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[*From the New York Spirit of the Times.*]

LETTER FROM INDIANA.

BY W. KING.

ON GUNS—THE IMPORTANT SIZES FOR VARIOUS SHOOTING—THE "ELECTRIC GUNPOWDER," ITS PROPER QUANTITY FOR CHARGE, WITH APPROF SHOT—THE SUPERIOR QUALITIES OF THIS POWDER—EXPERIMENTAL TRIALS OF SAME, WITH RESULTS—GREAT DUCK SHOOTING—HOW TO HANDLE THE GUN WITH FACILITY—HOW TO COVER THE GAME QUICKLY AND SURELY—THE ADVANTAGES OF PIGEON-SHOOTING FROM THE TRAP AS PRACTICE FOR IMPROVEMENT—QUAIL AND RABBIT-SHOOTING, WITH REMARKS APPERTAINING TO FIELD SPORTS.

To the Editor of the "Spirit of the Times:"

Dear Sir—In the course of conversation at various times and places, with those who are fond of sports by "flood and field," and particularly in answer to many communications from the "lovers of the gun," in various parts of this country, I have ventured to give you a few chapters, and relate, so far as my practical experience has taught me, *that* which I deem essential to be observed in order to become a perfect master of the gun, and a good shot.

The *gun*, then, is the first thing to discuss.—There are three sizes essential for use—the 10, 12, and 14 guage. To all ardent lovers of such sport, who have the facility of shooting frequently throughout the season, I would advise that their sporting sett should consist of two guns, a 10 and fourteen guage, and by all means the best quality. My reason for thus recommending the 10 and 14 bore, is for large and small game. The 10 bore will amply do its duty to the duck tribe, in which every part of the United States abound during the fall, winter, and spring shooting, and there can be no mistake about its being splendid sport. At the same time it is suited to deer, turkey, and other large game, whilst a 14 bore answers the call for quail, snipe, rabbits, squirrels, etc., intermixing and varying the sport for those fortunate enough in their locality to reap such enjoyment. I would have the weight of a partridge or quail gun from 7 to 7¼ lbs., 30-inch barrel; the 10 bore weight from 9 to 9¼, or 9½ lbs. This may depend somewhat upon the strength and muscular development of the sportsman. I would not recommend less than 6 lbs., length of barrel 32 or 34 inches, barrels of laminated steel, for A No. 1 guns. But rather than have what is made up and called laminated steel in $75 and $100 guns, take in preference good stubb and twist. The finest quality of laminated steel cannot be made for such a sum. Should, however, the expense of a pair of guns be too great, which in many instances may be the case, then substitute one gun for the pair, and call it 12 bore, 32 inch barrel, 6½ lbs. in weight; this will be near the medium for general shooting.

The next thing to which I would respectfully call the attention of your numerous readers interested herein is another very essential point, viz: *loading*, together with the size of shot, &c., for execution, with quantity in approx. of powder—and, above all, the kind of powder to use, and therefor make up their proportions to harmonize. The *best*, in this instance, is by far the cheapest, not only so far as economy may be considered as regards the mere expenditure for the price of a pound of gunpowder, but for the preservation of the barrels, and separate from the last I will endeavor to convince you that the best is actually the cheapest, if you use the best sporting gunpowder now made, the same I have had in use for all my match shooting for upward of three years, *i. e.*, "Hazard's Electric Sporting Powder." There are various kinds of powder sold in canisters at 50 and 62 cents per pound, but its strength and quality is very inferior, many of which burns damp, and all more or less tend to "foul" the gun. The "Electric" has properties which cannot even be found in any of the English powder; it burns perfectly dry, is of instantaneous explosion, and when fired from a ball is after one, two, or more days' shooting, say from 100 to 150 shots from a barrel, the only thing visible is white ash, which (if the gun be kept in a dry place) actually preserves the inside of its barrel from rust. I have shot the Electric Powder 150 shots in a day, from one barrel, and never found it miss fire.

I never clean my gun after its use until the evening before, or morning of next day's shooting; particular care should be observed to put your gun away in a dry place, and in frosty weather a sufficiently warm room; (not on account of the "ash," or white powdered surface inside the barrels,) but the frost is apt to be injurious to the locks, woodwork, &c. Still the barrels must be kept dry to prevent rust even on the outside. After the gun has been laid by for a few days, a week, or a month, and on washing it out prior to using the same, the Hazard sponge will remove all appearance of the Electric powder, and the barrels appear inside perfectly bright—not a spot of rust. I have even, when in a hurry, capped the gun empty, turned the barrels perpendicular, muzzle downward, and on the explosion of the best caps removed all that portion of the ash accumulated in the breech, which fell through the muzzle in a white powdered state, and shot again throughout the day; but washing with a rag or sponge is preferable, and is only the work of a few minutes. This should be done just before shooting, but never do it after, or when the gun is laid by—for, as I above stated, one peculiar virtue of the Electric of Electric Powder is the preservation it affords in its "ash" against rust, &c. The sporting community in general, who look to their own guns, will invariably find that if washed out ever so carefully and dried, after having stood a short time rust *will* accumulate, even in a dry place; it will be discovered on putting down the first wad—the rust in reddish dust will show either at the muzzle, or on the ramrod. I shot in one day, in company with a friend, last October, from 9 A. M. until 4 P. M., on the Antwerp Reservoir, Ohio, and on a very foggy damp day, with one double gun, each using "Hazard's Electric," No. 3 grain, and neither gun missed a fire, although on a surface of water of 2,700 acres. We bagged 275 ducks, consisting of mallards, widgeon, pin-tails, spoon-bills, etc. There are three numbers of the Electric. I have used Nos. 1, 2 and 3. They graduate in finest of grain, No. 1 being the finest. In this duck slaughter we used the No. 3. They are all equally good—Nos. 1 and 2 perhaps better for the field.

Having thus said all that is necessary for the information of my sporting brethren relative to the Electric's *preserving* qualities, I will now endeavor to show you and them the proof of its economy, and strength, et cetera, and also give the quantity I in general use. For my 14 guage at snipe, quail, or woodcock, say 2 drachms of powder and 1 oz. shot, No. 8. But for general shooting, including the above game, with what other kind may turn up, I use 2½ drachms, and 1¼ oz. No. 7 shot. The latter would be more general used when the season becomes advanced, and game wild, together with a more assorted bag, say a rabbit or two occasionly, or even a chance duck. With my 10 bore gun I use 3 drachms of powder, and 1½ oz. shot. I am particularly in favor of small shot, and find it much more effective in general. No. 7 is my favorite size generally. I load on the duck reservoir No. 5, but then I went for duck alone. I have, however, brought down many a mallard at 40 or 50 yards, with No. 7—and perfectly astonished many in this quarter at the result of small shot. At my first canvas-back shooting on the Gunpowder River, two years ago, I was at first somewhat unsuccessful, and attributed it to using No. 4 and 5, instead of BB, but a short experience told me that my success became more complete by *holding more forward*, at my *side shots* in particular. The first lesson received was in shooting at three ducks in a line, when holding tolerably forward at the *first*, as I thought, the *further* bird fell, then found that to kill my ducks at a distance of 50 yards, if flying across, I must hold at least *one yard* (in calculation) before the gentleman, or her ladyship, and Nos. 4 and 5 shot did then all I required.

We will now take 1 lb. of say No. 2 Electric powder—2 drachms of which is equal to 3 drachms of any 50 or 62 cents per pound of any other powder. We have in a pound so many charges, and if we take the 2½ drachm, say 100 charges, which costs $1 per pound, or 1 cent per charge; at 50 cents per pound, very common and dirty powder (its 3 drachms is not even equal to the 2 drachms), and this costs 75 cents per pound; and the 62 cents per pound powder comes with its 3 drachms against the Electric 2 drachms, pretty much about the same price, $1—the Electric going 50 per cent. further in number of charges. But here I have not quite done. The Electric fills less space in the tube, and together with its properties of quickness in burning, causes the "crack" sharp and effective, the charge burning at once; the other kind produces a slattern sound—not that quick simultaneous one; you not only *hear* it, but *feel* it, and in proportion as the larger charge is required, it is more felt and heard than a larger quantity of the common powder. The fact is, it does not *all* burn at the *breech;* if you fill a barrel half full of powder, and fire it from the bottom, a quantity of that is blown out the muzzle *unburnt*—same in proportion to the charge. Besides this, it is not *cheaper*—and, next, the very important detriment it to the gun, which suffers more in other ways than continually cleaning, missing fire, etc. I will, therefore, close my remarks by strongly recommending "Hazard's Electric Sporting Gunpowder" to all lovers of field sports, and advise those who have never tried the same *to do so*, and notice its effect according to the foregoing remarks, which I have had fully borne out by hundreds since I wrote you on my first practical experience, upwards of three years since, in the *Spirit of the Times*, of Jan. 26, 1856, page 595. Dr. Douglas, in Wheeling, Virginia, is my agent for the same at wholesale; at retail it should be procured of all gun-makers throughout the United States.

The next important consideration (and to all young sportsmen, especially) is, it is a very *important* point,) is *how to hold or handle the gun*. Many shoot with their left hand closely pressed against the trigger-guard. I have heard many excuse themselves for this by saying it was *safer* in case the barrels burst. There can be no excuse for this, if you use perfectly safe guns, and are particular in the manner of loading. In loading let your wadding *well press home*—and again, when loading either barrel discharged, the other not being fired, at the conclusion of loading the one, put your ramrod down the other not discharged, in case your wadding had started—you are then safe; but wadding will not start of the proper size, if properly put down the barrel; just let it reach home firmly, *without ramming*, until the rod rebounds from the muzzle. It is all unnecessary, spoils shooting, and flattens, or dents the shot, &c.

The attitude or position in shooting adds much to the graceful style of making "a beautiful double shot." Grasp your gun firmly with the right hand, the forefinger at liberty and ready for its use on the triggers; take the first trigger, or right barrel first, for a "double shot," or "right and left;" then for the left shot pass the *same* finger easily to the hind trigger, slightly touching it until ready for the left shot, then press it with ease and *determination*, when your game is covered. I mention *ease*, to prevent my jar through a sudden excitable tug or grapple for the trigger, which will be obviated by a slight touch of the same *before*, or whilst covering the game. The moment you have it so, you are then all ready for the *pull*. We have now disposed of the right hand; the left I *must demand* of young sportsmen to use in my following method:—Steady your gun for aim by supporting it between the thumb and fore and second fingers—the third finger supporting the second, and little finger quite unconnected. Your gun then is amply supported, and *apart* from the hand, the barrels forming a bridge, as it were, over the hollow of the palm; but if you grapple it with the thumb, three fingers and portion of the hand, you have it *vised* in, not *easy* on, the right or left, as the game may direct you, nor the easy facility of covering the object, whilst the weight can be easily sustained by the thumb and two fingers; it is only momentarily, and a little practice will overcome any first felt inconvenience. Twenty years ago I was precisely the same—held my gun as I above remarked, for fear of the barrels bursting—the "whir" of a covey of partridges, or a cock pheasant, *started* me on both triggers, either one after another, or both together, and away went my beautiful plumaged pheasants or birds together, myself looking unutterable things, until I was taken "in tow" by an old friend on the borders of Scotland (Berwick-on-Tweed) in 1838 and '39, and taught first how to hold my gun, next an easy position, standing lightly on the *right* foot; with left firm in advance, a distance easy and commanding for the body to be thrown right or left on a swivel, as it were, from the right foot. This will give a sweep of three fourths around you. Let the gun be steadied by the left hand (or fingers) from 4 or 5 to 8 inches from the trigger-guard. This will depend on the length of reach the shooter may possess; if short in reach, and at 4 inches from the guard he feels at ease and command, don't stretch it to 5 or 6 inches; handle where he feels at home, and until the game arise, let the stock be *slightly* supported between the right arm and body, about half of the stock discernable below, but don't press it to the side, the slightest *touch* is steadying enough, and it is then free to raise to the shoulder with quickness, coolness, and certainty. I have not mentioned *how* I got cured of shooting in a flurry, &c., in my younger days. My friend made me take with himself and dog an *empty gun*, so that the dog found and stood, I *pointed*, and my old experienced friend shot and brought them down. I had two days of this *sport*, when I *implored* him to give me another trial, with a "leetle" powder and shot. He consented, providing I did not begin my old "hurry and flurry," work again. I remember it well; and old cock pheasant sprung from out a kind of bog, flying across a narrow stream some six or eight yards wide, myself being about ten yards from its bank. I remember, too, so well pressing the trigger, feeling the slight recoil, and bagging my *first bird;* this led me on to do it again."

The advantage of trap-shooting, either at pigeons or other birds, will be found the best practice for the improvement of flight-shooting, especially to young beginners. The shooter can then take his position, or attitude, same as above described—that is, the easy standing position. Next take his gun as described, and practice raising it to the shoulder several times. At first, those who have held the gun differently will not be so much at home with it in its improved style, but by degrees it *will* come. Practising at a few birds twice a week, say 15 yards rise, will immensely improve the young shot, and if he only kills 3 out of 8 or 9, in the position *advised*, as he becomes more accustomed by practice, so will his shooting improve.

A gentleman in Louisiana, one of your readers and admirers of the "Spirit," wrote me, about three years since, asking me how I covered my bird on the wing, whether I threw up my gun, and shot instanter (snap shooting,) or whether I *followed* the bird. I did myself the pleasure of giving him my method, but as the same may be now with others, I will give it here. Whether shooting over your dog in the field or otherwise, when your bird or birds spring, or take flight, your eye, of course, is directed to the *one* intended for your *right* barrel, your eye being kept on the bird, following its course, at the same time your gun is brought to the shoulder; when thrown to the shoulder, in the direction of the bird your eye is still on, let it point a short distance behind the bird, say one, two, or three yards, but level with its flight; if flying a straight side shot, fire it quickly, and immediately you cover your bird will in advance, *pull;* if at 25 yards, and we will take a pigeon for flight, an aim at the head would give all the charge to its body; if at 40 yards (fast flying side shot,) shoot a foot ahead, aiming high enough; if at 60 yards, as above, shoot one and a half feet in advance, and aim rather high, shot will drop a little at that distance, and so in proportion to the distance, swiftness of flight, et cetera, all of which will come regularly to the shooter with practice. There is another important point to be considered; when you spring a covey of partridges, take for your double shots the *outside* birds—never shoot *amongst* the lot. I have heard of "good shots reported" of a man shooting 7 or 8 quail, on the wing, *at one shot*. If that man had made such a remark to me, I would have told him he never ought to shoot another bird. The beauty of double shooting over your dog is taken away if you shoot *one* bird *alone*, right and left, without wounding and feathering several others, which fly off and die. I would as soon see a pot hunter sweep off ten or a dozen poor little quail, when harmlessly running by a roadside, as to see him shower his load amongst the thickest in flight. You may cross your game in flight when separated from the cover, and killing the right one shows the prettiest of field-shooting. You must be cool in waiting for their crossing, when seeing their flight directed for such, and when separated from the cover the pair can be as easily taken as one, without breaking legs and rumpling a lot of others, which fly off to the next field or grove and die.

I had a very pretty day's shooting between Christmas and New Year's (three weeks ago) with a friend. We hunted a field of buckwheat which had never been cut, some thirty acres. Whether the owner was too lazy or not to cut it I don't know, but certainly it was a very excellent crop, or *had* been. It, however, made glorious food for the pretty little quail, and thousands of doves were fattening daily. I shot 17 quail, very fat and large, the finest I ever saw, and 3 rabbits. And a few days after I went again for the flocks of dove. I got a dozen and a half of them. We tried them assorted in pies, with a slice of pickled pork, and I never tasted anything more delicious.

Some other time I will give you my views on other matters connected with the gun. Meanwhile I will conclude with best wishes to your readers for many years enjoyment in which I delight, viz., with "my Dog and Gun." Yours very truly,

W. KING.

BOARD OF TRADE.
Committee of Arbitration for February.
WILSON P. BRYANT, | B. F. NEWCOMER,
WM. H. BRUNE, | J. LYLE CLARK.

Monetary and Commercial Review.

BALTIMORE, February 12, 1859.

Stocks were moderately active again to-day, and for the leading speculative, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the market was decidedly firmer in tone. Northern Central was however weaker. Baltimore and Ohio advanced today ⅛ to ⅜. There were 525 shares sold at the Board at $59@59¼ regular way, $59@59⅛ seller 60, and seller 60 after 30 days, and $59¾ buyer 60 days, but we heard that some sales were made after the Board at $59⅞ regular way. The stock left off at the Board at $59 bid, $59⅛ asked cash, and $59¼ bid, $59⅜ asked buyer 60 days. Of Northern Central Railway there were 200 shares sold at the Board at $29 buyer 60 days, but it closed at $29 bid, $29¼ asked regular way. For City 6's and Railroad bonds the market continues firm. We note sales to-day of $7,100, City 6's 1890 at 100, $6,000 Northern Central Railway 1885 bonds at 69, and $2,000 Northwestern Virginia Railroad first mortgage bonds at 91. The only sale of Bank stock made at the Board was one of 10 shares Howard Bank at 99⅞. For Canton $20¼ was bid to-day, a decline of ⅛ on the price bid for it yesterday. Mining stocks were hardly as firm to-day. Santa Clara closed at $18¾ bid, $18⅞ asked; Springfield at $2¾ bid, $2⅞ asked; and Gardner Hill at $1⅞ bid, $2⅛ asked.

SALES AT THE BALTIMORE STOCK BOARD.

SATURDAY, February 12, 1859.

$7100 Balt 6's,	1st m. 90	50 sh. B. & O. RR.	60@.59
2000 N. W. Va. RR. bds.		150 "	60@.59¼
	1st m. 91	50 "	60@.59
6000 N. C. RR. bds.	1st m. 65	50 "	60@.59
10 shs. Howard Bank..	99⅞	25 "	.59¼
200 shs. N. C. RR.	50@.20	100 "	60@.59
100 shs. B. & O. RR.	59@.59¼		

PRICES AND SALES OF STOCKS IN NEW YORK.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Through WILLIAM FISHER & SON, Stock and Bill Brokers.

No. 22 South street.

	1st Board.	2d Board.
Virginia 6's	96⅝	00
Missouri 6's	84⅞	84⅞
Illinois Central bonds	88½	00
Canton Company	40½	00
Erie Railroad	13½	13⅝
New York Central Railroad	78⅝	79
Reading Railroad	47⅞	48
Panama Railroad	00	00
Cleveland and Toledo Railroad	30	00
Michigan Southern Railroad	18⅝	00
Cumberland Coal	00	00
Harlem Railroad	15⅛	15⅜
Galena and Chicago	00	85⅝
LaCrosse and Milwaukie Railroad	1	00
Rock Island Railroad	60⅝	00

Market steady. firm.

The New York *Post* of Saturday afternoon says:

The past week has witnessed the first positive rise in the rates of interest—where ten days ago bank officers were earnest lenders at a fund 5 per cent., accommodations are now unobtainable under 6 and 7. Without inquiring whether the advance in the rate is occasioned by concerted action on the part of the banks, or whether by an increase in the demand, it is sufficiently evident that the change is calculated to have a wholesome influence in checking the over-action which springs from a redundancy of money and extremely low rates of interest.

After a year and half idleness, when we are about to enter upon a period of activity, we find ourselves subject to a line of discounts of $130,000,000, and the necessity of a connection showing itself at a time when legitimate business calls for increased accommodation. So, should we not be visited with no greater disturbance in the market, our banks will have abundant reason for congratulation.

The impression is quite general that the bank statement will show a fall of about a million and a half in loans, and a loss of nearly a million in specie. The average, however, will be a trifling one, the whole of the California receipts entering into next week's business.

The actual business in money to-day of which we are advised, is at 6 per cent. for short paper, and 7 per cent. for long. The rates on call are 5@6 per cent.—extremes.

The stock market is quite firm to-day though quotations present a good deal of irregularity. Some descriptions are up while others are down. The disposition to do business is somewhat checked by the continued absence of further foreign news. The heaviest fall was in Panama, which closed at 114⅝. Pacific Mail, on the other hand, ¼ per cent. higher. The operations of a compromise between the Company and Vanderbilt are likely to find a foundation in fact. Reading continues weak. Rock Island rose ¾. New York Central was steady at 79⅞ ex dividend.

The new Government loan is firmer, and sales were made, both privately and at the Board, at 102¾. A private sale of $100,000 was made, but we did not learn the price.

The business in foreign Exchange has been moderate for the Kangaroo, and rates are steady. Sterling is 108¾@109¾. Commercial bills are scarcely so strong, as the bankers evince a disposition to make more difference between Commercial signatures and their own than has recently been ruling. Francs are 5.18¾@5.13¾

The following is the statement of the Imports of Foreign Dry Goods at the port of New York, for the week, and since January 1, compared with the same periods in 1857 and 1858:

FOR THE WEEK.	1857.	1858.	1859.
Entered at the port	$3,760,929	$4,189,218	$3,434,073
Thrown on market	3,914,070	1,752,751	3,533,295
SINCE JANUARY FIRST.			
Entered at the port	$38,432,445	$5,916,990	$17,700,829
Thrown on market	18,686,445	7,415,740	18,314,578

Exports of Specie from the Port of New York for the week ending Feb. 12, 1859.

Feb. 7, str. Etna, Havre	U. S. gold	$136,982
" "	Napoleons	1,807
" "	European silver	5,000
" bg. 9, Tileston, Savanilla	Gold coin	2,000
Feb. 12, str. Kangaroo, L'pool	U. S. gold bars	165,161
	Bullion	22,500
	Silver dollars	30,000
Total for the week		$361,550
Previously reported		2,912,659
Total since January 1st		$3,274,209
Same time in 1858		7,722,738
Same time in 1857		2,613,313

Messrs. Thompson Brothers, New York, say:

"The movements of Congress have had a bad effect on the Land Warrant markets, and made quotations very unreliable.

"Limited amounts are changing hands to-day, at the following rates:

	Buying.	Selling
40 acre warrants per acre	90c.	$1.05
80 acre warrants per acre	80c.	88
120 acre warrants per acre	70c.	80
160 acre warrants per acre	75c.	84

At Chicago, the receipts of Breadstuffs during the past week were much heavier than those of any week this year. Wheat showing an increase of 27,131 bush. on the previous week, and Flour an increase of 2,931 bbls.

Money is tightening at Boston. The *Post* of yesterday says:

The bank specie continues to diminish, and New York funds are exceedingly scarce. Money is quiet, but if the present condition of things continues it will be dearer as the season advances. Bank specie this morning $6,625,400—a decline of $78,900 since yesterday. Our banks have lost about three millions of dollars within a few months, over and above all their receipts from the treasury and the interior.

We learn that the land and tobacco belonging to the Hadley Falls Company, of Holyoke, Massachusetts, was sold on Thursday to Mr. Alfred Smith, of Hartford, for $325,000. The original cost was over two millions. The company owned the dam across the Connecticut river, a large machine shop, many other buildings, and about 1,100 acres of land.

BALTIMORE MARKETS

COFFEE.—We have no transactions to note to-day in Coffee. The stock here is almost entirely exhausted, and there is no probability of there being any sales of importance until there are some further arrivals. There are, however, one or two cargoes of Rio Coffee expected here daily. We publish below the usual weekly report of Messrs. White & Elder, Coffee brokers, and we refer our readers to it for quotations:

WEEKLY COFFEE REPORT.

The market is firm, without change in prices. The transactions of the past week amount to about 6,000 bags Rio, in all, viz: 4,000 bags of the "Marion" cargo, at 11¼ to 11⅜ cts., of average fair quality; and about 1,500 bags from second hands at 11⅜ to 12 cts. for fair to good.

The stock in first hands is now entirely exhausted.

We note moderate sales of Laguyra at 12⅜ cts. We quote prime Rio at 12 cts.; good, 11⅞ cts.; fair, 11¼ to 11½ cts.; Java, 14½ to 15 cts. WHITE & ELDER,

Baltimore, Feb. 12, 1859. Coffee Brokers.

FLOUR.—There has been very little inquiry to-day for Flour, and so far as we have heard no sales have been made. We have however no change to note in the general condition of the market, and we quote all varieties steady at the previous quotations. Super Flour could have been bought at $5.75 for Howard Street and Ohio, and $5.50 per bbl. for standard City Mills, but there were no sellers at a lower rate. Extra Flour is steady at $6@6.25 for Ohio, $6.25@6.50 for Howard Street, and $6.50@7.25 per bbl. for City Mills. We quote Rye Flour as before at $4.25@4.50, and Corn Meal at $3.75@4 for Baltimore, and $4 per bbl. for Brandywine.

FAMILY FLOUR.—The rates for Family Flour are unchanged, and we still quote it at $8 25 for the leading brands of Baltimore, $7.75 for Old Dominion, and $8.25 per bbl. for Welch's.

GRAIN.—There was a pretty large supply of Corn at market to-day, but of all other descriptions of Grain the supply was light. The receipts of Corn reached about 23,000 bushels. The market for it was, however, inactive, and only a small part of the receipts were sold.—White brought 71@73 cts., and yellow 74@76 cts., but most of the lots withdrawn were held at 74@75 cts. for white, and 77@78 cts. for yellow. There was very little done in Wheat, sales of only 600 bushels being reported on Change at 130 cts. for red, and 142@153 cts. for white. Prime reds would probably have brought 135 cts. and prime whites 165@170 cts. Rye and Oats continue firm. A lot of 200 bushels Pennsylvania Rye, the only parcel offered, sold at 88 cts., and of Oats there were some 1,500 bushels offered, most of which were sold at 36@32 cts. for Pennsylvania, and 46@50 cts. for Maryland and Virginia.

MOLASSES.—There is nothing doing to-day in Molasses and the market for it is rather heavy. We quote New Orleans at 40@42 cts. per gallon, but it would be difficult to effect sales to any extent at the outside figure. A cargo of 208 hhds., 200 tierces and 22 bbls. more of Cuba Molasses, the first received this season, arrived here to-day per brig Cygnet from Matanzas.

PROVISIONS.—There is a fair enquiry rather more inquiry today for Provisions than there has been for two or three days past, and we remark a little improvement in the general tone of the market. There has been no movement in Bulk Meat, but there has been considerable inquiry for it, and 7 and 9 cts. was repeatedly offered for Shoulders and Sides. These figures were however declined, the market being firm at 7¼ and 9¼ cts. In Bacon there have been some transactions. We note sale of 50 hhds. Sides in one lot at 9¾ cts., and of some 50 hhds. Shoulders and Sides in lots at 8 and 10 cts. At the close Bacon was held quite firmly at 8 and 10 cts. for Shoulders and Sides. We have heard of no transactions in barrelled Pork, Beef or Lard. We quote Pork at $18.75 for Mess, $15.50 for Prime Mess, and $14@14.50 for Prime; Beef at $8@9 for Prime, $10@12 for No. 1, $12@14 per bbl. for Mess, and Lard at 12¾ cts. per lb. for Western Leaf in bbls. and tcs.

RICE.—Rice continues buoyant. There is an active inquiry for it, and we note a sale to-day of 50 tierces good at 4¾ cts Rice closes firm at 3¾@4 cts. for common to fair, and 4¼@4¾ cts. for good to prime.

SEEDS.—There was rather more movement in Cloverseed this morning than there has been for some days past, but prices were lower. Sales were made on Change of about 200 bushels at from $6.87½ to $7.12½, the latter figure being paid for a lot of 50 bushels strictly prime. We quote Timothy steady at $2.25 for prime, and Flaxseed at $1.40@1.45 per bushel.

SUGAR.—Sugars are dull, and rather heavy. There is very little inquiry for them from the trade, and we have heard of no sales being made to-day. Holders of Sugars are, however, still pretty firm in their views, and they do not seem disposed to accept any less than full prices. We quote to-day as follows, viz: $7.50@8 for fair to prime New Orleans, $8.25@8.50 for choice do.; $7.75@8 for Cuba; and $7.62½@7.75 for English Island Sugar. There is no demand for foreign Sugars except for refining purposes.

SALT.—Liverpool Salt is still selling in retail lots at our previous quotations, viz: 90 cts. for Ground Alum, 135 cts. for Fine Liverpool, 145 cts. for Ashton's, and 150 cts. per sack for Ashton's do., but we are inclined to give the cargo rates for it. Turks Island Salt may be quoted at 14@14½ cts. per bushel afloat.

WHISKEY.—Bbls. Rye is still held at 29 cts. for City, and 30 cts. for Ohio, and some small sales are making at these figures, but the demand for it is quite limited, and the mk et may be quoted dull and heavy at the above rates.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

NEW YORK MARKETS.—Saturday, Feb. 12.—COFFEE.—The market is quiet but firm. Rio is scarce and wanted at extreme prices; the stock north of New Orleans in first hands is quite insignificant. We do not learn of any sales of moment here, but 3,000 bags Rio, sold in Charleston, ex Gambia, at 12 cts.

COTTON.—The market is dull and heavy, even at the decline we quote:

NEW YORK CLASSIFICATION.

	Upland.	Florida.	Mobile.	N. O. & T.
Ordinary	10¼	10¾	10¾	10¾
Middling	11⅝	12	12	12
Middling fair	12¾	12¾	12¾	13⅜
Fair	—	—	—	—

MOLASSES.—New Orleans has again declined; sales of 150 bbls. at 39 cts., and 150 do. at 40 cts. Foreign remains quiet.

RICE—Is in steady request; sales of 150 tcs. at 3¾ cts., 4¼ for common and 5 for prime.

TEAS—The sale this morning was composed both of new Greens and Blacks, and largely comprised of low grades of Greens, while the Oolongs were composed of some very fine and desirable qualities, selling all the way up from 40c. to 83c. The attendance was good, and a fair spirit was manifest; the Greens sold at prices showing no essential change. The Blacks were of much finer quality than any offered last season, and realized satisfactory prices.

ASHES—The market is firm for Pots at $5.75, and Pearls at $6, with sales of 100 bbls. of the latter.

FLOUR, &c.—The inquiry for western canal flour is quite active, mainly for the home trade, and is confined to the lower grades; prices of these are better.

The sales are 8,000 bbls. at $5.15@5.35 for superfine State, $5.70@5.95 for extra do., $5.85@6.05 for the low grades of western extra, $6.20@6.35 for shipping brands of round hoop extra Ohio, $6.40@7.20 for trade brands do., 6.40@8.00 for extra Genesee, and $6.40@8.75 for St. Louis brands.

Canadian flour is held with more firmness; sales of 70 bbls at $6.35@7.25.

Southern Flour is better and in good demand; the arrivals are limited; sales of 2,100 bbls. at $5.60@6.10 for superfine Baltimore, &c.; $6.20@7.75 for fancy and extra brands. Rye flour is in limited supply and is firm. Corn meal is steady.

GRAIN.—The meal market is better, holders refusing to sell at late prices. Wet corn is held at $1.40. Sales of 2,500 bush. at $1.70 for white Kentucky, $1.87½ for good white Southern, and $1.43 for choice red do.

Rye is firm at 84@87, with the sales of northern at 87. Oats are dull and lower, sales at 57@59 for State, and 61@65 for Western and Canadian.

Corn is without change to note and is quiet, with fair arrivals of new—sales of 8,000 bush. at 82@84 cts. for Southern yellow, 83@85 cts. for white do., part old, 80@82 for Jersey yellow, and 84@87 for Western mixed, the price for sound.

PROVISIONS.—The pork market is rather easier, the demand is moderate, with few sellers—the sales are 900 bbls. at $18.50@18 60 for new mess; $18.12½ for old do.; $17 25 thin mess and sour mess; $20 for clear, and $13.60½@13.75 for prime.

Beef is firm, the demand is steady, the arrivals limited; sales of 600 bbls. at $6.75@7.25 for country prime, $8@9.25 for do. mess, $9@10.87½ for repacked mess, and $11.50@12 for extra do.

Prime mess is in fair demand at $17@20, and India mess $22 Bacon is firm—sales of 50 boxes short clear middles at 10¼ cts.

Cut meats are firm—the demand is fair—sales of 340 hhds. at 9@9¾c. for hams, and 7@7¾c. for shoulders.—Dressed hogs are in demand at 8@8¾c.

Lard is rather easier at the close—the demand is limited —sales of 300 bbls. and tcs at 12@12¾c., and smallots of choice at 12¾c. Butter and cheese are steady.

SUGARS—Are quiet and somewhat heavy—sales of 150 hhds. New Orleans at 7¼@7¾c. as to quality. The auction sale was postponed on account of unfavorable weather. Foreign continues dull—sales of 250 boxes of Havana at 8c.

WHISKEY—The market is quiet—sales of 200 bbls. at 27¾c.

WOOL—By auction we note sales of 159 bales English unwashed, slightly damaged, at 5¾@12¼c. cash.—*Eve. Post.*

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS, Feb. 11.—The operations of the past week have been somewhat interrupted by the unsettled state of the weather, and the market is generally have been only moderately active for the season. Quercitron Bark is scarce and wanted, but buyers are demanding a further advance. Breadstuffs continue inactive, but prices are without any material variation from those in Flour, Wheat or Corn. Coal is at a stand still, but prices are without change, and the receipts and stocks are moderate. Cotton is lower, with a moderate business only to notice at the decline. Pig Iron is moving off more freely at the advance, but in other kinds there is not much doing, owing, in great measure, to the uncertainty in regard to the tariff measures now pending in Washington. Groceries—Sugar and Coffee are wanted at steady prices, but for Molasses the demand is less active, and the market is dull. In Provisions there is very little doing owing to the firmness of holders, who are demanding an advance on previous quotations. Foreign Fruits have been moving off freely at steady prices, but domestic is rather quiet. Leathers continue buoyant; the market of stock, however limits operations. Naval Stores and Oils are quiet, but for the latter very full prices are demanded.—Rice is firm at the advance. Seeds—There has been a good inquiry for clover and flaxseed, daily receipts, but the market closed rather dull; nothing doing in other kinds. Whisky is better, but the sales have been limited at the advance. Wool is held with more firmness, and the stock on sale is light for the season; in other articles there are no important changes.—*N. American.*

BOSTON DRY GOODS MARKET, Feb. 11.—In all branches of the Dry Goods trade the same buoyant and firm feeling prevails that we have had occasion to notice in our reports for some weeks. The market during that time has been steadily advancing, without any unusual excitement, and the tendency is as decidedly upward now as at any time within four weeks, for most kinds of staple goods. Business has not been very active so far as the amount of sales are concerned, but this arises more from the indifference of manufacturers to sell than from lack of buyers. Leading Jobbers have such confidence in the market now and prospects ahead, that they are ready to take any lot of standard goods offering at the late current prices, and are only prevented from operating by the extreme views of holders. All the principal Cotton Mills are now engaged ahead for some time, many of them to the middle of March. The contracts made the past week have been at an advance of ¼c. on all staple goods and in many instances further concessions have been demanded in this advance. Blue goods have been more sought after than for some weeks and are very firm.

Woollen Goods generally sustain the improvement previously noticed with steady though not large sales. The movement in fancy goods does not as yet come up to expectation, but this is attributed to the introduction of the merino fabrics, which have been introduced in the past week, which undoubtedly tends to postpone their full spring purchases to the latest moment, particularly goods in which no material change in prices is looked for. The trade, however, must come in due season, and we look for more activity in this department in a few weeks. For export there continues to be considerable inquiry, and the advices from abroad are favorable for a good demand. The Jobbers have not been very actively employed in the past week, although a fair business has been done, with the prospect of an increased trade as the season advances.

Large contracts for Brown Sheetings have been made at 8¾c., and some of the principal manufacturers are not disposed to take further orders at this price. We would not be surprised to see these goods go up to 9c. Medium Sheetings and Shirtings are in demand at 7¾@7¾c., and light do. at 5¾@6c. Bleached Sheetings and Shirtings are also firm and higher, with considerable sales of desirable kinds at improved prices for future delivery. Fine goods particulary are much sought after. Brown Drills sustain the advanced prices asked at the close of last week, and the principal sales since have been at 8¾c., which is now the generally asked price for all standard goods.—Bleached we quote 8¾@9c.; and Blues are firm with considerable sales at 10½c., and some do not offer under 10½c. Print Cloths sustain the advance noticed last week, and are scarce and in demand. The sales have been at 5¾c. for 60x60, 5¾c. for 60x64, 5¾c. for 64x64, and other styles at corresponding prices. Prices are now full ¾c. higher than the current rates in December last. Prints have been in fair demand for the past week. Market range from 8¾@10½c. with sales mostly at 9¾@10c. and Amaranths from 10@11c.

Lawns have been comparatively quiet but are steady, with sales of the Pacific at 11@13½cts. for 1400's. Denims have been more active, and are selling at an advance of ¼ct. on most styles. Stock light, the demand being fully equal to the production. Stripes and Ticks have been more active than for some weeks, and an advance of ¼ct. has taken place, with a very firm market. Cotton Flannels meet with a fair demand at full prices. Cottonades are steady and firm. Osnaburgs are in good demand at previous prices. In Ginghams there continues to be a fair business doing. We quote 9¾@10cts. for Manchester, Glasgow and Lancaster. De Laines have been sold to a fair extent at prices ranging from 16@18 cts. for the Manchester, Pacific and Hamilton. Many of the most desirable styles are taken as fast as received. Challies range from 18@20 cts., with a steady demand.

There is a steady but moderate demand for Woollen Goods, and market firm for all kinds. Holders are confident that good prices will be obtained throughout the season, and are not anxious to realize. The sales of Cloths, Warps have been at full prices. Cassimeres ranging from $1.12½@$1.50 have been sold to a fair extent, but in low and medium goods the business has been but moderate. Satinets are firm and continue to command full prices, with a fair in