

(Floods continued.)

Reports from every section of the southern Mississippi Valley give accounts of the destitution and suffering of the overflowed people in Mississippi. Hundreds of poor colored people have been rendered homeless by the water, losing everything, and have positively nothing to eat. The white people are poorly off themselves, nearly all of their stock being lost, and being nearly impoverished owing to the bad crops of last year. Everyone is looking anxiously for the arrival of the Government rations, as nearly all these poor creatures are dependent upon this means for food. In some sections the water is from 3 to 15 feet deep, and is gaining so fast that portions hitherto unknown to overflow have succumbed. The St. Francis and White Rivers are still rising, and the damage that is to come cannot be estimated. In the portions of Helena, near the river, families were compelled to vacate on Saturday, so rapidly was the water gaining. Up at the old town landing there were several white families utterly destitute, even their houses washed away. In Tunica and Coahoma counties, Mississippi, the distress is even greater than in the overflowed district of Arkansas. The water is visibly gaining, having risen over 4 inches in 24 hours. It is predicted that it will yet rise one foot higher. Every exertion is being made to keep the levee in repair.—*Times*.

UNUSUAL RAIN-FALL

The current year, in respect to rain-fall over the United States, will be likely to tax the memory of the oldest inhabitant for a parallel. For the month of January the averages, as determined from the records of Signal Service stations, show a prevalence of areas of excess, and the departures of excess ranged from .11 inch in the Lower Lake region to 9.92 inches in Tennessee. The excess in Tennessee during the first month of the year was the most remarkable since the opening of Signal Service stations. The serious floods that resulted from this great increase of rain, and the consequent almost unprecedented damage to property, are well remembered. Some of the largest rain-falls, including melted snow, during that month in Tennessee were at Austin, 18.11 inches; Ashwood, 18.10; Knoxville, 16.98; Murfreesboro, 16.30; Chattanooga, 14.74; Nashville 14.49; and Memphis, 12.89. At Vicksburg, 13.83 inches fell; at Decatur, Ala., 13.70; at Helena, Ark., 13.17. The areas of excess embraced the entire eastern portion of the country, the extreme Northwest, Middle and Southern slopes, Western Gulf States and the Rio Grande Valley. A large and quite unusual deficiency prevailed on the Pacific coast. The number of rainy days during January varied in New England from 18 to 26; in the Middle Atlantic States from 16 to 25; in the Ohio Valley and Tennessee from 13 to 27; and in the Lower Lake region from 16 to 25. February will probably be found not much behind in excessive rains, and as a generally wet summer to come is predicted, the long and serious droughts of that year are likely to be more than compensated for.—*Cincinnati Commercial*.

ANOTHER MILD FEBRUARY.

WARMEST FEBRUARY REPORTED AT TORONTO OBSERVATORY.—February 1882, just closed, is the warmest February ever reported in the Observatory, the mean temperature being 30.33, or 7.49 above the average, and 10.36 warmer than February, 1881. The warmest previously recorded was in 1877, the temperature of which was 28.81. The warmest day was the 12th, 43.05, and the coldest the 18th, 17.87. The monthly range of temperature was 40.7, from 50.8 at 3 p. m. of 15th to 9.6 about 8 a. m. of 18th. Rain fell on seven days to a depth of 1.180 inches, or 0.312 in excess of the average. Snow fell on eight days to a depth of 5.04 inches, or no less than twelve inches less than the average.

—“*Old Saws*” are all very good in their way (a nursery rhyme book), but sometimes they do not take with practical people. They are, however, about as often correct as the “*Goose-bone*.”

CORRESPONDENCE.

PRICES.

CHICAGO, March 13.

One month ago considerable spring wheat was sown, but it has so far made but little headway. We are now at least four weeks in advance of 1881 in Spring seeding. A considerable fall of snow this week would be a great benefit to Winter wheat. Roads are bad everywhere, and there is no movement of grain at interior points. The attention of the trade seems now to be directed towards corn. The prospect of an early and good harvest of Winter wheat has weakened the feeling with regard to prices. But as it is nearly seven weeks before we can handle the new corn crop, many disasters may arise. Hence we find markets stronger for corn than for wheat.—*Farmers' Review*.

CHICAGO, March 16, 1882.

DEAR VENNOR:—

I am a Bear on pork to about \$14 per barrel, but perhaps \$14.25 or \$14.50 will be low enough for the turn. With pork at \$14.50 per barrel, lard should be \$9 per cwt., live hogs about \$5.25 per cwt., and corn 50c. to 55c. per bush.

TO-DAY'S PRICES.

Pork, immediate delivery..	\$17 15 per barrel.
“ May “ ..	17 50 “
Corn, immediate delivery..	68 per bush.
“ May “ ..	68 “

The average price of No. 2 Spring wheat in Chicago markets for 1881 was \$1.14 per bush. I believe present prices, \$1.35 per bush., too high, and can see no reason why prices should not decline to nearly \$1 per bush., and perhaps lower, should the present excellent crop prospects continue both in this country and Europe.

Iron, I see by the daily papers, has started on the back track. I predict it will continue to settle in price for three or four years, and men who are just embarking in the iron industry will have a constantly dragging, declining market to contend with.

Real estate is as high in Chicago now as in 1873, before the financial collapse, (I figure from a gold basis.) England resumed specie payments in 1821, had a large financial boom for three years, then collapsed. It is now over three years since specie resumption in this country. History repeats itself. Don't you forget it.

G. W. R.

WEATHER AND PRICES.

DEAR SIR,—In such a case as you reported (a cold, wet and backward summer for 1882) we should have no hesitancy in predicting poor crops, high prices for what we do raise, and low prices for all railroad stocks. In other words the recuperation of the prices of railroad stocks would have to be deferred until 1883.

Yours truly,

R. H. & Co.

New York, March 11th, 1882.

THE ICEBERGS.

DEAR SIR,—••• As, however, regards the premature arrival of ice floes and bergs outside the Gulf of St. Lawrence, being indicative of ‘mild weather in the north’, the supposition may not be unreasonable, but I would desire to know the prevailing direction of the winds and the general course of the weather in the region from which the floes and bergs have come.

Twenty-three years ago after passing out of the Straits of Belle Isle, I saw a number of icebergs in the Atlantic, and farther out we passed through fields of broken ice of considerable extent. This was in the second week of June. It was my belief that this field-ice had not passed out from the Gulf, but from streams on the east Labrador

coast. For I had previously been of opinion that the Gulf field-ice passed out south of Newfoundland,—a fact of which I had pretty clear indication in 1829, when our ship, was embayed in a huge field for nearly two days, and we cleared it by steering north until we neared the southwest coast of Newfoundland.

As relates to the influence of icebergs and floes on our Atlantic coast, on our Canada (especially Ontario weather) I cannot think it amounts to much, for our weather-breeding region, certainly, does not lie in that direction. Our eastern gales and rain storm winds are but incidental fore runners, which always go in a direction counter to the course of the upper cloud or true storm run.

Toronto, March 9th.

W.

THE EARLY ICEBERGS.

Editor BULLETIN.

DEAR SIR,—I fully agree with you, that the early movements of icebergs this season has no bearing upon the approaching weather. To my mind, this condition of things relates to the past. It tells me that last summer was an unusually warm one at the north, and that the winter there has been mild and open. The only effect which I can see will be to cause a lower temperature on the coast, especially when the east winds blow. It may tend, if they continue to come down rapidly, to greatly reduce the temperature of the Gulf Stream, which will in turn effect the temperature of England and Europe.

Yours truly,

J. BRAINERD HALL.

Worcester, Mass.

ICEBERGS IN THE ATLANTIC.—Boston, March 22.—The steamer “Glamorgan,” Captain Court, reports that on March 17, latitude 43.35, longitude 49.10, the vessel passed a large iceberg 300 feet long and 80 to 100 feet high, and the same day saw another large iceberg 500 feet long and 100 feet high.

THE MOON CHART.

SIR,—If the Moon Table were printed on a card separately, it would be useful to hang up without destroying the volume of the MONTHLY BULLETIN.

Yours,

A SUBSCRIBER.

—We are getting this done, as the request seems general, with the addition of the “Weather Prognosticator,” or moon indication table that was printed in No. 1, page 6. These two, together, will constitute a weather help of greater utility that has ever yet been published, and this in the most compact form. Mailed to any address for 5 cents.—Ed.

VALUE ATTACHED TO WEATHER PREDICTIONS.

Editor BULLETIN.

DEAR SIR,—What kind of a kick-up are you going to give us this spring. Shall we melt in the months of April and May with summer warmth, or shiver under a raw Easter? (I mean wind, not the great church festival.) What is to be the character of the season?—favorable for crops or otherwise? Bless your innocent heart—it would not be a paltry *thou* I'd plank down for positive information on this point, but a cool *ten thousand* would be at your service if you could tell anything really positive about it. It isn't guesses we want, but accurate information. Now, sir, let us have something reliable in your April BULLETIN on this head, or, if you have got hold of something really worth while, just put a notice in the *Star or Witness* that you are *dead-sure*, and ask GIRT to make a note of it. One of your most humble servants will then be

GIRT

Mont. cal, March, 1882.

—You have the information asked for in the present issue, “*dead sure*”; you may send the cheque to my address.—Ed. BULLETIN.

The Weather.

Mr. James Grant sends us the result of his observations during a period of twenty-three years, at Granton, Biddulph, Middlesex County, in regard to the month of February. From this it appears that between 1857 and 1879 there were nine mild Februaries, one of them, that of '64, being marked as without snow. Of the remaining fourteen twelve were genuine “winter” months, and the other two, those of '75 and '79, classed as “hard” in addition. It thus appears that considerable more than one in three of our Februaries in Western Ontario, have been somewhat of the mild type of that of the present season.—*Globe*.