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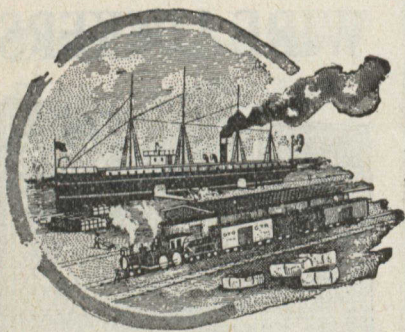
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UNITED STATES FINANCES.

Henry Clews & Co., New York, in their weekly circular dated May 23rd, 1903, say:

Conflicting influences have kept the market in an unsettled condition and caused a moderate reaction in values; some shares displaying considerable weakness and others excellent resisting

qualities. Towards the close of the week there was a satisfactory rally.

The conditions contributing to temporary lower prices were gold shipments, labor troubles, backwardness of many important crops, distrust of the speculation in cotton, the absence or illness of a number of important operators and the spirit of caution which is still prevalent, often running into pessimism amongst a growing class who are predisposed to take sombre views of affairs and who no doubt find more material than heretofore in support of such opinions. On the other hand, we have the well known fact that about six months of extensive liquidation have been endured without disaster; a most emphatic demonstration of general financial strength. Then monetary conditions have greatly improved; although there unquestionably remains some concern as to how the autumn requirements will be met. As to crop matters, corn, cotton, and other crops may be backward, but it is not too late by any means to secure good results, particularly if early frosts are escaped.

CROP PROSPECTS.

The following is a continuation of article on page 1609 on this subject:

Chatham, Ont., 28th, 3 p.m.—Heavy rain and wind storms last evening, trees uprooted, farm roofs torn off. All over country reports of heaviest rain in years. Crops in splendid condition now.

St. Catharines, 4 p.m., 28th.—Throughout the Niagara district fine rains have fallen, which have brightened the prospects for all grains and fruits in the last few days. Hay will be on the light side, the drouth having been of too long duration. Wheat is looking well; the farmers are busy planting corn the present wet weather being most desirable.

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Conditions of barley, oats and other grain only fair. The early berries will be light, but the late berries now promise splendid returns. All other fruits look well and will likely yield good crops. Apples are somewhat light; the prospect is about half last year's product.

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