FINANCE AND LOCAL TRADE

Condition of the Six Associated Banks as Reported to the Clearing-House.

Decrease in Deposits and Reserve Last Week, but the Latter Is Still Nearly Three Millions Above the 33 1-3 Per Cent. Rule.

The reports made to the clearing-house by the six associated banks of the city of their condition at the close of business Dec. 17, show that over $200,000 of the reserve fund was taken from the vaults last week and placed in circulation. The statement is as follows:

Loans	$7,138,823.78
Deposits	10,751,492.32
Reserve	6,274,272.91
Loans increased	31,581.50
Deposits decreased	192,209.04
Reserve decreased	213,644.77

The banks hold $2,690,448.80 cash in excess of the 33⅓ per cent. required by the clearing-house rule.

The comparative statement of clearances and balances shows:

	Dec. 19, 1891.	Dec. 19, 1890.
Clearances	$898,916.70	$533,804.44
Balances	120,800.27	78,131.65

The business for the week ending Saturday, compared with the corresponding week in 1890, was:

	1891.	1890.
Clearances	$5,664,291.76	$3,843,845.98
Balances	678,836.62	434,887.16

NEW YORK QUOTATIONS.

At New York, Saturday, money on call was easy, ranging from 2½ to 3 per cent., the last loan being made at 2½ per cent., closing offered at 2½ per cent.

Prime mercantile paper, 4¾@6 per cent.

Sterling exchange was quiet and steady at $4.82½ for sixty-day bills and $4.84½ for demand.

The total sales of stocks were 186,481 shares, including the following: Atchison, 8,150; Chicago Gas, 6,202; Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, 2,400; Erie, 32,370; Hocking Valley, 2,050; Lake Shore, 2,010; Louisville & Nashville, 5,200; Northwestern, 2,340; Northern Pacific preferred, 3,300; Reading, 6,800; Richmond & West Point, 4,234; St. Paul, 12,185; Union Pacific, 3,505.

The stock market was a legitimate continuation of those of the last few days, there being still the very pronounced buying by commission houses, while the selling remained principally professional and with no significance. The great feature of the day was the continued purchases by the foreigners, and the stocks which are the greatest favorites abroad were the most prominent in the market on this side. Among these were Erie, Louisville & Nashville. They were specially conspicuous, the first being again the leader in point of activity, while scoring a marked advance, and the last making the largest final gain of anything of the active list. The bank statement, while it had no apparent influence upon the course of prices, by reason of its extremely heavy gain in cash, bringing the surplus reserve up to the highest figures known in months, notwithstanding the very liberal expansion in loans, cannot fail to improve the tone of speculation in the near future. Wabash preferred was also again very active and strong, further increasing its substantial gain. Among the low-priced shares Cotton Oil, the Iowa Centrals, Central Pacific and Hocking Valley led in the upward movement, all scoring material advances. The St. Paul & Duluths were weak, the preferred reacting 1½ per cent. The market in general opened quiet but higher, and, while "bear" pressure caused the loss of the opening gains in the early dealings, the concession was only momentary, and the whole list soon resumed its steady upward march. No signs of reaction were seen until the final dealings, when realizations on the advances accrued caused some hesitation. The close was still active and firm to strong, at or near the highest prices of the day. Among the active shares the final prices show small gains as a rule, but Louisville & Nashville is up 1¼, and Cotton Oil 1 per cent.

Railroads were again specially active, displaying the same stubborn strength as has been seen in the share list. While the more prominent issues failed to score any substantial improvement, all prices were higher last evening. The total dealings for the two hours were $2,102,500, out of which the Atchison incomes furnished $302,000 and the St. Louis, Southwestern firsts $123,000. Among the more important changes in quotations were Chesapeake & Ohio railroad seconds, 2 per cent., to 78.

Government bonds were dull and steady, while State bonds were neglected. Closing quotations were:

Four per ct. reg	116⅝	Louis. & Nash	82⅝
Four per ct. coup	117½	L. & New Albany	24
Pacific 6s of '95	108½	Missouri Pacific	58
Atchison	44¾	N. J. Central	113½
Adams Express	144	Northern Pacific	24⅞
Alton & T. H.	29	N. Pacific pref	69¼
Alton & T. H. pref	135	Northwestern	115⅝
American Express	114	Northwestern pref	140½
Ches. & Ohio	26⅜	N. Y. Central	118⅛
C. & O. pref. 1sts	60¼	O. & Mississippi	21
C. & O. pref. 2ds	39	O. & M. pref	85
C., B. & Q.	107⅝	Peoria, D. & E.	21⅛
C., C., C. & St. L.	*70⅛	Pullman Palace	185
Del., Lack. & W.	139¾	Rock Island	89⅝
Fort Wayne	154	U. S. Express	50
Lake Erie & W.	22⅜	W., St. L. & P.	14
L. E. & W. pref	69½	W., St. L. & P. pref.	30¾
Lake Shore	124⅞	Wells-Fargo Ex.	140
Lead Trust	18⅜	Western Union	82⅞

*Ex. dividend.

Bar silver at New York, 95c per ounce; at London, 43¾d.

The New York weekly bank statement shows the following changes:

Reserve, increase	$3,822,000
Loans, increase	4,845,100
Specie, increase	4,474,400
Legal tenders, increase	1,180,000
Deposits, increase	9,852,800
Circulation, increase	30,000

The banks now hold $19,164,500 in excess of the requirements of the 25 per cent. rule.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

A Dull and Uneventful Local Market—The Usual Inspections.

On 'Change Saturday wheat ruled firmer, corn dull and weak, and oats slightly easier. There were inspected in seventeen cars of wheat, nineteen cars of corn, two cars of oats and three of hay. Shippers reported an uneventful local market. On 'Change Saturday prices ruled as follows:

Wheat—No. 2 red, 94c; No. 3 red, 90c; rejected, 50@88c; unmerchantable, 65@75c; wagon wheat, 93c.

Corn (all new)—No. 1 white, 43c; No. 2 white, 43c; white mixed, 42½c; No. 3 white, 42c; No. 2 yellow, 43c; No. 3 yellow, 41c; No. 2 mixed, 42c; No. 3 mixed, 40c; ear, 38½@39½c.

Oats—No. 2 white, 35c; No. 3 white, 35½c; No. 2 mixed, 33¼c; rejected, 31@32c.

Hay—Timothy, choice, $12.50; No. 1, $11.50; No. 2, $9; No. 1 prairie, $8; No. 2, $7; mixed hay, $8.

POULTRY, GAME AND OTHER PRODUCE.

The quail season is over, and that dainty bird disappears from the market. Rabbits and squirrels continue to come in small quantities. Shipments of poultry to the East will be lighter for four or five days now that the Christmas market is about supplied. Prices paid Saturday were as follows:

Poultry—Hens, 6c ₱ lb; young chickens, 6c ₱ lb; turkeys, fat, choice hens, 9c ₱ lb, and 9c for fancy young toms; ducks, 6½c ₱ lb; geese, $4.80@5.40 ₱ doz.

Game—Quails, $1 ₱ doz; selling at $1.25@1.50; rabbits, 75@90c ₱ doz, selling at $1@1.25.

Eggs—Shippers paying 22c.

Butter—Choice country, 14@16c; common, 8@10c; choice retailing from store at 25@30c.

Cheese—New York full cream, 13@14c; skims, 5@7c ₱ lb. (Selling prices.)

Feathers—Prime geese, 35c ₱ lb; mixed duck, 20c ₱ lb.

Beeswax—Dark, 35c; yellow, 40c, (selling prices; dealers pay 1@2c.

Wool—Tub-washed and picked, 30@33c; unwashed medium and common grades, if in good order, 20@23c; burry and cotted, 15@18c; fine merino, 18c.

Hides, Tallow, Etc.

Hides—No. 1 G. S. hides, 5c; No. 2 G. S hides, 4c; No. 1 green, 3½c; No. 2 green 2½c.

Horse Hides—$2.50@3.

Tallow—No. 1, 3⅝@4c; No. 2, 3½c.

Grease—White, 3¾c; yellow, 3c; brown 2½c.

Bones—Dry, $12@13 per ton.

GREEN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Commission row is full of good stock. There is complaint of dull trade, buyers evidently holding off until next week to lay in holiday supplies. Selling prices are given below:

Apples—Common, $1.50; choice, $1.75@2.25; fancy, $2.50; ₱ barrel.

Grapes—Catawbas, 35c for 10-lb baskets and 18@20c for 5-lbs; Emperors, $4.50 per 40-lb crate; Malagas, $7 for light-weight kegs, and $7@8 for medium to full weight.

Cranberries—Cape Cod, $7@8 ₱ barrel; $2.50@2.75 ₱ bushel; Jersey, $2.50 ₱ bushel.

Oranges—Floridas, $2@2.50 ₱ box.

Lemons—Choice, $4@4.50 ₱ box; fancy, $5@5.50; Malaga, $4.

Bananas—$1.50@2 ₱ bunch, according to size and quality.

Celery—Home-grown, 25@30c per bunch; Michigan, 15@20c for common, 40@45c for fancy white plumes.

Potatoes—Indiana, 44c ₱ bushel from car; Michigan, 45c; from store, 45@50c.

Sweet Potatoes—Jersey, $3.25@3.50 ₱ brl; Illinois, $3; kiln-dried Jersey, $3.25@3.50.

Cabbage—Home grown, 75c@$1 ₱ barrel; choice Michigan, $4@4.50 ₱ 100; $1 ₱ brl.

Onions—Yellow, 90c@$1 ₱ bushel; red, $1; Spanish onions, $1.25@1.50 ₱ crate.

Cider—Duffy, pure, $5 per trade brl; half brls, $3; Oliver Bros.' sand refined, $5.50@5.75 per brl; half brls, $3.25@3.50; Carson's New York pure, $4.50 ₱ brl; half brls, $2.50.

Hickory Nuts—Large, $1 per bushel; small, $1.50.

THE JOBBING TRADE.

[The quotations given below are the selling prices of wholesale dealers.]

CANDIES AND NUTS.

Candies—Stick, 6c per lb; common mixed, 6c; G. A. R. mixed, 8c; cream mixed, 10c; old-time mixed, 7c; crimp mixed, 10c.

Nuts—Soft-shelled almonds, 17c; pecans, 15c; English walnuts, 10@15c; Brazil nuts, 10c; filberts, 12c; peanuts, roasted, 5@7c; mixed nuts, 12c.

CANNED GOODS.

Peaches—Standard, 3-pound, $1.75@2; 3-pound seconds, $1.30@1.40; California standards, $2.25@2.50; California seconds, $2@2.25. Miscellaneous—Blackberries, 2-pound, 85@95c; raspberries, 2-pound, $1.20@1.30; pineapple, standard, 2-pound, $1.40@2.50; second, 2-pound, $1.20@2.25; cove oysters, 1-pound, full weight, $1.05@1.10; light, 65@70c; 2-pound, full, $2.15@2.25; light, $1.20; string beans, 85@95c; Lima beans, $1.10@1.20; peas, marrow fat, $1.10@1.20; early June, $1.25@1.50; lobsters, $1.85@2; red cherries, 95c@$1.10; strawberries, $1.20@1.30; salmon (lbs), $1.35@2.50.

COAL AND COKE.

Anthracite coal, all sizes, $7 ₱ ton; Pittsburg and Raymond City, $4.50 ₱ ton; Jackson, $4.25; block, $3.50; Island City, $3.25; Blossburg and English cannel, $5. All nut coals 50 cents below above quotations.

Coke—Connellsville, $3.75 ₱ load; crushed, $3.25 ₱ load; lump, $3 ₱ load.

DRIED FRUITS.

Apples—Sun-dried, 4½@5c per lb; evaporated, 8@8½c.

Peaches—Common sun-dried, 4½@5c per lb; common evaporated, 8@9c. California sun-dried, 7½@11c; California evaporated, 9@12c.

Apricots—Sun-dried, 9@11c per lb; evaporated, 10@12c.

Raisins—Loose Muscatel, $1.75@2.25 per box; London layer, $2@2.50 per box; Valencia, 8@9c per lb; layer, 9½@10c.

Currants—6@6½c per lb.

Prunes—Turkish, 7@8c per lb; California, 7½@10c.

Figs—Layer, 13@16c per lb.

DRUGS.

Alcohol, $2.23@2.45; asafetida, 20@25c; alum, 4@5c; camphor, 55@60; cochineal, 50@55c; chloroform, 60@65; copperas, brls., 85c@$1; cream tartar, pure, 30@35c; indigo, 80@81c; licorice, Calab., genuine, 30@35c; magnesia, carb., 2-oz., 25@35c; morphine, P. & W., ₱ oz., $2.20; madder, 14@18c; oil, castor, ₱ gal., $1.15@1.20; oil, bergamont, ₱ lb, $4.50; opium, $2.25; quinine, P. & W., ₱ oz., 31@36c; balsam copaiba, 70@75c; soap, Castile, Fr., 12@16c; soda, bicarb., 4½@6c; salts, Epsom, 4@5c, sulphur, flour, 5@6c; saltpeter, 8@20c; turpentine, 40@45; glycerine, 18@22c; iodide potass., $2.85@3; bromide potass., 40@42c; chlorate potash, 18c; borax, 13@15c; cinchonidia, 12@15c; carbolic acid, 30@35c.

Oils—Linseed oil, raw, 37@40c per gal.; coal oil, legal test, 7@14c; bank, 40c; best straits, 50c; Labrador, 60c; West Virginia lubricating, 20@30c; miners', 45c. Lard oils, No. 1, 50@55c; do., extra, 60@65c.

White Lead—Pure, 7½c.

DRY GOODS.

Bleached Sheetings—Androscoggin L, 7½; Berkeley, No. 60, 7c; Cabot, 7c; Capital, 6¾c; Cumberland, 8c; Dwight Anchor, 8½c; Fruit of Loom, 8½c; Farwell, 7¾c; Fitchville, 6½c; Full Width, 5¾c; Gilt Edge, 5¾; Gilded Age, 5c; Hill, 7¾c; Hope, 7c; Linwood, 8c; Lonsdale, 8½c; Lonsdale Cambric, 10¼c; Masonville, 8½; Peabody, 5½c; Pride of the West, 11½c; Quinebaug, 6¾c; Star of the Nation, 6½c; Ten Strike, 6½c; Pepperell 9-4, 20c; Pepperel 10-4, 22c; Androscoggin 9-4, 20c; Androscoggin 10-4, 22c.

Brown Sheetings—Atlantic A, 7c; Argyle, 6¼c; Boott C, 5½c; Buck's Head, 6¾c; Clifton CCC, 6c; Constitution, 40-inch, 7¾c; Carlisle, 40-inch, 7c; Dwight Star, 7c; Great Falls E, 7c; Great Falls J, 6c; Lood Luck LL, 5¼c; Harper LL, 5c; Hill Fine, 7¼c; Indian Head, 7c; Lawrence LL, 5¼c; Lockwood B, 6¾c; Nabob Royal, 8¾c; Lone Jack H, 5¾c; Pensacola A, 5½c; Princess, 6¾c; Saranac R, 6½c; Trion Sea Island, 5½c; Pepperell E, 7c; Pepperell R, 6¾c; Pepperell 9-4, 17½c; Pepperell 10-4, 20c; Androscoggin 9-4, 18c; Androscoggin 10-4, 20c.

Prime Cambrics—Manville, 5½c; S. S. & Son's, 5½c; Masonville, 5½c; Garner, 5½c.

Tickings—Amoskeag ACA, 12½c; Conestoga BF, 14½c; Cordis 140, 13½c; Cordis FT, 13½c; Cordis ACE, 12½c; Hamilton awning, 10½c; Kimono Fancy, 18c; Lenox Fancy, 20c; Methuen AA, 12c; Oakland 200, 7½c; Oakland 250, 8c; Oakland AF, 7c; Portsmouth, 12½c; Susquehanna, 14½c; Shetucket SW, 7½c; Shetucket F, 8c; Swift River, 6¾c.

Grain Bags—Amoskeag, $16.50; American, $16.50; Franklinville, $17.50; Harmony, $16.50; Stark, $19.50.

Ginghams—Amoskeag Staples, 6¾c; Amoskeag Persian Dress, 8½c; Bates Warwick Dress, 8c; Johnson BF Staples, 9½c; Johnson BF Fancies, 8½c; Lancaster, 7c; Lancaster Nomanda, 8c; Carrolton, 4¾c; Renfrew Dress, 8½c; Renfrew Novelties, 10½c; Whittunton Heather, 7¾c; Calcutta Dress Styles, 7½c.

Prints—Allen dress styles, 5¼c; Allen's staples, 5c; Allen TR, 5¾c; Allen robes, 5½c; American indigo, 5¼c; American robes, 6½c; American shirtings, 5¾c; Arnold merino, 6c; Arnold indigo, 5½c; Arnold LCC, 9c, Arnold LCB, 10c; Arnold Gold Seal, 10c; Cocheco fancy, 6c; Cocheco madders, 5½c; Hamilton fancy, 6c; Machester fancy, 6c; Merrimack fancy, 6c; Merrimack pinks and purples, 6½c; Pacific fancy, 6c; Pacific robe, 6½c; Pacific mourning, 6c; Simpson Eddystone, 6c; Simpson Berlin solids, 5½c; Simpson's boil finish, 7c; Simpson's greys, 6c; Simpson's mournings, 6c.

GROCERIES.

Coffee—Good, 20½@21½c; prime, 21½@½c; strictly prime to choice, 23@23½c; fancy green and yellow, 25½@27½c; old government Java, 35@36c; ordinary Java, 29½@30½c; imitation Java, 27½@28½c. Roasted coffees—1-lb packages, 20¼c.

Sugars—Hard, 4⅝@5¼c; confectioners' A, 4⅛c; off A, 4@4⅛c; white extra C, 3¾@3⅞c; extra C, 3½@3⅝c; good yellows, 3⅜@3¼c; fair yellows, 3⅛c.

Molasses and Syrups—New Orleans molasses, fair to prime, 30@40c; choice, 40@50c; syrups, 30@42c.

Honey—16@18c ₱ lb.

Rice—Louisiana, 6@7½c; Carolina, 5½@7c.

Beans—Choice, hand-picked navy, $2@2.25 ₱ bu; medium hand-picked, $2@2.10.

Spices—Pepper, 16@18c; allspice, 12@15c; cloves, 20@25c; casaia, 10@12c; nutmegs, 80@85c ₱ lb.

Salt—In car lots, 95c; small lots, $1@1.05.

Woodenware—No. 1 tubs, $7@7.25; No. 2 tubs, $6@6.25; No. 3 tubs, $5@5.25; 3-hoop pails, $1.50@1.75; 2-hoop pails, $1.40@1.45; double washboards, $2.25@2.75; common washboards, $1.50@1.85; clothes-pins, 50@85c ₱ box.

Wooden Dishes—Per 100, 1 lb, 20c; 2 lbs, 25c; 3 lbs, 30c; 5 lbs, 40c.

Twine—Hemp, 12@18c ₱ lb; wool, 8@10c; flax, 20@30c; paper, 18c; jute, 12@15c; cotton, 16@25c.

Shot—$1.50@1.55 ₱ bag for drop.

Lead—7@7½c for pressed bars.

Flour-sacks (paper)—Plain, 1-32 bbl, ₱ 1,000, $3.50; 1-16, $5; ⅛ bbl, $8; ¼ bbl, $16; No. 2 drab, plain, 1-32 bbl, ₱ 1,000, $3.75; 1-16, $6.25; ⅛, $10; ¼, $20; No. 1 cream, plain, 1-32 ₱ 1,000, $7; 1-16, $8.75; ⅛, $14.50; ¼, $28.50. Extra charge for printing.

IRON AND STEEL.

Bar iron (rates), 1.90@2c; horseshoe bar, 3c; nail rod, 6c; plow-slabs, 3c; American cast steel, 9c; tire steel, 3c; spring steel, 5c.

LEATHER.

Leather—Oak sole, 24@33c; hemlock sole, 22@28c; harness, 24@31c; skirting, 31@33c; black bridle, ₱ doz., $30@65; fair bridle, $60@78 ₱ doz.; city kip, 65@85c; French kip, 85c@$1.10; city calf-skins, 70c@$1; French calf-skins, $1@1.80.

NAILS AND HORSESHOES.

Steel cut nails, $1.80; wire nails, $2.10, rates; horseshoes, ₱ keg, $4.25; mule-shoes, ₱ keg, $5.25; horse-nails, $4@5.

PROVISIONS.

Hams—Sugar-cured, 20 lbs average, 9@9½c; 18 lbs average, 9½@10c; 15 lbs average, 10@10½c; 10 to 12½ lbs average, 10¼@11c.

Breakfast Bacon—Clear English-cured, 10@11c.

Bacon—Clear sides, 25 to 30 lbs average, 8c; 40 lbs average, 7¾c; clear bellies, 10 lbs average, 8½; 18 to 22 lbs average, 8c; clear backs, 8 lbs average, 7¾c.

Shoulders—English-cured, 12 lbs average, 7c; 16 lbs average, 6¾c.

Dried Beef—Inside pieces and knuckles, 9½c; outsides, 6½c.

Pickled Pork—Bean pork, clear, ₱ brl 200 lbs, $16; family pork, ₱ brl 200 lbs, $15; rump pork, ₱ brl 200 lbs, $11.50.

Lard—Kettle-rendered, in tierces, 8½c; lower grades, 7@7½c.

SEEDS.

Clover—Extra choice recleaned, 60-lb bu, $4.35@4.50; prime, $4.15@4.35; English, choice, $4.25@4.50; Alsike, as to quality, $6@8.50; Alfalfa, $6.50@7; white Dutch, as to quality, $7@9.50. Timothy—Fancy, 45-lb bu; $1.70@1.80; choice, $1.55@1.60; strictly prime, $1.50@1.55. Blue-grass—Fancy Kentucky, 14-lb bu, $2.50@2.75; English choice, 24-lb bu, $1.85@1.95. Orchard Grass—Choice, 14-lb bu, $1.35@1.50. Italian Rye Grass—Choice, 18-lb bu, $1.50@1.75. Red Top—Choice, 14-lb bu, 45@55c.

TINNERS' SUPPLIES.

Best brand charcoal tin, IC, 10x14, 14x20, 12x12, $7.50; IX, 10x14, 14x20 and 12x12, $9.50; IC, 14x20, roofing tin, $5.75@6; IC, 20x28, $11.50@12.50; block tin, in pigs, 26c; in bars, 28c. Iron—27 B iron, 3¼c; C iron, 5c; galvanized, 50 and 10 to 60 per cent. discount. Sheet zinc, 7c. Copper bottoms, 34c. Planished copper, 38c. Solder, 15@16c.

OVERLOOKED SOLDIERS.

A Blank to Be Filled by Veterans Not Counted in the Last Census.

The following blank is printed in the Journal by request of the Superintendent of Census, for the purpose of obtaining, through this paper, detailed information respecting the military services of such survivors of the war of the rebellion as were overlooked, or have reason to believe they were overlooked by the enumerator in June, 1890. All such persons are requested to fill out the blank in pencil, put it in a stamped envelope, and forward to Washington, D. C., addressed to the Superintendent of Census.

Veterans who served in more than one organization are requested to give the particulars of their services in each of them. Use separate sheets of paper and answer all questions consecutively as numbered below, writing names and figures very distinctly:

Write full name below. If a widow, write given name only, and add "widow of," supplying the soldier's name.

1 Name enlisted under if different from above.

2 Rank at muster-out.

3 Letter of company. Number of regiment.

4 State mustered from.

5 Arm of service—cavalry, military, infantry, or navy.

6 Date of enlistment.

7 Date of discharge.

8 Present postoffice address.

9 If a pensioner or applicant, number of certificate or application.

10 If the regular army, write U. S. A., on line 5; if in navy, U. S. N.; if in marine corps, U. S. M. C.; if in colored regiment, U. S. C. T.

THE LADY OF THE PIGEONS.

Curious Occupation of a Lonely Woman on a City House-Top.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

At certain times during the day that portion of the sky which looks down upon the conjunction of Cortlandt and Washington streets is thickly dotted with swiftly flying pigeons, which, after whirling about aimlessly for a time, either dart quickly away or slowly settle upon the roof of an old rookery in the immediate vicinity. The top floor of this building is occupied by a remarkable old woman, and if you are up on the subject of carriers in particular and all grades of pigeon in general it is worth the climb up the dark and ricketty stairs to call and have a chat with her. What she doesn't know about pigeons isn't worth knowing. They have been her pet and only hobby for years, and she is known to homing pigeon societies the world over. She has the names of all the crack birds, all the records for speed and distance, and every interesting point in the history of the sport at the tips of her fingers. The roosts that have been built upon the roof above her give shelter to some three hundred birds of first-class blood and breeding. And during the day they are constantly leaving for and returning from distant points. Only a few of them belong to her, and she takes care of the others for their respective owners. Many of these are business men, and their birds are frequently dispatched on long-distance jaunts, bearing cipher messages of a most important nature. The other flyers are only called upon when needed in contests, and then they are dispatched to their proprietors in big wicker baskets. The little income derived from the care of the pigeons keeps the old lady alive, and she dwells in perfect content among her winged charges, solitary, but perfectly happy.

How Babies Are Named.

New York Journal.

A Hindoo baby is named when it is twelve days old, and usally by the mother. Sometimes the father wishes another name than that selected by the mother. In that case two lamps are placed over the two names, and the name over which the lamp burns the brightest is the one given to the child.

In the Egyptian family the parents choose a name for their baby by lighting three wax candles; to each of these they give a name, one of the three always belonging to some deified personage. The candle that burns the longest bestows the name upon the baby.

The Mohammedans sometimes write desirable names on five slips of paper, and these they place in the Koran. The name upon the first slip drawn out is given to the child.

The children of the Ainos, a people living in northern Japan, do not receive their names until they are five years old. It is the father who then chooses the name by which the child is afterward called.

The Chinese give their boy babies a name in addition to their surnames, and they must call themselves by these names until they are twenty years old. At that age the father gives the son a new name.

The Chinese care so little for their girl babies that they do not give them a baby name, but just call them No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, according to their birth.

Boys are thought so much more of in China than girls are, that if you ask a Chinese father, who has both a boy and a girl, how many children he has, he will always reply: "Only one child."

German parents sometimes change the name of their baby if it is ill, and the Japanese are said to change the name of a child four times.

The New Judges.

Boston Transcript.

The great deference paid to the decisions of the United States courts is inspired not alone by regard for the power of the government, but by the popular belief in their integrity. The latest appointments are in accordance with the traditional policy which has made the federal judiciary what it is.

MARKET GROWING BULLISH

Many Chicago "Bears" Forced to Do Some Hustling to Get Under Cover.

Foreign Prices Booming and Russian Agents Buying Large Quantities of Wheat in Roumania—Liberal Selling of Corn.

TRADING AT CHICAGO.

Maize Grading Up Better and Hog Products Reported Lower.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—There was a decided improvement in the amount of business in the wheat-pit on the Board of Trade to-day, in comparison with that of the past few days, though it was chiefly of a local character. Prices started at about the closing figures of yesterday, but the tone of the market was hesitating and uncertain for a time. The controlling influence here during the week has been the foreign situation, which has been intensely bearish. Both the British and continental markets have not only been quoted lower from day to day, but accummulated stock, and a very limited demand were noted in the cable advices. For the last two days, however, sentiment has seemed to be veering toward the "bull" side, and operators were more and more inclined to think that prices had reached a point at which it would pay to buy. It needed but a turn in the trend of foreign advices to translate the sentiment into a moderate buying movement. The only advice from across the water this morning was conflicting. The board's Liverpool cable quoted wheat futures ⅛@1c higher and the market active, but its London dispatch noted a decided decline in values. This was thought to be an error, but it was sufficient to cloud the situation somewhat and to cause the uncertainty noted. A few "longs" made an effort to unload, and the "bears" sought to inaugurate a raid, but it proved a failure. The later cables showed that foreign markets were really stronger, that there were liberal acceptances of last night's offers and that foreigners were good buyers at New York. Paris was said to have advanced sharply, and one private cable said that Russian agents were buying large quantities of wheat in Roumania. This news soon turned the trade. Early sellers covered and went "long," and the selling pressure was quickly relieved. Ream, who had sold liberally around the opening, was quick to see the drift of things and began to buy. Pardrige, who was popularly supposed to be a big "short," bought generously on the upturn, partly to even up and partly for a scalp on the "bull" side. The crowd at large was bullishly inclined, and as soon as the market showed its strong undertone there was liberal buying by scalpers. Sam Andrews, who has been a pronounced "bear," openly announced that he had abandoned that side, and was now looking for a healthy "bull" market, basing his opinion entirely on the merits of the situation at home and abroad. There was no big spurt, but a strong, confident feeling and good liberal buying. Trade, however, was rather heavy. May opened at 91½c, touched 91⅞c, weakened to 91⅜c, reacted to 92c, held around 91⅞c for a time, weakened to 91½c, but rallied some near the close and closed firm at 91¾c.

Corn was decidedly weak early. The receipts were seventy cars more than expected, and included fifty-nine cars of the contract grade. This improvement in the inspection started pretty liberal selling, Driver and Norton Worthington being in the lead. Weakness was at once apparent. A drop of 2c in December corn at New York increased the depression. Later, on the advance in wheat, the tone of corn improved, but it became unsettled during the last hour, going still lower, and closing near the bottom. The market acted rather nervous, and the crowd scared easily, selling freely when it broke and buying back as eagerly when it turned strong. December opened 1½c lower, at 47½c, fluctuated, as noted above, to 45¾c and closed at 46c. January shows a loss of 1c, and May ¼c.

Oats were steady and without feature.

Hog products were lower. Receipts of hogs were 7,000 head above the estimate, and prices at the yards were 15@20c lower. Packers were free sellers from the start, with the Cudahy Packing Company most aggressive. The close was near the bottom figures of the day. Estimated receipts for Moday are: Wheat, 30 cars; corn, 250 cars; oats, 125 cars; hogs, 57,000 head, and for the week, 230,000 head. The leading futures ranged as follows:

Options.	Op'ning	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
Wheat—Dec	91¼	91¾	91¼	91½
Jan	91⅞	92⅜	91⅞	92⅛
May	97½	98	97⅜	97¾
Corn—Dec	47½	47½	45¾	46
Jan	43⅝	43¾	43⅛	43⅛
May	42⅝	42⅝	42¼	42⅜
Oats—Dec	32½	32½	32½	32½
Jan	31¾	31⅞	31¾	31⅞
May	33	33	32⅞	33
Pork—Dec	$7.85	$7.85	$7.70	$7.70
Jan	10.70	10.70	10.52½	10.52½
May	11.20	11.20	11.00	11.02½
Lard—Dec	5.90	5.90	5.87½	5.90
Jan	6.05	6.05	6.02½	6.05
May	6.40	6.42½	6.37½	6.40
Sh't ribs—Dec.	5.25	5.25	5.05	5.05
Jan	5.30	5.30	5.22½	5.25
May	5.65	5.65	5.60	5.60

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour unchanged. No. 2 spring wheat, 91½@91⅜c; No. 3 spring wheat, 83@84c; No. 2 red, 91½@92c; No. 2 corn, 45½c; No. 2 oats, 32½c; No. 2 white, 33⅞@34c; No. 3 white, 32@32¼c; No. 2 rye, 90c; No. 2 barley, 59c; No. 3, f. o. b., 45@64c; No. 4, f. o. b., 34@44c; No. 1 flaxseed, 95½c; prime timothy-seed, $1.23@1.24; mess pork, per brl, $7.70@7.80; lard, per pound, 6@6.02½c; short-rib sides (loose), $5.10@5.25c; dry-salted shoulders (boxed), 4.87½@4.50c; short-clear sides (boxed), 5.50@5.55c; whisky, distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.18; sugars unchanged.

On the Produce Exchange, to-day, the butter market was weaker; fancy creamery, 24½@27c; fine Western, 25@26c; ordinary, 21@24c. Eggs, 23@24c.

Receipts—Flour, 20,000 brls; wheat, 107,000 bu; corn, 244,000 bu; oats, 189,000 bu; rye, 14,000 bu; barley, 47,000 bu. Shipments—Flour, 17,000 brls; wheat, 64,000 bu; corn, 192,000 bu; oats, 223,000 bu; rye, 7,000 bu; barley, 63,000 bu.

AT NEW YORK.

Ruling Prices in Produce at the Seaboard's Commercial Metropolis.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Flour—Receipts, 23,416 packages; exports, 6,367 brls, 565 sacks. The market was dull and heavy. Sales, 17,100 brls. Corn-meal quiet and steady; yellow Western, $3.15@3.60.

Wheat—Receipts, 223,620 bu; exports, 230,949 bu; sales, 952,000 bu futures, 81,000 bu spot. The spot market was higher and irregular, and closed easy and dull; No. 2 red, $1.06½@1.06¾ in store and in elevator, $1.07⅜@1.08⅜ afloat, $1.07½@1.09¼ f. o. b.; No. 3 red, $1.02½@1.03; ungraded red, 93c@$1.09¼; No. 1 Northern $1.08⅜@1.09⅛; No. 1 hard, $1.12⅜. Options opened ¼@⅜c up on foreign buying, with better cables; declined ⅜@½c on local realizing and easy Western advices; reacted ¼@½c on a resumption of foreign buying through further advance in the cables, and closed firm at ¼@⅜c over yesterday: No. 2 red, December, $1.06@1.06⅜, closing at $1.06⅜; January, $1.06⅞@1.07¼, closing at $1.07⅛; February, $1.07¾@1.08⅛, closing at $1.08⅛; March, $1.08¾@1.09⅛, closing at $1.09; April, $1.09@1.09⅝, closing at $1.09¼; May, $1.08⅝@1.08 15/16, closing at $1.08⅝; June, $1.07@1.07¼, closing at $1.07¼.

Rye dull; Western, $1@1.02½. Barley dull and irregular; No. 2 Milwaukee, 72@74c. Barley malt quiet; Canada, country-made, 85c.

Corn—Receipts, 252,375 bu; exports, 17,319 bu; sales, 136,000 bu futures, 58,000 bu spot. The spot market was irregular and quiet; No. 2, 59@60c in elevator, 60@61c afloat; ungraded mixed, 47½@70c; No. 3, 51½@52½c; steamer mixed, 56½@57½c. Options—There was a break of 1⅜c in December, through larger receipts of contract grade, and closed 1⅛c under yesterday; other months ¼@½c off, but reacted ⅛@⅜c, and closed from unchanged to ¼c down; December, 59@59⅜c, closing at 59¾c; January, 53⅝@54⅛c, closing at 54¼c; February, 52⅞@53⅛c, closing at 53⅛c; May, 51½@51⅝c, closing at 51⅝c.

Oats—Receipts, 12,250 bu; exports, 140,415 bu; sales, none of futures, 49,000 bu spot. The spot market was dull. Options were dull and nominal; December, 40⅝c; January, 40c; May, 39½c; spot No. 2 white, 41c; mixed Western, 39½@42c; white Western, 41@44c; No. 2 Chicago, 42c.

Hay firm and in fair demand; shipping, 65@70c; good to choice, 75@90c. Hops in fair demand and firm; State, common to good, 15@21c; Pacific coast, 15@23c.

Coffee—Options opened steady from unchanged to 10 points decline, and closed steady from unchanged to 10 points down. Sales, 13,750 bags, including the following: December, 13@13.10c; January, 12.65@12.70c; February, 12.30c; March, 12.05@12.10c; May, 11.80@11.90c; June, 11.75@11.80c; July, 11.60@11.65c; September, 11.60@11.65c; spot Rio dull and steady; No. 7, 13¾@13⅞c. Sugar—Raw dull and nominal; refined quiet and steady. Molasses—Foreign nominal; New Orleans active and firm; common to fancy, 33@38c. Rice active and firm; domestic, fair to extra, 5½@7c; Japan, 5½@5¾c.

Cotton-seed oil quiet and easy; crude, 26c; yellow, 29¼c. Tallow quiet and firm. Rosin dull and steady; strained, common to good, $1.35@1.40.

Eggs firm; Western, 26@27½c; receipts, 7,558 packages.

Hides quiet and steady; wet-salted New Orleans selected, 45@75 lbs, 6@8c; Texas selected, 50@60 lbs, 6@8c.

Pork quiet and easy; old mess, $9.25; new mess, $9.75@10.25; extra prime, $9.50. Cut meats dull and easy; pickled bellies, 5½c; pickled shoulders, 5c; pickled hams, 7¾@8c. Middles quiet and steady; short clear, 6.20c. Lard lower and dull; Western steam, 6.37½c. Options—Sales, 3,000 tierces: December, 6.33c; January, 6.38@6.40c, closing at 6.38c; February, 6.47c; March, 6.56@6.57c, closing at 6.56c; May, 6.74c, closing at 6.72c.

Butter quiet; Western dairy, 16@22c; Western creamery, 19@29½c; Western factory, 14½@20c; Elgin, 29½c. Cheese quiet and steady; part skims, 4½@9c.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 19.—Wheat firmer; No. 2 red, spot and December, $1.03½@1.03¾; January, $1.04½@1.04¾; February, $1.06¼@1.06½; May, $1.09; steamer No. 2 red, 97¾c; receipts, 68,735 bu; shipments,