STOCKS LESS ACTIVE

GENERAL BUSINESS HAS A HEAVY TONE AND PRICES FALLING.

Some Buying for Speculation at Low Figures—Indianapolis Markets Featureless and Dull.

At New York, yesterday, money on call was easy at 1½@2 per cent.; last loan, 2 per cent.; closed at 2 per cent.

Prime mercantile paper, 2¾@4½ per cent.

Sterling exchange was quiet and firm; actual business in bankers' bills, $4.88½@4.88¾ for demand and $4.87½@4.87¾ for sixty days; posted rates, $4.88@4.88½ and $4.89; commercial bills, $4.86½@4.86¾.

Silver certificates, 59¾c bid. Bar silver, 59¾c. Mexican dollars, 50c. At London bar silver was 27¼d per ounce.

Total sales of stocks were 85,898 shares, including the following: American Sugar, 11,700; Chicago Gas, 9,900; Distilling, 10,200; New Jersey Central, 9,100; Reading, 5,700; St. Paul, 7,800; General Electric, 3,400.

The stock market, yesterday, was less active, the sales aggregating less than 86,000 shares. Outside of the coal shares and Baltimore & Ohio the trading was unimportant. Immediately after the opening an attack was made on the coalers. New Jersey Central was the main point of attack, and being sold freely, with the result of a break of 2¾ per cent. in the stock, 2¼ in Delaware & Hudson, 4 in Delaware & Lackawanna, and ¾ in Reading. There were no fresh rumors unfavorable to any one of the coal-carrying roads or to the coal trade in general. At the lower figures there was some buying in the stocks, causing advances of 2 per cent. in New Jersey Central, 3¼ in Delaware & Lackawanna, 2¼ in Delaware & Hudson, and ¾ in Reading. In the later dealings New Jersey Central lost part of the recovery, closing at a loss of 1 per cent. on the day. Delaware & Hudson was offered down to 121, but no sales were made except regular. Baltimore & Ohio was again heavy, opening 1½ per cent. lower, at 61, and making a further decline of 2¾ on sales of only 600 shares. Disquieting rumors were in circulation touching the company's financial standing, which were officially denied. The depression in the stock is mainly credited to the position taken by the company in the matter of the reorganization of the Valley railroad of Ohio, the plan of which, it is claimed, takes from the Baltimore & Ohio a portion of its assets. The stock closed only ¾ per cent. above the lowest point touched. The general market moved within a narrow range on a very small volume of business. During the morning the speculation was steady to firm, became heavy after midday, and strengthening in the final trading, the market closing in good tone. General Electric, after an opening decline of ¾, rose 1¼ per cent. on buying credited to an inside interest. A report was current of the entering into an agreement by the General Electric with the Westinghouse company to maintain prices so as to admit of a fair profit. In the late dealings General Electric lost ½ per cent. of the early improvement. Sugar moved within a range of 1¾ per cent., closing at an advance of ¼ per cent. on the day. Declines were established of 3¾ in Illinois Central (on sales of 100 shares), and ¾ in Lake Erie & Western. Advances were recorded of 1¾ in Cordage guaranteed and 1 in American Tobacco. The strangers were neglected, moving within a range of ½@1½ per cent., and closing unchanged for Burlington, ¼ down for St. Paul and ½@¾ up, respectively, for Rock Island and Northwest.

There was a moderate increase in the volume of bond trading, with the main trend of values toward lower figures. The feature of the dealings was the pronounced weakness in the Reading issues. The transactions in these securities reached the large total of $373,000. The first incomes declined 2 per cent. to 22; Reading seconds, 1¾, to 15; Reading thirds, 1, to 11, and Reading fours, ¾, to 74¼. A sharp rally at the close moved the incomes up ¾@7¾ per cent. The total transactions for the day were $1,278,500.

Government bonds were steady, except for fives, which are weak and ½ per cent. lower. State bonds were inactive.

The following table, prepared by James E. Berry, Room 19, Board of Trade, shows the range of quotations:

Name.	Open-ing.	High-est.	Low-est.	Clos-ing.
Adams Express	...	...	...	140
Alton & Terre Haute	...	...	...	37
Alton & T. H. pref	...	...	...	*198
American Express	...	...	...	110
Atchison	4⅛	4⅛	4⅛	4⅛
Baltimore & Ohio	...	...	...	58½
Canada Pacific	...	...	...	53
Central Pacific	...	...	...	29
Chesapeake & Ohio	16⅞	16⅞	16⅞	16⅞
Chicago & Alton	...	...	...	*146
C., B. & Q.	71	71⅛	70⅞	71
C. & E. I. pref	...	...	...	93½
Chicago Gas	73	73⅝	72⅞	73¼
C., C., C. & St. L.	...	...	...	38½
Cotton Oil	22½	23	22½	22
Delaware & Hudson	125	125	123	124
D., L. & W.	158½	161	158	161
Dis. & C. F. Co.	9⅝	10⅜	9½	9⅞
Edison Gen. Elec.	34	35¼	34	34⅝
Erie	9⅞	9⅞	9¾	9⅞
Erie pref.	...	...	...	*21
Fort Wayne	...	...	...	*157
Great Northern pref.	...	...	...	101
Hocking Valley	...	...	...	17
Illinois Central	...	...	...	83½
Lake Erie & W.	...	...	...	16½
L. E. & W. pref.	...	...	...	70½
Lake Shore	133⅝	134½	133½	134½
Lead Trust	37½	37½	37	37½
Louisville & Nashville	53¼	53⅛	53⅛	53⅛
Louis. & New Albany	...	...	...	6½
Manhattan	105	105	104⅝	104⅞
Michigan Central	...	...	...	95
Missouri Pacific	...	...	...	26⅝
U. S. Cordage	6⅝	6¾	6½	6½
U. S. Cordage pref.	...	...	...	10½
New Jersey Central	33⅝	33⅝	31½	32⅝
New York Central	99⅛	99⅝	99⅛	99⅝
N. Y. & N. E.	31⅝	31⅞	31⅝	31⅞
Northern Pacific	...	...	...	3⅞
Northern Pacific pref.	...	...	...	17
Northwestern	96⅝	97	96½	96⅝
Northwestern pref.	...	...	...	142½
Pacific Mail	21½	21½	21½	21½
Peoria, D. & E.	...	...	...	3½
Pullman Palace	...	...	...	153½
Reading	14	14½	13⅝	14⅝
Rock Island	61¼	61⅝	61¼	61⅝
St. Paul	57	57⅛	56⅝	56⅞
St. Paul pref.	...	...	...	117½
Sugar Refinery	88¼	89⅛	88⅛	88⅞
U. S. Express	...	...	...	42
Wabash, St. L. & P.	...	...	...	5⅞
Wab., St. L. & P. pref	...	...	...	13⅝
Wells-Fargo Express	...	...	...	105
Western Union	86⅞	87	86⅝	86⅞
U. S. Fours, reg.	...	...	...	113⅛
U. S. Fours, coup.	...	...	...	114⅝

*Bid.

The following table, compiled by Bradstreet's, shows the total clearances at the principal cities and the percentage of increase or decrease as compared with the corresponding week last year:

New York	$448,195,129	Increase.. 6.2
Chicago	70,776,193	Increase.. 5.2
Boston	74,055,450	Increase.. 9.2
Philadelphia	76,099,114	Increase..53.7
[illegible]	20,874,024	Increase.. 2.6
[illegible]	11,104,726	Increase.. 3.6
[illegible]	11,683,689	Increase.. 7.2
[illegible]	11,416,200	Increase.. 4.5
[illegible] City	8,039,105	Increase.. 8.1
[illegible]	3,373,568	...
[illegible]	3,832,617	Increase.. 3.2
[illegible]	5,162,500	Increase.. 8.3
[illegible]	5,053,811	Increase.. 6.5
[illegible]	4,780,429	Decrease.. 10.6
[illegible]	3,543,744	Decrease..20.5
[illegible]	5,319,764	Increase..11.9
[illegible] Paul	3,261,786	Increase..17.5
[illegible]	3,634,195	Increase..25.5
Columbus, O.	3,012,700	Increase..23.0
Peoria	1,706,986	Increase..24.6
Memphis	1,614,749	Increase.. 5.2

Total clearings in the United States last week amounted to $836,401,764, an increase of 9.1 per cent. over the corresponding week last year.

Total outside of New York, $391,206,635, an increase of 12.7 per cent.

LOCAL GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Trade Good for a Holiday Season, with Steady Prices Prevailing.

On wholesale streets and Commission row business is better than expected, the change to genuine winter weather helping matters generally. No large bills are being purchased, it being too near the close of the year's business. On Commission row the cold weather has checked shipments somewhat, still a good deal is doing for holiday trade. Confectioners and dealers in fancy goods, who, for the last month have been busy day and night, are now getting a rest. Grocers are quite busy. The time has come when retail merchants do not stock up far ahead with staple groceries, so steady are prices and so easily are goods obtained. In prices no changes of importance were made. Lower prices for provisions and many lines of dry goods are predicted, while higher prices for fruits, vegetables and poultry are in prospect.

The local grain market is more active, the weather being favorable to moving corn, and the markets East having become cleared of corn which was in damaged condition. Prices move along much in the same rut of several days past. Track bids yesterday ruled as follows:

Wheat—No. 2 red, 51½c; No. 3 red, 50c; wagon wheat, 51c.

Corn—No. 1 white, 41c; No. 2 white, 41c; No. 3 white mixed, 40½c; No. 2 yellow, 41c; No. 3 yellow, 40½c; No. 2 mixed, 41c; No. 3 mixed, 40½c; ear corn, 40c.

Oats—No. 2 white, 33c; No. 3 white, 32c; No. 2 mixed, 30½c; No. 3 mixed, 29½c; rejected, 29@31c.

Rye—No. 2, 48c for car lots, 43c for wagon rye.

Bran, $12.

Hay—No. 1 timothy, $9.25; No. 2, $8; No. 1 prairie, $7.50; mixed, $6.50; clover, $6.50 per ton.

Poultry and Other Produce.

(Prices Paid by Shippers.)

Poultry—Hens, 5c per lb; spring chickens, 5c; cocks, 3c; turkeys, toms, 4c per lb; hens, 6c per lb; young turkeys, 6c; small, 5@6c; ducks, 6c per lb; geese, $4.80@5.40 per doz for choice.

Eggs—Shippers paying 16c.

Butter—Choice, 10@12c.

Honey—18c.

Wool—Medium unwashed, 12c; fine merino unwashed, 8c; Cotswold and coarse combing, 10@12c; tub-washed, 16@18c; burry and unmerchantable, 5c less.

Feathers—Prime geese, 30@32c per lb; mixed duck, 20c per lb.

Game—Rabbits, $1; quails, $1.50; mallard ducks, $2.50 per doz; venison, per pound, 15@17c.

Beeswax—20c for yellow; 15c for dark.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

Hides—No. 1 green salted hides, 4¾c; No. 2, 4c.

Tallow, 4¼c.

Grease—White, 4½c; yellow, 3½c; brown, 3c.

Bones—Dry, $12@13 per ton.

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, 6c; Banner, mixed, 10c; cream mixed, 9c; old-time mixed, 7c.

Nuts—Soft-shelled almonds, 16c; English walnuts, 12c; Brazil nuts, 9c; filberts, 11c; peanuts, roasted, 6@7c; mixed nuts, 10@12c.

Canned Goods.

Peaches—Standard, 2-pound, $1.85@2; 2-pounds seconds, $1.50@1.65; 3-pound pie, $1.15@1.20; California standard, $2.25@2.50; California seconds, $1.85@2. Miscellaneous—Blackberries, 2-pound, 90@95c; raspberries, 2-pound, $1.10@1.20; pineapple, standard, 2-pound, $1.25@1.35; choice, $2@2.25; cove oysters, 1-pound, full weight, 90@95c; light oysters, 2-pound, full, $1.80@1.90; light, $1.10@1.20; string beans, 85@95c; Lima beans, $1.10@1.30; peas, marrowfat, $1.10@1.20; early June, $1.25@1.50; lobsters, $1.85@2; red cherries, $1.20@1.25; strawberries, $1.20@1.30; salmon (lbs), $1.45@2.20; 3-pound tomatoes, $1.05@1.10.

Coal and Coke.

Anthracite coal, all sizes, $7.50 per ton; Pittsburg and Raymond City, $4.25 per ton; Jackson, $4.25; block, $3.25; Island City, $3, Blossburg and English cannel, $5. All nut coals 50c below above quotations.

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

Drugs.

Alcohol, $2.48@2.60; asafetida, 40c; alum, 4@5c; camphor, 47@50c; cochineal, 50@55c; chloroform, 60@65c; copperas, brls, 75@85c; cream tartar, pure, 26@28c; indigo, 65@80c; licorice, Calab. genuine, 30@40c; magnesia, carb., 2-oz., 25@35c; morphine, P. & W., per oz, $2.05@2.30; madder, 14@16c; oil, castor, per gal, $1.10@1.15; oil, bergamot, per lb, $3; opium, $2.75; quinine, P. & W., per oz, 35@40c; balsam copaiba, 60@65c; soap, castile, Fr., 12@16c; soda bicarb., 4½@6c; salts, Epsom, 4@5c; sulphur, flour, 3@6c; saltpeter, 8@20c; turpentine, 36@40c; glycerine, 14@20c; iodide potassium, $3@3.10; bromide potassium, 40@45c; chlorate potash, 20c; borax, 12@14c; cinchonida, 12@15c; carbolic acid, 22@28c.

Oils—Linseed, 55@68c per gal; coal oil, legal test, 7@14c; bank, 40c; best straits, 50c; Labrador, 60c; West Virginia lubricating, 20@30c; miners', 45c. Lard oils—Winter strained, in brls, 60c per gal; in half brls, 2c per gal extra.

Dried Fruits.

Figs—Layer, 11@14c per lb.

Raisins—Loose Muscatel, $1.25@1.40 per box; London layer, $1.35@1.75 per box; Valencia, 6½@8½c per lb; layer, 9@10c.

Peaches—Common, sun-dried, 8@10c per lb; California, 10@12c; California, fancy, 12½@13½c.

Apricots—Evaporated, 9@13c.

Prunes—California, 6@10c per lb.

Currants—4½@5c per lb.

Dry Goods.

Bleached Sheetings—Androscoggin L, 6c; Berkeley, No. 60, 7c; Cabot, 6c; Capital, 5½c; Cumberland, 6¼c; Dwight Anchor, 7¼c; Fruit of the Loom, 7¼c; Farwell, 7c; Fitchville, 5½c; Full Width, 5½c; Gilt Edge, 5½c; Gilded Age, 7c; Hill, 6½c; Hope, 5½c; Linwood, 6½c; Lonsdale, 6½c; Lonsdale Cambric, 8½c; Masonville, 7½c; Peabody, 5¾c; Pride of the West, 11½c; Quinebaugh, 6c; Star of the Nation, 6c; Ten Strike, 5½c; Pepperell, 9-4, 18c; Pepperell, 10-4, 20c; Androscoggin, 9-4, 19c; Androscoggin, 10-4, 21c.

Brown Sheetings—Atlantic A, 6c; Argyle, 5½c; Boston C, 4¾c; Buck L, 5½c; Clifton, CCC, 5½c; Constitution, 4-inch, 7½c; Carlisle, 40-inch, 7c; Dwight Star, 7½c; Great Falls E 6c; Great Falls J, 4¾c; Hill Fine, 6½c; Indian Head, 6c; Lawrence LL, 4¼c; Pepperell E, 6c; Pepperell R, 5½c; Pepperell, 9-4, 16c; Pepperell, 10-4, 18c; Androscoggin, 9-4, 18½c; Androscoggin, 10-4, 20½c.

Prints—Allen dress styles, 4¾c; Allen's staples, 4¾c; Allen TR, 5c; Allen robes, 5½c; American indigo, 4½c; Arnold LLC, 6¾c; Cocheco fancy, 5c; Cocheco madders, 4¾c; Hamilton fancy, 5c; Manchester fancy, 5c; Merrimac fancy, 5c; Merrimac pinks and purples, 5½c; Pacific fancy, 5c; Pacific robes, 5½c; Pacific mourning, 5½c; Simpson Eddystone, 5c; Simpson Berlin solids, 5½c; Simpson's oil finish, 6c; Simpson's grays, 5c; Simpson's mournings, 5c.

Ginghams—Amoskeag staples, 5c; Amoskeag Persian Dress, 6½c; Bates Warwick Dress, 6½c; Johnson BF Fancies, 8½c; Lancaster, 5c; Lancaster Normandies, 6c; Carrolton, 4¾c; Renfrew Dress, 6½c; Whittenton Heather, 6½c; Calicutta Dress styles, 5½c.

Kidfinished Cambrics—Edwards, 3¾c; Warren, 3½c; Slater, 3¾c; Genesse, 3¾c.

Tickings—Amoskeag ACA, 11½c; Conestoga BF, 13c; Cordis 140, 12½c; Cordis 7T, 12½c; Cordis 4CC, 12½c; Hamilton awnings, 10c; Kimono Fancy, 17c; Lenox Fancy, 18c; Methuen AA, 12c; Oakland AF, 6c; Portsmouth, 11c; Susquehanna, 13c; Shetucket SW, 7½c; Shetucket F, 8c; Swift River, 5½c.

Grain Bags—Amoskeag, $12.50; American, $12.50; Franklinville, $15; Harmony, $12.50; Stark, $17.50.

Flour.

Straight grades, $2.50@2.75; fancy grades, $2.75@3; patent flour, $3.25@3.75; low grades, $1.50@2.

Groceries.

Sugars—Hard sugars, 4.20@4.82c; confections' A, 4¼c; soft A, 3.90@4c; extra C, 3.65@3.75c; yellow C, 3½@3⅝c; dark yellow, 3¼@3⅜c.

Coffee — Good, 19@20c; prime, 20@21c; strictly prime, 22@23c; fancy green and yellow, 25@27c; ordinary Java, 29½@30c; Java, Roasted—Old government Java, 32½@33½c; golden Rio, 25c; Bourbon Santos, 26c; golden Santos, 24½c; prime Santos, 23½c; Cottage (blended), 22½c; Capital (blended), 21c; Pilot, 20½c; Dakota, 19½c; Brazil, 19c; 1-pound packages, 21¼c.

Molasses and Syrups—New Orleans molasses, fair to prime, 30@40c; choice, 40@45c; syrups, 23@30c.

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

Spices—Pepper, 15@18c; allspice, 10@15c; cloves, 15@20c; cassia, 10@12c; nutmegs, 65@75c per pound.

Beans—Choice hand-picked navy, $1.85@1.90 per bu; medium hand-picked, $1.80@1.85; limas, California, 5½@6c per pound.

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

Rice—Louisiana, 4½@5½c; Carolina, 4¾@6¾c.

Shot—$1.20@1.25 per bag for drop.

Lead—6½@7c for pressed bars.

Flour Sacks (paper)—Plain, 1-32 brl, per 1,000, $3.50; 1-16 brl, $5; ⅛ brl, $8; ¼ brl, $16; No. 2 drab, plain, 1-32 brl, per 1,000, $4.25; 1-16 brl, $6.50; ⅛, $10; ¼, $20; No. 1 cream, plain, 1-32 brl, per 1,000, $7; 1-16, $8.75; ⅛, $14.50; ¼, $28.50. Extra charge for printing.

Wooden Dishes—No. 1, per 1,000, $2.50; No. 2, $3; No. 3, $3.50; No. 5, $4.50.

Woodenware—No. 1 tubs, $5.25@5.75; No. 2 tubs, $4.50@5; No. 3 tubs, $4@4.50; 3-hoop pails, $1.50@1.60; 2-hoop pails, $1.15@1.25; double washboards, $2.25@2.75; common washboards, $1.50@1.85; clothes pins, 50@85c per box.

Iron and Steel.

Bar iron, 1.20@1.30c; horshoe bar, 2¼@2½c; nail rod, 6c; plow slabs, 2½c; American cast steel, 8c; tire steel, 2½@3c; spring steel, 4½@5c.

Leather.

Leather—Oak sole, 30@40c; hemlock sole, 24@30c; harness, 28@30c; skirting, 31@32c; single strap, 41c; black bridle, per doz, $60@95; fair bridle, $60@78 per doz; city kip, 55@75c; French kip, 85c@$1.10; city calfskins, 85c@$1; French calfskins, $1@1.80.

Produce, Fruits and Vegetables.

Grapes—Malaga grapes, $8@10 per keg, according to weight.

Bananas—Per bunch, 75c@$1.25.

Oranges—Florida oranges, $2@2.50; Mandarins, $4.50; two box crates; grape fruit, $4.50 per box.

Cabbage—Per brl, 65@80c.

Cranberries—$10@12 per brl; $3.50@3.75 per box.

Sweet Potatoes—Jerseys, $3.25@3.50 per brl; Illinois, $2.50@2.75.

Onions—Per brl, $1.50@1.75; 65@75c per bu; Spanish onions, $1.25 per crate.

Cheese—New York full cream, 12@14c; skims, 5@7c per lb.

Lemons—Messina, $3.50@3.75 per box; Florida, $2.50; Malaga, $3.25@3.50.

Potatoes—Per brl, $1.75; per bu, 60c.

Apples—Per brl, New York stock, $3.75@3.

Michigan sweet, $2.25@2.50.

New Cider—Half brl $2.75; brl, $4.50@5.

Celery—Per bunch, 20@30c, according to quality.

Pine Apples—$2.25@2.50 per doz.

Nails and Horseshoes.

Steel cut nails, $1.19; wire nails, $1.25 rates; horseshoes, per keg, $3.75; mule shoes, per keg, $4.75; horse nails, $4@5 per box.

Provisions.

Bacon—Clear sides, 40 to 50 lbs average, 8c; 30 to 40 lbs average, 8¼c; 20 to 30 lbs average, 8¾c. Bellies, 25 lbs average, 8c; 14 to 16 lbs average, 8¾c; 12 to 15 lbs average, 8¾c. Clear backs, 20 to 25 lbs average, 8¼c; 12 to 20 lbs average, 8½c; 9 to 10 lbs average, 8½c.

Shoulders—English-cured, 12 lbs average, 7½c; 16 lbs average, 7c.

Hams—Sugar-cured, 18 to 20 lbs average, 10½c; 16 lbs average, 10½c; 12½ lbs average, 10¾c; 10 lbs average, 11½c. Block hams, 11c; all first brands; seconds, ½c less. California hams, sugar-cured, 10 to 12 lbs average, 7c. Boneless hams, sugar-cured, 8½@9c.

Pickled Pork—Bean pork, clear, per brl, 200 lbs, $14.50; rump pork, $12.50.

Breakfast Bacon—Clear firsts, 11c; seconds, 10c.

Lard—Kettle-rendered, in tierces, 8c; pure lard, 8¼c.

Tinners' Supplies.

Best brand charcoal tin, IC, 10x14, 14x20, 12x12, $8@8.50; IX, 10x14, 14x20, 12x12, $9@9.50; IC, 14x20, roofing tin, $5.25@5.50; IC, 20x28, $10.50@11; block tin, in pigs, 25c; in bars, 27c. Iron—27 B iron, 3c; C iron, 4c; galvanized, 70 and 10 per cent. discount. Sheet zinc, 5½@5½c. Copper bottoms, 20c. Planished copper, 24c. Solder, 13@14c.

Seeds.

Clover—Choice, recleaned, 60-lb, $5.35@5.50; prime, $5.25@5.40; English, choice, $5.25; prime, $5.50; Alsike, choice, $7.25@7.50; Alfalfa, choice, $4.75@5; crimson or scarlet clover, $3.75@4.25; timothy, 45-lb, choice, $2.45@2.65; strictly prime, $2.30@2.60; blue grass, fancy, 14-lb, $1.40@1.50; extra clean, 85@90c. Orchard grass, extra, $1.85@2.05; Red top, choice, $1@1.25; extra clean, 90c@$1. English blue grass, 24-lb, $2.20@2.35.

THE YEAR'S FAILURES

NUMBER 14,292, WITH LIABILITIES AGGREGATING $163,238,404.

Both Dun & Co. and Bradstreet Find Little Encouragement for Trade Before Spring Opening.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade will say: Commercial failures in 1894 already reported, number 14,292, aginst 15,242 last year, with liabilities of $163,238,404, against $346,779,889 last year. Next week the final report for 1894 will probably include about four hundred more failures, with liabilities of about $4,000,000. From these accounts banks, bankers, financial and transporting companies are excluded. Manufacturing failures already number 2,756, against 3,422 last year, but liabilities are only $64,491,287, against $176,982,091 last year. The trading failures already number 11,314, against 11,572 last year, but liabilities are only $87,899,057, against $130,062,333 last year. The statement by sections shows a decrease of about two-thirds in defaulted liabilities in the middle and central Northern States, one-half in the West and Southwest and a third in other sections. Holiday trade has met expectations. Purchases have been numerous, but smaller than usual in amount and more confined to needful articles, thus anticipating ordinary trade. The volume of business represented by clearing-house exchanges is 7.7 per cent. larger than last year, but 21.8 per cent. less than the year before and the daily average for December has been 7.1 per cent. more than last year, but 25.2 less than the year before.

Wheat has declined ½c, though Western receipts have been only 1,712,098 bushels, against 3,109,832 for the same week last year, but since Aug. 1 receipts have been a little larger than last year, and the visible supply is the largest known. Exports in December from both coasts have been little larger than last year, but for the crop year about 20,000,000 bushels smaller. The Western estimate, usually regarded with important confidence, is that the crop will reach 515,000,000 bushels, which will leave for export, with stocks brought over, more than 200,000,000 bushels, of which only 75,000,000 bushels have gone abroad. Corn has declined ⅜c, with good receipts. The price of cotton has not changed, but the fact that cotton manufacturers have been with them have been greater than in 1891, while stocks in sight here and abroad are larger than at the same date last year, is an obstacle to any rise. Sales of wool this month have been 17,896,000 pounds, against 13,049,197 last year, and 21,592,300 in 1892, and Ohio XX has sold at 17c.

The market for iron and steel is waiting, but the reduction in wages at the Edgar Thomson works, averaging 15 per cent., plainly indicates the same difficulty which is seen in other quarters that the demand in consumption does not answer to the increase in production of pig iron. The shipments of rails for eleven months are reckoned only 700,000 tons, of which only 200,000 is for new roads. Numerous projects for steel buildings are under consideration, but no important contract is reported. It gives some encouragement that the Bethlehem works have secured a contract to make armor plate for Russia, but the order for cast pipe for Japan is still in doubt. Prices have scarcely changed during the week, although Bessemer pig and billets are, if anything, a shade weaker. There is larger demand in nails, but in hardware, machinery, engines and railway stocks and materials the business is much depressed. Shipments of boots and shoes from Boston have been 649,411 cases in the past two months, against 584,230 in 1892, hitherto the largest year, but the difference about prices still checks operations.

Failures for the week have been 350 in the United States, against 511 last year, and forty-one in Canada, against forty-one last year.

Bradstreet's Weekly Review.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Bradstreet's report to-morrow will say: General trade presents the usual holiday characteristics. A majority of the wholesale dealers and manufacturers are beginning or have finished taking account of stock or arranging settlements for the new year. Main activity has been for Christmas specialties in certain lines. The practical conclusion of holiday trade has brought about a moderate reaction and this emphasizes the dullness noted in preceding weeks. Jobbers claim the outlook for trade during the late winter and early spring is for very conservative buying. In some lines, notably heavy textiles, the recent cold weather has stimulated sales, and reports from retailers West and South indicate that stocks are low, almost beyond precedent. Traveling salesmen, with few exceptions, are off on the road. Boston reports 37,600,000 pounds of wool in that city, compared with a stock of 43,500,000 pounds a year ago, the increase being exclusively in domestic varities. Industries are shut down in many instances to make repairs or take stock, and, owing to extremely low prices for industrial staples, the wage movement tends downward. Quotations for stable merchandise show more firmness, with sugar, cotton, wheat, corn, steel, naval stores, tobacco, tin and copper practically unchanged in price.

Oats, among cereals, records a fractional advance, while print cloths and other staple cotton goods are lower, in conformity with results of recent auctions, and pork and lard, with increasing supplies of lower grades of live stock at Western markets. Coffee, too, is depressed, and there are rumors of contracts for iron and steel at a shade under last week's quotations, although unconfirmed.

Reduced stocks of American available supplies of wheat, notwithstanding reports in the visible statement of a net increase, tend to strengthen wheat, but the surprisingly large total of that cereal (flour included as wheat) sent abroad last week is fully offset by the shrinkage in such exportations this week, the total of both coasts of the United States being 1,814,000 bushels, compared with 3,554,000 bushels in the previous week, 2,036,000 bushels last year, 2,917,000 bushels two years ago, 3,106,000 bushels three years ago, and as contrasted with 1,031,000 bushels for the last week in the calendar year of 1890.

Mercantile failures in the United States for the calendar year (Dec. 27, 1893, to Dec. 26, 1894), aggregate 12,721, or 18 per cent. less than in the panic year 1893, when the total, 15,560, was 51 per cent. heavier than in 1892. Liabilities of failing traders this year aggregate $149,500,000, a reduction of 63 per cent. from 1893; assets of $79,600,000, a falling off of 70 per cent.

Special returns to Bradstreet show a net decrease within the year of about 3,000 individuals, firms and corporations established in business throughout the country, but owing to decrease in number of failures, the commercial death rate is only about 1.21 in every 100 engaged in business in the four years preceding 1893. It is also shown that seventy-eight banks are reported suspended this year, compared with 598 the year before, owing $15,482,000, as contrasted with $170,000,000 the year before.

Sarcasm.

Chicago Dispatch.

We do wigh some New York paper would print a picture of Rev. Dr. Parkhurst.

ALL GRAIN IS LOWER

THE CHICAGO MARKET WAS HEAVY AND CEREALS LOST 1¾@1-8C.

Provisions Were Active and in Demand, Pork Advancing 25c a Barrel, with Lard and Ribs Higher.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—The grain markets were heavy to-day and inclined to weakness under easy cables and influenced by holiday dullness. The provision market wore something of a gladsome look for the bulls and made advances of 25c in pork and .10c each in lard and ribs. Wheat, corn and oats each closed in the doleful dumps at respective declines of from ¼c to ⅛c.

After a struggle of thirty minutes in the wheat pit this morning another ½c was rubbed off the price of that article. The early cablegrams quote Liverpool a shade lower and steady at the decline. The addition to the crop of the country yesterday was not in to-day's receipts. Chicago got forty-four cars, or rather twenty-two cars, because twenty-two of those inspected were transfers from private to public warehouses. The receipts here a year ago were seventy-four cars. Minneapolis reported 147 cars and Duluth twenty. The primary market receipts in this country were only 241,000 bushels, against 329,000 bushels on the corresponding day of last week and 416,000 a year ago. Export clearances of wheat and flour from the Atlantic ports amounted to 320,000 bushels. The closing cables were in line with those received at the opening. Liverpool was from ¼d to ½d lower. Paris quoted 20 centimes decline in December flour, but no change in distant delivery, and quoted wheat 10 centimes lower all around. May wheat, which opened at 57½c, first advanced a trifle to 57⅝@57¾c and followed that up by a decline to 57⅛c. It afterward bobbed up and down between 57⅛c and 57⅝@57½c. The latest trading was at 57⅝c, at which there were, however, more sellers than buyers.

Corn was moderately active, but weak. The demand was again very limited for May corn, but for No. 3 and No. 3 yellow to go in store, there was a rather better inquiry. The range of fluctuations in May was narrow. The opening price was 46½c, showing no change since the previous afternoon. It was fairly steady and firm for a short time, it weakened when wheat began to decline. It sold sparingly as high as 48⅝c and declined to 48c, at which price, however, not much could be bought. The latest trading was at 48⅛@48¼c.

The oats market was purely a sympathetic one. Prices were considerably lower, but only a fair active session was passed. May started where it ended yesterday, at 31¾c, sold down to 31½c and closed at 31⅝c.

The provision market opened rather tame at a shade less than yesterday's closing prices, although the run of hogs was considerably smaller than had been looked for. The inclination to sell was soon checked when it was discovered that many other recent sellers were disposed to take the other side of the market. May pork, which yesterday closed at $11.60, opened with sales at from that down to $11.57½, and the latest trading was at $11.85. May lard opened at 6.90c and closed at 7c. May ribs started at 5.90c and closed at 6.00c.

Estimated receipts for Saturday: Wheat, 165 cars; corn, 210 cars; oats, 74 cars; hogs, 15,000 head.

Leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open-ing.	High-est.	Low-est.	Clos-ing.
Wheat—Dec	53¾	53¾	52⅞	53⅛
May	57⅝	57⅝	57⅛	57⅜
July	58⅛	58⅜	57⅝	58¼
Corn—Dec	45¾	45⅞	45½	45½
Jan	45¾	45⅞	45⅜	45½
May	48¼	48⅝	48	48¼
Oats—Dec	28⅝	28⅞	28⅝	28¾
May	31⅝	31¾	31½	31⅝
Pork—Jan	$11.17½	$11.42½	$11.17½	$11.42½
May	11.57½	11.85	11.57½	11.85
Lard—Jan	6.65	6.75	6.65	6.75
May	6.90	7.00	6.90	7.00
Ribs—Jan	5.65	5.70	5.65	5.70
May	5.90	6.00	5.90	6.00

Cash quotations were as follows: No. 2 spring wheat, 57½@59½c; No. 3 spring wheat, nominal; No. 2 red, 55½@56½c; No. 2 corn, 45½c; No. 3 yellow, 46@46½c; No. 2 oats, 29c; No. 3 white, 31¾c; No. 3 white, 31¼@31½c; No. 2 rye, 48@48½c; No. 2 barley, 55c; No. 3, 52½@55c; No. 4, 51¼@54½c; No. 1 flaxseed, $1.39; prime timothy seed, $5.55; mess pork, per brl, $11.37½@11.50; lard, 6.75c; short-rib sides (loose), 5.70@5.75c; dry-salted shoulders (boxed), 5¾@6¼c; short-clear sides (boxed), 6@6½c; whisky, distillers' finished goods, per gal, $1.22.

On the Produce Exchange, to-day, the butter market was quiet; creameries, 12@23c; dairies, 10@19c. Eggs steady at 12@18c.

Receipts—Flour, 4,000 brls; wheat, 30,000 bu; corn, 157,000 bu; oats, 79,000 bu; rye, 6,000 bu; barley, 23,000 bu. Shipments—Flour, 6,000 brls; wheat, 4,000 bu; corn, 16,000 bu; oats, 69,000 bu; rye, 6,000 bu; barley, 8,000 bu.

AT NEW YORK.

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

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Flour—Receipts, 12,900 brls; exports, 17,300 brls; sales, 5,500 packages. The market was generally nominal. Bakers in small demand and are the firmest on the list. Southern flour dull. Rye flour steady; sales, 500 brls. Buckwheat flour dull at $1.80@1.85. Buckwheat dull. Corn meal quiet; sales, 200 brls and 2,400 sacks. Rye nominal. Barley dull. Barley malt steady.

Wheat—Receipts, none; exports, 31,200 bu; sales, 1,555,000 bu futures and 80,000 bu spot. Spots steady; No. 2 red, in store and elevator, 59¾c; afloat, 61⅜c; f. o. b., 61⅞c. No. 1 Northern, 68½c delivered; No. 1 hard, 70c delivered. Options opened steady, but were soon weakened by lower cables and further liquidation, finally sustaining a partial rally on reports of liberal cable acceptances, large seaboard exports and reported shortage of 40,000,000 bu in Roumania's maize crop. Closed at ⅛c net decline; No. 2 red, January, 59⅝@59¾c, closing at 59¾c; February, 60⅝@60¾c, closing at 60½c; March, 61½@61⅝c, closing at 61⅝c; May, 61¾@62⅛c, closing at 62c; June, 62@62¼c, closing at 62