

NEWS OF THE WEEK

At midnight of the 29th ult. fifty masked ruffians visited a village occupied by fifty Chinamen on a siding of the Texas Pacific Railroad, near Big Springs, Texas, and demanded their money. Being refused, the robbers hung up the Chinamen one by one with their rifles and held one of them on a hot stove. Finally the tortured man gave up all their hard-earned money and the robbers retired. The "Bald Knobbers" of Miller county, Missouri, have again begun operations. A few nights ago they went to the house of a colored man, named Lett, and gave him a severe whipping. While doing this Lett's brother appeared and discharged a rifle at the ruffians, unhorsing one of them. They picked up their killed or wounded comrade and rode away. On the 29th ult. a United States bonded car on the midnight freight train bound south was broken into by three tramps between Monmouth Junction and Deans, New Jersey. After securing considerable plunder the thieves cut the train in two, jumped from the cars and fled to the woods, pursued by train hands, who fired upon them. The thieves returned the fire and escaped. George Rice, aged 40 years, a conductor on the Pennsylvania railroad fast freight service, was fatally injured by falling from his train in Jersey City on the evening of the 30th ult. Both legs were crushed above the knee. Shipley, Dorsey & Co., wholesale dry goods dealers of Cincinnati, who recently obtained an extension from their creditors, made an assignment on the 30th ult. It is said their liabilities are \$500,000, and their assets "somewhat larger." The assignee's bond is fixed at \$800,000. The firm's attorney says "the assignment is a mere formality to enable the firm to arrange its affairs. The business will not be interrupted." The total liabilities of Carlton Foster & Co., sash, door and blind manufacturers, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, who failed last week, are placed at \$205,000, and the assets at \$125,000. A settlement is to be effected with the creditors at 50 cents on the dollar and the business continued. The schedules in the assignment of Parker & Clark, wholesale grocers, of New York, were filed on the 30th ult. They show liabilities amounting to \$225,603, nominal assets \$49,543, and actual assets \$223,300. Julius Wild entered George Schimmel's saloon in New York on the evening of the 29th ult., and, being refused a glass of beer, fatally stabbed Schimmel in the abdomen. "The men had been particularly good friends for the past five years." W. Schaufenberg, a grocer, of Chicago, committed suicide on the 29th ult., by blowing out his brains. He had been on a prolonged spree. The neighborhood of Columbus, Indiana, was excited, about three weeks ago, by what was supposed to be an attempt to assassinate James Elliott, a farmer, by hanging, he giving a minute description of his three assailants. Three men who were captured by a searching party narrowly escaped being lynched for the deed. On the 29th ult. Elliott was found dead, hanging in his barn, "surrounded by evidences of suicide," and it is now thought the first hanging was his own work. The thirteen-year-old son of Joshua Miller, of Endicott, near Utica, New York, was found hanging in his father's barn, on the 29th ult. His death is supposed to have been accidental. A. G. Kist, a farmer, living near Warsaw, Indiana, acted as Indian agent at the Paw-Paw agency, in the Indian Territory six years ago. Since his retirement, it has been discovered that there is a "shortage" of \$4,000 in the agency accounts. Suit against Kist and his bondsmen has been brought in the U. S. Court at Indianapolis. David Blackwood, engineer, and Charles Gust, fireman, were killed on the 1st by the collision of two trains near Parker, Iowa. Many passengers were injured, but none fatally. Two sections of a freight train on the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad collided near Summitville, Ohio, on the 30th ult. Sixteen cars and both engines were wrecked and consumed by fire, but no person was injured. The loss is estimated at \$25,000. Three drunken Hungarians were run over and killed by a railroad train while sleeping on the track near Pittston, Penna., on the evening of the 1st. Two trains on the Northern Pacific Railroad collided on a curve near Muskado, Minn., on the morning of the 1st. Both engines were smashed, a mail car was burned and four train men were injured, but not dangerously. Conductor George H. Price, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, who was run over by a train in Jersey City on the 30th ult., died on the morning of the 1st. A telegram from Matamoros, Mexico, says that Manuel Barrant and his wife Maria on the 1st celebrated their 80th anniversary of their marriage. The husband is 102 years of age, the wife 96. A large gathering of their descendants, including great-grandchildren, were present. The public debt statement issued on the 1st shows a decrease of \$3,005,249. Total cash in the Treasury, \$439,023,740. The total coinage of the United States during November amounted in value to \$4,955,252, including 2,700,000 standard dollars. The losses by the hog cholera in Miami county, Indiana, are estimated at \$25,000. Two thousand dead hogs were taken to Peru on the 30th ult., and on the 1st to be turned over to the grease refiners, as a result of the disease. The temperature at Chicago on the morning of the 1st was 8 degrees below zero, having fallen 17 degrees in four hours. The cold wave comes from Manitoba through Minnesota, and is spreading South and East. Temperatures below zero were reported at 6 o'clock on the morning of the 1st in Minnesota as follows: At St. Paul, 10; at Carry and Bismarck, 17; at Moorhead, 18; at St. Vincent, 22. It was 28 below at Brainerd on the night of the 30th ult. Mrs. Susan Willard was killed by

lightning while lying in bed, during a thunder storm at Portland, Maine, on the 30th ult. The lightning came down a chimney. Destructive forest fires are raging between Charleston and Sumter, South Carolina, a distance of 90 miles. At Monck's Corner, 31 miles from Charleston, many plantation buildings have been destroyed. The town of Florence and the brick works at Stony Landing were in danger on the 30th ult., but were saved by great effort. George Seaman and James Seiders, aged respectively 12 and 14 years, absented themselves from School in Reading, Penna., on the 30th ult. Afraid to go home for fear of punishment, they crawled between two hot ovens at the Henry Clay furnace and were suffocated. Their charred bodies were found on the afternoon of the 1st. The steamer Westerland, which arrived at New York on the 2d from Antwerp, reported that on November 27th, in latitude 47.50, longitude 43.57, she encountered a terrific hurricane, during which, at 2.45 P. M., an immense sea struck the vessel over the bows, staying in the whaleback, killing four seamen and two steerage passengers, and severely injuring thirteen other seamen and passengers. Near Bellaire, Ohio, on the afternoon of the 2d, an explosion of powder in the store of Robert Hall blew out one end of the building and injured seven persons, three fatally. The explosion was caused by some one stepping on a parlor match lying on the floor. The fatally injured were Robert Hall, Jacob Weiss and George Williams. The New York Commercial Bulletin estimates the November fire loss in the United States and Canada at \$10,000,000, which is an increase of one-third upon the November average since the Boston fire of 1872. There were 169 fires recorded whose reported loss was \$10,000 and over. The large fires of \$100,000 up to \$900,000 numbered 19 and caused a loss of \$4,000,000, or 49 per cent. of the aggregate of \$4,000,000, or 49 per cent. of the entire loss of the month. According to the Bulletin there has been a destruction by fire of \$105,000,000 in the eleven months of 1886. Over 200 cases of diphtheria are reported in Wilkesbarre, an eastern suburb of Pittsburg. Defective drainage is said to be the cause. The Inter-Ocean, of Chicago, reports a defalcation, said to amount to \$100,000, by Theodore S. Mize, confidential clerk, bookkeeper and cashier of Mineer T. Ames, a millionaire coal merchant. It is said the stealings have been going on since 1874. Past living was the cause. Mize has made partial restitution by turning over his property to his employer. At York, Penna., on the 2d, Theodore Noedel, late clerk of the South End Building and Loan Association, was arrested charged with embezzling \$7000 of the funds of the association. He furnished bail for his appearance on the 10th inst. A special despatch from Montreal to the New York Evening Post says that Madame Francois Boulanger, of Natasikowan, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, gave birth in November to four children, all healthy. The year previous she became the mother of triplets, and the year before that of twins, making nine children within two years and a few months. There were two slight earthquake shocks in Charleston, South Carolina, on the morning of the 2d, the first at one o'clock, the second at eight. Eight slight shocks were felt at Summerville during the night, and a severe one was felt at Columbia at eight o'clock in the morning. The amount stolen by Theodore S. Mize, cashier for the coal merchant, Ames, in Chicago, is now estimated at \$112,000. A whole family has been ruined by the young scoundrel. "The homestead of the aged parents, the home of the sister and brother-in-law, the residence of the embezzler, the jewels of his wife and his very birthright and heritage, all have gone to satisfy the claim of Mize's employer and save the son from the penitentiary. Transfers to Mr. Ames were recorded on the 3d for all the property enumerated, and Theodore S. Mize, jointly with his father, signed away all right and title to the share of the father's property that would revert to him by the provisions of the father's will, already made. The brother of Mize, who is in Atchison, Kansas, also came to his assistance." Shea Feldner, Alfred Jones and Ephraim Jones, all colored, implicated in the murder of Dewees Bolton on the night of the 1st, were taken from the jail at Brenham, Texas, early on the morning of the 2d, and lynched by an armed mob. Two cowboys, Alley and Wartenbe, quarrelled, near Cimarron, New Mexico, on the 2d, and shot each other. Alley was killed and Wartenbe dangerously wounded. Jackson Brown, colored, was wounded by his wife, Lavina, near Fenton, Arkansas, on the 2d. They quarrelled at breakfast, and the woman afterwards split her husband's head open with an axe while he was fondling the children. A stranger who registered at a hotel in Parsons, Kansas, on the morning of the 1st as "Jim Cummings," put on the landlady's hat and left after supper. A policeman named Kisor arrested him at the depot. Soon afterwards the fellow pulled away, fatally shot the policeman, and escaped. J. Byrd, merchant, was murdered at Gray's, Arkansas, on the 2d, by two negroes. Their motive was robbery, but they secured nothing, being frightened away by a passer-by. In an affray at Pitt county, North Carolina, on the 2d, between Thomas Smith and John Dennis, the latter shot and killed the former. Friends of Smith assaulted Dennis and cut him nearly to death with a large knife. New Laredo, Mexico, was excited on the 2d over the arrest and imprisonment of Pedro Morales, Chief of Police; the President of the Municipal Court and also the chief Alcalde of the town, under orders from the City of Mexico, whither the prisoners are directed to be forwarded. The arrests grew out of the capture and delivery to the Texan authorities, several weeks ago, of Juan Coy, charged with the

murder of Sheriff Elder, of Karnes county, Texas. Snow began falling at Memphis, Tennessee, at 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the 3d, and by eleven o'clock there were four inches on the ground. The crop report of the State Board of Agriculture of Ohio for the 1st inst. shows that the wheat area sown was 161 per cent.; estimated number of acres, 2,741,000; condition, 97. The condition of live stock was generally good, excepting hogs. The hog cholera prevailed in 23 counties of the State. At Stephenson, Alabama, on the night of the 2d, James Turner went to the house of Frank Carter, called him to the door and shot him. As Carter fell he caught his rifle and shot Turner. Both are mortally wounded. They had always been intimate friends. A telegram from Chicago says that Henry Schwartz, formerly of Philadelphia, but now in the Cook county jail, is suspected of being the man guilty of the robbery of the Rock Island express train last March, when Kellogg Nichols, the express messenger, lost his life and \$27,000 was stolen from the express car. Schwartz for two years has been a brakeman on the Rock Island Road. On the 3d, as he came into the depot with his train an officer took him by the arm and marched him to the Harrison Street Station. On the 4th, he was arraigned for having married a wife in Philadelphia seven years ago, and with having married a Chicago woman two years ago. At his own solicitation his case was continued in \$1000 bail until December 14th. "At first he maintained a dogged silence, but now volubly alleges that the Rock Island Company does not care whether he has one wife or a hundred, if he or some one else can be sent to the penitentiary for the robbery of the express car. He confesses that he has spent much more money than he has earned or could have received from home, but he is not ready to tell where the money came from and caused a loss of \$4,000,000, or 49 per cent. of the aggregate of \$4,000,000, or 49 per cent. of the entire loss of the month. According to the Bulletin there has been a destruction by fire of \$105,000,000 in the eleven months of 1886. Over 200 cases of diphtheria are reported in Wilkesbarre, an eastern suburb of Pittsburg. Defective drainage is said to be the cause. The Inter-Ocean, of Chicago, reports a defalcation, said to amount to \$100,000, by Theodore S. Mize, confidential clerk, bookkeeper and cashier of Mineer T. Ames, a millionaire coal merchant. It is said the stealings have been going on since 1874. Past living was the cause. Mize has made partial restitution by turning over his property to his employer. 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In Haven. I hear the distant breakers roar, Their sleepless wrath can harm no more, My life bark soon will touch the shore Whose beauty fadeth never. How sweetly sighs the bird of peace: Oh, let his tender note increase; For sorrow soon shall know succorance Forever and forever. Oh, love, bid me forget my fears, The cares that fret, the wrongs of years; My sea-worn heart sweet harbor nears Beyond the storm's endeavor. And let your tresses brush my cheek, When hearts and fondest words are weak; With soft caress your passion speak Forever and forever. Awake the smile I dreamed of old, As warm as noontide's palmy gold, Yet soft as moonlight faintly rolled. When summer cloudlets sever, Your eyes are like the beacon light, That beckons through the darkness night— At last I read my fate aright, Forever and forever.

MY FIRST CASE.

Yes, sir, I call it my first case, because it was the first of any importance in which I was engaged, and because, thanks to the happy chance of which I am going to tell you, it gave me a start in my career which I have never lost. It was one morning several winters ago when I was ordered by my chief to call on Mr. —, a diamond merchant who had reported a loss of diamonds worth \$20,000. Further than that the house was in Soho, I need not give you any particulars of this gentleman's name or address. I was then very young to be entrusted with so important a case, but we were busy at the time and my chief was kind enough to express his faith in my ability. I had not been 10 minutes in the house before I saw that I had before me a task of no little difficulty. The room in which I stood was oblong in shape. One end was occupied by a long window looking on the street. Standing with your back to the window, on the right hand-side, was a fireplace, on the left the door; between them stood a large square table, above which was the chandelier with four or five lights. Against the right-hand wall some little distance from the fireplace stood a large safe facing into the room. Save one or two chairs there was no other furniture in the room. It was from the safe that the diamonds in question had been stolen. But here was the puzzle—the safe had been drilled open, a work which must have taken at least an hour and a half, and the room remained all night with the blinds drawn up and the gas lighted, in full view of the passers-by in the street and of the policeman on the beat, who passed every half-hour. There were two keys of the safe—one in the possession of Mr. — and the other belonging to his son. The custom was that the old gentleman left the office first and went home to his place at Dulwich, the two clerks left at six o'clock, and the son was usually the last to leave, locking the safe and seeing that all was left in security. The other rooms in the house were let out as offices, but all the tenants left before five o'clock, and when Mr. —'s office was locked up the only occupants of the house were the caretaker and his wife, who lived in the attic. The robbery had been discovered by Mr. — on his arrival first at the office on the morning in question. He had been followed by his clerks and his son in the order named, and I found all four present when I reached the house. On making inquiry I found that Mr. — himself had locked the safe on the previous evening. The clerks had gone as usual at six, and Mr. — having had to remain longer than usual, saw everything clear before his departure. He and his son left together, the father going home and the son going to dine with a friend, with whom he went to the theatre and at whose house he slept. The housekeeper had swept and cleaned the offices as usual and had finished work by eight o'clock, at which hour she and her husband went upstairs to their own room at the top of the house. They did not come down again that night and heard no noise. I felt little difficulty as to the entrance or exit of the thief. He might have entered the house at any time on the previous afternoon and, as there was more than one unoccupied room in the house, have laid perdu till it was time to commence operations; and, as I found a window at the back of the house unfastened, I concluded he had made good his escape through the yard and by way of a low wall into an adjoining court. But how had he been able to work so long without attracting attention from any one? The street was not a busy thoroughfare, but there must have been some wayfarers, despite the fact that the night had been an inclement one; and I have said, a policeman pass every half-hour. I made a careful inspection of the room, but found nothing save a broken piece of amber from the mouth-piece of a pipe. On looking at the walls I noticed at opposite sides of the room high up near the cornice two marks, as though nails had been torn out of the plaster, but on pointing these out to Mr. — he could give me no information. He had never noticed them before, but they might be old marks for all he knew. I then proceeded to make inquiries; first as to the whereabouts of the clerks

on the night in question, Mr. — had told me he had no suspicions as to their integrity, but of course, it was my business to make sure, and I found they were able to account for their time quite satisfactorily. The policeman who had been on duty could not help me. He had passed each half hour, but had seen nothing suspicious. A number of persons had passed up and down the street, but he had only recognized one man, a chemist who lived on an adjoining street. Application to this gentleman elicited nothing further. He had passed down the street between 11 and 12 on his way home and had looked in at the lighted window as usual, but there was certainly no one in the room then. I returned to headquarters to make my preliminary report, and directed careful inquiries to be made with a view to identifying if possible, any persons who were in the street throughout the night. Well, sir, for two days I was at my wits' end. All our endeavors proved fruitless, and the more I turned the matter over the more helpless I felt.

On the third day I was passing through B— street and looked in to see my brother, who was laid up through an accident. He lodged in rooms over the shop of a house and sign painter who had a small but fairly prosperous business. On leaving him I came down to the shop to give some instructions to his landlord, and whilst I was talking to the latter he was called away for a few minutes. Amusing myself by looking about the room, my eye was attracted by the rough sketch of a safe which was lying on the counter. Although my head was full of safes, as you may suppose, I doubt if I should have looked twice at this one had it not been that the sketch was an exact copy of the safe in which I was so much interested, and which, I should have explained, was of peculiar appearance in that it was much narrower in proportion to its height than is customary. On the painter's return I held up the sketch and asked him if he had gone in for a new line of business. "Well, yes, sir," he said laughing, "that's a sketch I used in my first attempt at scene painting. A young fellow for whom I've done a little business came in the other day and persuaded me to paint him a scene for some private theatricals he was getting up. It represented the wall of an office and that safe stood in one corner. He was good enough to say that I succeeded very well and he told me afterwards that it had given great satisfaction."

Well, sir, the whole thing flashed on me in a moment. My gentleman had hung up this drop scene in front of the safe, and the room then presented its ordinary appearance to the street, whilst behind this ingenious screen he had been able to "work his wicked will" upon the safe at his leisure. To cut a long story short, the painter gave me such information as enabled me to put my hand on this amateur actor, and he was in due course tried, convicted and punished, while we were able to recover a large portion of the stolen diamonds, greatly to Mr. A—'s satisfaction. I think I am right in saying, sir, that it is to chance I owe my start in life, even if I may claim some credit for my subsequent success.

A Queer Wedding Trip.

"The queerest wedding trip I ever heard of," said the station master at the West Side depot, "took place one day last week. The couple were from a little corn and hog station down on the Burlington, and they came up on one of the morning trains. They went into the waiting-room up-stairs and remained there the whole day. At noon they brought out a bit of lunch and ate it together. Only once or twice did the groom venture beyond the station walls, and the cries of the hackmen quickly frightened him back. The bride had a great curiosity to go over closer to the river so she could see the shipping, but the groom was afraid to leave the station for fear of getting lost. Notwithstanding the seeming monotony of the day she and her husband went upstairs to their own room at the top of the house. They did not come down again that night and heard no noise. I felt little difficulty as to the entrance or exit of the thief. He might have entered the house at any time on the previous afternoon and, as there was more than one unoccupied room in the house, have laid perdu till it was time to commence operations; and, as I found a window at the back of the house unfastened, I concluded he had made good his escape through the yard and by way of a low wall into an adjoining court. But how had he been able to work so long without attracting attention from any one? The street was not a busy thoroughfare, but there must have been some wayfarers, despite the fact that the night had been an inclement one; and I have said, a policeman pass every half-hour. I made a careful inspection of the room, but found nothing save a broken piece of amber from the mouth-piece of a pipe. On looking at the walls I noticed at opposite sides of the room high up near the cornice two marks, as though nails had been torn out of the plaster, but on pointing these out to Mr. — he could give me no information. He had never noticed them before, but they might be old marks for all he knew. I then proceeded to make inquiries; first as to the whereabouts of the clerks

Plants in Doubt.

The inhabitants of Australia and New Zealand seem to be taking an interest in fruit culture. Our nurseryman, Luther Burbank, often receives orders for trees from there, and not a little difficulty is experienced in shipping on account of the difference of the seasons. Last June buds of some of the best apples which originated in the Southern hemisphere were received by him. When they were shipped it was the commencement of winter there, and the buds had tucked themselves up for a six months' rest, and were not a little surprised, apparently, to find such a torrid atmosphere as they encountered at Santa Rosa on their arrival. About one-third of them seemed to think they had overslept, and immediately made great haste to put out buds, flowers and leaves. The others, perhaps older and wiser, would not budge for any display of California's abilities in the torrid business and still remain dormant, yet they are alive and will grow next spring after their eighteen months' rest.

HOLLAND. A Country of Light and Shade and Pervading Sadness. A feeling of sadness pervades everywhere in Holland. How can it be otherwise where dampness is universal, where you seem to be waist deep in the sea, where the flat landscapes confine you, and the atmosphere intimates that it is ready at a moment's notice to give you rain, snow or wind from mountains and ice fields that are just a little further off toward the north? It is the rain season, but you know the tempest is coming: It is the month of sunshine, but you know it will turn to shadow to-morrow. You may be an optimist for this hour, to be the bitterest of pessimists the next. So it is the country of storm and darkness, of light and shade. It is no wonder Holland produced a Rembrandt, an artist who discovered what wonderful results he could accomplish by contrasting sunlight and shadow as he saw them constantly contrasted in nature, or with the no less striking effects made by firelight and lamplight in gloomy interiors. They are commonplace of Dutch indoor and outdoor life, but it required genius to translate them to canvas and color. It is sometimes said of nature that it smiles. The French speak of landscapes that laugh. The Dutch landscape never laughs, nor does it even smile, though in Midsummer it sometimes assumes an air of quiet contentment, such a mimic of suggested sunshine as an old burgher of Amsterdam might wear after an uncommonly humoring dinner. Take for instance one of these almost windless August afternoons (an exceptional one), the cattle peacefully grazing in a thousand fields, here a boat pushing its way through the green sun of a narrow canal, there two or three sailing vessels sliding slowly along a broader waterway, most of the windmills moveless, or, one here and there idly swinging its great arms, a railroad train on the horizon making just noise enough to render the scene audible, and the light falling over all from a partially covered sky so universally diffused by fleecy cumuli that you can see nowhere either sharp outlines or opaque shadows. If you pass through Holland on one of these afternoons which you might easily do, for its area is even less than that of Belgium, the impression gained would be pleasurable, and pleasurable only. But if you linger for a few days you will see the mists creep up along the canals and over the fields, the cumuli changed into mackerel back, and then into one universal cloud that comes down and unites with the fog, blotting out the land, while you are left uncoerced, by a change of temperature, whether it is not Autumn to-day, and will not indeed be Winter to-morrow. In softer climes Spring is considered the season of flowers. In Holland the flowers in the geometrical bed at the railroad stations about the farm-houses, in the pots on the window sills and in the public gardens are just in their prime. And like the grass and foliage, they have an unusually deep, rich color. It is the alchemy of moisture. That is one advantage. The roses are large and of imperial hues. The geraniums are no less magnificent. The season may be somewhat later than usual, for there has been no Spring anywhere in the north of Europe to encourage precocity in the floral kingdom. But though a part of this tardiness may be attributed to the frosts that lingered in the lap of May, I suspect that it is chiefly due to a custom of the country, and it seems really a pity that, having just come, these fine flowers should be forced to depart so quickly. Though it is only Midsummer, Winter is really in the air. You do not stir a fire, but you imagine the glow of one would be agreeable. You think you are probably uncomfortable, but you don't surely know. People go about with a depressed look and with the low gait of the funeral cortege. The rare qualities of chilliness that encourage brisk movement, but that which prevails is of a different character. Even the animals have an air of dejection, and the birds, with the instinct of approaching cold, gather in little conventions, fly about in purposeless circles and give in concert the cheerless chirp that precedes the Autumnal migration. Like the flowers, they have just come, and it seems a pity that they cannot stay a little longer after having flown from southern country, thousands of miles away, to enjoy freshness of the North. California's Big Trees Going. The big trees of California will soon be extinct. Seventeen lumber companies, owning from 3,000 to 25,000 acres of redwood forests each, are waging the war of extermination with the weapons known to the modern logging camp. The demand for the wood is unlimited, and the mills are kept at work to the limit of their capacity. The forests are large, but the forces employed against them are swift and irresistible. A man of prudence may be pardoned for not securing berth until he knows whether the ships bound. The more heavers love God, the more they love one another; as the lines of a circle, the nearer they come to each other.

THE MARKETS. PHILADELPHIA. Beef, Mutton, Pork, Butter, etc. NEW YORK. Flour, Wheat, Corn, etc.