Commercial and Financial Matters.

Two ships cleared at this port yesterday for Liverpool with very large cargoes, there being a remarkably small difference in the amount of their respective freights. The J. A. Thomson has on board 4748 bales of cotton and 4800 pieces of staves; the Her Majesty 4715 bales of cotton and 4200 pieces of staves.

A fact connected with the recent destruction by fire of the steamboat Lotus is worthy of mention. She had on board a crew of about sixty men and fifteen passengers. The first mate, Mr. Loper, a most estimable man and efficient officer, and fourteen of the crew, lost their lives, and all the passengers were saved. Among the latter was a lady with three children, one at the breast. The total loss by the Lotus disaster is estimated at $107,000, including boat and cargo.

The steamboat Port Eads, with four barges, arrived here yesterday with a very large freight list. It embraced 24,496 packages of merchandise, 59,959 bushels of corn in bulk, and 30,000 bushels of wheat. That's right. Send forward your grain, Western shippers, and we will supply ample ocean tonnage whereby to transport it, expeditiously too, across the broad Atlantic. The cry of insufficiency of shipping at this port for this purpose has been gotten up by interested parties who wished to stop the flow of grain this way; but their mouths have at last been stopped by the solid, undeniable fact that all the grain that has been shipped hither has been sent forward with the least possible delay.

The steamship Borussia, which arrived here yesterday from Liverpool, brought 1698 boxes, 600 half boxes and 1852 quarter boxes of raisins, which, under ordinary circumstances, would not be considered a large consignment. We only refer to it for the purpose of mentioning a fact in connection with the trade in this article that forcibly illustrates the hardness of the times. Last year importers of raisins would sell 1000 boxes to large grocers, while the same parties take only 100 boxes. The prices have fallen correspondingly, and the demand is remarkably light, notwithstanding the near approach of the holidays. The truth is that many of those who formerly were extensive consumers of raisins, currants, almonds, etc., are now too poor to indulge even in such small luxuries.

A new use has been found for the telephone. Since it was introduced into several mines for the purpose of communication between the men at work below the surface and the officers of the companies above ground, it has occurred to somebody connected with one of the mines that it could be used to advantage in indicating the ventilation of the mines themselves. The circulation of air in the mines is shown by the anemometer, which is situated below. The miners have fallen into the way of being careless as to the ventilation. But now it has been found possible, by attaching the telephone to the anemometer below, to indicate the flow of air in the mine in the office above. It is proposed shortly to try experiments to see whether the telephone can be made available in divers' operations. It is believed that the instrument may be attached to the armor of divers, and be made a perfect means of communication between them and their assistants.

According to the Postmaster General's report the actual expenditures of his department during the past fiscal year was $32,322,504 24, which were $222,834 86 more than those of the preceding year, and $3,353,483 55 less than the estimates therefor. The total receipts for the year were $1,112,612 24 less than those of the preceding year, and $1,126,618 54 less than the estimates therefor. The decrease is largely in the item of official postage stamps, the amount derived from which during the last fiscal year was only $870,730 47, while in the previous year it was $1,281,389 43. Excluding official postage stamps and money order receipts from both fiscal years, the reduction in ordinary receipts was only $183,592 29, or about three-fifths of one per cent. According to the terms of the act making the appropriation, the official postage stamps used by the Postoffice Department during the fiscal year, and amounting to $656,095 50, do not figure as revenue.

The government of Guadaloupe offers the sum of $20,000 to the inventor of a new process of extraction of juice of sugar cane or of sugar fabrication, this prize to be given to whoever obtains from the cane a yield of 14 per cent of sugar, and the cost of application of the new process not to exceed forty per cent of the value realized. The cane raised at Guadaloupe contains 18 per cent of suar, and, hitherto, a percentage of 9.4, on an average, has resulted from the ordinary factory machinery. Recently M. Ducharsaing invented an imbibition process, by which, it appears, the yield is increased from 9.4 to nearly 12 per cent; in fact, according to the claim of the inventor, the advantage derived from his process is a gain in the percentage of a yield of 2.33. At any rate, M. Ducharsaing's invention was deemed sufficiently important to warrant the awarding to him of a $20,000 prize. The present premium, therefore, is a second one, and it calls for a still further improvement to be made. The experiments, on at least 660,000 pounds of cane, are to be conducted under the auspices of a government commission.

Two vessels arrived here yesterday from Liverpool with cargoes of salt, viz: The ship Annie Gondie, with 2163 sacks, and the ship Choice, with 4900 sacks. If, in the prospective revision of the tariff, the duty on salt, which is undeniably an article of necessity, should be removed, such a measure would be of incalculable benefit to New Orleans and to the greater portion of the West. Instead of ships coming here from foreign ports ladened with worthless ballast, they would bring to our port full cargoes of salt, as they did in the good old ante bellum times, which would be sent up the river to supply the demands of our pork packing friends of the West.

The New York and Kanawha Salt Works are having altogether too much protection, and if our Western friends would only look at this subject with a practical, impartial eye, they would speedily discover that this onerous duty on imported salt is senseless, and injurious to the common interests of the country. We would respectfully direct the attention of our immediate representatives in Congress to this matter reminding them that while it may seem to be a small and insignificant seasoning to their daily food, it is in the aggregate one of the most important articles in the domestic economy of the nation. Let them put their faces in the right direction in the persuance of this much needed reform, and never look backward. Remember Lot's wife!

Laws of Stock Fluctuations.

Robert Giffen, in his new work on "Stock Exchange Securities," which is highly commended by the London *Times* and *Spectator*, brings forward some "laws" controlling the fluctuations of stocks. Dull or hard times push up the prices of first-class stocks; investment stocks tend to fall when the business improves and the demand for capital increases; prices move in cycles, rising for a period and then falling for a period; under the competition of capital for investments, prices of first-class stocks tend toward a permanently higher level; interest tends to lessen; the very best securities, like government bonds, rise during a stock panic. These are some of the recurrences Mr. Giffen has observed in the movements of long periods of years, and which he supports by a good deal of argument and evidence.

Important to Importers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The United States Supreme Court to-day decided the following case: No. 114. Fabri et al. vs. Murphy, Collector of the port of New York. Error to the Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York.—It is here held that goods imported may be entered for consumption or for warehousing, but when entered for consumption the requirement is that the duties shall be paid or secured before a permit for the landing of the goods is granted. Importations must be landed in open day, and not until after a permit has been obtained from the Collector. Merchandise, if duly imported, may be entered for warehousing without paying the duties at the time of the entry, in which event the goods are delivered and disposed of at the option of the owner, importer, consignee or agent, at his expense, in any public warehouse or other place provided by law for the storage of such property. Both the duties and expenses are required to be ascertained at the time of the entry of the goods for warehousing, and the duties and charges are to be secured by the bond of the owner, importer or consignee, with sureties to the satisfaction of the Collector, the goods being at all times subject to the orders of the depositor upon the payment of the duties and expenses. Affirmed. Mr. Justice Clifford delivered the opinion.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONETARY.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Friday Evening, Dec. 7, 1877.

NEW ORLEANS CLEARING-HOUSE.

	Clearings.	Balances.
December 1	$2,041,571 16	$202,582 65
December 3	1,903,036 82	110,496 11
December 4	2,488,392 18	149,109 91
December 5	2,472,534 47	221,031 50
December 6	1,830,599 67	149,138 71
December 7	1,956,260 85	213,477 69
Total thus far	$12,691,795 15	$1,046,536 67

Throughout the week there has only been a fair inquiry for discounts at the banks, and the counter transactions have been large.

The offerings of commercial on the street have been and are now only limited and rates are easy. We quote:

Exceptional commercial paper 8@9 ⅌ cent; A1 do 10@12; second grade do 15@18; loans on collaterals 8@10; A1 mortgage paper 9@10; second grade do —@— ⅌ cent per annum.

Gold is in good demand and firmer.

Foreign Exchange is active and higher.

Sight met with fair sales at steady rates.

State Consols were in better demand, and at the close showed an improvement in rates, ruling at 86¾@87.

Premium Bonds are quiet and easy at 36¾@37.

Stocks are quiet and steady.

Gold opened in New York at 102⅝, and closed at 102¾. Here it opened at 102⅝@102⅞, and closed at 102¾@103. Sales—$15,000, $5000 and $2000 at 102⅞, $2000, at 102¾ and $3000 at 103.

STERLING SALES—£2500 bill of lading, £30,000 do, £3500 do at 489½, £52,000 and £13,000 do at 489@489½. Bank sterling —@493. Commercial bills 488½@489½.

FRANC SALES—75,000 commercial at 5.15⅝, 350,000 do at 5.15⅝@5.15, 350,000 and 150,000 do at —. Bank francs —, and 5.15⅛@5.15 for commercial.

SIGHT SALES—$80,000, $20,000 and $30,000 bankers' at ¾, $40,000 and $25,000 commercial at ¾, $35,000 do at 7-16, $20,000 do at 13-32, and $30,000 bankers' at 13-32 ⅌ cent discount.

The banks are checking at ¼ ⅌ cent discount. Commercial and bankers' sight quoted at 7-16@¾ ⅌ cent discount.

NEW ORLEANS STOCK EXCHANGE SALES.

FIRST CALL, 10 A. M.

5 shares Union National Bank	81¾
$5,000 State Consols	86¾
25,000 do do (B. this year)	87⅛

SECOND CALL, 12 M.

$10,000 State Consols	86¾
20,000 do do (B. this year)	87⅛

BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD CALLS.

$25,000 State Consols	86⅞
20,000 Premium Bonds	36⅞
5,000 City Consolidated	42

THIRD CALL, AT 2 P. M.

$15,000 State Consols (B. this year)	87¼
500 do do (B. this year)	87⅛

CRESCENT CITY OPEN STOCK BOARD SALES.

BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND CALLS.

$20,000 State Consols	87
5,000 do	86⅞
10,000 Premium Bonds	36⅞
8,000 do do	36¾

BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD CALLS.

$15,000 State Consols	86⅞
5,000 do	87
18,000 Premium Bonds	36⅞
15,000 do do	36¾

AT THIRD CALL.

$5,000 State Consols, deliverable Monday	87
5000 Ordinary State Warrants of 1874	24

STOCKS AND BONDS.

The following are the weekly quotations of the New Orleans Stock Exchange:

	Bid.	Asked.
BANKS.		
Canal, p v 100	100½	102
Citizen's, p v 100	81	82
Citizens' Savings, p v 100	—	—
Germania National, p v 100	—	—
Hibernia National	84	86
Lafayette, p v 50	13	—
Louisiana Savings	—	—
Louisiana National, p v 100	106	109
Mechanics and Traders' p v 20	9	10
Metropolitan Loan and Savings, p v 100	—	100
Mutual National, p v 100	87	90
New Orleans National, p v 100	—	—
People's, p v 50	44½	45
Southern, p v 50	40	41
State National, p v 100	—	69
Union National, p v 100	81	—
Workingmen's, p v 25	17¾	18¾
INSURANCE COMPANIES.		
Crescent Mutual, p v 100	75	76
Factors and Traders', p v 100	99	100
Firemens', p v 50	48½	—
Germania, p v 100	—	—
Hibernia, p v 100	79	—
Home p v 40	27	29
Hope, p v 100	59½	61
Lafayette, p v 50	22½	—
Merchants' Mutual, p v 100	42½	43½
Mechanics and Traders'	—	85½
New Orleans Ins. Ass'n, p v 30	—	28
N. O. Ins. Company, p v 50	38	40
People's Ins. Company, p v 25	—	—
Sun Mutual, p v 100	101	101½
Teutonia, p v 100	69	—
Union, p v 100	38	—
CITY RAILROADS.		
Carrollton, p v 100	116	—
Crescent City, p v 50	25	—
Canal and Claiborne, p v 50	3½	—
New Orleans City, p v 100	141½	144
Orleans, p v 50	—	25
St. Charles Street, p v 50	75	76¾
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Bienville Oil Works Co., p v 100	—	—
Crescent City Oil Co	110	120
Crescent City Slaughter-House Company, p v	30	32
Carondelet Canal and Nav. Co.	—	—
Im. Bonded Warehouse, p v 100	29½	—
Jeff. City Gas Light Co., p v 100	—	—
Louisiana Ice Manufacturing Co., p v 50	10½	—
Louisiana Levee Co., preferred	1 10	1 30
La. State Lottery Co., p v 100	—	80
Louisiana Oil Company, p v 100	97	101
Louisiana Cotton Tie Company	—	250
Levee Steam Cotton Press, p v 100	33	—
Lamm's Fireless Engine Co., p v 100	1	2½
N. O. Gas Light Co., p v 100	104	105
Odd Fellows' Hall Association	—	—
Sugar Shed Company, p v 60	72½	82½
St. Charles Hotel Company	—	6
Stern's Fer. and Chem. Man. Co	18	50
Varieties Theatre Association	—	250
BONDS.		
State Consols	86¾	87
City Premium Bonds	36¾	37
City Consolidated Bonds	40	42½
City Waterworks Bonds	—	39
City Wharf Bonds	50	60
Canal and Claiborne street R. R. mortgage	77½	91
Slaughter-House, mortgage	96	—
Jefferson City Gas Co., mortgage	—	—
Jackson R. R. 1st mortgage	105	—
Jackson R. R. 2d mortgage coupons	93	97
Jackson R. R. 2d mortgage debt	76	—
Jackson R. R. Consolidated gold	27	—
Miss. Central R. R. 1st mortgage	93	—
Miss. Central R. R. 2d mortgage	—	—
Miss. Central R. R. Con. gold	—	—
St. Charles Hotel mortgage	—	—
CERTIFICATES AND WARRANTS.		
City Scrip, 1874	31½	32½
City Scrip, 1875	44	46
City Scrip, 1876	31½	32½
Half paid Coupons	33	34
Legislative Warrants, 1877	97	99
POLICE CERTIFICATES.		
October, 1874	28	31
November, 1874	28	31
December, 1874	28	31
November, 1875	66	68
December, 1875	66	68
October, 1876	43	47
November, 1876	43	48
SCHOOL CERTIFICATES.		
October, 1874	26	29
November, 1874	26	29
December, 1874	26	29
October, 1875	26	29
November, 1875	26	29
December, 1875	26	29
October, 1876	43	47
November, 1876	25	28
December, 1876	25	28

[By Telegraph.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—Wall street—Money closed at 5@6 ⅌ cent. Exchange closed dull at 481@484½. Gold closed at 102¾. Governments closed firm; currency sixes 119¾@120. In State bonds Tennessees were steady at 44, and Missouri long sixes at 107.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Friday Evening, Dec. 7, 1877.

GENERAL REMARKS—The weather was bright and cool, all that could be desired for out-door business.

The general market continues dull, remarkably and oppressively so, considering the time of the year. December shows no improvement over November, and all the bright visions we have indulged in of a business re-awakening have thus far proved to be but "idle dreams." But we are content to wait a little longer for the good time that has been so long coming.

In our great fleecy staple there has been only a fair business, the sales footing up 9600 bales. The market was strong throughout the day, the better qualities exhibiting an improvement of ⅛c, but there was no perceptible change in average lists from yesterday's quotations.

During the week there has been an advance of ⅛c in the price of lower grades of cotton and ½c in Low Middlings and the higher grades. During the same period New York reports show an improvement in that market of 22 to 24 points in futures, while Liverpool quotations are 1-16d higher than last Friday.

The receipts of cotton at this port during the week amount to 53,201 bales, against 54,532 for the same week last year: net receipts at this port since September 1, 446,850 bales, against 493,751 for the same time last year.

The supply of flour is large, and the general tone of the market is dull and easy. Some round sales were made, holders, in some instances, letting go their grip for the nonce and making slight concessions to the demands of buyers.

For pork the ruling prices are about the same as those of last week. There is a firm feeling in this article, and receivers are asking an advance of 25 cents on yesterday's prices.

The receipts of sugar continue small, only 612 hhds coming in to-day; sales 563. The market is steady and firm. Stock in sheds 1030, against 3759 same time last year.

For particulars of markets see regular report.

COTTON—The market to-day opened under influences that stiffened up holders. Liverpool was firm and futures at New York were better, and added to these there was a good demand, and, during the early part of the day, a small supply in the offerings. As was to be expected under these circumstances, factors were decidedly stringent, so much so as to materially check the movement. Later on factors uncovered their samples more freely, and a fair business was done, footing sales to the number of 900 bales. The market was strong throughout, staple kinds readily commanding an improvement of ⅛c, but average lists showing no change from yesterday's quotations.

In a review of the week's business there is shown an advance of ⅛c in the price of the low grades and ¼c on Low Middling and the higher grades. The changes at New York during the week show an improvement on futures of 22@24 points. Liverpool is 1-16d higher than last Friday, and Havre 1 franc on spots and 2 francs higher on cottons afloat.

The official quotations of the Cotton Exchange were as follows:

	TO-DAY.	YESTERDAY.
Low Ordinary	8⅝	8¾
Ordinary	9⅛	9⅜
Good Ordinary	10	10
Low Middling	10½	10½
Middling	11	11
Good Middling	11⅝	11⅝
Middling Fair	12⅛	12⅛

Sales to-day 9600 bales. Market strong.

COTTON STATEMENT.

In store and on shipboard Sept. 1, 1877		21,356
Gross receipts since yesterday	12,101	
Gross receipts previously	539,596—	551,697
Total supply		573,053
Exported to-day	3,722	
Exported previously	322,357—	326,079
Total stocks this day		246,974
Total stock this day last year		272,168

Exports to-day—732 bales to San Sebastian, 1524 to Boston, and 1466 to Providence.

Exports for the week—30,530 bales to Great Britain, 13,020 to France, 9415 to other foreign ports, and 8290 coastwise.

Net receipts since yesterday	9,657
Receipts from other ports	2,444
Net receipts last Friday	7,096
Net receipts this week	7,122
Net receipts last week	53,201
Net receipts this week last year	60,393
Net receipts this day last year	54,532
Net receipts since September 1	446,850
Net receipts same time last year	493,751

The sources of receipts have been from Red River, Ouachita river, Arkansas river, Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans railroad, and the Mississippi river and other tributary streams, giving total net receipts of 53,201 bales, against 54,532 bales this week last year, and 446,850 bales since first of September, against 493,751 bales same time last year. Adding receipts from Mobile, Texas and Florida, the gross receipts are found to be 62,241 this week, against 65,912 this week last year and since first of September 551,697 bales, against 592,442 bales same time last year.

Cotton on shipboard as per account of the Cotton Exchange, as follows: Liverpool 54,262 bales, Havre 41,649, Bremen 7985, Mediterranean 7019, North Sea 6802, Spain 1302, Mexico —, coastwise 4101; total, 123,080 bales. This, taken from the stock at noon, as noted at the Exchange, leaves in presses 123,894 bales.

The exports since September 1 to date from New Orleans have been as follows: Great Britain 139,390 bales, against 173,804 last year; France 64,176, against 112,147 last year; other foreign ports 52,025, against 35,662 last year, and coastwise 70,488, against 44,944 last year; making a total foreign and coastwise of 326,079, against 366,607 last year.

The exports from all United States ports, consolidated as per telegrams to the Cotton Exchange, for the week have been as follows:

	G. B.	France.	Cont.	Total.	Stocks.
This week	62,893	20,732	15,654	99,279	727,186
Last week	52,170	29,084	26,742	108,619	695,484
This week last year	113,116	24,180	18,358	155,654	928,654
Since Sep. 1	472,416	118,161	130,062	721,239	....
Same time last year	617,070	173,943	112,778	903,798	....

The telegrams received at the Cotton Exchange give the receipts at ports from 12 m. yesterday to 12 m. to-day at 31,933 bales, against 31,325 bales last Friday, 36,170 last year, and 23,542 the year before.

The movement at ports for the week up to noon to-day is given below:

	Received this week.	Received last week.	This week last year.
New Orleans	53,201	60,393	54,532
Galveston	22,112	18,227	27,843
Mobile	19,063	17,541	19,775
Savannah	27,112	25,751	22,715
Charleston	23,404	15,488	23,374
Wilmington	8,880	5,929	4,495
Norfolk	6,259	10,633	19,503
Baltimore	258	783	427
New York	7,918	6,990	5,694
Philadelphia	792	1,659	2,204
Boston	6 220	1,642	3,333
Other ports	2,968	7,829	3,565
Total	178,187	172,865	187,460
Receipts at ports since September 1			1,681,614
Receipts same time last year			1,995,650
Receipts same time year before			1,685,030

The closing quotations of Foreign markets to-day, compared with last Friday and this day last year, were as follows:

Liverpool.	To-day.	Last Friday.	This day last year.
Middling Uplands	6⅝d	6 7-16d	6 9-16d
Middling Orleans	6¾d	6 11-16d	6¾d
Havre.			
Tres Ord, Spots	80f.	79f.	78f.
Low Middling afloat	80f.	78f.	79f.

OCEAN FREIGHTS—Are quoted as follows:

By steam — Cotton to Liverpool 9-16d; to Revel —d; to Bremen ⅜d; to Boston, Providence, Fall River, Philadelphia and Baltimore, via New York ¾c; to New York ¾c; grain to Liverpool 10½d.

By sail — Cotton to Liverpool 7:16d; to Havre ⅝c; to Bremen 15-16c; to Genoa 1c; grain to the Continent 10@10½d.

One small vessel was taken up yesterday for Havre at 29-32c, cotton. Rates steady.

Steam rates to Northern ports have advanced to $2 25 for molasses and $7 ⅌ hhd for sugar for New York.

SUGAR—The receipts continue limited, only 612 hhds coming in to-day. The demand was good, and 563 hhds sold at prices showing the market to be steady and firm. Stock in the sheds 1030 hhds, against 3759 hhds same time last year. We quote: Inferior 3@4; common to good common 4¼@5½c; fair to good fair 5¾@6½c; fully fair 6¾c; prime 7c; strictly prime 7¼c; gray clarified 6¾@7½; yellow clarified, as in quality, 7¼@7¾c; off whites, good to choice, 7¾@8¼c; white clarified 8½@8¾c.

MOLASSES—Receipts 2129 bbls; sales 1978 bbls. Stock at the sheds 1827 bbls, against 10,678 bbls same time last year. The demand is good, especially for choice grades. We quote: Common 20@27c; fair 28@31c; prime 34@36c; strictly prime 38@41c; choice 42@43c.

FLOUR—The market opened dull and inactive, and with only a jobbing demand, but holders conceding to the views of buyers some round sales were subsequently made at prices agreeing with our quotations. The supply is large and buyers only operate when their necessities require it, or when prices are made to suit their views. The general tone of the market is dull and easy. Sales—32 bbls at $5 50 at $5 70; 25 at $5 75; 50 at $5 87½; 100 at $6; 25, 150 and 200 at $6 50; 50 at $6 60; 50 at $6 75; 50 at $7; 100 and 500 on private terms.

We quote fine to superfine at $4@4 25; single extra $4 25@4 50; double extra $4 50@4 75; treble extras, low to choice, $5@5 75; choice extras $6@6 25; fancy choice $6 50@6 75 ⅌ bbl.

Dealers and grocers obtain 50c above these prices.

CORN MEAL—For this article there is very little demand, and the market is easier and lower and now quoted at $2 40@2 45 for Western, and $2 50@2 55 for for city Eagle Mills. Dealers job at $2 75@2 80 ⅌ bbl. Sales—130 bbls at $2 45.

CREAM AND PEARL MEAL—Quiet and steady with a fair demand and light supply at $3 40@3 50 ⅌ bbl.

CORN FLOUR—In fair request, chiefly for export, at $3 75@4, according to quality.

GRITS—Easy and in fair demand at $3 40@2 50 ⅌ bbl on the landing. Job lots sell at $3 65@3 70 ⅌ bbl.

RYE FLOUR—Is in moderate supply and easy at $4 25@4 50 ⅌ bbl.

PORK—The week closes in this market with prices ruling about the same as at the close last week, with a firm feeling, and receivers asking an advance on new pork of 25c on yesterday's prices. We quote the market quiet and firm at $13; dealers still jobbing in the order trade at $13 75 ⅌ barrel. Sales—50 bbls at $13, 20 at $13 25.

DRY SALT MEAT—The sales to-day show a better and steadier feeling, and one lot—a car load of loose shoulders—is reported at an advance of ⅛c. We quote the market firm at 5⅝@5¾c for shoulders loose, and 5¾c packed. Dealers jobbing at an advance of ¼c on these prices. Sales—1 car load shoulders at 5¾c, 10 boxes do at 5¾c.

BACON—Is unchanged. The supply is small and the demand light. In a wholesale way the market is easy at 6¾c for shoulders, 8¾c for clear rib sides, and 9@9¼c for clear sides, dealers obtaining ¼c advance on these prices.

LARD—There is an ample supply of both tierce and keg, and the market for packers' and refined tierce is dull and easy at 8¼@8⅜c, dealers selling the same 8⅜@8¾c. Sales—50 kegs kettle rendered at 9¼c.

HAMS—Quiet, easy and unchanged, with a moderate but steady demand in the local trade. We quote uncanvased and plain canvased 10½@11¼c and choice sugar cured 13¼@14¼c, dealers getting ½@1c advance on these prices.

BREAKFAST BACON—Quiet and steady at 9½@10c in a wholesale way, dealers jobbing at 10½@11c.

PACKERS' HOG PRODUCTS—Dealers are selling on orders in the job trade at $7 75 ⅌ half bbl for pig pork, $12 ⅌ bbl for prime mess pork, $10 for prime pork, and $11 50 for rump pork. Pigs' feet are selling at $2@2 25 ⅌ keg. Ham sausages are dull and quoted at 8@8½c ⅌ lb. Family pork is jobbing at $13 50 ⅌ bbl. Pickled pigs' tongues are quoted at 7¾c apiece. Pickled heads are offering at $10@11 ⅌ tierce, and jowls at $8 50@9 ⅌ barrel. Bologna sausage 7¼@7½c. Spare ribs $7@9.

WHISKY—Is dull and easy, city make selling at $1 01@1 04, and good to choice Western at $1 05@1 08 ⅌ gallon. Sales 20 bbls Bourbon at $2; 100 bbls in bond at 45c.

COFFEE—The demand is good at advanced prices.

QUOTATIONS FOR GOLD.

	Cargoes.	Job Lots.
Prime	19½@19⅝	19¾@20
Good	18¾@19	19¼@19⅜
Fair	18¼@18½	18¾@19
Ordinary	16¾@17	17 @17¼

TOBACCO—There is no change to note in the market. The stock on sale is estimated at 3000 hhds.

QUOTATIONS.

Inferior lugs	3 @ 3¼
Low lugs	3⅛@ 3¾
Medium	4 @ 4½
Good to fine	4¾@ 5¼
Low leaf	5⅛@ 6⅛
Medium	7 @ 8
Good	9 @10½
Fine	11 @11¾
Selections	12 @12½

CORN—Large supply and easy. Sales—1000 yellow at —; 3000 white and mixed at 56c, and 300 yellow at 58c ⅌ bushel.

OATS—Are steady and in moderate request. Sales—500 choice Galena at 39c, and 500 do at 38c ⅌ bushel.

BRAN—Is easy and only in moderate demand. Sales—500 bags inferior at 70c, and 300 choice at 80c ⅌ cwt.

HAY—The supply is large and the demand good. Sales—1000 prime at $16 50; 250 do at $16, and 500 at $15 ⅌ ton.

BUTTER—Ample stock and demand fair. We quote New York creamery, fine, 30@31c; New York dairy 18@27c, as in quality: Western reputation 20@25c, as in quality.

CHEESE—Stock and demand light. New York cream 15@15½c, Western factory 12@13c, as in quality.

STARCH—In good demand at 3½c in lots; jobbing at 3¾@4c ⅌ lb.

WOOL—More stocks offering than there is demand, and it is held above the views of buyers. Burry is quoted at 11@12c, Louisiana clear 26½c, clear lake 27½@29c ⅌ lb.

HIDES—Supply fair and market quiet; country green 8@8½c, dry salted 13@13½c, dry flint 14@15c.

TALLOW—Scarce. City 8c; country 7c ⅌ lb.

SALT—Stock light with a good demand. Since our last report one cargo, all coarse, sold at 72½c per sack, afloat, and one to arrive on private terms. We quote cargo price at 70@75c, according to filling. Dealers are selling from warehouse at 75@80c for coarse, 95c@$1 for fine, as in quality and quantity. Turks Island neglected; held nominally at 32c ⅌ bushel. Table salt in pockets 1¾@7½c each, as in size.

POULTRY—Old chickens $4 50@5, young $2@3; ducks $3; geese $6; turkeys $9@12 ⅌ dozen.

EGGS—Western 25@28c; Louisiana —@—c ⅌ dozen.

RICE—Is in moderate supply. No. 2 3½@3¾c, common 4¼@4½c, ordinary 4⅞@5¼c, fair 5¾c, good 5½@5⅝c, prime 6¾@6c, choice 6¾c ⅌ lb.

BULK CORN—None offering, and the market is nominally 55½c ⅌ bushel.

WHEAT—None here, and nominally at $1 30@1 35 ⅌ bushel for winter, and $1 20@1 25 for spring.

ESCULENTS—Potatoes are selling at $1 25@1 75; onions at $1 25@2 25; apples at $1 50@3 50 ⅌ bbl; cabbages at $6@8 ⅌ 100, and $1 75@2 ⅌ crate.

BAGGING—Steady at 12¼c in round lots; retailing at 12¾@13c. Baling twine at 13¼c in round lots; retailing at 14c.

Domestic Markets.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7, 11 a. m.—Coffee firm; cargoes—ordinary 16@16½, fair 18¾, good 19, prime 19¾@20; lots 16¼@20¼; sales—3634 Rash, 2572 Airlka, 500 Donati, also 4000 mixed; total 10,736 here p. t., and 1000 J. Wesley, 1000 new light; total, 2000 at Baltimore p. t. Sugar firmer; demand fair; sales—800 hhds at 7⅛@7⅜; refining, fair to good fair, weak; refined dull.

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—Market opened with pork steady at $12 07½ for January. Lard—nothing doing yet. Wheat strong at $1 09⅜@1 09½ for January. Corn steady at 42½@42⅝ for December, 41¾ for January, 43⅞@44 for May.

Union Stock Yards—Hogs—Official receipts yesterday 35,157; estimated to-day 30,000; market rather easier; prices nominally $4 20@4 30 for light and $4 20@4 50 for heavy grades.

11:45 a. m.—Pork dull, but unchanged; $12 07½@12 10 for January. Lard quiet at 7.87½@7.90 for January. Wheat unsettled; $1 09⅝@1 09¾ for January. Corn steady at 42⅞@43 for December; 41⅞@42 for January.

Close.—Pork—$12 07½@12 10 for January; $12 22@12 25 for February. Lard—7.97½@8 for February; sales at 7.90 for January. Wheat firm; $1 10@1 10⅛ for January; $1 11 for February; $1 09⅝ for December. Corn firm at 43⅜@43⅝ for December; 42@42⅛ for January and February; 44⅛ for May.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 7.—Wheat—No. 2 red, no sales for cash; $1 28 bid; No. 3 red $1 26½@1 26⅝ January; $1 23¾ cash. Corn—44⅜@44¾ December; 41⅞@42⅛ January; 46½ cash. Oats—26¾ bid December; 27⅛@28 bid cash. Whisky $1 06. Pork $12 cash; $11 85 bid December. Cut meats—general market 4½; loose 6@6¼. Bacon—nothing doing. Lard nominal.

Foreign Markets.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 7, 12:15 p. m.—Cotton firm; sales 10,000 bales, of which 1000 are for export and speculation; Middling Uplands 6½d; Middling Orleans 6¾d; other quotation unchanged.

1:30 p. m.—Flour unchanged at 29s. Wheat firmer, but not quotably higher; spring 10s 6d@11s 1d; California club 12s 10d@13s 2d. Bacon—long clear middles 38s; short clear 39s 6d. Corn, new, 29s 6d@30s. Breadstuffs firm. Weather fair.

There are on passage 1,152,000 quarters of wheat and flour, and 529,000 quarters of corn.

3 p. m.—Wheat, winter 11s 5d. Bacon, Cumberland cut, dull and 2s lower at 40s; short rib 6d off at 39s 6d. Beef, India mess 1s off at 97s; other markets unchanged.

American cheese, choice, 64s. Beef, extra mess 112s; prime 88s. Bacon—Hams—long cut 43s; shoulders 38s 6d. Lard—Prime Western steady at 43s. Lard oil dull at 44s. Tallow—Prime city 40s. Turpentine steady at 25s 6d. Refined petroleum steady at 11½d.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 7, 5:30 p. m.—Bacon—long clear 37s 6d; short clear 38s 6d.

LONDON, Dec. 7, 2 p. m.—Flour unchanged at 29s. Wheat generally unchanged; Chicago spring, off coast, 51s@51s 6d; red winter 55s 6d; California club 62s; Chicago to arrive a little stronger at 50s@50s 6d; arrivals for orders light. English country markets dull. French markets weaker. Corn unchanged, but strong at 30s 9d; off coast to arrive rather better at 29s 6d@30s; arrivals for orders light.

Read Navra's invitation to the China Palace.

New American Sewing Machine, 185 Canal street.

RIVER NEWS.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Saturday, Dec. 8, 1877.

Arrivals.

Isabel, Alvin, Belle, Blue Wing No. 3, Texas, Bart Able, Natchez, Florence Meyer, St. John.

Departures.

Isabel, Alvin, Belle, J. H. Hanna, Gov. Allen, Assumption.

To Arrive.

Martha, Isabel, Alvin, lower coast; Mary Ida, Belle, Henry Tete, upper coast; Assumption, St. Mary, W. J. Poltevent, Lafourche; Commonwealth, St. Louis; Gov. Allen, Ouachita Belle, Bayou Sara; Shannon, Fanchon, Ouachita; J. H. Hanna, Baton Rouge; Lessie Taylor, Opelousas; Willie, Era No. 10, Boeuf river.

The weather remains clear, cool and very pleasant.

Business moderately active.

The Bart Able arrived with a splendid trip. She returns to-day as usual.

The steamer St. John, from Baton Rouge, arrived last evening with a good trip.

The Sam Roberts' barge Perry Tharp was dropped down yesterday to take on the 1143 bales of cotton brought by the Kouns. She hadn't it all on board when we left the landing.

The Col. A. P. Kouns was towed across the river yesterday.

Opposition between steamboats, lively as it may be at times, like everything else, has an end. Evidence mountain high and as strong as "proof of holy writ" can be had of this fact, and before another moon one more instance of it will be added to the record.

The Belle has changed her hour of departure on Sundays to 7 o'clock; other days she goes at 9 o'clock.

The Kate Kinney has 500 tons for Red river.

The new Mary Houston leaves Louisville for Cincinnati to-day or to-morrow, and will leave the latter city for New Orleans next Saturday. The Cherokee leaves Cincinnati Tuesday and the famous Charles Morgan Thursday.

The City of