

Commercial and Financial Matters.

The appraisals at the Custom-house in New York are so low that San Francisco merchants find it worth their while to import their goods through that port.

The bonded indebtedness of Cincinnati at this time is \$23,308,581. The larger part is for aid in building the Cincinnati and Southern Railroad, which is yet far from completion.

We are glad to see that the prospect is good that Congress will order, either at this or the regular session, of Congress the reopening of the New Orleans Mint. We would like to see something of life and activity about the old building again.

In 1876 the exports of books from England amounted to about \$4,400,000. Of these the United States received books to the value of \$955,000, while Canada and other North American provinces received only to the value of \$48,000.

The citizens of Shreveport, and between that city and Monroe, are taking action towards the building of a railroad between those two points. The road is to be called the Red River and Mississippi Railroad. A large amount has been solicited and committees appointed to solicit more subscriptions in the parishes through which the road will run.

The question of the rate of interest that can be afforded is again being agitated. It is claimed that the real value of money which is loaned is only to be estimated by the rate of the country's growth in wealth. This is 3% per cent, no more, and if this be taken as a proper criterion, surely any system of law advancing so high a rate as 10 or 12 per cent must result disastrously to those employing it.

It appears that the discrimination against Spanish vessels in the levying of the tonnage tax is due to the neglect of the Spanish Minister in Washington, in not calling on the Treasury Department and notifying it that Spanish vessels are discriminated against by the United States entering Spanish ports. The wrath aroused in Madrid—and the Castilians seem to be as easily excited as a bull in the arena—will now subside.

The silver commissioners have sifted out a nice state of the case for us. They say this country owes to Europe the round sum of \$2,000,000,000, the interest on which is \$100,000,000. During six years, ending with 1876, the average silver product of the United States was \$26,000,000, a total of \$156,000,000, being a good deal less than enough produced in six years to pay the interest on the debt. There is, therefore, nearly enough gold and silver in the world, including coin, plate and bars, to pay half the national debt. But, if we had it all, where would we get the other half?

Though business, in most branches, continues dull and sluggish, yet there is a strong hope and expectation entertained by the public mind of an early and decided improvement. Money is getting easier. There is a good promise of an early rise in the price of silver, which will serve to pour in upon us great quantities of the money staple and make things lively in this region.

Accounts from the country in regard to the sugar crop do not present a very encouraging prospect. That we will have a good crop is the general opinion of planters, but, of course, this result is contingent upon the state of the weather for the next few weeks. Give us cold and clear weather, without frosts or freezes, and our sugar planters will be as happy as so many big snuffers. As it is now, the cane, though thrifty and flourishing in appearance, does not yield the requisite saccharine matter, and is not so much matured as it should be at this season. Raining generally in fully two weeks behindhand, as compared with past years. An early freeze is now the bugbear of our planters.

A New Telegraph Company.

The Indicator reviews the story that an opposition telegraph line to the West-Terr Union is about to be constructed by a combination of foreign capitalists, stockholders of a Union Pacific, and some prominent railroad men.

Stealing of Seed Cotton.

Great complaint is made in Mississippi of the stealing of seed cotton. An exchange states that the seed cotton robbers drive half a dozen wagons to the fields and go off with them filled with spoils. Laws were passed to prevent this rascality, but they proved dead letters. Finally the planters took the matter in hand and organized to put a stop to it. We are informed that a regular watch is kept on all the seed cotton stores, and several persons engaged in this illicit trade have been arrested and convicted. The convictions have produced terror among the cotton thieves, and many of them, it is said, have given up the business as dangerous. A vigilant patrol is, nevertheless, still kept up, and the watchfulness of the planters is so great, that it is believed that, as far as Adams county is concerned, this illegal seed cotton traffic is effectually broken up. The Adams county movement has been so successful that several other Mississippi counties propose to do the same, and are now organizing protective associations for protection and for the prosecution and conviction of the cotton thieves.

This nefarious business seems to have been encouraged by country stores which offer inducements to cotton rogues.

Without doubt, a great convenience in some localities, but it can be converted into a tremendous nuisance. We have not heard of much seed cotton stealing in Georgia, and trust that it will attain its formidable proportions in this State.—Atlanta Chronicle, 21st inst.

Silver and the Public Debt.

The report of the Silver Commission makes a volume of over 200 pages. The following is what the report says about the payment of the public debt in gold or silver, and the amount of production of precious metals:

The world has expended a vast amount of labor in the production of the metals, and has made great sacrifices in upholding the automatic metallic system of money, and has the right to insist that it shall be consistently left alone to work out its own conclusions, or that it be abandoned. The legal right of the United States to pay its bonds in gold or silver, at its option, is so clear that no serious denial of it is made. The claim that they should be paid only in gold is placed on vague and shadowy grounds. There is no case or law, and no precedent, in the case of the United States, that has never been entered into between the government and its creditors, involving contingencies which may favor either party, and both parties must abide by the issue, whatever it may be. It would be beneath the dignity of the government to demand any advantage which the law and the contract made under it do not confer. It would be a violation of justice, and a betrayal of the great interests confided to its charge to accept any terms less than the government is agent and not principal. It is the trustee of the nation, and must find the charter and guide for the administration of the affairs entrusted to it in the law and not in sentimental emotions. The attempt to frighten the government from exercising its undoubted right to pay its bonds in the cheaper metal, by proclaiming that if it does so its honor will be tarnished and its credit impaired at home and abroad, is unworthy of consideration. The punctual fulfillment to the letter of all obligations is the surest and best support of the credit of any country. Its honor can rest permanently in peace and war only on the patriotism of its people, which is sure to be weakened if their substance is to be taxed to pay premiums for the appearance of its credit. The United States is the only nation that has never made a default in its promises. It has never failed to meet punctually and fully all its obligations.

We are largely the debtors of Europe, a relation we do not occupy towards any other quarter of the globe. The aggregate of our indebtedness to public and corporate, held there, is estimated to exceed \$2,000,000,000, and is, on any computation, an immense sum. If it be taken at \$2,000,000,000, the annual interest must be fully \$100,000,000. This is the minimum of the current estimates. It is not a tribute in the odious sense of a contribution exacted by a sovereign, or imposed by a conqueror. But in its present financial effects it does not differ from either, and has never been paid by any nation in history, either ancient or modern. So far as it is true, it doubtless is to some extent, that our indebtedness to Europe is paid from the sale of commodities elsewhere, the United States, as a debtor country, is interested against such a discrimination of the world's measure of value as would result from demonetizing silver, and ought to throw the weight of its example and influence against it.

The investigation shows that the silver product of the United States during the past six years was \$500,000,000, making an average of \$83,333,333 per year. The total for 1876, by itself, was \$38,300,000. When these returns are contrasted with the computations which have hitherto obtained currency, it will be seen that

the latter have uniformly and greatly exaggerated the production of silver in this country. It is one of the common estimates that in 1856, the date of the California discoveries, the bullion value of the world's stock of plate, coin and bars was \$2,800,000,000 in gold and \$4,000,000,000 in silver; but of coin and bars alone \$1,200,000,000 in gold and \$2,200,000,000 in silver. In the twenty-eight years ending with 1875 the aggregate production of gold and silver was \$4,582,000,000, which was an addition of sixty-seven per cent, to the stock in 1848 of coin, bars and plate, and of 135 per cent, to the stock of coin and bars. In the same twenty-eight years the production of gold alone was \$3,215,000,000. This was in addition to the gold stock in 1848 in coin, bars and plate of 115 per cent, and to the stock in coin and bars of 205 per cent. Estimating the amount of the world's stock of the precious metals in 1848, or in any year, very considerably, but on an estimate the two facts are illustrated that annual supplies affect stocks of the precious metals slowly, and that the stock of either one or both is more exposed to eccentric enlargement than is the aggregate stock of the two.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONETARY.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT. Thursday Evening, Oct. 25, 1877. NEW ORLEANS CLEARING HOUSE.

Table with columns: Clearings, Balances, and dates from October 20 to 25, 1877.

Thus far this week..... \$7,094,299 39 \$669,800 21 Same time last week..... 6,807,747 69 978,605 30 Total last week..... 7,695,879 89 978,814 51 Total week before..... 7,471,155 13 979,274 46

The money market continued active, but was not quite so strong to-day. Commercial paper was unchanged.

Gold was without quotable variation, but Foreign Exchange was stronger. The movement in both was moderate.

New York eight ruled at previous rates. Stocks were without any new feature.

Consolidated Freight Bonds remained irregular, but the fluctuations were not so wide as yesterday. The former touched 87 and closed at 85 1/2, against 87 1/2 yesterday, and the latter at 87 1/2, against 87 1/2, and closed at 86 1/2, against 86 1/2.

City Scrip was higher for 1874 and 1875 issues, the former closing at 84 and the latter at 84 1/2, while the 1876 issues were all quoted at 84 1/2.

Half Paid City Coupons and State Warrants were lower, the former closing at 34 1/2 and the latter at 34 1/2.

The President of the Crescent City Open Stock Board appointed the following permanent committees to-day: J. F. Quinlan, C. A. Harris, Carnool Burke, Constant Andrio and P. F. Herwig.

On Bonds—Messrs. E. P. Boyer, O. C. Ketchum, J. L. Bond, W. H. Epp and A. F. House. On Quotations—Messrs. M. Abrams, Louis Morel, J. H. Levy, Alex. Bonito and John Williams.

On Finance—Messrs. E. H. Chadwick, L. S. Bledsoe and L. F. Barrett.

We continue to quote exceptional commercial paper at 100 per cent discount. At 40 nominal; second grade do nominal; loans on collaterals 10@12. At mortgage 10@12, and second grade do nominal.

On the 25th of Oct. 1877, against 100% in New York, and closed at the opening rates in both markets. The sales summed up \$1,000,000, embracing 100% at 100%, \$1,000,000 at 100% and \$2,000,000 at 100%.

The sales of sterling comprised \$4,000,000, embracing \$1,000,000 at 48 1/2, \$2,000,000 at 49 1/2, and \$1,000,000 at 49 1/2.

In France we noticed sales of 100,000 and 100,000 francs at 48 1/2 and 48 1/2.

At the close sterling bills were quoted at 48 1/2, 48 1/2 for bill of lading and at 48 1/2, 48 1/2 for bank. Bank currency rate at 48 1/2, 48 1/2, and 48 1/2.

The only sales of New York eight reported were \$10,000 and \$25,000 commercial at 1/2 per cent discount. We also noticed sales of \$500,000 commercial on Providence and \$3,000 on Fall River at 1/2 per cent discount.

The banks continued to check on New York at 1/2 per cent discount, and commercial silver was all quoted at 1/2-1/2.

NEW ORLEANS STOCK EXCHANGE SALES.

Table listing various stock sales including State Consols, Bonds, and other securities with their respective prices.

CRESCENT CITY OPEN STOCK BOARD SALES.

Table listing Crescent City Open Stock Board sales including Bonds and other securities.

(By Telegraph.)

Table listing various market news and prices from other locations like New York, St. Paul, and others.

AMERICAN STANDARD OF CLASSIFICATION.

Table showing classification of goods and their prices, including Cotton, Sugar, and other commodities.

embraced 800 bales, after which the rain somewhat held up, but the same more abundant and additional transactions were reported to the extent of 300 bales, making a total for the day, as noted above, of 500 bales, which will be a record for the season. At the opening the rain poured down in such torrents as to completely suspend all operations. The market, however, increased strength in all fair grades, and at all desirable, without establishing a quotable improvement.

The exchanges reported Liverpool hardening, but not quite so high, with sales of 18,000 bales, and arrivals partially 1-1/2 higher. Havre irregular, with no change in quotations, and 2000 bales, and 1000 bales for London, Liverpool and stronger for futures, which at noon showed an improvement of 2-1/2-3-1/2, and closed at a net advance of 2-1/2-3-1/2. In October, 1877, the market was 1-1/2-2-1/2, and in December, 1877, in January and February, and 7-10-10-1/2-10-1/2 in the latter months.

The Exchange makes the amount on ship-board not cleared 41,182 bales, embracing 20,596 for Liverpool, 12,408 for Havre, 4614 for the North Sea, 2298 for Bremen, 109 for the Mediterranean, and 1000 for London. For the month of October, 1877, in press agreeably to its account at 12 m., 40,000 bales, a considerable part of which is not on sale.

At noon to-day Middling was quoted at Galveston at 10 1/2, at Mobile at 10 1/2, at Savannah at 10 1/2, at Charleston at 10 1/2, at Wilmington at 10 1/2, at Norfolk at 10 1/2, at Boston at 10 1/2, at Memphis at 10 1/2, at Augusta at 10 1/2, at Philadelphia at 10 1/2, at Cincinnati at 10 1/2, and at New York at 10 1/2.

The Exchange reports: "Sales 4000 bales. Market strong."

COTTON STATEMENT.

Table showing Cotton Statement for the week ending September 1, 1877, including arrivals and clearances.

Stock on hand and on shipboard not cleared..... 91,776 Stock same time last year..... 124,689 Receipts proper since last Thursday 5455 bales, against 4105 bales on last Thursday, and 6810 bales since Monday, against 5200 bales on Monday evening of 34,983 bales, against 26,294 last week and 38,357 last year. Total since August 31, 1877, bales, against 179,834 last year—decrease 10,000.

The Exchange telegrams make the receipts at all the ports from 12 m. yesterday 12 m. to 12 m. 22,000 bales, against 21,350 last week, and 28,900 bales since Monday, against 22,200 bales on Monday evening of 34,983 bales, against 26,294 last week and 38,357 last year. Total since August 31, 1877, bales, against 179,834 last year—decrease 10,000.

Exports (Friday to Wednesday inclusive) to Great Britain, 43,349 bales, against 24,146 last week, and 28,900 bales since Monday, against 22,200 bales on Monday evening of 34,983 bales, against 26,294 last week and 38,357 last year. Total since August 31, 1877, bales, against 179,834 last year—decrease 10,000.

Stocks at all the delivery ports made up to 12 m. 32,570 bales, against 27,434 last week and 29,200 last year.

TOBACCO—We did not hear of a transaction to-day. The amount on sale is estimated at 5000 lbs. We repeat our revised quotations as follows:

Inferior grades 30@35, low grades 35@40, medium grades 40@45, good to fine 45@50, low leaf 50@60, medium leaf 60@70, good leaf 70@80, fine 80@90, and selections 100@125.

Received since last evening 4 hds; exported yesterday 4 hds; in hand 10 hds, and 50 to New York stock on hand by our running statement 6078 hds.

FREIGHTS—We have no new feature to-day in the market, and continue to quote as follows:

By steam—Cotton to Liverpool 1-10/16; to Bremen 5/16; to Boston, Providence, Fall River, Portland, and Baltimore, 1/16; New York 1/16; to New York 1/16; grain to Liverpool 10/16.

By sail—Cotton to Liverpool 15-20/16; to Bremen 10/16; to Boston, Providence, Fall River, Portland, and Baltimore, 1/16; New York 1/16; to New York 1/16; grain to Liverpool 10/16.

NEW LOUISIANA SUGAR—Received this morning 15 hds, not discharged on account of rainy weather. The last sales were at 9 1/2 for prime clarified.

OLD CROP LOUISIANA SUGAR—Received this morning 35 hds. Rainy weather prevented the unloading of the receipts, hence no sales. We quote fair to good fair at 9 1/2, fully 10 1/2, 8 1/2, prime 8 1/2, and yellow clarified 9 1/2.

NEW LOUISIANA CANE SYRUP—Received this morning 15 hds. Supplies sell at 30@35 per gallon.

NEW LOUISIANA MOLASSES—Received this morning 150 hds. Active demand. All the receipts at 40 for common, 45@50 for fair to prime and 50 for good prime.

FLOR—Only 300 lbs came in this morning. The market is quiet but firm and unchanged, with a weak and good inquiry, especially for double to good treble extra, which is scarce. Owing to rainy weather the sales to-day are only 100 lbs, of which 300 lbs treble extra at \$7; 100 fancy at \$7 1/2; 25 at \$7; 100 and 300 lbs in private terms.

Common is quoted at \$4 1/2; fine \$4 1/2; superfine \$5 1/2; double extra \$5 1/2; low treble extra \$5 1/2; good do \$5 1/2; fancy do \$5 1/2; choice extra \$7@7 1/2; choice \$7 1/2@7 3/4.

Dealers and grocers obtain 5c above these prices.

FLOR—Is selling in first hands at \$1 1/2.

COIN FLOR—Supplies come in small lots and sell on the landing at \$5 1/2 per lb.

GRITS—In light supply and fair demand at \$3 1/2, while common is dull at \$3 1/2 per lb. Dealers are jobbing in store at \$3 1/2.

ROMINY—Is quoted nominally at \$3 1/2@3 3/4 per lb.

CREAM AND PEARL MEAL—Sells in small lots on the landing at \$2 1/2 per lb. Jobbing in store at \$2 1/2 per lb.

COIN MEAL—None coming in and the stock on hand is small, but the market is very dull. Only 100 lbs came in, and the market is very dull. It is quoted at \$2 1/2, and 25 Ohio river at \$2 1/2. Dealers are jobbing at \$2 1/2 per lb.

COIN IN RULK—None on the spot on the landing, but a good supply and fair demand at \$3 1/2, while common is dull at \$3 1/2 per lb. Dealers are jobbing in store at \$3 1/2.

WHEAT—Is in request, and supplies common at \$1 1/2@1 3/4 per bushel, the latter for Tennessee.

PORK—Is 1/2 stronger under small stocks here and small stocks and higher prices in the West. It is quoted at \$14 1/2, and an offer of \$14 1/2 was refused for 500 lbs on the landing, 325 lbs sold of which 150 lbs at \$14 1/2, 25 at \$14 1/2, and 150 at \$14 1/2. Dealers are jobbing at \$14 1/2.

DRY SALT MEAT—The market is totally bare of shoulders in first hands, and they would command on arrival \$2 1/2. The dealers are jobbing in store at \$2 1/2 per lb.

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Small & Co, for the following telegram: "Rio de Janeiro, October 24 and New York, October 25, 1877. Purchases at Rio de Janeiro, 1000 bales; stock 8000; average daily receipts 9000; price very firm, 9700; exchange, 25 1/2. The market is bare of rough, and orders for it are unexecuted. We quote rough at \$4 1/2@4 3/4 per lb. We quote Louisiana class No. 2 at 3 1/2@3 3/4; ordinary 3 1/2@3 3/4; fair 3 1/2@3 3/4; extra 3 1/2@3 3/4; prime 4 1/2@4 3/4; 100 bales strictly good sold at 5 1/2 per lb.

RECEIPTS OF PRODUCE—Arrived since our review of yesterday: 310 bales flour, 20 bales pork, 50 bales whiskey, 100 bales lard, 100 bales sugar, 100 bales coffee, 100 bales tea, 100 bales rice, 100 bales cotton, 100 bales wool, 100 bales hides, 100 bales skins, 100 bales tallow, 100 bales soap, 100 bales oil, 100 bales vinegar, 100 bales molasses, 100 bales sugar, 100 bales coffee, 100 bales tea, 100 bales rice, 100 bales cotton, 100 bales wool, 100 bales hides, 100 bales skins, 100 bales tallow, 100 bales soap, 100 bales oil, 100 bales vinegar, 100 bales molasses.

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE—Exports since our review of yesterday: 310 bales flour, 20 bales pork, 50 bales whiskey, 100 bales lard, 100 bales sugar, 100 bales coffee, 100 bales tea, 100 bales rice, 100 bales cotton, 100 bales wool, 100 bales hides, 100 bales skins, 100 bales tallow, 100 bales soap, 100 bales oil, 100 bales vinegar, 100 bales molasses.

Domestic Markets. (By Telegraph.) CHICAGO, Oct. 25, 9 50 a. m.—Wheat—October 11 1/2; November 11 1/4; year nominally 11 1/4. Corn—November 31 1/2@31 3/4. Pork—bid year 32 1/2; bid January 32 1/2. Lard—year 41 1/2; January 41 1/2.

Union Stock Yards—Hogs—estimated receipts 15,000 yesterday, 17,000 today, and 18,000 tomorrow; prices 15@20 lower than on yesterday morning, packers and shippers generally holding off for lower figures; small sales of light hogs at 10@12; heavy hogs at 12@14; packed grades \$1 1/2@1 3/4; heavy shipping grades about \$1 1/2@1 3/4. Receipts of cattle about 1500 cars.

1 30 p. m. Morning call.—Wheat steady; October 11 1/2; November 11 1/4; year nominally 11 1/4. Corn steady; October 31 1/2; November 31 3/4; year nominally 31 1/2. Pork steady; October 32 1/2; November 32 1/2; year nominally 32 1/2. Lard steady; October 41 1/2; November 41 1/2; year nominally 41 1/2.

1 30 p. m. Close.—Wheat—October 11 1/2; November 11 1/4; year nominally 11 1/4. Corn steady; October 31 1/2; November 31 3/4; year nominally 31 1/2. Pork steady; October 32 1/2; November 32 1/2; year nominally 32 1/2. Lard steady; October 41 1/2; November 41 1/2; year nominally 41 1/2.

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