COMMERCIAL.

The Wheat Market Showing Improving Symptoms.

Barley Hard to Dispose of in Round Lots in the Regular Way—Oats in Better Inquiry.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 11th.

The Wheat market is showing improving symptoms, and dealers are hopeful of the development of better trade and better prices. Business has been dull for so long a time that the slightest activity would give encouragement and impart a cheerful feeling to the situation. A feeling of lassitude prevails in the Barley market, and it is difficult to dispose of any round lots in the regular way of trade. Prices also show easier tone, and buyers can deal to better advantage to-day than they could last week. Shipping demand has fallen off to a greater or less extent, and this circumstance is not without its influence in causing softer tone all round. The Oat market is showing more life. There is better inquiry and business is of little larger volume. Prices, also, have sympathized with the improved feeling, and sellers have the situation somewhat in their favor. No heavy receipts are expected from any quarter until the new season opens, and dealers are of the opinion that stocks now on hand can be so handled as to still maintain current rates.

The Vegetable market showed few changes to-day. The receipts of early varieties were well up to the average of late, and sales were made at lower prices except for the better quality. The Potato market is lower under increased receipts. Onions also show a decline.

The Strawberries offered to-day were mainly carried over from yesterday and sales were slow. Apples continue to arrive from the East, but stocks are light. The Orange market is weak and dull. There are no changes to report elsewhere.

In the market for Dairy Produce there were few changes from yesterday. The demand for Butter is light. The Egg market is in better shape, and receipts are comparatively light. Cheese is easy at quotations.

The poultry market cleans up well with light receipts. Prices hold firm at quotations. There is a light demand for game.

Produce Market.

FLOUR—Stocks are not heavy, though millers keep ahead of immediate wants all the time. We quote: Net cash prices for Family Extras, $3 90@4 ₱ bbl; Bakers' Extras, $3 80@4; Superfine, $2 60@3 10.

WHEAT—Quotable at 1 25 ₱ ctl for No. 1 shipping and $1 26¼ for choice. Milling grades are steady at a range of $1 27½@1 32½ ₱ ctl.

BARLEY—We quote as follows: Feed, 82½@82¾c ₱ ctl for good quality, and 85@86¼c for choice; Brewing, 90c@$1 ₱ ctl.

OATS—We quote: Surprise, $1 50@1 60; Milling, $1 45@1 55; fancy feed, $1 42½@1 45; good to choice feed, $1 35@1 42½; off grades, $1 15@1 30; Black, $1 15@1 20; Gray, $1 25@1 30 for feed and $1 45@1 55 for milling; Red, $1 17½@1 25 ₱ ctl.

CORN—Quotable at $1 10 for Large Yellow, $1 10 for Small Yellow and $1 10@1 12½ ₱ ctl for White.

CRACKED CORN—Quotable at $25 50@26 50 ₱ ton.

OILCAKE MEAL—Quotable at $35 ₱ ton.

CORNMEAL—Millers quote feed at $24 50@25 50 ₱ ton; fine kinds for the table, in large and small packages, 2¾@3¾c ₱ lb.

CHOPPED FEED—Quotable at $17@17 50 ₱ ton.

SEEDS—We quote: Mustard, Brown, —@—c; Yellow, —@—c; Canary, imported, $5@5 50; do, California, —; Hemp, 4@4¼c ₱ lb; Rape, $2 25@2 50; Timothy, —c ₱ lb; Alfalfa, 9c ₱ lb for California and 10c for Utah; Flax, $3 ₱ ctl.

MIDDLINGS—Quotable at $20@22 ₱ ton.

HAY—We quote: Wheat and Oat, $7@11; Barley, $7@8 50; Oat, $7@9; fair to choice Wheat, $8@13; compressed, $7@9; stock, $6@7; Alfalfa, $7@10; Clover, $7@9 ₱ ton.

STRAW—Quotable at 35@45c ₱ bale.

HOPS—Nothing of interest to report. Demand light with prices easy and nominal at 15c to 15c ₱ lb.

MILLSTUFFS—We quote: Rye Flour, 3½c; Rye Meal, 3c; Graham Flour, 3c; Oatmeal, 4½c; Oat Groats, 5c; Cracked Wheat, 3½c; Buckwheat Flour, 5c; Pearl Barley, 4¼@4½c ₱ lb.

BRAN—Firm at current rates. Quotable at $15@16 ₱ ton.

RYE—Business quiet and slow. Prices easy. Quotable at $1 05@1 13¾ ₱ ctl.

BUCKWHEAT—Nominal at $2@2 50 ₱ ctl.

GROUND BARLEY—Quotable at $20@21 ₱ ton.

POTATOES—We quote: New, 1¼@2½c ₱ lb; Early Rose, $1 60@1 75; River Reds, $1 60@1 75; Petaluma and Tomales Burbanks, $2@2 10; Humboldt Burbanks, $2@2 10; Oregon Burbanks, $2@2 25; Oregon Garnet Chilies, $1 75@1 90; Sweet, $3 ₱ ctl.

ONIONS—From $2 25 to $3 50 ₱ ctl is the range for desirable offerings.

DRIED PEAS—We quote: Green, $1 65@1 85; Blackeye, nominal; Niles, $1 50@1 65 ₱ ctl.

BEANS—We quote as follows: Bayos $3@3 15; Butter, $2 70@2 75 for small and $3@3 20 for large; Pink, $3@3 10; Red, $2 90@3; Lima, $3 15@3 20; Pea, $2 70@2 85; Small White, $2 70@2 80; Large White, $2 65@2 75 ₱ ctl.

VEGETABLES—We quote as follows: Mushrooms, 10@25c ₱ lb; String Beans, 8@12c ₱ lb; Wax Beans, 8@10c ₱ lb; Summer Squash, —@—c ₱ lb; Cucumbers, 50c@$1 ₱ dozen; Green Peppers, —c; Green Peas, 2@4c; Asparagus, $1 75@2 25 ₱ box for No. 1 and $1@1 50 ₱ box for No. 2; Rhubarb, 90c@$1 12½ ₱ box; Turnips, 70@75c ₱ ctl; Beets, 75c ₱ sack; Carrots, feed, 40@50c; Cabbage, 80@85c; Garlic, ¾@1¼c ₱ lb; Cauliflower, 50@65c ₱ dozen; Dry Peppers, 6@8c ₱ lb; Dry Okra, 15c ₱ lb; Marrowfat Squash, $35@40 ₱ ton.

FRESH FRUIT—We quote as follows: Apples, 50c@$1 25 for common, $1 50@1 75 for good to choice, and $2 ₱ box for fancy.

CITRUS FRUIT—We quote as follows: Mexican Limes, $4 50@5; California Limes, 75c ₱ box; Lemons, Sicily, $4 50; California Lemons, $1@1 50 for common and $2@2 50 for good to choice; Bananas, $1@2 ₱ bunch; Hawaiian Pineapples, $3@6; Mexican Pineapples, $5 50@6 ₱ dozen; Riverside Navels, $1 50@2 25, Riverside Seedlings, $1@1 25 ₱ box; San Bernardino Navels, $2@2 50 ₱ box; San Bernardino Seedlings, $1@1 50 ₱ box; Oroville Navels, —@— ₱ box; Oroville Seedlings, —@— ₱ box; Los Angeles Navels, $1 25@1 50; Los Angeles Seedlings, 75c@$1; San Gabriel Navels, $1 50@2; San Gabriel Seedlings, 75@$1 ₱ box.

DRIED FRUIT—We quote as follows: Dates, 4½@5c; Apples, sun-dried, quartered, 5@6c; do, sliced, 6@7c; do, evaporated, in boxes, 9@10c ₱ lb; Pears, bleached, 5@6c for sliced, 3@5c for quartered and 8c for evaporated; Pears, unbleached, 3@4c for sliced and 2½@3c for quartered; Figs, 4@5c for pressed and 3@3½c for unpressed; Prunes, 7@8c for small, 9¾@9½c for the four sizes and 10c for the fifth size of 50@60s; Pitted Plums, 9¼@10c; unpitted Plums, 2½@5c; bleached Peaches, 9@11c; sun-dried Peaches, 6@8¼c ₱ lb; Apricots, 11c to 14c for Royals and 15@16c for Moorparks; Grapes, 2@2¼c ₱ lb.

RAISINS—We quote: London Layers, $1 25 to $1 60; loose Muscatel, 85c@$1 25 in boxes and 3¾@4½c ₱ lb in sacks.

NUTS—We quote as follows: Chestnuts, 7@10c ₱ lb; Walnuts, 7@9c for hard shell, 10@12½c for soft shell and —c ₱ lb for paper shell; Chile Walnuts, 8@9c; California Almonds, 13½@14½c for soft shell, 7½@8½c for hard shell and 15@18c for paper shell; Peanuts, 3@4c; Hickory Nuts, 7@8c; Filberts, 10@11c; Pecans, 8@10c for small and 14@16c for large; Brazil Nuts, 9c; Pinenuts, 12½@13c ₱ lb; Cocoanuts, $4@5 ₱ 100.

HONEY—Market quiet though firm. We quote: Comb, 12½@14c; amber extracted, 7@7½c; dark, 6@7c; water white extracted, 8@8½c ₱ lb.

BEESWAX—Quotable at 24@27c ₱ lb.

BUTTER—We quote: Fancy creamery, 19@20c; fancy dairy, 17@18c; good to choice, 15@16c; common grades, 12@14c ₱ lb.

CHEESE—We quote lots: Choice to fancy new, 10@11½c; fair to good, 8@9c; Eastern, ordinary to fine, 11@13c; do, fancy creamery, 14@15c ₱ lb.

EGGS—We quote: California ranch, 19@20c; store lots, 17½@18½c ₱ doz. Eastern Eggs are offered at 17½@18c ₱ dozen.

POULTRY—Live Turkeys—Gobblers, 19@20c ₱ lb; Hens 19@20c; dressed, 21@22c ₱ lb; Roosters, $5 50@6 50 for old and $8@9 for young; Fryers, $5 50@6 50; Broilers, $4 50@5 50 for small and $6@6 50 for large; Hens $6 50@7 50; Ducks, $7 50@8 50; Geese, old, $1 75@2; Goslings, $2 50@3 ₱ pair.

GAME—We quote: Hare, 75c@$1; Rabbits, $1@1 25 ₱ dozen.

PROVISIONS—Eastern Hams, 15@16c; California Hams, 14½@15c; Eastern Breakfast Bacon, 16@16½c; California Bacon, heavy and medium, 13½@14c; do, light, 14½@15c; do, extra light, 15@16c; do, clear sides, 13@13½c ₱ lb; Pork, extra prime, $16@16 50; do, prime mess, $17@18; do, mess, $23@24; do, clear, $25@26; do, extra clear, $26@27 ₱ bbl; Pigs' Feet, $12 50 ₱ bbl; Beef, mess, bbls, $7 50@8; do, extra mess, bbls, $8 50@9; do, family, $11@12 ₱ bbl; extra do, $12 50@13 ₱ bbl; do, smoked, 10½@11c; Eastern Lard, compound, tierces, 10½@11c; do, prime steam, 13@13¼c; 10-lb pails, 14c; 5-lb, 14½c; 3-lb, 14¾; California, 10-lb tins, 12@12½c; do, 5-lb, 12½@13c; do, kegs, 13½c; do, 20-lb buckets, 13c ₱ lb.

WOOL—The market is quiet, with increased receipts. A fair share of selling is being done, but dealers exercise much caution. The weekly report of Thomas Denigan, Son & Co. says: "There is considerable inquiry for choice shipping grades of short Wool, of which the quantity reaching here is limited. The poor descriptions of both long and short are neglected. The scourers are taking good year's Wool, but they decline entertaining poor shrinky parcels at any price." Reported sales of 70,000 lbs of six to seven months' growth at 12@15c; 60,000 lbs year's fleece, private. We quote spring:

Nevada, ₱ lb	16@18c
San Joaquin and Southern, year's staple	10@13c
Do, short Wools	12@15c
Lo, do, very poor and shrinky	9@11c

HIDES AND SKINS—Quotable as follows:

	Sound.	Culls.
Heavy Steers, 57 lbs up, ₱ lb	7¼@—c	6 @6½c
Medium Steers, 46 to 56 lbs	6 @6½	4¾@5
Light, 42 to 47 lbs	4¾@5	3½@4
Cows	4 @5½	3 @4½
Stags	4 @—	3 @—
Kips, 17 to 30 lbs	4½@—	3 @3½
Veal Skins, 10 to 17 lbs	5½@—	4 @4½
Calf Skins, 5 to 10 lbs	8 @—	5 @—

Dry Hides, usual selection, 9c; Dry Kips 9c ₱ lb; Calf Skins, do, 9@9½c; Cull, Hides, Kip and Calf, 6@6½c; Pelts, shearlings, 10@25c each; do, short, 40@70c each; do, medium, 70@90c each; do, long wool, 90c@$1 40 each; Deer Skins, summer, 37½c; do, good medium, 30@32½c; do, winter, 20@25c ₱ lb; Goat Skins, 30@50c apiece for prime to perfect, 10@25c for damaged, and 5@10c each for kids.

TALLOW—Refined, 7¾@8c; rendered, 6½c to 7c; grease, 4@4½c ₱ lb.

TANBARK—We quote: Ground, $24 ₱ ton.

POSTS—Quotable at 10½c apiece.

WOOD—We quote: Redwood, $5 25; Oak, rough, $7 25@7 50; Peeled Oak, $8; Pine, $6 75 ₱ cord.

STAVE BOLTS—We quote: Spruce, first-class, $10@11; second-class, $9@10; Fir, first-class, $10@11; do, second-class, $8@9 ₱ cord.

RAILROAD TIES—Quotable at 37½c apiece for 6x8, 45@50c for 7x9, and 41c for 7x8.

Meat Market.

Beef is firm at quoted figures, the supply being none too large. Mutton and Lamb are both cheaper than they were a week ago. Following are the rates for whole carcasses from slaughterers to dealers:

BEEF—First quality, 6½@7c second quality, 5½@6c; third quality, 5@5½c ₱ lb.

CALVES—Quotable at 5@8c ₱ lb.

MUTTON—Quotable at 7@8c ₱ lb.;

LAMB—Spring, 10@11c ₱ lb.

PORK—Live Hogs, on foot, grain fed, heavy and medium, 7c; stock Hogs, 6c; dressed Hogs, 9½c to 10c ₱ lb.

Eastern and Foreign Markets.

NEW YORK, April 11th.

WHEAT—77⅞c for May, and 80c for July. Weekly exports Wheat, 1,042,256 bushels. Weekly exports Flour, 273,511 bbls.

CHICAGO, April 11th.

WHEAT—84¾c for May, 76c for July and 75¾c for September.

LIVERPOOL, April 11th.

WHEAT—Firm but not active. California spot lots, 6s; off coast, 30s 6d; just shipped 31s; nearly due, 30s 6d; cargoes off coast, quiet but steady; on passage, 6d higher and there is a continental demand; English country markets, generally dearer; Wheat in Paris, quiet; Flour, steady; weather in England, colder.

SACRAMENTO MARKET.

Business Fair in Local Circles—Shipping Trade Good.

SACRAMENTO, April 11th.

Business in the local markets to-day was fairly good, though not by any means active. There was a fair amount of shipping, local trade being about an average. All lines of produce are in good supply and prices remain stationary. The Egg market continues to stiffen and prices have an upward tendency. Butter is just about holding its own, receipts being fully equal to the demand. There is little or nothing doing in Fruits, nothing of a choice nature being in the market. Chickens are more plentiful and prices weaker, while Turkeys, Geese and Ducks are scarce and high. Potatoes and Eggs are scarce and high. Meats continue high. Spring Lamb is becoming more plentiful, but receipts are not of large enough volume to cause a decline in quotations.

Retail Prices.

Following are the prices asked by retailers for the various articles mentioned:

GREEN FRUIT—Apples, $1 75@2 25 ₱ box; Cranberries, in water, 70c ₱ gallon.

DRIED FRUIT—Apricots, 10@12c ₱ lb; Apples, 8@10c; Peaches, 12½@16c; Plums, 12@14c; Prunes, 8@10c; Pears, 7@9c; Nectarines, 12@16c; Grapes, $1 ₱ box; Figs, 5@8c ₱ lb.

CITRUS FRUITS—Limes, Mexican, 15c ₱ doz; Lemons—Sicily, 35c per doz; California Lemons, 15c. Oranges—Riverside, Seedlings, 10@25c per doz; Mediterranean Sweets, 30@50c ₱ doz; Navels, 25@50c ₱ doz, according to size; Cocoanuts, 10c each; Pineapples, 50c each; Bananas, 15@35c ₱ doz; Tamarinds, 20c ₱ lb.

DAIRY PRODUCE—Butter, Valley, ₱ roll, 40c; Fancy Petaluma, 50c; Nevada Creamery, 55c; Eastern Packed, 20c ₱ lb; Firkin, 18@20c; Pickled Roll, 40c ₱ roll; Cheese—California, 15c ₱ lb; Young America, 16c; Eastern Creamery, 20c; Limburger, 20c; Genuine Swiss, 40c; American, 25c; Martin's Creamery, 20c.

EGGS—20c ₱ doz.; 3 doz, 50c.

POULTRY—Turkeys—Live, 20c ₱ lb; Gobblers, 20c; dressed, 24c; Chickens, Hens, $6@6 50 ₱ doz, 60@75c each; Roosters, $6 ₱ doz, 60@70c each; Broilers, $4 50 ₱ doz, 50@60c each; Tame Ducks, $10 ₱ doz, 75c each; Geese, $1 50 each.

GAME—Hare, 35c ₱ pair; Rabbits, 35c ₱ pair; Squirrels, 35c ₱ pair; Gray Geese, 75c; Brant, 50c; White, 25c.

VEGETABLES—Turnips, 12½c ₱ doz; Yellow Turnips, 12½c; Beets, 12½c; Carrots, 12½c; Parsnips, 12½c; Oyster Plant, 12½c; Lettuce, 12½c; Radishes, 12½c; Leek, 12½c; Cabbage, 1¼c ₱ lb; Savoy Cabbage, 10c ₱ head; Celery, 5@10c; Cauliflower, 5@10c; Red Cabbage, 10c; Kale, 5c; Green Onions, 12½c ₱ doz; Onions, 5c ₱ lb; Hubbard Squash, 1½c ₱ lb; Dried Peppers, 25c; Garlic, 8c; Horseradish Roots, 10c; Mushrooms, 20@35c; Spinach, 6c; Green Peas, 8c; Green Peppers, 35c; Dried Okra, 50c; Rhubarb, 8c; Celery Root, 5c ₱ bunch; Asparagus, 8c ₱ lb; Water Cress, 25c ₱ doz; French Carrots, 5c ₱ bunch; Cucumbers, 10@20c; Artichokes, 60c ₱ doz; String Beans, 20c ₱ lb.

POTATOES—Early Rose (new), $1 25@1 40 ₱ cwt; Peerless, $1 50@1 60; River Burbanks, $1 50; River Reds, $1 35 ₱ sack; Sweets, $2 50 ₱ cwt; Nevadas, $2 25@2 50; New Potatoes, 8c ₱ lb; Centennials, $1 45.

MEATS—Beef, Prime Rib Roast, 12½@15c; Chuck Roasts, 10c; Rump, 8c; Brisket, 8c; Corn Beef, 8c; Porterhouse Steak, 15@18c; Loin Steak, 12½@15c; Round Steak, 10c; Chuck, 10c. Veal—Loin and Rib Chops, 15c; Roast Veal, 12½c. Mutton—Leg, 11@12½c; Loin and Rib Chops, 12½c; Mutton Stew, 8c; Shoulder Chops, 8c. Pork—Roast or Chops, 13c; Corned Pork, 15c; Sausages, 12½c; Vienna Sausages, 15c; Bacon, 14@19c; Ham, 16@20c.

LARD—Eastern, 15c; California, 12½@15c ₱ lb.

BREADSTUFFS—Flour, $4 40 ₱ bbl, $1 10 for 50-lb sacks, $2 20 for 100-lb sacks; Oatmeal, 10-lb sacks, 40c; Cornmeal, 10-lb sacks, 35c; Cracked Wheat, 10-lb sacks, 35c; Hominy, 10-lb sacks, 40c; Graham Flour, 10-lb sacks, 30c; Buckwheat, 10-lb sacks, 50c; Rye, 35c ₱ 10-lb sack.

HAY AND GRAIN—Hay, Oat, 65c ₱ cwt; Wheat, 65c; second quality, 55c; Alfalfa, 60c; White Wild Oats, $1 25@1 35; Ground Barley, $1 10; Feed Oats, $1 60@1 85; Middlings, $1 10; Bran, 90c; Straw, 70@75c.

Rates to Producers.

Following are the prices to producers of the various articles mentioned:

GREEN FRUIT—Apples, 75c@$1 25 ₱ box; Cranberries, $10 50@11 ₱ bbl.

DRIED FRUIT—Apricots, 6@7c ₱ lb; Peaches, 9@10c; Apples, 5@8c; Prunes, 9@10c; Pears, 4@5c; Nectarines, 7@8c; Raisins, $1 50 ₱ box; Figs, 7c; Grapes, 7c.

DAIRY PRODUCE—Butter—Valley, 17½c ₱ lb; Fancy Petaluma, 19c; Nevada Creamery, 21c; Firkin, 15@17½c; Pickle Roll, 17½c. Cheese—California, 10c; Young America, 11c; Eastern Creamery, 15@16c; Limburger, 17@18c; Genuine Swiss, 28c; American Swiss, 16@18c; Martin's Creamery, 15@16c.

EGGS—Ranch, 13@15c ₱ dozen.

POULTRY—Turkeys—Live Hens, 16c ₱ lb; Gobblers, 15c; dressed, 18c. Chickens—Hens, $6@7 ₱ dozen; Roosters, $5@6; Broilers, $3; Tame Ducks, $6 50; Geese, $2 ₱ pair.

GAME—Hare, 20c ₱ pair; Rabbits, 20c ₱ pair; Squirrels, 25c ₱ pair; Gray Geese, 50c; Brant, 35c; White, 15c.

VEGETABLES—Yellow Turnips, 8c ₱ dozen; Beets, 8c; Turnips, 8c; Carrots, 8c; Parsnips, 8c; Oyster Plant, 8c; Lettuce, 8c; Radishes, 8c; Green Onions, 8c; Leek, 8c; Cabbage, ¾c ₱ lb; Celery, 50c; Cauliflower, 50c; Red Cabbage, 50c; Onions, 2½c ₱ lb; Hubbard Squash, ¾c; Dried Peppers, 12½c; Garlic, 6c; Horseradish Root, 8c; Mushrooms, 6@8c; Spinach, 3½c; Green Peas, 5c; Peppers, 20c; Dried Okra, 20c; Celery Root, 40c ₱ dozen; Asparagus, 4½c ₱ lb; Rhubarb, 4@5c ₱ lb; String Beans, 15c ₱ lb; Cucumbers, $1 50 ₱ dozen.

MEATS—Beef, 5½@6c ₱ lb; Mutton, 7½@8c; Lamb, 8@9c; Veal, large, 5@5½c; small, dressed, 8@9c; Hogs, 5½@6½c; dressed Pork, 9c; Hams, Eastern, 17@20c; California, 15@17c; Bacon, 12½@17c.

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CAUTION—Don't be duped by unscrupulous Druggists who offer cheap trash which they claim is just as good or better than BENSON'S. Get the Genuine, always reliable. Keep them at home for emergencies.

THE PRESS VOICE.

What the Interior Papers Have to Say.

Public Matters Freely Discussed by the Intelligent Press of California.

Referring to the late lynching at that place, the San Bernardino *Courier* says: "Lynch law is at times objectionable, and at times the only available way in which justice can be meted out. It smacks of the frontier, but oftentimes the older settlements must adopt such severe measures or be at the mercy of those who laugh at the law and the lax way in which it is enforced."

Riverside *Enterprise:* "It is generally conceded that the press usually reflects the sentiment of communities. If this is the case there is little chance for the removal of the State Capital to San Jose, for a very great majority of the papers of the State oppose the removal proposition. We feel certain that the good sense of the taxpayer will manifest itself in a big vote against removal."

Santa Cruz *Surf:* "Santa Cruz has taken a sudden start on the pathway of improvement, impelled as if by a veritable earthquake of enthusiasm. It would seem as if the gospel of progress for this city read, 'Seek ye first an adequate bathing establishment and all else shall be added unto you,' for no sooner is this assured than plans for public good and private profit multiply on every hand, and many of them certainly bid fair to materialize in the not distant by-and-by."

Palermo *Progress:* "As to the fruit crop, the season has turned out splendidly. It is true that blooming was delayed to some extent, but it has turned out rather to an advantage than otherwise. There has been no frost to any extent, and all varieties of trees will produce well. And we are informed by experienced orchardists that thinning out will have to be resorted to to a large extent to save breakage of limbs. So it will be seen that as a whole the prospects are fairly flattering."

Redding *Free Press:* "The good people of San Francisco appear to have just discovered that position in the public schools have been made merchandise of. Isn't it funny that so old a custom has just become apparent. Well, it is high time that money and immorality should make room for worth and virtue."

Tulare *Register:* "While California may not have the entire world for a market for her olives, she will come nearer having it with that than with any other one of her products. The European demand for olive oil is increasing much more rapidly than the production of good oil, which fact has been immensely stimulative of adulteration. Indeed it is probable that hardly a bottle of the pure oil of olive, uncontaminated by cotton-seed, lard or peanut oils, is to be found in America, except that which comes from California, and very little pure olive oil is to be found in Europe."

Winnemucca *Silver State:* "The trouble with the Nevada farmer in most cases is that he is in too big a hurry to realize from the products of the soil, and is not content to allow nature to run things her own original way; there doesn't seem to be as many harvests in a year as he would like to see."

Los Angeles *Herald:* "The tall and commanding figure of Governor Markham was seen on our streets yesterday. He looks unusually well. We had no opportunity of investigating the famous 'hypnotic fist.'"

Riverside *Enterprise:* "Advices from all sections of Riverside County indicate that a very large vote will be polled in favor of ratifying the bill passed by the Legislature creating the new county. The people of San Jacinto, Perris, Winchester, Elsinore and other towns in that section are rallying for the good cause in good shape. Those people have for years been taxed to support San Diego County without being accorded any say, to speak of, in the management of the affairs of the county. They have been cut off from their county seat, and have been forced to spend lots of money and time whenever it was necessary to go to the county seat to do business. Any change for them could not but better the situation and they are sensible enough to know that the organization of Riverside County will be of lasting benefit to them."

San Bernardino *Courier:* "Good roads help every other business, and bad roads are a burden on the people equal to an excessive tax levy. With good roads where we now have mediocre ones, the saving of time, power and wear and tear on vehicles would be very great, no matter whether hauling a load of oranges or going for a pleasure drive."

Pomona *Progress:* "The orange market, which, contrary to expectation, has been very discouraging for weeks, is growing better. There are all manner of theories as to the cause of the present state of the Eastern orange market, but none of them are satisfactory to the growers."

SAN FRANCISCO STOCK MARKET.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 11, 1893.

MORNING SESSION.

B. & B.	1 40	Mexican	1 35
C. C. & V.	2 35	Ophir	2 10
Crown Point	95c	Overman	30c
G. & C.	60c	Union	80c
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PUBLIC LANDS.

Difficulties in the Way of Acquirement by Settlers.

[San Francisco Bulletin, April 11th.]

There are few States in the Union more inviting to settlers than California. And in very few of the newer States, if any, have settlers found so many difficulties in the way of securing any part of the public domain. The public surveys have been made in patches, and very much at the discretion of a single Federal officer who expends the appropriations in his own way. The consequence is that there has never been any system in the public surveys of this State. Many of these surveys have been tainted with fraud, and have been so imperfectly done that a settler could not follow the boundaries, and even the local surveyor hired to trace them found inaccuracies that could not be reconciled with any faithful work. The Benson cases were the scandal of the times. Without dwelling on the details of the disclosures made in those cases, they illustrated the loose manner in which the public land interests in the State had been guarded. Theoretically, there is no mystery about the manner of acquiring public lands for homestead purposes. The settler is supposed to have access to all needed information. All that he would have to do would be to walk into the Land Office, file his claim on the quarter-section supposed to be vacant, lay down the fee required, in due time prove up his claim and receive his patent. But in practice, in nine cases out of ten, he cannot do this. His way is hedged up. There are filings in pigeonholes which, while a part of the public record, have never seen the light. If the land is particularly desirable some one not a bona fide settler is generally ahead of him.

The State Land Office has been the subject of constant complaint for many years. It has always been surrounded by a cordon of professional land sharps, so that it has been found almost impossible for any settler to obtain land without having some professional to take charge of his case. The school lands, for instance, granted to the State, embracing two sections in each township, were supposed to be accessible to settlers at $1 25 an acre, a small per cent. being paid down and the remainder to be called in with interest whenever the State should make the demand. These lands have been subject to the hottest contention of any public lands in the State. Practically they were worth much more on the average than the nominal price fixed for them. The lieu land complication increased the difficulties. When the sections designated were mineral land, or had been already appropriated, it was provided that the same quantity of land might be turned over to the State out of any other part of the public domain. The forest reservation recently authorized by Act of Congress and defined by the proclamation of the President, has made the foundation of a nominal claim for many thousand acres of lieu land—as much at least as was supposed to be included in the school sections of this reservation. That is the present complication. The struggle is for precedence. The rule first come, first served, is subject to some singular constructions.

It is not an extraordinary circumstance that the applicants should far exceed the sections of land at the disposal of the State. But no well defined rule makes the procedure plain. What has been needed for a long time is a thorough overhauling of the State Land Office. If that office has been used, as many affirm, for the discouragement of honest settlers, the sooner such hindrances are removed the better. What is most to be desired in this State is a very large increase of settlers, and not one of them should be turned away or find a single hindrance in the way of his settlement.

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