered as virtually over and the total production for this year, as reported in my previous letter, exceeds 300,000 tons by only a few thousand tons.

Exports from Guantanamo, from 1st of January to 30th of April, added up 22,970 bags.

Factory "Courtania," at Sagua, which still had a supply of cane to keep it running a couple of weeks longer, has just lost by fire one million arrobes of standing cane, from which about 7,000 bags of sugar may as yet be obtained, if the weather allows it to be totally ground. As bandits have been lately lurking in the vicinity the misdeed is attributed to them.

Diffusion Process: This process applied to cane and whose failure, on factory "San Joaquin de Ibanes," of the French company of Fives Lille some 6 or 8 years ago, which the readers of the "Planter" were duly advised of, has just been submitted to a new trial at factory "Caracas" at Cienfuegos, and as its proprietors, Messrs. Terry Brothers spared no money to insure the success of the operations, it is said that the results obtained have been as favorable as could have been expected.

The success is so complete and absolute, that even the water expelled from the diffusion apparatus, and which was a drawback to the process, is being now advantageously used for irrigating the fields and the cane slices which previously formed a compact paste, come out of the apparatus so dry that they can be immediately used as fuel.

The extraction of juice exceeds by 25 per cent that obtained by double pressure in the best mills and all the parties who have witnessed the operation, unanimously declare the industrial revolution so long expected in the sugar manufacturing process, has at last been effected.

In consequence of this success, Messrs. Terry Bros. have already ordered from France a large and complete diffusion plant, which they intend to use next year, to the exclusion of mills and cane crushers, as they calculate that the new process will afford them an economy of over 30% in the cost of sugar manufacture.

Whilst owners of old factories despair of the future of the industry and have to contend with so many obstacles to run their plantations, other parties entertain, on the contrary, the most cheerful expectations regarding same, and are willing to invest large sums of money in the business. Mr. Fluriach of Santa Cruz, on the southern coast of this island, being one of the latter, since he has just commenced, at the place known under the name of "El Frances," the preliminary operations, such as the cutting down of trees, the distribution of land among tenants and the preparation of the soil for cane planting, for the establishment of a large central sugar factory, whose machinery, comprising all the most modern and improved apparatus, has already been ordered from abroad, in order that said factory may inaugurate sugar making early next year. The capacity of this factory is calculated at about 50 or 60 thousand bags of sugar.

An English syndicate, the "Cuban Central Limited Co.," has just purchased for \$5,306,000 in Spanish gold, the Sagua and Calbarien railroads and is in treaty to acquire those of Cardenas to Lucaro and Clenfuegas to Santa Clara, which will transfer the control of all the largest lines on this island to British subjects who already own the Havana Consolidated, the Western and the Mariano railways, whereas only the small one of Santiago de Cuba to San Louis belongs to an American company, and those of Gibara to Holgiun, Neuvitas to Porto Principe and Sancti Spiritus to Finas, are controlled by Spaniards and Cubans.

The total value of properties owned today by foreigners is estimated, as follows:

Railways owned by Englishmen	\$25,000,000
Cigar factories and tobacco farms belonging to Am. citizens and British subjects	20,000,000
Mines, cattle breeding farms and other industries of minor importance	15,000,000
Grand total	\$60,000,000
T. D.	

Some 1898 Sugar Data.

In Natal matters have gone more to the satisfaction of the planters than last season, and in spite of some losses from drought it is said that the crop will reach 25,000 tons. To make head against the ravages of the locusts, which lately caused such fearful destruction, a cane called the Yuba has been largely adopted, which is said to have the advantages of being locust proof and frost proof and of ratooning freely, keeping down the weeds and requiring little manure. Its disadvantages are that it is difficult to crush and requires special treatment in the manufacture.

But little information is available as to the Brazilian sugar industry. Owing to many of the factories being fitted with poor and antiquated machinery, there is a decline in production, though statistics are little reliable. It is probable that only some 30,000 tons will be exported, as the home consumption absorbs nearly 80 per cent of the production.

Up to very lately the sugar industry in Venezuela was in a most primitive condition, the most antiquated processes only being in use. One of the planters in that country has just had a small factory erected by a French engineer, with results which will certainly shortly revolutionize the industry, which hitherto has only obtained on an average 3 per cent of sugar on the weight of canes, the product being coarse and unsightly.

The Mexican sugar industry is steadily advancing; the new machinery set up of late years, much of it being from Scotland, has worked very satisfactorily, but the production is as yet insufficient for the requirements of the country.

The Argentine Republic, which has been suffering from the large over-production of sugar in 1895, is now recovering from the crisis, the recuperative process being assisted by the small crop of 1897-98, the yield having been poor owing to much damage by frost.

From Java we have had nothing but favorable reports. The crop finally worked up by the middle of October turned out the largest and finest hitherto known. The canes were large and heavy, and the saccharine content above the average. The season was somewhat wet, and the roads were frequently impracticable for the buffalo carts. The crop is finally estimated at 711,500 tons. The new crop is doing well, but cannot be expected to attain the dimensions of the one just taken off. The number of factories is steadily diminishing, not because of any decrease in the area planted, which is estimated this year at over 202,000 acres, but because of the policy which is being pursued of adding small estates to others in order to bring down the general cultivation, and the adoption of improved machinery and processes, together with chemical control, the planters have been

successful in reducing the cost of working every year, and in thus meeting the competition of the beet sugar. Crystallization in movement has been especially successful, and we learn that all the first sugar is obtained in one operation, leaving nothing in the molasses but a very low class second sugar, the so-called "sack sugar," which cannot be centrifugalled. The services rendered to the Java industry by the chemical experts cannot be over-estimated. We hear that the Ranson process has been tried in three factories, but it was not found to be adapted for cane sugar manufacture, at any rate in Java.

In Japan there are now two refineries in full operation under European superintendence. The consumption in that country is far too large for the home production to supply, and has for years been steadily increasing. On the first of January, this year, the new import duties came into force; under these the duty on raw sugar is raised from about 2½d. to 4¼d. per cwt., while the old rate for refined, about 5d., is raised to 2s. 6¼d. for 15 to 20 D. S., and to 3s. 0¼d. for all above 20 D. S. The imports in 1897 were 192,000 tons, considerably under half the quantity being raw, and continued to increase in 1898, but those of refined will now fall off largely, owing to the new tariff.—International Sugar Journal.

New Sugar Bounty Law in Chili.

At its recent session the national congress enacted the annexed measure providing for a bounty on sugar produced in the republic:

Article 1. The president of the republic is hereby empowered to pay a bounty of two cents for each kilogram of raw beet sugar produced in the country.

The bounty shall be paid for six years, dating from January 1, 1899, and the total annual amount shall not exceed the following sums: In 1899 the sum of \$25,000; in 1900, the sum of \$50,000; in 1901, the sum of \$75,000; and in each of the years 1902, 1903, and 1904, the sum of \$100,000. If these sums should not be sufficient to pay the bounty of two cents per kilogram, (2.2046 pounds), they shall be distributed pro rata in proportion to the quantities of sugar produced.

Art. 2. For a term of ten years the rates of carriage of beet sugar by the state railways shall not be higher than those paid today for this article.

During the same term the rates of carriage of molasses and raw sugar on their first leaving the estates or factories in fully occupied cars shall not exceed the rates paid today for articles of the fifth class.

Art. 3. In order to obtain the bounty, the producers will be required to prove the quantity produced, and to comply with the following conditions:

- (I) To establish a legal domicile in Chile; and
- (II) To supply all the data and information that the president of the republic may ask for respecting this industry, and such other as may conduce to the objects of the law.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

(Discussion of the Association at its regular monthly meeting, Thursday, May 11th. PRESIDENT EMILE ROST in the Chair and SECRETARY REGINALD DYKERS at the Desk.)

Chair: Gentlemen, the meeting will please come to order. The first business before the meeting is the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, unless a motion is made to dispense with the same.

On motion, duly seconded, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

The next thing was the election of new members. There were no names proposed.

Reading of communications followed, and under this head the secretary read a letter from Mr. Elmer, of the Trenton Iron Works, Chicago, at the conclusion of which the chair suggested that the secretary be instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter, and that the communication remain in the secretary's hands for reference by members of the association. There was no objection to the suggestion, and it was so ordered.

Chair: The next thing in order is "New Business" if there is anything to be offered under that head. I will state that news has reached the association of the death of Gen. Wm. P. Miles, one of its members, and a resolution, or motion, would now be in order for the appointment of a committee to draft the proper resolutions relative to his death.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: I would make that motion; that a committee be appointed to formulate resolutions.

Chair: A committee of how many would you suggest?

Hon. Jno. Dymond: Three would be sufficient.

Motion duly second by Dr. W. C. Stubbs and carried.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: Do you wish the committee appointed this evening? To report this evening, or later?

Chair: At the convenience of the chairman. I fancy that the committee could hardly report at once.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: If the committee could report this evening, and announce its report, it could be published tomorrow I believe the association has done that before; has entrusted a committee to formulate a set of resolutions, and then they have been published with the proceedings. Whatever the chair thinks best would satisfy all.

Chair: This can be left to the convenience of the committee. The chair will appoint on that committee: Hon. John Dymond, Col. G. G. Zenor and Dr. W. C. Stubbs.

Chair: The next business before the association is the discussion of the topic selected for this evening; the subject being "How to Secure the Best Results in the Preservation of Seed Cane;" but it is my pleasure to announce to the association that we have this evening a treat which it has not been our pleasure to have for, I believe, fifteen years. We have with us this evening the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States (Applause). Mr. Wilson, who is now visiting our city, kindly consented to attend the meeting of this association this evening, and I knew that every member of the association would be delighted to welcome him here, and to listen to every word which he might have to say. I knew that Mr. Wilson could give us instruction; could give us entertainment; and could give us fresh ideas. I knew that Mr. Wilson coming here could perhaps remove from our minds certain doubts which have been hovering over us, which have been hanging around us, with regard to the new possessions which we have been acquiring during the last six or eight

months, and I knew that on many other subjects Mr. Wilson could make us pass a most enjoyable evening; and for that reason I propose and suggest, gentlemen, that the matter which was to be discussed this evening as the regular topic be postponed until the next regular meeting of the association by a motion to that effect, and after that is done, the chair, in your name, will invite Mr. Wilson to address the association (Applause).

On motion, duly seconded, the topic for discussion was postponed until the June meeting. The motion was put to a viva voce vote.

Chair: I now take pleasure in introducing to the association Mr. Secretary of the Department of Agriculture. (Applause.)

Mr. Secretary Wilson: Mr. President and Gentlemen: I came down here to learn something about you people. Nothing was more remote from my mind than coming to give you instruction on any point. I have never been in New Orleans before—it is a long distance off. The President of the United States instructs me to endeavor to make the Department of Agriculture serviceable to all the section of our common country. I have been visiting the South for the last two years at different times, and this is probably my fifth visit, in order to make myself familiar with your industries. I know little about sugar cane—scarcely anything about it. I come to see it, and to study the conditions of production along that and other lines, so that when in the future representatives of this locality should enlist my interest, and in any Southern matter, I would know and understand what they might be speaking about. And so I have very grave doubts about my ability to entertain you people, unless I talk about some of those points that your able chairman outlined. The most difficult thing in the world for a man coming to a new country is to understand why everybody in it does not do just what the people do where he came from, and the readiest, the very readiest advice given is always to change your methods all at once and do the way we do in the North. But I have lived a little too long in the world to indulge in egotism of that kind. I would much rather sit still and learn, sit at your feet, gentlemen, and learn of your industries from yourselves; and yet there may be some of your practices here that strike me very forcibly. A few moments ago I was discussing a question with some of your people with regard to the fertilizer used in your cane fields. I learn for the first time that you do fertilize. I learn for the first time that you fertilize with cotton seed meal; and that strikes me as being something very trying and hard; that is, as not being at all economical. There is no fertilizer, I will admit that is any better; I think it stands almost next to dry blood in its nitrogen, and without question it will make a good fertilizer; but I don't think it should be produced for that—not a single pound. I think you can not afford to do that; and so I will venture to make this statement along that line, and if I am wrong you can think it out. If any of you have ever consulted Dr. Stubbs he would tell you that an animal in feeding cotton seed meal will probably utilize, or assimilate, from ten to fifteen per cent of it—perhaps a little more in some cases, it depending on the animal to which you feed it. The other eighty-five or ninety per cent will not be assimilated at all; but if it is correctly taken to the field, it is, I think, quite as valuable after having been used in the feed stable, or feed yard, as if it had never been used at all. Now the ten or fifteen per cent the animal uses of that cot-

ton seed meal, or assimilates is worth more in any animal product with which we are familiar, than the whole one hundred pounds would cost, and that is why it is not economical, from my standpoint. But I defer all these matters to Dr. Stubbs because I have looked over his work today, and I am greatly delighted to find that the progress of our agricultural lands has unquestionably been in his mind. I have thought for example that as you replace the native grasses here that are grown in the spring, and die in summer, leaving your animals without feed, that you must familiarize yourselves with the legumes that will help to make your pastures good. We must do it at the North; we have to do it all over the world. I find Dr. Stubbs, thinking along on this line, has on exhibition a dozen different bundles of hay from different legumes, so that in his work at your experiment station he has outlined what you might do along these lines. The question that would probably arise in your minds is: To what will we feed our cotton seed meal? Now it is an enormous factor in your prosperity, let me tell you. You probably produce every year 500,000 tons of cotton seed. For the sake of argument we will say that is what you produce—you probably produce more. Now that will furnish the muscle making material for the fattening of all the cattle. We sent to foreign countries—we shipped over four hundred thousand head last year! If you will compound your cotton seed meal with some carbonaceous nutriment, you can fatten all the cattle. All the feed cattle that we sent to Europe last year brought us back thirty-seven millions of dollars. There is nothing that will start an animal so quickly as cotton seed meal. I have been endeavoring to open up the markets of South America and the Orient to the dairy products of the United States, among other things, and a most interesting fact came to my attention through a gentleman who makes butter, puts it in cans, and sends it to South America. He says that the butter made in Iowa does not compete with the butter made in Denmark and those countries. Why? Because it melts sooner; it has not the constituency of the Danish butter. Now the Dane sends over here to us, buys our meal feeds and sells to the English people twenty-eight million dollars of butter every year! The reason for this is because the Danish butter stands up better, to use a common expression. Seven years ago when the director of the Iowa Experiment Station, I sent for a carload of cotton seed meal which I had fed to animals, and carefully noted its effects. I must say that five pounds a day to a dairy cow made a safe and abundant feature of the ration, and gave excellent results. I then took the butter and had it analyzed in the laboratory by the chemist, and after it was made into creamery we found that its melting point was higher. We sent it to Chicago where it was examined by experts and they reported it first-class. Now then there is a direction in which you might feed your cotton seed meal. I did not experiment with all the animals. I did feed young hogs and found in thirty days, probably, it killed them. What the cause was I do not know; how to avoid that I did not try to ascertain; but I have no doubt that could be got around. I have found, however, that cotton seed meal fed to steers in the feeding yard where there were hogs had no bad effects at all. So that you are peculiarly prepared with this nutriment to feed dairy cows that are wanted now in South American and the China seas. I don't like the idea of seeing the fields robbed as they are being robbed by

not returning regularly to them all that you take away from them. At your Fair you will find everything that a cow needs can be grown here and grown beautifully.

Just to what extent this feed can be used with horses, I do not know. But, with regard to horses, we sold fifty-one thousand head last year to foreign countries, and there is a great demand for them. We of the North can furnish the heavy draught horses. We can furnish the high stepping carriage horse. A good many people breed the American trotting horse; but there is a horse peculiar to the South that you gentlemen understand how to breed, high spirited, high bred, a daily horse that the world wants and can never get enough of. I am inclined to the opinion that you can afford to arrange pastures here for the purpose of producing that kind of horse. You can train him, and you can get your own price. We know the horse is never found in any market in sufficient numbers to justify anybody excepting the most wealthy from purchasing at all. Now, then, the dairy cow will succeed down here; I have no doubt it will. I learn that the last freeze you had down here will cut your next sugar crop fifty per cent. This is a serious matter—a very serious matter. I think you should give some attention to the production of things that will make you independent along the line of husbandry. You produce cotton seed meal, furnish nitrogenous matter, legumes, for the same purpose, and I am well satisfied that you can eventually teach enough of the art to your laboring class under your supervision to add very materially to your incomes.

You can sell and furnish the mutton shipped to the North, as you now do strawberries. These sheep, three months old or less, weighing 60, 80 and 90 pounds sell for ten cents per pound on the foot and the market is never supplied. You can get the muttons for lamb before we can furnish them from the North because our weather is more severe. We can not grow luscious crops through the winter as you can. We are frozen up in winter. We have to turn our energies in other directions. You have twice as much rain-fall while, I may put it, you have twice our heat; and heat and moisture are great factors in producing crops.

There is another direction in which you may find profitable employment for your less intelligent laboring people and that is in the raising of hogs. We have never enough. Some of the States in the South have become independent of the North because they are producing their own bacon. The South has been famous for many years for the production of its bacon. "Henry Clay" ham sells for twenty-five cents per pound in Washington while we can buy the fat ham from Chicago for fifteen cents. The bacon hog is an animal that is produced in a nitrogenous region. The hog that we produce in the Mississippi Valley, in the great corn growing states, is a fat hog. We keep him there and fatten him as long as he will grow and then sell him. The world wants him, too. It is a profitable business, and if you start the industry here it will also be a profitable one.

With regard to your sugar industry, as intimated by your chairman, there has been some doubt with regard to the permanency of a public policy that will encourage you to the utmost to produce sugar. I know that to be the case. One of the first acts ever passed by the American congress was to protect sugar. The policy of the United States government has not been uniform all the time regarding the protection of the

sugar crop, and for that reason I suppose you have not enlarged your acreage as you otherwise would. There are other sugar people in the United States, now, who are just as much interested in a stable, steady, policy, as you are. We have found that the Northern states, from New York all the way to the Pacific, can grow sugar, and people from all these states are interested in it. There will be no question in my mind about the determination of the representatives from that section to have that industry protected. I firmly believe that it will only be a reasonable number of years when the people of the United States will produce their own sugars.

With regard to these islands, I do not know what the future will bring forth; what the future policy will be, I do know what it is now. It is necessary to have a revenue to conduct the cleaning of these islands, and the governing of them, and to pay their municipal expenses, etc., and to that end, when the Spaniards were driven out in Cuba and Porto Rico for example, a tariff bill was framed by the President of the United States which it was believed would be sufficient for the people of Cuba and Porto Rico. It has been a very great success. It is arranged that anybody going into either of these islands shall pay a duty; there shall be no distinction between persons or nationalities. It is well understood that a man can take care of himself if he has fair play and an even chance. We are selling our goods in the China seas to the extent of forty millions a year under free competition with all the other nations, and are going to sell more. We are sending our goods to Great Britain; our steel goods are going everywhere. The Nile expedition going into Soudan wanted a bridge, and wanted it soon. Our people could and did furnish it. So we are not afraid of the American people taking care of themselves in open trade with these islands. Now then, when they have anything to sell, and come to the United States to sell it, they meet our tariff. If they send sugar, they must pay our duty; if they send rice or tobacco it is just the same. When I said I did not know what the future policy would be, I meant that I did not know what congress would do; but I am inclined to the opinion that the American people, after considering that they have done remarkably well for these islands, have driven the imposters out and given them good honest government, and opportunity to progress, will not do anything that would tend to destroy the sugar industry of Louisiana, or the cultivation of rice, or tobacco which is grown in many states. While rice is not grown yet in the North we people up there are religiously inclined to protect any American industry—it does not make any difference where found; and I have no doubt there will be the utmost harmony in the future in the protection of American industries in regard to these people. Much can be done for these people in those islands. Scientists have never studied any of their products. Coffee, for example, has never been grown to any considerable extent; they have never crossed the tree that has the finest berries with the tree that has the most. They have never studied the bacteriological disease of the coffee tree. A few years ago a bacteriological disease broke out on a coffee tree in the island of Java and as the scientists there gave it no attention it ravaged every tree in that island as though it were swept by fire. We may help them with regard to their production along other lines; whatever Dr. Stubbs has touched on here in his classes they can get by sending for one of his men; and you may depend

upon it that these bright young fellows, educated in these channels, will find their way to the market where they can sell their labor. We can help them in all these matters, and I believe the United States government will be disposed to establish experiment stations in the Philippines and Porto Rico so as to enable these people to progress along these lines to as great an extent as possible.

I have been interested in the mouth of the Mississippi river for a long time. I was sent to congress for the purpose of helping get these jetties established there so as to deepen the river a little, and let the ocean vessels come up here to meet our grains coming from the West. Our grains will naturally come here. If you start a boy rolling a barrel why he is going the way of least resistance; the necessity of rolling over the Alleghenies would be an obstacle; he would find his way down here to tide water, where it should come (Applause). We have been looking for outlets here in this gulf and are continuing to look. Railroads are heading down this way and are using ports which are here. How to succeed with your competitors in getting the volume of trade I do not know. I have never looked into that. That is your find; but I hear of Port Arthur, I hear of Galveston, and I hear of railroad's coming on down. I am well satisfied in my mind that they will come more and more all the time. I was talking to a railroad man one day about the competition in getting freights to the seaboard. He said (he is a railroad man in the Northwest) that when they began to build through the state of Iowa they had an engine that would pull seven cars with ten tons of freight in each car. Now they find it necessary to have an engine that will pull eight hundred tons of freight, and the result is that the transportation of grain is getting cheaper and cheaper. Now the test will come between those who steam over the Allegheny and those who steam down hill. It is a little further from here to the old world, across the Atlantic, than from some of the Eastern seaports; but after a vessel is loaded, and gets on the ocean, it is very cheap transportation. The great expense is moving on land lines. So that the great struggle between the carriers will eventually result year after year in bringing more and more traffic here than there is at present. I understand that the jetties have not been continued as fast as the Mississippi river is filling up the Gulf of Mexico. I have no doubt what the outcome of that will be. You will get whatever appropriations you want. New York found herself with much the same trouble. Some years ago twenty-six feet in that harbor was considered abundant. Now the struggle between carriers to carry cheaply has led them to build enormous vessels, over four hundred feet long, that will carry more than vessels ever carried before, and some drawing thirty feet of water, so that congress had to go to work at the last session and appropriate money to deepen New York harbor. Why, that is right. Certainly, no matter how much money it costs, or how many feet they need, New York should have it. No matter how much money or how many feet you want, you should have it. You are becoming more important as these great traffic lines run down here from the great corn and wheat fields of the West. You are taking more and more interest in us, and we are taking more and more interest in you (Applause). You will have no difficulty in getting feet enough to float the ships through the passes.

I don't know along what lines I should talk here. I protested to Dr. Stubbs this

evening that you gentlemen should do the talking. He said, "Old agriculturists like you and I can talk at any time on any subject." (Laughter.) This is a pretty critical audience here.

I recognize the fact that the people of the United States have made up their mind that there should be a ditch dug between the Atlantic and Pacific, somewhere around Central America where it can be most easily done. Just as soon as the attention of the nation was brought to the trip of the "Oregon" around Cape Horn, the American people claimed we must build that ditch; we must dig that canal; we are not going to have that happen again. (Applause.) The "Oregon" was needed at Santiago, and got there just in time. (Applause.) The American people have given the order that it must be done, and that means a great deal to you. You are quite close, comparatively, to that canal; the trade between the United States and other countries is growing, and it will grow.

We want, above all things, American bottoms to carry our own products over the world under the American flag; that is what we need more than anything else. I suppose the reason we have not more American ships has been that it costs a great deal of money to go into that business, and that it has been costing more in the United States than in European countries; but yet we are loaning money abroad. I heard last week that the banks of Iowa had one hundred million dollars of idle money, and that it could not be loaned on real estate at five per cent. This great Mississippi valley is the producing field that is just now feeding the world; it has reached all the way up to its uttermost sources. We don't need to fertilize when we go to that rich country, provided you rotate the crops and grow grasses. We don't need to use fertilizer; I have never seen fertilizer used there and I have lived in Iowa forty-four years. It is from such a country as that that the intelligent American people are piling up money all the time. Possibly another generation may find ways to spend that surplus money, but the present generation of Iowa farmers don't know how, and it won't be spent—it is finding its way eastwardly so as to get invested, and the Eastern people are sending it to Europe. During the last war we had two hundred millions of bonds to sell and fourteen hundred millions was deposited to subscribe for that two hundred million; and at three per cent! Why, we have plenty of money!

Now, the one thing I want to see is the building up of the merchant marine that will take our produce from all this valley up there. There is a business of a thousand million dollars done in the China seas; we have only forty million of that, but we are going to get more; the American in business is absolutely enterprising. I really think, gentlemen, that there is a very great future before the city of New Orleans and other cities around here, because you have, what they call in Southern Africa, the hinterlands behind you, those great producing fields that produce more next year than this year. The people, through the instrumentality of experiment stations, agricultural colleges, etc., are learning more and more. I may say, with regard to these institutions that are erected in every state, that they are doing more for the American farmer than has been done by any other country. And so we are learning how to make more and more money every year by more economical husbandry from these magnificent fields that can touch tide water from the Missouri line.

I have certainly talked more than I thought I would, have said all I could say

and you will have to excuse me. (Loud applause.)

Chair: Gentlemen, I think it is hardly necessary for me to say that a resolution of thanks should be placed in writing so as to express our gratitude to Mr. Secretary Wilson for his kindness, and for the interesting talk he has given us here this evening. I ask, however, that it be in the form of a motion, that the grateful thanks of this association be returned to Mr. Secretary Wilson for his kindness in addressing the association this evening, and that it be done by a rising vote.

Motion put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Secretary: I thank you for your kindness. I will try to see to it that this kindness don't turn my head.

Chair: There is one thing, Mr. Secretary, that the chair will ask of your kindness; and that is, if any member of the association desires to ask any questions with regard to the subjects you have discussed, if you will have the kindness to allow them that privilege?

Mr. Secretary: With pleasure.

Chair: Is there any question any member would like to ask Mr. Secretary Wilson? The chair would ask you, as you did not touch upon the subject, to state what you think of the development of the beet sugar industry in the United States, if you have given that matter your attention, and if you think, from your own observation, that the progress of the past ten years is likely to continue during the next ten years.

Mr. Secretary: The experiments conducted by the Department of Agriculture along that line have been very extensive. We have sent the most approved sugar beet seed to every part of the United States where we could induce the people to interest themselves in it. Two years ago we began with five factories in the United States—two in Nebraska and three on the Pacific Coast. We have reports from nearly all the States that are north of the Ohio river you may say, and from quite a few Southern States south of the Ohio river. Twelve per cent of sugar in the beet, with eighty purity of juice, is considered profitable; that is what they get in France and Germany. The question of labor, the question of machinery, etc., were the objections of most of our people to follow experiments even along this line. It was necessary to organize in a great many neighborhoods during the present year to induce the people to make a sensible start. That is, to secure the right kind of land and grow the beets intelligently, according to the most approved methods; to avoid growing them as big as they could get them and to grow them the regulation size of two pounds. We have received samples through the mails from most of these States, and the chemists at the agricultural colleges have analyzed them also, and we find that in nearly all the northern States that the beet is of sufficient richness to justify growing it for sugar. I have been looking very carefully into the growth. Last fall there were nineteen factories in operation in the United States. Next fall there will be forty that we know of; there are five being built in Michigan now. They are building, and getting ready to grow beets in Illinois and there is a prospect in Iowa. They are adding factories on the Pacific Coast. Beets sufficiently rich have been grown in the mountain States. Colorado will, I think, have some factories running next year. So that the matter, in my mind, has gone beyond the experimental stage and I have ceased to take as much interest in it as I did previously. I am well satisfied that after a time these Northern States will

have more or less factories, and that the people in those States, as they begin to ascertain that the pulp has all the nutrition in it that the dairy cow requires, will spread the industry everywhere along that belt where there is above 70 degrees of heat during the three ripening months. I may say that I do not propose to concern myself so much about that part of the industry in the future, because I believe it will go itself. I believe it is only a question of time when we shall make our own sugar. You will increase your acreage here while we increase our factories in the North.

I might say during my visit to South Carolina I became well satisfied that there is a new industry that you can take care of in this country, and that is tea. You have all the conditions necessary to produce fine teas under your latitude and under the latitude of South Carolina. How much farther north I do not know. There they have a fifty acre tea farm which was originally encouraged by the Department of Agriculture and I propose to push that. I would like very much to have this industry developed. I know that Dr. Stubbs will give it some encouragement here, and I have no doubt it will become as successful as the beet industry of the United States. This is probably all I have to say on that point.

Mr. Frank Nicholls: I would like to ask Mr. Secretary Wilson about the importation of a new kind of rice from Japan, which has come here through the supervision of the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Secretary: When the Dingley bill was being framed, you sent a man from Louisiana up there to look after your industry, a very intelligent gentleman, Dr. Knapp, of Lake Charles, and I think he got about what he wanted. In discussing the rice question with me (I knew nothing about rice) he told me that the rice grown in Louisiana was not as fine in some respects as the rice grown in Japan; he said the Louisiana people needed a shorter, chunkier, fatter rice that would not crack, that would not break up in threshing. I said "will you go and get it." He agreed, and we arranged to send him on and get that rice for your people. We received ten tons; we have sent some to your people, we sent some to other rice growing sections, but mostly here. It will be experimented on, but I do not know how it will come out. You can watch it at your station. I think Dr. Stubbs has had some of it; he will tell you of its value. If it is of decided value, why then, if necessary, we will send and get all you want.

Col Zenor: As the secretary, Mr. Wilson, has touched in his remarks upon one question that I have thought a great deal about, if you will pardon me Mr. President, I will make a few remarks. It is in regard to the outlet for the Mississippi river. I maintain that the protection of the caving banks of the Mississippi river—the protection of the alluvial lands of the Mississippi from overflow and a deep outlet for the Mississippi—is of even more importance than any question that surrounds our national legislation. As regards the protection of the caving banks, that seems to be in the far distant future. In protecting the valley from overflow, it is approaching; we have almost got around to perfection. I touch upon this, gentlemen, because I believe that I have lost more from overflow than perhaps any other person in the State. My father lost a fine plantation on the Mississippi just from caving banks. I have thought often: Could that not be prevented? I believe it will be.

Now, as regards the deepening of our channel; this is as simple as digging a ditch through a plantation. The first time that

I went down to view the jetties and the position of affairs there, when I looked down and saw this narrow pass to which this great outlet has been confined, I thought: Is it possible that the commerce of the Mississippi valley has to go through that little ditch when here, a little to the southwest, was the grand opening of the entire river, and with less money than was spent on the South pass we could have had a channel? If the Southwest pass had been allowed to be taken by Congress it would have given us at least a channel of fifty feet deep and a thousand or more feet wide. We see before us, (let us state actual facts,) that where the water is confined within its banks, as it is below New Orleans for a good many miles, we have deep water all the way, from one hundred to two hundred feet deep, until we strike just above the head of the Passes, at what is called the "Jump," when we commence to get less. There we have different outlets—it spreads out. What is the consequence? We immediately have shoal water. Now, based upon this fact, which is demonstrated, if these banks were continued all the way down, and the water turned into this great Southwest Pass, having the jetties not two or three hundred feet wide but three thousand feet wide, and close up all the other outlets, (don't let some one object to closing up this outlet because it will interfere with his fishing grounds, or that outlet because it will prevent some one else from getting out to his favorite hunting grounds. Is it possible that such consideration as that would be entertained for a moment to interfere with the navigation of the Mississippi river?) and let us have these jetties three thousand feet wide and over. If this be done, we could have the same channel out to the Gulf that we now have from here to the head of the passes. It looks to me very plain and simple.

There is another point that was not touched upon, and that is this: Why is it that we find the Mississippi river to-day rising at New Orleans four or five feet higher than it did in former years with the same stage of water, we will say, at Natchez, Miss. From 1858 to 1890, New Orleans was about 15 feet above tide level. Last year, if I remember correctly, it was considerably over nineteen feet, was it not, Mr. Dymond?

Hon. Jno. Dymond: Nineteen and one-half feet.

Col. Zenor: There was an increase of four and one-half feet, which shows that the water is gradually getting higher at New Orleans. Why is this? I will state it emphatically and positively. There is but one solution. It is the great outlet of the Atchafalaya. Now that seems rather paradoxical; but why does the Mississippi shoal at the head of the Passes if it is not for the various outlets you have there? You can see plainly if these banks were continued it would be just as deep as it is to the head of the Passes to-day. Captain Eads, (who I consider one of the grandest men we ever had,) said years ago that if the Atchafalaya continued to increase, the time would come when it would be almost impossible to build the revetment high enough on the lower coast to prevent overflow. Why? Because this deposit has been gradually filling in the bottom of the river, and as the bottom fills the top rises. Let us prove that. I can recollect myself when the Atchafalaya was quite an insignificant stream—its discharge amounted to nothing. In fact, at one place, it went entirely dry and filled up—it was completely choked for fifteen miles. Then the entire body of water from the Red and Ouachita poured into the Mississippi; it did not go to the Atchafalaya—it all went into the Mississippi river, and I will tell you,

then, with the same stage of the river at Natchez in '62, the highest record there, the river was 52 feet at Natchez, when the Atchafalaya was comparatively closed to the water. To-day we have three of four feet less at Natchez than New Orleans with the Atchafalaya carrying off a large volume of water—the discharge is enormous, and if the Atchafalaya were large enough to discharge three-quarters of the whole amount, the lower river would fill up. That can be clearly demonstrated. Why is this? Because the water will seek tide level at the nearest point, and it is only one hundred miles from where the Atchafalaya starts out to tide water, while down the river it is three hundred miles, consequently the volume of water would go down there and seek its tide level in the shorter distance.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: The secretary brings up a rather novel proposition when he speaks about the agriculturists of the West not using fertilizers. We have been taught to believe that fertilizers ought to be used every where by intelligent farmers. That is one of our staple arguments, and it was rather startling to have the idea remarked here, as it has been to-night by the secretary, that the use of fertilizers might be dispensed with through the proper rotation of crops and dairy farming. Now, the cotton seed meal that we are using here, we all know is our cheapest source of nitrogen. We know elsewhere in the country they are buying nitrogenous fertilizers. For instance, tankage from Chicago, etc., and these things are being sold all over the United States—fish scraps from the Eastern cities—so that we can compete with them successfully so far as the purchase of fertilizer is concerned, by the use of cotton seed meal. Therefore, if we are to use manufactured fertilizer, or, rather, buy fertilizer at all, then it seems eminently fit we should use cotton seed meal; if on the other hand we are to depend on proper rotation, dairy farming, we might avoid that. But it seemed to me a rather novel proposition with successful farming in this stage of experiment stations, and thousands of analysis of manufactured fertilizers, to have the idea advanced that perhaps it was unwise to use, or, at least, to buy fertilizers. Therefore, if the secretary would kindly dilate a little on that subject, perhaps it might be valuable to us all.

Mr. Secretary: I remarked in the beginning that a man coming to a new country wonders why everybody don't do exactly what the people do in his country. It is much better to grind cotton seed into meal and fertilize your fields with it, than to sell it. I can see that it is much better.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: How about buying tankage?

Mr. Secretary: Well, when you get tankage, you get the blood of our Western States. Now, we don't seem to know fertilizers up in our country. We crop there, three or four years, and then graze two, three or four years. Then, when we plow up our pastures, we get bigger grain crops than when the ground was new. It depends of course on what you sell. If you sell butter and sugar, why you don't lose the fertility of the soil. If you sell grains and cotton seed, why you are producing very fast, exceedingly fast; and owing to the fact that a freeze once in a while cuts your crop in two, I made the suggestion that it might possibly be wise for you people to secure your independence by giving a little more attention to these farming animals that you can profitably raise. I think you can pursue dairy farming here with greater facility than anybody can further north. You can grow a succession of corn or feed crops—and you have no

difficulty in feeding your animals through the winter. We can not do that in the North, and with your cotton seed meal you can make a valuable butter that will stand up in a hot climate, and the world is wanting that kind of butter.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: The high temperature might interfere with butter making in this latitude?

Mr. Secretary: There would be no trouble. All that you would have to do would be to get near one of your springs, where it comes up cool, or go down and get water at a temperature where it is under 50, and you will succeed admirably in making fine butter. I ate just as beautiful butter in South Carolina as I ever ate in my life; and I have seen just as fine in Louisiana. Now, the only question in my mind here is whether you can produce as large sugar crops, and still have these things to secure your independence against the time when possibly a freeze might come. These were the things that occurred to me. Of course you can tell better than I can tell about that. But there is far more profit in such a valuable nutriment as cotton seed meal than there is in using it as fertilizer. However, I would much prefer it as fertilizer than to sell it to anybody. I think it is really worth, as a nutrient for animals, in comparison with the other nutrients we feed about forty dollars per ton for that purpose. Of course, it is worth as fertilizer what you could buy the same amount of fertilizer for. I have no doubt at all in my mind but what, as practical people as you are, you will some day feed every particle of your cotton seed meal. I have no doubt of it. I am horrified at the idea that it is used as a fertilizer.

Mr. Frank Nicholls: The cotton seed meal which we use for fertilizing purposes is not as wasteful and extravagant a practice as might appear, for the reason that a large amount of the meal that we use for fertilizer is known as "off meal," and that meal is not adapted for feeding purposes at all. It is rich in ammonia content, probably as rich as prime cotton seed meal, but it is the result of heated seed, or defective manufacture—it is not adapted as a feed product, and for which reason it is not as wasteful. This "off meal" costs three or four dollars less than cotton seed meal that is used for feeding, and it is not adapted to that purpose, and is only used as fertilizer. It is the cheapest form of nitrogen that can be had—much cheaper than tankage—than these various forms of sulphate of ammonia and these other fertilizers. For that reason it is not wasteful and extravagant as it might appear on the surface to be.

Mr. Crozier: In connection with the beet industry of the country, I would like to ask the president if he will not request Governor Warmoth to tell us what he saw out in the beet farms of the West.

Ex-Governor H. C. Warmoth: Gentlemen of the Association: There are some things that I do not think ought to be told in public, and perhaps the large yields in Oxnard Valley being exceptional might not be as encouraging to our friends in our own midst as we would like them to be. I do not think that I have anything new to tell you about what I saw in California, because our valued paper, our weekly paper, contains the fullest accounts of everything that occurs in the beet industry in California. We read in the "Planter," from the Chino, Oxnard and Los Angeles correspondent every week, the fullest accounts of the progress of the beet industry in that section of the country. I can only confirm the reports which we have read, and say to you, however, in addition,

that the industry is simply marvelous, as I discovered in that country. They have, however, their difficulties as we have. For instance, while they do not suffer from frosts and from killed stubble, etc., they have their dreadful droughts. In the Los Alamitos section they made less than half a crop last year because I think they had only six or seven inches of rainfall during the year. The Chino people had a short crop, and had it not been for the wonderful production in the Santa Barbara Valley, (at least it is the valley in which Santa Barbara is located—they had so many "San" valleys I became confused—it is the valley running from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles). In that wonderful valley they produced some thirty to forty thousand tons of beets last year, with an average sucrose content of seven-tenths per cent. These beets were taken to the Chino factory. The Oxnard factory did not work last year, although it has a capacity of one thousand tons of beets a day, and is the most wonderful mechanical contrivance I have ever seen. It has the most beautiful building; the most magnificent machinery, the most perfect arrangement for economical administration that I have ever seen in my life. I would suppose the building is 500 feet long; it is certainly 200 feet wide. It is five stories high. They have one diffusion battery, each cell of which holds over five tons of beets. They are erecting another battery right alongside; they have three 14-ft. vacuum pans in place; they are putting up another 16-ft. vacuum pan. They have four quadruple effects, with a capacity of one thousand tons a day; they have lime kilns five or six hundred feet high, (more or less), and the most complete arrangement that could possibly be conceived. The walks are as handsome as you ever saw in a gentleman's park. They are lined with the most beautiful plants and flowers, and you are lost in contemplation of the beauty and lose the idea that you are in a manufacturing district. The residences and outhouses, and everything, are perfection. It made me feel that what we have in Louisiana was not worth much. (Laughter.) They drove me over the place. In one place they have about three thousand acres of land, and there is another ranch adjoining, of two thousand acres—all in beets. I did not go any further than these two that I speak of, but the whole valley was planted in beets. They estimate they will have two hundred thousand tons of beets for this factory alone; they expect to work two thousand tons of beets a day. They certainly will have the capacity to do it. The beets cost five dollars a ton. I suppose it costs two dollars a ton to manufacture. Bear in mind they have an enormous expense for lime. There are materials in the manufacture of sugar from beets that we do not have. Their fuel is cheaper than ours—certainly as cheap—because of the wonderful oil fields discovered in the Los Angeles district.

Member: Does that \$2.00 per ton, the cost of manufacture, include the wear and tear of machinery?

Gov. Warmoth: I guessed at this; I really have no data, but would fancy rather that they could manufacture their beets into granulated sugar for \$2.00 per ton working with such enormous capacity. You will know it costs a great deal more to manufacture granulated sugar than our handsome yellow sugar. Their lime itself is an enormous expense; the handling of limestone, and the carbonating process. The filter cloths are of enormous cost; they have considerable difficulty filtering; they filter the juices four or five times. They have expenses that we have not. Therefore I say I believe they can manufacture their beets

for two dollars a ton. This is seven dollars per ton that their product costs them. Now they turn out granulated sugar as pretty as you ever saw—sugar you can put in cubes. They get from 260 to 300 pounds of sugar per ton. If they make three hundred pounds, and get fifteen dollars (it cost them seven dollars,) you can see the situation. They turn the sugar from the beet into granulated sugar at one process. We can not do that with ours, so far. They cultivate their beets by machinery. When I was in Germany a number of years ago, I went out to their beet fields and saw hundreds of women take the beets, by hand, bar off, drive the spade in the soil and turn the beets by hand. This is all done by a plow now, with a horse or two, in California. There, lands are cultivated with the greatest ease; they have the most beautiful lands I have ever seen, they never run together. I saw no end to the beet industry in California. They can grow millions of tons of beets in that one valley alone, and I feel therefore not jealous of the Californian, nor of these people who are making sugar, but welcome them as our allies and friends; for when they begin to grow beets in California, and in Michigan, and in Iowa and Illinois and in Indiana, and in Nebraska and Colorado, why we know that the industry with which we are connected will have friends enough to keep it from being destroyed by politicians and pirates. We feel that we will be able to hold our own in the sugar cane section of the country. We produce, Mr. Secretary, a kind of sugar that the beet don't make. The beet is sweet; it will supply very many of the demands that are made for sugar; but there are many that it will not supply. I don't know whether it was because the people out there in California got on to the fact that I was engaged in cane culture, but even the waiters at the table as they would hand me the sugar would remark, "This is not as sweet as cane sugar; you will have to take a little more of it." Such was the impression throughout that country; that the beet sugar is not as sweet as the cane sugar. The people want cane sugar, and they are going to have it more and more as they get the beet sugar. They are going to mix it with the beet sugar; and therefore we have no anxiety about the success of our agriculture and of our manufacture of sugar in this country, because of the wonderful progress that is being made by the beet people. We have just begun, Mr. Secretary, the development of the cane industry of this country. We have been making enormous strides in the last fifteen or twenty years in the extraction of the juice from the cane and the manufacture of sugar. It is only since Dr. Stubbs has come among us that we have been addressing ourselves to the development of the cane itself and the improvement of the plant. A little while ago we grew in this country a cane called the "Creole" cane—it didn't grow more than three to four and a half feet high. It looked like a sort of cactus, with sharp points. It was an extremely sweet and beautiful cane, and made beautiful sugar. Our people after a while found that they did not get sufficient yield and sent abroad, and through qualities of canes obtained from the West Indies and elsewhere, we have gone on improving the character of our canes until now we have a very reasonable sort of cane, and with anything like a fair season we produce a very sweet cane and a very fine sugar. We are going to address ourselves now to that branch of the industry. Your department can be of immense service to us if it will cast its eyes over the world and find where the sweetest and best canes can be had.

Mr. Secretary: We will do it.

Gov. Warmoth: We know you will. We will help you to develop whatever canes you will be able to get from different portions of the country, and we believe in a short time we will be able, by proper cultivation and selection to develop this cane industry, so we will have a cane that will produce from twelve to fourteen per cent sucrose, and when we shall have done that, we will get up to the average of the world in the production of sugar.

As an individual, Mr. President, I can not sit down without expressing my great gratification at the visit that the Honorable Secretary has made to us. It makes us feel as though we were a part of the Government, and that the Government feels an interest in us and our people when the head men of the Government pay a visit to our section. We hope that the secretary will have a very pleasant visit with us, and that he will come again, and that we will have the pleasure of seeing him oftener, and especially when we are in the midst of sugar making in order to show him our processes and our results and cause him to feel at home in this country as does every man who comes among us. (Applause.)

Chair: This brings the discussion of the evening to a close. Before adjournment the Chair desires to announce that the Sugar Exchange and the Cane Growers' Association, in co-operation with the Sugar Planters' Association, have tendered Mr. Secretary Wilson a ride through the sugar district of the State which will take place on a special train leaving the Illinois Central depot to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, and the Chair extends to the members of the association who desire to take part in the excursion the privilege of doing so, and will be glad to have all the members receiving the notification to take part in this excursion, and who feel disposed to go, to please leave their names so that we may find out what the number will be. Gentlemen, you will please come up to the table after adjournment and state which of you can take part in that excursion. The trip will occupy the better part of the day, returning to the city early in the afternoon—probably 3 or 4 o'clock.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned.

Trade Notes.

The Anniston Lime and Stone Co.

We publish elsewhere in this issue a special notice advising the sugar planters in general, and those of this state in particular, that the management of the business of the above named concern in Louisiana has been assumed by Mr. G. S. Pierson, who is located at No. 105 Board of Trade building, New Orleans. Mr. Pierson is widely known in this community as the former purchasing agent of the American Sugar Refining Co., a position in which he necessarily acquired perfect familiarity with all sorts and kinds of lime, and that he should now undertake to handle here the product of the Anniston Lime & Stone Co. certainly indicates that he must have had a very high opinion of that lime. The sugar planters have in the past bought immense quantities of it, and doubtless the shipments to them will steadily increase under the supervision of Mr. Pierson, who is a courteous, well-informed, and thoroughly wide awake business man.

MAY 19.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR. Open Kettle.	May 13.	May 15.	May 16.	May 17.	May 18.	May 19.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
O. K. Centrifugal	37 3/8 @ 4 1/2	37 3/8 @ 4 1/2	37 3/8 @ 4 1/2	37 3/8 @ 4 1/2	37 3/8 @ 4 1/2	37 3/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	Firm.
Choice.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 @ —	
Strict Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ —	
Prime.....	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ —	
Fully Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ —	
Good Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ —	
Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ —	
Good Common..	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ —	
Common.....	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ —	
Inferior.....	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ 3 3/4	3 3/8 @ —	
Centrifugal.								Dull.
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off Granulated...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 1/2 @ 4 5/8	
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow....	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ —	
Prime Yellow....	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ —	
Off Yellow.....	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	4 1/2 @ —	
Seconds.....	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	2 1/2 @ 3 3/8	
MOLASSES. Open Kettle.								Quiet.
O. K. Centrifugal								
Fancy.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Choice.....								
Strict Prime.....								
Good Prime.....								
Prime.....								
Good Fair.....								
Fair.....								
Good Common..								
Common.....								
Inferior.....								
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Choice.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 16	12 @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 11	
Good Prime.....	— @ 13	— @ 13	— @ 13	— @ 13	— @ 13	— @ 13	— @ 10	
Prime.....	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 9	
Good Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 8	
Fair.....	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 7	
Good Common..	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 6	
Common.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 5	
Inferior.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 5	
SYRUP.								

OTHER MARKETS.

New York:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw-St'dy; prices fully maintained. Refined - Fair demand.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	5.08 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	4.96 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ —	
German Granul'td.	— @ 5.15	— @ 5.15	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.17	— @ 5.17	— @ 5.20	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Cane—Quiet. Beet—Active at the advance.
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	12s. 3d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	10s. 11 1/4 d.	11s. 0d.	11s. 3d.	11s. 2 1/4 d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.	11s. 3d.	9s. 6 3/4 d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf.....	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	Steady.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 44	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 32	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.								

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to May 10	Tons	220,321
At four ports of Great Britain to May 6.....	"	50,500
At Havana and Matanzas to May. 9	"	83,500

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending May 19, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to May 19, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses Barrels.	Received.....	Sugar		Molasses Barrels.
	Hhds.	Barrels.			Hhds.	Barrels.	
Received	46	7,741	1,184	10,233	1,233,224	231,810	
Sold.....	46	7,597	1,184	10,233	1,226,037	231,810	
Received same time last year				23,114	1,437,132	189,481	

MAY 19.		WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,						1899.	
RICE.		May 13.	May 15.	May 16.	May 17.	May 18.	May 19.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
ROUGH, per bbl...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	3 00@5 35	Dull.
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	— @ —	
Fancy	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 1/4 @ 6 3/4	
Choice	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 3/4 @ 6	
Prime	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	5 1/2 @ 5 5/8	
Good	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	5 3/8 @ 5 1/2	
Fair	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/8	
Ordinary	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	4 3/8 @ 4 3/4	
Common	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	
Screenings	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	— @ —	
Inferior	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	— @ —	
No. 2	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	1 1/2 @ 1 3/4	2 @ 2 1/4	
IRAN, per ton	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 50@13 00	Dull.
POLISH, per ton	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	16 00 @ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending May 19, 1899.			Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to May 19, 1899, compared with last year, same time.		
	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.	This year	SACKS ROUGH.	BLS. CLEAN.
Received	524	1,378	.....	681,150	8,108
Sold	323	136	.....	466,215	8,070

Sugar.

The sugar market was quiet and steady at the end of the week, with rather moderate receipts from the country.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals quiet.

Rice.

The rough rice market was very dull at the end of the week, with scarcely any actual trading. Clean rice was also quiet with but few transactions.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The expected happened this time in that the business promised the previous week materialized during the one just closed. All styles and grades in Foreign shared in the movement, the leader being Java, only slightly in advance, however, of both Japan and Patna sorts. As a matter of fact, the exhibit of rice could not be finer, including grades which have rarely been seen in this market before. The enlargement of variety is due to demand on the part of the trade for the best of every kind and by reason of the presence of these extra fancies considerable trade has been and continues to be drawn from the Pacific Coast which ordinarily supplies its wants from the far East direct. There is also renewed enquiry for ordinary to fair domestic and the request for samples of these grades would seem to indicate an enlarging interest. In comparison with foreign of similar character, they are by all odds the cheaper purchase and give promise of long margins. Advices from the South note rather quiet conditions, but marked strength as stocks are at low ebb and statistically there are substantial reasons for an early advance. Cables and correspondence from abroad are of similar character to those heretofore received, demand reasonable, prices firm and outlook so favorable toward higher prices as that millers and dealers refuse to undertake orders for future delivery. Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs: Louisiana crop movement to-date: Receipts, rough, 700,345 sacks; last year, inclusive of amount carried over, 536,250 sacks. Sales, cleaned

THE CUBAN SUGAR CROP OF 1898-99.

Statement of the Exports and Stocks of Sugar April 30, 1899, and same date last year.

	1898.			1899.		
	Bags.	Hogsheads	Tons.	Bags.	Hogsheads	Tons.
EXPORTS.						
Havana	66,973	.....	.....	64,247	.....	.....
Matanzas	289,914	.....	.....	192,485	.....	.....
Cardenas	337,236	.....	.....	208,611	.....	.....
Cienfuegos	381,678	.....	.....	254,124	.....	.....
Sagua	92,652	.....	.....	30,289	.....	.....
Caibarien	45,032	.....	.....	32,805	.....	.....
Guantanamo	1,500	.....	.....	27,711	.....	.....
Cuba	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Manzanillo	.....	.....	.....	16,140	.....	.....
Nuevitas	.....	.....	.....	7,081	.....	.....
Gibara	.....	.....	.....	28,270	.....	.....
Zaza	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trinidad	37,767	.....	.....	10,073	.....	.....
	1,252,752	.....	173,372	866,886	.....	119,971
STOCKS.						
Havana	91,236	.....	.....	101,507	.....	.....
Matanzas	204,739	.....	.....	163,604	.....	.....
Cardenas	162,538	.....	.....	110,248	.....	.....
Cienfuegos	82,233	.....	.....	87,660	.....	.....
Sagua	33,842	.....	.....	59,499	.....	.....
Caibarien	17,820	.....	.....	59,877	.....	.....
Guantanamo	13,781	.....	.....	41,910	.....	.....
Cuba	.....	.....	.....	2,472	.....	.....
Manzanillo	.....	.....	.....	15,810	.....	.....
Nuevitas	.....	.....	.....	6,230	.....	.....
Gibara	.....	.....	.....	5,215	.....	.....
Zaza	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trinidad	1,064	.....	.....	13,048	.....	.....
	607,323	.....	84,049	736,080	.....	101,668

Local consumption, 4 months	237,421	15,600	.....	221,839	14,500
Stock of old crop, January 1	273,021	1,515	.....	236,339	4,396
Receipts at all ports to April 30	271,506	.....	.....	232,003	.....
NOTE—Bags, 310 lbs. Hogsheads, 1,550 lbs. Tons, 2,240 lbs.					
Havana, April 30, 1899. JOAQUIN GUMA.					

(est), 173,200 barrels; last year, 119,500 barrels. Demand only fair but under light offerings; prices firm.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to-date: Receipts, cleaned, 36,425 barrels. Sales 33,485 barrels. Steady enquiry at former range of values.

Personal.

Mr. H. C. Barnett, of St. Mary parish, was a guest of the St. Charles Hotel during the past week.

Mr. Henry Hauseman, of Patterson, La., was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He put up at the Grunewald Hotel.

Mr. Joseph Birg, whose Katy plantation is one of the best places for its size in the State, was a guest of the St. Charles Hotel on Tuesday last.

Dr. R. W. Boland, of Birmingham, Ala., president of the Birmingham Machine & Foundry Company, of that city, was a visitor to New Orleans last Monday. Dr. Boland put up at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. S. Abraham, of Raceland, La., was in the city on a visit a few days ago.

Mr. C. D. Gondran was in the city recently, and put up at one of our leading hotels.

Mr. James H. Hall, the widely known agricultural implement maker of Maysville Ky., was a recent visitor to New Orleans.

Mr. John B. Foley, a leading sugar planter of Assumption parish, accompanied by Mrs. Foley, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. They stopped at the Commercial Hotel, and spent a short while in New Orleans mingling with their friends and otherwise enjoying themselves.

Hon. Andrew Price and Mrs. Price, of the well known Arcadia plantation were in the city on Tuesday and registered at the St. Charles. Mr. and Mrs. Price came to the city especially to see the horse show out at the Fair Grounds, for Mr. Price is an enthusiastic lover of fine horse flesh and knows a great deal about stock raising, having a magnificent stock farm of his own in Tennessee.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Position as governess or teacher; summer or season. Best references furnished. Address Miss Mary Stith, 1446 Camp street, New Orleans.

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced machinist and engineer for repairs and all-around work in best sugar factory. Position permanent if satisfactory. Address, with references and salary expected, C. A. Zimmerman, Box 98, Eddy, New Mexico.

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler and clarifier with 18 years experience, expert in handling green cane, a crop for the coming season in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico. Best of references furnished. Makes no use of intoxicating liquors. Address WESTLEY, 218 Canal street, New Orleans. 5-17-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man 22 years of age, with gilt-edged references, as clerk in country or city store. Five years experience. Can speak French and English. Address AGUINALDO, Soulouque, La. 5-17-99

WANTED—Position for the 1899 crop as book-keeper or assistant. Can give best of references. Twenty-two years old and a graduate of a good business college; address A. E. Smith, Ozan, Ky. 5-9-99

WANTED—A first-class and competent assistant sugar boiler wishes position for coming season. Best references furnished; address Proof Stick, Box 62, Donaldsonville, La. 5-8-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first assistant, or as overseer. Experienced with teams and general plantation work. Eighteen years experience and can furnish best of references; address A. C., care this office.

WANTED—Position by a young man as time or book-keeper. Can give best of reference; address ARTHUR, care P. M., Little Cypress, Ky. 5-10-99

WANTED—Situation by an experienced machinist and sugar plantation engineer. Strictly sober and attentive to business. Would like to secure work the year round if possible at reduced salary, or take repairs and crop on very reasonable terms. Good references furnished; address P. H. E. FINGERER, 724 Fern street, New Orleans. 5-10-99

WANTED—A middle-aged German man for yard and to make himself generally useful. Address Mrs. J. L. DARRAGH, Justice Plantation, Centerville, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position on a sugar plantation as blacksmith, wheelwright and horse-shoer; address SIDNEY G. ROUSSELL, Edgard, La. 5-1-99

WANTED—Any sugar planter requiring the services of a competent and sober mechanical engineer, with references, will please address ENGINEER, No. 4721 Magazine street, New Orleans, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper, overseer, clerk or general office or store work. Can give the best of city and outside references; address A. H. NOENINGER, care of Room 206, Board of Trade Building, New Orleans. 4-28-99

WANTED—Position as assistant chemist, book-keeper or time-keeper, by young man, aged 24, college graduate. Have done some work in sugar analysis. Have some knowledge of German; address Box 83, State College, Pa. 4-28-99

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as manager or assistant; address MANAGER H. A., care General Delivery, New Orleans. 5-3-99

WANTED—A position as superintendent or head sugar maker, by a man of large experience, either in plantation sugar house or sugar refinery. Can furnish good references. Would prove a valuable and all-around faithful man in any sugar house. Address P. R., care Louisiana Planter. 4-28-99

WANTED—Position by an all-around handy man: can do carpentry, painting, milk cows and make himself useful about a place. First-class references; address CHAS. TREPAIGNIER, 1426 St. Ann street, New Orleans. 4-21-99

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 references. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LELER, care M. E. Sepp, 2583 8th Avenue, New York. 4-14-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-18-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 423 to 436 South Peters st. 4-18-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or assistant time keeper. "GEO.", care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartartia, Texas. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class references, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gillis of Poydras plantation, and others; address Mrs. S. TERRELLE, 2221 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, around machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, Thibodaux, La. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fletel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give A 1 references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHEF ENGINEER, Lucher, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-9-99

WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

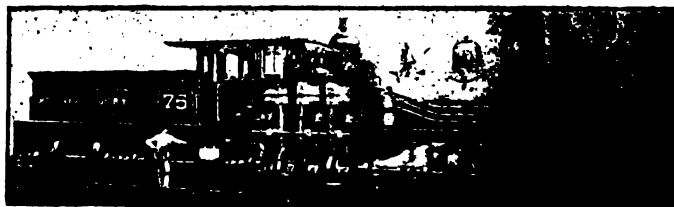
WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 2-28-99

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Mr. G. S. Pierson, formerly the purchasing agent of the American Sugar Refining Co., has assumed the management of the Anniston Lime & Stone Co. in New Orleans and Louisiana. All mail orders or inquiries addressed to the Anniston Lime & Stone Co., No. 106 Board of Trade Building, New Orleans, La., will receive prompt attention. Shipment in car load and less than car load lots can be made at a moment's notice. Long Distance Telephone No. 2261-12.

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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,
A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

Vol. XXII.

NEW ORLEANS, MAY 27, 1899.

No. 21.

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AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

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Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
Louisiana Sugar Chemists' Association,
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Texas Sugar Planters' Association.*

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branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chem-
ical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	105 00	140 00
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May Weather in St. James.

Mr. E. Cherbonnier, of Helvetia plantation, St. James parish, who is quite a meteorological student, has given the Planter some data concerning the weather during the first half of May, which accounts for the rapid progress that the cane crop has been making thus far this month. The low temperature that prevailed during April interfered more seriously than most persons think with the development of the cane crop, the vitality of which was already seriously depressed by the direct and indirect influences of the great freeze of February. Had we had hot weather earlier in the season the marked improvement that we now have would have been more conspicuous, but of course we must take it as it comes.

During the first sixteen days of May the maximum temperature exceeded 90 degrees F. Every day after May 3, to 16th inclusive, recording a maximum above 90 degrees F., with one day, the 13th, at 98 degrees F., the 14th at 96 F., four days at 95 F., four days at 94 F., three at 92 F., and one at 91 degrees F. The average maximum for these sixteen days was about 93.5 degrees F.

The other side of this somewhat favorable picture, however, is scarcely so pleasant. We find that the average minimum temperature for these sixteen days was but 65 3/4 degrees F. 71 degrees F., minimum, was recorded on the 12th and 70 degrees F. on the 15th, with the first, second and third at 61 degrees, 62 degrees and 62 degrees F., respectively. As the nights have since grown warmer, the minimum averaging higher, the latter half of May will make a better show than the first half.

The prevailing winds were from the South, with considerable fog, some few clouds, but no rain.

As sugar cane effects very little growth below 60 degrees F., we have

thus shown to us in these figures the cause of the backwardness of the crop up to the present time. The present warmer weather, we may hope, will redeem the situation, but the redemption comes at such late dates as to have allowed quite a fraction of the cane crop to perish before the vegetation processes were stimulated into action.

The Latent Life in Sugar Cane.

The warmer weather of the last two or three weeks has occasioned some queer phenomena in the matter of the growth of sugar cane. One of these was mentioned by our Iberville correspondent in the issue of the Planter of May 20, in the reference to a cane sent by Mr. Edwin Marionneaux, of Belfort plantation, to the Iberville South. This was a stalk of sugar cane planted in 1898 which had two eyes that sprouted only this year. Two eyes of this stalk grew last year, producing two fine stalks of cane, and the two eyes that sprouted this year would have doubtless produced good canes also but for Mr. Marionneaux's sending the plant into the office of the Iberville South as a curiosity.

There are traditions of this kind all over Louisiana, that is that sugar cane will lie dormant, some eyes retaining their vitality until the second year and sprouting at that time. The case under consideration would seem to be indisputable.

In another column in this issue will be found a letter from East Baton Rouge, written by a well known gentleman who is a positive authority on the subject matters of which he treats, and the careful statement made by him as to the longevity of certain canes planted for the crop of 1898 and lying dormant until the season of 1899 we put on record as specific and conclusive datum concerning this moot question. The instances cited hitherto have been ordi-

narily referred to as curiosities of vegetation, whereas now we find through the observation and investigation of a professional scientist that this latent life in sugar cane is a fact. Possibly it might account to some extent for the very rapid development of the cane crop during the last few weeks.

Another Trust.

A report to the Associated Press from Chicago is to the effect that 80 per cent. of the plow business of this country has given options to Ex-Judge Wm. A. Vincent of Chicago for the formation of a plow trust. It is stated that the U. S. Mortgage and Trust Co., of New York, is furnishing the money and that Messrs. Alexander and Green of the same city are representing the eastern end of the enterprise. Deere & Co., of Moline, Ill., and the Rock Island Plow Co., have given options. It is reported that the Bradley Mfg. Co., Parlin & Orlendorf Plow Co., Satley Mfg. Co., Pekin Plow Co., and quite a number of others, including the Avery Plow Co., of Louisville, Ky., have given these options, and the new company is to be called the American Plow Co., and to be organized under the laws of New Jersey. It is explained by Mr. Charles H. Deere, the veteran plow manufacturer, that it is not the intention of the combination to increase prices, but, on the contrary, it is the intention of the company to materially reduce prices to the consumer, and that this can be done because of the great saving in the cost of distribution and freight rates. Nous verrons.

The Cane Crop.

The lack of sufficient rainfall is now the untoward feature of the crop situation. While in a number of localities showers have fallen, doing great good in the spots they favored, the majority of the plantations are badly in need of moisture, although the cane is still holding up exceedingly well. The stubble still continues to be heard from, sprouts appearing every day from it, although it is now almost the first of June. Whether or not these belated suckers will make cane of any satisfac-

tory length for the mill will depend entirely on the favorable or unfavorable nature of the season, but they cannot fail to be of more or less value as seed cane, and it is encouraging to find so much latent life in the ratoons after their severe and unusual experience of last winter.

Centralblatt fur die Zukerindustrie.

This well known German beet sugar journal has dropped the last two words of its former name, der Veldt, and will now appear regularly under the above title. Since April first it is owned by a society of sugar manufacturers, Verlagsanstalt fur Zukerindustrie at Madgeburg, and will unquestionably maintain its high place in our current sugar literature.

Industrial Chemistry.

The McMillan Company, of New York, have recently published *Outlines of Industrial Chemistry*, a text book for students by Frank Hall Thorp, Ph. D., instructor in industrial chemistry in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Thorp has dedicated this excellent work to the memory of Lewis Mills Norton, professor of industrial chemistry during nine years in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Since the publication of Wagner's *Chemical Technology* many years ago we believe that there has been no publication devoted to industrial chemistry that surpasses this work of Dr. Thorp's in its accuracy and the exhaustive method in which it treats the various branches of industrial chemistry that are now in such high repute throughout the industrial world and so essential to all progress along industrial lines. The book is divided into two parts, part one treating Inorganic Industries and part two Organic Industries.

Under the head of Inorganic Industry are considered distillation, sublimation, filtration, crystallization, calcination, refrigeration; the composition, characteristics, uses and incidental processes with fuels, water sulphur, sulphuric acid, salt, hydrochloric acid; the soda industry; the chlorine industry; nitric acid, ammonia; the potash industry; fertilizers; lime, cement and plaster; glass; ceramic industries; pigments; bromine and iodine; phosphorous; boris acid; arsenic compounds, water glass peroxides, oxygen, sulphates, manganates, cyanides, etc.

Under the head of Organic Industries are considered the destructive distillation of wood and bones; the manufacture of gas, coal tar mineral oils, vegetable and animal oils, waxes, soap, candles, glycerine, essen-

tial oils, and gums. Considerable space is given to a group of organic products closely related and including the sugar industry, viz., starch, dextrine and glucose. Cane sugar with the discussion of the processes of its manufacture from sugar cane and beets and the modern method of sugar refining. This part of the work is included in some 30 octavo pages and is of interest to every one connected with the sugar industry, giving the latest authoritative expression of chemical investigations.

The fermentation industries are very elaborately considered, covering the discussion of a process of fermentation and its application to wine and in brewing, as well as to the distillation of alcohol and the manufacture of all kinds of liquors.

Explosives have some fifteen pages devoted to them.

The textile industries, in teaching which the Massachusetts Institute of Technology excels, have some sixty pages devoted to them, covering the subject heads of fibres, bleaching, moordants, coloring matters, dyeing and textile printing.

The paper, leather and glue industries are also considered. The book contains some 540 pages and can be procured from the McMillan Co., New York. The price is \$3.50.

Correction.

In our issue of May 13, was a communication on Florida as a sugar producer, written by Mr. W. W. Davis, of Midland, Fla., and by a typographical error Mr. Davis' name was signed Mr. W. W. Danis.

Trade Notes.

New Regrinding Swing Check Valve.

Herewith is illustrated a swing check valve that the manufacturers consider has some desirable points that merit its favorable consideration, they being in the line of improvement. It is simple, efficient and warranted to be tight. The re-grinding is quickly accomplished at any time by unscrewing the cap B from the shell A, inserting screw-driver into the slot E and



rotating the disk back and forth with a lit-sand and water until a proper bearing is obtained. The disk rotates freely in the neck of rock lever F, and as the movements of the disk within the lever are all free, the seating of the same should always be true and perfectly tight. The valve works well either in a horizontal or vertical position.

Superintendents, engineers and others interested are invited to send for an illustrated catalogue containing a full description of the above and other brass goods, which will be sent postpaid to any address by the manufacturers.—The Wm. Powell Co., 2525 Spring Grove Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The drouth has been broken to some extent in this parish, local showers of varying volume having occurred now and then during the past ten days, but in most localities the precipitation has been entirely inadequate to the general need, while even the most favored spots have none of them been visited by a superabundance of moisture. Donaldsonville and its immediate vicinity is one of the least lucky localities, the precipitation here having been scarcely sufficient to lay the dust effectually, though there have been three showers since the 14th inst. A fine downpour blessed the lower portion of the parish on Monday, filling the ditches on Riverside and adjoining plantations with water, and the consequent measure of benefit to the growing crops will be very great.

There has been no material change in the agricultural situation or prospects recently. Some plantations have a very fair outlook, and in rare instances an expectation of coming near last year's tonnage is entertained; some other places will do little more than produce seed for the big planting of 1900 which is generally anticipated, while still others—and this class constitutes a considerable majority of the whole—look for cane yields ranging from thirty to sixty per cent of those of 1898.

The death of Louisiana's two largest sugar planters—Hon. Wm. Porcher Miles and Mr. Leon Godchaux—just a week apart, was a notable coincidence, and one that has produced the profoundest regret among all classes of people in the sugar district.

No tribute too glowing or eloquent could be paid to the life and character of Mr. Miles, and The Planter's editorial but briefly expressed the universal esteem and admiration in which this "typical Southern gentleman of the old school" was held by all who knew him. The following extracts from The Donaldsonville Chief's sketch of his career will doubtless possess special interest for many of your readers, the estate referred to being the plantations bequeathed by John Burnside to Oliver Beirne, and by the latter in turn to his grandchildren, the children of Mr. Miles:

"The successful management of this extensive estate by Hon. Wm. Porcher Miles has furnished conspicuous evidence of his great business capacity and executive ability. Though he had had no previous experience in sugar planting he was a good judge of men and surrounded himself with a corps of managers and employes whose competency and skill will compare favorably with those of any in the sugar section of Louisiana. Among the leading improvements effected on the property under his administration may be mentioned the erection of the New Hope fac-

tory in 1883, and of the Houmas central factory in 1893; the opening up of Rearwood's five hundred fertile acres; the reclamation of the Armant and St. James plantations, which had greatly deteriorated in condition and productiveness; the building of back and side levees to afford protection from overflow, and the general raising of the standard and value of all the plantations operated by the Miles Planting and Manufacturing Company. He rapidly mastered the principles and details of the business, and was quick to adopt the most improved methods of scientific cultivation, drainage, fertilization, chemical analysis and all the advanced ideas now in vogue.

The death of Mr. Miles will necessitate no changes in the administration of the affairs of the Miles Company. His son, Dr. W. P. Miles, has been the active manager of the property during the past three years, and those most familiar with his character and ability have the fullest confidence that he will prove in all respects a capable and worthy successor of his distinguished father."

Mr. Leon Godchaux, pre-eminent among Louisiana sugar planters as a self-made man and the largest owner of sugar-producing property, was also quite closely identified with this parish as the proprietor of both town and country property. The first piece of real estate he ever owned is a vacant lot on Railroad avenue, in Donaldsonville, which he retained until his death, refusing for sentimental reasons to part with it, and a valuable store building and lot in the most eligible business portion of the same town is a part of the large estate he leaves to his estimable family.

The death of such men as Wm. Porcher Miles and Leon Godchaux is indeed a public calamity, and in no portion of Louisiana is their loss more keenly felt than in

ASCENSION.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Your correspondent is now of the opinion that the crops in this immediate section, which have not been visited by rain since the 18th of March, are beginning to show signs of suffering, though they have held out thus far very well. It is apparent that they have ceased to grow with any appreciable rapidity, and are crisping slightly from the rays of the sun, which are now rapidly growing warmer with the coming of each new day.

A slight shower visited this (Franklin) portion of the parish last Monday, but was very light and short, and being followed the next day by a sultry sun, its effect was almost entirely lost. But your correspondent has been informed that a heavy rain has fallen during the last few days, beginning at Mr. W. J. Foester's Alice C. plantation, and continuing on down the Bayou Teche for some distance, which is lined with some of

the most valuable sugar plantations in St. Mary; and that several rains have fallen in the upper part of the parish, around the towns of Baldwin, Charenton, Sorrel, etc., and that the crops in those portions are off for the season, with very promising results.

The Cote Blanche plantation, owned by Mr. Walter J. Suthon, which was advertised to be sold on April 22nd of this year, and which was not sold, owing to the height at which the appraisement was placed, to-wit: \$96,000, was re-advertised to be sold last Saturday, and was, accordingly, sold to Messrs. Moise Bloch and Louis Levy both of this parish, on a twelve months' bond for the sum of \$35,000, assuming the payment of certain privileged claims against some machinery, making the purchase price, in the aggregate, about \$40,000. Both the purchasers are dry goods merchants, and have been in business in the parish for thirty odd years; but were never actively interested in the production of sugar cane until now. Cote Blanche will be managed by the new owners, with Messrs. J. T. Johnson and Henderson Doty, two competent and experienced planters, as overseers. This place was a heavy loser from the freeze of last winter, amounting to cane sufficient to plant 200 acres; but beyond this shortage it has five hundred acres, two hundred of which are plant; it has, also, three hundred acres of corn, and the crop, as a general thing, is in splendid and very satisfactory condition.

It is said that Cote Blanche is the first sugar plantation in the State that ever operated the vacuum pan, the one in use there being built of copper, for the manufacture of starch in one of the Northern cities; the same pan is yet on the plantation, and in use.

The South Bend plantation, situated in the lower Bayou Sale district, and belonging to the heirs of the late James C. Mahon, who died a few weeks ago, and his wife, surviving partner in community, was sold a few days ago to Mr. John R. Todd, the present owner of the Elleslie place, adjacent to it. The price paid was \$35,000, the vendor paying all expenses incurred in the raising of the crop up to the time of purchase. The Elleslie and South Bend combined, will make a large sugar plantation, and South Bend has a mill capable of producing all the cane both place are capable of producing.

Secretary Wilson passed through this parish some days ago, after having visited several extensive sugar estates around New Orleans. A few persons gathered at the depot to see him pass through, but the sugar planters being without organization for such purposes in this parish, did not have him stop over as might have been possible had they known of his intention of passing through this end of the sugar belt in time to rightly prepare for the same. It would have been a great pleasure to the sugar planters of this parish to have had the chief of the Department of Agriculture get down among them and go over some of the great plantations and factories that mark the course of the Teche; but they can, at least, hope that a sufficient influence and satisfaction has been created by Mr. Wilson's visit here to strengthen the cause of sugar at the Nation's Capital.

ST. MARY.

Dr. H. J. Sanders, of St. Mary Parish, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. Dr. Sanders has a pretty good crop, comparatively speaking, and if proper cultivation can turn a medium crop into a big one the Doctor is the man to do the business.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather is still too dry. Several localities were visited by light showers this week, but it has been more than a month since the greater part of the parish has seen rain, and with the thermometer ranging up in the 90's every day, the crops are suffering, in fact a good part of the cane is dying out, and it is hardly as promising as it was four weeks since. Planters are bringing the dirt up to the cane hoping thereby to retain some moisture in the ground. About one-fourth of the corn has been laid by, and peas in some places are up to a stand, but even for them a good rain is needed.

The George M. Murrell P. & M. Co., Ltd., of Bayou Goula, having more land for corn than their plantations require, are putting the rear part of St. Mary and part of Tally Ho in rice. An area of about 300 acres has been planted. These lands have in years gone by produced fine crops, and we believe the present season will be no exception, although the rice is a little late.

We were pleased last week to observe a splendid stand of rice on the Limerick plantation in West Baton Rouge. The crop belongs to Messrs. Berthelot Bros., of St. Gabriel, in this parish, who are letting their Ophelia place rest this year.

In company with that clever manager, Mr. Ell Laville, we rode over Evergreen's fields last Sunday. This plantation has had numerous heavy blows lately and it required a man of Mr. Laville's energy and perseverance not to become discouraged. The wet winter, the freeze, the cyclone and lastly the loss of over 60 acres of the finest land and the moving back of eleven buildings in the midst of the cultivating season, were sufficient to overwhelm any manager, but Mr. Laville goes steadily on with the determination of making as much sugar as last year, and may he succeed. There are on Evergreen, 160 acres of plant cane, and excepting about 25 the stand is almost perfect. In stubbles are 270 acres, some of which are fairly good, but lack of favorable rains has apparently reduced the stubble crop one-fourth below what it promised in April. About 230 acres are planted in corn, which though late is up to a full stand. Last week Mr. Laville harvested a fine patch of oats which will save a good hay bill. Evergreen's seed cane was no better than the average, and many wonder why it came out so well. Mr. Laville attributes it to the careful and thorough manner in which the land was prepared. In fact he says the man who tried to economize by cutting down labor, plowmen as well as hoemen, made a serious mistake. The present crop has required more coaxing, at it were, and particularly hoe work than any preceeding it. Mr. Laville's crop was scrupulously clean.

The delinquent tax list was published last

Saturday by the sheriff, and we are pleased to observe that it is shorter than usual, and that none of the names of our planters or farmers appear thereon. At his final settlement with the auditor, Sheriff Browne's returns will be very close to the 100 per cent line.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The drouth that has prevailed in this parish for some time past was broken yesterday by what seems to have been a general rain throughout the parish. Prior to this rain the condition of the crops had become quite serious, and some damage has undoubtedly been done by the long dry spell. In black land the smaller stalks of cane had begun to die; some had died and others were beginning to look sickly. In plant as well as stubble the mother cane lacked vitality, hence the weakness of the later and smaller shoots. As incredible as it may seem (considering the fact that the first of June is close at hand) new canes are coming out daily from stubble as well as plant. Indeed, it is generally believed that had a good soaking rain fallen a month ago there would be considerably more cane in the field. Still yesterday's shower was worth thousands of dollars and was heartily welcomed by everybody. Corn was almost at a standstill, and, in some sections, dying.

As to the cane crop, the situation here seems to have improved to the extent that all the planters, with one possible exception, will at least make enough seed for next year. As was stated in this correspondence some time since, four or five factories will probably make short runs—one of them expects to grind about a month. The majority of the plantations will not turn a wheel, but will put down their entire crop for seed. Instead of making 28,000,000 or 30,000,000 pounds of sugar, the output of West Baton Rouge this year will hardly exceed 5,000,000—a tremendous falling off.

If the partial annihilation of the cane crop by the terrible freeze of Feb. 11-13 has any compensating advantage, it can only be found in the fact that much land that has heretofore been successively planted in cane and thus, to a certain extent, exhausted, will be rejuvenated this year under the stimulus of a change to corn and peas. The acreage devoted to corn is full twice as large as usual, and with anything like a fair season from now on, the largest crop ever grown in this parish will be harvested.

These are hard times for everybody in the sugar district, but particularly for the field hands, who have been unable to obtain one-half of the work that has been so abundant in former years. Some planters suspended work several weeks ago, owing to the drouth; other planters have reduced their field forces to a comparatively small number of men, retaining only these with

families. The discharged laborers and the "self-croppers," in order to live have gone into the swamps and picked moss, which they sell to the local stores at about one cent per pound. But for this source of revenue many of them would have fared badly. Despite various drawbacks—and every state has some—who will assert that Louisiana is not a great commonwealth, when men out of employment may pick money from the trees with no one to say them nay?

As a result of yesterday's rain, the weather this (Wednesday) morning is very cool and suggestive of early autumn. The old inhabitants are predicting an abundance of rain next month—at least, for

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Although the precipitations have not been general and copious, yet local showers have fallen in different parts of the parish and proved of benefit to the crops of cane and corn and supplied sufficient moisture in places to sprout the peas. A general rain to thoroughly saturate the soil would be gladly welcomed by all as the water supply has become very scant and on many places recourse is had to the water in the bayous. The crops are doing as well as could be expected after a month of dry weather. The corn crop will be somewhat curtailed if copious rains do not fall in the near future. On Friday afternoon there was a wind and rain storm of some duration which passed over the major portion of Southdown and Hollywood, the estate of the late Hon. H. C. Minor, also Concord, of Col. Wm. Minor, and a portion of the lands below on the Bayou Black as far as Flora, of Mr. C. W. Bocage. On Monday the showers in the morning and afternoon were lighter but extended over different sections.

It is now a foregone conclusion that the ratoons will be thin in many places and to seed the field, with peas will prove of great benefit to the land for the coming year, particularly, if the ground is to be planted in cane.

The shortage in the plant cane acreage this spring will necessitate large fall and spring plantings to insure a large output of sugar next year. Now that it is certain that there will be another short crop in Cuba will be a strong inducement for the planters of the state to largely increase the output of sugar in the next two or three years. When the affairs on the island become settled, the agriculture of the cane in Cuba will be materially changed for the better, owing to more favorable conditions.

Although the young canes are small for the season, if the planters have seasonable rains and no excessive precipitations the crop will be laid by with the land in excellent condition and stalk elongation should

be very rapid. Judge Callonet is holding court but there are no cases of public interest on the docket. The health of Mr. C. B. Maginnis has continued to improve since his return from the city.

Wednesday of last week, partially cloudy; Thursday, fog in the morning, favorable later; Friday, local rain; Saturday and Sunday, cloudy and warm; Monday, local rains; Tuesday, distant thunder and cloudy; and Wednesday morning, fair with but little indication of rain.

TERREBONNE.

New Iberia.

The crops everywhere are an agreeable surprise to the farmers and planters, who had expected that there would be very little of either stubble or plant cane this year. As a general rule the stands of plant cane are as fine as anyone could wish it although the cane is small. Stubble is very good in some localities and poor in others. While there is no doubt but that the tonnage of cane will be somewhat short this year the competition for it may make up for the want of tonnage, and the extraction of sugar, may, and probably will be such that the sugar crop of the state will be larger than it was last year.

Cotton is several inches above the ground, and generally stands are good.

What rice we have seen shows excellent stands, and we believe, the acreage is larger than usual. The acreage of corn is also greater; both of these increases in acreage is largely due to the plowing up of poor stubble.

The prospect for crops this year are good and, added to this is the good news that from 15,000 to 20,000 sacks of rice will be milled in this city for the first time in its history.

We feel that the fall, winter, next spring months will be busy ones in New Iberia.—Iberian, May 13.

Vermillion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has continued dry since the 22nd of last month until to-day at about 10 o'clock A. M., when a most magnificent shower fell, and now at this writing, 4 o'clock P. M., a steady rain is falling and it bids fair to give us plenty before it holds up. The crops had begun to suffer some for rain, but not to any great extent. Early corn and cane was needing rain, but late corn and cotton seemed to be growing nicely. The crops in general are in a first class condition for rain. Farmers have worked over their crops from two to three times since the rain of April 22nd, just one month ago. Cane is looking nicely notwithstanding the dry weather. Stubble cane is not doing so well, but plant is fine. The cane belt of Vermillion parish has the finest plant cane that we have seen this spring. It is far

ahead of any cane along the Teche as far east as Patterson. There is a better stand and the plant looks stronger and larger. We noticed a few days ago while driving over the Sterling plantation of the Caffery Central Sugar Refinery, which is located just across Bayou Teche, east from their refinery at Franklin, that the cane was being destroyed by an insect. Mr. L. Forsyth, Jr., the efficient superintendent of the refinery told the Planter correspondent that those insects had been attacking his cane for several weeks, and pointed out some places where the cane had been completely destroyed for twenty-five and thirty feet on a row and several rows together. This pest has not as yet made its appearance in our cane fields. The corn crop is very fine and all that it needs to make it an enormous crop is a good season. The cotton crop is not so good, in fact the acreage of early plant is very short; late plant is just coming up and some of it has not come up yet. Seed was very scarce after the first planting, consequently the general acreage will be shorter than was expected. The rice crop is very promising. Irrigated rice was never finer at this season of the year, but providence rice is needing a little rain; however, most of the crop is irrigated. Mr. R. H. Mills has about completed his canal and will be ready to flood lands along the line of the same in a very few days. The prospects for a good rice crop are very flattering.

Mr. O. M. Nilson, the president of the Vermillion Sugar Company, Limited, spent a few days in Vermillion the past week. Mr. Nilson was accompanied by H. H. Youree and T. Alexander of Shreveport, who were prospecting in this section.

Mr. L. VonTreskow, manager of the Lafayette Sugar Refinery, Limited, was looking after the interests of his firm in Vermillion the latter part of last week.

There is a current report around here that there will be quite a number of cane buyers in the Vermillion territory this season. The shortage of cane is bringing those extra bidders in. The cane grower is looking out for the best price for his cane, but at the same time he is inclined to give the preference to the refinery that has been taking care of his cane every year and that will stay with him and take it next year. It will be easy enough to sell cane this year, but the buyers next year will not be so numerous. P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

While the growing crops throughout this part of the country have received the most careful attention and cultivation at the hands of the planters, prospects are not, owing to the extreme dry weather, as favorable as they should be at this date in the season.

I find that corn wherever planted and growing on lands highly fertilized, has not

suffered to the extent that the crops have on poor or thin soils. Such is also the case in respect to cotton and cane. All fertilized and well-tilled soils hold the moisture longer than the thin, worn, half cultivated ground does.

Sec'y Wilson in his talk before the last sugar planters' meeting, spoke some excellent words of advice on the subject of fertilizing the soil, how to feed for manure, etc., which if taken would no doubt lead to improved conditions, with better crops at less expense and in the end better times for those who cultivate the soil for a living.

Cane continues to grow and improve, but not as well as it would if rain could be had. But comparing with the same date last year, from my notes taken at that time, I am inclined to think that the cane has not suffered as much for lack of moisture this season as it did in 1898. While not sure, it may be urged that the cane is young yet and not as much advanced as it was at this date a year past, which together with the constant stirring of the soil has tended to measurably keep the young canes growing.

I have been informed that Barbreck's manager, Mr. H. Shaw, finding his fields becoming too dry for obtaining the best results in the growth of the crops on the plantation, raised steam a week past, and started the pumps to throwing water into the irrigating ditches for watering the growing crops of corn, cotton and cane on the plantation. What success he met with, I have not to-date been able to learn, but I will make it a point to learn something more about the Barbreck irrigating plant, its success and results, and at the first opportunity report the facts as I find them.

Late advices from Rapides are to the effect that while cane is growing and suckering, it would do much better and improve in growing if rain could be had to moisten the hot, dry soil.

The crops in the vicinity of Lamourie, Le-compte, Meeker, Lloyd and Cheneyville, are said to be promising but needing rain. The planters in the neighborhood of Bunkie also speak of needing rain. Leinster, Evergreen, Cottonport and other points and places in this parish would feel overjoyed at the sight of rain falling on growing cane, corn and cotton.

In taking notes on the wing some days past, I was not only surprised, but delighted to find at various points, beautiful plots of growing alfalfa. Hon. A. B. Irion, Esq. P. O., has some acres on his fine place, which presents a beautiful appearance worth a long walk to see.

Passing through the Powhontas plantation some days ago on the train, looking from the car window, I saw some fields and cuts of very promising cane. The manager, Mr. C. G. Fusilier, has from my point of observation, his field and growing crop in the best of good shape.

To be sure rain would be beneficial to all crops; corn in particular. The corn crop was cut short last year on account of the May drought, and unless it rains at an early date, like results will follow this season.

Cotton is young yet, and is a hot and dry weather plant. However, there are some of our best farmers who seem to think that the cotton plant and the ground in which it is growing would respond to the beneficial effect of rain at this time.

As I go to mail this morning, there are, if all appearances are true, better indications for rain than we have had for many days.

ERIN,

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Havana.

Havana, May 23rd, 1899.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Advices of a recent decline of prices in London and New York caused buyers at this place to withdraw from the market and as holders are reluctant to make concessions in prices, business transacted during the week has been unimportant and sales add up only 10 to 12 thousand bags Centrifugals, at from 2.87½ to 2.95 cts per pound for 95-96 test, and about 2,000 bags molasses sugars, 88-89 test, at from 2.37½ to 2.47½ cts. per pound.

Stocks in first hands are quite reduced, receipts from the county having almost ceased and only small parcels occasionally coming in.

A small number of plantations in the Sagua la Grande district are still grinding and will most likely complete their crop towards the end of this month; the cane yield having been smaller than anticipated, the total production in that locality will hardly amount to 200,000, instead of 250,000, as anticipated at the commencement.

A certain number of planters have begun to prepare their fields for planting them as soon as possible and on this account it is expected that 1899-1900 crop will be rather larger at Sagua than this year's.

The districts of Sagua la Grande and Cienfuegos are thus far the only ones in which planters seem to have realized the idea that something ought to be done in order to be able to obtain next year a paying crop.

Factory "Guayabo," at Sagua, came very near being totally destroyed by fire, last week, the machinery buildings being saved through great exertion, but all the balance, comprising the warehouses, stores, etc., were burned to the ground; the fire was communicated to the cane fields of which several were also destroyed before the flames could be subdued.

It is reported that the grand central factory "Lugareno," at Minas, province of Porto Principe, has just been sold, to an American syndicate for \$800,000 United States currency, the purchasers to take charge of said factory, after the taking off of this year's crop.

Another American company has made propositions for the purchase of central factory "San Miguel," at Porto del Padre, in the same province as above and the transaction has not as yet been closed owing to a difference in price, for while the owner, Sr. Francisco Pla Picabin, wants \$1,500,000 for his plantation, buyers' offer does not exceed \$1,200,000; but owing to the strong desire to come to a fair understanding, it is likely that the question will soon be settled in a satisfactory manner.

It is probable that new sales of sugar factories will soon be reported, owing to the

recent arrival at this place of the representative of a powerful New York syndicate.

Planter's creditors, who do not accept the two year extension given to Cuban planters by President McKinley's last decree, for settling accounts with parties holding mortgages on their properties, have just held a grand meeting in which resolutions were passed to the effect of protesting in the most energetic manner against said order which they denounce as a flagrant violation of the clauses stipulated in the treaty of Paris and they have accordingly appointed four commissioners who shall go to Washington and endeavor to obtain from the president the revocation of his order.

On the other side, the members of the Planters' Board also held a meeting and appointed a commission whose members are to meet a creditors' committee of a similar nature and discuss with them the basis for an arrangement or compromise that will satisfy all parties and were this to be possible, it is anticipated that the mortgage holders upon Cuban estates would relinquish their idea of sending special commissioners to Washington.

Several small gangs of outlaws have appeared recently at several places in this province and in the neighboring one of Pinar del Rio and Matanzas. Squads of American cavalry and rural guards are pursuing them.

The Isle of Pines is about 60 miles from the coast of Cuba and directly south of Havana; its area is about 50 miles wide, by 70 miles long and its highest elevation, in the central part, about 1,500 feet above the level of the sea. It is noted for its springs of magnesia and iron hot and cold water, which is used for bathing and drinking and contains several medicinal properties, especially for stomach troubles.

Though very abundant in pine trees, from which it takes its name, there is also an extraordinary growth of mahogany, cedar, oak, ebony, lignum vitae and many other valuable woods, which have never as yet been brought to avail.

All the tropical fruits are in a like manner grown on this isle, the soil of which is also fit for producing good tobacco and sugar cane. Abundant deposits of granite and white and colored marble are found in its hilly regions and as water and grass are both plentiful and of excellent quality, cattle breeding, if undertaken on an extensive scale, would be a paying business, as there are on its coasts several large harbors, which might be converted, at a small expense into good shipping ports.

It was almost impossible that so many advantages should not have attracted American capitalists' attention and I am informed that several have already either purchased or leased large tracts of land, whereon they contemplate to develop an important farming, quarrying and cattle breeding business.

T. D.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, May 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to advices of weaker prices in England and a quieter demand in the United States, buyers at this place have withdrawn

from the market and only a few sales were closed for speculators' accounts, at from 2.96 to 3-02½ cts. per lb. for 96 test, sellers steadily upholding their former pretension of 3 cts. per lb. for aforesaid grade.

According to Mr. Guma's last statement, the total production to April 31st, adds up 232,003 tons, against 271,506 tons same date last year, which shows a decrease of 39,503 tons for this year.

Factory "Narcisa," at Yaguajay, whose accustomed output generally ranged between 80,000 or 100,000 bags up to the 10th inst., had produced only 22,000 bags and can as yet dispose of a quantity of cane sufficient to manufacture about 8,000 more.

Cane fires continue to be occasionally reported, the last one having occurred on Tenancy "Siboney," at Santa Ana in the province of Matanzas, on which some 50,000 arrobes of standing cane were burnt to such an extent that the greater part is utterly unfit for sugar manufacture.

There is as yet no visible sign towards the renewal of labor in the fields for the next crop.

The question of aiding Cuban industries has commenced to assume a more definite shape, and during the past week large purchases of lands and other properties have been registered, an increase of confidence being noticed on all sides. It is said that owing to better prevailing feelings an American Co., "The Fidelity and Deposit Company," of Maryland, contemplates to establish a branch office in this city and intends to apply part of its large capital to loans to planters, to furnish security bonds for executors, trustees, administrators, guardians, receivers, assignors, or in replevin attachment cases and to contractors, United States officials, officers of fraternal societies and employes of banks, corporations and mercantile establishments. Were this company willing and able to furnish money on easy terms, it is certain that it might soon control a large amount of business on this island where so many sources of wealth are as yet unproductive for want of money to duly exploit them.

It is a well-known fact that a special extra duty is imposed in the United States on all sugars which directly or indirectly are favored in the countries they proceed from, with certain privileges. The extra duty they are subjected to is equivalent to the bounty granted them and thence the name of countervailing duty applied to it. In as much as the importance of the bounty varies according to the changes experienced by the industry and amendments in the fiscal legislation, the countervailing duty also varies in equal proportions and on this account the American Government now and then alters said duty, and the last alteration in same is rather recent since it began to rule on January 1st of this year.

An interesting study is that of the effect exercised in the importation of sugars by these countervailing duties in the United States, and the comparison of the importation of sugars favored with bounties, with

that of the produce that does not enjoy such a privilege, and as all extra duties are paid by importers, it is logical that refiners in the United States prefer to acquire sugars that are subjected to no drawback, or in plainer terms, cane sugar instead of the beet produce.

Importations for the four last years, compare as follows:

	1895 Tons.	1896 Tons.	1897 Tons.	1898 Tons.
Austria—	2,511	27,459	41,782	1,177
Belgium—	8,538	45,362	55,980	.....
Germany—	86,307	435,694	570,134	224,962
Holland—	2,390	3,722	43,491	9,166
France—	.....	.....	1,194	8
Rest of Europe—	4	10,918	.....	.....
Cuba—	944,403	210,297	240,814	292,604
Philippines—	42,779	63,507	18,637	30,563
Other Countries—	657,289	1,158,393	1,078,571	1,155,134
	1,744,221	1,955,422	2,050,603	1,713,611

Russia the Argentine Republic, Denmark and Holland do not appear in above tabular statement among the bounty paying nations, or appear with the insignificant quantity of only 10,722 tons in 1896, and among cane sugars that enjoy the privilege of the bounty are comprised a few thousand tons of Argentine produce.

At first sight, it is perceptible that the importation of sugars that do not enjoy a bounty is much larger than that of those enjoying this concession, and the difference in 1895, the last year normal crop was taken off on this island is enormous, since of the 1,744,221 tons consumed in the United States, during that year, 944,493 proceeded from Cuba, whilst the total amount from all other countries was only of 799,728 tons, equivalent to more than half of the total imports during said year.

In the following year, owing to the insurrection, the result was entirely different, only 210,297 tons of Cuban sugars were imported into the United States, against 523,225 from Europe and receipts from other countries attained 1,158,393 tons, against 657,289 tons in 1895. Imports from Europe continued increasing in 1897, until the month of July, when the compensative active duty was enforced and receipts from Europe commenced to decline steadily until 1898, in which year they only amounted to 253,310 tons, against 712,581 tons in 1897.

Had peace prevailed in this island, our sugar manufacturers should have certainly been the first ones to benefit to a considerable extent from the advantages of the countervailing extra duty in the United States and the Cuban production should have attained larger proportions than ever.

Among the injuries caused by the war, besides the destruction of crops, buildings, machinery and whole plantations, the loss of control over our natural market and the development of the sugar industry in rival countries must also be reckoned, and many years are as yet to elapse before our sugar manufacturing interest retrieves its former greatness and prosperity and this with so much more reason that there is at yet no perceptible sign that may impart to us the belief that efforts are being made to remedy the evils caused by the war.

T. D.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The week under review opened with most desirable springlike weather, but in spite of the commencement of May, it closed with a rather wintry aspect, on account of frosts and snowfalls which had set in after a couple of cold, rainy and altogether inclement days and whilst in the first part of the week, field-work advanced satisfactorily and in some sections the young beets also began to appear above ground, in both these respects a rude interruption has taken place since Tuesday. There are few places only where beet sowing is finished, whilst in many sections this operation is backward at least in comparison with average years. There is now a very slight difference in favor of this year as compared with the previous season, which, as is sufficiently known, started under anything but agreeable conditions. A similar change is also reported from the other beet growing countries and nowhere, except in Russia, has the agricultural part of the beet sugar industry made any progress. In the last named empire, however, beet planting is nearly ended, but in the place of the drought favoring outside work, rain is now wanted there which is necessary for the germination, etc., of the beet kernels. Taken all in all the situation all over Europe is a little less satisfactory than a week ago.

A change of sugar legislation in France is again spoken of. The minister of finance is said to be contemplating two measures, both of which will have the tendency of curtailing the fiscal advantages of the sugar manufacturers. One of them is said to consist in the raising of the limit of the legal yield, which now is 7.75 per cent refined sugar and which shall in future be fixed at 8.50 per cent. This would mean that the so called excedants, which are subject to the reduced rate of duty would begin only at the last named figure and as the second scheme it is declared that the duty on the excedants shall be made to amount to 40 francs—instead of 30 francs—for 100 kilogr. of refined sugar. A third measure should be that the amount thus squeezed out of the sugar manufacturers should be employed for lowering the heavy taxes on sugar in France, in order to cheapen sugar and to facilitate and increase consumption. However, it seems that the change in question when carried out will prove to be a barely fiscal measure.

A technical question of much importance for all establishments working with steam gear is how to prevent the heat of the steam pipes from radiating and many devices serving this purpose have been invented and applied, such as felt, clay mixed with cow hair, silk braids, infusorial earth, etc., the latest in this line, however, is a tin mantle round the pipes with some space between the mantle and the pipe so that the very air is constituted the protective medium against the loss of heat. May be that your inventive engineers have hit already on this means, but in the face of very successful experiments I could not help but submit it to the attention and examination of your esteemed readers.

The agricultural experimental station at Breslau (Silesia) has published its annual statement on the contents of sugar of the beets analyzed in this institution. The results of these analyses plainly confirm the fact, that in the average the beet of 1898, in point of quality, ranks a good deal higher than that of 1897. Of the 1,544 samples of

beets analyzed in 1898, 25.2 per cent had less than 15 per cent sugar, 65.5 showed from 15 to 17 per cent, and 9.3 per cent had upwards of 17 per cent sugar. In 1897 the majority of all samples, viz.: 53 per cent had less than 15 per cent sugar, 46 per cent were found to have from 15 to 17 per cent, and 10 per cent polarized upwards of 17 per cent. The average of all samples analyzed last year turned out to have been 15.5 per cent sugar, as against 14.7 per cent in 1897. These researches have begun in the year 1887 and although the figures in this respect are somewhat fluctuating, a steady increase of the saccharine quality is observed. In 1887 the proportion of beets with less than 13 per cent amounted to 10 per cent of the samples, in 1898, only 1.3 per cent belonged to that category; on the other hand beets with more than 16 per cent sugar formed 19 per cent of the total number in 1887, in 1898 this co-portion was 37 per cent, which goes to show that the poor beets have nearly disappeared whilst the rich ones now have attained the first place. This is an excellent showing for our breeders of beet seeds and the benefit of this signal progress is reaped not by the German sugar industry alone, but by almost all beet growing countries, drawing a large part of their seed from German growers.

The sugar factory of Koerblisdorf, of which I formerly sent you a detailed report, pays for the campaign of 1898-99 a dividend of 8 per cent as against 6 per cent in 1897-98.

The syndicate of the sugar manufacturers of France intend to convoke on the occasion of the world's fair next year a universal congress of sugar growers or a congress of the international sugar industry. The subjects to be treated there shall be of an exclusively agricultural and industrial character.

It will be remembered that last year the estimates of the sugar manufacturers, more particularly those of the Austrians, caused a great disappointment in the markets, because of their being raised in December as against October to the extent of about 100,000 tons. The statistical bureaus were on this account accused of selfish and unfair dealings, this also on the ground that the results of the inquiries in December were supposed to have been made known to certain parties prior to general publication. In the late assembly of the Bohemian sugar society these suspicions were dealt with and vigorously refuted.

The divergency of the two estimates was caused by the much improved condition of the crop in consequence of copious rains in the month of October and as to the alleged irregularity with regard to cultivation, it must be born in mind that the official statistics which appeared a few days prior to that of the fabricants, showed already a large surplus as against the estimates and caused Paris speculators to sell on a large scale, so that no undue underhand information as to the result of the last inquiries can be made responsible for the panic then ensuing.

The markets are now quite in the hands of speculators, who, profiting this week by the unfavorable weather, the absence of May tenders and some America purchasers rushed prices in the terminal markets further up. True, actual goods were thereby also favorably influenced but an account of the scarcity of stocks business in this line could not assume any considerable extent. Last quotations are for 88 per cent sugars at Madgeburg M. 12.20—12.40 nd for delivery May 1; Hamburg M. 11.475. Refined are firm and 50-75 pfennigs higher.

ROBT. HENNIC.

The Missing Link in the Automatic Feeding of Cane Crushing Plants.

The magnitude of industrial progress in the recent past has been the wonder of the age, yet the dawn of a mightier revolution can be discerned in the discovery and application of forces in nature which when utilized through the ingenuity of man will result in vast and undreamed of changes rendered necessary to properly apply the power in manufacturing plants, etc. In this the age of steam and steel, innovations are imperative to counteract the seemingly irresistible tendency to lowered values for raw material and finished products; conditions brought about by combinations and concentrated capital. Thirty years ago the cane sugar producers treated with derision the prediction that beet sugars would in time control the markets of the world; yet at present they find a ready market even in India, the supposed habitat of the tropical cane, where conditions are favorable and labor cheap. The aids of science were sought in the agriculture of the beet, and intelligences of a high order were engaged in devising mechanisms such as to secure high and economic results in manufacture. To regain lost supremacy, any and all antiquated methods must be entirely superseded by more rational processes, not only to effectively economize power, but secure maximum results in the manufacture of cane sugar. To prepare canes to insure a constant high juice extraction is as imperative as to similarly treat the beets for diffusion.

Past practices in purchasing cane will probably be superseded by more equitable measures to both purchasers and sellers, and as the latter will likely demand payment for all the saccharine in the raw material, manufacturers will be impelled to so adjust their crushing plants as to constantly secure the very highest juice extraction possible from a large volume of cane milled per day. The buyer of the cane, to minimize cost in manufacture must not only secure a relatively high juice and moisture extraction, but at the same time avoid excessive communication of bagasse to insure the best results from the combustion of the woody fibre.

The phenomenally low output of sugar during the past campaign, followed by a probable shortage this year, will for the time being be detrimental to the industry in the State; but the probabilities are that in less than ten years the production of sugar will be on a firmer basis than if the disasters had not befallen the cane growers and manufacturers, as innovations will become accomplished facts in field and factory which would otherwise have been ignored. The demand for a higher sugar content in the canes will result in improved drainage, followed by more efficient tillage as the more intelligent application of manures. Rivalry will necessitate greater perfection in crushing and manufacturing plants

to secure superior results at reduced cost per ton of cane.

Witnessing the futile attempts to regularly and constantly feed the three roller mill by hand with canes dumped on the yard from carts and wagons, and later the powerful compound crushing plants (with shredder or crusher adjuncts) from cars, either by hand, with holsts, or mechanical devices, the conviction grows stronger that cut canes must in the future be automatically fed to the crushing plant to secure that general and uniform excellence in mill work, so very essential to reduce losses in extraction to a minimum—a factor of vital importance to, in some measure, counteract growing and relentless competition.

The cane sugar industry may at no very distant date encounter a keen competitor in domestic beet sugar, and factory owners must be prepared to face the rivalry or succumb to the inevitable. The canes delivered from day to day at the factory of large capacity vary in length and presence or absence of crooks, and consequently no device has or ever can be perfected to constantly and regularly feed the mill rolls with whole, heterogeneous canes. When the proprietor of the factory can place in charge of the engineer a device which will measure the cut canes and deliver the pieces regularly and automatically to and across the mill rolls in desired quantities, say from ten to fifty tons per hour, free of any foreign, hard substances, then the latter knowing the quantity of material to be crushed per day can soon adjust the rollers to perform superior work, if the plant has adequate power and strength.

When cut canes in measured and desired quantities are fed to the mill rolls, valuable data may be obtained and financial results will accrue to the average factory owner which will more than compensate for the cost of adding the missing link in automatic mill feeding. Being able to regulate the feed with precision, mills can be tested as to their crushing capacities, and greater rigidity can be adopted, and maintained, and safe guards against any irregularities in feed, and hard substances can more than ever be dispensed with. A compound milling plant, with rollers six feet long, and shafts twelve inches in diameter may crush forty tons of cane per hour, and extract seventy odd per cent of the juice with ten per cent fibre—can such diametered shafts, etc., sustain the strain if eighty per cent is extracted? As the thickness of the fibrous mass increases, the elastic resistance to pressure increases, and consequently the power and strength required to secure an eighty per cent extraction when milling forty tons of cane per hour is immensely greater than when only twenty tons per hour pass between the rollers. There seems to be a limit to volume regardless of strength, and with the known and regular feed the question can be decided not only as to the thickness of the feed, but

the periphery speed of the mill rolls to insure the best financial results in quantity and quality of work performed.

It can then also be decided by careful tests whether it will prove profitable to have one ponderous plant to crush twelve or fourteen hundred tons of cane per day, or two compact sets of mills to crush an equal or larger volume of cane in emergencies. Of all the crushing plants in the different cane growing countries of the world, but a very limited few can show a record of eighty per cent extraction on the weight of the canes, regardless of the volume crushed per day. When the factory owner succeeds in securing an extracting plant with adjuncts which will enable him to constantly obtain ninety-five per cent of the juice in the canes with moderate saturation, then he will be in a position to invest in other machinery, etc., to perfect the tout ensemble, and thereby reduce the cost of manufacture per ton of cane to a maximum. Given a crushing plant with an automatic feeder attachment, and the chemist in the laboratory can readily decide as to whether the pressure or saturation or both must be increased or otherwise to secure the saccharine in the best paying quantities, as compressions of bagasse, and dilution of juice may be carried to extremes, and serious losses accrue in the increased consumption of fuel, the lowered co-efficient of purity and the retarded concentration of sugar solutions to finished products.

Regularity, the desideratum in mill feeding when attained will obviate alternating, violent strains, the cause of many and serious breakages, costly in the extreme, particularly here where the campaign is of short duration. There will be a decreased tendency to lateral movement to fill interstices under pressure, and consequently less communication of fibre. Minor adjustments will be made by the intelligent engineer, and bagasse of a more uniform and higher quality will be sent to the furnaces, and the steaming of the boilers will be more regular and reliable. Unusual mental strain and anxiety will be lessened, and watchfulness will be transferred from the carrier to the receptacle to see that there is a surplus of cut canes to keep the automatic feeder constantly in operation to supply the mill rolls.

To fill the missing link will necessitate a cutter, a receptacle, and an automatic feeder which will deliver the desired feed at the same speed as the mill rolls travel. Cutters of various devices have been put on the market to prepare corn ensilage for the silo where the slice is generally one-half an inch in length; but for cane the cutter will require to be stronger, and the length of cut increased to between three and four inches, probably three and one-half inches will insure an interlacing of the fibre and a certain continuity in the bagasse going to the furnace.

The receptacle with slopes at the bottom exceeding an angle of forty-five degrees to

expedite the movement of the slices to the feeder, should have a capacity of from five to ten tons of cane to insure an uninterrupted supply of material for the crushing plant when in full operation. The feeders may consist of two rollers or drums of the same length as the mill rolls, with projections or indentations to grip the slices and in revolving deliver them onto the carrier—the upper drum to be easily and quickly adjusted to regulate the size of opening and consequently the volume of feed per hour. With the Messrs Mallon & Bodley apparatus the canes can be delivered from the cars onto the carrier to convey them to the cutter, from which they can be transferred to the receptacle, from which the crushing plant can be fed without intermission, thereby dispensing with but a limited amount of hand labor. The Messrs. Mallon & Bodley apparatus is an admirable labor saving machine the value of which to the factory owner can be enhanced immensely if operated in conjunction with the automatic feeder of cut canes, for with the combination large volumes can be delivered to the mill rolls with a regularity heretofore unknown and at much less cost per ton of cane than in former years, obviating the bete noir, irregularity—a constant source of dread of breakages, worry and unavoidable waste to proprietors.

Metal, or other hard substances may break or blunt the knives of the cutter but they can be quickly replaced. Every engineer of intelligence and close observation who has had charge of a cane crushing plant will admit that even with all the best appliances in vogue, irregularity of feed, and the risk of pieces of metal, etc., getting between the mill rolls are sources of severe mental strain and anxiety very seriously augment the chances of costly breakages, and the former, although in some measure counteracted by adjuncts and compound crushers and incessant vigilance is still to his imperfect means of detection a source of considerable loss. The owner of the factory after having expended large capital and taken every known precaution is chagrined and disappointed with his entire crushing plants and mechanism when the chemist informs him at the end of the week's run that so many thousand pounds of sugar (which might have been extracted) have gone to the furnaces from defective milling—the only known cause for which was the scarcely perceptible irregularity of feed—as the engine and mills had ample power and strength to insure very superior results with the reasonable amount of cane crushed per hour. Knowing that from ninety to ninety-five per cent of the juice in the cane can be had without excessive saturation, those whose plants crush from twenty to one hundred thousand tons per annum may be justified in expending capital to increase yields.

The problem of automatic mill feeding may be reviewed from a purely economic standpoint. The cost of the milling plant

has been increased two or three fold to attain firstly a much larger crushing capacity, and secondly to increase extraction. With the large expenditure of capital, not having been able to constantly obtain very superior results commensurate with the costly outlay, the factory owner may find it imperative to add to his plant an adjunct which will increase the annual output of marketable sugar. To purchase the saccharine in the cane or produce it at large expense, and consume quantities in the furnaces is contrary to the spirit of the age and a violation of economic practices. When the crushing plants in the different cane growing countries of the world are as perfect as to secure results equal to those had in the factories of Europe—a ton of cane will be manufactured at less cost than a ton of beets, and as the average saccharine strength of the juice of the cane should equal that of the beet, and the acreage yield of the former be double that of the latter—then barring the European bounty system the beet and tropical cane will stand on their merits as sugar producing plants to supply the markets of the world.

THOS. MANN CAGE.

Sugar Outlook in Texas.

Wharton, Tex., May 22, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Perhaps an occasional letter from this section of Texas will be worth your while to publish, and if so, I will undertake to send items from time to time. As to the location of this town, please get a good map of Texas, and you will find us about 65 miles southwest of Houston, and on the Victoria division of the Southern Pacific. Prairie lands are mostly in evidence, though the Colorado river, and El Caney valleys furnish the richest farm lands, that it has ever been my fortune to see. What is called Cany river or creek, is to this state, just what the Teche is to Louisiana. It is a little larger between banks than New river, which runs parallel with the Mississippi through part of Ascension parish, emptying, I think, into Blind river. The character of the soil is something similar to New river, a rich black loam. This Caney creek runs through Wharton and Matagorda counties, beginning near Eagle lake, thence southeast, parallel with the Colorado and emptying into the Gulf about 15 miles east of the mouth of the Colorado. At Wharton, this creek runs within 200 yards of the Colorado, and the business part of the town is immediately between the two. From here, it gradually deflects from the river, and from here to the Gulf, the Caney valley is nearly a solid farm, about 50 miles long, and from two to five miles wide. The main country road traverses this valley along the banks, crossing and re-crossing several times, and much of the bed of the creek is in cultivation, the wash from the farms having so filled up the creek that it is dry in spring and summer

most of the way down for twenty miles or more. This valley, is what we think is the richest part of Texas. We have large cotton plantations now, while you have cane plantations on the Teche, but the physical features of the two are similar.

A company of six of us went to Louisiana two weeks ago to look over the country there, with a view to investing in a sugar plant. On the trip we visited several plantations, including the Gramercy, and critically examined the situation, so as to enable us to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion before we ventured into the business here. Our unanimous conclusion was about as follows. We saw no crop in Louisiana, either corn, cotton nor cane, that is worth half as much as ours here. Our fields are so far ahead of the Louisiana farms, that a comparison would be painful (to Louisiana). The few hundred acres of cane put down last fall as a starter, has quite a different look from yours. We are of the opinion now, that one acre of this land is worth three of yours to the cane farmer, and we give our reasons for this opinion. Listen: There are more ditches to dig and keep clean on a 1,000-acre farm there, than there is in this whole valley put together. We have a surface drainage that renders ditching unnecessary here. This saves one tenth of the land, besides the saving in the work. This is count number 1. We are not haunted by the nightmare of water that comes up on your levees every spring, destroying your crops totally, once in seven years. This is count number 2. We plant only every five years, and the ratoons are as good here with the fifth crop, as yours are at the third crop. This is count number 3. Our cane here will average 1½ per cent more sucrose with same kind of season than yours does. This is count number 4. We never calculate on less than 30 tons of plant, and from 15 to 25 for stubble cane per acre, and from that up, according to the season. This is count number 5. We can get cotton seed meal for \$2 per ton less than you, and this is count number 6. We can buy corn for 5 cents per bushel if necessary, less than you, and this is count number 7. We have a market at our doors, and based upon the present market in New Orleans, we can get nearly a cent more for sugar than your small planters get there. You generally have a commission man to sell your stuff to the jobbers. He gets his commission, and you pay the freights into New Orleans. The jobber makes his long profit and sells to Texas and elsewhere, and the merchant here pays the other freight, and all of this has to come out of the sugar before the consumer gets it. This is count number 8. You have mules there which they say cost \$200 per pair. They don't do any more than ours, which we get at \$100 per pair. A pair of our mules will turn out much more than yours, for they

[Continued on page 335.]

The Latent Life of Sugar Cane.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

This week's Planter has just been received, and in looking over the remarks from the different parishes the writer's attention was attracted by remarks of the correspondent from Iberville in regard to the finding of stalks of cane coming from the mother stalk in first year's stubble. In discussing the cane industry some five years ago with intelligent Western men the question as to whether this ever occurred was propounded to the writer. Though raised on a sugar plantation and having been engaged in a close scientific study of agriculture for the five years previous to this discussion we were surprised to find ourselves unable to answer this question. Our attention has been kept on the matter ever since and instead of such being a rarity it is no uncommon thing to find eyes from the mother stalk making a vigorous stalk in first and even second stubble, although of course they are more abundant in first year stubble. Last Thursday the writer had a striking illustration of this. We were examining some stubble which had been abandoned until the week before when, discovering that there was so much coming it was closely off-barred, the grass scraped off and diggers run over it two or three times. The ground had, of course, not been disturbed since the crop of last year was laid by and was as hard as flint. The writer's attention was attracted by seeing a space of 15 feet with no stubble shaving yet one healthy stalk had forced its way through the hard ground. When digging to the mother it was found that not only did this special stalk come from it but there were eight sprouted eyes in this space and forcing their way through a soil containing apparently not a particle of moisture and so hard that the diggers, though run three times with weight of machine and driver directly on gangs, had not penetrated it. There was about 4 inches of earth over these eyes.

This whole field, some 200 acres, of stubble is a curiosity and a puzzle to the writer. As above mentioned it has been abandoned, its proprietors, Messrs. Flynn Bros., having ceased the culture of cane and yet it is so promising that the writer and other parties have undertaken its culture. It is situated about five miles back of Baton Rouge on the hills. Messrs. Flynn and Doherty, on the same hills just north of Baton Rouge and on the river, have practically no stubble while Mr. B. C. Zuber, one mile further east than the field in question, is no better off. As in the case instanced by "Iberville" this cane was planted very shallow but the question arises what has that to do with the keeping of the stubble. Truly, if it has taught nothing else the past eighteen months have demonstrated how little we know about cane.

While with very little fuss and feathers,

yet it may be of interest to your readers to know that the hill section of East Baton Rouge parish is preparing to take its place among the sugar producers of the state. Messrs. Flynn & Doherty have been in the business for some years, delivering the product of some four hundred acres of cane to the Baton Rouge Sugar Company last season. Mr. John McQuaide is another old producer and finds it profitable to haul his cane some six miles to the above company. Mr. A. J. Loudon has been producing syrup in the Brookstown neighborhood for a number of years. Mr. Loudon, though possessing a small plant, always produces a "top of the market syrup," and judging from the strenuous efforts he is now making to increase his capacity, finds it a profitable business.

Istrouma plantation will make its debut into the cane market this year with a thousand tons of cane, and, besides these, Messrs. Gibbens & Thomas, W. B. Brown, Walker, Young, and a number of others are all raising seed for a market crop next year. The demand for seed last fall gave quite a stimulus to the small grower and this year, despite the havoc of the last winter, the small patch is very much in evidence all over the parish. In the face of adverse conditions it is safe to say that the cane production of East Baton Rouge hills will this year equal that of 1898 and more than quadruple that in 1900. We have said nothing about the present condition of the crop. Needless to say it is very dry and it will take a good soaking rain before an intelligent prediction can be made of the outcome of the crop in

EAST BATON ROUGE.

More About the Latent Life of Sugar Cane.

The cane sent you by Mr. Edwin Marionneaux, who is justly regarded as a good planter and sterling manager, is not a curiosity to old planters.

In 1869 I planted a cut of cane which showed up well in the spring of 1870, with only an occasional gap here and there, giving more than an average yield.

1871 finding some cane showing in some of the gaps, I sought the reason thereof and found that the old mother cane of 1869 had just awakened to a sense of her duty and was putting forth her efforts to increase the output of saccharine for that year.

The cane lay dormant in the ground because its temperature was too cold to stand vegetation. It was planted too deep to receive the warmth necessary to sprout the eyes.

The extra dirt was removed in 1871, and to my astonishment then I beheld for the first time the "curiosity" similar to that which you have in your office. At the time this discovery was made by me, I hastily communicated the facts to two old planters of my acquaintance, thinking I could give

them a pointer on cane culture, but I was sadly disappointed, because they had made the same discovery years before.—Ex-Planter, in Iberville South.

Saccharin.

"Saccharin is used in the preparation of fruit sauces, stewed prunes, and in filling for pie." Such is the frank statement printed on the menu of the Commercial Club. Many of the guests cannot eat certain articles when prepared with sugar without creating dietic disturbance, and therefore saccharin is commonly used as a substitute for sugar in all articles requiring sweetening.

Would not that same honest policy, if adopted by the canners and preservers of fruits and vegetables, tend to increase confidence in their products? Many consumers prefer saccharin to sugar, as it does not influence the functions of the human body; does not decompose in the body; does not engender fat; has no nutritive merits. There are, however, others who have a prejudice, oft times unreasonable, against chemicals of any sort in food, and such should be free to elect whether they should use food containing chemicals or substitutes, instead of being made the victims of a paltry deception. Let us have the honest labeling of all food products. Occasionally a manufacturer using saccharin states the fact on his label, but the majority do not. Why not have candies, jams, preserves, honey and other articles containing glucose stamped with the fact; each sort of a baking powder sold for exactly what it is? If this is generally followed, then any unreasonable prejudice which may exist will disappear, and consumers will feel as free to buy oleomargarine as butter; glucose or saccharin as sugar; apple jelly with various flavors, as articles true to name. "Honesty is the best policy" is the best sort of worldly wisdom.—American Grocer.

Personal.

Mr. Wibray J. Thompson, of Calumet plantation, Bayou Teche, was at the St. Charles last Wednesday.

Mr. J. B. Brown, of the Iranhoe plantation and his two bright young sons were guests of one of our leading hotels last Wednesday.

Mr. A. W. Norman, for many years located at the Hope plantation in St. John parish, was the manager during the past grinding season of the Clarkland place, belonging to Milliken & Farwell. Mr. Norman is a first-class manager in every respect and it would be hard to find his superior.

Mr. T. W. Montgomery was again at the vacuum pan on the Trinity plantation of Captain Hubert Murray during the past campaign. Mr. Montgomery is an A No. 1 sugar maker, and, in addition, he possesses great skill as a watch and clock maker, repairing in his leisure moments the defective time pieces of Trinity and its environs.

BET SUGAR.**Chino, California.**

Gangs of beet thinners are now to be seen scattered about the beet fields in all directions, and thinning is progressing rapidly, 1000 acres being already thinned. This work will be completed earlier than it was last year.

The planting is now practically finished and Mr. Ruopp of the agricultural department of the factory, tells us that the acreage, including that planted near Puente, is about an even 4000 acres. On the first of this week it was estimated that one-third of the acreage planted was already a good stand. What the next two months may have in store for the crop of course cannot be foretold. Mr. Ruopp, however, says that the beet crop prospects are much better than they were at this date last year. Some damage has been done by winds, but not nearly to the extent of last year. On some of the bottom lands, where the alkali is not too strong, the beets look really thrifty and fine. Of course on the higher and dryer grounds more rain than we have had this winter is necessary to assure a crop. It is yet early to make any estimate on the crop: It will be light, but if we should have such late rains as we have had last year, the crop would be vastly improved.

The force of men at the sugar factory is being increased nearly every day now, the number at present being about 90. Many of these are skilled mechanics. In a few days, as soon as the farmers' teams have spare time from the field work, the work of excavating the big settling reservoir will be commenced.

Superintendent Williams of the sugar factory tells us that in his recent trip to Europe he visited most of the principal sugar factories in France and Germany, and was courteously afforded opportunity to observe and study methods of manufacture. He was surprised to find that in most of the recently improved processes the American sugar factories are far better equipped and more up to date than the European factories. There seems to be there a disposition to be satisfied with methods of years ago, and a slowness to grasp at new improvements. Mr. Williams with Dr. Portius was present at a meeting of sugar manufacturers in northern Germany, at which the rudimentary principles of crystallization in motion were under discussion; whereas here the process is a firmly established one. Nevertheless Mr. Williams enjoyed his trip immensely.—Champion, May 5.

Lehi, Utah.

When the sugar factory employees again enter that institution they will notice that a great many changes have taken place. Past experiences have shown that these will be for the best and will improve the working of the factory. These changes will continue

until the factory is equipped to handle the juice from 1,000 tons of beets per day. One of the most important changes this year is in the south building where the old bone black filters have been removed and a complete new Osmose plant installed. For the first time in America, Supt. Vallez made the Osmose process of working low grade syrup, a success here last year. Only a small plant was put in but this was so successful that a larger one is now being put in. Supt. Vallez took particular pains with this part of the factory last season and was exceedingly well pleased with the results and upon his recommendation the present plant was put in. The putting in of a rasping station at Springville will necessitate some change here. Again this company is in the lead in this matter, it is the first company in America to try this method. It has been in successful operation in European countries for some time and there is no doubt of its success here. The Meaux (France) sugar factory is connected with thirteen rasping stations and handles the juice from 2,000 tons of beets per day. At these stations is a diffusion battery where the juice is extracted from the beets. The juice is then mixed with a small quantity of lime and pumped to the central refinery to be worked up. Work has already begun on the pipe line to Springville and by fall everything will be in readiness for the crop. The beet sugar men in this country will watch the progress of this method with much interest and other companies will doubtless adopt it in the future. The Utah Sugar Company and Supt. Vallez deserve much credit for being the first to adopt these new methods in America.—Banner, May 6.

Lehi, Utah.

At the special meeting of the stockholders of the Utah Sugar Company held at Salt Lake on Tuesday, Manager T. R. Cutler, in the absence of President George Q. Cannon, presided. There was a very full attendance of the stockholders, 22,203 shares out of a total of 26,500 being represented. The meeting was a very short one, all action taken being unanimous.

A resolution was passed approving the action of the board of directors, authorized the issue of 36,500 additional shares of stock, which is to be divided pro-rata among the present holders, 10 per cent of which must be paid on or before June 1st, and this amount is to be held by the company as a guarantee of the payment of the remainder. Other payments are due as follows: Twenty-five per cent April 1, 1900, and the remainder, 15 per cent on July 5, 1900, thus completing the purchase. The amounts received for the stock, of course, will be applied on the improvements to be made to the old works and the handling of the new.

Manager Cutler, at the close of the meeting, was very much gratified at the results attained so far in the prosecution of the new enterprises, and said that the unanimity

of the stockholders was very gratifying, because it removed many difficulties that might be encountered were conditions otherwise.

"The late snows and rains," continued Mr. Cutler, "have been of great value to us, and the beet crop outlook good a month ago, is much better now. There never was a time, and that may be saying a great deal, when I had so much confidence in the future."—Tribune.

Springville, Utah, Sugar Factory.

Springville, May 10.—George Austin and Mosiah Evans of the Utah Sugar Company came over from Lehi to-day and closed the deal with Messrs. Miner for the land for the factory site. The fifty acres of land were secured for \$1,800. The cash was paid over and the deeds passed. The agent here, Mr. Robenson, informed your correspondent that the transfer of the water rights would soon take place as the subscription lists were all in and the \$1,000 needed raised.

The contract for 300 perches of blue limestone was awarded to-day to the Straw Bros., a local concern. Contracts for brick are now under consideration. It is thought these contracts will also be secured by Springville parties.—Lehi Banner.

Among the Beet Sugar Factories.

The recent annexation of sugar bearing colonies to this country does not seem to have discouraged sugar manufacturers on this coast. With the opening of spring and the certainty of fair crops in California, has come renewed activity in most of the factories. Many improvements are already being made and other more extensive ones are projected. Henry T. Oxnard has announced that the company, which he represents will build two more sugar factories during the present year. In Washington, D. C. Cronin, of Spokane, has arranged to establish a factory at Fairfield with a capacity of fifty tons of sugar per month. The factory is to be completed within one year from the present time. It is, however, in Utah that the greatest activity in the line of sugar production is manifested. In that state at least two new factories are pretty well assured. These will be situated at Springville and Cache.—Philadelphia Manufacturer.

Sugar Patents.

Patents of interest to the sugar industry issued May 16, 1898.—Reported specially for The Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, Patent Attorney, Washington, D. C., who will furnish copies of any patent at the rate of ten cents each.

624,907. Centrifugal separator. Loomis Burrell, Little Falls, N. Y., assignor to D. H. Burrell & Co., same place.

625,012. Cloth sack for sugar, flour, etc. A. F. Bemis, Boston, Mass.

625,031. Crystallizing apparatus. Ludwig Hirt, Grevenbroich, Germany, assignor to the Maschienenfabrik Grevenbroich, same place.

625,211. Sugar cutting machine. Gustav Stoff, Berlin, Germany.

RICE.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The week has witnessed a further enlargement of business, considerable proportion being deliveries under contracts made some weeks ago. There is a "merry war" going on between the representatives of the Java, Japan and Patna, in the hope of attracting increased patronage to their respective sorts and as a result prices have been put down below present importing cost. It is suggested that "the strife will not be long" as stock are limited—far short of known requirements from now until new crop. Advices from the South note an easing off in values. The domestic cuts but little figure in the general supply as the amount is limited and poorly assorted and the reduction of prices due chiefly to a desire on the part of all first hands and millers to clean up and close out everything pertaining to last year's crop. Reports concerning the crop of the present year are encouraging. A large area is already up; early seeding shows good stand and all looks most promising; later planting going forward rapidly in all sections. It may be said of Louisiana that nearly everyone previously engaged in the culture and a host of new comers will put in every possible acre, and if there be no disastrous storms or other drawbacks, the outcome will be a record-breaker. Cables and correspondence from abroad note steady markets; seasonable demand; outlook favoring full values on finer sorts which are in light receipt; easing conditions in common to ordinary grades.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 700,945 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 564,023 sacks. Sales, cleaned (Est.) 173,425 barrels; last year 121,143 barrels. Fair demand, strictly local.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 36,490 barrels. Sales 33,560 barrels. Limited inquiry, mainly local or to contiguous territory.

Rice Prospects in South Carolina.

Kindly change my address to Asheville, North Carolina, where I will be for the summer months. We look with alarm on the great developments your rice planters are making in irrigation. So long as they planted providence rice we did not scare worth a cent, as we knew your quality could never compete with Carolina rice, but this system of irrigation will improve your grades and the free use of machinery (which we can not utilize) will so cheapen cultivation that we rice planters will not be in it the coming season, or not in the future, unless there is a radical change in our wages, and mode of working. It is impossible to keep up our levees and pay the wages we are now doing and sell our rice for less than one dollar per bushel, while your planters will make

money at 75 cents per bushel. Wont some of your correspondents post us as to your wages, rates, and perquisites allowed the laborer? Here they receive from 40 cts. to 60 cts. per day; in harvest they can make \$1.50 a day; they are allowed each one acre of rice land to plant in rice; each family is allowed free of rent, a house to live in, garden lot and fire wood.

It is quite clear to many of us that the heavy rice crop planted in Porto Rico is bound to be admitted into this country free of duty, and with your big crop to be marketed we ought to lose no time to unite and reorganize our affairs, to suit this changed condition of things. The fine crop prospect now, is alluring, and we will find it so when the market opens, and closes. Prompt action to reduce expenses is absolutely necessary.

The rice acreage of Georgia and this state is in excess of last year and the stands of rice are better, but the harvest will be later, owing to full rivers all winter and heavy rain falls which kept the lands soaked, which delayed early planting. We have had fine growing crop weather since the first of May, and the outlook for a heavy crop is good, debarring our usual storms. Very respectfully,

WILLIAM MILES HAZZARD.

Annandale, South Carolina, May 17, 1899.

The Crowley Rice Mill.

J. E. Platt has decided to rebuild the Eagle rice mill. When the plant burned some time ago it was predicted on all sides that it would be rebuilt, as it was considered a paying property and an A 1 investment. After the mill burned there were several parties desirous of putting money into a new building and machinery, but Mr. Platt declined them all and held off with the erection of a new plant until he saw his way clear to handle the matter individually.

The plans for this end have been completed, and there are many who will be pleased to hear that the plant is to be rebuilt.

A contract has been closed with the Boland & Geschwind Co., Ltd., through their representative, Phil. Hoelzel, Jr., for the erection of a 400 barrel rice mill. The best and latest improved machines will be placed in the building, such as the Huntley Manf. Co., Nordyke & Marmon, Engleberg Huller Co., and Webster Manf. Co., and the mill will be a model one throughout.

As soon as the building is completed the work of installing the machinery will begin, and it is expected it will be finished in ninety days.

It will be upon the same ground the old one stood and will be a larger structure. The mill proper will be 42x42 and four stories high. There will be one two story 70x42 warehouse for clean rice, and two warehouses for rough rice, one 42x182 and the other 88x106. Every possible effort will be made to push the work so as to have the

building ready for the machinery between June 15 and July 1.—Signal.

A Gueydan Rice Mill.

The latest enterprise in Gueydan is the organization of the Gueydan Rice Milling Co., Ltd. This is something we have been in need of for some time, and no one knows with what feeling of satisfaction the News notes the success of this undertaking which was only begun a few weeks ago. Our people have awakened to the reality of the situation, and recognizing the growing necessity for such an enterprise, have come together and organized. A few weeks ago Mr. R. H. Washburn, the well-known bank organizer came here to look into the matter of establishing a bank, but after looking over the field, he realized the fact that a rice mill was needed much more than a bank, and in connection with others he went to work to organize a stock company for a rice mill. He succeeded in interesting our people, as well as several outsiders. Among the later was Mr. W. G. Francis, of the Continental National Bank of Chicago, who came here to look over the field with a view of going into the enterprise, which he did in a substantial manner. Mr. Francis has been with the above bank for the past six years, besides being one of the original stock holders and organizers of the Trowbridge, MacDonald and Niver Co., of Chicago. We mention these facts in reference to Mr. Francis for the reason that he is a stranger in the South, and having been elected secretary and treasurer of the Gueydan Rice Milling Co., Ltd., we desire that our people know who, and what he is.

The stock holders of the company held a meeting in the office of J. P. Gueydan on Tuesday, organized and elected the following officers: R. H. Washburn, president; O. E. Gammill, vice president; W. G. Francis, secretary and treasurer.

The mill is capitalized at \$40,000, with the most of the stock already taken up, and with the list of stockholders and the officers, success is assured.

After the meeting of the stockholders the board of directors held a meeting and appointed committees on building site and machinery and several other committees including a committee of three to draw up charter and by-laws.

The committees and all hands will go to work right away, and the mill will be erected in time for handling the coming crop.—News.

More Rice in Texas.

The Trinity Rice Land and Irrigation Company, of St. Louis, with a capital of \$260,000, has purchased 18,000 acres in Chambers county, Texas, near Galveston on the Gulf and Interstate Railway. The company is still gathering in other available tracts. The most of the land has been purchased from the Southern Pacific Railway at prices rang-

ing from \$3 to \$6 per acre. It is the purpose of the company to bring these lands under cultivation as quickly as possible, and with this object in view an engineer's corps will start out at once getting levels and making surveys of the company's lands. The main canal for irrigating purposes will be twenty miles long. A good deal of the land has been engaged by Northern farmers who have become tired of growing fifty-cent wheat, and are going to give their attention to the cultivation of rice.—Bossler Banner.

Texas Rice.

Messrs. Bell, Kaufman and Viterbo Bros., of Lake Charles, have leased 4,000 acres of land at Deepwater, near La Porte, Texas, and will put the larger part of the tract in rice this year. Fifty 8-inch artesian wells are being sunk to furnish water, which will be confined to a large reservoir. Viterbo Bros. are equipped with many years of experience in rice growing on a large scale, and the project has every prospect of success. As this is the first attempt to irrigate rice from artesian wells, the enterprise will be closely watched.—Jennings Times, May 11.

A Big Rice Farm in Harris County, Texas.

Messrs. Bell, Kaufman and Bettibo Bros., a Louisiana syndicate, have leased 4,000 acres of the rich lands of the Jones estate at Deepwater for a big rice plantation. They propose to irrigate and flood the land by means of fifty eight-inch artesian wells, using air compresses and pipes. Already two carloads of piping, machinery, etc. have been received, and the men and teams are now at work making the levees. This 4,000 acres will all be in rice in another year and will give employment steadily to one hundred men.—The Situation, Houston.

Nutrient in Rice.

It is not generally known, says the New York Commercial, that a large part of the nutrient in rice is thrown away before the grain is in shape to be offered to consumers. The rice, in fact has three parts—the husk, the inner cuticle and the grain itself as it is ordinarily offered. The inner cuticle is cuticle in fact as well as in name, growing fast to the grain. It has to be worn off by friction, and forms a residue, which is utilized as cattle feed. The cuticle is rich in gluten, or protein, and in China is eaten with the rest of the grain. The possibilities of awakening the general public to a realization of the nutritive value of rice without this cuticle removed, have not been considered by millers and rice men hitherto, but the man who makes the shredded whole wheat biscuit in Worcester is now considering the chances of success that a corresponding product made of rice would have, and if the experiment proves a success, a new article of food may be added to the grocer's trade.

The inner cuticle of the grain, while it is

very hard, grows quite tightly on the grain itself, splits away without much difficulty when subjected to an end to end pressure, leaving the white grain perfectly clean. If the whole rice were to be offered for general use, it would have to either go through this breaking process, or would have to be partially steamed, as the outer portion cooks much more slowly than the inner, a difficulty which the ordinary cook often unsuccessful with rice, might not be able to overcome.—New England Grocer.

National Rice Mill.

New York, May 18.—Referring to a published article with reference to the proposed formation of a trust to control the rice mills in New Orleans, Pembroke Jones, president of the National Rice Milling Company, this morning denied positively and emphatically that the National Rice Milling Company had any connection with the matter. The mills owned by his company would, under no condition, enter a trust, and the visit of Henry Kahn, vice-president of the company, to New York was simply and solely for the purpose of consulting the president in regard to the enlargement of the business next season.—Picayune.

Lake Canal Completed.

The work on the extensions of the Lake canal was completed last night, and everything is in good shape to begin pumping as soon as water is needed. If rain does not come before that time, pumping will begin on next Monday. Some of the rice which was planted early is about eight inches high, and needs the water for proper growth. All the planting on the lands tributary to the canal is not completed, but it is expected that all the seed will be in the ground before the end of the week.

About 1,500 acres have been planted in rice along the Lake canal. This is a largely increased acreage, and a good crop in that vicinity will add much to the prosperity of the community.—Daily American.

Rice Items.

A canal project, of which very little has been said, is being worked out near Kinder. O. E. Moore, civil engineer, of this city, has been working on the canal for some time.

The canal is now in progress of construction. The embankments for the main canal and laterals are being raised.

The water will be taken from the Calcasieu river by a lift of thirty-one feet. The main canals and laterals to be constructed this year will be three or four miles long. Construction is being pushed and Mr. Moore expects to have the plant in operation in time to water 400 or 500 acres of rice land on his own place. The possibilities of the canal have not been fully developed.

Messrs. Bell Kaufman and Viterbo Bros., Lake Charles, have a big enterprise on hand.

They have leased 4000 acres of land at Deepwater, near Houston, and will put in rice. To secure the water they will put down fifty eight-inch artesian wells. Work has already commenced on the wells, and the rice is mostly sown. It's a big scheme, and if successful will yield an immense profit.

Lewis & Becker, of Lake Charles, are putting in an irrigating plant near Angleton, Texas, on the Bastrop bayou. Texas is beginning to take a good deal of interest in the cultivation of rice and a great many private pumping plants are being put in wherever the ground is adapted to the cultivation of rice. They realize that cotton is past redemption and are reaching out into other fields.

A picnic was enjoyed at the Crowley canal pumping plant Saturday, and quite a number of people have spent the day or a part of it in the woods or, about the plant. The occasion of the event is the reopening of the pumping plant. The Crowley canal is one of the first that was built. It was originally built in 1896, and enlarged in 1897, also in 1898. In fact every year has seen an improvement made on the plant. It irrigated 6,000 acres of rice land last year.

There being a demand for more water, Mr. Duson concluded to improve again this year and make it large enough to supply the demand made upon the plant. The water is secured from Bayou Plaquemine, and the new pumps that have been put in this year are capable of throwing 60,000 gallons per minute. New boilers were also added, and over all was erected a new house or shed to protect the machinery. The new machinery is the finest that can be had and the plant is capable of supplying just double the water that it provided in past years.

To properly care for this increased amount of water the canal itself has been greatly improved and strengthened, until now it is one of the best pieces of property in the parish.

The farmers, for the greater part, are feeling sanguine over the prospects for this year's crop. All of the canals are prepared to supply a greater amount of water than last year and a large number of deep wells and new private plants have been put in during the year and they have no fear about being able to supply a sufficient quantity of water for the crop. Most every farmer has got, or will have, every possible acre sown with rice this season, and if we have no disastrous storms or other drawbacks the yield will be a great one.

In connection with the above comes the prospective erection of new mills in Crowley. It is said that the Eagle Mill begins next week to start the rebuilding of a new plant on the same ground the former mill stood on. It is also rumored that another mill will go up, but such a rumor is always with us and nothing tangible has yet been done on it. Eighteen hundred and ninety-nine will be a great year for Crowley.—Crowley Signal.

MAY 26.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR. Open Kettle.	May 20.	May 22.	May 23.	May 24.	May 25.	May 26.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
O. K. Centrifugal	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2		37/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	Quiet
Choice.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2		4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	
Strict Prime.....	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8		3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	— @ —	
Prime.....	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 1/8 @ 4 1/8		3 1/8 @ 4 1/8	— @ —	
Fully Fair.....	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	3 1/8 @ 3 7/8		3 1/8 @ 3 7/8	— @ —	
Good Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	— @ —	
Fair.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	— @ —	
Good Common.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	— @ —	
Common.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	— @ —	
Inferior.....	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	— @ —	
Centrifugal.								Dull.
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Off Granul'ed...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2		4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	
Prime Yellow.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2		4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	
Off Yellow.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	4 1/8 @ 4 1/2		4 1/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	
Seconds.....	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8		3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								Quiet.
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Good Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Good Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	12 @ 13	
Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	12 @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	11 @ 11	
Good Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	10 @ 10	
Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	9 @ 9	
Good Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	8 @ 8	
Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	7 @ 7	
Good Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	6 @ 6	
Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	5 @ 5	
Inferior.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	Raw—Firm; good demand; little offering. Refined—Fair demand.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Granul'ed.....	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08		— @ 5.08	5.08 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98	— @ 4.98		— @ 4.98	4.98 @ —	
Dutch Granul'ed	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25		— @ 5.25	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20		— @ 5.17	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								Cane—Dull, not quotably lower. Beet—Dull and rather easier.
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	HOLIDAY.	HOLIDAY.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	HOLIDAY.	13s. 0d.	12s. 6d.	
A. & G. Beet.....			11s. 3d.	11s. 4 1/2d.		11s. 2 1/4d.	9s. 9d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2		— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	Steady.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2		— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4		— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2		— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 3/4	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —		— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to May 17.....	Tons	231,696
At four ports of Great Britain to May 13.....	"	51,000
At Havana and Matanzas to May. 16.....	"	82,000

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending May 26, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to May 26, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Received.....	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	5,977	1,900	1,900	10,233	1,239,201	233,710	233,710
Sold.....	6,121	1,900	1,900	10,233	1,232,158	233,710	233,710
				Received same time last year	23,212	1,451,151	190,454

MAY 26.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

RICE.	May 20.	May 23.	May 23.	May 24.	May 25.	May 26.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
ROUGH, per bbl...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	3 00@5 35	Dull.
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	— @ —	
Fancy...	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	
Choice...	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 3/4 @ 6	
Prime...	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	5 1/8 @ 5 5/8	
Good...	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	5 3/8 @ 5 1/2	
Fair...	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/8	
Ordinary	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1/2	
Common.	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	— @ —	
Screenings	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	— @ —	
Inferior	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	— @ —	
No. 2....	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	2 @ 2 1/4	
BRAN, per ton...	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 50 @ 13 00	Dull.
POLISH, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	16 00 @ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending May 26, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to May 26, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BBLA. CLEAN.	This year	Last year	SACKS ROUGH.	BBLA. CLEAN.
Received	876	621	.....	.....	682,038	8,729
Sold	854	340	.....	.....	466,489	8,081

Sugar.

The local sugar market was quiet at the end of the week, the receipts being light and the transactions moderate.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals quiet.

Rice.

But little business was done in either rough or clean rice at the end of the week. Receipts were small and offerings light.

Sugar Outlook in Texas.

[Continued from page 329.]

will cultivate more acres and the out-put per acre is more. This is count number 9.

Why multiply counts in this way? There is no comparison between our advantages and yours, as to sugar crops, and we are sure that no one who knows both countries will doubt it.

You will then ask: "Why is it you don't have the cane fields, and the banks bursting with money to your credit?" Why is it? Simply this: After the war, cotton went on a boom and cane went down. What few cane farms we had then were converted into cotton farms, and people who own them are very tender footed. They are afraid to venture on other lines. Last year, however, we were visited by the Mexican boll weevil which so devastated the cotton that we think that cane will now be resorted to again. This weevil is a hard citizen. It will get into the blooms and sting the germ of the boll and it drops. Hundreds of acres last year did not make a bale of cotton on the prairie lands, west of Wharton. This weevil is here now, and we fear the cotton will be a total failure this year again. This is why we are talking up sugar, and if we can locate a dozen or two good refineries in this valley, the weevil will have proven to be a great blessing to us. If I had a plant in Louisiana, and could sell it and buy in Caney valley, I would not be long in doing so. This is what Ellis has done with his Mt.

Houmas, only he has concentrated at Sartatia, on the Brazos, which will not compare with our lands either. We will be glad to correspond with any who may wish to investigate our country with a view to putting in factories. One trip will demonstrate what I say to be true. CANEY.

Personal.

Gov. H. C. Warmoth, of Lawrence, Lower Coast, was in town on Tuesday.

Dr. E. T. Dugas, of Assumption parish, was in the city on Thursday last.

Mr. Charles Giesmar, of Giesmar, La., was in the city on Tuesday. Mr. Giesmar stopped at the Cosmopolitan.

Mr. F. A. Lepine, a leading sugar planter of Lafourche parish, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He was accompanied by Mrs. Lepine.

Col. L. S. Clark, of Lagonda plantation, on Bayou Teche, came up to the city during the past week. Col. Clark stopped at the St. Charles, his usual abiding place when in town.

Col. John R. Gheens, of Lafourche Parish, came to town Sunday before last and put up at the St. Charles Hotel. His many friends in this vicinity wish that he would come to New Orleans oftener and stay longer.

Mr. Michael Werner, Jr., was at the vacuum pan during the recent campaign on the Rich Bend place of Mrs. John Vegas in St. James parish. Mr. Werner is a first-class sugar boiler in every respect.

Mr. Max Rosenhelm, of the widely known R. & R. Chemical Works, of New York City, was in New Orleans a few days ago on one of his frequent business trips and made his headquarters at the St. Charles Hotel.

Mr. Emile Bourgeois, of St. James parish, a highly esteemed resident of that locality, was in the city during the past week for a short stay. He was accompanied by his daughter, Miss Clotilde Bourgeois, and they stopped at the Hotel de la Louisiane.

Mr. John R. Todd, a leading St. Mary parish sugar planter, was in the city during the past week on a visit. Mr. Todd was accompanied by his estimable wife, and they

secured apartments at the Commercial Hotel.

Mr. J. T. Boudreaux was the efficient sugar boiler during the past campaign on the well known Honduras plantation of Mr. Thomas A. Shaffer in Terrebonne parish. Mr. Boudreaux has had a fine reputation in this State for years as a careful and successful sugar boiler, and he amply sustained it during the crop recently closed.

Mr. Irving H. Morse was again a valuable member of the "Steering Committee" at the St. James and Armand places during the last campaign and gave valuable aid in making these fine places run in their usual smooth and effective manner. Mr. Morse has rendered some very valuable services to the Louisiana sugar industry since his advent among us.

Getting Ready for Rice.

The North American Land and Timber Company, which runs a steamboat and barges on the Mermentau, has prepared specifications for two new barges 50 by 18 feet, and work on them will be pushed. The barges will be covered and built in first class style. The increased acreage planted to rice in the Lake Authur country justifies the company in preparing to handle machinery and rough rice.—Daily American.

The Lake Benton Canal.

Prof. Philbrick started for the lower country Tuesday to continue the surveying for the proposed canal to connect Lake Charles with the Lake Arthur country. He took with him several assistants and the survey will no doubt be completed before his return.

H. G. Chalkey returned last night from Lake Benton where he with others erected a pole twenty-three feet high which will serve as a guide to the surveyors as they come from the west. The land owners and farmers who would be benefitted by that canal are much interested in the project and if a favorable report is made by the surveyors the canal will no doubt be built at no distant day. Freight rates from that country would be very low.—Lake Charles Commercial Tribune.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Situation by a lady of experience as a teacher; object, a good home with small salary; address A. W., care Mississippi Packet Co., New Orleans, La. 5-19-99

WANTED—Position as stenographer or book-keeper by a young man. Can give good references, and have no bad habits; address L. J. CARTER, care Draughon College, Galveston, Texas. 5-23-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar maker, a position for the season of 1899, either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; is a close boiler of firsts and seconds; is strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of reference from past employers as to character and ability; speaks Spanish and French. Address J. W. F., 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans, La. 4-17-99

WANTED—Position as governess or teacher; summer or session. Best references furnished. Address Miss Mary Stith, 1446 Camp street, New Orleans. 4-19-99

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced machinist and engineer for repairs and all-around work in beet sugar factory. Position permanent if satisfactory. Address, with references and salary expected, C. A. Zimmerman, Box 98, Eddy, New Mexico. 4-19-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler and clarifier with 18 years experience, expert in handling green cane, a crop for the coming season in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico. Best of references furnished. Makes no use of intoxicating liquors. Address WESTLEY, 218 Canal street, New Orleans. 5-17-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man 22 years of age, with gilt-edged references, as clerk in country or city store. Five years experience. Can speak French and English. Address AGUINALDO, Soulouque, La. 5-17-99

WANTED—Position for the 1899 crop as book-keeper or assistant. Can give best of references. Twenty-two years old and a graduate of a good business college; address A. E. Smith, Ozan, Ky. 5-9-99

WANTED—A first-class and competent assistant sugar boiler wishes position for coming season. Best references furnished; address Proof Stick, Box 62, Donaldsonville, La. 5-6-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first assistant, or as overseer. Experienced with teams and general plantation work. Eighteen years experience and can furnish best of references; address A. C., care this office. 5-10-99

WANTED—Position by a young man as time or book-keeper. Can give best of reference; address ARTHUR, care P. M., Little Cypress, Ky. 5-10-99

WANTED—Situation by an experienced machinist and sugar plantation engineer. Strictly sober and attentive to business. Would like to secure work the year round if possible at reduced salary, or take repairs and crop on very reasonable terms. Good references furnished; address P. H. E. ENGINEER, 724 Fern street, New Orleans. 5-10-99

WANTED—A middle-aged German man for yard and to make himself generally useful. Address Mrs. J. L. DARRAGE, Justine Plantation, Centerville, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position on a sugar plantation as blacksmith, wheelwright and horse-shoer; address SIDNEY G. ROUSSELL, Edgard, La. 5-1-99

WANTED—Any sugar planter requiring the services of a competent and sober mechanical engineer, with references, will please address ENGINEER, No. 4721 Magazine street, New Orleans, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper, overseer, clerk or general office or store work. Can give the best of city and outside references; address A. H. NOENINGER, care of Room 206, Board of Trade Building, New Orleans. 4-23-99

WANTED—Position as assistant chemist, book-keeper or time-keeper, by young man, aged 24, college graduate. Have done some work in sugar analysis. Have some knowledge of German; address Box 33, State College, Pa. 4-23-99

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as manager or assistant; address MANAGER H. A., care General Delivery, New Orleans. 5-3-99

WANTED—A position as superintendent or head sugar maker, by a man of large experience, either in plantation sugar house or sugar refinery. Can furnish good references. Would prove a valuable and all-around faithful man in any sugar house. Address P. R., care Louisiana Planter. 4-23-99

WANTED—Position by an all-around handy man: can do carpentry, painting, milk cows and make himself useful about a place. First-class references; address CHAS. TREPAGNIER, 1426 St. Ann street, New Orleans. 4-21-99

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 references. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LELER, care M. E. Sepp, 2383 8th Avenue, New York. 4-17-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-13-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 423 to 436 South Peters st. 4-13-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or assistant time keeper. "GEO.", care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartartia, Texas. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class references, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gilla of Poydras plantation, and others; address Mrs. S. TERRELL, 2221 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, all-round machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-6-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La. 4-6-99

WANTED A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper. 4-6-99

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BRETHERLOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, this office. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter. 3-25-99

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fictel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper on plantation or teacher in a private family, by a young man of good, steady habits, refinement and education; can give a 1 references as to competency and energy; address C. A., Bonnet Carre, La. 3-13-99

WANTED—Position as engineer and machinist. Sugar house work a specialty. Address CHEF ENGINEER, Litcher, La. 3-7-99

WANTED—Position as book-keeper or stenographer, or both; have had two years' experience on large sugar plantation, and thoroughly understand the ins and outs of office work for sugar refinery. Can furnish best of reference. Address J. F. B., P. O. Box 162, New Orleans, La. 3-8-99

WANTED—Position by a handy man on a plantation. Is a good carpenter and bricklayer, and can milk cows and do stable work. Good references. Address HENRY OLIVIER, 820 Villere street, New Orleans. 3-6-99

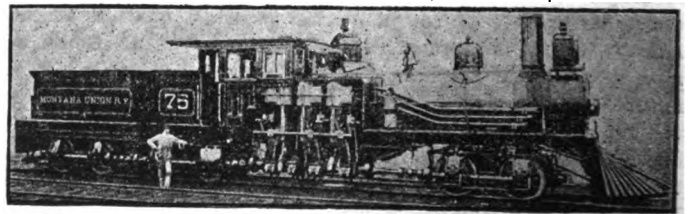
WANTED—A position for the coming crop of 1899 by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of references from past employers as to character and ability. Address PROOF STICK, 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans. 3-1-99

WANTED—Position by engineer to do repairing and to take off crop of 1899. I am familiar with all details of sugar house work; also cart work. Address J. A. L., Lauderdale P. O., La. 3-23-99

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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

Vol. XXII.

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No. 22.

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

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Ascension Branch Sugar Planters' Association,
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EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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2 inch.....	9 50	24 00	36 00	45 00
3 inch.....	14 50	36 20	54 40	72 50
4 inch.....	19 00	47 50	71 25	95 00
5 inch.....	23 50	58 75	88 15	117 50
6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	105 00	140 00
7 inch.....	32 50	81 15	121 75	162 50
8 inch.....	36 00	90 00	135 00	180 00
9 inch.....	38 00	95 00	142 50	190 00
10 inch.....	40 00	100 00	150 00	200 00
Half Page.....	60 00	150 00	225 00	300 00
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Some Surprises of Cane Growth This Season.

Very many strange things have occurred this season in the cane fields of Louisiana. The great freeze of February 13, 1899, was expected to be disastrous, and certainly that expectation will be verified in a greater or less degree. On the other hand, sugar cane has done far better in many instances than seemed possible under the circumstances, and even with the data that we now have, the sugar cane in these instances seems to be doing better than in normal seasons. In our last issue we referred to the latent life of sugar cane and to the possibility that the destruction of many of the eyes of the canes this year, both plant and stubble, was compensated to some extent by the development of those eyes which had not previously germinated, although a year's time had intervened.

It is now found that in many cases where cane was windrowed early in December, the ratoons therefrom are very indifferent, while canes windrowed later on left stubble that has ratooned well.

Again, ratoons in well-drained lands are in some instances very indifferent, while the ratoons in low, black lands and in low sandy lands, are both excellent.

In the North, where cellars are used for the protection of potatoes, apples, etc., from freezing weather, it is sometimes the custom to carry tubs of water into these cellars when the weather is very cold, experience having shown that the presence of these small bodies of water in the cellar aided in the preservation of the vegetables from destructive freezing. May it not have been that this past winter in the low lands, saturated with water, the latent heat of the water so retarded the freezing of the

canes in those lands that the stubbles were protected, although subjected to the same temperature which nearly destroyed the stubbles in high and well-drained lands? The latent heat retained by water at 32 deg. F. is very considerable, and this would have to be evolved before the water could be changed into solid ice. It would certainly seem that in some instances the stubble crop has been protected by the wet land. We have in mind a field of thirty acres in which the water lay six inches deep in the middle. The cold weather and the fuel panic in New Orleans made it impossible for a few days to secure any coal, and during this time the great freeze occurred. On a large plantation that particular field now presents one of the best first stubble crops, and, although thought to have been entirely lost, it promises to yield at least twenty tons of first ratoons per acre.

We presume that these queer experiences can hardly have any serious value to us as we shall probably not have another such season as that of '98-'99 for twenty years to come, and yet it would seem well to collate all the data that we can in this direction and to put it on record as it may come into unexpected use at any time. The efforts of the orange growers to protect their fields from freezing by flooding with water as was done on the lower coast in at least one instance, would seem to have some bearing upon this subject.

In 1876 there were sharp freezes on the nights of the 1st, 2d and 3d of December. Considerable cane was windrowed at that time because of these freezes, and the stubble of these canes made an indifferent stand of ratoons in 1877. This seemed inexplicable at the time. It was always thought perfectly safe to cut plant cane for the mill in December, the lateness of the season guaranteeing conditions that would give

good ratoons the following year. Why it failed in 1876 was never determined. It will be remembered that this season it was feared that the great freeze of February 13th, preceded by the sharp freeze of the previous week, would sour the exposed parts of the stubbles that the whole would suffer by the incidental fermentation and thus be destroyed. Based upon this hypothesis, many parties quickly shaved off the sour tops to prevent the injury to the rest of the stubble. Since that time these hypotheses seem all to have been disproved, and it has been found that canes that were left standing and were frozen and soured in the fields, and only cut at a late date to clear the fields, have given the best stubbles, as has been the former experience from freezing weather in Louisiana. It has been found again this season that stubbles not shaved and stubbles deeply shaved have given about the same results, the development of the stand of ratoons having come largely from the thoroughness of the removal of the earth and the forced development of the plant as is usual in our culture. The phenomenon of 1876 would, therefore, still seem to remain unexplained. The writer was led to believe at that time that the canes cut and windrowed on the first days of December, 1876, left stubbles surcharged with cane juice, which freezing the same night, produced destructive conditions, the same as attach to splitting freezes in canes intended for the mill. Canes that are cut in the ordinary way are not frozen the same night, and in the meantime the surplus moisture in the exposed part of the stubble evaporates and in its drier condition the stubble is not liable to that destructive freezing which seems in 1876 to have so severely damaged the freshly cut stubbles.

Watering Mules.

Now that the hot days of June are upon us and laying by the cane crop will soon be in order, it will seem extremely apropos to again call the attention of our planters to the urgent necessity for watering the working mules in the cane fields in the forenoon and in the afternoon. During the earlier

months of the year it is comparatively safe to allow the mules to do without water from morning until noon and then again from noon until night. Experience, however, for quite a number of years has shown that where mules have been watered in the fields in the forenoon and in the afternoon during the months of May and June scarcely any cases of colic have occurred, while such cases are comparatively frequent when this plan of more frequent watering is not adopted. It must necessarily be that the animals need water in the fields as much as the men who work there. Their anxiety to get to the water before their turn comes indicates how much they need it. Many of our planters are very conservative and adhere to their old methods, thinking that the multitude of new suggestions are of but little value, but we assure them that so far as watering the mules in the fields is concerned, if they will adopt this method they will never regret it.

Mules taking water in the fields in this way will drink less when they come in from work, and in this manner are rendered less liable to an attack of colic. When the weather is very hot it seems inexpedient to give the mules over a bucket, of about three gallons, of water in the field. Many mules, however, will drink $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 buckets of water in the field without exhibiting any injurious effect, but such a large quantity would seem rather dangerous in very hot weather.

Of course it is well understood among all sugar planters that mules coming in from the field at noon and at night, hot and tired, should be kept away from the water trough sufficiently long for them to have cooled down moderately and sufficiently to prevent that engorgement with water that so frequently produced colic in the past.

More Rice in South Carolina.

Our South Carolina friends seem to be emulating the example of our Southwestern Louisiana rice planters in developing the resources of their country by calling in the aid of outside capital. It is now stated that the rice planters owning plantations on the South Carolina side of the Savannah river are en-

deavoring to form a syndicate, or some corporate organization on the basis of a million dollars capital with a view of issuing some \$400,000 in bonds for the purpose of constructing a levee of twenty miles or more along the river for the protection of the crops from storms and freshets. A Boston syndicate is said to be ready to finance the scheme.

The rice planters of South Carolina and Georgia have thus far apparently been taking care of themselves individually, and the too often recurring disasters that have overtaken them seem at last to have led to the idea of corporate protection along the lines that have already been so well worked out in Louisiana in our various levee districts, entirely relieving the individual riparian owners from all responsibility and expense so far as levees are concerned other than the payment of the necessary taxes. This movement on the part of the South Carolina and Georgia rice men will mean a great deal to the rice planters of those states if it can be made a success and not unnecessarily expensive.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

The June meeting of this Association will be held next Thursday evening at 8 o'clock at No. 712 Union street, New Orleans. The topic scheduled for discussion is "How to Secure the Best Results in the Preservation of Seed Cane," which was to have been taken up at the last meeting but was postponed in order that the members of the Association might listen to Hon. James Wilson, the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, who was present and favored them with a short address. All interested in the above subject are invited to be present, whether members of the Association or not.

The Cane Crop.

Local showers have favored some portions of the sugar district during the past week, but they were not sufficient in either duration or extent to materially ameliorate the situation. The cane needs considerable moisture and the advent of our usual summer rains will be hailed with a great deal of satisfaction. While

cane resists drought well, and recuperates rapidly therefrom, it will certainly be unfortunate if the present crop, already so curtailed, should be subjected much longer to this very dry weather.

The Fertilizer Trust.

The news now comes from New York that a Fertilizer Trust has been organized under the title of the American Agricultural Chemical Co., and under a special charter granted by the State of Connecticut, with an authorized capital of forty millions of dollars. The argument is that the severe competition between the Northern and Eastern manufacturers and their reduced profits, the result of this active competition, has led these parties to organize with a view of forcing consumers to pay higher prices, or to force the producers of raw materials to sell these to them at lower prices.

This new company is composed of the following concerns:

Alexandria Fertilizing and Chemical Co., Alexandria, Va. H. J. Baker & Bro., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Bradley Fertilizer Co., Boston, Mass., and Los Angeles, Cal.; Chemical Company of Canton, Baltimore, Md.; The Cleveland Dryer Co., Cleveland, O.; Cumberland Bone Phosphate Co., Boothbay Harbor, Me.; Crocker Fertilizer Co., Buffalo, N. Y.; Detrick Fertilizer and Chemical Co., Baltimore, Md.; Jarecki Chemical Co., Sandusky, O.; Lazaretto Guano Co., Baltimore, Md.; Liebig Manufacturing Co., Carteret, N. J., and Wilmington, Del.; Lister's Agricultural Chemical Works, Newark, N. J.; Maryland Fertilizing and Manufacturing Co., Baltimore, Md.; Michigan Carbon Works, Detroit, Mich.; Milsom Rendering and Fertilizing Co., Buffalo, N. Y.; Northwestern Fertilizing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Preston Fertilizer Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.; The Quinapiac Co., Boston, Mass.; Read Fertilizer Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Tygert-Allen Fertilizer Co., Philadelphia; Williams & Clark Fertilizer Co., Carteret, N. J.; The Zell Guano Co., of Baltimore City, Md.

The organization of this immense corporation has been financed by the banking houses of Clark, Dodge & Co., of New York, and Jackson & Curtis and Hornblower & Weeks, of Boston. It is stated that upwards of ten millions of dollars of the stock has been taken by the vendors, and that none has been offered to the public; that those who are in the new company will stay in it, inasmuch as there will be more profit in the business than ever before; then there will be a big saving in freights,

the purchase of supplies, advertising expenses and in marketing the goods, leaving the amount available for dividends even larger than has been indicated.

The forty millions of stock has been divided into \$20,000,000 six per cent. preferred stock and \$20,000,000 of common stock, with seventeen millions of each already issued and three millions each to remain in the treasury.

The people of the country must judge for themselves as to the expediency of countenancing these vast organizations. We are gratified to see that none of the New Orleans fertilizing companies are involved in the deal.

American Sugar in Canada.

The exceedingly low prices of refined sugar resulting from the contest between the American refiners make it possible, in view of the drawback of duties allowed on exported merchandise, to ship American sugar to Canada, to a moderate degree, though this trade has not been pushed to any material extent, as it means either selling sugar at a loss or at an infinitesimal profit. There has nevertheless been a gradual increase in the business, and one of the chief barriers to it—namely a combination of Canadian grocers with Canadian refiners against the American sugar—has now been removed. Thus far the exports have been chiefly the product of the Sugar Trust, as the business has not been considered sufficiently important to warrant the trouble of complying with the drawback regulations. Referring to the change, Messrs. Willett & Gray, in their Sugar Trade Journal, say: "A notable feature of the week is the opening up of the Canadian markets to American refined sugars by the dissolution on Tuesday of the trade arrangements long existing between the 'Guild' of Canadian grocers and the Canadian refiners, by which all limits of purchase and sale prices are removed and grocers will buy wherever they can buy cheapest, at home or abroad. The American Sugar Refining Company will find herein a place for their surplus production. The independents are not disposed to compete for this trade, on account of the difficulties of drawbacks, etc. Canadian refiners have already reduced prices 10c per 100 pounds, to shut out American sugars, but they cannot shut out without serious loss to the refiners, for the American Sugar Refining Company have the advantage of drawbacks largely increased by our countervailing duties on beet sugars. This will prove an important new feature in the business of the American Sugar Refining Company of much advantage." Willett & Gray also print the following dispatch, dated Toronto, May 23: A great deal of discontent has prevailed

for some time among members of the Grocers' Guild on account of the increasingly large quantities of American sugar entering this territory, and the blame is laid at the door of the refiners, the other contracting parties to the sugar agreement for permitting this state of things. To that the refiners replied that by keeping down their prices at figures which on the even market showed an absolute loss they were doing all that could be expected of them to meet the untoward conditions, and as their net price to the trade was, say, 16c per 100 pounds less than actual net landed cost of American granulated, they felt that the onus was upon the grocers to meet the foreign competition, as, although our prices were lower at first cost than American, yet when grocers' profit was added Canadian sugar was actually 6c per 100 pounds dearer than competition. It was therefore hoped that a tentative agreement might be effected whereby the trade would have been willing to sell sugars on a much smaller margin than they have recently had under the sugar agreement, and to that end a conference was held in Montreal yesterday between the refiners and grocers, when ways and means of meeting the situation were discussed.

"The spirit of compromise was not present. As a result the sugar agreement which took effect July 11, 1898, is now suspended indefinitely and prospects of effecting a settlement in the near or distant future are very remote. Sugars will, until further notice, be sold by refiners at open prices and by the trade in the same way, the latter only adhering to the Guild selling terms and discounts. To-day quotations are as follows: Redpaths and St. Lawrence granulated, 4.55c; Acadia, 4.50c; yellows, equal to No. 2 standard, 3.75c; all net delivered to Toronto. It is a matter of general regret that the conference yesterday was abortive, and the opinion has been expressed that it will be impossible to restore the old basis for a very long time, if ever. Members of the Toronto Guild are conferring with representatives of Hamilton firms this afternoon in the hope of arriving at some temporary settlement."

American granulated quotations yesterday for export were, freight prepaid, 3.27c net to Montreal, 3.28½ net to principal Ontario points, in bond.—N. Y. Journal Commerce.

Personal.

Mr. M. J. Kahoa, the prominent sugar planter of West Baton Rouge parish, was at the Grunewald on Thursday last.

Mr. W. D. Calhoun was again strongly in evidence at the St. James and Arnaud refineries of the Miles P. & M. Co., Ltd., during the past campaign. Mr. Calhoun is a valuable man and seems determined to reach the top round of the ladder in sugar planting matters.

Mr. L. F. Suthon, of Houma, La., was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He registered at the Commercial hotel.

Cuba versus Louisiana.

Since my return from Cuba with the Second Louisiana Volunteer Infantry many inquiries have been made of me as to the soil, climate, etc., of Cuba, and principally as to the prospects of sugar raising in competition with Louisiana. In my personal opinion, shared by those in Cuba familiar with existing and probable future conditions, the Louisiana planter need have no fear of Cuban competition for the following reasons:

1. While the island has undoubtedly rich soil and favorable climate, it must be recollected that the day of cheap labor has gone by in Cuba never more to return. Further, it takes eighteen months to make a crop and transportation to the seaboard is very costly.

2. There are very few good titles to land in Cuba and no mortgage laws, and capitalists engaging in the business have to furnish every cent to produce, transport, store and market their crops. Bad titles alone will make capitalists cautious and no investment of less than \$1,000,000 will be remunerative.

3. It is so much easier and simpler to raise, cure and manufacture tobacco, that for many years this will be the main crop; in fact, a large syndicate has now control of this business with a capitalization of \$6,500,000.

4. The banking and monetary systems are limited and very poor. It has only been lately, with the establishment of American banks, that a check was used in Cuba. Previously all depositors had to draw their money in person.

5. The government of the island, either as a colony, territory or "Free Cuba" (Cuba Libre), is bound to be costly, for the suppression of brigandage will necessitate a large force of military or police, which has to be paid for out of the island revenues, and as real estate is not directly taxed, the produce has to bear the burden. Again, the wharf monopoly and transportation charges are so heavy that, with the produce taxes, they amount to a very substantial protective duty.

Summary: While soil and climate are favorable, "where every prospect pleases and only man is vile," it must be noted in all tropical climates man loses that nerve and energy which characterizes the American people. So if the Louisiana planters will study their prime need, which is a good soil, imitating the Cuban soil, which contains lime in large quantity (due to disintegration of coral rock) and supply this deficiency in their own soil by superphosphates, making rich, ripe cane instead of heavy tonnage of low grade, the problem of successful competition with the world will be solved. It is the further observation of the writer, who has been through Texas and Florida, that a strong similarity exists in the famous cane soils of Oyster Creek, Texas, on the plantations of Col. Ed. H.

Cunningham (Sugar Land), Messrs. L. A. Ellis & Son (Sartartia), Ball, Hutchings & Co. (Retrieve), Capt. Dunavant (Eagle Lake), and many on the Rio Grande, so it would seem the part of practical common sense to study the quality and have an analysis of these soils, then add to our soils the deficiency found, which the writer believes to be lime, and further believes the marl of Carolina or the phosphate rock (ground) of Florida will be one of the remedies. This is only submitted for consideration and in the hope of some one trying it on a small scale, to show the correctness of the conclusion. It is not too late to do so this season, say on one cut.—John E. Caldwell, in Donaldsonville Chief.

Colonial Sugar and the United States Tariff.

A French view of the sugar producing capacity of the Hawaiian Islands and its probable effect on the tariff of the United States is contained in a recent report of L. Vossion, French Consul at Honolulu, to his government. The Consul says:

For several years the Hawaiian planters, in order to disarm opposition from the American producers, have asserted in public documents which have been given wide circulation, that all the land on the islands capable of producing sugar cane had been taken up, and that the output of this product could by no possibility ever average more than 250,000 tons or 300,000 tons per year at the very outside. This is entirely wrong.

The superficial area of the islands is 1,700,000 hectares (1 hectare equals 2.471 acres), of which it is true that about 1,000,000 hectares of arid mountains, desert, volcanoes, and sterile lava beds are impossible of cultivation. But of the 700,000 hectares remaining it is very conservative to estimate 50,000 hectares as adapted to the cultivation of cane. Experiments in nearly all parts of the islands, even in Lanai, which is considered as rather poor in vegetation for a tropical island, have given excellent results, as is the case at Waianae, Onomea, Wailuku, and many other places, in which the plantations already established are capable of considerable enlargement. Thus if one counts on an average production of 12 tons per hectare, which is less than the real average, it is seen that probably within a few years the exports of Hawaiian sugar will reach 350,000 or 400,000 tons, which may increase later to as much as 450,000 tons in good years.

By virtue of the reciprocity clause of the Dingley tariff, Cuban sugar will at least enter the United States at a reduced rate of duty, while that from Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippines will naturally enter free, and if to this mass thus thrown upon the American market, one adds the local production of both cane and beet sugar, it is possible to foresee the time, within the first five years of the twentieth century, when the United

States will import scarcely any foreign sugar. The Treasury, by the disappearance of its chief duties will thus lose a considerable revenue which it will be necessary to replace in order to cover the deficit. It will also be necessary to give the American producers some compensation for the lower cost of production, the great advantage enjoyed by their tropical rivals, and the United States will thus be obliged to impose an entrance duty on the sugar produced in the extra-continental possessions, varying according to the countries.—The Manufacturer.

Saccharin in Chicago.

"Saccharin is used in the preparation of fruit sauces, stewed prunes and in filling for pie." Such is the frank statement printed on the menu of the Commercial Club. Many of the guests cannot eat certain articles when prepared with sugar without creating dietetic disturbance, and therefore saccharin is commonly used as a substitute for sugar in all articles requiring sweetening.

Would not that same honest policy, if adopted by the canners and preservers of fruits and vegetables, tend to increase confidence in their products? Many consumers prefer saccharin to sugar, as it does not influence the functions of the human body; does not decompose in the body; does not engender fat; has no nutritive merits. There are, however, others who have a prejudice, oftentimes unreasonable, against chemicals of any sort in food, and such should be free to elect whether they should use food containing chemicals or substitutes, instead of being made the victims of a paltry deception. Let us have the honest labeling of all food products. Occasionally a manufacturer using saccharin states the fact on his label, but the majority do not. Why not have candies, jams, preserves, honey, and other articles containing glucose stamped with the fact; each sort of a baking powder sold for exactly what it is? If this is generally followed, then any unreasonable prejudice which may exist will disappear, and consumers will feel as free to buy oleomargarine as butter; glucose or saccharin as sugar; apple jelly with various flavors, as articles true to name. "Honesty is the best policy" is the best sort of worldly wisdom.—Grocers' Criterion.

Personal.

Mr. John R. Gheens, of Lafourche parish, and Miss Mary Gheens, were registered at the St. Charles Hotel, Sunday last, having left Golden Ranch to take care of itself for a day or two.

Mr. Phillip H. Ments, of Franklin, La., was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He made his headquarters at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. Felix A. Bonvillain, of Houma, La., was at the Commercial Hotel during the past week. Mr. A. A. Bonvillain, of Glencoe, La., was also registered at this popular house on Sunday last. Both of these gentlemen are very prominently identified with Terrebonne parish's sugar interests.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather is warm enough to suit anybody—even the ice man—and it has been about as dry in most places as it was warm. Such showers as have fallen were local in character, with the result that while some plantations and vicinities are not in need of rain, many others are suffering for it.

The general situation remains materially unchanged and items of interest from the plantations are few and far between. Our managers are not so communicative as usual on the subject of their crop conditions, and prospects, and the omen is not a good one, since it indicates that there isn't much to brag about. The few who have fairly satisfactory outlooks are in such a minority and feel so loath to hurt the feelings of their less fortunate colleagues that they are more reticent than is their wont. Then the apprehension of having imputations cast upon their veracity probably exercises no little restraining influence, as there is a disposition in many quarters to resent the proposition that anybody can have a fairly good cane crop this year, and to class any man who makes such pretension as a candidate for the distinction of being "the biggest liar in the state." Two of our best known planters have recently professed to regard each other as entitled to this designation—only in a Pickwickian sense, of course. When No. 1 claimed an average of over 142 pounds of sugar to the ton of cane for last grinding season his friend tendered him the blue ribbon for pre-eminence in prevarication; and now that No. 2 asserts that he is likely to make enough cane for seed and grind 2,000 tons besides (about one-sixth of his plantation's average tonnage) No. 1 wishes to return the decoration and forego all claim to the distinction which it implies. In point of fact, both gentlemen are noted for their accuracy of statement and excellent capacity for estimating crop results, and when the real "biggest liar in the state" is discovered his name will be very unlike either of theirs and his residence will be neither Salaburg nor McManor.

Mr. John Reuss, formerly one of the best known and most successful sugar planters of lower Iberville and upper Ascension, has been taken seriously ill in Germany, and his son, Mr. George B. Reuss, has gone across the ocean with his family responsive to the old gentleman's urgent cablegram summoning them all to his bedside. News of the patient's condition is anxiously awaited by his many friends in this section, and the hope is general that he may not only survive the present attack but recover his health completely and be enabled to carry out his recent intention of returning to Louisiana.

Ascension has lost another distinguished citizen. Hon. R. N. Sims, a leading lawyer

and public man, and a prominent member of the Ascension Branch of the Sugar Planters' Association, passed away suddenly the morning of the 27th inst., in the fifty-ninth year of his age. The cause of death was heart failure, and the end came almost without premonition. The esteem in which Judge Sims was held and the sorrow and regret occasioned by his death are indicated in a measure by the fact that his funeral was perhaps the largest ever seen in the parish.

Next Tuesday will be regular meeting day for the Ascension Branch, and among the matters to be considered will be that of memorial tributes to Hon. Wm. Porcher Miles, an ex-president of the association, and Judge Sims, who was a member of the board of directors at the time of his death.

An invitation has been extended the United States gunboat Nashville to stop at Donaldsonville on the way down the river, and preparations are being made to give her a hearty welcome. A reception at the rooms of the "Abspa" and a carriage ride through Palo Alto and Evan Hall plantations are items on the program of entertainment proposed for the edification of the Nashville's officers.

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Excepting a light shower on the 23rd instant the greater part of our parish has been without rain for nearly six weeks, and while the drouth is not of as long duration as last year it has been equally as far reaching in its effect, due perhaps to the winds, which in no little measure have helped to evaporate the moisture from the soil. The maximum temperature for the week was on May 29th when the thermometer registered 96 degrees. The shower mentioned above showed a precipitation of .32 inch. Planters generally have been bringing the dirt up to the cane to retain moisture.

Some corn was laid by and peas planted but most people are waiting for the rain which Mr. Thomas Supple, of Bayou Goula, says, speaking from never failing indications, will come this week. Some planters think that a good many stubbles will be brought out during the month of June, with favorable weather.

Parties from the east bank report magnificent crops of rice at Evergreen plantation, leased by Mr. Simon LeBlanc, of St. Gabriel, and at Indian Camp, under lease to Messrs. Babin Bros., some of the rice being more than knee high.

Messrs. Frederic and John Wilbert have had a new fence erected on the Kuneman front and have pulled down all the old tumble down eyesore shanties. A fine crop of corn is coming. At Enterprise, the other plantation lately acquired by these enterprising men, four new cabins and a large tenant house have been added, besides numerous repairs and additions to the buildings already on the place. In fact one may truly say

the spirit of progress and improvement has struck the Bayou Jacob section.

Mr. Alcide Daigle, of Messrs Trahan & Daigle, of Dorceyville, was at Plaquemine this week and reports their plant cane in splendid shape and that the acreage compared with last year's shows a shortage of, only 8 acres. Mr. Daigle says that while rain is badly needed, the drouth is not near as bad as that of 1898.

We had a pleasant visit last Friday to the Milly plantation of Messrs. LeBlanc & Danos, on Bayou Plaquemine, and were delighted with the general appearance of their crop. Milly has 225 acres of plant cane as pretty as can be, a perfect stand and Mr. Danos says it is suckering earlier than last year, and more profusely. The stubble crop is a good average for the season, while the corn crop is beautiful. Scarcely any stubbles came out in cuts where the cane had been planted in the fall of '97 and for this reason Milly's stubble crop is 40 acres short. Last year the place produced 5,000 tons for the mill and the tonnage will exceed that by one-third this year. Messrs LeBlanc & Danos are among the few who will make any substantial improvements during '99, and the battery of old flue boilers is being torn down to make room for a set of veritable steam givers, now being built by Messrs. M. Zier & Co., of New Albany, Ind.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

At the time my last letter was written, the impression was general that the rain of Tuesday evening was general, but such was not the case. It was only a local shower which did not extend over two miles in either direction. Homestead and Anchorage, with portions of Poplar Grove, were the only places where the rain fell to amount to anything. Yesterday (Tuesday) there were several showers in the central portion of the parish, but up to Monday the other sections of the parish had had no rains and the crops were suffering very seriously. An amusing instance of the perversity of the weather was furnished yesterday afternoon when a heavy rain, lasting half an hour, fell on Berthelot Brothers' rice crop, which is abundantly watered by an immense pump from the river, while on an adjoining plantation, where the crops are literally parching up, there was no rain. It may be remarked, en passant, that the Messrs. Berthelot have the only rice crop in the parish and that it is a splendid one, promising an abundant yield. They finished weeding several days ago.

Although the cane crop is considerably behind hand, it will be laid by unusually early this year. In the first place, there isn't much cane to lay by; and, in the second place, the dry weather of the past two months has enabled the planters to keep right up with their field work. Indeed, on

a number of places, working the cane was practically discontinued several weeks ago because there was nothing further to do until rain fell. Then, too, every planter is anxious to reduce expenses, and the finishing touches will be applied to the cane just as soon as possible.

So far the planters have had very little grass or weeds to contend with. Speaking of this circumstance recalls the fact that never before has grass been so scarce in this parish as now. Between the zero temperature of February and the subsequent drouth, the grass seems to have been effectually killed out. The levees, which are usually covered with rank vegetation at this season, are as naked as in the month of January. Even the ditch banks are clean.

As you are doubtless aware, the Texas and Pacific Railroad Company has surveyed a line through this parish for the purpose of extending the road to New Roads, Pointe Coupee. Immediately upon the completion of the survey, another party of officials followed up the preliminary work obtaining rights of way, which in most cases were readily granted. Only two rights of way remain to be signed, and as soon as they are disposed of, contracts for the work of construction will be let. It is expected that trains will be running to New Roads by October 1. The extension will prove of some benefit to planters in the central-upper portion of the parish, as it will enable them to ship their crops and receive freight more expeditiously and at a slight reduction in expense as compared with the present steamboat service.

Now that June has set in everybody is looking for an abundance of rain. If this month proves to be anything like June, 1898, there will be lots of moisture—at least in

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has been even yet warmer than usual, several degrees above the normal weather for May. The want of precipitation, however, is being greatly felt, and particularly is this fact to be noticed on the black lands. This want of rain does not apply to all of the parish, for above Napoleonville for a mile or two there have been showers, and near plattenville, too, there have been several dust laying rains. Below Napoleonville we have not been so fortunate and the dust is getting to be almost intolerable to those forced to travel. The gardens show sadly the lack of moisture, and while on sandy lands the stubble continues to grow yet on most places all of the corn would be better for a good soaking rain, and the plant cane would be particularly benefited by rain. Many have deferred planting their peas until we could get rain, fearing that otherwise they would probably be sprouted by a light shower or heavy dew and then die for lack of more moisture.

We learn that Mr. Dugas, of Sweet Home, will bring his tram at least as far as Plattenville this year, and perhaps a little below. Oakley is going right ahead on its way to the Attakapas canal, and will try to make up for the shortage of crops in the immediate neighborhood by stretching a neighborly hand to the small landholders on the Attakapas canal. The decision of the suit involving the right of way over Little Texas will give the Southern Pacific an opportunity to at once push its road to Napoleonville and we will have soon, we hope, daily communication via Thibedeaux and a railroad with New Orleans. The action of the levee boards at Baton Rouge was very satisfactory to the people of Assumption, for they have no idea of allowing their water communication to be cut off by a dam at Donaldsonville.

We regret to learn of the serious illness of Mr. Charles Matthews, at his plantation home in Lafourche, where his brother George is also confined by typhoid-malaria. We trust that their convalescence can be soon recorded. The Misses Munson have returned to Glenwood from school at San Antonio, and are at home to their host of friends. Mr. Munson went to Texas to attend the commencement exercises and escort them home.

The tragic death of Miss Letta Pike came as a great shock to her friends in Assumption. A runaway horse caused her to jump from the vehicle, and death came at once. Her brothers and sisters have the sympathy of the whole community in their sorrow. A large number attended the obsequies of the late R. N. Sims last Sunday in Donaldsonville. He was an able advocate, and was well-known in Assumption both in a business and social way. Many years of his early life were spent in this parish. His wife was a native of Assumption.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Barton last week took a round-trip on the Chickasaw, seeing the country after an absence of several years, and renewing old friendships. Their many friends were glad to get even a glance of them but would prefer a longer visit.

Last week several entertainments were given in honor of Mrs. Currie, and all was done that could be to make her visit to Assumption a pleasant one. An excursion to Lockport on the Chickasaw wound up the courtesies extended to her.

In the absence of rain we cannot report that the crops are growing rapidly as we would like. A good rain is badly needed, not alone for the fields but for the gardens and the cisterns. One good soaking rain would do for a week or two, but for it to do the greatest amount of good it must come soon. The Lafourche is still falling, but there is still fine water for steamboat-navigation. The rice-crops are doing well, and the fields are looking remarkably green, the stage of water in the Lafourche having furnished ample water up to a few days,

now pumping will soon be the order of the day. The crops on the places of the Messrs. Delaune look particularly well, and fine results are promised. Mr. Onpal Delaune has part of the place in cane, and is doing a good deal of ditching, digging a large canal that will greatly improve the drainage. He will plant cane more extensively another year, and finally proposes to make cane almost exclusively on it. MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In some sections of the parish there has been an entire absence of rainfall during the month of May and in others the precipitations have been light, and in consequence crops would be benefited by showers to thoroughly saturate the soil. Fortunately the land in general is in excellent condition, although some say rough fields can be seen here and there. The fields are clean of extraneous vegetation and on some places the hoe gang is dispensed with for the time being. The corn crop on most places has been laid by and the peas planted, and where the stubble is very defective the fields have received the last working and also seeded with peas. A large acreage will be in good condition for large fall and spring plantings. The cane and corn crops have been retarded in growth from the want of adequate moisture yet they have a much better color than expected from the prolonged dry weather. It is generally conceded that the plant cane and ratoons are suckering properly and where examined they are now rooting rapidly. The canes are now in a condition to elongate with great vigor when there is sufficient humidity in the soil, and not an excess.

Methods of treating the stubble have varied this season as usual—and the stand is very mixed everywhere—some fields are promising and others similarly treated are very indifferent, going to prove that the vitality of the stumps was a factor of more importance than the method of cultivation.

A recent trip on the line of railroad and on the bayou Chacahoula disclosed a marked improvement of the crops since last seen. Many of the front fields were in cane last year and are planted in corn this season. The bulk of the plant cane is some distance from the road which did not permit of close inspection, yet it could be seen that the color was good. At Hollywood, estate of Hon. H. C. Minor, the stubble crop is mixed as elsewhere, and the manager, Mr. V. H. Kyle, informed the writer that eighty acres has stand enough to make seed for three hundred acres should the season prove favorable. The fall planting on Crescent Farm is a little thin; but more promising than was expected after the freeze. At Ellendale, of Mr. Ed. McCullam, the stubble on the road is much above the average for the season. At Ardoye, of Hon. J. D. Shaffer,

there are four hundred acres of plant cane and about one hundred and twenty-five acres of good stubble. On Mr. Shaffer's Eureka place, managed by Mr. Ed. Thomas, there is some fine plant cane and promising stubble. On bayou Chacahoula on the Cedar Grove and Poverty Flat places of Messrs. McCollam & Cocke there are promising fields of plant and stubble. At Forest Grove, of Mr. C. A. Buford, the stubble is indifferent in places but the two hundred and fifty acres of plant cane are above the average and the stand will compare with average years. The fields are well worked and the crop is in admirable condition.

Had there been adequate moisture in the soil the weather would have been excellent during the past week.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The fields around the immediate Franklin section of the parish have not received their shower yet, and as reported in the last letter, they are showing the need of a good drink to a very discouraging degree; one or two showers fell this week over portions of this particular district, but they were too light to lay the dust, and every mark of them had disappeared within a few minutes. But the Bayou Sale and lower Teche portions were visited by a drenching shower on Tuesday morning of this week; in fact, they have had several good showers during the last two weeks, and as a result, the crops are showing up magnificently.

However, the planters in the drought section have no good reason to lose courage as long as the clouds hang over as heavily and threateningly as they have for the last couple of weeks, but on the other hand should stand in hourly expectation of a shower.

The Caffery and Alice C., refineries started drying out their thirds some days ago, but owing to the gum in the sugar, the work was abandoned until such time as the centrifugal work would cheapen itself by a more complete precipitation of the sugar.

The Franklin refinery started off upon its thirds on the 29th and Mr. Louis Kramer's Frances on the 22nd, and both are running along yet very nicely; but the Franklin concern came to a very unfortunate suspension of operations Tuesday evening of this week, at about five o'clock in the evening. A laborer by the name of Barrilleau, while endeavoring to throw a belt around a pulley while in motion, somewhere in the centrifugal gearing, got his sleeve caught over the head of a set screw, which wound his arm around the shaft with such rapidity as to tear it off at his shoulder, and inflict painful if not fatal injuries upon the side of his head.

Mrs. J. L. Darragh's Justine refinery will not begin the drying out of its thirds, your correspondent has learned, until very late

in the season, as far, possibly, as the fall, owing to their unfavorable condition.

C. B. Darrall, Jr.'s Avoca place, near Morgan City, was the first in the parish to commence upon the thirds, having finished about a month ago.

Messrs. Bloch and Levy, the new owners of the Cote Blanche plantation, intend to erect a large corn house and mule stable upon the place as soon as work upon the same be commenced, besides other improvements and repairs as will be found, upon examination, to be necessary. Mr. Bloch says if they do well this season, his improvement next year will be such as to make Cote Blanche a modern, first class plantation throughout; but if not, they will be less extensive.

Mr. W. B. Kemper, manager of his own Choupique, and of his mother's Glencoe plantations, says that fifteen acres of his cane on the former place, was in very bad condition for a time, owing to its having been visited by insects, which stripped off the leaves; but that they have now abandoned it, and it is now looking up very nicely. Mr. Kemper also complains of a scarcity of rain.

Mr. A. A. Bonvillain, owner of the Home and Coteau plantations, also in the Cypremont district, complains of the scarcity of rain, but says that one any time within the next three weeks, if ordinarily heavy, will set his prospects up even with the actual results of last season.

Mrs. E. D. Burguières is having the thirds on her Crawford plantation, in Cypremont, run off; it will only require three or four days to dry out what is left, while the other machines in the parish will run for from ten to thirty days.

ST. MARY.

Vermillion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather is about the same as of a week ago. Generally it is very dry but there have been local showers which have greatly relieved the conditions in some sections. In the Erath section, six miles east of Abbeville there has been an abundance of rainfall. So much fell the early part of last week that the farmers were unable to do any work for two or three days; then on the Coulee Kinney, two miles west of Abbeville, very fine rains fell. The section of country at and around Abbeville was favored with only a very light shower, but it did a great deal of good. Corn in this unfavored section is doing very well but cane is beginning to need rain badly. The indications now for rain are not very promising. We have had a stiff wind from the southeast for the past two days and the clouds look high and dry. A general rain throughout the parish now would be welcomed by all classes and conditions of people and would be of untold value to the crops. Cane is looking strong and is growing some but

needing rain, the stubble still continues to come out but it is so late now there is nothing expected of it. The cane crop is being watched very closely in this section and every effort is being made to push it along to a satisfactory maturity. The very short acreage and the increased demand for cane, with a good season, will certainly show up fine returns in tonnage. The cane buyers are very thick in this section of the country just now. For the past few days it has been dangerous to shoot black birds along the fence rows for fear that you might kill or cripple a cane buyer. They are all received with a hearty welcome by our people and the man that pays the best price or gives the best general treatment in prices and facilities for taking the cane off will be the man that will get the cane. The crop is short, but if the price is long it will tend to even up. Eighty cents net at the derrick is about the best price offered so far. Some offers of \$3.40 per ton net have been made, but were not accepted. Our people are very hopeful of getting \$4.00. The corn crop is very fine and promises a full yield. The late planting and the transplant is suffering some from the birds, black birds mostly. Cotton is very small and not looking so well. The weather has been almost too dry to sprout the last planting. Unless the seasons favor it from now out the crop will not be much. Irrigated rice is very fine, but providence rice is small and suffering for rain, most of the providence crop, however, has not been planted yet. The general outlook for a full rice crop is very promising.

The Rose Hill Plantation, including the refinery, was sold before the Court House in Abbeville last Saturday, the 27th, and was bought in by S. Gumble & Co., for \$60,350, that amount being two-thirds of the appraisal. This sale included 1000 acres of fine sugar lands, a complete 750 ton mill complete, mules, farming implements, railroads and cars. It is understood that Messrs. Gumble & Co. will organize this into the Rose Hill Sugar Co., and will put the mill in first-class shape to handle the present crop. P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

It cannot be said now at the end of May that the growing crops are as promising as they really should be at this time and date in the season.

The excessive dry weather is surely beginning to show its effects on not a few but many places and parts of this and adjoining parishes.

While light showers visited some districts of this section of the country last week, the ground was so very dry and the rainfall so light, the benefit derived was barely perceptible. From reports which have been received by the Planter's scribe, it is learned that the rainfall of the past week was heavi-

est in Rapides from Meeker down to Cheneyville, a distance of some six miles on an air line. In St. Landry the rainfall was from all accounts greater over the Elm Bayou neighborhood than elsewhere in the parish. In Avoyelles a number of places heard from report light showers, in some places not enough rain fell to lay the dust. To sum the matter up, it is dry from Lafayette to Alexandria. Corn is suffering for want of rain. In places seriously so. This drought is a serious thing for those who have late corn, which is to-day considered past recovery no matter what amount of rain may fall from this date through the month of June.

Cane, while suffering to some extent for want of moisture, has not, I am inclined to think, been injured by the dry weather to the same extent that the corn crop has.

Cane is young yet. It is the opinion expressed by not a few who have grown up with this country that June will, in all probability, be a month of excessive rains. If such should be the case cane will have ample time to grow and mature in time for harvest. A highly respected cane planter, who was engaged in cane growing dating prior to the late unpleasant war between the States, in a conversation with the Planter's scribe on the all-important subject of dry and wet seasons, related that, if I make no mistake, 1868 was dry from the beginning of May to the middle of July of that year, in Rapides parish. After the rains did commence to fall during the last weeks of July, continuing through August and September, they were not excessive, but just enough of it to hold the moisture in the soil. The cane which had the appearance of having been parched before the rain began to fall, started to grow with wonderful rapidity, maturing a fair tonnage of cane, yielding, when worked through the mills of that date and time, an average of two and a half hogsheads of sugar per acre planted.

With such truthful statements as these, I fail to see any real cause for any serious kick coming because it don't rain more than it has.

It is noticeable, as dry as it is, that the plow does not have to go very deep to find moisture. This being the case, by constantly stirring the dust, a mulch may be maintained to hold the moisture up to and near the surface to nourish the cane roots and at the same time forward and promote the growth of the cane.

I learn that Mr. C. F. Knoll, Bunkie P. O., is meeting with a fair share of success in the cultivation of his cane crop. Mr. Knoll has a large corn and cotton crop. Others in the same locality have promising crops, but report that they are needing rain.

Cotton has suffered less than either cane or corn. The plant, when it receives proper attention, fairly revels in growth during periods of dry and warm weather. Gardens are in bad shape for want of rain,

Peas, which have been planted, are not likely to come up to a good stand until we get rain.

The farmers claim that it is too dry for setting out sweet potatoe slips and vines successfully. ERIN.

Trade Notes.

Sugar Machinery for Sale.

Elsewhere in this issue we print the advertisement of Mr. F. W. Nicholls, of Thibodaux, who has some sugar machinery to dispose of, notably a 6½-foot pan and a Knowles pump. Write him and you will find he has a bargain to offer you.

Reduced Rates for Summer Trips.

Commencing June 1st and continuing to and including September 30th, 1899, the Texas & Pacific Railway Company will sell round trip Summer Tourist Tickets to points in Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Quebec, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin, at a considerable reduction in rates.

See the nearest Ticket Agent for full information; or write E. P. Turner, G. P. & T. A., Dallas, Texas.

The Effects of Sorghum in New South Wales.

Every season reports come from the dairying districts with respect to the death of cattle that have either broken into or have been turned into the immature sorghum crops.

Planter's Friend is usually regarded as the most injurious variety, probably because larger areas of it are sown than of any other kind of sorghum. The matter has frequently been discussed in the Gazette, and, pending chemical investigation of the plant in various stages of growth, the opinion of Mr. Valder, given the Gazette for April, 1897, is reproduced:

So far as I can judge, death is not due to the sorghum, but to injudicious feeding. It has been well known for years past that it is dangerous to feed sorghum in its very young stage of growth to cattle, especially when they have been getting only dry food, or are in very poor condition. If they are then run into a paddock of very young sorghum naturally they are inclined to eat too much of this sweet, succulent food, and therefore bad results follow. For the past three years the cattle at the Wagga Experiment Farm have been fed for fully nine months in the year on sorghum, either as green fodder or as ensilage. During that time I have not lost a single cow or calf, and our milk yield is far above the average. These results are, I consider, due to the following:

1. The cattle are never turned into the sorghum, but a rough calculation is made as to the quantity required per diem, and every day that quantity is cut and fed to the cattle, care being taken that only as much as the cattle will eat readily is given.

2. On no account do I allow sorghum to be cut for fodder till it comes fully into ear.

Provided these directions were carried out, I am confident that such a thing as cattle dying from eating sorghum would never be heard of.

From experiments carried out here, it has been proved that in a dry season sorghum will produce nearly three times as much green fodder as maize, and therefore sorghum is undoubtedly one of the most valuable fodder plants that can be grown in this district.—New South Wales Gazette.

Personal.

Mr. James H. Hall, of Kentucky, registered at the St. Charles during the past week.

Mr. J. Allen Barnett and Mrs. J. W. Barnett, of Shadyside, were in the city on Thursday.

Mr. F. A. Ames, of Boston, Mass., was registered at the St. Charles Hotel last Wednesday.

Col. J. W. Barnett, of the Shady Side plantation, Bayou Teche, was a visitor to the city on Tuesday.

Mr. Julius Strack, a leading citizen of the Lower Coast, was a guest of the Hotel Grunewald a few days ago.

Mr. Thomas Butler, Jr., of St. Francisville, La., was in the city during the past week. He stopped at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. M. D. Daiferes, wife and family, of Whitecastle, La., were in the city on Wednesday. They stopped at the Cosmopolitan.

Col. Lewis S. Clarke, of Lagonda plantation on Bayou Teche was in the city on Tuesday. He stopped at the St. Charles Hotel.

Messrs. Charles Boagni and E. M. Boagni, of Opelousas, La., where they possess extensive sugar planting interests, were arrivals at the Commercial Hotel a few days ago.

Mr. R. R. Barrow, the Terrebonne parish financier, was at the Commercial Hotel on Tuesday. Mr. Barrow is one of the most progressive and enterprising men in the State.

Mr. Thomas A. Badeaux, of Thibodaux, La., a prominent citizen of Lafourche parish and a successful sugar planter, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He made his headquarters at the Commercial Hotel.

Capt. Geo. E. Mann, of the successful sugar planting firm of Flower & Mann, was in New Orleans during the past week. Capt. Mann's place on the Lower Coast has been rendered one of the most productive in that fertile section of Louisiana through his excellent management.

Mr. Harry L. Laws, of Cincinnati, O., head of the prominent firm of H. L. Laws & Co., who, besides doing an immense business in Louisiana sugars at their New Orleans and Cincinnati offices, are the proprietors of the far-famed Cinclare sugar plantation in West Baton Rouge parish, was a visitor to New Orleans during the past week, making his headquarters at the St. Charles Hotel.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, May 13, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather of last week has been predominantly wet. Opening with light showers and cool aerial temperature the moist precipitation by and by became torrential rains with all their attributes of high water and damaging inundations, with consequent interruption of communications and of all kinds of field work. As a favorable circumstance it must be mentioned, however, that in the second half of the week the temperature rose to at least a normal degree, which to some extent proved useful for the beets lately sown. These show, indeed, a pretty regular coming up and it can be expected, that, if warm weather arrives, the beet kernels still to be sown will find very propitious conditions in the ground and as the belt of the moist climatic condition is apparently moving to the East—towards Russia—it may be safely expected that a desirable change of the weather there will ere long take place. Such is also the hope of Austrian beet growers, who for the completion of fieldwork and the coming up of the sowings are sadly in need of warm and dry weather. In France the weather is improving it has been during the last few days quite favorable for field operations as well as for the thriving of the young beets. In Belgium and Holland it is dry but cold, and in Russia the drought has generally prevailed, but, as remarked above, a change seems to be close at hand.

The question as to the importance of beet sowings for the campaign 1899-1900 is now settled inasmuch as the statistical bureaus of the European sugar manufacturers have held their annual inquiry and have published the results of the same. The principal feature of the figures now to hand is a large increase of the beet growing surface of Russia, forshadowed long ago in these letters. This country will grow 510,494 hectares of beets, as against 438,235 hectares in 1898, which means an increase of no less than 72,259 hectares or 16.5 pct. As to Germany it will be remembered that the first provisional figures indicated a decrease of 2.3 pct., the definitive results, however, embodied in the figures of 426,846 hect., as against 426,641 hectares in 1898, is a slight increase of 0.04 pct., the other countries are represented by the following data: Austria 322,200 hect. (or 3.9 pct. inc.), France 255,542 hect. (or 7.0 pct. inc.), Belgium 58,136 hect. (or 8.7 pct. inc.), Holland 46,900 hect. (or 5.2 pct. inc.), Sweden 26,418 hect. (or 15.3 pct. inc.). The latter percentage is large, but the figure in itself is of no importance as affecting the whole of the acreage, the increase of which, as compared with last year, amounts to 7.2 pct. This latter percentage is certainly anything but alarming, but it is, nevertheless, a little higher than formerly ex-

pected and it is very probable that the improved sugar prices, meantime prevailing, have caused the producers to grow a little more beet than intended from the outset.

Since about 20 years the question of the purification of the effluvia of the sugar factories has caused some excitement amongst the manufacturers, for occasionally land or mill owners adjacent to the rivers or other public waters, complain of an undue deterioration of the latter, by means of letting in said effluvia. The question is, indeed, a very knotty one. Cities, villages or any kind of communities have no doubt a right to demand that their public waters should not be made improper for human use, whilst on the other hand the factories are not able to return the water they have used as pure and clear as they have gotten it, but it is evident that something must be done so as to let off the waters as clear as possible. This the factories willingly admit, but the question presents many difficulties. The best results have been obtained by the irrigation or inundation system which consists in preparing large bodies of water by some chemical treatment. The water leaking through the soil loses thus the greatest part of its impurities and arrives in a purified state at the rivers, etc. This process is employed by many German factories, though as remarked above, the original purity of the water is not restored by means of the same. But quite apart from its efficiency it can be only established where the factories dispose of comparatively large amounts, which, by no means, is everywhere the case. The effluvia question is at present again on the order of the day because of some complaints brought against a couple of factories, but also on account of the government having recommended the introduction of a certain process of purification. Such a regulation from the "green table," as we say in Germany, when the magistrates decide without due regard to practice and local requirements, is likely to prove very dangerous for the factories, whose physical situation and conditions are so very different, that it is next to impossible that one process will be applicable and useful for a number of establishments. Besides experience has shown already, at the expense of the factories, that the meddling of the government in these matters, particularly by directly prescribing the introduction of a certain process, is far from being a step in the right direction. A great many factories who had introduced a purification process according to decree of the authorities, had to do away with it because of its inefficiency, and thus large sums of money were lost.

The markets being almost fully in the hands of large speculators, move now in abrupt and sometimes very wide fluctuations and there is hardly any point to get hold of for the purpose of telling what the course of the market may be, even in the very near future. The statistical position is acknowledged on all hands to be exceedingly favor-

able, but this could not prevent, last week, a heavy fall of prices and a weakening of the tendency all around. And what had arrived to cause this panic-like movement? Nothing at all; only French operators thought it opportune to realize on a large scale, by which means prices, particularly in the terminal markets, were pressed down. In actual sugars business was almost nil, and no quotations are given at Madgeberg for 88 pct. sugars; at Hamburg, delivery May is worth M. 11.00, as against M. 11.47 a week ago. In refined little doing at unchanged prices.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Sugar Market.—Advices from abroad having continued unfavorable, the demand at this place has totally subsided and the greater part of disposable parcels being held by speculators, prices are firmly supported, despite the withdrawal of purchasers, quotations retaining their former nominal tone, at from 2 13-16@2½ cts. lb. for 96/96½ deg. good centrifugal sugars.

Business Outlook.—Prospects for the forthcoming summer months are not at all encouraging, owing to the unsettled condition of the country, and the lack of labor, consumption, even of articles of prime necessity, is rather limited, as yet, and, the worst of the case is that it is not likely to improve for some time yet to come.

This, which is hardly noticeable at Havana, is plainly perceptible at all other places and more particularly in the interior of the island, where suffering is greater. On this account, business is at a complete standstill and no improvement in same is to be expected until the culture of the fields be resumed with increased vigor and native products come to market in larger quantity than heretofore.

Crop Reports.—Several cane fires, supposed to have been set by the bandits, were recently reported from the province of Matanzas, and plantations "Amistad," at Guamaro, "Angelina," "San Jose," "San Francisco," "San Antonio" and "Galindo," at Corral Nuevo, have, on this account, lost several hundred acres of small cane, which had been planted last winter. These fires are likely to be the last ones of the year, since the rainy weather has already set in and copious showers have lately fallen, both in the interior of the island and at this place.

Owing to the bad prevailing weather, the few plantations which were still at work, in the principal producing districts, have been compelled to extinguish their fires at once, whereas the important factory "Natividad," at Sancti-Spiritus, belonging to Mr. Francisco del Valle, commenced its crop on the 12th inst., but it is generally antici-

pated that owing to the bad prevailing weather, it will soon be also compelled to stop, as all others.

Factory "Natividad," which is, probably, the largest in the province of Santa Clara, is the first one, since the termination of the war, that has put its machinery in movement in said province.

Scarceness of Oxen.—One of the most serious difficulties planters have had to contend with, during the past crop, was the lack of cattle to haul the cane. Of the hundreds of thousands of head formerly employed on the larger plantations, scarcely any have survived the war and, in order to supply their most pressing want, all those who could dispose of some cash money, imported a certain number of yokes, from the neighboring countries and with the object of overcoming this difficulty next year, it is said that the Board of Planters has passed a resolution to the effect of requesting the government to supply them with a sufficient number of oxen to cultivate their fields, since the precarious situation in which they are placed, does not allow them to acquire, on their own account those they are in need of.

It is doubtful whether the government will acquiesce to this petition howsoever well founded it may be.

Lands Bought by Americans.—It is said that the representative of the powerful New York syndicate, whose arrival at this place, was reported in my previous letter, is in treaty for the purchase of several large sugar plantations, which he offers to pay cash for, after redeeming all mortgages thereupon attached. To other parties, who are as yet unwilling to part with their properties, large advances are made them, on liberal terms, on produce of the next crop, which remains affected to guarantee payment of advanced money.

Another syndicate is buying up all lands to be acquired along the Jucaro-Moron railway and the ancient military trocha, with the avowed purpose of carrying thereon sugar culture on a very extensive scale.

Another American company is being spoken of, that intends to invest \$1,000,000 in the purchase of 100,000 acres of land, which will be colonized by American emigrants, who are sanguine of making fortunes, growing, besides sugar cane and tobacco, all sorts of tropical fruits, for the Northern markets.

Sugar Refining.—The owners of the five sugar refineries existing on this island, contemplate to impart a strong impulse to their production during the forthcoming months, operating them to their full capacity, which is as follows: That of Cardenas, which can refine yearly 200,000 hhds. sugar; that of Rabell, at same place, 50,000 do.; that of Ponce Horta, in this city, 45,000 do.; that of "Providencia," also at Havana, 45,000 do.; and that of Liana, at Matanzas, 20,000 do. Although the total capacity of above named five refineries, adds up 360,000 hhds.

they turned out last year, only 35,000 hhds.

Disbanding of the Cuban Army.—It is reported that the Cuban troops, encamped upon various estates in this province of Havana, acting under instruction, have withdrawn from these properties, without mentioning the reason why.

The Cuban soldiers employed in policing the city of Pinar del Rio and Port of Coloma, requested to be mustered out, without further delay, in order to be able to resume, at once, their former agricultural pursuits, and their commander, finding it useless to endeavor any longer to keep them in ranks, resigned his post. Before starting for their home, some of these soldiers deposited their arms with friends in the city.

In a meeting, recently held at Alquizar, in this province, the chiefs, officers and soldiers of the "Maceo sharpshooters" battalion, resolved to dissolve, without more proceedings, each man going peacefully home, without waiting any longer for the changes the Americans may wish to give to the already bothersome affair of the three million dollars.

The Cuban forces encamped near Sancti Spiritus, have decided by a vote taken in the camp, to accept, at once, whatever amount be offered them of the three millions, break up ranks and immediately go to work.

General Brooke's long anticipated decree, to muster out and pay off the Cuban soldiers, has been, at last, published and as already said, several corps have already disbanded and the men composing them quietly returned to their homes, either taking away their arms with them, or entrusting them to the care of some friends in the localities they abandoned, rather than deliver them over to the parties appointed by the government to receive them and give them, in return, a receipt on whose presentation they are to collect the \$75.00 allowed to each soldier on being mustered out. But, as only a very small number of these soldiers have shown willingness to accept this money, it is likely that only a very small part of the \$3,000,000 sent from Washington will be disposed of in this manner.

All the Cuban generals who had been appointed to intervene in the distribution of the money having resigned, it is anticipated that considerable difficulty will be met with in the paying off of the Cuban soldiers.

T. D.

Barbados.

The fortnight's weather has been favorable to reaping—dry, hot and fairly breezy, although on some days the winds have been rather too light and shifty for windmills; however, progress is being made, and sugar and molasses are steadily gravitating towards Bridgetown for shipment or sale; the worse is there is not enough of it. There might be an infinitesimal increase in the yield here and there, and some favored and sheltered spot undeluged by storm water, or lightly touched by the tempest may be giv-

ing two tons to the acre, thanks to such exceptional circumstances; but we are sorry to be obliged once more to record that splendid canes that ought to be yielding three tons to the acre, are in reality only giving 1½ tons; there we stick and cannot budge. It is very fortunate that there is a slight advance in the price offered for sugar this year without which transient luck, we should indubitably perish and die with the last cane cut this season.

The young plants, although the earth is cracking with the dry heat, still look flourishing, and very promising indeed; nightly showers to wash the leaves and moisten the roots would be very beneficial, had we but that irrigating watering pot which the cane plant more than any other economical plant on earth so constantly needs. For without a due and regulated supply of water we can never aspire to the big crops with which Hawaii is blessed; with us it is either too much or too little, over-swamped valleys, denuded hills, or earth dry, and cracking under tropical heat. The "variety" question is just now very much exercising the planter mind. It is very difficult to get a variety, which like the old Bourbon, can adapt itself to any and every environment, and gather sugar equally well, in soil black or red, in midland valley or on salt and sandy coast; for the old Bourbon, intent on its single sugar making duty, never bothered itself much about soil or situation. But the new varieties are hard to please, and variable as the shade, as if they had too much femininity in their composition, and could never, for two years together, settle down steadily to any locality. The White Transparent did pretty well last year, and at one time promised to settle down as an all round cane, but at present it is not scoring; while No. 147 seems to be edging its way to the front as a general favorite. No doubt we have some very fine, and promising locally raised seedlings too numerous to mention, all of which require to be carefully put on their trial like young colts. It requires a certain amount of patience and a modicum of enthusiasm to carry on seeding experiments, but the work is of such vast industrial importance, that it is matter of regret that planters do not more frequently engage in it, and reap the reward that Nature will be sure to bestow. We have had the opportunity recently of inspecting two magnificent specimens of seedling canes from Sandy Lane plantation, St. James, which the enterprising proprietors of that estate are carefully and judiciously propagating. These canes are Bourbon in type with the rich yellow ripeness of joint, characteristic of that cane. So far, experiments carefully conducted, seem to place them far and away ahead of the Transparent variety. No doubt these experiments when perfected will be published pro bono publico. But it should be carefully noted that the work

which is being done at Sandy Lane in seedling experimentation ought to be going on on every estate throughout the island. The seedling that costs nothing to raise, may turn out to be the very thing wanted, and become the backbone of our sugar industry. Nature has surely some splendid seedlings hidden away, and if we want them we must take the trouble to search for them; and when that sugary reed, on which at least the sugar industry of Barbados may safely lean is at last discovered, the acme of our desires will assuredly be found to be of Bourbon type; for the real sugar cane has a pale green rind turning to a rich, golden, inviting yellow when ripe. The Transparent dark-skinned type is deceptive, even the animals know the difference, and prefer the true green top to munch.—Agricultural Reporter, April 29.

Barbados.

The fortnight's weather has been on the whole favorable for reaping which is now being pushed vigorously—winds, perhaps at times lighter than could be wished, with an occasional trash-spoiling drizzle, but April has so far behaved very well. From the 15th of April on to about the middle of June is the sugary time when the loaded cells bursting with ripeness, yield up their saccharine with greater readiness. So far, however, although now bordering on the supreme period of fitness, there has been little or no improvement in the yield of the canes. The most favored districts are giving no more than the 1½ tons per acre reported in our last; here and there some most favored place is said to be yielding 2 tons, but if so, it is only an index of what might possibly be obtained in the ripen month of May. Some of the very finest canes we have ever seen as regards growth are giving 1½—canes that in other years would at least have been good for 2½. The effects of the storm are now being really felt to the tune of one ton per acre, a loss which spells ruin for many a struggling man, and which is endurable only by reason of the little advance in prices. The worst of it is, there is so little dependence to be placed on the sugar market; an invisible hand pulls the string and prices vary from day to day, and that is all the helpless planter knows or ever will know unless he bestirs himself to know. Molasses is bought for shipment at Bridgetown at 11c. or 12c. and if of good quality is sold at Halifax for 30c. Surely cost of transit does not absorb the handsome difference, a large portion of which ought to go into the unfortunate planter's pocket, but never will until he rouses up, and looks more after his own interests. In our last we drew attention to the fact that the molasses yield this season although scant was of exceptionally fine quality, and characterized it as thick and syrupy, but, by some printers error, thick was changed to thin. Foreign readers will

please note and correct the little error, which is too small we hope to affect buyers, who will readily see through so transparent a mistake.

Valleys from all accounts do not appear to be doing so well as slopes and ridges, thus reversing the order of things. No doubt the storm water had a most injurious effect on lowlands, and the water-logged canes have not yet had time to get rid of the new and sappy growth, but may improve under the influence of ripening suns. Another phenomenon of the season is the abundance of megass on some estates while others for want of it are compelled to purchase coal, so various and so injurious have been the effects of the recent storm on the crop now being reaped. Fortunately for us the fertility of the soil has not been washed away, perhaps new virtue has been instilled, for the young crop is exceptionally fine, healthy, vigorous and in many places literally green to apparent blueness. So luxuriant are the plants that on many estates it has been thought expedient to check their exuberant growth with the knife and cutting out of forward shoots has been extensively practised; some, as we have before noticed, have cut back rather freely. Altogether the promise for the new century is bright and hopeful so far as nature and art can make it; but what bears and bulls wire-pullers, bounties and the like may do with it is quite another question, for the modern agriculturist and especially the cane grower is at their mercy.

Field operations are now confined to cane cutting, weeding, and trashing; the last should be very carefully done, as young canes are very easily injured, and recover slowly under the hot suns. As one of the primary objects of trashing is protection, it ought only to be entrusted to careful hands, but too often it is so roughly done as in great measure to neutralize its good effects.—Agricultural Reporter, May 15, 1899.

British Guiana.

The weather continues dry, and is making its long-continued dryness seriously felt. Up to a fortnight or three weeks ago, though canes were making no growth to mention, they had not begun to go back; these same canes are suffering now, and going back. Colored canes are still holding their own, making nothing, but not revealing yet that they are losing, but all of the Bourbon progeny have owned up to not being equal to the occasion. Canes of this breed that started well, showing a fine tillering, have now taken on a sickly hue, and are showing evidence of rapid decline. If rain had fallen with the new moon all would have been well, but the shower that occurred at that time proved only a will-o'-the-wisp to those whose expectations were greatest, the believers in the fabulous fortune that the moon's change heralds.

On Thursday night, last week, fire was dis-

covered in a canefield on Pin. Waterloo, which, after strenuous efforts on the part of the estate's staff and laborers, was subdued; not, however, before one and a half acres of canes were burnt. This is clearly the act of an incendiary, and would that the demon be caught and brought to justice.

Happening at a time like the present when there is no water, I hear that the manager has decided to let the canes spoil, rather than injure his machinery with salt water—to the great delight of the 'Badians!—Argosy, April 29.

Cuba and Porto Rico.

If Cuba and Porto Rico ultimately become a part of the United States territory and the products of those countries be admitted free, as they have good reason to be, it will mean the death of the beet-sugar industry in the west. A tremendous effort will be made, no doubt, at the next session of congress to have the West Indian sugars admitted free of duty. A special agent sent by the United States government to Cuba and Porto Rico has just returned and says that from his observation it is clear to him sugar can be made down there for two cts. per pound, as there are as many as eleven crops from one planting of the cane. The first crop is forty or fifty tons per acre, and ordinary crops average twenty to twenty-five tons, owing to the phenomenal fertility of the soil. Unskilled labor in Porto Rico costs only 30 cents a day, American money and the help board themselves. "Half the people on the island live on five cents a day, and when the sugar factories feed their own hands they allow only seven cents a day per man for that purpose."

Now, the Criterion would ask in all good reason, how can American farmers, factories and laborers compete with these countries if the figures given above are correct and no means are taken to prevent the free importation of West Indian sugars? The beet sugar producers might as well quit, close up their factories, abandon their stores and go out of business.—Grocers' Criterion.

Trinidad Sugar Crops.

In a late issue our contemporary publishes a paragraph that the "Burnley Estate's" crop will be about the same as last year's, and that the "prices got" (hardly any of the sugar can yet be sold) will just be as much as will recoup expenses of manufacture, which, if true, is certainly not reassuring.

We are not aware of the source of our contemporary's inspiration, but we much doubt the accuracy of the statements made, and although we have no special information as to those estates, which represent a very important interest abroad, we feel impelled in the interest of the sugar industry, and of the colony at large, to protest against what we conceive to be disparaging and probable mischievous statements being cir-

culated abroad. As said, we have no special information as to the "Burnley Estates," we base our protest on what we are advised is the general prospect of the sugar crop, in quantity and the market value.

Since the campaign began we have heard nothing to speak of but the most satisfactory reports as to the canes, the richness of juice, good yield, and excellent quality of sugar; and our reports indicate that the out-turn will be considerably above the average of recent years, and more than last year. We could name factories where the crop will be 25 per cent over last year's, and it is common report that the "Big Boss" of Naparima is likely to beat its own last year's crop, a record one, by some 15 per cent. We have heard of cane disease, and two or three estates have suffered rather severely, still we understand even they will top last year's crop. But the disease has not been general; outside of one district it is hardly known, and looking to the general out-turn we think there has been too much heard of it as having lessened crops. We cannot credit, therefore, that the important block of the "Burnley Estates" will not, like others, turn out large crops.

But our unbelief applies more to the "expenses of manufacture," or, to use the better term, "cost of production." The offal crops are selling well—molasses fetches more than double last year's prices, and rum is worth from 20s. to 30s. more per puncheon. These items, combined with full crops, indicate a material reduction of the cost of production of the staple sugar, and anyone who reads the daily market quotations in London and New York can see that crystals are worth from £12 10s. to £13 10s. per ton net, or quite £2 to £3 more than last year. We have been accustomed to hear cost of production as roundly £10 per ton; this year we know some estates will show much below that figure, and we could name one where the manager is confident it will not exceed £8 but probably under some exceptional conditions; and we cannot but think the statement that any estate will, this year, only meet expenses of manufacture, is mischievous, and does not represent the condition of the sugar industry at this time. The "Burnley Estates" are second to none in productiveness and equipment, and when some can produce sugar at £8 per ton, we can hardly doubt that under the present enlightened and scientific administrator, and with all the advantages of the improved appliances and processes he has introduced, the benefits of which were made evident in his communications to the Agricultural Society, it is more likely the cost of production will be reduced to £7 10/- per ton. We have heard it stated he considered this was quite practicable and ought to be reached.—Trinidad B. W. I. Mirror, May 9.

Sugar Production in Spain.

Even Spain is beginning to develop the beet sugar industry on a large scale. Aus-

tria and the Mediterranean provinces have been found most suitable for the sugar beet culture. Owing to the high protection afforded the sugar industry by the Spanish government the production of sugar has in ten years increased from 7,500,000 pounds to 80,000,000 pounds. Since the total consumption of Spain is only about 150,000,000 pounds, it will be seen that in a few years Spain will not only produce sufficient sugar for her own consumption, but will likely become a competitor for the world's trade. The protective duty on sugar is much larger in Spain than in any other country in Europe.—Beet Sugar Gazette.

Beet Sugar in the United States.

According to Henry T. Oxnard, in a late interview, and he is in a position very closely to follow the development of the industry in this country, there are now 24 beet sugar factories or mills in the United States. Twenty more are projected, seven of these being in the State of Michigan. The Oxnard plants, now combined under a common management, are four in number and include the two plants in Nebraska, at Grand Island and Norfolk, established in 1890 or thereabouts, the Ohio plant in California and the new plant at Hueneme, in the same state. The conditions at present seem to be bright for a general and rapid development of this business in all parts of the Union where climate and soil favor the crop. Full tests have been made by chemists and other experts with respect to a great many localities which are widely separated in point of distance and geography. A vast amount of missionary work has been done among the farmers and they are ready enough to cooperate once the initiative and capital can be found to start the mills. The tariff seems now to be about right to give the industry necessary protection and encouragement and the manufacture of beet sugar in the United States is getting such an impetus that there should soon be no need of going to Germany after millions of dollars worth of this article every year.

In connection with the development of the beet sugar industry in the United States it is of interest to note to what a degree our refineries have relied of late upon Europe for supplies of the raw article. The shipments vary greatly from year to year on different accounts, the chief being changes in American tariff legislation. In 1890 the imports of beet sugar from Germany reached an aggregate value of \$16,000,000, having risen from about \$6,000,000 the year before. In 1894 the imports were \$11,000,000, in 1895, \$6,000,000; 1896, \$10,000,000, and in 1897, \$27,600,000! This great total was made up of anticipatory importations to so large a degree that in the entire fiscal year 1898, Germany sent us only \$2,600,000 of raw beet sugar. The trade is now beginning to assume natural proportions again and for the nine months ending

March, Germany's contribution to our refineries attained a value of \$11,300,000. Of the other beet growing countries in Europe, Austria and Belgium are the principal shippers to the United States, but both taken together send us a very small part as compared with the German Empire, in which country the industry has attained a very high state of development. Russia, Holland and France also send us an occasional cargo. If this sugar can be produced at home it will be a very satisfactory outcome from every point of view.—Manufacturer.

Sugar in London.

The speculative market has been unsettled, fluctuations being sharp and numerous, but prices close dearer than those of last week. Some purchases of beet on behalf of American and Canadian refiners are reported, and are of sufficient importance to cause a renewal of confidence. The landings of sugar in the United States are again rather heavy, and, consisting chiefly as they do just now of cane sugar, it is noteworthy that their refiners are still compelled to support the European markets by purchases of beet. The stocks of the latter at Hamburg again show a marked increase, and compare unfavorably with last year's figures. As regards the new beet sowings, the estimates of the Statistical Association point to a general increase, but in Germany and Austria, the two chief producing countries, little extra acreage will be sown, while the exports of Russia, where the principal increase is expected, are too small and irregular to be of much value to the general position of the available supplies next season. No cane sugars have been offered at public sale, and only a small business has been done privately in both refining and grocery sorts. The latter remain dull in the extreme, and although the merchants may plead some justification in keeping up prices here owing to the high rates paid for West Indian sugar in America, it would seem that they do not sufficiently realize the fact that the effort to restore crystallized raw sugar to its normal consumption in this country is being delayed by the present policy of holding their sugars for what can be truthfully described as fancy prices. The dealers view the position with considerable alarm, and fear that if the present process be carried to a much greater extent the distribution of the sugar in question will prove to have been permanently and disastrously diminished. The imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 18th inst., amounted to 1,676 tons, and for this year to 17,508 tons as against 12,981 tons in 1898.—P. M. Review, May 20.

Texas Rice.

The Trinity Rice, Land and Irrigating company of St. Louis, capital \$260,000, has bought 18,000 acres of land in Chambers county, Texas, on the line of the Gulf and Interstate Railway, and will at once put surveyors in the field to establish a canal line about 20 miles in length, the water to be taken from Turtle bayou. It is said that tenant contracts enough to occupy nearly all the land have already been made by the company.—Texas Farm Journal.

RICE.**Talmage on the Rice Market.**

The week has been anomalous and irregular, not as to prices but in the movement. At the opening there was a marked falling away in the demand but mid-week there came a sharp inquiry and the last half made amends for the deficiency in the earlier days. The call is about evenly distributed among the respective sorts with perhaps Java slightly in the lead. Dealers generally are optimistic, claiming that stocks throughout the country are light and every assurance therefore, of at least seasonable demand. As to the situation, markets abroad are hardening on styles suited for the United States and prices current here are $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ c. under present importing cost. Advices from the South note that its markets have had experience similar to those prevailing here. Prices rule easy on parcels which are off-grade, either seedy, mowburnt or out of condition but firm on that which is sound, uniform and fresh milled. Cables and correspondence from abroad note wholesome activity in all styles and markets advanced on higher grades.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts rough, 703,985 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 536,130 sacks. Sales, cleaned, (Est.) 173,600 barrels; last year, 120,785 barrels. Demand steady; limited.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 36,890 barrels. Sales, 34,190 barrels. Fair inquiry at former figures.

Rice Mills All Over the Country.

When we began agitating the planting of rice in Manatee county, our dream of the importance and extent to which the business would attain was great, but, we have to confess, that already there is promise of greater magnitude in acreage to be planted this year than we expected for two or three years. One firm whose name appears in our rice list for ten acres has decided to plant sixty, and many others will enlarge their acreage proportionately.

Another evidence of the great popularity of rice culture among the farmers, comes in the shape of a statement from a prominent citizen of the upper end of the county, to the effect that nearly every farmer in that section will plant rice extensively, but have not sent in their names for publication in our list, for the reason that they thought to do so, would, in a measure, pledge them to bring their rice to the mill of Mr. Jasper Harris, at Bradentown, thereby lessening their chance to secure mills in their own communities.

Putting all the information which we have been able to gather on the subject together, we are fully convinced that there will be no less than five hundred acres planted in the county this year, with a probability of its reaching one thousand acres. This is, in-

deed, gratifying to us, and all who are truly interested in the welfare of the farmers and the general prosperity of the county, which can alone be advanced by the introduction of new industries which can be made profitable.

In this connection we are pleased to call attention to the announcement in another column of Mr. Harris, in which he states that he will have a rice mill in every section of the county for cleaning the present crop.—Bradentown, Florida, News.

Another Money Maker.

A letter has been received from Kansas City in which an inquiry is made for rice roots. A sample wisp of the fibrous root was inclosed in the letter, which states that the roots are shipped in such bunches. The firm making the inquiry manufactures brushes and the roots are used in that business. Great quantities are used and the company announces that it would buy tons if that quantity were available.

No prices are quoted in the letter, but at a fair price the rice farmers could make a substantial profit after the crop is off. If those who are interested will call at this office they will be informed further concerning the matter. If the prices quoted will pay for gathering, preparing and shipping, a splendid industry may be built up here.—Lake Charles American.

The New Orleans Mills.

There is going to be an interesting fight on the coming season among the rice millers. In a recent issue the Signal called attention to the fact that the New Orleans mills had formed themselves into a combine to reduce the price of rice and control the market of southwest Louisiana. Beyond the controlling of prices a very determined effort will be made to run the country mills out of business.

A short while ago a large number of the rice growers, especially in the eastern part of the rice country, signed a petition to have a forcible reduction of freight rates on rice into New Orleans. They do not seem to have realized the ultimate end to which the city mills are working in this combine. That there are mills in the country to-day is due solely to the fact that the New Orleans mills were extortionate in their prices and sucked every bit of blood out of the rice grower, until as a means of self-protection the country mills were erected.

The forcible reduction of freight rates means purely and simply that the city mills are preparing for a grand effort to crush the outside mills. Long ago people found out that the mills in the city do not look for legislation that will aid the planter. They say "the rate is too high and the grower does not get what he should have for his rice in the city."

True enough, when it comes to what the grower gets, but the worst thing that could be done for the grower will be a reduction in the rate. Such a reduction is wanted as

will enable the city mills to overbid the country mills for a short time. This will be kept up until the country mills are crushed out of existence.

Once this is done and the New Orleans mills will then commence again beating the price down until the same condition of affairs will exist that was prevalent before the erection of country mills.

A short time ago several articles appeared in the Signal looking to the organization of the country mills and planters for the promotion of mutual interests. All the country mills in this section replied favorably to the idea, as did also several planters.

The Picayune took the matter up and the following extract appeared in an editorial:

"Several such combinations were actually formed, and, if our experience can be of any benefit to our country friends, it is well that all should know that all such combinations proved dismal failures. Instead of benefiting the planters, they were so oppressive that the legislature passed a law to prevent all combinations to control prices. Our esteemed contemporary, the Crowley Signal, should not lose sight of the fact that act 90, of 1892, is still in force, and that, according to the act, all combinations to control the price of any agricultural product are unlawful. Our contemporary should also consult article 180, of the new constitution, which forbids combinations "to force up or down" the prices of any agricultural product.

The experience of the business men of New Orleans with combinations has been that they are all disastrous to the best interests of the producers, whether of rice, sugar or any other product."

Just at present, however, the Picayune is saying nothing on this subject. The country mills have been the salvation of the planter and now comes the opportunity for the planter to stand by their home mills. If the reduced rate is secured, the price may go up temporarily but it will stay up only as long as it takes to crush the country mills.—Crowley Signal.

Foreign Rice.

There arrived in New Orleans last Wednesday a cargo of rice which was a large importation for that city. There were two steamers, one from London and one from Liverpool, and they were both loaded with foreign rice aggregating together 20,000 bags. Some of this rice was in the unclean state and was for the National Rice Milling Company. The balance was clean Bassim or so called Java rice. In speaking of the matter the president of the National Rice Milling Company stated that they had 40,000 bags of Japan rice coming to their mill in Brooklyn, N. Y. These heavy importations, together with those of the Talmages, and G. A. Jahn & Co., all of New York, are going to cut quite a figure at the opening of the new season for rice.—Crowley Signal.

JUNE 2.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR. Open Kettle.	May 27.	May 29.	May 30.	May 31.	June 1.	June 2.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
O. K. Centrifugal	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2	— @ —	Dull.
Choice.....	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	4 1/8 @ 4 3/8	— @ 4	
Strict Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	
Prime.....	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	
Fully Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	
Good Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	
Fair.....	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	
Good Common.....	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	
Common.....	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	
Inferior.....	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	
Centrifugal.								Dull.
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off Granulated...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	4 1/2 @ 4 3/8	
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow.....	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	— @ —	
Prime Yellow.....	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 1/2	
Off Yellow.....	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	
Seconds.....	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	2 1/2 @ 3 7/8	
MOLASSES.								Dull
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Choice.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	12 @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	11	
Good Prime.....	— @ 13	— @ 13	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	10	
Prime.....	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	8	
Good Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	7	
Fair.....	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	7	
Good Common..	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	6	
Common.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	6	
Inferior.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	6	
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Choice.....	— @ 16	— @ 16	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	12 @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ 15	— @ 15	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	11	
Good Prime.....	— @ 13	— @ 13	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	10	
Prime.....	— @ 11	— @ 11	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	8	
Good Fair.....	— @ 9	— @ 9	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	7	
Fair.....	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	7	
Good Common..	— @ 7	— @ 7	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	6	
Common.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	6	
Inferior.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	6	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw—Firm; good demand; little offering.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 5.08			— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	5.08 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 4.96			— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	— @ 4.96	4.96 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 5.25			— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 5.20			— @ 5.17	— @ 5.17	— @ 5.17	— @ —	Refined—Fair demand.
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Cane—Steady.
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —			— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								Beet—Firm and rather dearer.
Java, No. 15 D. S.	13s. 0d.	HOLIDAY.	HOLIDAY.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	12s. 6d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	11s. 1 1/2 d.			11s. 3/4 d.	10s. 3/4 d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.	9s. 9d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Leaf.....	— @ 5 5/8	— @ 5 5/8	— @ 5 5/8	— @ 5 5/8	— @ 5 5/8	— @ 5 5/8	— @ 5 3/4	Steady.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/4	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/4	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 1/2	— @ 5 3/2	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to May 24	Tons	245,456
At four ports of Great Britain to May 20	"	51,000
At Havana and Matanzas to May. 23	"	78,000

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending June 2, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	26	8,091	2,880
Sold.....	26	9,397	2,880

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to June 2, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	10,259	1,247,292	236,590
Sold.....	10,259	1,240,665	236,590
Received same time last year	23,370	1,464,703	193,448

JUNE 2.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

RICE.	May 27.	May 29.	May 30.	May 31.	June 1.	June 2.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	— @ —	Dull.
ROUGH, per bbl...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	— @ —	Dull.
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	— @ —	
Fancy....	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6¼@6¾	
Choice....	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¾@6	
Prime....	4¾@5¼	4¾@5¼	4¾@5¼	4¾@5¼	4¾@5¼	4¾@5¼	5½@5¾	
Good....	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	5¾@5½	
Fair....	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	5¼@5¾	
Ordinary	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	4¾@4¼	
Common.	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	4¾@4¾	
Screenings	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	— @ —	
Inferior..	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	— @ —	
No. 2....	1¾@1¾	1¾@1¾	1¾@1¾	1¾@1¾	1¾@1¾	1¾@1¾	2@2½	
BRAN, per ton....	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 50@13 00		Better feeling.
POLISH, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	16 00@ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending June 2, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to June 2, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

Received	SACKS ROUGH. BBL. CLEAN.		This year.....	SACKS ROUGH. BBL. CLEAN.		
	1898	1899		Last year.....	1898	1899
Sold	138	863	682,801	9,710	467,565	8,081
	617	339				

Sugar.

The sugar market was quiet and barely steady at the end of the week. The demand sufficed to readily absorb the receipts from the country.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals dull.

Rice.

Offerings of both light and clean rice were very light at the end of the week, arrivals were small.

Barbados.

Intensely dry and hot weather with light and shifty breezes that, lazily turning the windmills, rouse themselves up occasionally to play with the road dust and whirl it up in white clouds has prevailed throughout the length and breadth of the island during the entire fortnight under review, and the sum total of its record is, dryheat. It goes without saying that the young canes are suffering, many fields, as one may observe from the roads, are becoming wilted and shrivelled in appearance; those early trashed are holding on to better advantage. The utility of early trashing is never more observable than when the soil is cracked and parched by drought, the mulch prevents evaporation, and not only tends to conserve moisture, and keep the roots cool, but also prevents the heat rays from penetrating too deeply into the soil-cracks, and so killing the tender, imperfectly rooted plants. Many of the late supplies, in the untrashed fields especially, are being killed off in this way. But on the whole, notwithstanding even the effects of the intense suns, we have a fine young crop on the land, and the recuperative power of the cane plant is so remarkable that the first soaking shower will surely take all the wilt out of the leaves, and paint them magically with vivid green, while regularity can be ensured by filling the dead holes with stump plants which grow rapidly in wet weather. The real cause for anxiety is the fodder question. Without rain there can be no imphoe or guinea corn ready to take the

place of the daily diminishing supply of green cane fodder, and the poor beasts will, unless we get timely rain, be reduced at the end of the crop to the dry cane top, a poor diet which will have probably to be expensively supplemented with oil meal. Ground provisions, too, will probably be scarce by and by; sweet potatoes have all along been very cheap and plentiful, but the existing supply is being regularly diminished, and without rain there will be a break in the continuity of the supply which will be severely felt, for nobody ever appreciates the real value of sweet potatoes until they become dear and scarce. Not only is rain very necessary to us now for the welfare of the young crop, and urgently needed for establishing fodder and provision crops, but the old canes themselves would be none the worse for refreshing showers to improve and dilute the viscid juice which although it cannot ripen and gather carbon without plentiful sunlight yet must have rain water enough to swell and burst the cells, and so wash the sugar from the pith when crushed in the mill. We have heard old planters say that cut canes lying at a mill door are often refreshed and improved by a timely shower of rain.

The remarkable thing about the crop now being reaped is the disproportion between the tonnage of cane and the yield of sugar. Canes that ought to be giving three tons to the acre are still barely affording one and a half; more pith than juice, and that juice not of a very sweet quality. We can hardly with justice grumble at the White Transparent cane. It yielded very well in 1898, nor was it its fault that the price was then so low; but certainly the conditions influencing the present crop have not been favorable, nor has the dry and hot weather prevailing so uniformly for the past month tended to improve matters to any very appreciable extent. When told, the sum of the crop will, we trust be not less than 1½ tons to the acre; but as the Northern Districts are apparently only getting 1¼, we shall be lucky if the average yield is no worse, but notwithstanding the reported spurt of two tons from some sheltered or favored spots, it

cannot possibly be more, and, we venture to prophesy, will not be more when the crop is closed, and the tale made up. The sugar made is of good strong quality, and the molasses though scant is exceptionally good, and, we are glad to add, in demand, the price 17c., although only a modest fraction of the value across the water, is quite phenomenal and encouraging on our side, quite an agreeable change from that wretched six cents for which during past years we have been forced to give it away. It is refreshing therefore to find that good old supply and demand has not been quite killed by artificial trade, and that she has ventured to raise up her sick head a little bit this year especially in the molasses trade. —Agricultural Reporter, May 13.

Trade Notes.

Stauffer, Eshleman & Co.

Elsewhere in this issue we print the advertisement of this prominent firm. They are devoting considerable attention just now to the sale of their Western 4-wheel, all steel, reversible road machines, a large number of which are already in use in this state, and for which they claim advantages and improvements possessed by no other make ever introduced in this section. They are also anxious to direct attention to their improved Daisy 2-wheel road machines, manufactured expressly for them, fifty of which have already been sold in the parishes of St. Mary and Iberia, where they are considered indispensable on a well regulated sugar plantation, and where they are utilized in field as well as road work. The reputation of the firm of Stauffer, Eshleman & Co. is a guarantee of the quality of the goods they handle.

Vermillion.

The rice fields are looking fine, and the planting never was surpassed in the number of acres planted. The early planting is peculiarly promising and thrifty in its growth and stand. On the Lower Vermillion, the Hall and Slutz plantations now have their big pumps vigorously at work throwing a small river over their broad acres. They completed their canal last week and now will be able to water all the land in cultivation. These men will make it this year. H. P. Porter is their engineer for the season. A wise selection.—Republican Idea, May 25.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A position as sugar boiler. First-class references furnished. Long experience. Careful, steady man. Address GEORGE, 4700 Tchoupitoulas street, New Orleans. 5-27-99

WANTED—Accountant and book-keeper wishes position on plantation; address M., 1328 Louisiana Avenue, New Orleans. 6-1-99

WANTED—Position by a man of family as second engineer, to live on plantation. A 1 references. Satisfaction guaranteed; address Sugar House Engineer, Box 43, Whitecastle, La. 6-1-99

WANTED—By a first-class mechanical engineer and practical sugar boiler, position as chief engineer, or sugar boiler or superintendent of sugar house for coming season. Twelve years of steady, practical experience in modern plantation sugar house management. Gilt-edged references from past employers. On account of freeze was released from service with last employers after a steady service of four years. Address SUGAR EXPERT, Box 431, New Orleans.

WANTED—Situation by a lady of experience as a teacher; object, a good home with small salary; address A. W., care Mississippi Packet Co., New Orleans, La. 5-19-99

WANTED—Position as stenographer or book-keeper by a young man. Can give good references, and have no bad habits; address L. J. CARTER, care Draughton College, Galveston, Texas. 5-23-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar maker, a position for the season of 1899, either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; is a close boiler of firsts and seconds; is strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of reference from past employers as to character and ability; speaks Spanish and French. Address J. W. F., 424 N. Peters street, New Orleans, La.

WANTED—Position as governess or teacher; summer or session. Best references furnished. Address Miss Mary Smith, 1416 Camp street, New Orleans.

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced machinist and engineer for repairs and all-around work in beet sugar factory. Position permanent if satisfactory. Address, with references and salary expected, C. A. Zimmerman, Box 98, Eddy, New Mexico.

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler and clarifier with 18 years experience, expert in handling green cane, a crop for the coming season in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico. Best of references furnished. Make no use of intoxicating liquors. Address WESLEY, 218 Canal street, New Orleans. 5-17-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man 22 years of age, with gilt-edged references, as clerk in country or city store. Five years experience. Can speak French and English. Address AGUINALDO, Soulouque, La. 5-17-99

WANTED—Position for the 1899 crop as book-keeper or assistant. Can give best of references. Twenty-two years old and a graduate of a good business college; address A. E. Smith, Ozan, Ky. 5-9-99

WANTED—A first-class and competent assistant sugar boiler wishes position for coming season. Best references furnished; address Proof Stick, Box 62, Donaldsonville, La. 5-6-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first assistant, or as overseer. Experienced with teams and general plantation work. Eighteen years experience and can furnish best of references; address A. C., care this office.

WANTED—Position by a young man as time or book-keeper. Can give best of reference; address ARTHUR, care P. M., Little Cypress, Ky. 5-10-99

WANTED—Situation by an experienced machinist and sugar plantation engineer. Strictly sober and attentive to business. Would like to secure work the year round if possible at reduced salary, or make repairs and crop on very reasonable terms. Good references furnished; address P. H. E. ENGINEER, 724 Fern street, New Orleans. 5-10-99

WANTED—A middle-aged German man for yard and to make himself generally useful. Address Mrs. J. L. DARRAGH, Justine Plantation, Centerville, La. 6-11-99

WANTED—Position on a sugar plantation as blacksmith, wheelwright and horse-shoer; address SIDNEY G. ROUSSELL, Edgard, La. 5-1-99

WANTED—Any sugar planter requiring the services of a competent and sober mechanical engineer, with references, will please address ENGINEER, No. 4721 Magazine street, New Orleans, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper, overseer, clerk or general office or store work. Can give the best of city and outside references; address A. H. NOENINGER, care of Room 200, Board of Trade Building, New Orleans. 4-28-99

WANTED—Position as assistant chemist, book-keeper or time-keeper, by young man, aged 24, college graduate. Have done some work in sugar analysis. Have some knowledge of German; address Box 33, State College, Pa. 4-28-99

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as manager or assistant; address MANAGER H. A., care General Delivery, New Orleans. 5-3-99

WANTED—A position as superintendent or head sugar maker, by a man of large experience, either in plantation sugar house or sugar refinery. Can furnish good references. Would prove a valuable and all-around faithful man in any sugar house. Address P. R., care Louisiana Planter. 4-28-99

WANTED—Position by an all-around handy man: can do carpentry, painting, milk cows and make himself useful about a place. First-class references; address CHAS. TREPAGNIER, 1428 St. Ann street, New Orleans. 4-21-99

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 references. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LELER, care M. E. Sepp, 2583 8th Avenue, New York. 4-14-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-13-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 423 to 436 South Peters st. 4-13-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartartia, Texas. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class references, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gillis of Poydras plantation, and others; address Mrs. S. TERRELLE, 2221 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, around machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, this office. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 214 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Pictel, La. 3-15-99

WANTED—Position by a young married man as chemist, book-keeper or general statistician on sugar plantation. Ten years experience; best of references; address A., care this office. 3-15-99

WANTED—In first-class sugar house in Cuba, Mexico or Louisiana, position as sugar boiler or chemist, by man of experience; satisfaction guaranteed; address MARTIN, 6041 Laurel street, New Orleans. 3-8-99

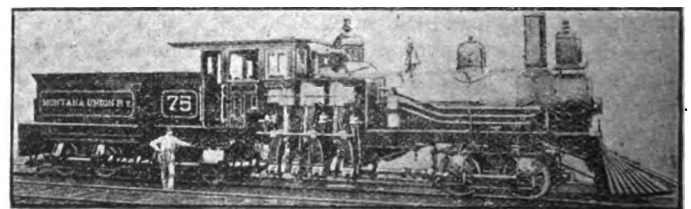
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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER,

A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

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AND

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Texas Sugar Planters' Association.*

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branches, Agricultural, Mechanical, Chem-
ical, Political and Commercial.

EDITORIAL CORPS.

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JOHN DYMOND.

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The Irrigation of Sugar Cane in Louisiana.

The drought that prevailed during May of this year, and which at present promises to extend through June, brings very vividly to the minds of sugar planters interested in the question of irrigation, the possibilities of utilizing it in cane culture in Louisiana. As will be remembered by our readers, the Louisiana Planter has been rather an earnest advocate of the application of irrigation to cane culture in this state. We still believe that we shall learn how to promote the growth of our cane crops by irrigation at the proper time, and without the injurious effects that might come from the excessive use of water. One of our most distinguished correspondents, who writes over the signature of Ex-Sugar Planter, has taken issue with us in this matter, arguing as he does with eminent accuracy that the chief trouble in Louisiana has not been to secure a supply of moisture, but rather to get rid of that excess of water which has generally done so much injury to our cane crops. When we recall, however, the fact that the year 1890 was phenomenal in its yield of sugar, nearly doubling the crop of the previous year, and this not on account of the high temperature of that year, but rather on account of the distribution of the rainfall throughout the season, which occurred in just such a way as to develop the very best agricultural results, we are led to hope that similar results could be brought about by judicious irrigation, and that such irrigation could be so arranged as not to interfere with that drainage which is so essential to the proper growth of sugar cane in all of the cane fields in Louisiana.

This season something is doing in the way of experimentation apart from

the work done at the Sugar Experiment Station at Audubon Park, where in irrigation experiments have been signally successful, as reported in the past by various bulletins issued from that station. Messrs. Oxnard and Sprague, of the Adeline Plantation, in the Parish of St. Mary, have this year erected a large pumping plant and arranged conduits for the transference of the water to the various fields which it may be desired to irrigate. We have no news as to the success of this venture, but presume that it is now in operation and that later on we shall learn as to the value of the results there secured.

Gov. Warmoth has stated that he intends to arrange for irrigation for the coming year, which can readily be done at his place during the early months of the year by the use of syphons, as is done in rice irrigation on the lower coast, the river standing generally above the level of the land from the first of February until nearly the first of July.

At Poydras Plantation this season considerable water has been syphoned into the field and apparently thus far with very satisfactory results. At Belair a large quantity of water has been syphoned into the field, with seemingly satisfactory results, the irrigation still continuing, and it is thought that beneficial results therefrom are already seen.

It certainly seems to be a pity that in a country where water is in such ample supply, our leading crop should suffer from these droughts. Along the Mississippi river a large part of the necessary irrigation could be accomplished by syphons, and the water that might be needed the rest of the year, when the water had fallen below the level of the land, could readily be pumped to the syphons so that these latter could do their share of the work.

May Weather in St. James.

The Planter has received from Mr. E. Cherbonnier of Helvetia Plantation, data covering the weather in St. James during May, 1898 and 1899. As the drought of 1898 was so severe, in fact continuing until July, a comparison of conditions now and then will be of exceptional interest, the drought this season being nearly as severe as that of the last.

In May, 1898, on Helvetia the average maximum temperature was 87.5 degrees F., and the average minimum temperature 62.5 degrees F. We find that this year the average maximum temperature has been 94.2, and the average minimum 65.5 F. We herein find indicated an average maximum temperature of nearly seven degrees above that of May of last year. This will indicate a cause for the rapid recovery of the cane crop which our cold April seemed to render almost impossible. The average minimum temperature for May, 1899, was three degrees higher than that of 1898. The rainfall during May, 1898, was three quarters of an inch, while May, 1899, gave seven-eighths of an inch in the last half of the month.

The month of May has been very favorable to the growth of sugar cane, its high temperature promoting the development of the refractory eyes, and had we had seasonable rains the crop would have done still better, but the common report is that the conditions are now even better than were generally expected at the beginning of the month. The Planter is under many obligations to Mr. Cherbonnier for his interesting data.

June Weather.

The Weather Bureau of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued its synopsis of data of June weather, covering the observations made at the New Orleans station during twenty-eight years. The average or normal temperature has been 81 degrees F. the warmest June, that of 1881, with an average of 85 F.; the coldest June that of 1889, with an average of 78 F. During these 28 years the highest temper-

ature recorded in June was that of 98 degrees F., on June 21st and 22nd, 1897, and the lowest that of 58 F., on June 1st, 1889.

The average rainfall for June is 6.51 inches, with 14 days averaging .01 inches, or more, while the greatest monthly precipitation was that of 12.05 in 1883, and the lowest was that of 2.71 in 1882. The greatest rainfall in any twenty-four consecutive hours was 5.48 inches, June 29-30, 1887. The prevailing winds are from the southeast.

Reverting to these data we note that the warmest June, that of 85 degrees F., in 1881, was in a bad sugar year, the snow and ice of January, 1881, having done much injury to the crop of that year and the hot weather of June failing to redeem the situation. On the other hand, the coldest June, that of 1889, with an average of 78 degrees F., resulted in another crop of sugar considerably smaller than that of the year which preceded it. So that the temperature does not seem to be a very close guide so far as crop results are concerned.

The least rainfall recorded in June was that of 1882, which was an excellent cane growing year, and the heaviest rainfall was that of 12.02 inches in 1883, an indifferent sugar cane year. The greatest precipitation recorded in any twenty-four consecutive hours, 5.48 inches, June 29-30, 1887, was in one of the best sugar years that we have had.

It is difficult to review these data and determine their application to our cane crops, as their evidence does not seem to be very conclusive. Of course, the temperature and rainfall are the chief factors in producing the growth of sugar cane. The year 1890 stands par excellence as the year wherein the rainfall was the most evenly distributed, and as the year in which the very best agricultural results known in Louisiana were realized.

Porto Rico Weather.

Through the courtesy of Section Director W. T. Blythe of the Louisiana Weather Bureau, the Planter has re-

ceived interesting data concerning Porto Rico weather, compiled by the Porto Rico section of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The prospects for the Porto Rico cane crop are generally favorable, although there are indications that the yield of sugar will be less than that of last year. The season has been too dry, but recent rains have been beneficial to the standing crops. The grinding season is about finished.

Rice seems to be quite a considerable crop in Porto Rico, and its condition is reported good, excepting in some localities where it has been attacked by an insect and this, it is thought, will reduce the actual crop acreage to a less area than that of the previous year.

In the same sections cane planting is going on, the rains now falling proving very beneficial.

Gas Engines.

A practical hand book on The Care and Management of Gas Engines, by G. Lieckfield, C. E., has been translated from the German and published by Messrs. E. & F. N. Spon, London, and can be procured from Spon & Chamberlain, 12 Cortlandt St., New York, at the publishers price of \$1.00. This is a valuable hand book of about 100 pages, and discusses the care and management of gas and gasoline engines. The increasing popularity of these engines is leading to their use everywhere that a moderate amount of power is to be applied, and it would be well for anyone interested in gas and gasoline motors to study this hand book with a view of securing a better comprehension of the underlying principles incident to the development of power by these machines.

Allen's Commercial Organic Analysis.

Messrs. P. Blakiston's Son & Co. have recently published Allen's Commercial Analysis a treatise on the properties, proximate analytical examination and modes of assaying the various organic chemicals and products employed in the arts, manufactures and medicine. This is an extremely valuable publication and Vol. 1, is of especial value to the sugar industry because a large fraction,

some 100 pages, of the book, which is a fine octavo, is devoted to the sugar industry, taking up in detail there the constitution and classification of sugars; the relations of the sugars to polarized light; the specific gravity of saccharine solutions; the action of strong acids on sugars; the action of dilute acids on sugars; reaction of the sugars as reducing agents; recognition of the principal kinds of sugar, cane sugar, sucrose sugar, malt sugar, maltose; milk sugar, lactose; glucoses.

About fifty pages following are devoted to starch and its isomers, and this 150 pages constituting nearly one-third of the volume, will give to those interested in the sugar industry the latest data available on its analytical side.

The book can be procured from Messrs. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia, and is published at \$4.50.

The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association.

The June meeting of this Association was held last Thursday evening at its rooms on Union street, New Orleans. There was a very good attendance, among those present being Messrs. Emile Legendre, J. S. Webster, G. G. Zenor, John Dymond, Henry Tremoulet, H. S. Crozier, Victor Meyer, J. W. Gleason and others. President Emile Rost was in the chair, and the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting having been dispensed with, he stated that Messrs. John A. Wogan, G. W. Sentell, and G. S. Pierson were candidates for membership in the Association. They were all unanimously elected.

The next business before the meeting was the topic for discussion, "How to Secure the Best Results in the Preservation of Seed Cane." The only paper which had been prepared was a brief one by Col. G. G. Zenor, which was as follows:

To secure the best results in the preservation of seed cane is in my humble judgment, to dig it up by the roots and plant it in the fall. If the ground is properly prepared, well drained, and the cane covered 4 or 5 inches deep, its keeping is well assured. However, climatic conditions may occur that would prevent planting the entire crop. Excessive drouth, or rains, in September or October would defer a full planting, but we rarely have such an ex-

cess of either, but that at least one-half or more of the crop could be planted before or during the grinding season.

Lands lying so low that they are liable to be flooded by heavy rain fall during the winter, and not readily drained, might be better to plant after the cold season has passed. If seed must be saved, select the straightest stubble, dig it up by the roots, put it in windrow, with tops down hill, cover well and open quarter drains below the middies and if it don't keep, ask Dr. Stubbs for a remedy.

The advantages of fall planting were so clearly, fully and forcibly elucidated by Dr. Stubbs in a paper read before this association May 12th, 1898, and published in the Louisiana Planter of May 14, that I could add nothing to it and would say to those who have not read it that it would well repay perusal.

On motion duly made, Col. Zenor's paper was received with thanks and ordered published. Considerable discussion was then had relative to the matter of preserving seed cane, which was participated in by Messrs. Dymond, Zenor, Gleason, H. S. Crozier, H. Tremoulet, Emile Legendre, Burguières, Webster, Meyer and others and of which a full stenographic report will appear in our next issue. The views of those present having been thoroughly ventilated, the chair stated that the selection of a topic for discussion at the next meeting was in order. On motion, the selection was left to the President. The meeting then adjourned until the second Thursday in July.

The Cane Crop.

The prevalence of occasional showers throughout the sugar district has served to mitigate the drought situation to some extent, though they are neither extensive enough nor heavy enough to give satisfactory relief. They have, however, given some, and in places, considerable assistance to the cane, which, while suffering badly in some places, is generally holding out very well, though checked in growth from lack of sufficient moisture.

The prevailing hot weather and the increasing frequency of the showers seem to promise relief soon.

Rainy Season in Cuba.

The station, at Havana, of the U. S. Bureau, has just published the following:

The rainy season begins in the latter part of May and the first part of June and ends

with October, during which time about 63 per cent. of the mean annual rainfall occurs.

The mean annual rainfall compiled from a 30 years period, for May, is 4.47 inches; greatest monthly rainfall, 17.51 inches, in 1890, and least monthly rainfall, 0.33 inches, in 1897; average number of days with rain, 9.3; greatest number of days with rain 19 in 1885; least, 3 in 1889.

For June the average monthly rainfall is 7.16 inches; greatest monthly rainfall, 17.56 inches, in 1892, and least, 1.07 in 1865. Average number of days with rain, 12.8; greatest number of days with rain, 21 in 1897, and the least, 4 in 1872.

One inch of rain equals 22,624.04 imperial gallons, or 113.31 tons of water, per acre. On Thursday afternoon last, May 26th, 1.21 inch of rain fell in 59 minutes.

The mean temperature, 10 years period, for May is 73.8; maximum was 99.0 in 1895 and minimum 64.4 in 1889.

For June the mean temperature is 81.5; maximum 97.7 in 1891 and minimum 69.1 in 1888.

Wm. B. STOCKSTON.
Forecast Official and Station Director.

Sugar in Mexico.

From a recent issue of Modern Mexico we learn that Chiapas has 244 sugar plantations; Nueva Leone, 226; Vera Cruz, 106; Yucatan, 94; Michoacan, 82; Oaxaca, 75; Garero, 72; Pueblo, 67, and Jalisco, 63.

Sugar as Food.

"A lump of sugar represents about as much nutriment as an ounce of potato, but while the potato will be eaten only because hunger prompts, the sugar, because of its taste, may be taken when the appetite has been fully satisfied.

"Sugar is a useful and valuable food. It must, however, be remembered that it is a concentrated food, and therefore should be eaten in moderate quantities. Further, like other concentrated foods, sugar seems best fitted for assimilation by the body when supplied with other materials which dilute it or give it the necessary bulk.

"Persons of active habits and good digestion will add sugar to their food almost at pleasure without inconvenience, while those of sedentary life, of delicate digestion, or of a tendency to corpulency would do better to use sugar very moderately: It is generally assumed that four or five ounces of sugar per day is as much as it is well for the average adult to eat under ordinary conditions."

So says Farmers' Bulletin No. 93, entitled, "Sugar as Food," prepared by Mrs. Mary Hinman Abel, under the supervision of the Office of Experiment Stations. This bulletin shows that the English-speaking people are the largest consumers of sugar. It also treats of the chemical composition of sugar, its food value, use in dietaries of adults and children, and the sources of cane sugar.

The above bulletin is for free distribution, and may be obtained of senators, representatives or delegates in Congress or by application to the secretary of agriculture. One copy only is mailed to each applicant.—American Grocer:

The Sugar Beet versus the Sugar Cane.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In the North American Review for March, Dr. Charles A. Crampton writes on, "The Opportunity of the Sugar Cane Industry," and gives anything but a bright outlook for our future. Dr. Crampton, I presume, is an eminent authority on the beet sugar industry, but I regret to say that he does not seem so well posted on the great strides of improvement that have been made in the cane sugar industry of late years. He has made some statements and drawn some conclusions which are not warranted by the facts, which if allowed to go undisputed would give the world at large a false impression of the real progress made in the sugar cane industry. His assertions, even if true of the Philippine Islands, India and a few other benighted places, are not true of the Hawaiian Islands, Cuba, Louisiana, or even Australia. The following are a few of the most objectionable remarks:

"In the beginning of the century sugar cane was supreme, but now nearly two-thirds of the world's consumption of sugar is obtained from the beet root. How the victory has been won is explained in one word, brains."

Again, after showing the advancement made in the beet industry, Dr. Crampton says:

"In the meantime the sugar cane industry records absolute stagnation in the factory, no improvement not borrowed from the beet trade, and no advance in the field. The sugar cane is probably no richer in sugar now than it was in its wild state."

Now, if these statements are true, we are not only courting, but deserve ruin and extinction. Fortunately, however, we can point to a very different state of things. For instance, take the improvements made in cane crushing plants during the last twenty years. We find that we have advanced from the three-roller mill to the nine-roller, and from the two expressions to six, and from an extraction of 60 per cent to an extraction of 95 per cent of the contained juice. Can the beet manufacturers record anything to surpass this? It is true that we did not make this advance at one bound: First, the two-roller mill was added to the three-roller, making a five roller plant; then two rollers more were added, making a seven-roller plant; then another was added, and finally the nine-roller mill was constructed all on one foundation, which is one of the best designed, as well as the strongest machines that can be made for the purpose.

Besides this we have the cane cutter, the cane shredder and the Krajewski cane crusher to aid in crushing the cane. We have also maceration and numerous other minor improvements. In our best mills we have the Krajewski crusher and the nine-roller mill, equal to seven expressions, and

it is doubtful if any method can be devised that will surpass these mills in efficiency in extracting juice from the cane.

Again, take the bagasse, which with the old three-roller plant had to be taken to the bagasse house, or grounds to dry and then, still more labor and expense were required to bring it back to the furnaces for burning. With the nine-roller mill the trash or bagasse is carried direct to the furnaces by a system of carriers. The improvement in bagasse furnaces, in firing and in the make and setting of steam boilers is also very marked and has called forth numberless inventions, effected an immense saving in fuel and in increasing the efficiency of the boilers.

Boilers, too, are now set with a view to the perfect combustion of the fuel as well as for superheating the live steam: Superheaters are also constructed for the purpose of superheating the exhaust steam with the waste gases of the smoke stack. Engines are designed and valves are set on scientific lines and everything is done that thought can suggest or ingenuity devise to insure the efficiency and economy of the entire plant.

If we follow the juice into the boiling house we shall also find improvement in every step of its transit. We find the old vertical juice heater that was seemingly designed to clog in the tubes, discarded for those of new design that clean themselves; the old system of clarification is replaced by the new method of superheat clarification. The old cleaning pans are discarded and precipitators have taken their place. Open pan evaporation has given place to the triple and quadruple effect, and the open train to the vacuum pan.

There is also the new method of crystallization in motion and the improved filter process, and the new methods of manipulating them whereby the loss in the press cake has been reduced from 12 per cent to 1 1/2 per cent.

These are some of the improvements that have been made in the boiling house, and though they are not all that might be desired, or equal to those made in the crushing of the cane, we still can report progress along the right lines, and we do not think it can be said with any manner of fairness, that the sugar cane industry is stagnant.

In regard to the field, I would say that the improvements there are almost as evident as those in the factory and not long ago actually surpassed them: Again, so far from the cane in its wild state being equal to the cultivated varieties, there is no more comparison between them than there is between chalk and cheese. The steam and the disc plows and better methods of cultivating and fertilizing the soil and careful selection of the seed cane have wrought wonders in the cane field, so that better crops are now derived from old land than were formerly got from virgin soil. The following brief statement is the average for

the crop of 1895 and will give some idea of the richness of the cane and the purity of the juice on one of the plantations in Hawaii:

Average Density.....30.03 Brix
Average Polarization18.9 Brix

Which may be construed the average result of the sugar cane, and it is probably higher than the average sugar content of the beet root.

These statements, I think, will prove that some improvement is being made in the sugar cane industry and that utter stagnation is not exactly truly descriptive of its situation.

I would further like to remark that the large output of beet sugar is not so much due to brains, as it is to the sugar bounty system of Europe and to the war in Cuba. Had these two factors been wanting, it is safe to say there would have been a very different state of affairs, for with fair competition the sugar cane will always be able to hold its own against all comers.

GEORGE OSBORNE.

Kukalau, Hawaii, May 15, 1899.

Trade Notes.

Weigh Your Sugar Cane.

We believe that any planter producing more than one hundred acres of sugar cane, will find that it will pay to erect scales to weigh even a small crop, because of the increased amount of work that will be done, when it is thus put under daily measure. Wherever cane scales have been erected, they have given satisfaction, exact weighing of sugar cane becomes almost imperative in order to insure accuracy in the record.

The Osgood Scale Co., 151 Central Street, Binghamton, N. Y., advertise their U. S. Standard scales in this issue, and our readers will do well to write them for prices, and for their large illustrated catalogue, which will be sent free on request.

An Atlanta Branch.

The Lidgerwood Mfg. Co., New York, manufacturers of improved hoisting engines and suspension cableways, have recently established a branch at Atlanta, Ga., with offices in the Prudential Building.

This is the finest office building in Atlanta, if not indeed in the entire South. The Atlanta branch will be in charge of Mr. J. H. Dickinson, C. E., sales agent.

Summer Tourist Tickets.

Commencing June 1st and continuing to and including September 30th, 1899, the Texas & Pacific Railway Company will sell round trip Summer Tourist Tickets to points in Alabama, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Quebec, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin at a considerable reduction in rates.

See the nearest ticket agent for full information, or write E. P. Turner, G. P. & T. A., Dallas, Texas.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Ascension.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The drouth is being broken or relieved in spots by local showers of greater or less volume—mostly lead, but up to this writing a majority of Ascension localities can boast of little more than enough moisture to lay the dust. Donaldsonville had a nice little shower Tuesday morning, measuring quarter of an inch in thickness, according to Local Observer Park's official gauge. Two or three very alight showers followed on Wednesday, and while much more rain is badly needed, the little that has been vouchsafed encourages the hope of larger favors shortly to be enjoyed.

The Belle Helene Company's Bowdon plantation is one of the few that have been particularly fortunate in being visited by frequent showers. A fine rain visited Hermitage plantation and its neighborhood May 22, and Mr. W. D. Maginnis reported the ground still moist from its effects near the latter part of last week. The crop outlook there has improved considerably.

Local Observer Park's meteorological record for May shows 26 clear and 5 partly cloudy days with a rainfall of only 0.05 of an inch. The maximum temperature was 94 degrees, on the 14th day of the month, and the minimum figure 60 degrees, on the first. The highest temperature so far recorded in June is 93 degrees, on the second and fifth insts.

Ascension Branch of the Sugar Planters' Association held its monthly meeting Tuesday. Hon. Henry McCall presiding, Hon. Paul Leche officiating as minute clerk, and the following members present: Dr. W. M. McCalliard, vice-president; F. B. Lemann, secretary and treasurer; E. H. Barton, R. Henry C. Braud, Paul Leche and L. E. Bentley. After the May minutes had been read and the treasurer's report had been read and adopted, the following standing committees were selected:

Levees—Henry McCall, ex-officio, Richard McCall, Henry C. Braud, Jas. P. Kock and W. I. Barton.

Weather—Dr. W. M. McCalliard, J. E. St. Martin and Dr. John D. Hanson.

Improvements in Culture and Manufacture of Sugar—Henry McCall, ex-officio, E. H. Barton and Jas. P. Kock.

Billiards—Dr. John D. Hanson, C. Kline and Richard McCall.

Growth and Culture of Crops—W. I. Barton, Richard McCall and Jacob Lebermuth.

Parochial Affairs—Richard McCall, E. N. Pugh and Henry C. Braud.

House Committee—Dr. W. M. McCalliard, Dr. John D. Hanson and C. Kline.

The vacancy in the board of directors caused by the death of Hon. R. N. Sims was filled by the election of Mr. Henry C. Braud. The constitutional amendment proposed at

the last session, restoring the dues of full members to \$24 per annum, was unanimously adopted. The secretary was authorized to renew the subscriptions to the newspapers, magazines, etc., received in the reading room.

President McCall spoke in feeling and appropriate terms of the great loss recently sustained by the community in the death of two of its most eminent citizens, Hon. Wm. Porcher Miles and R. N. Sims, the former an ex-president and the latter a charter member of the association; and Mr. McCall suggested the appointment of committees to frame resolutions expressive of the sorrow felt by the members because of the passing away of these distinguished gentlemen. The suggestion was adopted and the following committees chosen to prepare suitable memorials:

On the death of Mr. Miles—Henry C. Braud, L. E. Bentley, Paul Leche, Henry McCall and F. B. Lemann.

On the death of Judge Sims—C. Kline, E. N. Pugh, W. I. Barton, Henry McCall and F. B. Lemann.

The association then adjourned in respect to the memories of the lamented dead.

ASCENSION.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather has been sufficiently warm during the past week for all crop purposes as may be seen from the maximum readings of the thermometer at the U. S. Engineer's office: May 1st, 94 degrees; June 1st, 90 degrees; 2nd, 94 degrees; 3rd, 95 degrees; 4th, 94 degrees; 5th, 96 degrees, and 6th, 93 degrees. A splendid rain fell on bayous Plaquemine and Jacob on the 5th inst. and on the next day the town of Plaquemine and that part of the parish on the river above Plaquemine received its quota, and never was it more welcome. Immense good will result. We are sorry to say, however, that the rains have been very partial and that the larger part of the parish is still exceedingly dry. Owing to the long dry spell the crops are clean and well worked up and are in a condition to receive much benefit from any rains that may come.

Mr. Thomas Supple, of Bayou Goula, was in attendance on the Police Jury Monday, and reiterated his former claim that their places would make as many tons for the mill this year as last. Mr. Supple says they are breaking out their middles with four mule plows, and so far their crops have not suffered on account of the drouth.

Mr. D. H. Walsh, of Plaquemine, manager of Union reports his crops as growing finely, and says he keeps his mules moving all the time. Mr. Walsh said rain was badly needed, but he has since received a fine one. The new saw mill lately erected by Hon. Andrew H. Gay, back of his Union plantation, will start under full headway in a few days. It is right in the midst of a fine cypress brake

and there are plenty of saw logs on hand. The mill will probably cut 20,000 feet per day.

Mr. John Robinson, one of the managers of the Oaklawn plantation of Messrs Weems, et als., on Bayou Teche, in St. Mary parish, was a visitor to our parish during the week, and after seeing some of the crops on Bayous Jacob and Plaquemine said he was delighted with Iberville and that St. Mary had nothing better.

Mr. L. B. Hart, of Plaquemine, proprietor of the Hart Well Company, with one of his assistants, Mr. James F. Ferrell, is sinking an artesian well at Colfax, in Grant parish. Natural gas was recently struck which Mr. Hart says would be sufficient to light the town and supply heat for a battery of boilers of 100 horse power. What a saving in cost of light and fuel this would be for a factory of some sort, and we hope it will be utilized.

The Riverview homestead of Mrs. Rosa Gourrin will be sold at public auction by the sheriff on July 1st. Riverview was formerly a part of the York plantation from which it was detached some twenty years ago.

Mr. Adolph Hebert, an old and esteemed citizen of the Fourth ward, was buried last week. Mr. Hebert was in his 73rd year and was connected with many of the best families on the east bank.

Mr. Edward B. Schwing, one of Plaquemine's rising young men was married this week to Miss Jane Rhorer, daughter of Mr. John Rhorer, of Lamothe, a prominent planter of Rapides parish.

IBERVILLE.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

But for several distant, and apparently light showers, the drouth continues over the parish and all are clamoring for rain, not only those who are engaged in agriculture but others, as the roads are disagreeably dusty, drinking water is scarce and the gardens are suffering. The corn is feeling the effects of the dry weather more than the cane, which is generally rooting and suckering well and of good color.

The crops are generally well worked with the land in good condition and free of grass and weeds.

The corn planted between the stubble stumps is generally more promising and of a better color than where the land was ploughed for corn, although the spring has been unusually dry.

This year's experience may in some measure revolutionize the method of preparing the land for corn, as fine corn can be raised without destroying the stubble. Stubble can be barred on one furrow—shaved deep and the land fertilized as for cane if desired.

Two heavy furrows can then be thrown to and over the stubble if possible and then the middles can be ploughed out; after which the corn can be planted and covered

with the harrow or disk cultivator. The stubble will not interfere with the cultivation and the land will not pack around the corn roots. The acreage to be laid by is smaller than usual at this season of the year and the fields are generally in good shape to receive the last working.

A small planter who has about the best crop prospect in plant and stubble (stand enough of the latter to make twenty-five tons per acre) the writer has seen this season, when looking over his fields recently remarked: "Who would have expected such a show for a crop two days after the freeze." The lands are sandy and well drained, and the canes were cut late for the mill and windrowing was not resorted to at any time during the campaign—consequently the ground was kept cool, and but little or no tendency to enlargement of the eyes in the soil prior to the advent of low temperature. On the adjoining property where early windrowing was resorted to the ratoon crop is meagre. On some places where the cane tops were burned as soon as dry enough the stand of ratoons is not as good as when they remained longer on the ground. Some have already decided to pull the tops on the ridges as a precautionary measure, and propose to leave them until after the middle of February. In ante-bellum days the tops were carefully placed on the crown of the ridges by the cutters to protect the stubble from heat and cold and permit of the rapid egress of the water from the fields. Last week at Argyle of the Messrs. Bonvillain Bros. low grade sugars were being dried and this week they started at Southdown, the estate of H. C. Minor. The extremely low co-efficient of purity of the juice during the last campaign precludes the possibility of obtaining the usual amount of low grade sugars. Probably in many instances the output will not exceed six pounds of sugar per ton of cane of thirds.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

St. Mary is receiving a rainfall by degrees, which degrees are reckoned exclusively by territory; but while good showers have been falling in different portions of the parish for the last three or four weeks, none seem to be reporting an over supply, but, on the contrary, it is not enough, owing to the long drouth which just preceded them, and which is being broken in the parish piece meal. It has been several times predicted during the last month that this season would be a repetition of the last, in this parish, which was almost an unbroken drought from February to June of 1898, (which is the most important period of the growing season,) and from June the 1st unto the end, and up as far as March into the present year, of the heaviest rainy season known here in fifty years; but the first of June for this year having passed without any indications

of a successive rain period, that much, at least of the prediction is lost. Mr. Lunny's plantation, on the lower portion of the Bayou Sale ridge, had water in its furrows several inches deep a day or so ago, having been visited by a drenching rain, but North Bend and Midway plantations, on either side of him, owned by the estate of S. M. Swenson, only received a heavy sprinkle, which is demonstrative of the strangely local character of rains this season.

The crops in the Cypremont section, considered as a whole, are very regular, but small and not of a healthy color; but the corn is faring worse than the cane, the latter being a hardier plant in either extremely dry or wet weather.

Mr. W. B. Kemper's Choupique plantation, in Cypremont, received a splendid shower on the 6th, of which he was sorely in need; and the edges of it spread out as far as Dumesnil's on the one side and Darby's bridge on the other, which covers a small portion of the cane region. Coming over to the Teche district, there was a good rain fell at the Alice C., Frances and Garden City places yesterday, and another on Messrs Underwood & Co.'s Belleview and Crawford Bros.' Oak Bluff. They are all hailed throughout the parish with good cheer at this particular time, because, owing to the present condition of the ground and its crops, a good rain is more important than the budding of a mill or the reclamation of sugar fields, to the sugar industry of St. Mary and its immediate dependencies.

Mr. Dolsier Bodin, on his Ida plantation, intends remodeling his draining machine system; all the arrangements are made, and the work would have been fairly under way at this time, but for the threatening condition of the weather and his fearing that a heavy rainy season would catch his water wheels crippled and out of service.

Senator Caffery, on his Bethia place, is making important changes in his sugar house. The rear mill, of a set of three, will be brought forward, and converted into a crusher, and the front mill will be carried to the rear to take its place. The foundations will also be changed, so as to admit of a change of gearing from the present single principle of mill gearing to that of the double, and the new and extra machinery necessary to the change will be constructed for this purpose at the foundry.

The process in this parish of converting mills into crushers has been very successful, so far as practiced. The top roller, of a set of three is grooved lengthwise, presenting an end view, when completed, resembling a ratchet, as distinguished from ordinary cog grooves, or the angular grooves of the Krajewski-Pesant crusher; this pattern of groove presents a sharp edge to the cane, as it is about to pass between the grooved roller and those beneath it, which not only begins taking a hold upon the cane as the groove itself increases its proximity to the roller beneath in the course of its revolu-

tion, which draws the cane between them, but finally cuts the stalk entirely in two as it recedes from the base roller. These crushers are now in use on Mr. T. J. Shaffer's Anna plantation, Messrs Foster and Bents' Alice C., and Hon. Walter O'Niell's Linwood, but the Linwood crusher is a little different from the others, having grooves like screw threads, besides straight ones, running from end to end.

Mr. Ernest Prevost, of the Alexis plantation, in Cypremont, says he will not be ready to run off his thirds until about August, as his sugar is settling very slowly. The Caffery refinery, which closed down a few days ago, because precipitation was not sufficiently advanced to render the drying out process economical, will begin again next week, your correspondent has been told; the wagons stored in the hot room dried very well, but those kept elsewhere, on account of a scarcity of storage capacity in the building, did not.

ST. MARY.

St. Mary.

Mr. A. A. Bonvillain, one of Cypremont's prosperous planters was with us on Tuesday of this week. He had been to New Orleans on business and stopped here on his way home. He reports that the crops are holding up splendidly under the pressure of the drouth, but that they cannot stand it much longer is a well-known fact.

Mr. Henry Barrilleaux met with a painful accident at the Franklin Refinery last Tuesday evening. He was engaged in drying out some sugars left over in the tanks, when a belt slipped off one of the machines. As he attempted to replace it without stopping the machinery, he was caught by the belt and permanently crippled. His left arm was ground to a pulp, and the unfortunate gentleman received injuries about the head and face. As we go to press he is reported to be doing very well, considering his serious wounds.

If we do not get some rain soon, the crops will be shorter than they promise now. It will certainly be terrible if we will be compelled to go through the same season as last year. When it did commence to rain, it did not stop from the first day of June to the same day in March. The cane crop was kept green by the incessant rains until the appearance of the severe cold, and instead of ripening, the bud was killed, thus destroying the development of saccharine in the plant. The planters lost money last season, and every branch of it feels its blighting touch. If that experience is to be repeated with similar results, land owners will be poorer than ordinary laborers, and their poverty will be a little too much for expression in words.—Vindicator News, June 2.

Vermilion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather still continues dry, though, at this writing there is some indication of

rain. The signs for an early rain are more favorable than they have been for the past six weeks. Crops are suffering for rain and have been for the past ten days and the absence of rain for ten days longer would prove very damaging. In some sections corn is suffering very badly for rain while in other sections that were favored with light showers the latter part of May it is growing very nicely. Cane looks healthy and does not show the effects of the dry weather save that it is not growing any to speak of. Cane generally is very small for the time of year and stubble especially. The cane crop will be short in this section this year and a large per cent of it will be kept for seed which will mean but very little for the mill. The cotton crop will be very poor judging from the present outlook. The acreage is short and the crop is very backward. It has been fairly well worked, as has all other crops, since the rain in April. The crop in general is in fine condition to receive a rain as it has been thoroughly worked and all the grass and weeds taken out since we have had rain. The rice crop along the irrigating canals is fine, but the Providence crop is very poor. In fact there has been but little Providence rice planted yet. It was too early to plant Providence rice during April and before the farmers could prepare their land for planting after the rains the last of April the ground was too dry to put the seed in, consequently they are waiting for rain to be able to seed their lands. There is quite a difference in planting rice where you can have access to all the water you want and planting it where you have to depend on the rains. If you plant on a canal and the ground becomes too dry to germinate the grains all you have to do is to open your siphon and let on sufficient water to dampen the ground, which will often germinate the seed and bring the rice up large enough to be flooded. There is still an increase in the facilities for irrigating rice and the outlook is that it will be very much extended in the Western part of the parish during the present summer. The R. H. Mills canal has been completed and Mr. Mills will put his pumps to work to-day and will furnish the planters along the line of his canal with water within a few days. He has a beautiful canal three and a half miles long and forty feet wide. At the mouth of this canal he has a sixteen inch Ivens pump, driven by a one hundred and twenty-five horse-power engine. Mr. Mills has a large territory to operate in and though he will not irrigate more than two thousand acres of rice this year, next year he can easily irrigate from five to ten thousand acres. The extension of the Hail-Stutz Irrigating Co.'s canal has been completed and they are busily engaged in putting in a relief pump this week. They have been flooding rice on their old canal for several weeks. Mr. O. E. Gammill, manager for the Hunter Canal Company, informed the Planter correspondent a few days ago that he would break dirt on the large canal to run from the Vermilion river to Queydan, a distance of twenty miles, one day this week.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

All prospects and indications for rain have seemingly blown from the skies, though now and then a cloud is seen to pass over and shade the earth from the sun for a few minutes, permitting man and beast to catch a cold breeze and rest from the hot scorching sun.

It is not unusual now-a-days to find the mercury along about one o'clock up to 96 degrees in the shade. Fortunately for all who have to toil in places exposed to the sun's scorching rays, the south-wind blowing from off of the Gulf of Mexico, tempers the heat, making it possible to perform all needed work on field and plantation.

The Powhontas plantation's superintendent Mr. C. G. Fusiller, was the first and only man known in this parish to the planter's scribe who made a rever falling practice to water his teams regularly during the warm season of the year, at about nine o'clock A. M. and at three o'clock P. M. The results obtained by the humane acts are decidedly beneficial to the plantation's work-teams.

There is less sickness and derangement and less fatigue observable while at service.

The planters seem to think it is possible, if it would rain during this week, to succeed in making an average crop of corn.

Messrs. Chas. Knoll and R. Wood of Shirly and Ellen Kay plantations called by for a moment on the first of this week, and informed me that the crops on these two fine places were very promising. Cane was doing as well as the nature of the weather would permit.

Mr. C. F. Knoll, Bunkie P. O., the proprietor of the above places, through the loss of seed cane was somewhat against his will forced to plant some 450 acres of cotton. He has a large corn and pea crop. Mr. R. Wood, Mr. Knoll's manager informs me that all the crops on both places are exceptionally fine, considering the drought which has prevailed for the past six weeks.

I have been informed that the corn-crop on Barbreck plantation where it has been irrigated, is rich in its color and growing. I have not to date learned what success has been met with there in irrigating cane.

In the locality of Cheneyville, Rapides, the crop prospects are reported as good, but needing rain. Cane is looking well and about all that is now wanted is a good soaking rain to nourish the roots of the cane and promote its growth.

It was my pleasure to meet with in Hannville on the 5th inst. Mr. Leon Wolf, president of the Washington, La., State Bank. Mr. Wolf informed me that the prospects for building an immense irrigating plant and canal, commencing three miles above Washington at the junction of Bayou Boeuf with Bayou Cocodri, were decidedly flattering; the fast and complete survey on which the project will rest is now being made by the engineers.

The supply of water is ample for all practical purposes.

The canal will extend in a westerly course through St. Landry parish, a distance of some 20 miles, to a point near the Town of Eunice.

A large area of the best rice lands in the State will be watered by this canal and bring about a new and better method for the farmers to grow rice than heretofore has prevailed. The people along the line of the projected canal are said to be enthusiastic over the possibility of its early completion.

Mr. Wolf stated to the planter's scribe that the crop prospects in his locality were as good as could be expected in the absence of

rain for a month or more past.

Reports from Bayou de Glases, this parish, indicate bad stands of cotton and want of rain.

Leinster, Bunkie and Evergreen are reported to be needing rain, more so for cane and corn than cotton.

Since commencing to write the clouds have gathered off in the West and the low mutterings of distant thunder are heard, but as I close for the mail I find that the clouds have passed away, leaving to us a dry clear sky.

The old settlers of the country place their hopes for rain on the 8th of June. Not being a native I have only to say that I hope the 8th will not bring on a deluge.

The cotton planters are all smiles over their fine prospects.

ERIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The drouth which has been strongly felt for quite a while seems of a longer duration than what we have every year at this season. Barring a few local showers of very slight importance our parish has not been visited by a rain for seven weeks. Our fields are parched, the crops are almost at a standstill and as they were very poor from the freeze they did not need the drouth to set them further back.

The corn crops, which are remarkably large in acreage though they suffer also from the prolonged want of moisture are at a very fine stand and more corn will be made this year than ever before.

The warm weather has set in quite early this year and for the past month the temperature has been as sultry as the warmest summer months.

The cane fields in our section though rather bare now compared to other years, are slowly improving and in some places the crops present a pleasing aspect. Some of the planters at the Grand Point settlement report their crops as promising as any other year. The Hester plantation, also, for instance, of the Gramercy Planting Company, has a very good stand, and does not think the results will differ very much from those of the past year. On the Helvetia plantation of Mr. E. Cherbonnier, in the upper portion of the parish, the stubbles are doing very well whilst the plant is very poor, whilst on the adjoining Rapidan plantation of Mr. E. Bourgeois, the plant cane has a good stand while the stubbles are nothing much.

The rice fields of our district present a verdant aspect, and although the planters have not the good luck to water their fields from the natural flow caused by high water, still with a little pumping everything is working in fine shape.

Mr. Felicien Waguespack, owner of the elegant Golden Grove property and adjoining Sport plantation has been in New Orleans for two weeks, accompanied by his charming wife. Mr. Waguespack has gone there to recuperate from a recent fall which he sustained at his plantation home.

Sympathy has been expressed throughout our parish at the great loss caused by the death of Hon. R. N. Sims, of Donaldsonville. Mr. Sims was a regular practitioner at our local bar for many years past, and was for years an associate of the well-known firm of Sims and Poche, whose career will always be remembered. At the time of his death he was a partner of Mr. P. M. Lambremont, a well-known lawyer of Convent.

Messrs. L. Jemsen, C. S. Dixon and O. Moos, of New Orleans, were visitors at the Rapidan residence the first of the week.

CONVENT.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, June 5th, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Owing to the same causes previously stated, this market has continued quiet and prices rule altogether nominal on the basis of 2% @ 2½ cts. per lb. for good centrifugated sugars 96/96½ test. Stocks being rather limited and the best parcels held by speculators, no hurry for sale is being noticed and all parties are expecting an early improvement in quotations.

At Sagua la Grande, about 200,000 bags of sugar were manufactured this year and owing to low prices offered at said place, the greater part was shipped for this port and sold to local speculators.

Planters in said locality, in spite of having been compelled to grant for the cane a larger quantity of sugar than in any previous years, to pay for oxen at exorbitant prices and to incur heavy expenses for repairs to their factories and machinery, are not in the least discouraged, inasmuch as the average prices of 2% cts. per lb. for 96 deg. centrifugated sugars and 2% cts. do. for 89 deg. molasses sugars at which their last crop was disposed of, proved to be rather remunerative. It is an inducement for them to persevere manufacturing sugar, which they expect to be able to do next year under better conditions than the ones which have prevailed during the last campaign.

Planters in the district of Trinidad seem to be awaking to activity, since it is reported that the plowing and cleaning of the fields, which are to be replanted as soon as the rainy season be over, have recently been resumed on an extensive scale; factory "Trinidad," after completing its crop, has retained all its hands and set them to work in the fields, for whose culture it is said about 200 more are needed and the scarceness of good laborers at to-day the principal drawback planters in that locality have to contend with.

The manager of the San Manuel factory, at Puerto del Padre, in the province of Porto Principe, was recently kidnapped by a gang of bandits who exacted from his family the sum of \$1,000 as ransom for his life.

The proprietor of plantation San Bernardo, at Minoas, in the same province and which was raided and looted by bandits a few days ago, has since been murdered together with one of his employees on his plantation.

These misdeeds plainly indicate the lack of security as yet prevailing in some localities, owing chiefly to distress and the small number of rural guards to support order, and it is said that the military commander of the province, General Carpenter, has ordered several detachments of American troops to be stationed at the places above named.

According to recent reports from several

localities, it would seem that country people are fast returning to their former homes and agricultural pursuits are being resumed at many points, though a large number of persons still remain in the cities and towns, as if awaiting for the final solution of the problem and as rations are as yet easily obtained at most of the places garrisoned by American troops, the families, therein concentrated, show no hurry to leave and set themselves to work.

As anticipated, the attempt to pay the Cuban soldiers has, so far, proved a failure, the number of those who have claimed the \$75 allowed by the United States government being quite limited; on this account, merchants at Santiago de Cuba, Guantanao, Manzanillo and other places in the eastern department of the island, are raising funds to assist and supply those who wish to devote themselves to agricultural pursuits, with oxen, implements, seeds, clothing, provisions, etc. All civil employees of the government of intervention, provincial and municipal and the majority of those of the Custom House, have agreed to contribute a small part of their monthly salaries to the relief of the natives anxious to resume work in the fields of above named province.

General Brooke has also telegraphed President McKinley, recommending him to send to all the Cuban provinces supplies of agricultural implements, seeds and tools most necessary, similar to the assorted cargo recently cleared from New York for Matanzas, by the Cuban Relief Association.

Sr. Mendez Capote, insular Secretary of State, has in a like manner suggested to General Brooke the advisability of authorizing the municipalities to assume the initiative in all matters connected with the reconstruction of the rural districts, granting them, if necessary, power for said purpose.

The representative in Cuba of the "Cuban Industrial Relief Fund," also requests the assistance of the government to supply the poorer farmers in the province of Havana, with such seeds and implements as they may be in need of to renew their former agricultural pursuits.

And finally, General Wilson, Military Commander of the province of Matanzas and Santa Clara, has just allowed to the Commercial Club of Matanzas, the sum of \$25,000 monthly, to be expended in the purchase of plows, cattle, etc., to be distributed among needy agriculturists of that province.

Owing to the activity which is being displayed in most of the sugar producing districts on this island, some parties already predict that the number of factories in fit condition to be run next year, will not be sufficient to grind the totality of the cane grown, and plans are already being made to export the prime material, through suitable arrangements, to neighboring ports in the United States and thence to factories in Louisiana, along the Mississippi river, which grind the cane and convert it into sugar.

One of the districts which have suffered the most, on account of the war, is that of Canasse, in the province of Matanzas; of the eighteen sugar plantations that formerly existed in that locality, two only remain standing, "Elena," that belongs to Sr. Grande, and "Villareal," to Sr. Fernandez Blanco; all the others are in a more or less ruined condition and from 5,000 souls before the war, its population has dwindled down to about 800. Signs of ruin and desolation are perceptible everywhere, whereas none towards reconstruction are as yet to be discovered.

On Thursday last, the Planters' Creditors' Committee left for Washington, with the purpose of getting the mortgage extension decree modified. They intend to present to President McKinley certain phases of the question, which the government attention should have been previously called to. To-day it is rather probable the government will not consider it advisable to introduce any change in the existing order, though it is generally acknowledged that it is detrimental to a certain portion of the people in general.

T. D.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

After some days of variable weather, which in their course brought also a few more or less violent thunderstorms and showers of rain, the weather grew dry, sunny and warm. Quite against the rules of temperature, it has not cooled down after the electric phenomena, and so here, as well as in the generality of beet districts, the finest imaginable weather has prevailed. The aerial warmth even rose to rather summerlike degrees and as this warmth was preceded by a period of copious rains, the meteorological conditions can be said to have been very favorable to all kinds of vegetation. There were some little drawbacks, consisting, for instance, in the hot sunshine having set in too quickly, baking the wet ground, so that a formation of crusts is complained of, which causes a delay of the coming up of the recently sown beets. But otherwise, beet growing, both with regard to the fieldwork and to the developments of the plant themselves, has made notable progress. The beet fields show generally a full and regular stand, and although some pieces will be resown, the condition is almost everywhere satisfactory. Such is also, with slight modification, the tenor of the reports from abroad, and the condition of the crop which had become rather precarious in Austria and France, opens there now more favorable prospects. In Holland they are said to be now highly satisfactory, whilst in Belgium they leave still somewhat to desire. In Russia the necessary moist precipitations have not yet set in, but as the wet sphere is moving, a change in the right direction may take place there too. The Russian figures of the beet growing area

have been corrected in some measure, so that the entire beet sowings of Europe are changed to a surplus of 6.7 pct. Instead of 7.2 pct. as I wrote you a week ago.

In Italy four beet sugar factories, Sinigaglia, Savigliano, Rieti and Legnano worked last year and their total production amounted in 1897-98 to 5972.3 tons as against 3377, tons in 1896-97. As formerly mentioned, there is in Italy about the same beet sugar fever as is now prevailing in the United States, and seven new factories are either building or to be built in the very near future. The home-made sugar is paying 20.80 francs pr. 100 kilos less duty than the imported, and the protection is of course a great stimulus for the propagation of the beet sugar industry in Italy. Besides the above production, 71,932.5 tons were entered for consumption as against 75,582.5 tons, and the consumption has been 77,904.8 tons as against 79,459.5 tons, so that the regrettable fact remains that the consumption, which is anyhow of the lowest, has decreased to the extent of 1,555 tons. The real consumption may be, however, somewhat higher as consequent to the excessive high taxation—francs 99.—for refined sugar—a good deal of sugar is supposed to be smuggled in. But in general, this high tax is in itself a serious obstacle against the development of the consumption, as it endears the article and makes it for the poorer classes a luxury, which it has ceased to be in almost all other civilized countries. As soon, however, as the beet sugar production increases so much as to be able to cover the greater part of requirements, it may be safely supposed that the competition between the beet sugar factories will exercise a cheapening influence on the market; the more so, as the lower tax of the home-grown sugar will have to be given up partly to the consumer. But then the question arises whether the Government of Italy will not try to recover the loss of duty, by raising the inland tax. The principal country importing into Italy is Russia. Of the above named total consumption 41.04 pct. were in 1898 drawn from Russia; Austria follows with 18.94 pct.; France with 16.80 pct.; Germany participated in the Italian import only with 7.71 pct.

Certain German brewers circumvented the newly passed saccharine law, which forbids the use of saccharine for industrial purposes, by giving small quantities of the stuff to the drivers of beer wagons, who then on demand furnish it to the saloon keepers for sweetening the beer. This interpretation of the law has not been approved by the courts, who recently pronounced sentence on a brewer for violation of the adulteration law. Speaking of saccharine, I should mention that the stuff and its use is relentlessly persecuted in Russia. The directors of the large Russian society of sugar manufacturers have proposed to the council of the City of Moscow to organize a service for the detection of adulteration by means of saccharine, the use of which is found to increase

to the disadvantage of the popular health, of the Imperial Treasury and of the sugar industry. The manufacturers of sugar suggest that articles of food and drinks should be analyzed as frequently as possible with a view to take to task the person guilty of adulteration. At the same time the sugar manufacturers offer to bear part of the expenses caused by these proceedings.

The sugar factory at Friedland worked in 1898-99, 45,999 tons of beet as against 55,529 tons in the last campaign, and these figures plainly show that the season in 1898 was not favorable for beet growing. The fields grown for the factory have been also exposed to a hailstorm, which caused a loss of quality, the latter being 13.48 pht. sugar in the fresh cuttings as against 18.93 pht. in 1897-98. The production of the factory amounted to 5075 tons, first runnings; 630 and 115 tons second and third runnings, respectively. Besides 900 tons of molasses have been turned out. The financial result has been, in spite of the unsatisfactory beet crop and the proportionately larger expenses, better than last year, which of course is due to the better prices of sugar. After writings off, amounting to M. 33,884—a clear profit of M. 227,806 as against M. 186,290—in the campaign of 1897-98 is shown.

The market underwent last week frequent fluctuations, of course much to the detriment of bona-fide buyers and holders. The opening was quiet, then the tendency abruptly strengthened, but weakened again later on, whilst the close, on account of some sales to America, is reported to be firm. In Germany actual business was much restricted, but prices on account of some purchases by refiners advanced a little; later on, however, the gain was nearly lost again, 88 pct. rendement being quoted at M. 12.05, only 5 pfennigs higher than at the opening. Delivery May at Hamburg is worth M. 11.255 f. o. b. In refined small business at unchanged prices.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Hawaiian Commerce of 1898.

Mr. William Haywood, late consul-general at Honolulu, sends to the department of state a report comparing the official statements of the collector-general of customs for the years 1897 and 1898, which makes interesting reading, especially in view of the fact that the Hawaiian islands are now United States territory.

The total receipts from customs were \$896,975.70 in 1898 as against \$708,493.05 in 1897, or an increase of \$188,482.65. Mr. Haywood says:

Few persons who have not lived here can fully appreciate how much the general prosperity of these islands depends upon the sugar market. Excepting the transients, everyone makes or loses according to the profits of the plantations. With annexation came a feeling of security of a market, and, when you add to this an abnormally large crop with high prices, it is not surprising that few plantations should be promoted.

These plantations are capitalized for amounts varying from \$1,000,000 to \$3,500,000, every cent of which will be expended before anything is received from the sale of sugar. A great part of this money goes toward the purchase of machinery and supplies. Of this money; I should say that 75 per cent is spent in the United States. In round numbers, probably \$25,000,000 is invested in sugar, practically all of which is owned here. The stock of these plantations is held by all classes. Every cent not needed in business goes into sugar. Those who bought sugar stock last August will be able to realize by August next 100 per cent profit on their investment.

The following shows the value of imports in 1898 from the countries named and the increase from each over the imports of 1897:

Country.	Value.	Increase.
United States . . .	\$8,695,591.63	\$1,895,563.29
Great Britain . . .	1,287,726.67	421,945.42
Germany	352,043.66	159,111.46
British colonies . .	481,768.01	300,639.90
China	328,851.87	68,434.47
Japan	354,324.99	62,008.64
France	43,655.55	12,658.23
Pacific islands . . .	7,292.12	1,428.08
Other countries . . .	99,636.33	*114,965.81

*Decrease.

Of the imports, \$1,282,075.72 was specie of United States mintage. The large increase from the British colonies was coal for the use of the United States army and navy. Nearly all the coal of the latter country is in the eastern part.

The exports for the year amounted to the total sum of \$17,346,744.79, as against \$16,021,775.19 for 1897, an increase of \$1,324,969.60. The ports of Honolulu and Makukona fell far behind their 1897 exports; while Hilo and Kahului forged ahead.

Mr. Haywood also adds that:

The prosperity of these islands depends almost entirely upon its one great staple—sugar. Any cause which lowers the price of sugar will make everyone here poorer. By the annexation of Hawaii the United States gained territory with a population, if we except the Asiatics, as rich per capita as one will find in any place in the world. In their present prosperous condition, they are good customers of the mainland.—Bulletin Bureau, Commercial Republics.

Personal.

Mr. W. R. Hawthorne was at the Commercial hotel last Tuesday. He registered from the Cora plantation.

Mr. T. H. Benners, one of the high officials of the Birmingham Machine and Foundry Company, of Birmingham, Ala., was in the city last Monday. He stopped at the Hotel Grunewald.

Mr. Adam Short, one of the owners of the famous Bellevue plantation in St. Mary parish, left during the past week for a trip to the North, where he will recuperate for some weeks.

Gov. H. C. Warmoth, Mrs. Warmoth, and their young son, Master C. K. Warmoth, of Magnolia plantation, lower coast, were in the city last Monday. They stopped at the St. Charles hotel.

BET SUGAR.

Carlsbad, New Mexico.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Carlsbad, Eddy P. O., June 1st, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The name of this active town was changed by a popular vote a few days since from Eddy to Carlsbad. The latter name was selected as a tribute to a mineral spring in the neighborhood, which is fast becoming famous in the medical world.

Since the sugar beet planting commenced, a large number of new comers have engaged in its cultivation, more than in any previous year. The area planted will therefore be largely increased from that estimated a month ago. At that time it was thought that 1500 acres would be about the number planted and that 16,000 tons of beets would be raised. Now it is certain that something over 2300 acres will be planted, from which a crop of 20,000 tons and over will be delivered to the factory this fall. This amount, estimating the campaign to last 120 days and the capacity of the factory to be 200 tons daily, comes within less than 4000 tons of giving the factory its full quota.

This, in view of the above facts, will without doubt, cause the factory people to greatly enlarge the capacity of their plant in time to handle the crop of the ensuing year.

There is little question now but that this valley will receive this fall a vast influx of immigration, and it is also clear that three fifths of those who come intending to engage in agricultural pursuits will turn their attention to the growing of the sugar beet. It has been demonstrated that the result of one acre of beets properly cared for is, after deducting every expense, \$20 an acre profit to the cultivator at the very least, and many farmers will market a crop that will far exceed even that generous estimate.

The factory now proposes paying \$4.75 a ton for beets delivered at the factory, and \$4.25 at all distant points on the railroad. This has, of course, greatly stimulated planting in this neighborhood.

The dry season which has prevailed throughout the Southwest, in many sections, has not as yet had any evil effect on farming interests in the valley, as the storage lakes contain water enough to last for all purposes for two or possibly three years; but its continuance may possibly curtail the number of lambs and mutton fed this fall at the factory pens on pulp.

CARLSBAD.

Beet Sugar Imports.

The following table shows the total imports of beet sugar from all countries, years ending June 30:

	Quantity. Pounds.	Value.
1889	243,473,321	\$ 6,957,883
1890	601,119,476	18,348,417
1891	658,994,380	18,232,377
1892	293,134,261	8,081,170

1893	436,333,843	12,846,509
1894	510,350,276	15,793,041
1895	347,376,732	6,993,282
1896	604,686,985	14,048,914
1897	1,865,577,495	33,689,158
1898	140,641,485	2,717,955
1899	569,574,042	11,832,631

Figures to March 31, 1891, include all beet sugar not above No. 13, Dutch standard in color; since that date, not above No. 16.—Manufacturer.

Gov. Warmoth on Beet Sugar.

Ex-Governor Warmoth, of Louisiana, declares the development of the beet sugar industry in California as "simply marvelous." He claims, however, that Louisiana cane sugar is better than beet sugar. He believes that Louisiana will be able to hold her own in the sugar cane section of the country, producing a kind of sugar that the beet don't make. He says: "The Beet is sweet; it will supply very many of the demands that are made for sugar, but there are many that it will not supply. I don't know whether it was because the people out there in California got on to the fact that I was engaged in cane culture, but even the watters at the table, as they would hand me the sugar, would remark: 'This is not as sweet as cane sugar; you will have to take a little more of it.' Such was the impression throughout that country—that the beet sugar is not as sweet as the cane sugar. The people want cane sugar, and they are going to have it more and more as they get the beet sugar. They are going to mix it with the beet sugar; and therefore we have no anxiety about the success of our agriculture and of our manufacture of sugar in this country because of the wonderful progress that is being made by the beet people."—American Grocer.

Eddy, New Mexico.

Beet planting is in full swing down the valley just now. Over 1,700 acres are already planted, many of the fields showing beets up, and within the next two weeks, or by the middle of June 2,500 acres will be seeded. Good stands are reported, and replanting has only been necessary in a very few instances. This season the factory furnished the very best German seed that money could buy and delivered it to the farmers at actual cost, and the result is proving most satisfactory. The increase in the price per ton for beets has added greater stimulus to the farmers, and every indication points that the factory will begin the fall campaign with a supply of beets that will in every way satisfy the factory management. Every farmer in the valley should plant beets, and many eastern farmers, did they know of the exceptional opportunities existing here, would only too gladly come in and avail themselves of the certainties which the sugar factory has made possible to the farmers of the Pecos Valley.—Pecos Valley Argus, June 2,

The Tulane University.

We print below the program for commencement week at this great institution of learning. Our sugar planters are particularly interested in Tulane since the inauguration of the excellent department of sugar chemistry and engineering under the supervision of Prof. Wilkinson, and doubtless many of them will be present at the exercises enumerated below:

PROGRAMME.

Sunday, June 11.

Baccalaureate Sermon, by Rev. Charles E. Wells, Ph. D., S. T. D. (Newcomb College Chapel, 4:30 p. m.)

Monday, June 12.

Class Day Exercises, Newcomb '99. (Newcomb Hall, 8 p. m.)

Tuesday, June 13.

Closing Exercises of Newcomb High School. (Newcomb Hall, Washington Ave., 10:30 a. m.)

Contest for Carnot Medal (Tulane). Subject for debate—"Is the Franco-Russian Alliance the most judicious possible for the French Republic?" (Gibson Hall, St. Charles Avenue, 8 p. m.)

Wednesday, June 14.

Commencement of H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College.

Report of the President of the College, Baccalaureate Degrees.

Alumnae Address by Esther Finlay Harvey, A. B., '95. (Newcomb Hall, 10:30 a. m.)

Class Night, Tulane, '99. (Tulane Hall, University Place, 8 p. m.)

Thursday, June 15.

Commencement of College of Arts and Sciences, College of Technology, and University Department.

Degrees Conferred by Wm. Preston Johnston, LL. D., President of University.

Alumni Address by John William Pearce, Ph. D., 1891. (Tulane Hall, University Place, 8 p. m.)

Sugar Patents.

Patents of interest to the sugar industry issued June 6, 1899. Reported specially for The Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, Patent Attorney, Washington, D. C., who will furnish complete copies of patents at the rate of ten cents each.

626,292. Process of manufacturing granulated sugar from beets. J. G. Oxnard and Wilhelm Baur, New York, N. Y.; assignors to the Oxnard Construction Company, of West Virginia.

626,646. Press for expressing liquids from solids. Lee Baggett, Jackson, Miss.

Trade-mark 33,031. Candies. Mary S. Cutting, East Orange, N. J. The words "Maple Nut Fudge."

Trade Notes.

Plantation Scales.

Mr. F. F. Bradway, whose advertisement will be found in this issue, desires to call the attention of sugar planters to his standard plantation scales for weighing sugar cane. The scales are low in first cost and of the highest standard as to accuracy and durability. Write him for particulars.

RICE.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

There is good demand in all styles of Foreign, the movement quite ahead of any equal period the current month. Advices from the South note sluggish conditions but with light stocks, insufficient to meet known requirements until new crop, holders are apparently indifferent and like the old maid in the song, are "willing to wait." Former prices are firmly maintained, even slight concessions not listened to, when such would assure business. Reports concerning the new crop are fairly encouraging. Along the Atlantic Coast it is seasonably advanced in spite of the cold spring.

Caterpillars are, however, unusually prevalent, and fields have to be frequently flooded to drown out these pests. In Louisiana many of those who planted early have been compelled to replant owing to the appearance of red rice, but the "second seeding" is looking fine. New irrigating companies are forming in every direction, and these with the old, will insure the crops in a very extensive territory beyond a peradventure. Calcasieu is in the lead and most of her fields are flooded. With further favorable growing and harvesting weather, Southwest Louisiana and Eastern Texas will give a yield that will "astonish the natives." Cables and correspondence from abroad note steady enquiry as regards spot stocks, but firm forward prices on cargoes on account of an increased demand from the Brazils and the Levant.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough, 704,793 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 536,729 sacks. Sales cleaned (est) 174,822 barrels.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 37,102 barrels. Sales 34,973 barrels. Steady movement.

Deep Well Irrigation.

Irrigation by means of deep wells seems to be gaining ground in Southwest Louisiana, and the News thinks it only a question of a short time until every planter who owns a farm will have wells put down and irrigate his own crops. Speaking of the success of the wells the Jennings Times of last week says:

"A. Brechner made a test Monday of the two 6-inch deep wells recently sunk on S. L. Cary & Sons' land in the west part of town and a crowd of people went out to see the sight. The two wells are connected with a T joint, the Van Wie pump being set half way between the two. The pump has 6-inch suction and 5-inch discharge, and is driven with ease by a 6-H. P. engine. Speeded to 600 revolutions per minute, the pump throws a strong stream of clear water, estimated at between 1,200 and 1,400 gallons per minute. With an elbow attached at the dis-

charge, the stream of water was thrown out a distance of 12 feet, the stream running away 6 inches deep, 3 feet wide and moving at a rate of eight miles per hour. Pump men and farmers who were present expressed the belief that these two wells will furnish water sufficient to properly irrigate 200 acres of rice. This set of deep wells are certainly a success. After noon the elbow of the pump was removed and the water shot straight up to eight feet. Owing to the rain the belt slipped and normal speed could not be attained. It was freely admitted that with dry belt the water would be shot up at least 12 feet."—Gueydan News.

Irrigating Canals.

Crowley, La., May 18.—Mr. Sam S. Hunter, of Shreveport, was here yesterday and to-day to meet and confer with Mr. Gamble, who is his manager, in building his Southwestern Louisiana irrigating canals. Mr. Gamble returned to-day to Gueydan, and Mr. Hunter to Shreveport. This canal enterprise of Mr. Hunter's is located in Vermillion parish and to head on the Vermillion river near Abbeville, running in a westerly direction toward Gueydan, and is to be twenty-three miles in length, including lateral and tributary canals. The main line is to be 200 feet wide, making it the largest water service heretofore afforded the rice planters. It will be of immense benefit to the rice growers of Vermillion parish.

Mr. Hunter is the president of the Houston river irrigating canal in Calcasieu parish, which is thirteen miles in length. This Shreveport capital and business talent is much appreciated here, where push and enterprise is always welcomed. Mr. Hunter is a wholesale merchant of Shreveport and has been an active worker in securing railroads for that city, and is a large real estate owner and a firm supporter and backer of any business enterprise calculated to help his state.

Irrigating canals were started in a small way in this section in 1890 by C. C. Duson, but did not amount to much until 1894, when the Abbott Bros. put in their canal, which is now 40 feet wide for fifteen miles in length, with ten miles of laterals.

This was followed by the Crowley canal, which is now 35 feet wide for eight miles in length and has ten miles of lateral lines. The Riverside canal was the next in the race and has miles in operation. These enterprises have grown steadily until there are now nine in Acadia parish, with approximate lengths as follows:

Abbott & Duson canal, 35 miles; Role canal, 25 miles; Terre canal, 18 miles; Miller-Morris canal, 20 miles; Midland canal, 12 miles; Green & Shoemaker canal, 5 miles.

There are several smaller canals and others being built, approximating 200 miles of irrigation canals in Acadia, possibly with an average cost of \$4,000 per mile

or about \$800,000. There are six or seven such canals in Calcasieu and one in Cameron, and one large canal, the Vermillion Development Company's canal, in Vermillion, which is twenty-five miles long, and with those of Mr. Hunter, will probably be twenty in number, representing possibly \$1,500,000 investment, and bringing a large and profitable crop of rice to this section annually. The building of canals has necessitated rice mills, which have greatly increased the price of rice, and some of the mill stock is worth \$4 for \$1. Any capitalist looking for a splendid investment will find it in this section.—Piscayune.

Rice Prospects.

Mr. J. M. Booze, a prominent rice grower of Roanoke, La., arrived in the city last night and is a guest of the Grunewald. He is here for the purpose of furthering the plans for the building of a rice mill at Roanoke, and says the plant will be in operation in time for the coming crop. Mr. Booze is enthusiastic over the prospects of the coming crop, and thinks the outlook is very flattering. In 1895 the rice crop handled at Roanoke was 3500 sacks; in 1896 none at all was handled there; 8000 sacks came in in 1897; 12,000 in 1898, and 25,000 sacks are expected this year. Irrigation is working admirably. The new mill will be only a small one, but fully capable of earning a nice dividend out of the big crops anticipated this year and after. Mr. Booze favors the reduction in freight rates asked by the Bureau of Freight and Transportation, because, in his opinion, the present rate places the city mills at a disadvantage, and he thinks all mills should be given an opportunity for fair competition.—Times-Democrat, May 18.

More Rice Mills Needed.

It has been stated to the Record by leading citizens that there is an opening for another rice mill in Jennings. The truth of this statement can be verified by a careful investigation of the facts before us. More than 250 car loads of rough rice was shipped from this station the past season and all know that the rice crop was quite short last year on account of the great damage done by storms. We also know that even with the short crop the Jennings rice mill was kept running almost full time.

With the great increase in acreage this year over last, and with a moderately good yield, the production will be nearly doubled. This will give us a surplus of fully 800 car loads or 150,000 barrels of rough rice within reach of Jennings, after giving the present mill all it can do, and will be sufficient to keep another good mill engaged through the entire milling season. The Record is informed that ample capital is at hand for the erection of a first-class mill, provided it can be shown that the investment would prove profitable.

There can be no question as to the investment being a good one and we hope that the parties who have the matter under advisement will show up in the proper light. By all means let us have another rice mill.—Southern Record, June 3.

A Central Factory for Westmoreland.

The Cornwall Herald states that Duncan Stewart, Esq., of Glasgow, Scotland, has intimated his willingness and readiness to advance £260,000 for the establishment of a central factory in Westmoreland for the manufacture of sugar and rum, on condition that the planters and others will take shares, and guarantee 5,000 acres of cane which he will buy at 10s. per ton. The company will also buy canes at the same price from the small cultivator.

The Herald adds—To give some idea of the magnitude and costliness of the enterprise we may state that the treble crushing mill to be used will itself cost £80,000. It is proposed to manufacture globe sugar, refined loaf sugar and golden syrup. The company hopes also to be able to make spirits which will sell at the low price of 6d. a gallon. It is expected that the venture will realize over £25,000 a year.

Mr. E. J. Sadler has charge of the matter. —Jamaica Gleaner, May 20.

Rumored Combine Which Will Unite all the Sugar Interests.

Chicago, June 6.—The Record to-morrow will say that negotiations are in progress looking towards a mammoth sugar consolidation. This is now admitted by one of the men most interested. It is asserted that the deal on hand at present is in tangible shape. From widely different sources to-day came reports of a union of the American Sugar Refining Company and the Glucose Sugar Refining Company, with the subsequent absorption by purchase or otherwise of the plants owned by the Arbuckle interests and the Doscher refineries, with perhaps that of other competing plants.

"I can say nothing definite at this time," said one of the head men of the recent conferences. "I am in a confidential position with reference to the matter. But I am at liberty to say that there is a good deal more in the proposed combination of the sugar interests than is generally credited. Negotiations are in progress on the general lines indicated, but I cannot speak more specifically."—Picayune.

Practical Studies in Fermentation.

The low prices that have prevailed for molasses during recent years have attracted more than usual attention to the uses of molasses in other directions than for immediate human consumption.

Messrs. E. & F. N. Spon, London, represented by Spon & Chamberlain, 12 Cortlandt St., New York, have published Practical Studies in Fermentation, being contributions to the life history of micro-organisms by Emil Chr. Hansen, PH. D., which is translated into English by Alex K. Miller, PH. D., F. I. C., F. C. S. This work of Dr. Hansen's is considered the best modern work on fermentation for industrial purposes that is now procurable. Dr. Hansen

discusses pure cultures of systematically selected yeasts in the fermentation industries; wherein the new advance consists; his methods of pure cultivation; contributions of previous investigators; the practical results which had been achieved; the preparation of pure cultivated yeasts on a large scale.

In the second chapter on the researches in yeasts he discusses the characteristics of saccharo mysetes; high and low yeasts; investigations on low fermentation yeasts which have been tested in practice; on variation and on the main result. In chapter 3rd, the practical examination of beer in storage casks with reference to its stability is considered. Chapter four is on the technical analysis of air and water for micro-organisms, which is followed by chapter five on what is the pure yeast of Pasteur. Chapter six, investigations of diseases of beer produced by alcoholic ferments. Chapter seven, on the present position of Dr. Hansen's system of pure yeast culture, in which he discusses low fermentation breweries, high fermentation breweries, distilleries and yeast factories, wine, cider and fruit juice fermentations, with a retrospect and concluding remarks. The work can be obtained from Messrs. Spon & Chamberlain, 12 Cortlandt St., New York. It is an octavo volume of nearly 300 pages and is published at \$5.00.

The Late Leon Godchaux.

An earnest friend of Protection and a devoted member of the American Protective Tariff League, Leon Godchaux, of Louisiana, died May 18, at his home in New Orleans, at the age of 75 years. By birth a Frenchman, Mr. Godchaux located in Louisiana when quite a young man and engaged in mercantile business. His experience as a sugar planter dates back to 1860, when he became the proprietor of the widely known Reserve plantation in St. John parish, where he built the Reserve Central Factory, said to be the finest sugar making plant in the state. Later he became the owner of other sugar properties, including the Elm Hall and the Raceland factories on Bayou La Fourche. Altogether some fourteen sugar plantations are merged in what are known as the Godchaux properties.

Mr. Godchaux was an active member of the Sugar Planters' Association, was one of the founders of the Sugar Experiment Station and of the "Louisiana Planter and Sugar Manufacturer." In the words of that excellent journal, Louisiana loses in the death of Leon Godchaux "its greatest sugar planter, one of its largest merchants, one of its best men and an excellent citizen. The planters and the people of the state deplore his death and sympathize with the members of his family in their irreparable loss."—American Economist, June 2.

Sugar in London.

Owing to the holidays and consequent closing of the Continental markets for even a longer period than our own, business has

been restricted. Less speculation in beet has been indulged in, and though at one time prices looked like going higher the advance was soon lost, and, owing to selling orders from the continent, a slight decline on the quotations of the previous week is now shown. The American markets have remained firm, although the weekly receipts were much heavier than the meltings by refiners, so that the stocks show a further increase. The general position, however, steadily grows in strength, as the decrease in stocks from January 1st to the present time amounts to 753,762 tons, as compared with a reduction in virtually the same period in 1898 of 568,539 tons, and in 1897 of 592,645 tons. Considerable arrivals of cane sugar have lately taken place in London, chiefly of low refining kinds and grocery crystallized, but the scarcity of good medium descriptions continues, and firm prices are obtainable for the few lots on offer. No public sales of crystallized raws were held until Friday last, when about 1,000 tons were offered, which were partly sold at a decline of 1½ to 3d per cwt. The imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 25th inst. amounted to 3,765 tons, and for this year to 21,273 tons, against 12,981 tons in 1898.—Produce Market Review.

Austria.

We have to report a number of bright and sunny days, which have been favorable both for the development of the beet roots and for the necessary work in preparing the fields. The average temperature in Vienna was 17.4 degrees C. as against a normal temperature of 15.8 degrees C. The beet crop is about a week behind, but is generally considered to be in a satisfactory condition. The only complaint is of the superabundance of weeds. Canker worms and wire worms have frequently been observed in Bohemia. Summer-like weather is reported from Germany, and this is favorably influencing vegetation, which is making good progress. In France much rain has continued during this week. Dry and warm weather would not only be advantageous for the development of beet root, but it would also make possible the thinning of the roots. In Russia dry weather continues, which has already caused apprehensions, as under such circumstances injurious insects usually make their appearance. If rain does not set in soon it will be necessary to replough and sow many fields over again.—Vienna Marktbericht, May 26.

How to Feed Our Horses.

The wisdom of the Almighty Creator has provided animals with stomachs of different kinds suited to their food and habits of life. Some chew their food and then swallow it while others swallow it first, and then masticate it over at leisure.

Sheep and oxen, for instance, being naturally a timid and very defenceless order of animals, are provided with a stomach divid-

ed into four compartments. By means of this they are enabled, when they meet with a good piece of pasture, to crop it hastily and swallow it almost whole; it then passes into the first division of the stomach. When the feeding is completed, a portion of this substance is passed from the first to the second division of the stomach; here it is rolled into the form of a ball and returned to the mouth to be ground smaller. After this process, it is once more swallowed, and passes into the third division of the stomach, and from that to the fourth. By this arrangement, these timid animals are enabled to gather and swallow their food whenever they have an opportunity, and to chew it over at their leisure.

The stomach of the horse is small in proportion to his size. It is considerably less in proportion than man's; he is consequently unable to take much food at a time. He requires to be more often fed; but by this means he is almost always enabled to be at his master's service, as we shall presently show.

To explain, it is sufficient to say that the front of the horse's chest contains his lungs, by which he breathes. Behind them, separated only by a thin, wide muscle that forms a partition, is the stomach destined to receive and digest the food. Each of these organs becomes larger when in use; the lungs occupying more room when the animal is moving about and breathing more quickly. The space they occupy is then so filled that only one of them can be distended at a time. The horse can distend his lungs, and breathe hard, trot or gallop fast, provided his stomach be empty; he can fill the latter with safety, when at rest, or nearly so, till the food is digested. But if they are both full, the greatest danger is to be apprehended; the horse is sure to be "blown" almost immediately, because he has no room to breathe, and apoplexy or rupture of the stomach may cause the animal to drop dead in a minute.

We have mentioned that the horse's stomach is small compared with his size, and from this we may learn that he is not able to eat much at a time, without injury to himself. He is apt to do this sometimes, especially when he has been kept long at work without being supplied with food. When brought home his small stomach is crammed full before any of the food is turned into healthy nourishment to recruit his exhausted frame; he continues eating on, and the disease called the staggers, megrims or apoplexy are the dangerous and generally fatal results.

No horse should be allowed an unlimited supply of food. A proper quantity should be given and no more—enough to satisfy his requirements, and then allow proper time to digest it. Many a horse has been killed from a fit brought on by the oat-bin having been left open at night, giving him an opportunity to gorge himself to death with the tempting food.

Horses that are obliged to be at work for a long time together, as is the case with carters', ploughmen's, carriers' or cab owners' horses, should never leave the stable without nose-bags and the materials to fill them. When the horse stops for awhile, the bag is put on, and he is enabled to eat a few mouthfuls—enough to prevent his becoming exhausted. His strength is kept up; he is not able to eat much, so as to hinder his capacity to work and the danger of his over-gorging himself in the stable is greatly lessened. This useful implement has, from the above causes, saved the lives of thousands of horses.—Humane Alliance.

Sugar Patents.

Patents of interest to the sugar industry issued May 30, 1899. Reported specially for the Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, Patent Attorney, Washington, D. C., who will furnish complete copies of patents at the rate of ten cents each.

625,877. Evaporative condenser. H. J. Fraser, London, England.

626,036. Molding sugar. Joseph Putzeys, Hougaerde, Belgium.

626,085. Syrup jar. John Omerod, New York, N. Y.

Trade mark \$2,986. Maple syrup. Arcadia Maple Company, Kansas City, Mo. The words "Canadian Club."

Trade Notes.

The Deming Superheater.

Mr. E. W. Deming, whose apparatus for superheat clarification has met with such unqualified success in all sugar producing countries has just received the following letter from one of the largest of the sugar companies of the Hawaiian Islands:

Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co.
Plantation at Spreckelsville, Maui, H. I.
Offices 421 Market Street.
San Francisco, Cal., May 29, 1899.

Mr. E. W. Deming,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Sir:

We enclose herewith New York Exchange for the sum of forty-seven hundred and thirteen (\$4713.00) dollars, being the final payment on our account.

We have just received a letter from our manager, Mr. W. J. Lowrie, who says that the superheaters have been running for over thirty days and have given thorough satisfaction, and that he is very highly pleased with the results.

Regretting the delay in making this payment, we are

Yours truly,

HAWAIIAN COMMERCIAL AND SUGAR Co.,
GEO. M. RALPH, Sec'y.

This concern operates an immense plant with a capacity of 1600 tons of cane per day. Mr. Deming has a very interesting letter from their plantation manager also, which he will be glad to show to anyone interested.

Some time ago, through his advertisement in this journal, Mr. Deming sold one of his machines in Tagal, Island of Java, and he

has just received the following cablegram from that far distant country:

"Deming,
New Orleans, La.:
Works splendid. Sure sole agency. Wire
DESTUERS."

Mr. De Stuers was evidently so well pleased with the apparatus that he could not refrain from sending the above cablegram, at a probable cost of twenty-five or thirty dollars, to express his satisfaction. There seems to be considerable interest manifested in the machine in Java, where, as our readers know, a large number of finely equipped sugar estates are located.

Oil and Sugar.

The Financial News of Boston says it was decided at a meeting of prominent capitalists that the American Sugar Refining Company should be reorganized with a capital stock of \$160,000,000; the present capital stock is \$75,000,000. It is the intention to dispose of the stock to the present holders at par, and to use the increase in purchasing the Arbuckle, Mollenhauer and two large foreign refineries. The outcome of the meeting indicated that the Standard Oil Company was in control. This mixing of oil and sugar will make a nauseating compound—Valley of the Teche.

Personal.

Mr. Thos. D. Kent, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Thibodaux, La., was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He made his headquarters at the Cosmopolitan. Mr. Kent is a valued member of the Board of Commissioners of the Lafourche levee district.

Dr. H. J. Sanders, of the Teche country, who, as everybody knows, is busily engaged in keeping St. Mary to the front as a sugar producing parish, was in the city during the past week, accompanied by Mrs. Sanders. They were guests of the St. Charles.

Mr. E. P. Munson, of Assumption parish, was in the city last Saturday. He reports that what cane he has is doing splendidly. He had a good shower on his place and it was highly beneficial.

Mr. M. Cambon, a leading sugar planter of Terrebonne parish, was a guest of the Commercial hotel last Tuesday.

Col. John A. Kreis, of the Cincinnati firm of Shinkle, Wilson & Kreis, was at the St. Charles during the week. Col. Kreis has for years been a prominent figure on the sugar levee during the crop season.

Mr. J. F. Casey, of Chattanooga, Tenn., a member of the widely known boiler making establishment of the Casey and Hedges Co., was in the city on a visit a few days ago. He put up at the Hotel Grunewald.

The old reliable Joe Tucker is still boss of the ranch at the St. James and Arment places of the celebrated "Miles Group." The prominent place attained by these estates is largely due to the efficiency of Mr. Tucker.

JUNE 9.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR. Open Kettle.	June 3.	June 5.	June 6.	June 7.	June 8.	June 9.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
O. K. Centrifugal	37/8 @ 4 1/2	37/8 @ 4 1/2						
Choice	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8		4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	Steady.
Strict Prime	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8		4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	
Prime	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8		4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/4 @ 4 1/8	
Fully Fair	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8		4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 4 1/8	
Good Fair	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	
Fair	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	
Good Common	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	
Common	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	
Interior	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8		3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 7/8 @ 4 1/8	3 3/8 @ 3 7/8	
Centrifugal.								
Plant'n Granul'd								Firm
Off Granulated								
Choice White								
Off White							4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	
Grey White								
Choice Yellow	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8		4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	
Prime Yellow	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8		4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	
Off Yellow	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8		4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	4 1/8 @ 4 1/8	
Seconds	3 @ 4 1/8	3 @ 4 1/8		3 @ 4 1/8	3 @ 4 1/8	3 @ 4 1/8	2 1/2 @ 3 3/8	
MOLASSES.								
Open Kettle.								Dull
O. K. Centrifugal								
Fancy	None in first hands.	None in first hands.		None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Choice								
Strict Prime								
Good Prime								
Prime								
Good Fair								
Fair								
Good Common								
Common								
Interior								
Centrifugal.								
Fancy							12 @ 13	
Choice							12 @ 13	
Strict Prime							11 @ 11	
Good Prime							10 @ 10	
Prime							9 @ 9	
Good Fair							8 @ 8	
Fair							7 @ 7	
Good Common							6 @ 6	
Common							5 @ 5	
Interior								
SYRUP.								

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°								Raw-Strong; good demand; little offering. Refined—Quiet.
Centrifugals, 96°								
Granulated							5.08 @ 5.08	
Standard A							4.96 @ 4.96	
Dutch Granulated								
German Granul'd.								
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice								Cane—Steady; little doing. Refined—Quiet; prices fully maintained.
N. O. Fair								
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.		13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	12s. 6d.	
A. & G. Beet	11s. 1 1/2 d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.		11s. 3d.	11s. 2 1/2 d.	11s. 2 1/2 d.	9s. 9 1/2 d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	Very strong.
Powdered	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	
Stan'd Granula'd.	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	
Rosetta Extra C	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	
Candy A	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	
Crystal Extra C	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	
Royal Ex C	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	@ 5 1/2	
SYRUP.	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to May 31	Tons	271,285
At four ports of Great Britain to May 27	"	55,000
At Havana and Matanzas to May. 30	"	78,000

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending June 9, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to June 9, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses Barrels.	Received	Sugar		Molasses Barrels.
	Hhds.	Barrels.			Hhds.	Barrels.	
Received	189	8,782	4,620	10,448	1,255,774	241,220	
Sold	189	8,782	4,620	10,448	1,249,137	241,220	
Received same time last year				23,370	1,481,288	105,480	

JUNE 9.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

	June 8.	June 5.	June 6.	June 7.	June 8.	June 9.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
RICE.								
ROUGH, per bbl...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	— @ —	Dull.
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6½ @ 6¾	6½ @ 6¾	6½ @ 6¾	6½ @ 6¾	6½ @ 6¾	6½ @ 6¾	— @ —	
Fancy....	6 @ 6½	6 @ 6½	6 @ 6½	6 @ 6½	6 @ 6½	6 @ 6½	6½ @ 6¾	
Choice...	5¼ @ 5¾	5¼ @ 5¾	5¼ @ 5¾	5¼ @ 5¾	5¼ @ 5¾	5¼ @ 5¾	5¼ @ 6	
Prime....	4¾ @ 5½	4¾ @ 5½	4¾ @ 5½	4¾ @ 5½	4¾ @ 5½	4¾ @ 5½	5¼ @ 5½	
Good....	4¼ @ 4¾	4¼ @ 4¾	4¼ @ 4¾	4¼ @ 4¾	4¼ @ 4¾	4¼ @ 4¾	5¼ @ 5½	
Fair....	3¾ @ 4¼	3¾ @ 4¼	3¾ @ 4¼	3¾ @ 4¼	3¾ @ 4¼	3¾ @ 4¼	5¼ @ 5½	
Ordinary	3 @ 3¾	3 @ 3¾	3 @ 3¾	3 @ 3¾	3 @ 3¾	3 @ 3¾	4¾ @ 4½	
Common.	2½ @ 3	2½ @ 3	2½ @ 3	2½ @ 3	2½ @ 3	2½ @ 3	4¾ @ 4½	
Screenings	2 @ 2¾	2 @ 2¾	2 @ 2¾	2 @ 2¾	2 @ 2¾	2 @ 2¾	— @ —	
Inferior..	1¾ @ 2	1¾ @ 2	1¾ @ 2	1¾ @ 2	1¾ @ 2	1¾ @ 2	— @ —	
No. 2.....	1½ @ 1¾	1½ @ 1¾	1½ @ 1¾	1½ @ 1¾	1½ @ 1¾	1½ @ 1¾	2 @ 2¼	
BRAN, per ton....	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 50 @ 13 00		Better feeling.
POLISH, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	16 00 @ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending June 9, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to June 9, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH.	BBLs. CLEAN.	This year	Last year	SACKS ROUGH.	BBLs. CLEAN.
Received	69	372	682,870	468,254	10,298	8,061
Sold	..	207.				

Sugar.

The local sugar market was firm at the end of the week, and the moderate receipts were readily absorbed.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals dull.

Rice.

The rice market was very dull at the end of the week, the trading in both rough and clean being very meagre. Receipts from the country were small.

A Defense and Eulogy of Sugar.

"Children all over the world and all the keepers of 'sweet stuff' shops, says Kuh-lows, ought to join in a testimonial to the learned though anonymous scientist who publishes smitte, but much more as a 'nahrungsmittel' glorification of sugar. Not only as a genus-smittel, but much more as 'nahrungsmittel' sugar is almost the most valuable thing which enters the mouth of man, woman or child. There is scarcely any other equally important feeder of muscle power. The laborer can do nothing better than keep a few lumps of sugar in his pocket. The negroes in the sugar plantations renew and quicken their weary bodies by sucking the sugar canes. Sugar is a fine restorative for soldiers. A Dutch army surgeon asserts that during an expedition in Sumatra he found that the best means to maintain the soldiers in vigor and freshness, not only during the march, but during the fight, was a generous allowance of sugar. Each man was served with a handful at a time. The Swiss chamols, hunters bear similar evidence to its marvelous powers of sustenance and of recuperation after exhausting fatigue.

"The writer gives an account of successful experiments made with sugar as food for athletes by several of the Dutch rowing clubs, by pedestrians, by cyclists, and others whose bodily powers need a rapid, portable and innocent stimulant. Sugar is coming

more and more into use in Holland in the course of training for contests, and it is as good for beasts as it is for men. The poor hardly realize as yet, or only realize unconsciously, what a treasure they possess in cheap sugar. Its value in fever has been emphasized by Hupeland and others. That which is supposed to injure the teeth in the consumption of 'goodies' is not the sugar but the so-called 'fruit acids' which are introduced to flavor the sugar. Negroes who devour sugar in so huge a quantity have the best teeth in the world."—American Grocer.

Lakeside, La.

The town is run mostly by the ladies through the day, the men being out at work in the rice fields. Rice. Everything smacks of rice. In the fields that are green, it is rice; where the ground is gray and smoothly harrowed, rice has been sown where plowing is going on it is for rice; if you see a man running a seeder he is sowing rice; and everything you see suggests rice; those great canals of water and the numerous pumping plants are to flood it, and the enormous quantities of wood and coal are to run these pumps.

We spent a few days at G. N. Aylsworth's, who is farming the Blouse place this year. Although he got a late start he is getting on quite well and will get in 150 acres or more. In going and coming we got a sight of the big canal. It starts from the Mermantau river just above Lagonda plantation running east five miles, although counting angles and turns it traverses about seven miles when it reaches the company's mammoth pumping plant. The canal has a depth of five feet at low water mark, and small tugs run up with barges of wood and other supplies, and after harvest carry off the crop. The only obstruction is a draw-bridge at Col. Clay's (Monroe) plantation. I did not stop here, but noticed that it is an extensive farm with a pumping plant of large capacity, and the water supply comes from this canal

The Lakeside Irrigating Co's pumping plant is situated at the east end of the canal,

consisting of two pumps, run by two 80 horse-power engines and boiler, capacity 3,000,000 gallons per hour. The lift here is seven feet into an upland canal through which the water flows for many miles, counting laterals, and from these, smaller ones go to feed the different fields. The company has a good warehouse 112x40 feet arranged conveniently for teams to drive alongside on the land side and load rice into barges on the other. A year ago last January the first lick was struck here on this enterprise, and now it is a surprise to see the vast change that has been wrought in this vicinity. Houses have sprung up all around and other buildings are going up and various improvements going on. The company has a dwelling at the pump for the ones that operate it, and a hotel and boarding house near by for the accommodation of their army of employees; also barns and other buildings to fill their needs. M.N. Limbocker occupies the old Bourriague place, which he bought, and which is the only old farm near by, and he has a beautiful home and productive farm. He gets water from the big canal.—C. F. Miller, in Southern Record, June 3.

Personal.

Mr. C. G. Ellis, at one time the owner of the celebrated Southdown place on the upper coast, but who has now concentrated his sugar interests at Sartartia, Texas, in the valley of the Brazos, was in New Orleans last Thursday. He was accompanied by Mr. J. S. Collins, who was also at one time engaged in sugar culture in this state. They were guests of the Hotel Grunewald.

Hon. Henry McCall, of Evan Hall plantation, parish of Ascension, was in the city last Thursday.

Mr. Henry Ayres, of New Orleans, was the engineer during the last campaign at the fine Ashland place of Messrs. Calhounet & Maginnis, in Terrebonne parish. Mr. Ayres was at one time the engineer of the Morbihan factory and he is thoroughly versed in his business.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana plantation as junior overseer, by a young man who has been six months on an estate in the West Indies. Address C. K., care this office. 6-8-99

WANTED—Position as governess by a young lady who can furnish best of references. Address MISS BESSIE HALL, 2419 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans.

WANTED—A position as manager or overseer on a sugar plantation. I am 36 years old and have been in the business 15 years. Am a man of family and can furnish the best of references. Address A. C. BUGG, Lusher, La. 6-8-99

WANTED—A first-class and practical all-around sugar boiler wishes to secure a position for the coming season, or as assistant on some large place. Best of references as to character and ability. Terms reasonable. Address WALKER, 1049 Galienne street, city. 6-8-99

WANTED—A position as sugar boiler. First-class references furnished. Long experience. Careful, steady man. Address GEORGE, 4730 Tchoupitoulas street, New Orleans. 5-27-99

WANTED—Accountant and book-keeper wishes position on plantation; address M., 1323 Louisiana Avenue, New Orleans. 6-1-99

WANTED—Position by a man of family as second engineer, to live on plantation. A 1 references. Satisfaction guaranteed; address Sugar House Engineer, Box 48, Whitecastle, La. 6-1-99

WANTED—By a first-class mechanical engineer and practical sugar boiler, position as chief engineer, or sugar boiler or superintendent of sugar house for coming season. Twelve years of steady, practical experience in modern plantation sugar house management. Gilt-edged references from past employers. On account of freeze was released from service with last employers after a steady service of four years. Address SUGAR EXPERT, Box 431, New Orleans.

WANTED—Situation by a lady of experience as a teacher; object, a good home with small salary; address A. W., care Mississippi Packet Co., New Orleans, La. 5-18-99

WANTED—Position as stenographer or book-keeper by a young man. Can give good references, and have no bad habits; address L. J. CARTER, care Draughton College, Galveston, Texas. 5-23-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar maker, a position for the season of 1899, either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; is a close boiler of firsts and seconds; is strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of reference from past employers as to character and ability; speaks Spanish and French. Address J. W. F., 4231 N. Peters street, New Orleans, La.

WANTED—Position as governess or teacher; summer or season. Best references furnished. Address Miss Mary Stith, 1446 Camp street, New Orleans.

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced machinist and engineer for repairs and all-around work in beet sugar factory. Position permanent if satisfactory. Address, with references and salary expected, C. A. Zimmerman, Box 98, Eddy, New Mexico.

WANTED—Situation by a young man 22 years of age, with gilt-edged references, as clerk in country or city store. Five years experience. Can speak French and English. Address AGUINALDO, Soulouque, La. 5-17-99

WANTED—Position for the 1899 crop as book-keeper or assistant. Can give best of references. Twenty-two years old and a graduate of a good business college; address A. E. Smith, Ozan, Ky. 5-9-99

WANTED—A first-class and competent assistant sugar boiler wishes position for coming season. Best references furnished; address Proof Stick, Box 62, Donaldsonville, La. 5-6-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first assistant, or as overseer. Experienced with teams and general plantation work. Eighteen years experience and can furnish best of references; address A. C., care this office.

WANTED—Position by a young man as time or book-keeper. Can give best of reference; address ARTHUR, care P. M., Little Cypress, Ky. 5-10-99

WANTED—Situation by an experienced machinist and sugar plantation engineer. Strictly sober and attentive to business. Would like to secure work the year round if possible at reduced salary, or take repairs and crop on very reasonable terms. Good references furnished; address P. H. E. ENGINEER, 734 Fern street, New Orleans. 5-10-99

WANTED—Position on a sugar plantation as blacksmith, wheelwright and horse-shoer; address SIDNEY G. ROUSSELL, Edgard, La. 5-1-99

WANTED—Any sugar planter requiring the services of a competent and sober mechanical engineer, with references, will please address ENGINEER, No. 4721 Magazine street, New Orleans, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper, overseer, clerk or general office or store work. Can give the best of city and outside references; address A. H. NOENINGER, care of Room 206, Board of Trade Building, New Orleans. 4-28-99

WANTED—Position as assistant chemist, book-keeper or time-keeper, by young man, aged 24, college graduate. Have done some work in sugar analysis. Have some knowledge of German; address Box 33, State College, Pa. 4-28-99

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as manager or assistant; address MANAGER H. A., care General Delivery, New Orleans. 5-3-99

WANTED—A position as superintendent or head sugar maker, by a man of large experience, either in plantation sugar house or sugar refinery. Can furnish good references. Would prove a valuable and all-around faithful man in any sugar house. Address P. R., care Louisiana Planter. 4-28-99

WANTED—Position by an all-around handy man; can do carpentry, painting, milk cows and make himself useful about a place. First-class references; address CHAS. TREPAGNIER, 1426 St. Ann street, New Orleans. 4-21-99

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 references. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LELER, care M. E. Sepp, 2589 8th Avenue, New York. 4-14-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-13-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 428 to 436 South Peters st. 4-13-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartartia, Texas. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class references, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gillis of Poydras plantation, and others; address MRS. S. TERRELLE, 222 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, all-around machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best of references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED—A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, this office. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-29-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHEUS BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fietel, La. 3-15-99

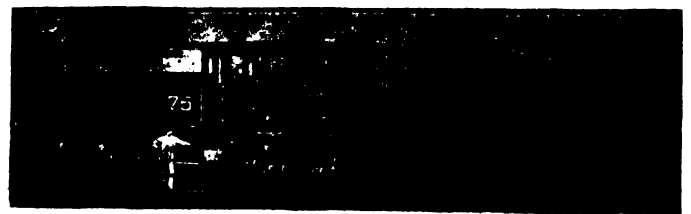
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THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND
SUGAR MANUFACTURER,
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Sugar and Molasses as Stock Feed.

There is but little doubt but that the short cane crop this season will inspire our sugar planters with a proper regard for economy in every direction, and doubtless much molasses will be reserved for mule feed, it having now been found to be a first-class food article, many mules on some of our sugar plantations having consumed ten pounds per day throughout the entire year, and this for a period now exceeding four years. Those who were skeptical of the value of molasses for mule feed some few years back have now generally come over to its use and such use has become almost universal. As so much of our molasses has gone to Europe to be used as stock feed there, after paying the cost of cooerage, transportation, etc., it would seem queer that we at home should not develop equal intelligence and equal appreciation of the value of this foodstuff here, especially when we are such constant buyers of mule feed.

It took a long time for the people of Louisiana to appreciate the value of rice bran as a stock food article. Twenty years ago some of it was thrown away, owing to the inability of the rice mills to find a market for it. When we shall learn to use all of these articles at home to their best advantage we shall be the better able to compete in sugar production with the outside world.

We are led to these statements by reading in the Stable Book, written by John Stewart of Glasgow, Scotland, in 1838, his views at that time upon the relative merits of various articles used as stock food. After discussing quite a number of articles that are occasionally used as stock food, Mr. Stewart refers to sugar and cites as his authority Mr. Black, a veterary surgeon connected with the English army during the Peninsular war, 1808-14, in which an excel-

lent test was made of sugar, it to take the place of grain, and the results seem to have been very satisfactory. No statement is made as to how so considerable a quantity of sugar became available for the use of the horses of the army, but that it was a war incident is evident from the fact that the use was discontinued with the termination of that campaign, and that efforts were made to prevent misappropriation of the sugar and the retention of its use for the food of the horses. Mr. John Stewart was an eminent authority in his time and was veterinary surgeon and professor of veterinary medicine in the Andersonian University, Glasgow. The American edition of his work was edited by Mr. A. B. Allen in 1864, at that time editor of the American Agriculturist. From these data we may see that the reference to the use of sugar is based upon good authority.

In his discussion of feed for horses and referring to sugar, Mr. Stewart says:

Sugar.—Mr. Black, veterinary surgeon of the 14th Light Dragoons, informed me that sugar was tried as an article of horses food during the Peninsular war. The experiment was made at the Brighton depot upon ten horses during a period of three months. Each got eight pounds per day at four rations. They took to it very readily and it was remarked that their coats became fine, smooth and glossy. They got no grain, and only seven pounds of hay, instead of the ordinary allowance, which is twelve pounds. The sugar seemed to supply the place of grain so well, that it would probably have been given to the horses abroad, but peace came, and the circumstances which rendered the use of sugar for grain desirable, ceased. The horses returned to their regular diet; yut several of those who were the subjects of this experiment became crib biters. (Sugar wants nitrogen, but abounds in carbon. It would not, therefore, answer as horse food. The food must contain nitrogen to form muscle.)

That the sugar might not be appropriated to other purposes it was slightly scented with asafoetida, which did not produce any effect upon the horses.

Charbon.

As charbon and anthrax has prevailed to a considerable extent again in Louisiana this season, remedial, or preventive measures excite considerable interest. The common belief in Louisiana is that the only satisfactory relief secured thus far has been by vaccination, and in this way preventing any serious attack of the disease. Prof. R. R. Dinwiddie of the Arkansas Station, in bulletin No. 51, pages 35-46 writes of cause and origin of communicable diseases, of farm animals, discussing the cause and origin of communicable diseases, methods of prevention and control, inoculation against anthrax or charbon and prevention and control of Texas cattle fever. He believes that the methods of control are such as should readily suggest themselves to intelligent owners of livestock, but they are generally neglected, or carried out in a half-hearted manner, and are therefore ineffectual. Writing from an Arkansas point of view he says that anthrax is not thought to be endemic in that country and that inoculation against it is not regarded with favor, since there seems to be danger of continuing the disease by this means.

Prof. Dinwiddie here raises a very interesting point. The claim made by the friend of inoculation for charbon is that the virus is so attenuated as to render the effect of the inoculation comparatively harmless and at the same time giving immunity from the disease for at least one season. As such a large portion of Arkansas is swampy, or low lands, we had thought that charbon would prevail there as likely as in the northeastern parishes of this State, hence the opposition to inoculation coming from Arkansas is singular and interesting, and we shall be glad to learn more about the matter.

The Cane Crop.

We are able this week to chronicle a general rain of some 48 hours duration over all portions of the sugar district. The effect of this rain has been to wonderfully invigorate the cane crop and with the hot weather which has prevailed since it fell the growth of the cane has been vigorous and rapid. A contin-

uation of such favorable conditions will bring the results at harvest time up to a degree of excellence that will be surprising to our pessimists.

The fields everywhere are in splendid tilth, free of grass and weeds, and in such shape as to reap the full benefit of the welcome wetting which they have enjoyed.

Cuban Weather.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Cuba Section, in its weekly bulletin dated Havana, June 6, reports the weather for the week ending June 3, as generally clear, with some well distributed showers in portions of southwestern Santa Clara, northwestern Matanzas, Pinar del Rio and southwestern Santiago provinces. The showers were very beneficial, but more abundant and general rains are needed. Grinding is nearly completed in Santa Clara. The maximum temperatures vary from 84 deg. F. at Havana to 97 F. at Santa Clara, with minimums of 63 F. at Banaguises to 78 F. at Manzanillo.

Cane planting has been retarded on account of the light rains, but a considerable quantity of land is being put in condition for cane planting as soon as the weather becomes satisfactory.

Steam Boiler Practice.

If there be any one feature of the sugar industry that interests the average sugar planter, it is that of steam boiler practice in its relation to fuels and their combustion and the economic results obtained with various methods and devices, these being the title and sub-title of a valuable hand book by Walter B. Snow, member of the Society of Mechanical Engineers, recently published by Messrs. John Wiley & Sons.

The whole subject matter of steam boiler practice is very extensively considered, chapter one taking up the requisites for steam generation, the ultimate efficiency of a steam boiler, primary cost and fixed charges, quantitative efficiency, operating expenses, etc.

Chapter 2 discusses water and steam, their composition, weight and bulk, expansion by heat, the absolute zero, specific heat, the unit of heat, mechanical equivalent of heat and latent and sens-

ible heat. Chapter 3 discusses combustion, its definition; carbon, oxygen, the atomic theory, union of carbon and oxygen, the combustion of fuel, air required for combustion, air for dilution, analysis of flue gases, calculation of air supply from gas analysis, measurement of air supply by anemometer; heat of combustion and the ideal temperature of combustion. Chapter 4 defines fuels, including natural fuels, artificial fuels, wood, straw and tan bark, bagasse peat, coal, lignite, bituminous coal, semi-bituminous coal, semi-anthracite coal, geographical classification petroleum, natural gas, artificial fuels, charcoal, coke, fuel gas and patent fuels. In chapter 5 the efficiency of fuels is taken up with the measure of their efficiency, the unit of evaporation, relative efficiency of various coals, the influence of ash, the influence of the size of coal, the influence of the frequency of firing, loss on account of moisture in coal, loss on account of smoke, loss on account of carbonic oxide, admission of air above the fire, loss on account of excess of air, summary of influences affecting the efficiency of fuel, commercial efficiency of coals, influence of mechanical draft and the prevention of smoke.

The succeeding chapters treat of the efficiency of steam boilers in various directions, the rate of combustion, the question of draft which is divided into chimney draft and mechanical draft, concluding with an appendix giving rules for conducting boiler trials.

Every one identified with the sugar industry and interested in producing steam from any kind of fuel, will find a great aid to them in a careful study of this valuable book. It can be had from Messrs. John Wiley & Sons, New York, and copies may be had at this office. Price, \$3.00.

Oxnard, California.

The rainfall of Wednesday night, as measured at the factory, was .59 inches. Its general effect is variously commented upon, according to the crop in which parties are interested. Undoubtedly some hay that was out, suffered.

It will make some additional expense in the beet fields, but Mr. Herz of the agricultural department, estimates that it means 10,000 tons more beets which will give in round numbers, \$50,000 more for the beet raisers of the valley.—Courier June 3.

Sugar Growing in Queensland.

The cane sugar industry in Queensland has made enormous strides in late years. Unlike the West Indies, in many of which islands the method of growing and manufacturing is bad, we find in Australia the most skilled and economical systems are employed—in fact, unless this were so, the colony would lose her Australian market, for beet sugar from Germany is exported to Melbourne and Sydney in some quantities as it is.

The coast plateaus of North Queensland for hundreds of miles are eminently suited for cane cultivation, and the limit of sugar production is the market for the manufactured article.

The industry has had its ups and downs in the Colony. Laborers from the Pacific Islands, indentured under the most stringent conditions to the planters, are used for field work, but are not allowed to attend to any other branch.

The sudden restriction of the importation some twelve years ago, gave the industry a terrible blow. The same minister who stopped the introduction of the South Sea Islanders, seeing the impending ruin of the sugar trade, removed the interdict some years later, and from the beginning of this decade sugar has waxed marvelously. A cablegram just to hand reports that the production of sugar for the 1898-9 season, just over, amounts to 164,000 tons, from 82,000 acres, an increase of 66,000 tons on the year. This production of sugar is more than equal to the export of the two most important sugar-producing districts of the West Indies—British Guiana and Trinidad.

In the old days of sugar planting, growing cane and making sugar were one industry, but within the last few years a system of central mills has sprung up, under which cane cultivation and the crushing and making into sugar are distinct processes. Many of the large plantations have been put up, and the industry has passed into the hands of the farmers, who only want protection from bounties to find in it a most profitable employment. The working account of one of these central mills to last December gives the following particulars:

	Ton.	Cwt.
Average quantity of Cane to 1 ton Sugar manufactured ..	8	10
Average value of Sugar sold per ton	£8 9	5
Average cost of Cane per ton	0 14	5

It should be borne in mind, however, that the sugar growers referred to enjoy the protection of very high import duties, and factories. Their great success, therefore, is not so much a matter for surprise.—Produce Market Review.

Cane Sugar as a Factor in American Expansion.

"The Opportunity of the Cane Sugar Industry" is the suggestive title of a contribu-

tion to the North American Review, by Dr. C. A. Crampton. Though not distinguished by much originality of idea, the article is on the whole an intelligent review of the possibilities of the cane sugar situation. An American writing for Americans, Mr. Crampton naturally devotes most attention to the new United States' possessions in the Caribbean. He enlarges upon the capacity of Cuba and Porto Rico as sugar-producing countries in terms quite characteristic of the sanguine inhabitant of the temperate zone, and by natural gradation he arrives at the conclusion that America before long, instead of sending abroad over eighty million dollars annually for sugar, will be in a position to place the product high on the list of the nation's exports. Mr. Crampton starts off with the not very discriminating remark that the solution of the problem of successful Colonial expansion by the United States "will be found in the rehabilitation and development of the tropical sugar cane industry." There is, of course, considerable scope for development in the direction suggested, but it is quite impossible to allow the hypothesis that the success of America's Colonial policy is bound up with any particular industry, more especially the production of cane sugar. An assumption so sweeping indicates a very feeble acquaintance with the real facts relating to the cane sugar industry in the West Indies. If the writer had properly understood the causes that have led to the present economic condition of all the sugar producing islands in the Caribbean Sea, no matter to what nation they owe allegiance, he would have modified his specious statement. In fact, its inadmissibility is proved in a subsequent sentence by Mr. Crampton himself. The United States Government, he writes, has for many years been fostering the domestic production of sugar; but, he adds, the growth of domestic production "has been slow and unsatisfactory, and promises little better for the immediate future." Notwithstanding the obvious moral to be derived from this experience, Mr. Crampton in as many words invites the Government of America to sacrifice every other industrial interest in Cuba and Porto Rico for the benefit of sugar. He ventures to prophesy that such a policy would in a few years result in America being able to meet her own domestic necessities, and therefore to dispense with the importation of the raw product. It is in the highest degree probable that in the course of a decade or more the requirements of the American sugar market will be entirely supplied by the indigenous article. The restoration of peace and order in Cuba will give a strong stimulus to the sugar industry, the output in connection with which fell during the war from a million tons in 1895 to a miserable two hundred thousand tons in 1896; and in Porto Rico also we may anticipate a corresponding revival. But to promote the cultivation and manufacture of sugar in the two islands at

the expense of those other agricultural pursuits now being carried on, would blind repetition of the economic error that has caused the depression now obtaining in the West Indian sugar-producing possessions of Great Britain. Cuba as well as Porto Rico possesses an agricultural adaptability unequalled perhaps in the entire hemisphere of the New World, and to stultify the possibilities of the islands in the way suggested would be an act of the gravest unwisdom on the part of the authorities of the Republic. The mistake in making the prosperity of a country dependent on the prosperity of a single industry is so well understood nowadays that no intelligent section of a community would be misled into its commission. Besides the powerful sugar interests of Louisiana would have something to say on the subject, and we can well conceive what indignation would be aroused in the South if the product of the newly-acquired Colonies were to be specially favored by the United States Government. We think it improbable for these reasons that one of the ways and means recommended by Mr. Crampton—the granting of "some measure of protection to colonial sugar"—will for many years to come be given effect to by the American Senate. The protection that the author of the article recommends against all cane sugars imported from other countries than Cuba and Porto Rico. Half a cent per pound as a differential rate would, Mr. Crampton thinks, be "no more than fair for the new possessions." Such a tariff would effectually shut out British West Indian sugars from the American market. We do not believe, however, that the British Colonies are in any immediate danger of losing, through the operation of a differentiating tariff, the only field now open to their produce. The second scheme of ways and means that Mr. Crampton advocates is to our mind the more dangerous. It is suggested that American capital be applied to establish agricultural experiment stations, to improve the methods of manufacture, and to develop the transportation facilities within the islands themselves and between the various sea-ports and the American mainland. The writer discusses the various points here raised in a clear and sensible fashion. The supremacy of the beet, he states in effect, has proceeded along two distinct but parallel lines, the agricultural and mechanical; whereas it was only when the existence of the cane sugar industry was threatened with extinction that the proprietors stirred themselves to action and abandoned their primitive processes; and even then the improved methods of manufacture were simply borrowed from the beet sugar producers. The comparison is still more discreditable in the field. "The cane is probably no richer in sugar than it was in its wild and primitive state." In these directions, Mr. Crampton states with perfect accuracy, the future of the cane sugar industry is principally bound up. He is confident

that the application of scientific ideas to the tropical product will eventually restore it to the position it occupied in the world's markets prior to the early 'eighties, when beet secured the ascendancy. We fear, however, that the economic problem as found in the British West Indies will not wait for solution until the advent of that happy time.—Demerara Chronicle.

The Sugar Industry of Mexico.

According to the *Economista Mexicano*, the Republic of Mexico is producing at the present time from seventy to ninety thousand tons of sugar, which is entirely consumed by her 14,000,000 inhabitants. Sugar cane is being cultivated in about 2800 haciendas and ranchos, which produce sugar, "panocha" and aguardiente; in Cuba, on the other hand, 500 plantations have produced 1,000,000 tons of sugar. In other words, in Cuba four and a half times less of places of production, produce more than twelve times the quantity produced in Mexico.

Sugar planting is carried on in Mexico today for the most part as it has been for centuries, according to the most antiquated and traditional systems. In a few plantations of greater importance, a combination of old and modern methods is employed, but all these plants are situated in regions that have an altitude of from 100 to 800 metres above the sea level. The conditions existing in such altitudes are unfavorable ones for the raising of the sugar cane and are making its propagation difficult.

In close proximity to the coast, on the other hand, the climate is both hot and humid, no irrigation is ever required, the cane grows rapidly, is ripe for cutting in less than one year, and during from eight to fifteen years vigorous sprouts can be obtained from the original planting.

In the relatively high altitudes where sugar cane is grown, wood for fuel is scarce, of poor quality and expensive, which practically limits the fuel the planter can use to the "bagazo" (what remains of the cane after grinding). The cane is moreover very hard and the percentage of sugar is small.

On the East, fuel is to be had in abundance and its cost does not stand in the way of the employment of the most perfect proceedings for the extraction of the juice. The climate makes the cane very soft and by using the system of diffusion, it will yield from twelve to thirteen per cent. of sugar, or when a good system of grinding only is employed, fully 10 per cent., which is the average yield from the Antilles.—St. Croix Avis.

Trade Notes.

Boilers for Sale.

People who contemplate purchasing boilers, or people who believe in getting hold of a bargain when they see the chance, should write at once to Mr. Geo. P. Anderson, 412 Hennen Building, for information

concerning the boilers which he advertises for sale elsewhere in this issue. These boilers are admirably adapted for use at a sugar plantation, saw mill or other steam plant and the opportunity will well repay investigation.

Mr. T. S. McLoughlin.

We are pleased to extend our felicitations to Mr. T. S. McLoughlin, the well-known electrical contractor, whose advertisement we carry in the Planter and who has done considerable work on the sugar plantations of this state during the past few years. As is pretty generally known, Mr. McLoughlin has had more or less trouble with the Underwriters Inspection Bureau, who in many cases declined to approve work done by him for certain reasons. Being convinced of the fact that his work was always done properly, and in the manner in vogue in other large cities, Mr. McLoughlin proceeded, in almost every case where the Bureau would not approve his work to take the matter into court. It is said that he had some thirty or forty cases in all, and that in every single case a verdict was rendered in his favor. The following notice is now appearing in the morning papers, which speaks for itself and is a complete vindication for Mr. McLoughlin who has had a hard row to hoe, and has made an uphill but very plucky fight for what he considered his rights:

UNDERWRITERS' INSPECTION BUREAU OF NEW ORLEANS.

All matters of difference between the Underwriters' Inspection Bureau and Thomas S. McLoughlin, electrical contractor of this city, have been satisfactorily adjusted.

All installations heretofore made by him are approved and passed, practical experience having induced the Bureau to waive its contention against his interpretation of certain rules of the Bureau in respect to such of his installations as have formed the subject of contention.

UNDERWRITERS' INSPECTION BUREAU,
CLARENCE F. LOW, Chairman.
CHAS. JANVIER, of Committee.

Those of our sugar planting friends who have had work done by Mr. McLoughlin, will be glad to hear of this settlement of a troublesome question, and as it now appears that he can have no more trouble from the Bureau, doubtless his business will grow at the rapid rate which he certainly deserves.

Weighing Sugar Cane.

Now that wagon scales are so cheap, weighing sugar cane should be the rule in Louisiana, and not, as hitherto, the exception. Even those who are shipping cane to other points would do well to weigh their own cane at home, in order to thus have a constant check on the amount of work they are doing daily. The returns from the factory hardly get back again in time to give that satisfaction that comes to everyone

from knowing each day the work done on that day. Any cane grower delivering 40 or 50 tons of cane per day will find that the check that he would obtain by weighing the cane will pay for the scale in one season by the resulting increase of work. Every cart driver is led to carry large loads when he knows they will be weighed and led to carry small loads when he knows there is no check upon the quantity he carries. The unquestioned saving that thus results in the ordinary daily cost of the cane harvest to all who weigh their canes more than pays the cost of the scales in one season.

Mr. F. F. Bradway, who for many years has been identified with the scale business, is this season making a specialty of plantation scales and invites anyone interested to call at his office, 715 Perdido street, or to write to him for particulars as to how he can supply their wants at prices that defy competition.

Semibronze Packing.

The manufacturers of this packing, of which a small advertisement appears elsewhere in the Planter, write us as follows:

"Semibronze packing is composed of the best materials obtainable in the market, no consideration being given to the matter of price. The core, which is the foundation of the packing, is a lubricator reservoir, and is composed of loosely spun asbestos thoroughly saturated with high grade cylinder oil, pressed into the desired shape and coated with graphite lubricator. The covering is of alternate strands of hemp and asbestos all loosely spun, and each braided over with an open net work of very fine semibronze wire.

The lubricator in our packing flows as readily to the piston rod as the oil in a lamp flows through the wick to the flame.

Semibronze packing has long since passed the experimental stage, and its value has been fully proved by actual practice in hard service.

It is now being used by the Government in several branches of their service and by some of the largest manufacturing concerns in this country. The manufacturers will be pleased to send samples to anyone interested, and will place it on trial with any reputable concern. The advantages claimed for it are as follows:

Low cost as compared with metallic packing in general.

Combines all the advantages of fibrous packings with those of the best metallic packings.

Will not scratch or groove the piston rod. Requires no special care or attention in use.

As easily applied as any ordinary fibrous packing.

Is practically frictionless.

Has been thoroughly tested, and is warranted to give satisfaction, or no pay.

Made in all regular sizes from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ ".

LOCAL LETTERS.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

After a dry period of seven weeks, we are delighted to report splendid rains, just such as would have been ordered throughout the entire parish, and everybody feels greatly relieved. It is thought a good corn crop will yet be made and that cane will improve and grow rapidly. The rice crop is looking well. Some planters are putting in a good many sweet potatoes in the hope of making a little something.

From Mr. Bernard Haydel, of Plaquemine, manager of Messrs. A. Adler & Co.'s Rebecca plantation, we learn that the Rebecca factory will not turn a wheel this year. In fact, mechanics are now at work putting things away and painting parts which otherwise might rust during the long period of non-use. Rebecca will just about raise sufficient seed for its next planting, and the cane raised on the Ben Hur plantation of Messrs. A. Adler & Co., in East Baton Rouge parish, which heretofore has been ground at Rebecca, beyond that required for seed, will be sold by the ton.

Mr. Frederick D. Robertson, of Plaquemine, one of the best planters of Bayou Jacob, has gone to Florida for a few weeks of needed rest and recreation.

The following excerpt is taken from the official proceedings of the police jury of this parish: "Mr. L. E. Woods stated that complaints had been made to him of the bad condition of the railroad crossings over the public roads throughout the parish, he having fixed with dirt some of the crossings, and the dirt having been removed by the railroad company. The road contractor was authorized to communicate with the railroad officials and to give notice that all crossings must be put in order at once." Mr. Woods is the contractor for the parish roads, and we trust that when the existing condition of the road crossings is brought to the knowledge of the railroad officials, they will have the matter remedied without delay. We know from personal experience that some of the crossings are bad, and very few communities would be as patient as ours. Iberville perhaps contributes more to the Texas & Pacific's treasury than any other parish on the line, and deserves better treatment than she receives.

The contract for digging the canal in Bayou Plaquemine to give the necessary channel from the locks to deep water was awarded last week to Messrs. Clarke Bros., and it begins to look as if better progress would be made on the locks.

Master Robert M. Walsh, a young son of Mr. D. H. Walsh, of Plaquemine, the popular manager of Hon. Andrew H. Gay's Union Plantation, was buried this week.

Most Rev. P. L. Chappelle, Archbishop of New Orleans, passed through the parish last

week, having been brought down from Brule Landing to Plaquemine in a carriage by Hon. V. M. Lefebvre. His Grace was highly pleased with the work now in progress on the Catholic Church and will return in the fall to bless the same.

By a slip of the pen last week, the name of Mr. E. B. Schwing's bride appeared in the Planter as Rhorer instead in Hickman.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

At last this parish has been visited by splendid rains which have been of incalculable benefit to the parched crops. While several showers had fallen some time ago in the central portion of the parish, the upper and lower sections were literally burning up. Last Saturday morning a slight sprinkle set in, changing later into a heavy rain which lasted all day. Occasional showers fell Sunday, but it was only on Monday that our best rains came, continuing with intermissions until late in the afternoon. We have had enough moisture to last a week or more. It is almost impossible to estimate the good these rains will do the crops. In some sections the situation, as stated above, had become serious. All of the crops are from two weeks to a month late. Cane is particularly backward, as its growth was checked during the protracted drouth. On some places much of the early cotton had not yet come up while corn is not what it should be. With the late rains and the intense heat now prevailing, there will soon be a general and decided improvement all along the line.

There is a painful dearth of interesting items from the various plantations. Perhaps the best news that has come to this scribe's ears during the past two weeks, is the statement that one of the largest planters in the parish, who had a month ago given up hope of having seed enough for next year, now believes that he will have enough seed for that purpose. Otherwise the situation remains practically unchanged in

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Lafourche.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In common with the other parishes in the sugar section of the state, Lafourche has suffered from the effects of the freeze in the winter, and then, from the consequences of the prolonged drouth. Cane is considered about a half crop on the average through the parish, while corn is in a very backward condition.

Last Saturday morning the drouth was broken by a copious rain, which fell just in the right way, and cheered the hearts of all engaged in the agricultural industries of the parish. Sunday, another copious rain fell,

and the indications at the present writing are that we shall have a continuance of rainfall. It may be that we shall have too much moisture, and that we shall all be glad to see a stoppage of the flood-gates of heaven. However the future may be, there is no gainsaying the fact, that untold good has been done to the growing crops by the rains we are having, and that vegetation has taken on a new lease of life.

While there may be some who see no future in the sugar industry, there are others who have faith that it will be always a profitable occupation in which to engage, and in which to invest capital. For instance; last Saturday, the Coulon Plantation, opposite the town of Thibodaux was sold to Messrs. Eugene G. Robichaux and Thomas H. Roger for the price of fifty thousand dollars, of which eighteen thousand dollars were paid cash, and the rest was represented by notes, bearing seven per cent. and payable in one, two and three years, or, to be strictly accurate, the first note is made payable on the 10th of January, next, and the two others in 1901 and 1902. The crop of the present year consisting of five hundred acres of fine rice was not reserved and, consequently, goes to the purchasers, who will have very little more expense connected with it than to harvest it. Last year, the crop on Coulon sold at four dollars and a quarter per barrel, and the crop of the present year is said to be equally good. The active and energetic purchasers of this fine plantation are to be congratulated on their bargain. Mrs. Justilien Foret and her son, Mr. Davis Foret, who were the owners of Coulon, are well satisfied with their bargain in having sold the place for so good a figure.

Next Saturday, if nothing intervenes to prevent it, the undivided half of Abbey Plantation will be sold under the Sheriff's hammer. This too is an excellent investment for some enterprising sugar planter.

LAFOURCHE.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

In some sections of the parish the recent precipitations were all that could be desired and in others the rainfall was somewhat in excess of crop requirements; nevertheless acceptable and timely, after the drouth of some weeks duration. A good corn crop is now assured, although the rains came somewhat late for the early plantings. The crops are now making rapid progress and the rooting of the canes should be profuse, as the lands are in admirable condition for their development. With favorable weather for the next three weeks to lay by the cane fields in good order, where there is two-thirds of a stand, even the plant cane tonnage may yet be equal to that of last year, and the sugar content per ton largely in excess of the output during the last cam-

paign. The cane fields are generally of good color and the planters only dread it, too much rain, which would tend to compact the soil and retard the laying by of the cane. The acreage planted in peas is larger than usual, and the crop has been immensely benefited by the copious showers. On some places, particularly in the upper portion of the parish, the stand of stubble being meagre, this fall recourse will be had to some plant cane for seed for the coming year. Canes on sandy land should be selected and laid by with that object in view, and in consequence the ridges should be made only moderately high, as deep water furrows in wet winters tend to injure the butt of the cane windrowed for seed. But little plowing will be done this week, as the soil was thoroughly saturated, and the evaporation has been retarded by the fortunate cloudiness after the rains. Much injury can be done at this season by plowing fields when too wet—the tilth will be destroyed and the crop will suffer in consequence.

From what can be learned from those who have traveled over this and the other sugar parishes, the cane crop in Terrebonne takes high rank this season; particularly that portion nearest the gulf; but it is questionable if even there, red joints will be seen the first week in July as usual. It is reported that the plant cane crop is so promising on Du Lac that the owner, Mr. T. Lottinger has decided to erect a sugar house, and has recently purchased the necessary machinery—the major portion of it from some place on the river.

Recently the oyster factory of Mr. W. Galdry, below Houma, was purchased and a shrimp canning factory is to be put in operation this fall.

On Wednesday of last week, local rains; Thursday, fog, hot and partially cloudy; Friday, cloudy and warm; Saturday, showers began about two o'clock in the evening and fell at intervals during the day; Sunday, rain at eight and during the day until noon; Monday, cloudy; Tuesday, favorable, and Wednesday morning, clouds and sunshine.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The long looked for rain has at last come, commencing last Friday. Since that time, showers have fallen both day and night, at times, until now the earth appears well saturated; but the planters say it is not enough that after a few days of sunshine, the earth will have consumed it all, and that a week or ten days of rain added to what we have already received, would not go amiss, owing to the extreme dryness of the surface at the conclusion of the drought.

But be that as it may, the rain was general, and it was needed, and that sorely, upon every plantation in this parish, and since its coming, nature is greener and fresher,

and vegetation is growing in every quarter as it has never grown before this season. Though it has been said that the rain came too late for the early corn, which had tasseled, because its growth, at this particular stage of maturity, is very near complete; but as the larger portion of the corn is of an almost ordinary size anyway, the shortage by reason of the lateness of the rains, will be very little.

As regards the cane, its prospects upon every side are said to be splendid; being a stronger plant than corn, it was in perfect readiness for the rain period, and during the last three or four days, has grown to a remarkable extent, being clear of grass, with clean middles and ditches.

Planters are fond of boasting of their cane, it seems, and every season the prize stalk comes out on exhibition, with the stamp of its owner attached to it, in some conspicuous place, and the information is indirectly conveyed to the observer, in most cases that the particular stalk on show is the smallest in the field. But while Messrs. Bloch & Levy, the new owners of Cote Blanche, have not presented a cane for exhibition so far, they claim that theirs is above four feet tall, and is jointing; and your correspondent is of the belief that this is the largest in St. Mary. On the Cote Blanche plantation, together with several other places, it is claimed that the stubble is much the most advanced, and what there is of it, is healthier looking than the plant.

The special election called by the newly constituted "Franklin Drainage District," created for the purpose of digging the canal from Bayou Choupique to the high seas, came off on Tuesday, the 13th. There were one hundred and twenty votes polled by the land owners, (to which class of property holders the right of franchise is restricted for this purpose) and their votes were unanimously in favor of the levying of the tax and the cutting of the canal. The assessed valuation of their property, under their several affidavits, sums up, in the aggregate, to \$171,842, and being none against the proposition, in number, there could not have been in assessed valuation. Every one knew that the result would be practically unanimous, so very few troubled themselves to the extent of going to the polls. The assessed valuation of the property actually situated within the lines of the drainage district is a million dollars; and the election authorizing the levy of 2½ mills extra taxation, the revenues will aggregate two thousand, five hundred dollars a year, and the canal itself will be paid for at its approximate cost of fifteen thousand dollars, in six years, less the two or three per centum interest that the bonds will draw.

It is said the work will begin as soon as a clear course can be laid out, as the one first arrived at will be opposed by contiguous landowners, by injunction. There will be no trouble about launching the bonds, as

several bond companies are now bidding for them, having satisfied themselves of the security.

This is one of the most important movements the planters have ever gone into for their mutual benefit, as the proposed canal will drain one of the most fertile and productive basins in this parish.

Mr. J. B. Brown, general manager of Mrs. Ernest Burguieres' Crawford, Ivanhoe, Richland and Alice B. plantations in the Cypremont section, was in Franklin the other day, and says that he considers his crop as good as that of any of his neighbors—not a good crop, however, but much better than he had reason to expect. Mrs. Burguieres, aforesaid, is one of the most extensive sugar planters, your correspondent believes, in this portion of the state.

Mr. James W. Barnett's Shady Side has laid by its fifteen hundred acres of corn, and all of the cane. Shady Side, as now composed, is the largest plantation in this section, embracing the Dancy, Sinette, Shady Side and the Baker place, the former home of Gov. Joshua Baker.

Mr. Warren Foster's Alice C., is said to have the finest general crop on the Teche; this is due to the fact that the drought affected all others more seriously than it did him. His rains were more regular.

Vermillion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

It is very gratifying to be able to announce in this letter to your most valuable paper that the long drouth in this section of the country has been successfully broken. On last Saturday morning, the 10th inst., a slow rain began to fall throughout Vermillion parish, which continued all day Saturday and very near all night Saturday night. It came down steadily and quietly, no downpours, no wind, no thunder, no nothing but a most glorious rain, that was very much needed and that was of untold benefit to the parish of Vermillion in dollars and cents. The farmer who wore a long, serious face last week is now smiling and stepping around with the assumed pomp of a king. It rained a little Sunday and yesterday, and to-day has brought us several good showers and promises to bring more before it closed. There is a stiff wind blowing from the southwest, which may avert a downpour of rain. There has been a thorough soaking throughout the parish for all kinds of crops and a repetition of Saturday's rain would mean too much. Some of our people who believe in the 8th of June superstition—that if it rains on that day it will rain 40 days, and if not that we will have a 40 days' drouth—looked down in the mouth when the 8th passed and no sign of rain, but old Jupiter Pluvius must have been mustering his forces and forgot that the 8th had passed, for on the 10th he came at us and gave us what we needed.

Cane is looking splendidly since the rain

and though small for the time of year, the prospects are brighter now for an average crop than ten days ago. The stubble is still coming up and hopes are entertained that it will mature. The plant cane is very promising at present. Corn is simply fine; the dry weather did not seem to injure it very much and the water that is in the ground now, will make the old corn and will put the last planting in silk and tassel. The corn crop in Vermilion this year will be one of the largest that has ever been raised in the parish. Most of the first planting of corn has been laid by and was in fine shape for the rain and the last planting was only waiting for a rain to be ploughed for the last time. Cotton is very sorry. The stand is poor and the plant that did come up looks weak and is very small. Many fields were planted that did not show up a third of a stand. The cotton crop will be short in Vermilion this year. Rice is very fine. Irrigated rice could not be better and the rain that has been falling throughout the parish for the past few days will revive the providence crop and with a few more good rains it will be first-class. The acreage of providence rice is very large this year and the present prospects are very good for a fair crop. The different pumps in the parish have been running night and day since irrigating began to keep the fields flooded. The rice crop will, from the present outlook, be very heavy this year. In fact all crops look promising except cotton.

Charbon has broken out in this parish again and many stock are dying from it. On the Hall-Slutz Canal, twelve miles south of Abbeville, a number of mules and horses as well as cattle have died and other sections of the parish report its presence. P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The drought which prevailed over the greater part of this and adjoining parishes for the past forty-nine days was terminated by rain on the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th inst. Every one is now feeling better. The temperature since the rains set in has been from 15 deg. to 20 deg. lower than it was during the first days of the month. It is now much more pleasant and agreeable to move about. We no longer have dust to breathe, but a clear atmosphere—damp but more pleasant for man and beast. It will require much more rain than has to-date fallen to fully satisfy all the wants and demands needed by the farmers and planters, but every one is now feeling truly grateful for the rains which have been falling for the past four days.

The corn crops and prospects will now begin to improve if the rains continue to fall at intervals during the next three weeks. Much of the late planting of corn will make an average yield of grain, but some of the first planting of corn on thin soils is now

past recovery no matter how heavy it may rain, which should be accepted as a lesson to all who are engaged in planting.

Deep fall and winter plowing has shown its beneficial effects since the drought began to develop in April, the lands which were so treated, holding more moisture which is to-day manifested in the greater development of plant life.

The late rains have been a decided blessing to the growing cane crops. One thing noticeable this season is, that the canes have not seemingly suffered to the same extent from the drought as they did during the dry season of last year.

Yet much of the plant cane when planted this spring did not apparently have sufficient life in the stalks to sustain an eye if it should live to get through to the surface.

When irrigating such crops as corn and cane, the object sought for, as I understand it, is not to flood by any means the land upon which the crops are planted and growing, but to gauge the water so that the flow will be even and enough to flow through, not over, the plowed soil to soften and disintegrate it. Water tends to percolate out and up and with, when properly applied to the soil, soon find its way to the surface and top of the cane and corn rows to benefit the planted crops.

The cotton planters of this and the adjoining parishes are now buoyant over their prospects. Most places report fine stands. The weed is now growing and beginning to bloom.

Peas which have been planted, are reported to be coming up to good stands. There are some who waited for rain before planting peas, and they will now plant as fast as the weather permits them to do so.

Present indication are for heavy pea crops.

Grass plots and pasture lands have been greatly benefited by the late rains. Sorghum, millet and alfalfa will improve and grow under the influence of the present spell of moist weather. Gardens and truck patches have been benefited; sweet potato plants may now be transplanted from the hot beds to the fields and other such work can now be carried forward to completion.

ERIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The strong probability of an approaching rainy spell which characterized a great part of last week, has materialized into the most beneficial and welcome rain-fall our locality has experienced within the past few months. As I have previously stated, dry weather had been reigning for seven consecutive weeks. On Saturday morning the atmosphere was remarkably heavy and the entire heavens were covered with dark clouds. A slight drizzle soon set in and then came a steady rain, which fell for

twenty-four hours without an interval. Sunday we had local showers the greater part of the day and the entire night. Since Monday evening, though, the weather seems a little more fairly disposed and we are better able to appreciate this great God-send, which has come so appropriately. The dust had so settled upon everything that one could barely distinguish the color of anything, whilst now everything has been cleansed by the falling water. The growth of the corn crops since, is something noticeable, and the corn fields now present an aspect rare in beauty, as every stage of the crop is to be seen from corn a few weeks old up to the ones already in full flower.

The fact that the cane crop is so very poor generally this year is quite influential upon plantation repairs, as at this time of the year, all we usually see and hear is the tearing down of such a building and the construction of such another one. This year no one moves a nail or a plank, but under pressing necessity. The only repairs going on in our parish are connected with the reconstruction of the St. Elmo sugar house, which building was totally destroyed by fire during the past December. The work is being done quite fast and the entire frame is now put up.

The entire building and contents of the store of Messrs. Gauthreaux and Himel, on the upper line of Union plantation, were destroyed by fire during the past week. The whole thing was insured, but for what sum is yet unknown.

Mr. P. M. Lambremont, of Convent, has formed a partnership with Mr. T. J. Kernan, of Baton Rouge, for the practice of law. Mr. Kernan is an able and noted barrister of our Capital City.

The probability is that we shall have more rain shortly in our vicinity.

CONVENT.

St. Charles.

The crops of corn are splendid and the sugar cane promises to surprise many, who thought it would turn out an utter failure.

The road machine was put to work during the week, and the road put into good condition.—Herald, June 10.

Personal.

Mr. L. Geismar, of Geismar, La., was among the arrivals at the Cosmopolitan last Monday. Mr. Geismar was accompanied by his wife.

It is understood that Charles F. Thompson, secretary, treasurer and director of the Lane & Bodley Company, of Cincinnati, O., has resigned his position in those capacities to take effect July 1. Mr. Thompson has been with the company 35 years. It is not as yet known who will be the successor to Mr. Thompson nor has Mr. Thompson made up his mind as to what he will do in the future.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The sugar market continues quiet and steady, the small stocks of desirable class for exportation, being now held by speculators, who firmly maintain their pretensions, in the belief that prices will soon improve and allow them to dispose of their parcels in a more advantageous manner than they might at the present moment.

According to official returns, this year's crop aggregates 307,903 tons, against 232,000 tons, last year, there being in favor of the one just over, a difference of 75,903 tons. No estimate has as yet been made regarding the probable ascendancy of that of 1899-1900.

The weather, generally speaking, has been propitious to the growing cane, though water is still needed in several localities, especially such as produce tobacco. It has rained this year in a very irregular manner, and whilst the quantity of water fallen in some parts of the island has been quite sufficient to insure the good result of crops, complaints in others against the prolonged drought are rather bitter, and the corn crop has been lost on this account at several places, especially along the northern coast, from Gagua to Calbarien.

Owing to the large investments of the English in tobacco speculation, from the very moment hostilities were suspended, the crop this year will be exceedingly large and according to all probabilities the leaf will also be of very good quality, with abundance of the finest grades, which will fetch high prices when brought to market; as the entire world is anxiously awaiting the Cuban leaf of which the production gradually dwindled down to next to nothing during the four past years. The market is expected to open extraordinarily active as soon as the leaf be in fit condition to be handled.

American capitalists seem to have at last determined to invest heavily in Cuba, following the example set them by the English. The majority of the Americans who came here last winter were, as stated in one of my previous letters, people without means who were mere bargain seekers and attempted to purchase property at a great sacrifice, being utterly mistaken about the situation, there being in the island, despite the war and the intervention, more local capital than is generally understood in the states, and whenever a desirable property is offered for sale it finds ready buyers at home at a remunerative price, without being compelled to sell it to any American adventurer who generally offers \$100 for what is worth \$1000. It is foolish, altogether, to think that anyone may come here and cheat the natives, as it is the practice in Africa where the Europeans exchange with the negroes their gold dust, lion and tiger skins, elephant teeth

and other valuable articles, for a few yards of calico, two or three bottles of poisonous brandy or half a dozen strings of glass beads. Cuba is an old country that has sustained important mercantile relations with all the most civilized nations of the world, and her inhabitants are well posted, not only about all the commercial customs of business men abroad, but also know exactly the real market value not only of all the products of the island, but also of all the foreign articles.

In the presence of the bold attitude of the British capitalists who came forward and commenced to buy up at full prices sugar plantations, cigar and cigarette factories, real estate and invested heavily in railroads, the most important lines having already passed under their control, the Americans who were waiting for the United States to fix a definite date for the occupation of Cuba, to warrant their investments in this island, lost the best opportunities to advantageously place their capitals and were left out of most of the big deals lately carried into effect in this country.

In the interior of the island there are as yet large tracts of uncultivated land, which may be acquired at comparatively low figures; but in the larger cities and along the existing railway lines real estate is held at high prices, and as it finds ready buyers, there is no reason to presume that the price asked will be reduced to any considerable extent, and whosoever wishes to buy it, shall have to pay for it what it is worth; and the adoption of this policy has allowed the English capitalists to secure so much valuable property in Cuba, whereas the American financiers are still wondering about which might prove the most profitable investment for their money, and others are reaping the benefits of the United States sacrifices in men and money.

Among land purchases recently reported, I can mention one tract of about 30,000 acres on the Bay of Nipe, on the northern coast of the island, in the province of Santiago de Cuba; another of 27,000 acres, near Neuvitas, in the same province, which were acquired by an American syndicate for the purpose of colonization and if possible, to found a city in the American style, on the borders of the Bay of Nipe, which is an excellent harbor. The land bought near Neuvitas will be entirely devoted to fruit growing, and that near Minas to sugar cane. The new proprietors contemplating to establish thereon two or three large central factories, of a capacity of 100,000 @ 125,000 bags of sugar each.

According to recent reports from the municipal and provincial authorities relative to the preliminary census, the present population of Cuba is about 1,318,000 souls, and as the number of those who died on account of the war and Weyler's reconcentration or left the country and have not as yet returned, the one that has taken off this year the

results, that the total population of Cuba when the last insurrection broke out, was 2,018,000 souls, and not 1,650,000 as repeatedly stated by the Spanish government.

The total indebtedness of the island comprising chiefly municipal liabilities, amounts at the present moment to \$17,701,575.

About five hundred Cuban soldiers, recently disbanded at Cienfuegos, obtained immediate employment on some of the neighboring sugar plantations; none of them gave up their arms, and few only have shown willingness to accept the \$75 offered them by the American Government as relief.

Mining business in the east is fast reviving, and amongst the large number of mines recently registered at the government offices, there are four gold ones, "Nuevo Potose," "Holgerinera," "Nene" and "Non plus Ultra," situated at Agnas, Claras and Guajabales, near Bayamo, in the province of Santiago de Cuba, which will be handled by an American syndicate, whose capital is supposed to be half a million dollars.

A fire, started by lightning, recently destroyed 500,000 arrobes, about 6,250 tons of growing cane belonging to factory "Santa Lucia" at Gibara, which is the largest in the province of Santiago de Cuba and probably the one that has taken off this year the biggest crop.

Owing to efforts which the New Orleans business men are said to be making to control the Cuban trade, the Morgan steamship line, between that port and Havana, will probably perfect their service and run between both ports some new boats instead of the old crafts they now own, or else they will expose themselves to the danger of seeing a new line, that of Ward, for instance, compete with them to meet the needs of the increasing trade, which they shall probably lose through their own fault and avarice.

T. D.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The first days of the week under review were cloudy and sultry, foreboding a change of the weather in an undesirable direction, which, in fact, soon enough set in. There were at first some thunder storms and on Whitsuntide holidays it rained very hard. At the same time, the temperature sank as low as 5 deg. Cen. and the month of May, which for about a week had been warm and dry, bade fair to end in the most inclement manner. This, however, has not come quite true. On Wednesday, the sky cleared up and the temperature rose a little, but the following day it rained again so that the week closes in a mild and wet meteorological condition. Although a couple more of dry and warm days would have been preferred, the weather was for the crops in general and for the beets in particular, not altogether unfavorable. The moisture no doubt has accelerated the germination and coming up of the

lately sown beets and the young plants on the parched and crusted fields, were also favored in their development; the only drawback was the cold and the difficulty of doing the necessary field work, especially the weeding, which has become quite urgent. But as a rule, the condition of the crop does not give any cause for serious complaint, and if warm and seasonable weather soon arrives, the prospects will continue satisfactory. Such is about the case also in the other beet-growing countries of Europe, except in Russia, where they are still waiting for copious rains.

In the foreground of general discussion stands now the organization of the so-called cartell. The idea is to place the German sugar industry on a firm and safe basis. The situation is to-day certainly not unsatisfactory; the prices are not high, but they leave a modest margin for the producer and things would be all right if a longer duration of the present condition of the markets could with any amount of certainty be relied upon. But there are too many reasons to apprehend in a more or less near future a change for the worse. Besides, it must not be forgotten that the better prices now obtained for sugar in the open market, are pocketed by speculators or dealers and only a small part of the improvement can be considered as a benefit for the fabricants or the sugar grower. But to insure to the producer a modest profit on one side, and to be prepared for the reappearance of bad times, which in all probability is only a question of time, partly on account of the feverish increase of the number of beet sugar factories in almost all civilized countries, partly in view of the re-establishment of the sugar industry of Cuba and the Philippine Islands, which will be brought about with the help of American capital, it is an act of caution to call into life such an institution so that when these bad times set in the industry need not be afraid of being placed in a critical position. However, in order to reach the desired aim, it is necessary that the fabricants and the refiners adhere to the plan harmoniously and almost unanimously, and the difficulty of establishing that harmony is the greater as three agreements must be concluded—first among the refiners, secondly, among the raw sugar fabricants and thirdly, between the two groups. The conditions of number one and three are achieved, and number two, the adhesion of the raw sugar factories, is also nearly effected, but on this head the work advances slower, because of the greater number (about 400), and because of a great part of the factories being based on the co-operative system, a circumstance which, as a matter of course, is not appropriate for facilitating resolutions and decisions of any importance. The working plan of the Cartell is to fix an inland price for raw sugar, which the refiners pay for all sugar which they use for supplying the home market. The rate

for export sugars has nothing at all to do with the cartell. The inland price is composed of the general market price and the additional cartell margin; in case, however, that the general market price attains the parity of the proposed inland price, the additional amount ceases to be paid. This implies of course a raising of the price of sugar to the consumer, but this amount asked in excess of the market price is very modest and as it is limited, it cannot exercise a restricting influence on consumption, and on the other hand, it cannot cause a suitable increase of production. By certain persons, it is objected against the plan, that part of the gain made in the home markets will be given away on the quantities exported. This may be true to a certain small degree, but this depends on different other circumstances, which it is hard to foresee in their consequences. Defensive measures of the kind proposed, especially if they are not intended to squeeze heavy profits out of the public are fully justified, for nobody has a right to ask to get any article cheaper than it costs the grower himself.

The statistical situation of three principal beet countries of Europe, Germany, Austria and France is embodied in the following figures, those in parenthesis being the data of last year. Production of 1898-99, 3,466,392 tons (3,367,341); importation, 70,067 tons (81,000 tons); exportation, 1,537,361 tons (1,434,575 tons); consumption, 1,304,096 tons (1,206,540 tons); final stocks, 1,441,913 tons (1,560,020 tons); the decrease of stocks amounted to 251,798 tons (221,168 tons). From these data it appears that the statistics of the three countries have continued to improve.

The markets continue in a very unsettled state, as almost only speculators are buying and selling. At the commencement of the week rumors were afloat that the American trust had bought 30,000 tons of beet sugar. The fact, viz., the purchase, was true, but the quantity was much exaggerated, of course, for speculative purposes. Therefore as it came to light, that only 10,000 tons had been taken for the American Sugar Refining Co., prices which on the terminal markets have quickly advanced, receded quite as quickly. Business in actual goods was quite unimportant and prices in Magdeburg close about on the same level as a week ago that is at M. 12.05-12.15, and at Hamburg delivery, May is quoted at M. 11.25 f. o. b. Hamburg. Refined are quiet and unchanged.

ROBT. HENNING.

Bayou Caney, Texas.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Wharton, June 8, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

We have had no rain here to speak of in seven weeks, and ten days later, the corn will be ruined. This soil holds its moisture remarkably well. With a good rain now or this week, an abun-

dant corn crop will be made. It is showery now, and we look for a trash mover in a day or two. Cotton is looking very fine. The cane crop is doing remarkably well, and considering the dry spell, it is suckering very nicely. We will make enough this season here to plant 1200 acres this fall, and with this acreage we are ready to contract for a sugar mill to be erected next spring. Capt. William Dunovant, of Eagle Lake is inclined to want to extend his road from Bonus, 16 miles west of Wharton, to Wharton this fall, and we do not think any doubt need be felt on that score. This road down Caney when completed, will traverse the finest farms to be seen any where, and we now anticipate that the entire valley will be in cane within ten years.

The advent of the Mexican boll weevil again this season so early, will hasten the cane planting. The weevil is here in great numbers, and will be apt to destroy the cotton, now looking so fine. Some planters are having the fallen squares picked up as they fall each day, and they hope to stay his ravages in a measure till the bolls are hard enough to resist his bill. I send you some of the fallen square by mail to-day. In the box, you will find him in all stages, from the egg state to the full grown weevil. In from five to ten days, they are hatched and ready for business. The forms drop a day or two after they are punctured, and the grub from the egg eats out the form and develops the weevil after the form is eaten, and the new weevil then goes to work on his rounds, puncturing every form he comes to. He will insert his long bill into the heart of the young blooms before they open; then turning around several times, (his bill being inserted all the while) as an auger does in boring a hole, he makes a round hole, and then deposits his egg, and the form drops in a day or two, and the worm goes to work on it, as you will see by investigating the forms sent you. This weevil is the greatest cotton destroyer that I ever saw, and his habits are such that you can't destroy him. You may put him between two cakes of ice for half a day, and the sun will warm him into life. He is very tough, and hibernates in winter like a snake. His history is that, when once introduced, he is satisfied, and will never leave the country. No poison can reach him, and so the farmers had just as well make up their minds to quit cotton, when they once find the weevil. This is what South Texas is forced to do. If, however, it forces us to cane, he is a blessing after all.

CANEY.

Hon. John J. Shaffer, of Terrebonne parish, was a guest of the St. Charles during the past week.

Mr. John R. Todd, a genial gentleman and successful sugar planter from the Bayou Sale section of St. Mary parish was among the recent visitors to New Orleans. He made his headquarters at the Commercial.

RICE.

Talmage on the Rice Market.

The demand of the week shows slight enlargement over the preceding one and as a result prices have hardened a fraction on all styles. Stocks at this port are liberal but under any ordinary call should be exhausted long before new crop will come forward in volume sufficient to meet usual requirements. It might also be remarked of present holdings that the assortment was never finer, embracing every possible variety in sort and grade. Advices from the South note quickened demand and evidences promising further increase. Stocks are at low tide, the amount inconsequential and as the impression prevails that it is scarce up to local requirements of the next few months, holders are heady, insistent on securing "the uttermost farthing." Cables and correspondence from abroad note steady demand, generally strong conditions and quotations relatively higher than those prevailing here.

Talmage, New Orleans, telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date: Receipts, rough 712,580 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over) 537,550 sacks. Sales, cleaned (est) 176,222 barrels; last year 121,865 barrels. Increased enquiry; market firm.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts, cleaned, 37,188 barrels. Sales, 34,624 barrels. Offerings light; demand moderate; enlarged enquiry.

Big Profits in Rice.

Prof. W. D. Stearns, principal of the first district (Rosenberg) school, was asked this morning if the big rice canal built by Banker Davidson of Beaumont to open up an immense rice territory in Jefferson county was proving a success. Prof. Stearns owns a rice farm over in that neighborhood and has raised several crops of "Providence" rice.

"The Davidson canal is, to the best of my knowledge, a success," said the professor. "It has been completed from Pine Island bayou to Nashland, a distance of eight or ten miles, and about 5000 acres will be irrigated from it this year. The machinery is all built for the pumping of the water and everything is in shape, but there has been no need thus far of flooding the rice fields by artificial means. The rainfall so far has been sufficient. The canal people are ready to supply the water whenever it is needed."

The professor was asked if the Canal company was charging two sacks of rice per acre for its water service.

He replied that the Davidson people would get more than that. They had gone in early and purchased a great deal of the land tributary to the canal they were to build and now, instead of simply selling water to the rice growers, they are renting lands and supplying water besides. This spring they have

been busy fencing tracts of land, building levees, erecting houses, etc., for settlers, and they have rented out a good deal of their land at the rate of four sacks of rice per acre.

As rice is generally figured as worth about \$2.50 or \$3 per sack, this would mean that the Canal company will, if everything goes well, get \$10 to \$12 per acre from the land they have rented to settlers.

Prof. Stearns does not think there is any doubt of the Davidson canal being a success. It is built exactly like the Crowley, La., plant he says, and that has been in successful operation for years.—Galveston Tribune.

How to Secure the Best Results in the Preservation of Seed Cane.

(Discussion by the Louisiana Sugar Planters' Association, Thursday, June 8, 1899. PRESIDENT EMILE ROSE in the Chair and SECRETARY REGINALD DYKERS at the Desk.)

Chair: The topic selected for discussion this evening is, "How to Secure the Best Results in the Preservation of Seed Cane." This subject had been selected for the last meeting of the association, but at that meeting we had the pleasure of being entertained by the Secretary of Agriculture, hence the discussion was postponed from the May to the June meeting. The secretary was instructed to ask the preparation of papers on this subject. The secretary informs the Chair that although several parties have been written to, that he has received no papers; and unless some of the gentlemen present have something to read the Chair knows of no paper having been prepared. The chair would ask the secretary to state what answers he received, if any, from the parties addressed.

Secretary: There were a good many answers received. I sent out six or seven letters. The general tenor of the replies was that although they at one time thought they knew something about the preservation of seed cane, that the experience of the past few months had convinced them that they knew little about it, and did not care to have anything to say on the subject. That was about the gist of the answers.

Col. Zenor: It seems there are no papers prepared, so it gives me an opportunity to burden you with a very long, tedious harangue without any opposition or competition.

Chair: You are very welcome, sir.

Col. Zenor: If you can endure the affliction, so much the better.

Col. Zenor here read his paper which was published in our last issue.

On motion of Hon. Jno. Dymond, the thanks of the association were tendered Col. Zenor, and his paper was ordered printed among the proceedings.

Chair: The subject is now open for discussion for Col. Zenor has opened the matter by referring to the paper read before the association by Prof. Stubbs. Prof. Stubbs' paper was mostly an argument in favor of fall planting as preferable to spring planting. It did not bear directly upon the question of the preservation of seed cane. The question that was selected for discussion reads: "The Preservation of Seed Cane," which would indicate that the proposer of that question referred to the preservation, through the winter—after the winter—and that has been the great difficulty the planters have had to contend with. We have seen seasons—some seasons where we have taken the usual precautions and have fol-

lowed the usual methods—where the seed cane kept perfectly sound through January, February and March. I have known cane planted in April to give as good results as cane planted in January. I have, on the other hand, known cane planted on the 1st of February, to give no stand at all. The question is: Is that due to climatic conditions: is it due to soil conditions; or is it due to the methods adopted? These results are so various that I can well understand that the gentlemen who have been written to, to express an opinion on the subject this evening, after their experience last winter, are afraid to express any opinion at all. (In my own experience I have found that wherever the cane was thoroughly drained, the seed cane, where it was well covered, where it had been cut not before the 15th or 20th of October, or even before the 1st of November, (better still, on the 1st of November) that the chances of the preservation of that cane were far greater than where the cane was cut earlier, where it was not covered deeply, and where it was not particularly well drained. These three conditions, in my opinion, are essential for the preservation of seed cane. If the cane should be cut even after the 1st of November—say about the middle of November—before the first killing frosts should come, that would help it still more; for it is a notorious fact that all the stubble cane that we have is much better where it comes from cane cut late in the season than the stubble which comes from the cane cut in the beginning of the season. That is a difference that is notable and plainly seen, I suppose, on every place. I know in my neighborhood that is very plainly seen today. The best stubble is from the latest cut cane, and the best plant cane is from the seed latest put down. Mr. Dymond, will you please give your experience.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: Before discussing the matter generally, it occurred to me that it would be wise to get Col. Zenor to discuss more at length the plan suggested in his paper; i. e. digging up the stubble by the roots and saving it in windrow. There was a gentleman living in St. Mary, Mr. D. C. Wilkins, I think, who exploited this subject in the early years of The Louisiana Planter. He seemed to have been an overseer in St. Mary in olden times, and to have had quite a knowledge of the sugar industry. He recommended that sugar cane should be saved for seed in just the way Col. Zenor brought out to-night. Now that point has seemed impracticable since the war; and yet Col. Zenor comes here to-night and recommends it. Therefore he may have done it; he may know its cost as compared with other methods, and as a good deal of discussion may come of it this evening it would be desirable of the Colonel would take the floor and elaborate that whole scheme, because it is one of great importance. It is certainly a fact that we leave in the fields with the stubble, ordinarily, perhaps one-tenth of the crop.

Col. Zenor: Why is digging up by the roots impracticable? My paper covers everything. It is short, but to the point.

Chair: Mr. Dymond says the plan proposed by you in your paper has been considered impracticable since the war. Will you please take up that point?

Col. Zenor: The question is, why is it impracticable? Because we do not require the manager to have it done as we know it ought to be done. Mr. L. S. Clarke, who was a new comer in our state since the war, and who had no experience in the culture

of sugar cane, had to depend upon the knowledge and experience of others. He employed a manager who had cane dug up by the roots for seed, and, says he, "my cane was invariably good as long as we did that, but after that manager left, and the other managers came in, they became careless in regard to doing little things." I refer to Mr. Clarke because he is known to be one of the most sensible, practicable men we have, or to be found anywhere, and that is his observation based upon the experience he has had. Why, it is a very simple thing, Mr. President. Why has sugar cane kept better when dug up by the roots. We know if you cut sugar cane in two that you injure it to a certain extent; we all know that. We know, if you cut off, say, even with the surface of the ground you leave within the ground, as Mr. Dymond has just said, about ten per cent of the eyes. There is a loss right off, in addition to the injury that you do the cane, if you cut off above the ground. Is there any reason in that? None at all. I am satisfied if you heard the expression of opinion of nine-tenths of the planters in the State of Louisiana you would be convinced that the only proper way to keep your seed cane, I don't care whether you plant in the fall, or whether you put it down in windrows, as stated in my article, is to dig it up by the roots. I consider this absolutely essential. I don't mean to say by that, that cane will always spoil if you don't dig it up by the roots; but you are taking much more favorable chances for its preservation when you dig it up by the roots, as well as adding largely to the amount of seed cane secured. A moderate estimate of the amount of seed cane you would lose on one acre, by cutting it even with the surface of the ground would be ten per cent.

Now, the reason, and the only reason, that I can see, that can be advanced why cane is not universally dug up by the roots is because the people who have charge of it become careless; it requires a little more labor, but very little more expense. We do it in what we call our "slip-shod" manner.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: How do you do it, with a spade, plow or hoe?

Col. Zenor: I have done it with a spade, but that is rather a slow process. There is a certain kind of grubbing hoe that answers the purpose, and while it is a little heavy, a man with the proper length of handle can dig up the cane by the roots, cleanly and nicely, without injury to the cane. I have had it done, and so have many other planters; but we get careless about these things, and do not have them done as we know they ought to be done.

Chair: I would ask Col. Zenor, if you have tried it practically, because I know we have enough trouble in getting rid of what we call the stubble, that remains after the cane is cut at the surface. When we want to remove that we have to use the special methods, special appliances, special implements, to split these stubbles; and even after splitting with the Lister plow, or some other implement, when that stubble is turned out it sometimes forms a mass almost as big as the head of a barrel. How about going through the mass after the cane has reached its full growth? How would you dig up the cane without cutting down below the surface? How would you dig up the roots, and how would you handle it in moving about from one place to another?

Col. Zenor: Well, I have seen it done; have done it myself. Just dig it up, and if the dirt adheres, which it does, just spread it; just knock this dirt away from it. This

will take a little time and pains, but the cane that you will save will pay for the labor expended ten-fold. I am satisfied of that Mr. President.

Chair: You stated you would lose one-tenth of the crop; how do you calculate that?

Col. Zenor: (Why, there is a much larger number of eyes on the cane that is in the ground, in proportion to the length, than on the cane above. We all know that. We have eyes on the cane below the ground anywhere from one-half inch to an inch and a half. In fact, I have heard people say (I have never taken the pains to count them very carefully) there were about as many eyes below the ground as above it. But of course they are very much closer together, and it is not to be presumed that this cane would support all these eyes that come from below the ground if every one was to sprout out. That is not reasonable. But for the length of the cane below the ground, which we call, ordinarily, the stubble, we get a much larger percentage of eyes than we do on the other canes.)

Hon. Jno. Dymond: We have a gentleman here, who has had long experience in this matter, Mr. J. W. Gleason, from Ascension.

Mr. J. W. Gleason: There is very little I could say on the subject I came around to learn about it.

Chair: We want a practical talk; we don't want any speeches; just what a man knows from his own experience, and your statement will be a very valuable one.

Mr. Gleason: I don't know anything about it at all.

Chair: The answers made by the correspondents who declined to prepare papers indicates that they had reference to the last season; that this last season had proved proved that they knew nothing about the preservation of seen cane. I am of the opinion that the past season did not establish any definite or absolute rule, with regard to the effect of the season on the seed cane, for the simple reason that, as already stated, in certain localities the seed cane kept a great deal better than in other localities. I don't believe that the intense cold of February last (the stubble was killed on February 10th and 12th) affected the cane equally throughout the state. I believe that the damage that was done at that time was done as much perhaps by the rainy weather we had during that season as by the intensity of the cold. I would like to have the benefit of your opinion, gentlemen, about that matter; whether the intense winter, intense cold of last winter has established anything new with regard to the vitality or the preservation of seed cane. Col. Zenor, how is that in your section?

Col. Zenor: It is hard to determine that. As these correspondents, whom Mr. Dykers has just referred to stated, the experience of last season has upset all previous theories, because we found, and I have heard a great many planters express the same thing—I find it the case myself that on lands where we ordinarily expected seed to keep perfectly, i. e. on high, well-drained, sandy land, the seed cane is badly spoiled, and the reverse is the case on lands where we rarely expected to put down seed cane; the latter turned out to be fine this season. That is emphatically the case on my place. You see the conditions upset. Now, I will refer to another season that acted the contrary to all experience in the preservation of seed cane. You remarked that the canes cut late showed the best stubble this year, and that has been the experience for years. Yet back in the winter of 1876, from some cause,

some climatic condition we found (I did—that was my experience) that the stubble which followed this winter, the stubble of '77 we might term it, was much better where the canes were cut earlier, while the stubble from the cane that was cut late was very seriously injured.

Chair: Will you allow me to say that the cane cut late was the cane that gave us so much trouble in the sugar house. That cane that was frozen early in December, and which cane inverted about the middle of December. That cane soured in December and was in bad condition.

Col. Zenor: I am not alluding to '76. I had standing cane that made beautiful sugar in January, '76. I am alluding to our bad stubble, Mr. President—the stubble from the canes that we cut very late in the season of '76 (some were cut in January.) These stubbles were almost entirely worthless in many places. I can recollect that because the crop of '77 was almost disastrous in some sections of the state. Some planters, in '77, commenced grinding, and the juice was so green that it would not granulate—would not crystallize—they had to stop and wait for it to mature. About the time they commenced to make sugar a heavy freeze came—the last of November—and destroyed the crop. But it was the stubble I alluded to specially, which was contrary to all past experiences.

Chair: That is the only exception you remember?

Col. Zenor: That is the only one I remember particularly.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: The matter brought up by Col. Zenor is rather foreign to the discussion to-night, but still very interesting. Canes that were cut on the first, second and third days of December, 1876, made very bad stubble in the beginning of that month there was a particularly sharp freeze and there was some loss of cane. The cane harvested for the mill was cut during those days in December, '76, and was put down in windrow, and the cane cut on those days made very bad stubble. It was an extraordinary thing for the month of December. Now, the investigation of Dr. Stubbs recently, into the condition of some of our canes, seems to reveal the secret of that great injury. I will add another point: Mr. Richard McCall declared at one of these meetings that he found that the best seed was the poorest and meanest stubble he could get. Recent investigation of Dr. Stubbs has shown that the eye of the cane, where it is so hard and dry, has very little moisture left in it, and, therefore, if it does freeze, and in hundreds of instances this year, where it was thought the canes were frozen, there was not enough moisture at the germinal point for freezing, and the canes were not frozen, and have germinated to the astonishment of many of the planters. Now, on these days in '76 (I think Mr. Gleason will probably remember them) a very large quantity of sugar cane was cut and put in windrow, as was then the custom. The canes were frozen each night—the stumps were frozen each night. They must have been full of juice, and a large amount of moisture in these stubbles. They froze each night, and it would seem that though cut late they were full of juice to be more liable to freezing than usual. We have not had any such experience since. Canes in '76 that were cut two weeks earlier made better stubble, and canes cut two or three weeks later, in many cases, made better stubble. I thought that perhaps Col. Zenor may have forgotten that fact; but canes that were cut during the first week of De-

ember, '76, made poor stubble in the crop of '77. I asked Mr. Ben Tureau in '78, why there were certain gaps in his field on the upper coast. He said it was the result of bad stubble of the year before. I asked him in '78—it was then second stubble. The canes were cut in '76 (I think the year was '78.) They were cut in '76 and were first stubble in '77, and very poor stubble in '78. From that point (it may have been '77 that I was on Mr. Tureau's place.) He referred to that fact, but could give no cause for that peculiar phenomenon then visible. It is a very interesting thing taken together with Dr. Stubbs' recent investigations.

Col. Zenor: My experience is exactly the contrary.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: If you will read the data of the times you will see all I have said verified in Bouchereau's books, and verified by the conditions of the following crops.

Col. Zenor: In relation to that very fact, the point Mr. Dymond has made, when the freeze came in '76, acting under the advice of my friend and neighbor, Mr. Stout, who had been planting cane many years longer than I had, I commenced to windrow the first morning of the freeze. I windrowed fully two-thirds of my standing cane, which took in those days that Mr. Dymond alludes to; and if it had acted on my stubbles, as from what he states, it seems to have acted on other stubbles, I would have had a very poor, short, stubble crop in '76; but from what others said who saw my crop, and from the results, I made to the acre one of the finest crops made in the state that year—1877. I was one of a very few who made a crop that might be considered satisfactory, and my stubble in '77 was exceptionally good.

Chair: If Mr. Gleason will favor the association with his opinion on the subject of what he knows, from the effects of last season and his experience of previous seasons, the Chair would be very glad to hear from him.

Mr. Gleason: I do not know anything about last season, as I was sick all winter, and had no experience. As to the experience of '76, I can recollect that all the cane that was windrowed on Belair was good stubble; that which was left standing, was not.

Chair: In 1877?

Mr. Gleason: In '76. All that was windrowed right away was good. That is my impression. The stubble of the following year, all that froze for three or four days, was bad. That is my impression.

Chair: The stubble of the following year was bad. Mr. Zenor states that was the exception to the rule; that good stubble is always found where the cane was cut late; but that year the earlier cut cane gave better stubble the following season than the last cut cane.

Mr. Gleason: In '85, I think it was, we had something of the same experience. You remember the winter of '85?

Chair: You found that the earlier cut cane was better than the later cut cane?

Mr. Gleason: Yes, sir.

Chair: That is a question that interests all the planters.

Mr. H. S. Crozier: As Mr. Gleason seems to be a little modest about expressing himself, I will relate a conversation I heard in his presence. In regard to putting up seed, Mr. Gleason said there was only one rule to keep good seed that he knew of. That was to put plenty of cane in the row, which would necessitate plenty of dirt, keep the heat, rain and cold off, cover well and put plenty in the row.

Mr. J. W. Gleason: I always believed in that, in a big windrow.

Mr. Crozier: In connection with what Col. Zenor says, I think his plan will be largely adopted this fall, for this reason: It will be easy to grub it this year because there is so little of it. Now the manager of the Mary plantation, where I am interested, four years ago had some cane that was a good deal like the cane of this year. He went and planted it on the same ground, and to get rid of the roots, why he grubbed up the cane, planted it this way, and made a fine stand of fall cane. It made for two or three years fine stubble. Barred off, pulled out by hoes, spread into stalks, and rolled it well. It made a magnificent crop.

Now, in connection with the question you asked Col. Zenor a while ago, Mr. President, I think that every condition that led up to ripener cane showed us very plainly that was the best seed cane this year. Our black lands, badly drained, always produced the straightest cane, and always the sweetest cane and while a good deal of that kind of cane was put up this year, that was the best. I heard of a case on Bayou Teche, where they fertilized with 900 pounds of meal on stubble cane. Every one of the tenants made magnificent seed. Now, I have travelled around a good deal, and I have found that the ripest cane made the best seed everywhere in the state; the tops of the cane gave the best seed. Prof. Stubbs referred to the tops producing the best seed.

Chair: He recommended the tops, but not for preservation; he recommended them for planting at once, but did not recommend them for late spring planting.

Mr. Crozier: There was a gentleman from Ferrville, Mr. Landry, who never plowed out the middle of the row; he put his seed cane in and always left it that high, and I have heard it said by a good many that he never failed; the spring cane was the richest cane he had; that was his manner of putting it down.

Chair: Will Mr. Tremoulet favor us with his experience?

Mr. Henry Tremoulet: It would be hard to say what my experience has been. I know nothing of my own knowledge.

Mr. Burgulieres: Well, I am a good deal like Mr. Tremoulet.

Chair: Will not Mr. Legendre tell us what he knows about the preservation of seed cane?

Mr. Emile Legendre: I was not in the business last year, and have just got in again. However, from what I saw this year on the place I bought, black land, I find the black land gave the best seed.

Chair: That was your experience?

Mr. Legendre: On the land with the sandy ridge the seed was bad, while on the low piece of ground it turned out to be about the best.

Chair: Was all the seed put up in the same manner?

Mr. Legendre: All in about the same manner. The seed put down latest, of course, turned out to be the best; the later the canes were put down the better was the seed. That was the extent of my experience this year with seed cane.

Chair: Does that agree with your experience in former years?

Mr. Legendre: No, sir; it is just the opposite as a rule. The results were just the opposite as far as seed is concerned. When put down late, extremely late, it made quite a difference.

Mr. Victor Meyer: I have no practical experience at all.

Chair: Can you state what you have heard—from hearsay? Has there been any particular cane that kept better than other cane; and if so, why?

Mr. Meyer: Our neighbor, our next-door neighbor, General Behan, claims that his seed is as good as ever, as good as any season he ever had, probably attributable to the fact that he had a great deal of short cane.

Chair: Ripe cane?

Mr. Meyer: Ripe cane. I have never seen his cane, but this is what I heard. I understand that his next-door neighbor, Mr. Ware, has very poor results this year—a very poor crop—but I don't know anything about it particularly. On our places we found the stubble crop on the front place unexpectedly good, by comparison with others, and on the back place, under the same management, quite bad. It was cut about the same time. The back place was subjected to very much colder weather than the front; the temperature is several degrees lower than on the front. The front is protected by the river, perhaps. That is about the only way we can account for it.

Member: Perhaps the back place is sandier than the front.

Mr. Meyer: They are both sandy places.

Chair: Have you found a difference between the seed on the front and back place, and also on the stubble; particularly the stubble. Which gave you the best stubble? The front place?

Mr. Meyer: Yes, sir; the front place.

Chair: The sandy ridge does not give as good

Mr. Meyer: That is sandy. Our manager claims that we have about three-quarters stubble crop on the front place and about thirty-three and one-third per cent stubble crop on the back place, so that is a very remarkable difference.

Chair: Was there as much difference as that on the seed?

Mr. Meyer: No, sir; I don't think so, although the canes on the front place were better than on the back place.

Mr. Crozier: My neighbor, Mr. Tuttle, I understand had a rule for windrowing that the butt should touch the ground. I would like to know if any other planter present has had any experience of that kind—with that method. He certainly was a very successful man, and every one knows he always had a good stand.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: I always heard Mr. Bowes defend that system; that the butt of the cane should be stuck in the ground, forced in the ground.

Chair: The rule is that the butt should always stand on the ground, get the butts as near as possible. I have never seen the cane penetrate the ground. You should lay them together as close as possible. The plow comes along and brings the dirt all around it. The butts are closer to whatever moisture settles around the cane than the tops; the butt is always supposed to be down in the bottom of the furrow. I have heard of another system which perhaps some of the other members have heard all about—it is another system of putting up seed. I have never heard of its being used on a large scale, but small planters have told me that they have used it successfully. That is, instead of windrowing or matting it as we used to do twenty-five years ago they take the cane and cut as for windrow, laying the butts down in a ditch, and the ditches have a fall from one point to another, the cane laying this way (indicating,) and then when they fill up one acre or two acres with cane,

there is just enough dirt around, or thrown over, the butts so as not to interfere with the drainage, and they claim the cane rarely spoils when put down in that way. Mr. Dymond have you ever heard of the ditch system?

Hon. Jno. Dymond: I have heard of it, and practiced it frequently, though only for temporary purposes. We usually do it when we begin fall plowing in September. We then put the canes in a ditch, but take them out in four or five weeks. This was practiced on the lower coast this last winter, and the results were very interesting. The canes were all lost.

I think Mr. President that nearly all the leading points in the sugar industry that have been discordant can readily be reconciled. The vagaries, if we may so call them, of last season, so far as the preservation of seed cane were concerned, are explicable by the peculiar condition of the cane crop owing to the six months rain, from the middle of July to the middle of January, or the four months rain that came from the middle of July to the middle of November, having its effect upon the canes when saved for seed, we will say, in November. We have not had many such experiences as this since '77, so far as the killing of the cane is concerned. Almost every cane had sprouted at the eyes. The eyes were pointed; were sharp—many were sprouted slightly, some were sprouted considerably. That was the case in '77. That year, however, we had a great storm, if you will recollect, in the middle of September when all the standing cane was blown down. The previous year as told by Col. Zenor had been a comparatively short one for the cane crop. While not large, it was sweet. This was the result of the winter of '75. When we come to the winter of '77, a great many planters began grinding early. Some stopped owing to the peculiar condition of the cane. They found it difficult to make sugar; some could not make sugar at all. At that time we were not so learned; we did not lime by rule as now; we did not clarify as we now do. The result was the whole business was done in an empirical manner and many planters did very little in the month of November—very little in the last days of that month. The year of 1877 stands as a black letter in the calendar of sugar making in Louisiana, and it was one of the most disastrous that ever occurred in Louisiana. Now, coming to 1898, twenty-one years later; owing to the continuing rains throughout the entire season, that is continuing rains throughout the last half of the year, the cane crop was in this peculiar condition: The eyes were pointed, they were very much as though peas had been grown with them—as cane is ordinarily when it is planted with peas. Now, cane in that condition could hardly be expected to keep under the conditions we ordinarily preserve it, and therefore many parties in answering your inquiries have stated they do not know anything about it; but really I think most of them do recognize the fact that the canes having been sprouted, the ordinary methods of saving failed this year, and will fail every year in the future under the same conditions. Now the thing that we should investigate and endeavor to reconcile ourselves to is, why some canes have kept well. Mr. Legendre refers to certain canes on his property, in low lands and in black lands, that have kept well. We know that ordinarily canes keep better in other lands than these; but, as stated, these canes were probably shorter and straighter. The indifferent conditions under which that cane grew produced short

and straight canes, and these canes this year kept.

Member: There is no doubt about that, Mr. President. These canes were very short in the black lands. In the sandy lands they were tall and crooked.

Chair: Being short, they were ripier.

Mr. Dymond: We have learned a great deal concerning the keeping of seed cane in the last twenty years. It used to be the custom for nearly all the planters to begin grinding about the middle or the last half of October, and to put their canes in windrow earlier than that. It has been demonstrated time and again since that time that canes put in windrow later, when the vegetative life of the sugar cane had been reduced by the cold, when the canes were comparatively dormant, so to speak, that these canes would do better in windrow than when put down in their full vegetable activity. There was less liability to heat, to decay; there was less water in the canes themselves, so to speak. Or, you might say, they were richer in saccharine and less rich in water. Latterly the custom of putting down canes at the latest date thought safe has prevailed. That one point is worthy of consideration by every sugar planter, and the other one is that the hardier and the woodier the cane, the less moisture in the cane—the greater the probability of that cane resisting adverse conditions. When I heard Mr. Richard McCall enunciate that proposition some years back, it seemed to me almost shocking; and yet it was unquestionably the truth; it was the result of his observation—the result of the observation of almost every one. It was simply shocking to me, because it seemed unwise to endeavor to produce a valuable crop from imperfect plants. It has always been stated that we should select the best seed, and in selecting seed canes one would think we should get the largest and finest specimens and save those for seed. While perhaps Mr. McCall would admit that proposition, he would hold that we should, on the other hand, that the dangers or liability to lose these canes was so great that he would prefer the hardier, woodier, drier canes that would not lose their vitality. Now some seed canes doubtless this last winter were injured in windrow, but that does not seem very likely. I don't think the disaster occurred in that way, very much, but the canes were lost in windrow because they were sprouted and the eyes were not in condition to resist the ordinary exposure that cane in windrow receives.

Chair: In other words, the damage was due as much to the condition of the cane as to the condition of the weather?

Hon. Jno. Dymond: So, if we should go ahead in the fall and save straight cane, in sandy land, covering it immediately upon being windrowed, as discussed before this association repeatedly, saving it to as late a day as is safe, and then immediately cover it thoroughly, and not delay; having the holes closed up with hand hoes, and having the land properly quarter drained, we shall find such cane will almost invariably keep. If it did not keep under these conditions last winter, it was because the canes were started to sprout when put in windrow.

Chair: You speak of the practice twenty years ago, of putting cane in windrow before the grinding season commenced; of putting it down early until it was proved conclusively that it was an advantage to put it down later.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: Yes, sir.

Chair: There is another point I wish to ask about. If not twenty years ago, a few

years before that, it was an open question whether cane, or seed cane, ought to be put in windrow, or whether it would not be better to divide it, putting a portion of it in windrow and a portion of it in mattresses. I have seen seed cane put up in mats after the war—no, not after the war—and that continued for several years, and then the system of mat-laying cane disappeared altogether. Have you any recollection of that?

Hon. Jno. Dymond: I was told by the late Duncan F. Kenner, who was the first president of this association, about our losses in canes that were in mats. On the lower coast we still put up cane in mats to a greater or less extent, but that is in very low land. It is a rule that could not well be made a success owing to the physical conditions there prevailing. We believe that canes in mats are more liable to die than cane in windrows; that there is a greater liability to freezing and a great deal of liability to dry-rot. This winter, however, with the temperature down to 10½, we found the canes in mats did not freeze.

Chair: Last winter you did have some in mats?

Hon. Jno. Dymond: A great deal of it.

Chair: We will be glad to have your experience with mats.

Hon. Jno. Dymond: We thought the mats were frozen, but found the canes sprouted in the mats and died of dry-rot.

Chair: Did the cold penetrate the surface at all?

Hon. Jno. Dymond: No, sir; the canes died in the mats, probably early in December. The canes I have in mind were put in mattresses the last half of November; but being in this peculiar condition they could not resist the disposition to dry rot, which is far greater in mats than in windrows.

Chair: How is it in your section, Mr. Gleason?

Mr. Gleason: We gave it up many years ago.

Chair: Not in use at all?

Mr. Gleason: No, sir.

Chair: How about your past experience?

Mr. Gleason: Seed from second year stubble will generally make better seed than seed from first year stubble.

Chair: If there be no further discussion, a motion to adjourn will be in order after selecting a subject for the next monthly meeting to be held in July.

There being no further discussion, a motion to adjourn was made and carried—the subject for discussion at the July meeting being left to the president.

Personal.

Mr. J. B. Lyon, of Chicago, who possesses extensive Louisiana interests was at the St. Charles on Wednesday.

Major Thos. D. Kent, of Lafourche parish, a prominent and highly esteemed resident of that locality was in the city on a visit a few days ago. Mr. Kent stopped at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

H. P. Bougere, Esq., of St. John parish, was in town during the past week. He stopped at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

Mr. M. M. Bosworth, the popular young representative of the Gulf Bag Co., and who is a son of that prominent sugar planter and sterling gentleman, Millard Bosworth, Esq., of Cyremont, is absent at present on a business trip to Savannah, Ga.

JUNE 16.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUGAR. Open Kettle.	June 10.	June 12.	June 13.	June 14.	June 15.	June 16.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
O. K. Centrifugal								
Choice.....	4 1/4 @ 4 1/4	4 1/4 @ 4 1/4	4 1/4 @ 4 1/4	4 1/4 @ 4 1/4	4 1/4 @ 4 1/4	4 1/4 @ 4 1/4	3 1/2 @ 4 1/4	Steady.
Strict Prime.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Prime.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Fully Fair.....	4 @ 4 1/4	4 @ 4 1/4	4 @ 4 1/4	4 @ 4 1/4	4 @ 4 1/4	4 @ 4 1/4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Good Fair.....	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Fair.....	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Good Common.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Common.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4	
Inferior.....	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	
Centrifugal.								
Plant'n Granul'ed	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Quiet.
Off Granulated...	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	
Prime Yellow.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	
Off Yellow.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	
Seconds.....	3 @ 4 1/8	3 @ 4 1/8	3 @ 4 1/8	3 @ 4 1/8	3 @ 4 1/8	3 @ 4 1/8	2 1/2 @ 3 1/2	
MOLASSES.								
Open Kettle.								Dull
O. K. Centrifugal								
Fancy.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Choice.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Strict Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Fair.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Fair.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Common.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Choice.....	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	12 @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	11 @ 11	
Good Prime.....	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	10 @ 10	
Prime.....	8 @ 8	8 @ 8	8 @ 8	8 @ 8	8 @ 8	8 @ 8	9 @ 9	
Good Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	8 @ 8	
Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	7 @ 7	
Good Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	6 @ 6	
Common.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	5 @ 5	
Inferior.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	4 @ 4	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUGAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw-Strong; hold- ers ask higher prices. Refined—Fair de- mand.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	5.06 @ —	
Standard A.....	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	4.96 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ —	
German Granul'd.	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.17	— @ 5.17	— @ 5.17	— @ 5.17	— @ 5.17	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Cane—Quiet. Beet—Quiet; prices fully maintained.
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	12s. 9d.	
A. & G. Beet.....	11s. 2 1/4 d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.	11s. 1 1/2 d.	9s. 8 1/4 d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	Steady.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/4	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 1/4	— @ 5 3/4	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to June 6	Tons	279,182
At four ports of Great Britain to June 3	"	60,000
At Havana and Matanzas to June 3	"	78,500

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending
June 16, 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898,
to June 16, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses		Sugar		Molasses
	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Received.....	Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Received.....	46	6,982	4,378	10,494	1,262,756	245,598	245,598
Sold.....	46	6,982	4,378	10,494	1,256,119	245,598	245,598
				Received same time last year	23,370	1,496,253	198,950

JUNE 16.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

	June 10.	June 12.	June 13.	June 14.	June 15.	June 16.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
RICE.								
ROUGH, per bbl...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	— @ —	Dull.
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	6½@6¾	— @ —	
Fancy....	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6 @6½	6½@6¾	
Choice....	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5¼@5¾	5½@6	
Prime....	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	4¾@5½	5½@5½	
Good....	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	4¼@4¾	5½@5½	
Fair....	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	3¾@4¼	5¼@5½	
Ordinary	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	3 @3¾	4¾@4¾	
Common.	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	2½@3	4¾@4¾	
Screenings	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	2 @2¾	— @ —	
Inferior..	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	1¾@2	— @ —	
No. 2.....	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	1½@1¾	2@2¼	
BRAN, per ton...	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 50@13 00		Better feeling.
POLISH, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	16 00@ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending June 16, 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to June 16, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

	SACKS ROUGH. BBL. CLEAN.	This year.	Last year.	SACKS ROUGH. BBL. CLEAN.	This year.	Last year.
Received	467	.....	.....	683,162	.....	10,396
Sold .....	.....	165	.....	469,400	.....	8,061

Sugar.

The local sugar market was quiet at the end of the week. The receipts from the country were moderate and were readily absorbed.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals dull.

Rice.

Receipts of rough were very moderate at the end of the week and but little business was reported. Clean rice was dull but steady.

Literary Notes.

Andre Bellesort's "A week in the Philippines," which The Living Age has translated from the Revue des Deux Mondes, is the more interesting because this sprightly Frenchman saw the islands in November, 1897, before they had assumed any interest to Americans, but while the Filipino in surrection against Spain was in progress. He writes of them graphically and with a Frenchman's characteristic lightness.

"The Etchingham Letters" are concluded in The Living Age for June 3. The next serial attraction in that magazine will be "An Old House," a romance from the Italian of "Neera."

Personal.

Mr. R. R. Barrow, of Terrebonne parish, came to the city during the past week on one of his frequent trips and put up at the Commercial. He was accompanied by Mr. Easton Duval, of Houma.

At the Grand Bay plantation of Mr. Arthur V. Robertson, the sugar boiler during the past grinding season was P. E. Triche, Esq. Mr. Triche is well posted on the art of sugar boiling and is a man of considerable experience in that line.

That well-known agriculturist, Mr. A. W. Norman, than whom there is not a more proficient sugar plantation manager in the

THE CUBAN SUGAR CROP OF 1898-99.

Statement of the Exports and Stocks of Sugar May 31, 1899, and same date last year.

	1898.			1899.		
	Bags.	Hogsheads	Tons.	Bags.	Hogsheads	Tons.
EXPORTS.						
Havana.....	66,978	.....	.....	70,271	.....	.....
Matanzas.....	289,914	.....	.....	264,825	.....	.....
Cardenas.....	337,236	.....	.....	271,136	.....	.....
Cienfuegos.....	331,678	.....	.....	236,196	.....	.....
Sagua.....	141,730	.....	.....	100,262	.....	.....
Calbarien.....	45,032	.....	.....	76,675	.....	.....
Guantanamo.....	1,500	.....	.....	84,586	.....	.....
Cuba.....	.....	.....	.....	4,442	.....	.....
Manzanillo.....	.....	.....	.....	31,785	.....	.....
Nuevitas.....	.....	.....	.....	73,022	.....	.....
Gibara.....	.....	.....	.....	26,270	.....	.....
Zaza.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trinidad.....	37,767	.....	.....	27,248	.....	.....
	1,301,880	.....	180,164	1,308,517	.....	181,226
STOCKS.						
Havana.....	96,500	.....	.....	115,644	.....	.....
Matanzas.....	232,301	.....	.....	135,024	.....	.....
Cardenas.....	154,342	.....	.....	171,542	.....	.....
Cienfuegos.....	82,253	.....	.....	74,234	.....	.....
Sagua.....	25,058	.....	.....	39,537	.....	.....
Calbarien.....	14,500	.....	.....	60,226	.....	.....
Guantanamo.....	18,777	.....	.....	15,446	.....	.....
Cuba.....	.....	.....	.....	244	.....	.....
Manzanillo.....	.....	.....	.....	6,800	.....	.....
Nuevitas.....	.....	.....	.....	669	.....	.....
Gibara.....	.....	.....	.....	7,220	.....	.....
Zaza.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trinidad.....	900	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	625,721	.....	96,595	607,366	.....	94,055

Local consumption, 4 months.....	266,759	.....	265,263
	20,800	.....	16,800
Stock of old crop, January 1.....	287,359	.....	282,683
	1,515	.....	1,515
Receipts at all ports to May 31.....	265,844	.....	290,598
	NOTE—Bags, 310 lbs. Hogsheads, 1,550 lbs. Tons, 2,240 lbs.	.....	.....
Havana, May 31, 1899.			JOAQUIN GUMA.

state, was in charge during the last campaign at the fine Clarkland place of Messrs. Milkken & Farwell. Mr. Norman was for many years at the Hope plantation in St. John parish. T. C. Glynn, Esq., late of the Sugar Experiment Station at Audubon Park, had charge of the vacuum pan on Clarkland and added to his already excellent reputation as a careful, painstaking and highly successful sugar boiler.

Mr. J. A. Daspit, of Houma, La., was in the city last Sunday. He stopped at the Commercial Hotel.

Mr. Chas. B. Maginnis, of Woodlawn plantation, accompanied by his wife and daughter was a guest of the St. Charles Hotel a few days ago.

Mr. S. Abraham, a leading merchant and sugar planter of Lafourche parish, was a guest of the Cosmopolitan Hotel last Wednesday.

Mr. Carroll Barton, of the far-famed Magnolia plantation in Assumption parish, was in the city during the past week. He stopped at the Cosmopolitan.

Mr. A. L. Keller, a large rice planter whose place is near the town of Hahnville, was an arrival at the Grunewald Hotel last Wednesday.

Mr. M. J. Kahoa, of Allendale plantation, West Baton Rouge parish, was in the city on a visit during the past week.

Mr. J. B. Brown, of Ivanhoe plantation was at the Commercial Hotel on Wednesday.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—A position as sugar boiler by a first class man who thoroughly understands the clarification of cane juice. Eighteen years' experience. Makes no use of intoxicating liquors. Address WESTLEY, P. O. Box 1396, New Orleans. 6-12-99

WANTED—A situation as sugar maker on a plantation being a steam train and centrifugals. Was employed for the past eight seasons to take off the crop on Glendale Plantation, of Mr. George Sarpy. Address JUSTIN BABIN, Raceland, La. 6-11-99

WANTED—For coming season, a position as engineer, assistant engineer or helper in some capacity in mechanical department of sugar factory, by an engineer of considerable experience in construction, erection and maintenance of various kinds of machinery, but no experience with sugar machinery. One that is to learn sugar machinery. Address J. K. GILCHRIST, S. Zanesville, O. 6-10-99

WANTED—By a willing, industrious and steady man, with experience on plantations and in sugar houses, a position, permanent, if possible, with a sugar planting and manufacturing company. Promise faithful attention to interests of employer first. Main object a good start, with chance to work up. Can keep accounts or book after labor. References furnished. Address A. C. W., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation store by a single man 27 years of age. Nine years' experience in general store, and can furnish best of references. Address E. T. BAIL, Donaldsonville, La. 6-15-99

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana plantation as junior overseer, by a young man who has been six months on an estate in the West Indies. Address C. K., care this office. 6-7-99

WANTED—Position as governess by a young lady who can furnish best of references. Address MISS BESSIE HALL, 2419 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans.

WANTED—A position as manager or overseer on a sugar plantation. I am 36 years old and have been in the business 15 years. Am a man of family and can furnish the best of references. Address A. C. BREG, Litcher, La. 6-8-99

WANTED—A first-class and practical all-around sugar boiler wishes to secure a position for the coming season, or as assistant on some large place. Best of references as to character and ability. Terms reasonable. Address WALTER, 709 Galvnie street, city. 6-8-99

WANTED—A position as sugar boiler. First-class references furnished. Long experience. Careful, steady man. Address GEORGE, 470 Tchoupitoulas street, New Orleans. 5-27-99

WANTED—Accountant and book-keeper wishes position on plantation; address M., 1328 Louisiana Avenue, New Orleans. 6-1-99

WANTED—Position by a man of family as second engineer to live on plantation. A 1 references. Satisfaction guaranteed; address Sugar House Engineer, Box 13, Whitecastle, La. 6-1-99

WANTED—By a first-class mechanical engineer and practical sugar boiler, position as chief engineer, or sugar boiler or superintendent of sugar house for coming season. Twelve years of steady, practical experience in modern plantation sugar house management. Gilt-edged references from past employers. On account of freeze was released from service with last employers after a steady service of four years. Address SUGAR EXPERT, Box 431, New Orleans.

WANTED—Situation by a lady of experience as a teacher; object, a good home with small salary; address A. W., care Mississippi Packet Co., New Orleans, La. 5-19-99

WANTED—Position as stenographer or book-keeper by a young man. Can give good references, and have no bad habits; address L. J. CARTER, care Draughon College, Galveston, Texas. 5-23-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar maker, a position for the season of 1899, either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico, as a close boiler of firsts and seconds; is strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of reference from past employers as to character and ability; speaks Spanish and French. Address J. W. F., 351 N. Peters street, New Orleans, La.

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced mechanic and engineer for repairs and all-around work in beet sugar factory. Position permanent if satisfactory. Address, with references and salary expected, C. A. Zimmerman, Box 98, Eddy, New Mexico.

WANTED—Position as governess or teacher; summer or session. Best references furnished. Address Miss Mary Smith, 1116 Camp street, New Orleans.

WANTED—Situation by a young man 22 years of age, with gilt-edged references, as clerk in country or city store. Five years experience. Can speak French and English. Address AGUINALDO, Soulouque, La. 5-17-99

WANTED—Position for the 1899 crop as book-keeper or assistant. Can give best of references. Twenty-two years old and a graduate of a good business college; address A. E. Smith, Ozan, Ky. 5-9-99

WANTED—A first-class and competent assistant sugar boiler wishes position for coming season. Best references furnished; address Proof Stick, Box 62, Donaldsonville, La. 5-6-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first assistant, or as overseer. Experienced with teams and general plantation work. Eighteen years experience and can furnish best of references; address A. C., care this office.

WANTED—Position by a young man as time or book-keeper. Can give best of reference; address ARTHUR, care P. M., Little Cypress, Ky. 5-10-99

WANTED—Situation by an experienced machinist and sugar plantation engineer. Strictly sober and attentive to business. Would like to secure work the year round if possible at reduced salary, or take repairs and crop on very reasonable terms. Good references furnished; address P. H. E. ENGINEER, 724 Fern street, New Orleans. 5-10-99

WANTED—Position on a sugar plantation as blacksmith, wheelwright and horse-shoer; address SIDNEY G. KOUTSSELL, Edgard, La. 5-1-99

WANTED—Any sugar planter requiring the services of a competent and sober mechanical engineer, with references, will please address ENGINEER, No. 4721 Magazine street, New Orleans, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper, overseer, clerk or general office or store work. Can give the best of city and outside references; address A. H. NOEMINGER, care of Room 205, Board of Trade Building, New Orleans. 4-23-99

WANTED—Position as assistant chemist, book-keeper or time-keeper, by young man, aged 24, college graduate. Have done some work in sugar analysis. Have some knowledge of German; address Box 33, State College, Pa. 4-28-99

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as manager or assistant; address MANAGER H. A., care General Delivery, New Orleans. 5-3-99

WANTED—A position as superintendent or head sugar maker, by a man of large experience, either in plantation sugar house or sugar refinery. Can furnish good references. Would prove a valuable and all-around faithful man in any sugar house. Address P. R., care Louisiana Planter. 4-28-99

WANTED—Position by an all-around handy man: can do carpentry, painting, milk cows and make himself useful about a place. First-class references; address CHAS. TREPAGNIER, 1126 St. Ann street, New Orleans. 4-21-99

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 references. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LELER, care M. E. Sepp, 2383 8th Avenue, New York. 4-14-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-13-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 423 to 436 South Peters st. 4-13-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartartia, Texas. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class references, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gillis of Poydras plantation, and others; address MRS. S. TERRELLE, 2221 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, all-round machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED—A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, this office. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian Island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

WANTED—Situation as a cooper for molasses or sugar barrels, in the country; good references; address ALPHONSE BUCK, 2714 Second street, city. 3-16-99

WANTED—By a temperate and reliable vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop to take off next season. References furnished. Will accept a crop either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; address SUGAR MAKER, Lock Box 433, Eagle Lake, Texas. 3-22-99

WANTED—Position as general helper in machinery. Have been working for the past twelve years in same; address J. M. S., Fletel, La. 3-15-99

To Sugar Chemists!

A Hand Book for the rapid and accurate determination of Glucose in Sugars, Syrups and Molasses,

by L. A. Scherck, A. B.

Price 50 cents. For sale at The Louisiana Planter office.

THE LOUISIANA PLANTER

AND

SUGAR MANUFACTURER, A Weekly Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE SUGAR, RICE AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES OF LOUISIANA.

Vol. XXII.

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No. 25.

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AND

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EDITORIAL CORPS.

W. C. STUBBS, Ph. D. W. J. THOMPSON.
W. W. PUGH. JOHN DYMOND.

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2 inch.....	9 50	24 00	36 00	48 00
3 inch.....	14 50	38 20	54 40	72 50
4 inch.....	19 00	47 50	71 25	95 00
5 inch.....	23 50	58 75	88 15	117 50
6 inch.....	28 00	70 00	105 00	140 00
7 inch.....	32 50	81 15	121 75	162 50
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Mr. Havemeyer Before the Industrial Commission.

On June 14, Mr. Henry O. Havemeyer, president of the American Sugar Refining Co., was examined by the Industrial Commission in Washington in connection with its investigation of trusts. Mr. Havemeyer retained and exhibited all of that ability, audacity and, perhaps, rashness that have been his characteristics since he began selling sugars for his father's firm in Wall street over forty years ago. It is evident that Mr. Havemeyer had intended to make a sensation, from the fact that he carefully prepared his statement to be read before the commission, and in it he covered the whole field of human knowledge by his didactic remarks, in the end squaring up all things to suit his own scheme of life. We are only concerned in his references to the sugar planters of Louisiana, who, he seems to think, are the beneficiaries of the existing tariff, as well as of the Wilson bill, forgetting, as he seems to have done for the moment, the opening line of his own paper, "The mother of all trusts is the customs tariff bill," and the fact that had it not been for the great ability and untiring and persistent effort of other members of his own firm, he would scarcely be in a position to make the audacious statements he now does.

In 1869 all sugar not above No. 12 Dutch Standard paid a duty of three cents; those above and not above 15, a duty of 3½ cents, while the duty on refined sugars was practically prohibitive then, as now, the result of the tariff conditions of the civil war. At that time Mr. Theodore Havemeyer took in hand the matter of tariff legislation, and the duty on low grade sugars was dropped to 1½ cents per pound, scaling up gradually, until practical prohibition

was reached on refined sugars. This scale thus secured was so satisfactory that when greater revenues were needed from sugar, no change was made in the scale, but 25 per cent. was added to each of the specific rates. There were some twenty sugar refineries in New York, with other large establishments in Baltimore, Philadelphia and Boston, the increasing competition among all of which seriously cut down the profits of the business, and this to so great an extent that a number of old-fashioned houses were driven out of the trade and charges of adulteration freely made against those houses, such as Mr. Havemeyer's that seemed to have succeeded through the actual ability displayed in the management of their affairs. There were some three or four refineries belonging to separate members of the Havemeyer family, and in the tariff controversy in Washington these separate branches of the family were, in at least one instance, aligned one against the other. These controversies brought out the ability of Mr. John E. Searles, who was in the opposition to Messrs. Theodore and H. O. Havemeyer, and doubtless led to his capture by the trust in which he has been a prominent factor until his recent retirement to take charge of the new round cotton bale trust.

While the necessities of the civil war controlled the schedules of tariff legislation prior to 1870, since that time no agent has been so conspicuous, nor so effective, as the Havemeyer interest, when it came to the sugar schedule. Mr. Theodore Havemeyer was a gentleman of rare ability, pleasing address, great tact, and thoroughly familiar with his business in every direction. His death a few years ago was sincerely deplored by all who knew him, whether their interests were consonant with his or not. Since then the Havemeyers have been

represented at Washington by Mr. John E. Searles, the secretary and treasurer of the American Sugar Refining Co., a man of unquestioned ability, remarkably shrewd, and generally successful. It was only with the advent of the Wilson bill, in 1893, that Mr. H. O. Havemeyer personally appeared on the scene, and, perhaps, as he tells us in his paper, he was then told to "get out," and received no consideration.

Now, let us see what consideration Mr. Havemeyer could want. Through his partner in 1870 he secured a practical prohibition of the importation of all refined sugar. When more funds were wanted, and 25 per cent. was added to each of the specific duties on sugar, the relation of the schedule remained unimpaired, and the practical prohibition of refined sugars continued.

When the tariff commission was enacted March 1st, 1883, resulting in the collection of an average duty of 2 cents per pound on sugars of 90 test, sugars above No. 16 D. S. were rated at such high rates as to render their importation unprofitable, and hence the duties were practically prohibitive. Mr. Havemeyer knows very well that he himself prepared the scale for the purpose of making the duties on refined sugars prohibitive. Under the McKinley bill of October 1st, 1890, domestic sugars were allotted a bounty and foreign sugars not above No. 16 Dutch Standard in color, were admitted free of duty, with practical prohibition on all sugars above No. 16, this result of a necessity accruing to the sugar refiners, among whom Mr. Havemeyer in his paper says that his establishment stands in the relation of 9 to 1, or at least, he says he refines 90 per cent of the sugar used in this country. The Havemeyers secured this prohibition, which under the McKinley bill was a half cent per pound duty on all sugars above No. 16 Dutch Standard. Under the tariff commission bill of 1883, under which two cents duty was collected on 90 test sugar and 2.24 on 96 test, 13 D. S. paid 2½ cents per pound, 16 D. S. 3 cents per pound, and 20 D. S. 3½ cents per pound, certainly sufficient to exclude them from the country.

When the Wilson bill was passed by

the House in July, 1894, with its 638 Senate amendments, Mr. Havemeyer secured the first results of his direct intervention in tariff legislation, which was a differential of one-eighth on refined sugars. Under the law, 40 per cent. was levied on all sugars, which, of course, gave the sugar trust a protection of 40 per cent. on the increased value of foreign refined sugars over foreign raw sugars. All other sugar interests had to be content with 40 per cent. on the value of the sugars, but Mr. Havemeyer secured in addition a differential of one-eighth. This continued until July, 1897, when the enactment of the Dingley bill placed an arbitrary duty of 1.95 on all sugar above 16 Dutch Standard in color and on all sugar which had gone through a refining process. If there could be such a thing as pure raw sugar, under the Dingley bill, it would have paid 1.82½, so that the differential of one-eighth of a cent for the sugar trust was secured in the Dingley bill, as well as the prohibition of all low grade refined sugars and the prohibition of high grade refined sugars, excepting they came under the handicap of the one-eighth differential. The double protection secured by the trust in the Wilson bill, that is the direct differential of one-eighth and the 40 per cent. on that part of the value of imported refined sugar that represented its value over that of raw sugar, were thus protected under the Dingley bill by continuing the one-eighth differential and a practically higher differential, amounting to prohibition on all refined sugars under 100 test.

Now, let us see what all this has done for Mr. Havemeyer. We may see on what food this, our Caesar, feeds. When the sugar refiners export sugar, they ask the return of the duties paid on the raw sugar from which the exported refined sugar has been made. They claim, and in this we believe that we quote Mr. Havemeyer's own people, that 100 pounds of 96 test sugar will only realize the equivalent of 92½ pounds of pure sugar. It has been admitted by the members of the sugar trust, time and again, that at a margin of a half cent between the price of 96 test sugar and that of pure granulated, refined sugar,

they can come out even. If \$4.25 be paid for 100 pounds of 96 test sugar and 92½ pounds pure, white granulated sugar be sold at 4.75 per pound, as the proceeds of this there will be \$4.59 realized. The sugar refiners hold that it is necessary to realize \$4.75, hence we see that the difference between the cost of the sugar and the actual margin between 96 test and white granulated to pay out is .16 per pound. This is the actual cost of refining. While the sugar refiners decline to state the actual cost of refining in their respective establishments, their own statements are the data that evolve these figures. Not only this, but this has been the case for many years, as when the sugar trust was formed some 12 or 13 years ago, the margin between 96 test and pure refined sugar for a whole year was but little over ½ cent per pound. Now this great sugar trust, over which Havemeyer presides with great ability for his somewhat handsome salary of \$75,000 per year, simply puts into sugar .16 of one cent per pound. For this .16 of one cent per pound investment in the betterment of sugar it obtained all the margin possible, keeping in view the exclusion of foreign refined sugars. The older people now living will remember the old Dutch and English loaf sugar in blue papers that were offered in every store forty years ago. The Havemeyers changed all that after the civil war and now we have the Havemeyer sugar, pure, if not simple.

With a cent a pound margin under the tariff in 1870 they had a protection of some 500 per cent. on the amount that they invested in the betterment of sugar. When it came to the tariff commission bill in 1883 the theoretical duty on pure raw sugar would have been 2.40 cents per pound. All sugar above No. 20 was taxed at 3½ cents per pound, a difference of 1.10 cents per pound, or about 700 per cent. protection on the amount invested by the sugar refiners in the betterment of each pound of sugar. Under the McKinley bill the law of October 1, 1890, with raw sugars free and refined sugars a half cent per pound duty, we have 300 per cent protection on the amount in-

vested by the refiners in the betterment of each pound of sugar. When we come to the Wilson bill the law of August 28, 1894, and the direct intervention of Mr. H. O. Havemeyer in tariff affairs in Washington, we find that he did not do quite so well, and with 40 per cent. on the betterment, which his estimates indicate to be 16 cents per hundred pounds, we have a protection of 6.40 cents per hundred pounds, and $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents per hundred pounds differential, a total of about 19 cents per hundred pounds protection on the betterment which cost them 16 cents per hundred pounds, or a protective duty of 119 per cent. Under the Dingley bill the theoretical duty on pure raw sugar would be $1.82\frac{1}{2}$ and the duty on pure refined is placed at 1.95. Mr. Havemeyer suffers more under the Dingley bill than under any of its predecessors, on such sugars as just named, only receiving a protection of about 75 per cent on the cost of the betterment effected in his refineries.

We do not say all this in any spirit of antagonism to Mr. Havemeyer, but his wanton attack on the sugar planters of Louisiana in his paper read before the Industrial Commission in Washington on June 14, would certainly seem to call for some answer. Mr. Havemeyer knows very well that the betterment that he effects in sugar costs very little money. He knows equally well that the sugar planters of Louisiana are interested in the entire cost of the production of sugar, beginning with the planting of the cane and going on with its cultivation, harvest, manufacture, delivery and sale. The whole selling price of sugar is the amount involved, and necessarily the factor under consideration. If Mr. Havemeyer could buy a pound of sugar at $4\frac{1}{4}$ cents and at an outlay of .16 of a cent per pound so improve its quality that it shall sell for a half a cent a pound higher, he covers his outlay and the waste involved in the refining process. The sugar planter of Louisiana, who sells his sugar at $4\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound, has to produce the sugar cane for seed, to plant it, to cultivate it, to harvest it and then to manufacture it into sugar. There is no raw material on which he effects a simple better-

ment, but the whole mass of work is undertaken by him from the beginning to the end, and the relation that it bears to the work done by Mr. Havemeyer in his refineries is fairly represented by the relative figures we shall say of \$4.25 per hundred pounds and 16 cents per hundred pounds, or over 26 to one. Mr. Havemeyer, his friends and predecessors have insisted upon a protection which in its percentage puts to blush anything else in the tariff list, and yet he now has the audacity to say that the sugar planters of Louisiana are treated with undue partiality by the national government, and that he, the refiner, is told to "get out" when he asks for more in Washington.

The American Sugar Refining Co. is unquestionably entitled to fair consideration at the hands of the national government, and it can do but little good for its own cause by attacking the domestic sugar industry of this country, which ought to and will survive on its merits while the exaggerated claims of Mr. Havemeyer may turn the tide of opinion against him. In fact, he admits that such is now the case and it is to be wondered at when with his own data we find that he now wants a quarter of a cent a pound differential on refined sugar, he only investing 16 cents per hundred pounds in the betterment of the raw that he takes in hand, thus wanting a protective duty on his own work of 150 per cent.

To Protect Animals From Flies.

In the U. S. Annual Report of the Bureau of Animal Industry for 1897, the subjoined formula was named as in use to protect animals from flies during the charbon epidemic in Louisiana that year:

$\frac{1}{2}$ pound common hard soap;
2 gallons fish oil;
1 gallon water.

Dissolve the soap in boiling water and while still hot add the fish oil and agitate the whole until thoroughly mixed. For use add one part of the emulsion to from 8 to 15 parts of cold water and apply all over the animals. A large or small quantity can be made proportionately as desired.

Whether the multitudinous flies that always prevail in times of drought do or do not transmit charbon from one animal to another, it is certain that they worry and distress work animals up

to the limit of endurance and increase the losses of live stock in such seasons.

The outbreak of charbon now prevailing in several sections of the State was certainly developed by the drought and doubtless increased in its fatality by the myriads of flies that have been attacking the animals for a month. The recent rains have given some relief against the fly pest, but still more will be needed to drown them out and to drown out or render inert the charbon microbe.

The Rice Acreage.

In the U. S. Department of Agriculture crop circular for June the statement is made that in Louisiana, the principal rice-producing State, there is an increase of at least 7 per cent. in acreage. And in every other State in which the industry is of sufficient importance to be reported upon, other than Alabama and Mississippi, there is also some increase in acreage. In Louisiana the condition is reported 8 points below the average of the last five years, but in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia it runs from 2 to 8 per cent. above the average.

The Cane Crop.

The crop situation in the country was of course immensely improved by the heavy rainfall of some two weeks ago, and the canes are now growing under fairly favorable conditions, if we except the unusually cool weather which prevailed for a day or so during the past week. Another rain would not now come amiss, and those who feared that the previous one would be followed by daily and too abundant showers have had their apprehensions entirely allayed.

With a good, normal season from now on, to which, after the eccentricities of the last one we should now seem to be entitled by all the laws of compensation, a better crop will be harvested than seemed at all possible three months ago, though a lamentable shortage will still be exhibited in many unfortunate spots.

The Reciprocity Treaties.

Notwithstanding the stirring events of the last year, it seems that reciprocity negotiations have been carried on actively the whole time. Special Com-

missioner Kasson having had the negotiations under way even before the beginning of the Spanish war.

We in Louisiana are considerably interested in this whole subject matter from the fact that reciprocity under the McKinley bill was made to apply chiefly to those countries from which we were importing sugar, our government asking concessions from those countries under the penalty of a duty on their sugars should they refuse the concessions asked. Under the Dingley bill two years were given under which the president could make special concessions to countries desiring reciprocity relations, and we now learn that British Guiana has nearly completed its negotiations, which will permit some hundred thousand tons of sugar to come into the United States at less than the standard rates of duty. Jaimaca and Barbados are also negotiating.

Our government is asking concessions from Brazil, which was the first country with which reciprocity relations were established under the McKinley bill, and it is stated now that unless concessions are made in Brazil to American productions, the president will levy a duty not exceeding three cents on Brazilian coffee. It will be remembered that this was done with Venezuela under the McKinley bill.

It is now stated in Washington that it is not contemplated to make any concessions to German or French bounty paid sugars entering the United States. It is gratifying to learn this, as before the Spanish war we understood that negotiations were then pending with Germany having in view reduced duties on German sugars from a reciprocity point of view.

May in Cuba.

The U. S. Weather Bureau is compiling some interesting data at the station in Havana. The report for the month of May, covering the range of temperature and rainfall, has been received, from which we find that there has only been one shower of any moment in the entire month of May, viz: 1.35 inches on the 25th. On three other days a little rain fell, but none of any moment. May ordinarily is pre-

sumed to wind up the grinding season in Cuba because of the advent of the rainy season. The reports made up to June 10 indicate rains in many sections of the island, as will be seen in the bulletin in another column.

In Havana the average temperature for the month of May was 76.87 F., while the average maximum temperature for the entire thirty-one days was 83.84 deg. F., without a single day recording as high as 90 F. May 11, 89 F. was reached, and May 24, 88 F., with the rest of the month several points lower. The average minimum for the month was 69.84 F, the lowest temperature recorded having been that of 66 F on May 1st and 25th, the latter being the day of the only considerable rainfall. The highest minimum temperature was that of 74 F. on May 24 and 31st, with 73 and 72 on several other days.

We see from this that the month of May has been rather cool in Havana, and not much unlike the weather at the same time in the sugar districts of Louisiana. As will be seen in our issue of June 3, in our report of May weather in St. James, compiled from data, furnished by Mr. E. Cherbonnier of Helvetia plantation, we find the average maximum temperature for May, 1898, was 97.5 F, and in 1899, 94.2 F., while the minimum temperature was 62.5 F. in 1898 and 65.5 in 1899. We think that the record in St. James was probably higher than that of the other sugar districts. According to the Weather Bureau in New Orleans, the mean temperature of May for twenty-seven years has been 75 F., being thus very slightly under that of Havana, which, as stated above, for May, was 76.87. Subsequent data from Havana will enable us to make closer comparisons between the temperature there and here, and perhaps throw some light upon the great ease with which they seem to produce sugar cane.

Charbon.

The prevalence of charbon in many of the parishes of the State has led Gen. Leon Jastremski, State Commissioner of Agriculture and Immigration, to republish an article from the pen of Dr.

W. H. Dalrymple, which appeared in the Picayune of the 15th inst. General Jastremski requests the press of the State to reproduce this article of Dr. Dalrymple's, which will be found in another column of this issue, and should be very carefully studied by every one interested in horse and mule stock in this State.

Cuba.

(U. S. Bulletin for the week ending June 10, 1899.)

Hacienda Building.

Havana, Cuba, June 13.

Rains of a local character have occurred at various points throughout the island, but most correspondents report the areas receiving rains (which in many cases were light and insufficient) very circumscribed. However, in some places the amount of moisture now present in the soil is considered sufficient for the time being and—especially in the vicinity of Pinar del Rio—tobacco is now sufficiently moist to admit of manipulation, which has been delayed by dry weather. But around Camajuani the continued drought prevents both packing and sowing of tobacco. This crop of tobacco, throughout the district, is considered of a very superior quality.

In the country around Matanzas, Manzanillo and Santiago de Cuba, the weather has been very favorable for crops. On the other hand, from the greater portion of the sugar raising country the drought continues unbroken, and cane, where not actually suffering, would be given a great stimulus by general and sufficient rains. Stubble cane, as a rule, is growing well, while the spring plantings are tardy in sprouting; the latter being attributed by authorities to lack of moisture in the ground at and since planting.

Considerable land has been prepared for cane and it will be put in just as soon as the soil is sufficiently moist.

Minor crops, except in localities favored by showers, are in need of rain.

The temperature during the week has been quite uniform, except in a few widely separated localities, where rather low minimum readings were caused, doubtless, by thunderstorms.

Personal.

Col. Lewis S. Clarke, of Lagonda plantation, Bayou Teche, was an arrival at the St. Charles Hotel last Sunday.

Hon. Charles A. O'Neill, of Franklin, La., was at the Grunewald Hotel a few days ago.

We received a visit last Monday from Mr. Peter Abel, the distinguished West Indian sugar manufacturer, who is en route to his home in Trinidad.

Mr. J. C. Braud, of Tibodaux, La., was a recent visitor to the city. Mr. Braud arrived on Monday and registered at the St. Charles Hotel.

LOCAL LETTERS.

Iberville.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

We have had a variety of weather lately. The beneficial rains reported last week were followed by intensely hot weather, the thermometer playing up near the 100 deg. mark for several days and at times jumping above it. This hot spell was succeeded by cool weather, particularly at night, when the temperature several times went near the 60 deg. mark. Some were afraid the growth of the cane would be checked, but we think not. The work of laying by is all the rage now. The dry weather permitted planters to get their crops thoroughly cleaned and well worked up, so that rapid progress is making in the finishing touches. There has been a wonderful improvement in all crops since the rain. A prominent planter from this parish who lately passed through Iberia and St. Mary parishes thinks the crops over there will be much shorter in proportion than on the river.

Mechanics are at work dismantling the machinery in the old Homestead sugar house, reserved by Mr. Frederick D. Robertson, who is hauling it to the Hunters' Lodge plantation on Bayou Jacob, where it will be utilized in enlarging the sugar house on this place. Mr. Robertson, who left recently on a search for health, has gone on to Battle Creek, Michigan.

The Texas & Pacific Railway people are building a switch from the main line to the Myrtle Grove factory of the Messrs. Wilbert, of Plaquemine. This will give them increased shipping facilities and will effect a large saving in the matter of hauling. This road is rapidly extending its business among the planters, and it behooves the river packets to exert themselves if they wish to retain sufficient business to make boat running profitable. Our planters too should not forget the old adage about competition.

The contract awarded to the Messrs. Clarke for dredging the channel in Bayou Plaquemine, was followed by the award of another for putting in machinery and erecting a power house at the locks. Mr. H. R. Worthington was the successful bidder on the latter, at \$96,000.00. The Messrs. Clarke are under obligations to begin work within sixty days and complete the canal within one year.

Continued fevers have been prevailing for some time in the parish, and among those who have suffered from them are: Mr. C. E. Brooksh, of the Little California plantation, and Mr. H. H. Denham, manager of True Hope. We are glad to report improvement in these cases.

The public schools of the parish, after a successful session of nine months, closed last week. Very few parishes in the state

can boast of as long sessions or better school attendance than Iberville.

Mr. Charles Minn Towles, in his 78th year, a good farmer of the 4th ward, died at his residence on the 13th inst. The deceased was a brave soldier during the Confederacy.

The property of Mr. William Schlater, on the river front at Plaquemine, was recently sold at public auction for \$730. This sale illustrates the fear people have of the Mississippi's thieving propensities, for the property was at one time one of the most valuable in the town.

IBERVILLE.

West Baton Rouge.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

A peculiar wave of weather has swept over this section during the past week. Last Friday, after a day of intense heat, a heavy rain set in about 2:30 o'clock p. m., which lasted fully two hours, decreasing to a slight drizzle as the evening waned. Saturday dawned like a typical fall day; a dull, leaden-colored sky and a north wind, suggesting October, rather than June. By Saturday evening light draps were comfortable, and on Sunday morning the thermometer registered 66 deg. This abnormally cool spell continued until Tuesday, when the mercury began to climb upward, and is now almost the average for this date.

So far the rains have been confined more or less to the central portion of the parish, which has had enough moisture to last for a week or ten days. In this section, the crops are doing very nicely, their growth being stimulated by the recent rains, which came just in the nick of time. In the upper and lower portions of the parish, the rains have not been so general and crop reports from those sections, with the exception of cotton, are not so encouraging. A considerable percentage of the early corn has been stunted by the drouth, but that planted later has flourished and promises a good yield. There is, therefore, no reason to revise the estimate made in this correspondence some time since, that West Baton Rouge will make a banner cane crop.

As time grows apace, the freaks resulting from the zero temperature of Feb. 11-13 become more accentuated so far as the cane crop is concerned. To attempt to describe in detail the seed and stubble that early in the season promised well and later on turned out badly, and vice versa, would exceed the limit of this letter. Over and above all other theories and conditions, one fact stands out in bold relief, and that is that hereafter, no matter what happens to the cane during the winter months, the planters will never abandon it until time demonstrates conclusively that it is dead beyond the hope of resurrection.

Owing to the curtailment of the cane area, several of our large planters have put in

more or less cotton, one having fully 100 acres. The experiment will be watched with considerable interest by everybody in

WEST BATON ROUGE.

Assumption.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The meteorological conditions so far of 1899 have been a series of surprises. First the snow and extreme cold of February, then an unusually dry spell followed in the spring, winding up in June with a very heavy rain. The rainfall ending Sunday week was in many places over eight inches, but as it came after a very long dry spell, and the earth was parched, it did not do the damage that it would otherwise have affected. To wind up the freaky weather, we are now having in June a cool snap that reminds one forcibly of September or October. The rains came none too soon for the early corn. It is wonderful how quickly all vegetation regained its color, and how rapidly the cane is growing. The effect of the fertilizers is just being felt, and is reflected in the dark green glow of cane and corn. Planters differ greatly as to how backward the cane crop is as compared with the average year. One conservative planter said that he did not think that his cane was more than two weeks behind the average year; this was in reference to plant, he was unwilling to hazard a guess as to stubble. Many others estimate that the crop as a whole is from four to six weeks behind. Usually about the fourth of July, the patriotic planter brings out his red joints, but this year he will have to hunt very closely to find one, and we think will have to confine his hunt to new ground cane. It is generally agreed that the crop in Assumption will compare very favorably with that of the rest of the state, the tonnage here will probably reach 50 per cent of the usual year, possibly 60 per cent, but scarcely higher. I mean the mill tonnage, for a very large amount of cane will be put down for seed to compensate for the small planting of this year. The amount of sugar to the ton may make the apparent discrepancy much smaller, for as but little stubble will be ground, the time of commencing will probably be very late.

The amount of peas sowed has been larger than in general, much stubble land having been planted in peas. This should mean less fertilizer bills another year, an item amounting to considerable in these days of intensive farming, when we want big results to the acre.

Some few people are laying by, but generally with the intention of returning and giving another working later. Sweet Home has the reputation of having one of the best crops on the Lafourche. The stubble is admitted to be almost perfect. Mr. Dugas in a measure accounts for this by reason of

the fact that the plant cane last year was planted very deep, and was not as much hurt by the cold on that account. He is hard at work on his railroad, and will lay altogether about eight miles of track.

Messrs. Bergeron and Martin, tenants in the rear of Himelaya, have some very forward plant cane, on new ground. They are laying it by, and from its size and generally thrifty appearance it will give a heavy tonnage. Mr. Charles Munson, of Enola, left last week for an extended trip; he will be joined by his sister, Miss Laurence, now at the Conservatory of Music, Boston, and they will spend some time touring in the East and Canada. Mrs. Laura Ford has two charming young lady guests, Miss Dyer and Miss Maud Williams, of New Orleans, who are delighted with the hospitalities of Bellewood. Miss Mattie Monnot is entertaining Miss Laura Guyol, of New Orleans, at Elmfield. Mrs. William Renaud is visiting relatives at Ardoth. Messrs. William E. Howell and Taylor Beattie, of Lafourche, were visitors to Assumption last week. Mrs. Walter Stella, after a short stay with her sisters, will leave on Wednesday for Chicago, stopping a few days en route in New Orleans.

The present weather although unseasonably cool, permits of the doing of needed work, for the recent moisture has not only started the growth of the cane, but that of myriads of grass seeds and weeds, and prompt attention is needed to get rid of these plant pests.

Rice crops look flourishing and fine yields are promised. The rains were beneficial, supplying needed water without the expense of pumping, some however, say that the rainfall was almost too heavy to be thoroughly acceptable. Miss Anna Fey, having received a diploma at the State Normal School is expected home this week. We have only one boat in the trade at present, but plenty of water for navigation. A railroad excursion from Labadieville to New Orleans was given on the branch of the Southern Pacific recently built.

MORE ANON.

Terrebonne.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

Since the copious rains ten days ago, climatic conditions have been extremely favorable for field work in the larger portions of the parish; but on the lower Grand Caillou and portions of the upper Bayou Black, precipitations on Friday retarded plowing, and on the former bayou the wind was cyclonic, prostrated the corn in places and blew down the old cane shed on the Cedar Grove place.

Crops, particularly the corn, have improved immensely, and the canes are making good growth, although the nights have been somewhat cool for the season.

Pans that laid dormant in the ground for

weeks have germinated and are now making fair promise. The recent rains came in time to insure a good corn crop, as the acreage is much larger than usual. The stubble and plant cane areas are being laid by throughout the parish as rapidly as circumstances will permit, although the canes are somewhat small for the season. It is conceded generally that the canes have suckered better than usual, and in places where the stand of plant cane was scant the canes are buncy and with a favorable season to lay by and later a good tonnage may yet be harvested.

The canes are receiving what will probably be their last plowing, with the land in most instances, in admirable condition—infinitely superior to that of last year. At this season last year the rains were almost incessant. At Ellendale of Mr. Ed. McCollam, the rainfall has already been above the normal for the entire month of June—about 6½ inches, yet no injury has been done the crop owing to the extremely dry condition of the soil when the rains began.

The Argyle factory of Messrs. Bonvillain Bros., bids fair to have a goodly tonnage of cane to grind during the coming campaign, as the canes there and on their Crescent and Mulberry Farm plantations are above the average for this year, and below on the Bayou Dularge good fields of cane can be seen here and there, notably at High Ridge of Mr. T. Cook, who has some good stubble and some fine plant cane. About three-fourths of a crop will be harvested on the latter place, should the season prove favorable; Mr. Cook is determined to resort to the old time practice of pulling the tops on the ridge after the canes are sent to the mill. Ridgeland, where Mr. A. Bonvillain resides has an average crop for the season. On the St. Eloie place, the estate of the late B. Manmande, the plant cane is good and the stubble medium.

On Wednesday of last week, the weather was favorable; Thursday, fog in the early morning—very hot with light local showers in the afternoon; Friday, heavy local showers in some of the upper and lower portions of the parish; Saturday, partially cloudy and cool for the season, in the evening; Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, cool in the morning, with bright sunshine during the day, and Wednesday morning, bright and favorable.

TERREBONNE.

St. Mary.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The weather is now getting back to its normal self; but the cool spell, which commenced in this section on Sunday last, the 18th, was the most remarkable that our oldest residents had ever seen, for this season of the year. The thermometer went down to one of the regular March degrees, but

was up again to the usual mark at Tuesday noon. Of course, the change in the temperature could not have had an effect upon the growing fields worthy of remark, as the descent was not sufficient, nor was its duration long enough to create any appreciable change in the condition of the ground; but it will undoubtedly produce a great deal of sickness, which will be its only effect, so far as your correspondent knows.

But as cool weather can have no inseparable connection with wet or dry weather, it would not be improper to discuss them by turns; and, as said in our last letter, the crops, while not yet beginning to suffer, could stand another good shower with good results. The ground was dry for a great depth when the last rains came, owing to the long drought that intervened between them and the previous rains which fell around the middle of March, and, consequently the moisture was consumed within a short time. But the planters say they must have another rain within the next seven days, otherwise another portion of the corn crop will be lost, as resulted from the drought just past, while the cane will sustain another material back set.

While the sugar district is not, strictly speaking, a corn producing country, more concern is nevertheless felt for this crop than that of cane, owing to the fact that corn is a weaker plant for one thing, and for a second, because its entire growth must soon cease, whether or not the stalk and fruit are mature or immature, while sugar cane has five months yet in which to develop itself.

The case of Mr. James B. Kemper vs. Mrs. E. D. Burguières, mentioned in the St. Mary letter a few weeks ago, was decided in favor of the plaintiff. Mr. Kemper, the inventor and builder of the interchangeable cane rake or carrier feeder, intends now to introduce his apparatus throughout the sugar district, and expects to make better progress on account of having won at law than otherwise, though he builds under a positive guarantee. He has had made, for the purpose of more thoroughly explaining to prospective purchasers, a miniature rake, the foundation of which is about one foot wide and four feet long. The one erected for Mrs. Burguières was the width of the carrier's length, and three hundred feet long, one hundred and fifty of which were on each side.

The theory of the apparatus is very simple. The place on which the cane is dumped from the carts is a platform on either side of the carrier, which slopes towards it; a line of posts stand at each end of the platforms opposite each other, and an endless cable stretches across them from one side of the yard to the other, running through roller blocks attached to the tops of the posts, which latter are of sufficient height to admit loaded carts to pass under and dump. The rake is fastened to one of the ca-

ble spans by a chain; the movement of the cables is affected by a steam "crab," operated by a reversible engine situated at one end; the prongs and shape of the rake are such that in backing up against a load of cane, it jumps over and takes a hold to the base of the load, and by a simple reverse of the engine, starts down the slope towards the carrier; after reaching the edge of the carrier, by repeated movements of the valve lever at the engine, portions of the load are rolled over into the carrier, which latter is some inches lower than the edge of the platform. After the whole load is fed away, the rake can be moved back and brought forward again with a second load of cane to the edge of the carrier in time to prevent a skip in the feed. The device has been pronounced by sugar men in this parish, a great labor saving invention.

The Kyle Lumber Co., and the Albert Hanson Lumber Co., both of this parish, have met one of the best lumber seasons this year ever known before and as a result of which the two corporations are now shipping from sixty to a hundred car loads of lumber a week to the northern market. The lumber industry is one of the most important and extensive, outside of the sugar business, in this portion of the State.

ST. MARY.

St. Mary.

We have heard it said that the rains of late were million dollar showers. We don't know what they are worth, but the crops have certainly taken a jump in the last ten days. With favorable cultivating seasons and good sugar making weather, the crops of this year ought to go above the fifty per cent. mark as was anticipated. The heavy freeze was certainly a great drawback, but the proper weather conditions will recuperate a great deal of the loss.

We are having the best sort of crop weather, but for comfort it is too much the other way. Yesterday was the warmest day of the year.

It is not very extravagant to say that you can hear the corn grow and hear the grass creep since the fine rains of the last week.

The phenomenal growth of grass and all vegetation since the rain is very encouraging. Before the recent showers, even the toughest grass was drying up and dying.—Vindicator News, June 16.

Vermillion.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

We are having some very fine growing weather at present—clear and warm. This section was visited by two very heavy rains last week. One on Wednesday afternoon, the 14th, and one Friday afternoon, the 16th. The one Friday afternoon was accompanied by a very stiff wind that did some damage to the old corn by breaking it

and blowing it about. The stalk was very tender and sappy from the rain that we had on the 10th inst, consequently it did not offer any resistance at all to the wind. The damage, however, was not extensive. Since Friday the weather has been very clear and bright, but on Saturday night a cool wave struck this section which felt more like Christmas weather than June weather. Instead of being a cold day in July, it was a cold night in June. The weather now is very warm and pretty and the crops are growing fine. Corn and cane are simply breaking the record growing. Cane has improved a great deal since the rains. Stubble, strange to say, is still coming up and some of our most hopeful cane growers think that it will come to maturity now as early as the other cane. Many of our farmers are laying by their cane this week and the bulk of the crop of plant cane will be laid by next week. The tonnage for delivery will be short, for the reason that many will be induced to go into cane this next year on account of the fancy prices that are being paid, and seed cane will be very much in demand. It will take at least three-eighths or possibly one-half of the entire crop raised in this parish this year to plant the 1900 crop. Vermillion, though, seems to be in as good shape as regards cane as any other immediate section in the cane belt. The Planter correspondent took a little drive through the country to New Iberia a few days ago and journeyed along the Teche, and we failed to find anything either in Iberia or St. Mary parishes in the way of cane that would compare to the Vermillion crop in either size or stand. The corn crop is very fine. From the present outlook the crop will be so large that many farmers will have to build more room to accommodate it or leave it in the field. The corn crop, as a general thing, was never finer in this parish than at present. Most of it is laid by, in fact you might consider the entire crop as turned off. The pea crop is very fine, but owing to the extremely high price of peas this spring there were not many planted. The cotton crop is very sorry. It may come out, but at present it cannot be considered a crop at all. The rice crop is simply fine. Irrigated rice was never finer than at present. There are thousands of acres of this cereal in Vermillion parish, which means, with a fair price, thousands of dollars for our farmers and a fine fall business for our merchants. If the weather permits the crop to be harvested in good shape, there will be at least four hundred thousand bags of rice made in Vermillion parish this year. The providence man who had not planted his crop before the recent rains has it in now and up to a good stand. The outlook for a fair providence crop is very flattering.

P. C. M.

Avoyelles.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

The late rains have been so very beneficial to the growing crops, that some of our farmer friends when speaking of the

matter can barely suppress the inclination to boast just a bit about their prospects for making heavy yields per acre planted to corn and cotton.

The splendid rain which fell over the progressive parishes of St. Landry, Avoyelles and Rapides on the afternoon of the 16th, continuing at intervals through the night and morning of the 17th inst., supplied the soil with sufficient moisture to last for a week or ten days.

The temperature was remarkably low for the season on the mornings of the 18th and 19th, at sunrise, the mercury resting at 60 deg. At noon, same dates, 80 deg. and 84 deg. in the shade, with the indications at this writing for warm weather.

The four principal crops of this part of the country, corn, cotton, cane and peas, are now making a fine growth. The soil is now warm and moist; it is pliable and easily worked. There is one crop which is not given as much attention in this state as it should receive. It is the weed crop, and as a rule it is hard to "down," when the weather is at all damp for a week's time.

Weeds and tie vines cause the cotton planters and agriculturists of this state to pay out immense sums of money yearly, to hold only in part subjection the noxious grasses and weeds which infest field and farms, covering large districts of the state. The weed and grass question is worthy of the attention of the sugar planters' association.

Mr. Jas. H. Kennedy, mechanical engineer in charge of the Barbreck irrigating plant, has put the Planter's scribe in possession of the facts and results obtained there by irrigation during the drought which has just been broken by the late rains.

Mr. Kennedy says irrigation properly applied to crops is a success beyond doubt. Owing to having to lower and reset some of the machinery, the irrigating pump was not started to lifting water as early as it should have been, but the results obtained were remarkably good.

Mr. R. W. Foster, of the firm of J. U. Payne & Co., of New Orleans, and superintendent of Barbreck and Cumberland plantations was present and took a lively interest in seeing that the water was properly distributed from the leading irrigating ditches to and through the plots and cuts planted to corn and cane, both of which improved during the late drought under the influence of irrigation. From the results at which have been obtained this season at Barbreck, it would seem that irrigation need no longer to be considered a mooted question.

Mr. A. D. Havard, of Cheneyville, has sold his fine Ashland plantation, containing 450 acres of land to Mr. P. D. Butler, of Rapides for the sum of \$20,000. Ashland is situated on Bayou Boeuf on the T. & P. R.

R. some two miles west of the town of Bunkie. Until recently the plantation was planted to cane, corn and cotton. Mr. Butler is a progressive planter and will no doubt engage in planting cane on his newly acquired Ashland plantation.

The crops on Shirly, Ellen Kay and other places and plantations in the vicinity of Bunkie are reported as growing and very promising. I have been informed that such crops as corn, cane, cotton and peas, in the localities of Lloyd, Cheneyville, Meeker, Lecompte and Lamourie are exceptionally fine, considering the duration of the drought which we have just passed through.

The Planter's scribe has been informed, that Mr. W. P. Ford, of Cheneyville, has a splendid crop of cane and from present indications and prospects thinks he will have at least 1,000 tons of cane to dispose of this fall. I have also been informed that there is some very promising stubble cane growing on one or more places near Lamourie.

ERIN.

St. James—Left Bank.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

No special change in the weather has occurred in our parish within the past ten days, outside of a fall in the thermometer last Friday evening. The day had been very sultry, the temperature being over 91 deg., the warmest point reached this year. The evening was one of remarkable cloudiness and light showers soon set in cooling off the atmosphere. Saturday was a bright, pleasant day and Sunday was more than cool; the thermometer had then fallen 30 deg., and fanned by a fresh northerly breeze we imagined ourselves away from summer.

The cane crops are still the same, with but slight signs of improvement as time goes on. The pea crop is coming out very fast since the last rain we had, and more peas have been planted this year than ever before.

The rice planters have now all their irrigating pumps working in full force, as the present state of their crops requires as much moisture as their pumping apparatus can possibly furnish. Many sugar planters have planted some of their lands in this cereal, so more rice crops are seen in our district than any other kind. Mr. David Duhon, who has a fine crop on the Nita lands, has had considerable trouble with his pump and it was only with help from good engineers that they were successful in working the engine at all.

Mr. Edgar Bertaut, one of the well-known mercantile traders of the right bank, has recently built himself one of the nicest and cosiest houses in that locality.

Mrs. Clotilde Bourgeois and sister, Miss Matilda Bourgeois are visiting their sister, Mrs. L. N. Folse, of Texas plantation in Iberville parish.

Miss Regina Cherbonnier is spending a few days in St. James as a guest of her uncle, Mr. E. Cherbonnier, of Helvetia.

CONVENT.

St. Martin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Editor Louisiana Planter:

A drought of 46 days was broken here a few days ago, but not enough rain has fallen to be of permanent benefit.

Last week on the afternoon of the 16th, this locality was visited by a small shower and a very strong wind prevailed for 15 minutes, which did considerable damage to corn of all sizes. St. John plantation seems to have been more in the path of this whirlwind, as your scribe saw more blown down and broken corn there than elsewhere.

Speaking of St. John plantation, we are informed that the plant cane on this place is as good as any in the sugar belt, in fact, the stand is almost perfect, though the seed was considered very bad during planting; but no doubt Mr. Levent would not take any chances in the hurry-up way of planting with such seed and had it planted slowly, but surely, with a thorough and finished plowing, rolling, etc., and in the spring he was very careful in barring off this cane not too close, and above all never allowed any plant or stubble cane to remain on the bar furrow, not even one day. We agree with Mr. R. G. Comeaux, of Iberville, that dirt should be brought back immediately after plant cane has been scraped or hoed, especially if neither is dry. Col. G. G. Zenor's views about preserving seed cane are very good indeed and we sincerely hope some ingenious person may get up a plan to dig or plow up the cane so as to get all of the eyes and roots as the grub hoe is rather slow, though we prefer grubbing it in the ground than cutting at the surface with cane knives. The late Mr. R. H. Allen, who for 40 years owned the magnificent Rienzi plantation in Lafourche parish, always had his cane dug up either to plant in the fall or windrow for seed, and your scribe having been one of Mr. Allen's overseers for several years can say there was never any bad seed on Rienzi; but on the contrary in many instances in the spring the windrowed cane had green tops and leaves as though it had been growing under the ground. At this writing the weather is all we can wish for the cultivation and growth of cane, though it was a little too cool Sunday and Monday.

HALL CLIPPER.

Jennings, La.

The new eight-inch deep well on the farm of Albert Anderson, 2½ miles south of town, was tested Saturday afternoon and found to be a success. The well is 148 feet deep and water raises to within 8½ feet of the top. A six-inch pump is attached and will

be kept working continuously until his rice crop is flooded.—Jennings Times.

Rice farmers south of Beaumont report that caterpillars are swarming into their rice fields and destroying the young rice, mowing it down like a machine. By flooding the rice, the pest is largely overcome, but on rice too tall to cover with water, the insects crawl to the upper part of the stalk and work above water. The rain of Saturday will without doubt stop the ravages of the pestiferous worms.—Times, June 15.

The Saving of Seed Cane.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

It is very interesting to read the discussions at the sugar planters' meeting in your paper for the reason that no matter on what subject they speak hardly any two planters can agree. This was the case in the last meeting on the topic of how to preserve seed cane. Some twenty years ago an old overseer told the writer that before the war they used to take out cane for seed by the roots with a grubbing hoe; not to preserve the seed, but to get that part in the ground for seed, as they did not mind the labor in those times. However I believe that is out of date in this progressive age, except perhaps this year where there is not enough cane for seed. I don't think there is any trouble in saving good seed provided the right kind of cane is selected, and put down at the proper time.

While Mr. Gleason and Mr. McCall, two good planters, say that the meanest and poorest cane is the best for seed, I believe that the best is not too good and would prefer good plant cane. The cane should be selected at the time when it is to be put down. If the planters select their seed cane before it is grown, as your correspondent from Terrebonne advised the planters to do, they must expect bad seed sometimes. That seems to me like selecting a rooster before the egg is hatched. The writer would prefer to plant all to be planted in the fall, but if that cannot be done, then about the 1st of November I would go and pick out seed cane, plant cane preferred, and next to that first stubble, straight cane, and as green as possible. Put each row to itself and cover not too deeply, no matter whether it is black or sandy land. If the drainage was good enough to make the cane, it will be good enough to save the seed, as wet rot don't amount to much, it is only in the people's mind. On the other hand, dry rot spoils all the seed that is bad.

The cane is growing fast now since the rain, but the crop will be short. One planter told me a few days ago he expected to make 2500 tons this year, and he now counts on only 1000 tons, and he speaks very nearly for all.

It will take a large amount of cane for seed as most of the land will have to be planted this year.

H. MEYER.
Bertrandville, La.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

Berlin.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Berlin, June 3d, 1899.

Editor Louisiana Planter:

With regard to meteorological developments the week under review can be divided into three distinctly different parts: the first has been cold and rainy, the second cold and dry and the third warm and dry; so that only the latter days answered the present requirements of the growing beets. It must be, however, added that the moisture at the commencement of the week has been more severely felt in the eastern part of the Empire than in the western provinces, where, in certain sections, they even begin to long for more rain. The least favorable circumstance has been doubtless the cold temperature, which prevented the young plants from making normal progress, whilst the rains interfered with field work, viz.: the hoeing and singling out of the plants. The dry and warm weather which now is prevailing will permit them to recover the lost time, provided that no other climatic disturbance is in store for us. Besides, apart from the small backwardness experienced last week, the situation of the young crop is not unsatisfactory and to all appearance even a little better than in the other beet countries of Europe. Austria complains of a too heavy down pour of rain, and France, Holland and Belgium are about in the same predicament, and in all of these countries the beets are not quite up to the mark for the season, so that warm and dry weather everywhere is urgently desired. In Austria, however, the situation has greatly improved in consequence of rains fallen last week in the principal beet districts of the country.

The general assembly of the large beet sugar society of Germany, which has been held from May 29th—31st in Breslau, the capital of the Prussian province of Silesia, has proved a decided success, the attendance has been larger than on any other former assembly, the discussions, conducted in an excellent spirit, were throughout highly interesting and the resolutions passed of paramount importance. The distinguishing feature, however, of the whole affair was the unparalleled and exquisite hospitality shown to the assembled sugar fabricants by the Silesian branch society of sugar manufacturers, which contributed to make the assembly a festival never to be forgotten. The province of Silesia ranks second in the number of sugar producing precincts of the German Empire, the first being the Province of Saxony. There are now 59 sugar factories in Silesia of 402 existing in all Germany. Besides it must not be forgotten that Silesia is the cradle of the now mighty beet sugar industry, the first beet sugar factories, Cuenern and Krain, having been built there. Furthermore, the Silesian beet is the orig-

inal sugar beet from which all improved varieties have been derived in the course of this century. But to return to the results of the proceedings of the societies in question, I am bound to report in the first place, that the assembly of the raw sugar manufacturers have with only three dissenting voices adopted a resolution, laying stress on the necessity of the sugar cartell, of which I have given you a more detailed account. Another important point discussed was the increase of consumption which would seem absolutely necessary in case the productive capacity of Cuba and the Philippine Islands should reach or surpass its former height. The question as to how to dispose of the surplus sugar then to all probability pressing upon the market, is a serious problem and it is quite a duty of leading sugar authorities to face it in time. The means to effect a notable increase of sugar consumption are embodied in the following items: First, to set on foot an agitation to popularize the use of sugar as a wholesome article of food. Sugar, even in England and in America, where the consumption has reached already a respectable figure per capita of the population, is liked almost exclusively for its sweetening power, so that eating of sugar still remains a matter of taste, whilst the hygienic and physiological side of the question should be put into the foreground. To this truth and to the requirements in connection with it, the German sugar manufacturers are certainly quite awake, for the society of beet sugar industry has resolved to appropriate for this purpose the sum of 100,000 marks or 25,000 dollars, so that a real campaign may be opened, a campaign of enlightening the people as to the merits of a thorough sugar diet, to be introduced into all classes of the population. There is no doubt something artificial about this movement, but it is nevertheless useful both for the sugar industry and for the public at large, and if it is successful, the latter is certainly the greater gainer. As a special means, it has also been recommended to give to the children after mental exhaustion sugar in some form or other, which soon would refresh the mental capacities of the young student.

As usual, I extract some details from the annual report of the sugar factory Koerbisdorf, for the season 1898-1899. In the first place, it must be noted that the agricultural result has been less satisfactory than in the preceding campaign, partly because of the beet crop being short, and because of the lower prices for cereals. The factory worked last year, inclusive of a certain weight bought from the farmers, 47,329 tons of beet as against 51,820 tons in 1897/98. The average price of the raw material was about 18 marks (\$4.50) per ton, and the yield of sugar 12.10 pct. sugar and 2.23 pct. molasses as against 11.80 and 2.18 pct. a year ago. The factory owns also a coal pit

and a brick factory and the gross profit of all these establishments amounted to 436,322 marks (\$109,080), of which after the usual deductions, a net profit of 216,000 marks (\$50,400) remained, so that a dividend of 8 pct. as against 6 pct. in 1897-98 could be paid to the shareholders.

The markets are now quiet and fairly steady, but it does not look as if a renewal of activity was close at hand, at least when no fresh arguments for a bull movement come to stimulate it. For the moment, the French speculators, who of late have handled the market at their own sweet will, keep aloof, but it seems improbable that for the present campaign the Paris operators should have spoken already their last word. Actual 88 pct. sugars have been quoted only once at Magdeburg, viz., at M. 12.15, and delivery May-June brought at Hamburg M. 11.15 f. o. b. Refined continue quiet at unchanged prices.

ROBT. HENNIG.

Barbados.

Only one inch of rain in April and 56 parts in May, hot suns in a brazen sky for nearly two months have told severely on the young canes; they have endured bravely, but the breaking point, at all events with many fields, is being reached, and unless we get a soaking rain and that quickly, there will be a great deal of dead material to cut out and dead holes to supply with stumps, when the rain comes. Already planters are searching for and cutting out shoots infested with mothborer, many are burning the diseased shoots as fast as they collect them; this practice ought to be more general. The hot suns are ploughing the ground, and the deep cracks are all agape to drink in the fertilizing rain water when it falls. Now and again a little shower falls over some favored spot just to remind us that it has not forgotten how to rain; one of these refreshing sporadic showers passed over Christ Church, and another over the lower part of St. Michael during the fortnight, and now and again here and there a passing cloud sprinkles a few drops, but on the whole there are slight indications that the little spell of drought which appears to have been pretty general throughout the West Indies is coming to an end, and the welcome rains as we hope and pray not far off. In droughty seasons in Barbadoes everybody knows, and has known from time immemorial, that when the clouds bank heavy in Penny Hole, rain is surely coming, every eye knows exactly where to find Penny Hole on the horizon. Be this as it may, every planter's eye turns daily to Penny Hole wistfully hoping to see the welcome banking up of the rain clouds in that quarter and to hear the joyous roar of the waves as they break on the southern coral reefs, for then, and not till then, he knows that the dry spell is over, the soaking rain is at hand, and that Nature

will quickly repaint with vivid green the sere and yellow leaves of his sun-burnt nurslings.

Although severe on the young canes, the hot suns have been beneficial to the old first crop, ripening it up, and improving the yield of some of the last reaped fields. The second crop of course has also suffered. It seems to be pretty generally conceded that the low yield of sugar of 1 to 1½ tons per acre from splendid canes which in other years would easily have given 2½ to 3, has been largely due to the immaturity of the canes checked untimely in their growth; had it been possible to put off reaping, probably results would have been better, but unfortunately we could not; our only consolation is the extra penny of price for sugar and molasses, which has acted somewhat like a buttress to a bulging wall.

Still not being able to control events, or hurry up the day when common sense puts in the counterpoise to the Bounty and restores the Free Trade balance, our plain duty is to endeavor to grow the very best possible sugar cane. Dr. Stubbs' experiments prove clearly that the sugar cane is essentially a nitrogen-loving plant, and must have an available supply to enable it to gather carbon or sugar from the sunlight. It is very much to be feared that much of the artificial fertilizer now supplied is too deficient in the nitrogenous element, and that the stimulants which grow a big cane too often leave out the valuable sugary juiciness. The canes this season have been very fine in appearance, but all too dry, plenty of megass but too little sugar, and wherever there is an exception to this general rule, it will be found that a late dressing of sulphate of ammonia or nitrate had been applied. It is worthy of remark that a fine estate in this island when treated with Peruvian Guano, and sulphate of ammonia in combination, used to give on the average 3 tons to the acre from first crop canes, while now under a different manual treatment, its average has sunk to 1½. Dr. Stubbs' recommendations with regard to the cotton plant deserve the most careful consideration, our planters are slow to take up a new thing, but as we have before pointed out this is no new thing with us; the cotton plant is a native of our island, the former richness of which was perhaps largely due to cotton seed (nitrogenous) manuring, and in these days when big crops are a necessity, and cotton seed meal as Dr. Stubbs tells us the cheapest way to procure the essential nitrogen, it might be well to consider the subject practically and remedy the one crop evil by dovetailing with an industry which feeding the cattle fattens the soil, and at the same time yields two marketable products, the fibre, nothing but carbon, and the valuable oil; an all-round plant, which taking nothing from the sugar industry, increases the output of sugar, and adds to the exports of the

Island. There is nothing like an old friend, and our native Sea Island has been annually dropping its seeds and biding its time, a good friend indeed.—Agricultural Reporter, May 27.

Havana.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Havana, June 19th, 1899.

Editor *Louisiana Planter*:

The expected change in consuming centers has at last taken effect and about 120 to 125 thousand bags were disposed of at constantly advancing prices, say, at from 2.72 to 2.95 cts. lb. for 95½/95 test good centrifugals, sellers pretending to-day 3 cts. for same grade and a fraction more for higher polarization, at which quotation market closes strong, in spite of shippers reluctance to yield to holders' pretensions.

Greater activity is being noticed, especially in the province of Havana, Matanzas and the districts of Sagua, Remedias and Cienfuegas, in planting cane fields, and planters' exertions in this direction are limited only by the lack of oxen, the number of laborers, owing to the recent disbandment of the Cuban army being now sufficiently large and obtainable on reasonable terms to meet the requirements of agriculture.

Plantation "Natividad," at Sancti Spiritus, which, as announced in one of my previous letters, commenced grinding towards the middle of May, was compelled, after making about 200 bags of sugar, to stop, owing to frequent disarrangements in its machinery.

The director of the Santa Clara Observatory just issued a report in which he states, among several other things, the following:

"The general feature of the weather, this year, is not in the least adjusted, as far as the rainy season is concerned, to the results attained, through observations during the past years; though copious showers have fallen during the past month of May in several localities, they lacked the extension of spring rains, and they have heretofore been altogether local.

"According to all appearances, a certain evolution is now taking place in the atmospheric conditions of this island and such evolution, which commenced to be noticed in 1890, consists in the gradual postponement, later and later, each year, of the opening of the rainy season, which, if no change occurs, will coincide within a few years with that of the stormy season which generally commences between the last part of August and the first of September.

"The weather is exceedingly hot and according to all appearances a hurricane is being formed at the south of Cuba, which will likely determine ere long a rain storm."

Nevertheless, the backwardness of rain causes great damages to crop of all sorts; though a fair area of ground has been prepared for spring cane planting, it could be effected on a very limited scale only; large

fires in the fields are daily reported, and though there are strong desires to resume agricultural pursuits in most of the producing districts, the persistent drought is a drawback to labor in the fields.

A great hail storm, which struck the Cuban coast last week, destroyed a large portion of the banana plantation and injured other crops at Sania and Gibara, in the province of Santiago de Cuba and at Baro, in that of Matanzas, the hail stones stripped the cane of all its leaves.

Bandits are again making themselves spoken of; farmers at several places are terrorized by cattle thieves, and a certain number of them at Guines and Manzanillo, have been warned to abandon their fields if they wished not to be murdered; the small towns of Mariel, in the province of Pinar del Rio; Selba Mocha and Nueva Paz, in that of Havana, were raided and looted during the past week; a large number of country stores were also pillaged by bandits, who also committed several murders in the provinces of Santiago de Cuba, Porto Principe and elsewhere.

In consequence of this condition of affairs in the country, repeated appeals have been made to Governor General Brooke to place small garrisons of American troops in all the small towns and villages to avert the repetition of the scandalous deeds lately reported; though General Brooke finally decided against the organization of a rural guard to be sustained by the government of the island, planters and owners of rural property, as well as small towns and villages, have been authorized, through the civil governors, to organize, in order to protect their lives and interests, a certain number of armed men to whom a limited police authority will be granted and whose equipment and maintenance will be for account of those who utilize their services.

Governor General Brooke has recently issued another decree which modifies to a certain extent the first one, on foreclosures of mortgages on real estate; although the extension of time (2 years) remains the same, several exceptions are made.

Mortgages on city property or rural property, in condition of normal production, are granted only one year extensions, at the end of which suit may be instituted under the mortgage and property of bankrupts, or of parties who made assignments prior to May 16th, 1896, shall not be exempt and neither shall be property that has been abandoned and remains uncultivated.

Planters' creditors and mortgagees in general, are not as yet satisfied, and urge their commissioners at Washington to endeavor to obtain the law modified in a manner still more favorable to their interests, than the decree just issued by Governor General Brooke.

There is no doubt that the Cuban custom-house is yielding enormously, since after

meeting all the demands upon the island treasury, for the quarter just closed, including expenses incurred into for public improvements and special advances made to needy municipalities, covering amounts of pay rolls of government, civil and military employes, the excess remaining as a balance on hand, exceeds \$1,600,000, (one million six hundred thousand) in American gold.

The population and total amount of public wealth in Cuba, on 1st of January, 1895 and 1899, respectively, compare as follows:

	1895	1899	Decrease.
			1899
Population...	2,018,000	1,318,000	700,000
Sugar Plantations...	1,369	526	843
Tobacco Plantations...	9,487	1,250	8,237
Coffee Plantations...	998	115	883
Cattle Breeding Farms...	9,889	.....	9,889
Vegetable and Fruit Farms...	128,840	9,500	119,340
Cattle, Horned, (Head)...	890,799	25,000	865,799
Cattle, Horses, (Head)...	86,250	5,500	80,750
Cattle, Mules, (Head)...	9,536	2,150	7,386
Cattle, Hogs, (Head)...	618,960	8,500	610,460
Cattle, Sheep, (Head)...	54,914	4,500	50,414
Commercial Establishments and Factories, Divers Classes...	22,156	13,500	8,656
Buildings...	68,380	58,150	10,230
Sugar Crop, (Tons)...	1,150,000	300,000	850,000
Total Value of Exports...	\$100,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$80,000,000

The total value of property lost on account of the war is estimated at 500 million dollars, in round numbers, and the island will need, even provided foreign capital comes to it as abundantly as previously, six or eight years to retrieve its former prosperity.

T. D.

Sugar Trust Fallacies.

The essay on the trust system which Mr. H. O. Havemeyer submitted to the Industrial Commission in Washington the other day was more remarkable for originality than exactness. In dealing with this subject, exactness has never been Mr. Havemeyer's forte. When the legislative committee was investigating the trust system in this city, Mr. Havemeyer made this very positive statement: "I am saying what I know to be a fact when I state that the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that the Sugar Trust is not a monopoly." It happens that so far from deciding anything of the kind, the opinion of the Supreme Court, as delivered by Chief Justice Fuller, contains these explicit statements to the contrary: "By the purchase of the stock of the four Philadelphia refineries with shares of its own stock, the American Sugar Refining Company acquired nearly complete control of the manufacture of refined sugar within the United States. * * * But the monopoly and restraint denounced by the Act are the monopoly and restraint of inter-state and international trade or commerce, while the conclusion to be assumed on this record is that the result of the transaction complained of was the creation of a monopoly in the manufacture of a necessary of life." In other words, the court decided that while there was no evidence that the Trust

had established a monopoly in the instrumentalities and agencies of inter-state commerce, there was evidence that it had established a monopoly in industrial production. But as the power of Congress to regulate commerce extends merely to inter-state distribution and not to manufacturing production, which must be a subject of state control alone, the court held that the kind of monopoly established by the Sugar

Trust was not obnoxious to the provisions of the Sherman Act.

The same curious lack of ability to grasp the essential facts relating to his own business is manifest in Mr. Havemeyer's statement that the Trust has lowered the price of sugar to the consumer. The simple fact is that the Trust was formed to deprive the American consumer of the benefits of cheap sugar, and that while the price of raw sugar has gone steadily down, the margin between raw and refined has, until quite recently, been maintained at a point considerably higher than it was before the organization of the Trust. The combination among the sugar refiners grew out of the impossibility experienced by the owners of old plants and antiquated processes of competing with their more progressive and better equipped rivals. So far had the economies of refining been carried in the newer establishments that in 1886 one firm sold at a profit for export at least 100,000 tons of standard granulated sugars. As Mr. John, DeWitt Warner has remarked: "It was evident that the American people were in actual danger of having cheap sugar, that the owners of antiquated refining plants might, in a few years, be compelled to charge them to profit and loss, and that, unless something was done even the Havemeyers would soon be obliged to content themselves with such returns from capital as in a fair competition with an equally enterprising refiner they and he might fix." The Trust was organized in August, 1887, and in the year before the margin between raw and refined sugar was at times below 60 cts. per hundred pounds. In the year after the average margin was \$1.26 per hundred. Under the pressure of Philadelphia compe-

tion the margin went down in 1890 to between 60 cts and 70 cts., but after the absorption of the Spreckels refineries in 1891, it quickly recovered, and in 1892 the average margin was again over a cent per pound. Till the recent renewal of competition the average margin of that time has been pretty successfully maintained.

Mr. Havemeyer's characterization of the tariff as "the mother of all trusts" is not strictly accurate. It may be admitted that the artificial stimulus given to industrial production by a high protective tariff created conditions of unprofitable competition, which it was the purpose of the Trust system to correct. In so far as articles subject to Trust regulation are protected by high import duties, the tariff undoubtedly serves to exclude foreign competition, and so assists the Trusts in retaining the control of prices in the home market. But the tariff has not the slightest bearing on the recent great combinations in the iron and steel industry, nor would the repeal of the whole iron and steel schedule of duties tend in the least to weaken these combinations. The great original Trust—the Standard Oil Company—is quite independent of the tariff; so is the Tobacco Trust, the cotton seed combination, the copper syndicate, the car trusts and a number of others. In short, while a revision of the tariff could be so effected as to abridge the opportunities for creating a monopoly in certain manufactured articles, it would not seriously affect the Trust system as a whole.

In regard to the relations between the sugar refining industry and the tariff, there are some points which Mr. Havemeyer appears to have forgotten. It is a matter of evidence that as long ago as 1880 the American refiners had so improved their processes and utilized machinery as to be able to refine more cheaply than their European rivals. This fact was admitted by Mr. Theodore Havemeyer in his testimony before the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives. He was asked the following question: "Speaking of the competition between the refining interests in this country and the English refining interests, would you be able to compete in the business market if there was perfect free trade in sugar?" To this Mr. Havemeyer replied: "We would beat them. We can refine sugar here more cheaply than they can in England." Again, testifying in 1881, Mr. Havemeyer said that the exports of his firm for that fiscal year would probably amount to \$250,000. The matter under discussion was the incorporation in a bill then pending of a provision for the free import of sugar under bond for the purpose of being refined and afterwards exported. Being asked how much sugar he thought his firm would be able to export under such a provision, Mr. Havemeyer replied that he did not see why under free trade in sugar they could not supply a very large portion of the world's consumption. This seems a somewhat more direct method of fostering the industry than that followed by Mr. H. O. Havemeyer, and it completely disposes of the claim that, on the ground of labor cost, there is any need to protect the American refiner against his European competitor.—New York Journal Commerce, June 19.

BEEET SUGAR.**Lehi, Utah.**

Superintendent Austin returned on Tuesday from his Colorado trip. He is very much pleased with the country around Loveland and says they can raise good beets there. They are working hard for a sugar factory and will likely secure one. At Grand Junction, some of the beets are up and thinning will commence in a week or ten days. The machinery has begun to arrive at the factory. Mr. H. P. Dyer returned with him and will figure on the machinery to be put in here next year.

The five inch special pipe for the sugar company's pipe line to Springville is being manufactured and shipped from Pittsburg as rapidly as possible. Six car loads were shipped on May 23 and seven cars left there three days later.—Banner, June 3.

Chino, California.

There is no dry year in evidence about the sugar factory now. Work is progressing as rapidly there as it can be pushed, with about 90 men on the rolls, and some departments working at nights. Manager Pardonner tells us that the factory will be in complete readiness to commence slicing beets by July 1. The opening of the campaign will depend somewhat, however, on weather and crop conditions for the next four or five weeks. It is the present intention to open the campaign not later than July 15. It is expected that with the Oxnard beets to be shipped here for working, the campaign will be four to five months long.

The acreage of good stand of beets at the present date on the Chino ranch, Mr. Pardonner says, is 3500. From 1000 to 1200 acres are poor to fair stand. On some of the latter a light yield may be harvested, as a result of yesterday's rain, but not much is expected of it.

The big settling reservoir below the factory is completed, ready for the refuse lime of the campaign.

The large vertical kiln has been relined, the old lining having been burned and broken out.—Champion, June 2.

A Beet Harvester.

At one place in Michigan says the Sugar Beet two men were engaged on the same implement unknown to each other. The local paper says of the coincidence:

"For months Mr. Parker has been considering the advisability of making a machine with which Michigan's great sugar crop harvest might be facilitated and had just about perfected his plans when Mr. Thompson came to his foundry for the purpose of securing gears for an implement to do the same kind of work. They carefully questioned each other and it developed that both were working on the same identical principle and had the same ideas in regard to the general working plan of the machine.

Of course they readily saw that one of the two machines could not be patented hence they pooled issues and put up something embodying principles which are the outcome of two practical minds. The gearing is simple having a chain from the axle to a pulley which sets in motion two saw-edged disks the edges of which pass over each other and revolving as they do just above the ground cut off the tops of the beets. Just back of these disks are two peculiarly shaped shovels which extend into the ground from either side of the row and lift the beets out of the dirt. After this has been done the work of gathering the saccharine vegetable is easily completed."

Sugar in London.

After considerable hesitation, the market has shown renewed firmness on a resumption of buying by French operators, who still seems to hold the key of the situation. The present promise of development was certainly unexpected, the more so as the American figures for the week were decidedly unfavorable, and it is upon this somewhat slender reed that the Frenchmen are basing their calculations. The strength of the situation, however, remains undeniable, and it was only the fear that the recent spell of speculation had come to an end that produced a feeling of quietude here earlier in the week. As stated previously, the receipts of sugar in the United States for the past week were unexpectedly heavy, and for this reason the market here took a somewhat gloomy view of things, but it is still hoped that at least 100,000 tons of beet will be required by the American refiners later on when the cane supplies which they are now receiving have been absorbed. The stock of cane refining kinds available here continues extremely limited, and owing to scarcity some very high prices have been paid for the small quantity of Muscovado sugars which have recently arrived, but as regards crystallized grocery sorts, the demand has been as poor as ever, and were it not for the tenacity displayed by holders, prices would certainly not remain at their present high level. The few sales made show a fractional decline, only those lots which retain a semblance of what crystallized West India used to be being taken by the dealers, while the long array of pale dry samples on show are neither wanted nor suited to the requirements of the present day. The imports of crystallized raws to London for the week ending 1st inst. amounted to 3,151 tons, and for this year to 24,424 tons against 13,543 tons in 1898.

Trade Notes.**Babcock & Wilcox Boilers.**

Mr. H. Meadows, manager of the Atlanta office of the Babcock & Wilcox Company, reports that they will install their water-tube boilers in the new cotton mill of the Bennettsville Manufacturing Company, at Bennettsville, S. C., and have also taken a second order from the Sumter Cotton Mills, Sumter, S. C. The Macon Electric Light & Railway Company, of Macon, Ga., has just installed 500 horse power of Babcock & Wilcox boilers, and the new street railway company of Spartansburg, S. C., will install about the same power.

RICE.**Talmage on the Rice Market.**

The market continues active at recent advance and holders urge that there will be further improvement until values reach a relative parity with those abroad. The demand in the main runs on the foreign styles and pretty evenly distributed, Patna, however, receiving enlarged attention. There is also revived interest in ordinary Domestic, as prices thereon are far and away below the cost of importing an equal grade in Foreign. Advices from the South note steady demand and firm prices. Stocks in every quarter are down to small proportions and by many thought inadequate to meet requirements until new crop, hence manifest indifference whether such move fast or slowly. Cables and correspondence from abroad note quickened demand and advanced values.

Talmage, New Orleans telegraphs Louisiana crop movement to date:

Receipts, rough, 714,090 sacks; last year (inclusive of amount carried over), 570,100 sacks. Sales, cleaned (est.) 176,222 barrels; last year, 122,500 barrels. Fair enquiry at former range.

Talmage, Charleston, telegraphs Carolina crop movement to date:

Receipts, cleaned, 37,838 barrels. Sales, 35,505 barrels. Demand fair, principally local.

A Rice Mill for Eunice.

The Signal has been in correspondence with parties representing large capital who are desirous of putting up a large rice mill at some point in this section that is not now occupied, making special inquiry relative to Eunice and Gueydan as a possible location. It is the desire to erect a mill and have it in operation for the present season's crop.

A good mill will do more to build up either of these towns than any other enterprise they can possibly secure and if the citizens are as anxious as they seem to secure a mill they can well afford to offer liberal inducements. We are advised that one of the parties interested will be in Crowley in a few days and will possibly visit other points in this section while here.—Crowley Signal June 10.

Canal Meeting.

A conference of all persons interested in the canal to connect Calcasieu and Mermentau rivers will be held in Lake Charles next Saturday night.

The importance of this enterprise cannot be readily computed. Besides giving an outlet for rice to a point that mills a large amount of rice—Lake Charles—it will also give transportation competition. This will apply equally on lumber, coal and all other commodities, and will net a decided figure in the freight question. Then there is a strong outlook for the canal being cut clear

through to Vermillion bay, which will give direct inland water communication with New Orleans. So it will be seen that the project is one of the greatest importance to all southwest Louisiana.

The estimated cost of the first canal is \$15,000. It will be seen that the project is easily within reach.

There ought to be a large delegation from this section at the Lake Charles conference.—Jennings Times, May 25.

Charbon.

From several of the parishes we hear reports of charbon amongst the live stock. It is to be hoped that a more correct knowledge of this fatal malady is possessed by our farmers and stock owners than has been the case, with many, in times past, allowing the disease to spread far and wide, and depending entirely on some quack nostrum or other or the application of some barbarous external remedy (?) for relief, instead of adopting methods which science had wrought out and which are based upon a familiarity with the exact nature of the scourge. Experience goes to show that a cure for charbon has yet to be found; by this we mean a specific agent that will remedy the disease in individual cases. In fact, animals frequently die so rapidly that treatment is unavailing.

Charbon, being due to a specific germ or organism, has to be dealt with by sanitary measures. Prevention is the treatment, and we have the means within our power, that if adopted and carefully carried out, will control and eventually eradicate the trouble. Since the immortal Pasteur discovered that a vaccine could be prepared which if inoculated into the healthy animal would prevent that animal taking charbon, preventive inoculation has been practiced in Europe with gratifying results. But we have not to go further than our own state to be convinced of the efficacy, in previous years, of preventive inoculation. This, however, although of great importance, is only part of the treatment. Charbon is spread for great distances through the careless disposal of the carcasses of the animals that die of the disease. This is a very important point to remember. Every drop of blood that comes from the carcass of a charbonous animal is simply teeming with germs, and when a cadaver is allowed to remain exposed to the attacks of carnivorous animals and carrion birds, or where surface water washes the blood into running water, the infection may be carried all over the country. Besides, when healthy animals are permitted to graze in the neighborhood of the diseased body, they are in danger of getting the germs on the grass or herbage. Another danger which may result from the exposed carcass is, that flies that have been feeding on the diseased blood may carry it and inoculate healthy animals. We have no hesitation in saying that charbon is spread more by neglecting to properly

dispose of the charbonous carcasses than by almost any other cause. From the experiences of the past, we would suggest that all healthy stock—and all kinds of stock are susceptible—should be inoculated with anthrax vaccine, which, up to the present, is the best known means of prevention. Diseased animals should not be removed, for the reason that whenever an animal, especially horse and mule stock, having the disease is removed to another place it makes another diseased center or focus. Charbonous carcasses should, where at all practicable, be burnt. This will destroy every vestige of infection from the individual body. Where wood is scarce, as may be the case in some sections of the state, deep burial, with plenty of lime, should be adopted. All accumulations in the stables and lots occupied by the sick animals should be heaped together and burnt. If carcasses have to be hauled any distance to be burnt, they should be placed on a rough wooden slide, so as not to allow the escape of any discharges from the body, and when the slide is done with it, too, should be burnt up so as to destroy the infective blood and other discharges that may be on it. Men who are attending on the sick stock should not be allowed to come in contact with the healthy ones, as they are liable to carry the contagion. Where blood-sucking or other flies are numerous, some agent should be used to drive them away and keep them off the stock. There is no "charbon fly," as is thought by many. All varieties may be charbon flies during the existence of the disease, by carrying the contaminated blood from the sick to healthy animals.

TO SUMMARIZE:

We would suggest the inoculation of all animals as a preventive. The burning of all charbonous carcasses. The clearing up of all litter, etc., where the diseased animals have been. The use of some agent, fish-oil emulsion, for instance, on the stock to ward off flies. The disinfection of stables, lots, sheds, etc., which have been occupied by affected animals.

For the information of citizens of foreign birth who may not be familiar with the disease under the French name, charbon, which is the common term used in this state, we will mention that this trouble is known to the Germans as miltzbrand, the Latin name used by most English-speaking people being anthrax, while Italians are familiar with it as carbon, carbonchio, fuoco de San Antonio. The measures suggested above for the control and extermination of this disease are similar to those adopted by European countries which suffer from its ravages. In England this disease is controlled by the government, it being one of the scheduled diseases under the contagious diseases animals act, so that when a case or an outbreak occurs it has to be immediately reported to the authorities, under

penalty of heavy fine and imprisonment for neglect, its chances of spreading being thereby reduced to a minimum. We mention this fact to show the gravity with which it is looked upon in other countries, and the necessity for its being controlled by sanitary science under the control of the proper authorities.

William Porcher Miles.

(Special to the Times-Democrat.)

Charleston, S. C., June 16.—At a meeting of the City Council, a tribute was paid to the memory of the late William Porcher Miles, formerly mayor of Charleston.

Alderman Rhett offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

"Whereas, the late William Porcher Miles, mayor of the City of Charleston for two years, from 1855 to 1857, departed this life in Louisiana on the 11th day of May last; be it

"Resolved, That the news of his death has been received by this body with emotions of deep regret at the loss of so distinguished and useful a citizen, and of sincere sympathy for the members of his family.

"Resolved further, That this Council holds in grateful remembrance the name of William Porcher Miles as that of one who added new lustre to the office of chief magistrate of the City of Charleston, and who, in discharge of the duties appertaining thereto, rendered this community public services which have never been excelled in measure or efficiency.

"Resolved further, That a page in the minutes be inscribed in his memory, and that these resolutions be published in the daily papers of this city, and a copy, properly engrossed, be transmitted to his family."

The Council then adjourned as a special mark of respect to the ex-mayor.

Plantation Sold.

The Coulon plantation, just above Thibodaux, on the opposite bank of the Bayou, last Saturday became the property of Mr. Eugene Robichaux and Mr. Thomas H. Roger, they having purchased it from Mrs. J. Foret & Sons, for the sum of \$50,000. Hon. Thomas A. Badaux was the notary before whom the sale was passed, and he tells us that this is the largest sale that has taken place in this parish since the internal revenue stamp law has been in force, fifty dollars worth of stamps being required for the transaction.

Besides buying the land and improvements, Messrs. Robichaux & Roger also purchased the crop, which is composed of some cane and 500 arpents of rice, the whole place being composed of nearly 2000 arpents.

The new purchase makes Robichaux the individual owner of practically 2000 arpents of land, and it makes Mr. Thos. Roger's individual land interests amount to between 1200 and 1500 arpents.—Lafourche Comet.

JUNE 23.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

1899.

SUCAR.	June 17.	June 19.	June 20.	June 21.	June 22.	June 23.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Closing of Week.
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Quiet.
Choice.....	4 1/4 @ 4 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1/8	4 1/4 @ 4 1/8	
Strict Prime.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	
Prime.....	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	4 1/8 @ 4 1/4	
Fully Fair.....	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	4 @ 4 1/8	
Good Fair.....	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	
Fair.....	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	3 7/8 @ 4	
Good Common.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	
Common.....	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	3 3/4 @ 3 7/8	
Inferior.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Centrifugal.								Dull.
Plant'n Granul'ec	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off Granulated....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Off White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Grey White.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Choice Yellow.....	4 7/8 @ 4 1/2	4 7/8 @ 4 1/2	4 7/8 @ 4 1/2	4 7/8 @ 4 1/2	4 7/8 @ 4 1/2	4 7/8 @ 4 1/2	4 7/8 @ 4 1/2	
Prime Yellow.....	4 3/4 @ 4 1/4	4 3/4 @ 4 1/4	4 3/4 @ 4 1/4	4 3/4 @ 4 1/4	4 3/4 @ 4 1/4	4 3/4 @ 4 1/4	4 3/4 @ 4 1/4	
Off Yellow.....	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	4 1/2 @ 4 3/4	
Seconds.....	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	3 @ 4 3/8	
MOLASSES.								Dull
Open Kettle.								
O. K. Centrifugal	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Fancy.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Choice.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Strict Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Prime.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Good Fair.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Fair.....	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	None in first hands.	
Centrifugal.								
Fancy.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	12 @ 13	
Choice.....	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	— @ 14	12 @ 13	
Strict Prime.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 11	
Good Prime.....	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	9 @ 10	— @ 10	
Prime.....	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 8	— @ 9	
Good Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 8	
Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 7	
Good Common.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ 6	
Common.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 5	
Inferior.....	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 6	— @ 4	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

OTHER MARKETS.

NEW YORK:								
SUCAR.								
Fair Refining, 89°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	Raw--Steady.
Centrifugals, 96°	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Granulated.....	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	— @ 5.20	5.08 @ —	Refined—Dull.
Standard A.....	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	— @ 5.08	4.96 @ —	
Dutch Granulated	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ 5.25	— @ —	
German Granul'td.	— @ 5.16	— @ 5.15	— @ 5.15	— @ 5.15	— @ 5.12	— @ 5.12	— @ —	
MOLASSES.								
N. O. Choice.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
N. O. Fair.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
LONDON:								
Java, No. 15 D. S.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	12s. 9d.	12s. 9d.	12s. 6d.	Cane—Dull. Beet—Dull and declin- ing.
A. & G. Beet.....	11s. 1 1/2d.	10s. 10 1/2d.	10s. 9d.	10s. 9d.	10s. 9d.	10s. 9d.	9s. 6d.	

NEW ORLEANS REFINED.

Cut Loaf.....	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	Steady.
Powdered.....	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	— @ 5 3/4	
Stan'd Granula'd.	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 3/8	— @ 5 44	
Rosetta Extra C	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Candy A.....	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 1/8	— @ 5 32	
Crystal Extra C.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
Royal Ex C.....	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	
SYRUP.	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	— @ —	

STOCKS.

At four ports of the United States to June 13	Tons	281,098
At four ports of Great Britain to June 10	"	60,500
At Havana and Matanzas to June 13	"	60,500

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending June, 23 1899.

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans from September 1, 1898, to June 23, 1899.

	Sugar		Molasses Barrels.	Sugar			Molasses Barrels.
	Hhds.	Barrels.		Hhds.	Barrels.	Barrels.	
Received.....	10	5,827	4,002	10,504	1,268,583	249,570	
Sold.....	10	6,434	4,002	10,504	1,252,556	249,570	
Received same time last year				23,465	1,511,772	202,900	

JUNE 23.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT,

1899.

RICE.	June 17.	June 19.	June 20.	June 21.	June 22.	June 23.	Same Day Last Year.	Tone of Market at Close of Week.
ROUGH, per bbl...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	— @ —	Dull.
CLEAN, Ex. Fancy	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	6 1/2 @ 6 3/4	— @ —	
Fancy....	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 @ 6 1/2	6 1/4 @ 6 3/4	
Choice....	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/4	5 3/4 @ 6	
Prime....	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	4 3/4 @ 5 1/8	5 1/2 @ 5 5/8	
Good ...	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	4 1/4 @ 4 3/4	5 3/8 @ 5 1/2	
Fair	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	3 3/4 @ 4 1/4	5 1/4 @ 5 3/8	
Ordinary	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	3 @ 3 3/4	4 3/8 @ 4 1/4	
Common.	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	2 1/2 @ 3	4 3/8 @ 4 1/4	
Screenings	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	2 @ 2 3/4	— @ —	
Inferior ..	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	1 3/4 @ 2	— @ —	
No. 2.....	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	1 3/8 @ 1 3/4	2 @ 2 1/4	
FRAN, per ton...	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 00	12 50 @ 13 00	Quiet and steady.
POLISH, per ton...	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	16 00 @ —	

Receipts and Sales at New Orleans for the week ending June 23 1899.

Receipts at New Orleans from Aug. 1, 1898, to June 23, 1899, compared with last year, same time.

Received	SACKS ROUGH.	BBL. CLEAN.	This year	SACKS ROUGH.	BBL. CLEAN.
Sold	137	189	.....	683,427	10,585
	450	212	Last year	469,713	8,081

Sugar.

The sugar market was quiet and steady at the end of the week, receipts from the country being only moderate.

Molasses.

No open kettle goods in first hands. Centrifugals dull.

Rice.

Receipts of rough rice were very light at the end of the week and practically no business was reported. Clean rice was steady, with trading light.

Price of Sugar Cane in Vermillion.

The Cane Growers Association met at the courthouse last Saturday to receive a proposition from the Rose Hill Sugar Company for their cane. Mr. Von Tresckow, who represented the company made the offer of 80 cents net, for all cane delivered at the mill or at the established river landings. The "net" offer means, to the planter, no freights, no derrick or scale fees. The "80 cents," means eighty cents paid for every one cent prime yellow is worth in the market at the time of the delivery of the cane. For example, when he delivers his cane at the mill or landing, and sugar is worth 4 cents N. O. market, he will get 4x80 cents per ton or \$3.20, without any rebate whatever, a proposition the planter ought to be satisfied with, or quit the business.—Republican Idea, June 8.

New Reciprocity Treaties.

Washington, June 5.—Sir Cavendish Boyle, Government Secretary of British Guiana, was presented to the Secretary of State today by the British Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Tower. Sir Cavendish has just arrived from London, and his special mission is to assist in negotiating a treaty of reciprocity for British Guiana. Commissioner Kasson and Mr. Tower have already made considerable progress on the treaty, and Sir Cavendish will now bring to the negotiations the benefit of his intimate knowledge of the commerce of Guiana, as well as the views held

by the Colonial Office on trade exchanges. The meeting to-day was preliminary and social, and arrangements were made to have Mr. Kasson, Sir Cavendish and Mr. Tower proceed with the business next week.

Mr. Tower has also received word from the British Foreign Office that a commission from Jamaica had been authorized to come here and aid in framing a reciprocity treaty. This clears up a matter which was involved in considerable doubt. Mr. Tower will represent the home Government, while the Jamaicans will give the aid which their personal familiarity with the island's affairs will make effective. At the same time, Mr. Tower will conduct negotiations for a treaty for Barbadoes, so that three distinct treaties are hoped to come out of the present negotiations. The expectation of the officials, both at the State Department and at the Embassy, is that the treaties will be completed within the next few weeks and before the summer exodus from Washington occurs. It is said that the negotiations are simple and no obstacles are anticipated.—N. Y. Journal Commerce.

Personal.

Congressman R. B. Hawley, of Galveston, Texas, who is extensively interested in sugar planting and who is a valuable ally of the domestic sugar industry in the halls of legislation at Washington, was in New Orleans on a visit a few days ago. Mr. Hawley stopped at the St. Charles Hotel.

Miss Kate L. Minor, the talented and distinguished sister of the late lamented H. C. Minor of Southdown plantation, was in New Orleans during the past week. She stopped at the St. Charles Hotel, and was accompanied by Miss N. Minor.

Mr. B. W. Cook, one of the foremost sugar plantation managers in the state was an arrival at the Hotel Grunewald last Monday. Mr. Cook has been managing a large sugar plantation in West Baton Rouge parish for many years and is thoroughly expert in all that pertains to sugar planting.

Mr. C. S. Mathews, of Raceland, La., was

at the Grunewald Hotel during the week. Mr. Mathews has been quite sick recently.

Mr. E. F. Dickinson, of Lafourche parish, where he is connected with one of the largest and best plantations in that section of the state, was a guest of the Hotel Grunewald last Monday night.

Mr. Wilray J. Thompson, of Calumet plantation, Bayou Teche, stopped at the St. Charles Hotel last Thursday.

Mr. Louis Kramer, of Franklin, La., was in town during the past week. He registered at the Commercial Hotel.

Mr. L. F. Suthon, lawyer, sugar planter, and genial good fellow, of Houma, Terrebonne parish, came up to the city on one of his frequent business trips last Monday and registered at the Cosmopolitan.

Dr. H. J. Sanders, of Bayou Teche, came up to the city last Tuesday. He stopped at the St. Charles as usual.

Messrs. H. F. Sprague and R. H. Sprague, of the celebrated Adeline Central Factory were at the Cosmopolitan Hotel last Saturday.

A. L. Keller, Esq., of Hahnville, La., registered at the Grunewald Hotel last Wednesday.

Mr. Ben. H. Pring, of the fine Oneida plantation, in St. James parish, came down to New Orleans last Wednesday and spent a while pleasantly, mingling with his friends and transacting business. He stopped at the St. Charles Hotel.

Mr. Geo. Hill, the prominent West Baton Rouge parish sugar planter was a guest of the St. Charles one day during the week.

U. S. Senator Donelson Caffery, of St. Mary, was in the city on a visit a few days ago. The Senator's Bethia plantation is one of the best places of its size in Louisiana.

Mr. L. A. Blouin, the Lafourche parish sugar planter, was among the arrivals at the Commercial Hotel on Wednesday. Mr. Blouin had his sons with him.

Sugar Patents.

Patents of interest to the sugar industry reported specially for The Louisiana Planter by R. W. Bishop, Patent Attorney, Washington, D. C., who will furnish complete copies of patents at the rate of ten cents each.

626,759. Evaporating device. O. T. Joslin, New York, N. Y., assignor of one-half to Black & Clawson Company, Hamilton, Ohio.

626,760. Apparatus for treating sugar juices. J. E. Kohn, Cleveland, Ohio, assignor of one-half to J. F. Kilby, same place.

WANTS.

We will publish in this column, free of charge until further notice, the applications of all managers, overseers, engineers and sugar-makers, and others who may be seeking positions in the country, and also the wants of planters desiring to employ any of these.

WANTED—Position through grinding as weigh man in scale house, or book-keeper on plantation. Best of references and experience. Address T. C. HAMMOND, Albia, Iowa. 6-19-99

WANTED—Situation in a blacksmith shop. Have had two years experience in a general repair and shoeing shop. Address OLANDO COBB, Donaldsonville, La. 6-17-99

WANTED—By a first-class sugar maker, a situation for the coming crop. Refers to E. Cherbonnier of St. James, Henry Tremoulet of New Orleans, and J. P. Kearny of Plaquemine. Address E. CHAUVIN, Union P. O., La. 6-20-99

WANTED—A first-class sugar house engineer; must be a thorough mechanic and furnish best of references. Address JOHN R. GHEENS, Gheens, La. 6-20-99

WANTED—Position by a young man 25 years old as book-keeper or clerk or both. Have had seven years experience in office and store. Thoroughly competent, and satisfactory references furnished. Address N., care P. M., Gueydan, La. 6-22-99

WANTED—A position as sugar boiler by a first-class man who thoroughly understands the clarification of cane juice. Eighteen years' experience. Makes no use of intoxicating liquors. Address WESLEY, P. O. Box 1896, New Orleans. 6-12-99

WANTED—A situation as sugar maker on a plantation using a steam train and centrifugals. Was employed for the past eight seasons to take off the crop on Glendale Plantation, of Mr. George Sarpy. Address JUSTIN BABIN, Raceland, La. 6-14-99

WANTED—For coming season, a position as engineer, assistant engineer or helper in some capacity in mechanical department of sugar factory, by an engineer of considerable experience in construction, erection and maintenance of various kinds of machinery, but no experience with sugar machinery. Object is to learn sugar machinery. Address J. K. GILCHRIST, S. Zaneville, O. 6-10-99

WANTED—By a willing, industrious and steady man, with experience on plantations and in sugar houses, a position, permanent, if possible, with a sugar planting and manufacturing company. Promise faithful attention to interests of employer first. Main object a good start, with chance to work up. Can keep accounts or look after labor. References furnished. Address A. C. W., care LOUISIANA PLANTER.

WANTED—Position as clerk in plantation store by a single man 36 years of age. Nine years' experience in general store, and can furnish best of references. Address E. T. BIAL, Donaldsonville, La. 6-15-99

WANTED—A situation on a Louisiana plantation as junior overseer, by a young man who has been six months on an estate in the West Indies. Address C. K., care this office. 6-7-99

WANTED—Position as governess by a young lady who can furnish best of references. Address MISS BESSIE HALL, 2419 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans.

WANTED—A position as manager or overseer on a sugar plantation. I am 36 years old and have been in the business 15 years. Am a man of family and can furnish the best of references. Address A. C. BUGG, Litcher, La. 6-8-99

WANTED—A first-class and practical all-around sugar boiler wishes to secure a position for the coming season, or as assistant on some large place. Best of references as to character and ability. Terms reasonable. Address WALTER, 1019 Galienne street, city. 6-8-99

WANTED—A position as sugar boiler. First-class references furnished. Long experience. Careful, steady man. Address GEORGE, 4730 Tchoupitoulas street, New Orleans. 5-27-99

WANTED—Accountant and book-keeper wishes position on plantation; address M., 1328 Louisiana Avenue, New Orleans. 6-1-99

WANTED—Position by a man of family as second engineer, to live on plantation. A 1 references. Satisfaction guaranteed; address Sugar House Engineer, Box 48, Whitecastle, La. 6-1-99

WANTED—By a first-class mechanical engineer and practical sugar boiler, position as chief engineer, or sugar boiler or superintendent of sugar house for coming season. Twelve years of steady, practical experience in modern plantation sugar house management. Gilt-edged references from past employers. On account of freeze was released from service with last employers after a steady service of four years. Address SUGAR EXPERT, Box 431, New Orleans.

WANTED—Situation by a lady of experience as a teacher; object, a good home with small salary; address A. W., care Mississippi Packet Co., New Orleans, La. 5-19-99

WANTED—Position as stenographer or book-keeper by a young man. Can give good references, and have no bad habits; address L. J. CARTER, care Draughton College, Galveston, Texas. 5-23-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar maker, a position for the season of 1899, either in Louisiana, Texas or Mexico; is a close boiler of firsts and seconds; is strictly temperate and reliable and can furnish the best of reference from past employers as to character and ability; speaks Spanish and French. Address J. W. F., 421 N. Peters street, New Orleans, La.

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced machinist and engineer for repairs and all-around work in beet sugar factory. Position permanent if satisfactory. Address, with references and salary expected, C. A. Zimmerman, Box 88, Eddy, New Mexico.

WANTED—Position as governess or teacher; summer or session. Best references furnished. Address Miss Mary Stith, 1446 Camp street, New Orleans.

WANTED—Situation by a young man 22 years of age, with gilt-edged references, as clerk in country or city store. Five years experience. Can speak French and English. Address AGUINALDO, Soulouque, La. 5-17-99

WANTED—Position for the 1899 crop as book-keeper or assistant. Can give best of references. Twenty-two years old and a graduate of a good business college; address A. E. Smith, Ozan, Ky. 5-9-99

WANTED—A first-class and competent assistant sugar boiler wishes position for coming season. Best references furnished; address Proof Stick, Box 62, Donaldsonville, La. 5-6-99

WANTED—Position as manager or first assistant, or as overseer. Experienced with teams and general plantation work. Eighteen years experience and can furnish best of references; address A. C., care this office.

WANTED—Position by a young man as time or book-keeper. Can give best of reference; address ARTHUR, care P. M., Little Cypress, Ky. 5-10-99

WANTED—Situation by an experienced machinist and sugar plantation engineer. Strictly sober and attentive to business. Would like to secure work the year round if possible at reduced salary, or take repairs and crop on very reasonable terms. Good references furnished; address P. H. E. ENGINEER, 724 Fern street, New Orleans. 5-10-99

WANTED—Position on a sugar plantation as blacksmith, wheelwright and horse-shoer; address SIDNEY G. ROUSSELL, Edgard, La. 5-1-99

WANTED—Any sugar planter requiring the services of a competent and sober mechanical engineer, with references, will please address ENGINEER, No. 4721 Magazine street, New Orleans, La. 5-11-99

WANTED—Position as time-keeper, overseer, clerk or general office or store work. Can give the best of city and outside references; address A. H. NOENINGER, care of Room 208, Board of Trade Building, New Orleans. 4-23-99

WANTED—Position as assistant chemist, book-keeper or time-keeper, by young man, aged 24, college graduate. Have done some work in sugar analysis. Have some knowledge of German; address Box 33, State College, Pa. 4-23-99

WANTED—A thoroughly competent and experienced sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as manager or assistant; address MANAGER H. A., care General Delivery, New Orleans. 5-3-99

WANTED—A position as superintendent or head sugar maker, by a man of large experience, either in plantation sugar house or sugar refinery. Can furnish good references. Would prove a valuable and all-around faithful man in any sugar house. Address P. R., care Louisiana Planter. 4-23-99

WANTED—Position by an all-around handy man; can do carpentry, painting, milk cows and make himself useful about a place. First-class references; address CHAS. TREPAGNIER, 1428 St. Ann street, New Orleans. 4-21-99

WANTED—Situation by an expert chemist. Three years experience as head chemist in Germany, and also able to supervise the culture of sugar beets. A 1 references. Can speak German, Dutch, English and French; address L. G. LELER, care M. E. Sepp, 2383 8th Avenue, New York. 4-14-99

WANTED—By a vacuum pan sugar boiler, an engagement for next season's crop. Best of references as to experience, capacity and character; address M. S., care of The Chief, Donaldsonville, La. 4-13-99

WANTED—An engagement for the coming crop by a French chemist, 40 years of age, with long experience and good references; address BOYS-BANCES, Apartado 715, Havana, Cuba. 4-17-99

WANTED—On a plantation, a competent blacksmith, one who thoroughly understands horse-shoeing; apply to SCHMIDT & ZIEGLER, Nos. 423 to 436 South Peters st. 4-13-99

WANTED—An all around good plantation blacksmith. Also a good plantation wheelwright. State wages; address J. S. COLLINS, Sartartia, Texas. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position by a reliable and experienced man, who can give first-class references, to take charge of a plantation store. Is a man of family and is anxious to make himself useful; address S., care this office. 4-19-99

WANTED—Position as plantation cook by experienced widow. Can refer to Mr. Gillis of Poydras plantation, and others; address Mrs. S. TERRELLE, 221 Erato street, New Orleans. 4-17-99

WANTED—A position by a first-class, all-around machinist; experienced in sugar mill and locomotive work; good at vice, lathe or bench; address JAS. BROMMER, care Louisiana Planter. 4-11-99

WANTED—For the coming season, a position as sugar boiler by a competent, sober and reliable man. For references and other particulars, address FELIX OUBRE, Edgard, La. 4-12-99

WANTED—By a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler, a crop for the coming season in Mexico, Cuba or the Hawaiian Islands. The best of references furnished; address J. H. F., 727 Lowerline street, New Orleans. 4-5-99

WANTED—Situation by a young man as store clerk, book or time keeper, or any position in which he can make himself generally useful. Eight years experience in general merchandise business. Good accountant and quick at figures. Married, strictly sober, best references as to capability, integrity, etc. Address J. F., Union P. O., St. James, La.

WANTED—A sugar house expert, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position. Capable of taking entire charge of running the factory, or as sugar maker; address R. R., care this office. 4-6-99

WANTED—By competent man with first-class references a position as 1st. or 2nd overseer on a sugar plantation; address S. 29 this paper.

WANTED—Married man, German, desires a position as yard or stableman; address PHILIP BRAUN, Gibson, La. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a man 30 years old, of sober habits, with good references, as clerk in general merchandise store, plantation store preferred. Can also do some office work. Speaks French. Salary not so much an object; address J. BERTHELOT, Box 101, Welsh, La. 3-23-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class vacuum pan sugar boiler. Is a close boiler of first and molasses sugars, and thoroughly versed in refinery and beet sugar and the boiling for crystallizers. Best of references; address H., care this office. 3-27-99

WANTED—Position by a first-class sugar house engineer, good machinist, 18 years' experience in some of the best sugar houses in Louisiana and Texas; address F. O. WALTER, this office. 3-25-99

WANTED—Situation by a middle-aged, single German, to do plain family cooking and make himself generally useful, or as yard man or gardener; address E. Gorman, care Louisiana Planter.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent and experienced West Indian sugar plantation manager, with the highest recommendations, desires to secure a position as superintendent or manager of a sugar plantation in Cuba or other West Indian island; is thoroughly equipped for the work in every particular; address CUBA, care this office. 3-20-99

WANTED—Position by a mechanical draughtsman, 14 years experience, practical and theoretical, as chief or assistant engineer. Have been employed for last six years as assistant engineer in large sugar refinery; address DRAUGHTSMAN, 1610 S. Lawrence street, Philadelphia, Pa. 3-23-99

FOR SALE CHEAP.

One 6 Roller Mill, 4 and 4½ feet.
One Battery 4 double flue Boilers.
One Knowles Duplex Pump, 10' suction, 8' discharge.

Apply to B. & E. B. LaPice,
Lauderdale, La.



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