THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

COUNTER.

SEVENTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, MAY 21, 1888. NUMBER 338.

NEBRASKA CROP PROSPECTS.

The Outlook Favorable For An Abundant Yield.

LESS WHEAT IS BEING SOWN.

Largely Increased Acreages of the Other Grains—Rain Retards Corn Planting But Kills off the Chinch Bugs.

Farmers Feel Cheerful.

The following information—specials to THE BEE—shows the condition of the crop prospect in Nebraska, which, viewed from any standpoint, is gratifying. In the southeast counties—Richardson, Pawnee, Gage, Thayer, Johnson, Nemaha, Saline, Fillmore, Otoe, Lancaster, Cass, Seward and York as is also the case in Sarpy, Saunders, Douglas, Washington, Dodge, Butler, Colfax, Polk, Platte and Vance—corn is generally planted and prospects for wheat favorable. Wheat and oats, on the whole, are reported as favorable, and the crop will be as large, if not larger, than in former years.

In fact all over Nebraska, except in the northern part, where heavy rains have delayed planting, corn is already in. In these sections rains have latterly abated, and the crop will be planted before another week. From western Nebraska the most cheerful reports come, and the general outlook was never more encouraging.

ANTELOPE.

OAKDALE, May 20.—[Special to the BEE.]—In this neighborhood there is 10 per cent more corn and oats planted than last year, and 20 per cent less of wheat. The prospects for good crops were never better, although the weather is a little cool for corn.

BOX BUTTE.

FLEMING, May 20.—[Special to the BEE.]—The acreage of farm products in this county this year will be as follows: Corn, 2,500 acres; increase over last year 10 per cent; oats, 1,000 acres; increase 10 per cent; wheat, 250 acres. There has been plenty of rain and prospects are good.

BURT.

TEKAMAH, May 20—[Special to THE BEE.]—The amount of corn planted in this neighborhood is 8,658 acres; oats, 2,886 acres; wheat, 3,460 acres. The acreage of corn is about one-quarter greater than last year. There is a slight increase in oats. Wheat is about the same. The general condition is good and prospects are favorable.

OAKLAND, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Owing to the lateness of spring a great deal of corn is being listed this year. The weather for the past two weeks has been unfavorable for preparing the ground and planting. Corn planting is in full blast now. There will be an increased acreage of about 10 per cent more than last year. About 30 per cent less wheat was sown. Of oats there is fully 25 per cent more acreage sown this year. Wheat and oats never looked better for this time of year. Last year's bountiful corn crop and good prices are the reasons for more corn and less wheat being put in.

BUTLER.

ULYSSES, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Acreage wheat, corn and oats, 17,280, one-third wheat and oats, balance corn. There is very little wheat. Oats were never better but corn is medium.

BROWN.

NEWPORT, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—A very large amount of corn and oats have been planted in the vicinity of Newport this spring. Reports as taken from seventy-five farms, which last year averaged 45 acres of small grain to the farm, show this year an average of 80 acres of small grain. The cool weather and late showers have made large crops almost a surety.

JOHNSTOWN, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE]—The amount of corn planted this season is about 30 per cent decrease from last season. Wheat, 10 per cent decrease; oats, 10 per cent decrease; prospects for all crops better than for four years. Half of the corn is not yet planted as the season is so very backward.

AINSWORTH, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE]—As near as can be estimated, the acreage of corn is 25 to 30 per cent above that of 1887 and all other crops will be about the same as in 1887. The prospects for small grain are excellent, but it is rather cool for corn.

LONG PINE, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of wheat in Brown county will be about three times what it was last year on account of there being more land broken and the fact of there being seven flouring mills in the county. The corn crop will be doubled due to more acres being cultivated. This year gives promise of a greater yield to the acre of all kinds of grain. There has been plenty of rain so that the ground is well saturated and will retain the moisture so long that there is no danger of not having a good harvest.

BUFFALO.

RAVENNA, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There is at least one-fourth more land under cultivation this year than last, and there is one-fourth more corn planted than in 1887. The ground is in good condition and the the grain looks fine. Corn is nearly all planted, with prospects of a good crop.

BOONE COUNTY.

SAINT EDWARDS, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Owing to the wet season but very little corn has been planted yet. Wheat and oats are in fine condition with acreage above the average. Farmers are sanguine in their hopes of good crops, and if the weather is favorable their expectations will be realized.

AINSWORTH, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The increase in the acreage of the Brown county corn crop is estimated at 30 per cent, and wheat and oats are about the same. Prospects are excellent.

ALBION, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There is an increased acreage of wheat and oats planted this spring over that of last year and the crop shows a vigorous growth. The cold and rainy weather during the past three weeks has prevented farmers getting their ground ready for corn. The indications are, however, that there will be a largely increased acreage this season over any previous year. Farmers are turning their attention to raising German millet and Hungarian grasses and a considerable quantity of seed will be sown this spring.

CLAY.

FAIRFIELD, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The superabundance of rain during the past two weeks has delayed the farmers, but they are now all hard at it and the prospect is that the acreage will be considerably in excess of last year. The acreage of all small grain is about the same as last year. It is all looking remarkably well, although a little backward on account of the cold, wet weather.

CLAY CENTER, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Very little corn is yet planted owing to backwardness of the spring. The bulk of the planting will be done this week, however, and the acreage will be about the same as last year. The acreage of oats is about 15 per cent larger than last year. The acreage of wheat is about 35 per cent less than last year.

HARVARD, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There will be a small increase in acreage planted to corn, and about twice the acreage to oats. So very little wheat is planted that it is hardly worth estimating. Spring is late, but the ground is in excellent condition and the prospect for a crop is very good.

CASS.

PLATTSMOUTH, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The crop acreage will be about the same as last year. Small grain is doing reasonably well, when the cold weather of the past two weeks is considered. A large portion of the corn planting remains to be done, in consequence of the wet weather, and the corn already planted is not doing well—the ground being too cold and wet, but there is a good deal of corn already up and looking healthy, notwithstanding the cold weather. The ground is in splendid condition for crops, and warm weather, now, is what we want.

CHEYENNE.

SIDNEY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There will be three times as much corn planted this year in Cheyenne county as in 1887. Of oats and wheat 50 per cent more. The prospects are most encouraging and the ground is thoroughly saturated from the recent rains.

CHERRY.

VALENTINE, May 20.—[Special to the BEE.]—The increased acreage for all kinds of grain is fully one-third greater throughout the county than last year. Wheat, oats, rye and barley never looked so well at this season for years; but the long continued rains have delayed the planting of the corn crop, which farmers are now hurrying in. A small quantity planted previous to the rainy season will be compelled to be replanted owing to the grain rotting in the ground. The wheat crop is much less, but the acreage of oats and corn is double that of last year. Rye is looking fine and crops of all kinds look very bright.

CUSTER.

MASON CITY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Corn planting has been delayed about fifteen days by the frequent heavy rains. The crop will be all in by the 30th providing the weather remains favorable. Fifty per cent of the cultivated lands will be put into corn. The best corn ever raised in this county was not planted until June 5. Farmers are hopeful and the ground is in fine condition giving promise of an abundant yield.

CASS.

WEEPING WATER, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Not much corn is yet planted on account of the wet weather. The acreage of wheat and oats is about the same as last year, conditions and prospects good.

DODGE.

FREMONT, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The percentage of small grain in this section, as compared with last year, is about 50 per cent on wheat and 110 per cent on oats. The crop is looking splendidly. The cool, wet weather, while a hinderance in some other directions, has been of great benefit to small grain. The acreage of corn will be about 10 per cent larger than last year and the season about ten days later. Planting is in full blast. Farmers are feeling good. The soil is in splendid condition and the liberal rainfall will almost produce immunity against a drought, which constitutes the greatest fear among farmers.

DUNDY.

BENKLEMAN, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—This is the first year of actual farming in Dundy county, therefore improvements have simply been such as were required to make proof on government land. Farmers have been plowing constantly since January 10, and fully 50,000 acres of sod have been broken since that time. Corn is all planted, and in some fields is six inches high. Rye is looking extra fine, as are also oats and wheat. You can draw on Dundy county for 1,000,000 bushels of corn next October.

DOUGLAS.

ARLINGTON, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There seems to be about one-fifth more wheat and oats planted this year than last, and the prospects are excellent. Corn is not yet planted and at present the prospects are very poor for an average crop, but a sudden change in weather for the better would greatly boom the chances.

VALLEY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of small grain is about the same as last year and we are pleased with its present condition. Owing to the lateness of the season, we cannot definitely compare this year's acreage of corn with last year's, but think it must be less. The preparation of the land is at least ten days behind last year and the land is quite wet.

DAKOTA.

PENDER, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The heavy rains have badly delayed getting corn in condition, but notwithstanding this a large acreage will be planted, fully one-third more than last year, and of oats about one-third more. The acreage of wheat is wheat is small—about one-third that of last year. Very little flax will be sown. Small grain looks well.

DAKOTA CITY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—In Dakota county the acreage of oats and wheat planted this year is much greater than last and the season has been remarkably good for small grain. As yet very little corn has been planted. The wet condition of the fields caused from late severe rains is the cause. New farms are being opened up every year and the general acreage this year will be one-third greater than any previous year.

DAWSON.

COZAD, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Fully 25 per cent more acreage of wheat was planted this year than last, and the prospects at present are bright for a good outcome, as the recent heavy rains have effectually killed the chinch bugs. There is probably 30 per cent incased acreagen of corn this year, and it will be a good yield if hail does not damage it. No oats of any account have been sown here.

DIXON.

PONCA, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The farmers of Dixon county are through planting their wheat and oat crops, but owing to the wet weather of the past two weeks there is not much corn planted yet. However, they are rushing matters now, taking advantage of the present fair weather and they will undoubtedly be through planting corn in a week or ten days. The acreage of all crops will exceed that of last year by 20 per cent.

FRANKLIN.

FRANKLIN, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The outlook for crops in this locality is much brighter than it has been for several years. There is only about 50 or 60 per cent of the small grain sown, compared with last year, but it is in fine condition. There has been an increase in the acreage of oats over last year, but quite a falling off in wheat. What wheat has been sown is mostly of last year's crop in this locality, which, on account of the drought, was of a much smaller berry. This difference in the berry has given a thicker stand on the ground, and the cold weather of two or three weeks ago has caused it to stool heavily and put it in excellent condition. A very heavy and chilling rain, which turned to snow and sleet, fell here some two or three weeks ago, and it is thought has destroyed the chinch bugs. We have had three or four heavy rains and a great number of nice showers during the last twenty days, and the farmers have been able to get their land in fine condition for crops. The acreage of corn will be increased about 100 per cent over last year, and we now have the most flattering prospects for a heavy crop.

BLOOMINGTON, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The amount of corn and wheat planted in this neighborhood is fully 20 per cent greater than last year and in very good condition.

FRONTIER.

CURTIS, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Crop prospects in Frontier county are splendid and the farmers are feeling elegant. The amount of land under cultivation this year is doubled over last. The acreage of corn planted is double; one-half more small grain is planted.

FURNAS.

ARAPAHOE, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—In Goshen and Furnas counties there is about one-quarter more grain sown than in 1887, about one-quarter more corn this year and of broom corn about one-third of the usual amount.

HENDLEY, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—From reports in this locality the acreage of corn and oats planted as compared with last year's planting is about one-fourth greater and the amount of wheat is about one-half as large as it was last year.

FILMORE.

FAIRMOUNT, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—In Fairmount township there are 14,400 acres under the plow, planted as follows: 8,000 acres to corn, 6,400 to oats. The corn is not yet all planted. There is no wheat, barley, rye or flax worth notice. The balance of the land in the township—8,640 acres—is in pasture, tame grasses, orchards, etc. Experience has demonstrated from year to yen sthat wheat is not reliable here.

EXETER, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Wheat takes a back seat in this section, the acreage being fully 60 per cent less than last year; oats 50 per cent more, and corn about 20 per cent more than last year. Small grain looks fine. Corn is late this year and not more than half the acreage is planted yet.

GARFIELD.

BURWELL May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—This year's crop compared with that of 1887 is estimated as follows: Wheat decrease 25 per cent, corn increase 50 per cent, oats increase 20 per cent.

GRELEY.

SCOTIA, May 18.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Farmers estimate that there is about 10 per cent less wheat sown than last year, that the average of corn is about 25 per cent greater, and oats about 15 per cent greater than last year. The falling off of wheat is supplied by the flax which is being sown this season. The prospects for all grains are good.

FILLEY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Corn is about all planted and the acreage is about 25 per cent greater in this locality than was planted last year. Oats thus far look well and have an acreage of fully 10 per cent more than last year. Wheat does not promise as good a yield as last year, being somewhat winter-killed. There are about 10 per cent more acres than last year; of flax 20 per cent more in acres than last year.

BEATRICE, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There is 10 per cent more corn planted in Gage county this year than last. Two-thirds of the corn has been planted. Some is up, but a good deal has rotted on account of so much rain and will need to be replanted. There is more oats and less wheat sown this year than last. Oats and winter wheat both look well and bid fair to be a big crop.

GAGE.

CORTLAND, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—About 80 per cent of the crop in this section is corn, which, owing to the extreme wet weather, is not more than one-third planted. The prospects are favorable for small grain which at present looks fine.

HAMILTON.

STOCKHAM, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The season has been rather backward with a little too much rain. The area of wheat sown is quite limited, growing less every year. Confidence in the barley crop seems also to be failing. In small grain grain oats and flax are the favorites, and a considerable increase in the area sown over last year is the result. Corn planting is now under full headway. It is the big crop of this section and more will be planted this season that ever before.

AURORA, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of wheat is about one-half less than last year, and of oats and corn about one-third more. The condition of small grain is good. Corn is not all planted.

HITCHCOCK.

CULBERTSON, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—In the eastern half of Hitchcock county there are at least 1,500 acres of corn planted, one-half more than last year. The number of acres planted to oats and wheat is considerably less, probably 5,000 acres of each. This is also an increase in acreage over last year. The prospects at this date are very encouraging for good crops.

STRATTON, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The amount of corn planted in this section compared with last year is about two acres to one; oats the same; wheat three to one. Prospects are good. Corn is nearly all planted, and a great is deal up and looking fine.

HARLAN.

ALMA, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Comparatively little corn planting has been done in this section so far, the cold and lateness of the season retarding farm work in that direction; but the acreage of corn will be at least one-fourth greater than last year, while that of wheat and oats will be very much less, owing to the fear of chintz bugs. Farmers, however, generally regard the destruction of these pests by the late cold and heavy rains as almost complete. This, taken in connection with the fact that late planted corn almost invariably does the best in southern Nebraska, and the fact that the ground is thoroughly soaked to a depth of about two feet, gives every indication of an immense crop of all farm products for this year. The season promises to be the most favorable one known here for years.

HOLT.

PARKER, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Of oats and wheat there is not over one-third the amount annually sown in this vicinity. It is looking well. The acreage of corn will be a little over that of last year. There has been plenty of rain and there are prospects for a good crop.

JEFFERSON.

FAIRBURY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The amount of grain planted is somewhat more than last year, it being nearly all corn and oats, and a little wheat. Corn is the predominating crop. The condition of small grain is good, but the cold, wet weather has retarded corn very much.

HALL.

GRAND ISLAND, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The present prospects are very favorable for the largest acreage of corn Hall county has ever put in. The condition of the ground has been rendered good by the late rains and the outlook is good for a big crop. Other grain is in excellent condition and the acreage is fully 25 per cent ahead of last year. The weather has been very cool, with no frosts to hurt the planting.

KEYA PAHA.

SPRINGVEW, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There is as much corn planted as ever before in the history of this county and I think more wheat, rye and oats. The land is in better shape than ever before and farmers are jubilant over the prospect of a good crop.

KEARNEY.

MINDEN, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The area of wheat, compared with 1886, is about 90; oats 120; corn 125. About three-fourths of the corn ground has been plowed, but none has been planted yet. Spring is later at least two weeks than usual.

KEITH.

OGALLALA, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There are about 30,050 acres in this county under cultivation—16,000 in corn, 10,000 in oats and 4,000 in wheat. This is triple the amount that was in cultivation last year. The rainfall has been greater here this spring than it has been for many years. Small grain is looking splendid and from the present outlook we expect the largest yield yet known in western Nebraska.

LINCOLN.

NORTH PLATTE, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The amount of corn planted for 1887 was 85,000 acres; wheat, 35,000; millet, 27,000; potatoes, 11,000; rye, 7,500; oats, 27,000; buckwheat, 4,000; fodder crops, including roots of all descriptions, 7,000. For the spring of 1888, corn, 135,000 acres; wheat, 70,000; millet, 58,000; rye, 13,000; potatoes, 17,000; buckwheat, 9,000; broom corn, 7,000; fodder crops, 12,000. Farmers are enthusiastic and hopeful over the very heavy grass of late and there is sufficient moisture in the soil to mature small grains. The general condition of all settlers is improving rapidly.

LANCASTER.

BURNETT, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—About 60 per cent of the entire acreage of this section of the county is under the plow. Twenty per cent of this will be planted to corn, which has been delayed by the unfavorable weather. The remainder is about equally divided between wheat, oats and other grains. The outlook is flattering, notwithstanding the lateness of the spring.

LOUP.

TAYLOR, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The amount of oats and wheat planted this year is the largest ever planted. Corn planting is rather backward owing to heavy rains and cold weather.

MERRICK.

CENTRAL CITY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE]—The wheat acreage is two-thirds that of last year and the condition 50 per cent better. The corn acreage will be one-third more than last year. About half of it is planted. This week will finish planting. The oats acreage is one-third more than last year and the condition the best ever known here. Chinch bugs are believed to have been destroyed by the late wet weather.

MADISON.

TILDEN, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—We have had a very wet spring and very little corn is planted. We have had some light frosts which will do some damage to fruit in the vicinity.

NORFOLK, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Spring is cold and backward. Not much corn has been planted yet. In comparison with last year the acreage of wheat and oats is about the same. In the vicinity of Butte Creek, twelve miles west, the acreage is reported about 20 per cent greater than last year. The increased acreage of corn over last year will probably be about 20 per cent in the county.

MERRICK.

CENTRAL CITY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of oats is one-third greater than last year and the condition good. Corn is about half through planting. Farmers are busy planting and will about finish this week. The increase of acreage is one-fourth over last year. Everything looks favorable. There has been very little wheat sown. The decrease is one-half in acreage, and the condition is good.

NANCE.

FULLERTON, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The continued rains in this section have made farmers late with their work. Quite an amount of new land has been broken and the corn crop of 1888 will be a much larger average than last year. Wheat and other small grain are a little backward, but the prospect for crops in general are exceedingly good.

NEMAHA.

AUBURN, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The crops in this county are backward for this time of the year. Small grain looks well. There is some complaint about corn not coming up but it is not serious; we had frost on the 13th that did considerable harm to early gardens. Fruit escaped. The acreage is about the same as last year. Our farmers are gradually giving in to tame grasses.

AUBURN, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The season is from a week to ten days behind last season. More corn will be planted than last year, more oats and more wheat. Winter wheat looks poor. Spring wheat looks well. About three-fourths of the corn is planted. There is not much complaint about the stand.

NUCKOLLS.

NELSON, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Nelson township corn shows an increased average of 20 per cent. Much early planting will have to be replanted. Some can be seen across the fields. Of oats there is about the same acreage. This grain is in fine condition. Wheat, at least 50 per cent decrease in acreage; it looks nicely. Nora and Spring Creek townships missed the early rain so that oats and wheat are backward and thin. A large crop of flax has been put in which is coming on nicely. Considerable corn will have to be replanted.

OTOE.

TALMAGE, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of corn, wheat and oat crops here is greater this year than last, and that of barley less. Corn covers about half the aggregate acreage, wheat about fifty acres to the section, and oats about seventy. Corn planting has been delayed by cold and wet weather, and there is considerable yet to plant. Some early planting is coming up and the stand is said to be good. Small grain crops are growing well, and the prospects are generally good. Farmers are very hopeful.

NEHAWKA, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The late cold weather has kept crops in a backward condition. Wheat, oats and barley are a good stand and color, but are short. The earliest planted corn looks best. Of the later planting much is rotting in the ground, but with good weather there is plenty of time to make a good crop. There is about the same average in wheat and oats as last year, with a slight increase of barley and a corresponding decrease of corn. Fruits are in good condition except strawberries and gooseberries in low places.

PIERCE.

FOSTER, Neb., May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of corn and wheat planted in this neighborhood, compared with last year, will be 100 per cent more. Oats about the same as last year. Corn planting is backward on account of heavy rains. About 25 per cent of the corn is planted now and the balance will be planted in the next ten days if the weather is good. Small grain is in excellent condition and prospects never better this time of year.

POLK.

STROMSBURG, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of oats is larger than that of last year. More corn will be planted and about one-half less wheat. Grain in the field looks well. Very little corn is yet planted on account of the cool and rainy weather. The acreage of tame grasses is increasing every year. All grass now is forward and strong.

OSCEOLA, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—This spring has been very backward in Polk county. All small grain, however, is doing well. A somewhat larger acreage than last year was sown. No corn is planted yet, but farmers are preparing to put in a large acreage. They are in good spirits and anticipate a rich harvest this year.

PLATTE.

PLATTE CENTER, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Twenty per cent more small grain has been planted this year than last, on account of the unfavorable weather for planting corn. Little or no corn is planted as yet, but considerable will be done this week as the weather is now good. The general condition and prospects were never better.

PAWNEE.

PAWNEE CITY, May 19.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Corn is nearly all planted. The acreage is 2½ per cent larger than 1887. The seed is coming well but the weather is cold and wet and corn is backward and looks bad but with favorably weather will come on rapidly. Of wheat but very little sown. The acreage of oats is 3 per cent greater than in 1887 and looks well—above the average for several years.

PAWNEE CITY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Corn is about all planted. The acreage is larger than last year's. The heavy rains of last week make it come up nicely. The outlook for a big crop never better. Small grain is all up and growing nicely. Not so much wheat and oats have been sold as last year. The outlook now for a crop is excellent, the ground being in the best condition.

RED WILLOW.

HAMBURG, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—An account of the partial failure of the corn crop last year in this vicinity and its present high price the acreage of corn will be greater than last year. The present prospects are fair, considering the unfavorable wet weather which has prevailed here during the last ten days.

RICHARDSON.

FALLS CITY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—All corn, wheat and oats are planted and prospects are good. About 200,000 acres of corn, 75,000 acres of oats, 50,000 of wheat has been planted in the territory immediately tributary to this station. The acreage of corn and oats has been increased. The wheat acreage is decreased. The outlook in this locality for the small grain crop is very promising. It is too early to determine the actual condition of the corn crop. The cool weather is regarded as unfavorable for a vigorous growth of the plant.

SALINE.

TOBIAS, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of wheat in this vicinity is not more than 10 per cent of last year's sowing owing to fear of chintz bugs. Oats will show an increase of 50 per cent and corn 25 per cent over last year. Prospects are good.

SHERMAN.

LOUP CITY, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of wheat in this county will be 10 per cent less than last pear, while the acreage of corn will be 30 per cent increase, and of oats fully 50 per cent increase over last year. The heavy rains of the past two weeks seems to have completely annihilated the young chintz bugs, which were making their appearance in great numbers, and no damage is feared from them this season. The ground is in excellent condition and the prospects for a large harvest are better than for years.

SARPY.

POPILLION, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Taking last year's crop as 100, the acreage of oats is 90, of wheat 100, of corn 110.

SPRINGFIELD, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The amount of corn, oats and wheat planted this year is on an average about the same as last year, the farmer finding it just as profitable to sow timothy. The condition and prospects at the present time, for all classes of grain, have seldom been surpassed.

SAUNDERS.

ASHLAND, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Small grain in this locality is not so good as last year, the early drouth killing it out in spots, although with a favorable year we may have a fair crop. The acreage is about the same as last year with a little decrease in wheat. Corn planting is progressing rapidly now, but is from ten to fifteen days later than last year. The acreage will be about the same as last year.

VALPARAISO, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Very little has been done yet in the way of planting corn here. Oats are in good condition and about of the same acreage as last year, perhaps a slight increase in acreage. No wheat to speak of is sown here.

WAHOO, May 19.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Corn is about one-half planted. The acreage is about the same as last year. Wheat is about the same as last year. Oats is good and the acreage about 50 per cent more than last year. Spring is about two weeks late and too cold to bring corn up.

WAHOO, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Saunders county farmers are again feeling hopeful of raising a good crop. The farmers have put in more oats than usual and the oat crop is looking very fine. Corn is not all planted yet but there will be an increased acreage over last year. There was but little wheat sown, corn and oats being the principal crops. A good many potatoes have been planted.

SHERIDAN.

RUSHVILLE, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—At no time since the first settlement of this county, three years ago, has there been such activity amongst farmers of this vicinity. The increase in acreage of small grain will easily reach 100 per cent over last year, while corn will undoubtedly show an increase in acreage of at least 50 per cent. Small grain was not doing well until about two weeks since, but the copious rains since that time have made a great change, and it is now looking as well as could be wished. Some fields of corn are up nicely, but the planting is not entirely done at this date.

THAYER.

HEBRON, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Crops of all kinds are looking well. The acreage of wheat is about 60 per cent of that of last year. Of oats, as compared with last year, 110 per cent. The corn acreage will be greater than last year. The crop is about two-thirds planted. If the weather continues fair nearly the entire crop will be planted. Small grain is in advance of this time last year. Chintz bugs have not yet appeared and there are no signs of them.

WEBSTER.

RED CLOUD, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There is a largely increased acreage of corn and oats over last year. Less wheat. Abundant rains have left the ground in excellent condition, and general prospects were never better for a full crop.

WAYNE.

WAYNE, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The acreage of what, oats and other small grain in Wayne county will not vary much from last year. At this time the crop is in excellent condition, and with favorable weather will be very large. Warmer weather is needed, however, to give it a more rapid growth. A large amount of prairie was broken up in the county last year, but the increased acreage will be very largely planted to corn. The wet weather of the first of the month interfered considerably with corn planting, but within a few days the crop will be practically in the ground. The increase of acreage over 1887 is estimated at from 30 to 40 per cent, the lower estimate being probably more nearly correct.

WASHINGTON.

BLAIR, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The continuous cold rains of the past three weeks have prevented the planting of corn to any extent. Consequently more small grain has been sown than last year, and is doing fine. Corn ground is all prepared and if the weather gets warm soon will be in splendid condition.

VALLEY.

ORD, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Owing to the late spring, there will be a slight decrease in the acreage of wheat. Corn and oats will show considerable of an increase as compared with the crop of last year. Recent heavy rains have destroyed the army of chinch bugs which put in their appearance early in the season, and everything now points to a very abundant harvest.

YORK.

YORK, May 20.—[Special to THE BEE.]—There has been but very little corn planted in York county up to date on account of wet and cold. Farmers are now beginning to push corn planting and the acreage will be fully up to, if not in excess, of last year. Wheat and oats are both looking well with an average acreage.

Weekly Crop Bulletin.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—The weather crop bulletin for the past week says in the grain regions of the northwest and Ohio valley the cold weather during the week has prevented any marked improvement in the crop condition, notwithstanding abundance of grain in those sections. Damaging frosts occurred from Michigan southward to northern Alabama. Reports from Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri indicate the weather during the week has been favorable for small grain, but unfavorable for corn, vegetables and fruit.

THE CLEARANCE RECORD.

The Financial Transactions of the Past Week.

BOSTON, Mass., May 20.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The following table compiled from dispatches to the Post from the managers of the leading clearing-houses of the United States, shows the gross exchanges for the week ended May 19, 1888, with the rate per cent of increase or decrease as compared with the amounts for the corresponding week last year:

CITIES.	CLEARINGS.	Increase.	Decrease.
New York	$578,841,253		21.0
Boston	84,871,600		20.8
Philadelphia	64,931,337		0.2
Chicago	62,685,000	6.9	
St. Louis	16,163,160		8.4
Cincinnati	10,257,150		13.5
San Francisco	17,586,674	6.7	
Baltimore	12,456,083		8.9
Pittsburg	10,177,228		7.1
Kansas City	9,695,640	10.3	
New Orleans	7,200,000	18.0	
Louisville	5,710,423	2.3	
Providence	494,100		0.2
Milwaukee	3,646,000		16.0
Omaha	3,900,333	9.7	
Minneapolis	3,483,615		4.1
St. Paul	3,898,890		18.8
Detroit	3,811,485		7.1
Cleveland	3,096,229	0.6	
Denver	2,662,467		8.0
Columbus	2,022,060		9.7
Memphis	1,922,419	14.7	
Indianapolis	1,971,979	4.5	
St. Joseph	1,571,356	0.5	
Hartford	1,521,613		0.8
New Haven	1,236,759	1.3	
Peoria	1,236,736	4.9	
Portland	986,179	20.2	
Duluth	2,233,372		32.0
Springfield	1,173,163	18.1	
Norfolk	673,842	24.3	
Wichita	788,487	7.6	
Galveston	459,715		42.5
Worcester	1,011,009	6.8	
Lowell	649,413		2.9
Syracuse	703,296	21.9	
Grand Rapids	647,231	19.4	
Topeka	433,357		53.6
Total	$990,138,872		16.8
Outside New York	351,297,599		8.5

A POSITIVE FAILURE.

The Grant Monument Fund Proves a Fizzle So Far.

NEW YORK, May 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Grant monument fund has been in existence since August, 1885. It was announced by the gentlemen having charge of the scheme that they intended to raise $1,000,000 to erect a monument in honor of the hero of Appamatox. They were so positive in their own success that refusal was given to all suggestions as to how the fund might be increased from outside sources. The intention was to rely on the patriotism of the citizens of the country at large and not to resort to any boom in the form of fairs or other benefits from outside concerns. The general opinion now prevails that the fund so far has been a failure and will continue so unless new life is instilled into the committee. The original amount of $1,000,000 has been reduced to $500,000. The total amount received from all sources up to date is less than $130,000. All but $28,000 was received within the first six months of the funds in existence. It is now proposed by the committee to institute a series of schemes looking to a revival of the interest manifested throughout the nation at the time of Grant's death. The question now raised is whether it is the duty of New York to build the monument or the duty of the nation as a whole. Outside of the state there has not been a single large subscription. It is proposed to try and raise net cash by a big fair in the Metropolitan opera house June 4. The Grants will aid the fair by contributions of mementos of the general.

Steamship Arrivals.

LONDON, May 20.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Passed—The Waesland from New York to Antwerp passed the Lizard today.

NEW YORK, May 20.—Arrived—The Alaska, from Liverpool; the Schieda, from Amsterdam; the Edavin from Mediterranean ports.

BLAINE WON'T SAY HE WON'T

Astute Politicians Consider Him Positively in the Field.

CONTINUED TARIFF SURMISES.

Pig Iron Kelly Denies That the Republican Caucus Majority Favored the Acceptance of Mills' Proposition.

The Plumed Knight's Evasive Answer.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., May 20.

Concerning the cablegram published from Paris to-day to the effect that Mr. Blaine declines to make his declaration from Florence any more positive, and that he will stand upon the single intimation that he is not a candidate for the presidency, and further that he will not say that he would not accept the nomination if tendered to him, there has been a great deal of talk to-day. The opinion appears to be that Blaine will not only not refuse a renomination but that he is expecting it, and intends to remain in the attitude of not soliciting it but having it thrust upon him. A number of republicans well known to the country have said this afternoon and evening that if there has been any doubt that Blaine was a formidable quantity and whether his name will go before the Chicago convention, it has been dashed to pieces by the refusal of this opportunity to restate his attitude and to say that he does not want the nomination. It is now conceded that the Maine man is in the field and his name will be presented at Chicago and pushed. It is further stated that Blaine men have approached the friends of Senator Sherman with a proposition to make him the vice presidential nominee in the event of the nomination of Mr. Blaine, and that the argument that they make in support of their proposition is that Mr. Blaine is in bad health, and if elected he will not live out his term.

THE SENATE'S ACTION CONCEDES IT.

There is a prevailing opinion that the Mills bill will pass, although the democratic majority is much smaller than when Bill Morrison's horizontal absurdity was defeated by so marked a vote. The present bill, which is much more symmetrical and reasonable, will probably go through. The action of the senate in making preparations to to consider it is a confession of such an expectation. That body, which cannot under the constitution originate revenue bills, is not going to waste its time in preparation for the bill without some sort of a certainty that such preliminaries are necessary. Reed and McKinley are not idle and know exactly how every man in the house will vote, but of course they will not permit their estimates to be known, for fear of destroying the equilibrium of those who like to come out on the winning side. Expecting defeat, they do not want to prolong their own agony nor keep the commercial interests of the country unsettled any longer than possible. Many members of congress are receiving letters from their constituents like the following, which I am permitted to copy from the mail of an eastern representative:

"Dear Sir—Can you give me some idea when the tariff bill will be disposed of? I shall have to shut down my factory very soon unless the agitation is settled one way or another, for I am receiving no orders for goods, and cannot expect any until my customers know what the tariff on imported articles in my line is going to be next fall. Please notify me by telegraph if possible."

It is probable that both parties will hold caucuses during the suspension of hostilities which will last a week or so. The republicans of the senate are in favor of an early vote in the house, and are using their influence among the obstinate members. If the bill is considered by sections, the session will be prolonged indefinitely, and almost every congressman wants to get home as soon as he can to look after his canvas.

FATHER KELLY'S EMPHATIC DENIAL.

When Judge Kelly's attention was called to the dispatch from this city announcing that as a result of the conference held last evening by the republicans of the house, it appears that a majority of them are in favor of accepting Mr. Mills' propositon to dispose of his bill by a single vote, and that in consequence of this resolution a tariff bill has been formulated as a republican substitute for the Mills bil upon which a negative vote was to be recorded before voting on the Mills bill, he manifested an unusual degree of indignation and denounced the story as a wretched absurdity. He says it was made by Messrs. Mills and McMillan to Messrs. Reed and McKinley, the only republican members of the committee on ways and means they could find in the house when they solicited the conference which resulted in prolonging the general debate. Messrs. Reed and McKinley, however, declined to commit themselves to the proposition and said they had no authority to speak for their republican colleagues on the committee or for their party in the house. Indeed, they do not seem to have considered themselves charged with the duty of submitting the proposition to their colleagues. I never heard either of them refer to the subject 'till this morning in the course of an interview with Major McKinley consequent upon the appearance of the dispatch referred to. No republican