

sugar-cane was brought to America from the Canaries, and in those islands it had not been long known before Columbus entered upon his great enterprise—such was the case with regard to Madeira, also, but it is asserted that sugar was made in Hayti, the year after its discovery. It is well known how important Hayti became as a sugar island, as it held the first rank down to a time that some very old persons can yet remember. During the two centuries that elapsed since the discovery of the sugar-cane, the extended over-sea trade of America, and became a peculiar institution," not only in culture and commerce, but in fostering the American slave trade. Sugar production has a very intimate connection with the latter history of the Mauritius, or Isle of France. The sugar-cane was introduced there not quite a century and a half ago, but its marvellous yield belongs to far later times. The Philippine Isles are very rich in sugar lands. There is some reason for believing that sugar was known in what we now call India, in early times. It was set on its western travels by the Saracens. They took the sugar-cane to the most important of the Mediterranean Islands, and imparted the knowledge of making sugar to the most ingenious of peoples. They also took sugar-cane to the Spanish peninsula, one of the greatest and most valuable of their conquests. It was owing to the fact that the Saracens caused the Iberian Islands to become a sugar land that the Spaniards were able quickly to introduce the sugar-cane in the New World. The American sugar industry has the consequences of the agreement which the Christian-

WHEAT.

Our crop of this grain east of the Rocky mountains, is composed of five eighths of winter and three-eighths of spring wheat. If we include the crop of California and Oregon, the proportions may be stated at three-fourths winter and one-fourth spring. Taking the winter wheat States as a whole, the prospect is very encouraging, pointing to a crop fully equal to, if not in excess of, the full one of 1880. In the more southern States harvesting has begun with good results, and is gradually extending northward. This grain will all be gathered within the ensuing three to six weeks, according to latitude. The California accounts have lately been less encouraging than before, owing to unfavorable weather and drying winds. In regard to spring wheat, it is yet too early to form any definite opinion as to the probable return; the season has been wet and planting generally scarcely as easy as usual; so far the plant looks healthy, the weather of May being rather favorable than otherwise. In Wisconsin and Minnesota there has not been any considerable increase in the acreage, the new land that has been seeded to wheat being offset in a larger area of the older farms being planted in corn. Dakota, however, will produce a crop this year very much larger than last season, and Manitoba will bring a great breadth of new land under cultivation this crop year; the bulk of the yield will find a market in Minneapolis, especially if the millers can obtain the drawback they seek for on their flour grown from this foreign wheat and shipped abroad. — *Produce Ex. Weekly.*

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