Commercial and Financial Matters.

The stock of cotton at Memphis on the 12th instant amounted to 46,062 bales, against 72,316 bales on the same day last year.

Since the reopening of the San Francisco Mint in July, the total coinage has been $25,611,-596, against $20,395,000 for the same time in 1876, and $15,407,000 in 1875.

The bark Plimsol arrived here yesterday from Rio de Janeiro with 4436 bags of coffee. There are three vessels from the same port reported as coming up the river—cargoes unknown.

The stockholders of the Union National Bank of New York have decided to reduce the capital of the bank from $1,500,000 to $1,200,000. The reason for this step is the oppressive taxes imposed on bank capital by the national government.

According to the advance statement of the gross earnings of the principal Western railroads for the month of November, as furnished by the New York Commercial and Financial Chronicle, they sum up thus far in 1877 $7,425,-125, against $6,931,622 in 1876.

The condition of the Bank of France on Nov. 22 was: Discounts, $421,293,643; cash on hand $141,601,398; government bonds on hand, $62,-155,000; active note circulation, $487,069,638; public deposits, $41,713,223; private deposits, $92,582,-467. The proportion of bullion to circulation is 86.

In seven months the expenses of the war have made it necessary for the Russian government to negotiate three loans, amounting to 452,000,000 rubles. To this must be added at least a part, if not all, of the 240,000,000 rubles of credit notes, paid by the Imperial Bank for the interest on previous foreign loans. The three loans, after expenses of negotiation, etc., are paid, will net the government only 380,000,000 rubles.

The Philadelphia mint coined $12,000,000 in silver and $9,000,000 in gold, last year, and made a net profit of $1,180,167 25 on the business of the year in coinage charges, refining, sweeps from the melting room, sale of old materials, assays, gain by recoinage of old silver coin, coinage for the Venezuelan government, etc. This would seem to be a very profitable business. If the Philadelphia mint can coin $12,000,000 in silver a year, the statement that all the mints together can coin but $27,000,000 must be an error.

A statement prepared by the manager of the St. Louis Clearing-House shows that the same condition of affairs prevails there as at most of the other cities of the country. The clearings indicate an almost continuous decline of business for the year. The months of April and May alone show an increase. The aggregate clearings for the year are $1,001,890,934, which is considerably less than they have been any year since 1872. In 1874 the aggregate was $1,192,532,-762. The clearings at this port for this week, so far, make a very good showing. Taking into consideration the condition of monetary affairs throughout the country, the amount of our bank clearances, as reported officially, presents a very good showing.

Receipts of Hogs in St. Louis.

Received 10,361; since November 1, 1,168,309; last year corresponding day was Sunday, but receipts for the same period in 1875 were 159,648.—[St. Louis Republican, 11th inst.

Legal Status of the Old Cent.

The United States Treasurer states that the old copper one cent piece is not and never was a legal tender for any amount whatever; and that, consequently, postmasters are not required by law to receive it in payment of postal dues. The total coinage of the old copper cent from the beginning of the government to the present date is 156,288,744 cents, equal to $1,562,-887 44. This coinage was discontinued in February, 1857. They have been bought up by the United States since that time at their avoirdupois weight; but they are now redeemable when presented in sums of $20, or multiples thereof, at the mint or treasury, at their value. This circumstance, however, does not constitute them a legal tender in debts for any amount.

Dissolution of the New York Chamber of Life Insurance.

The New York Chamber of Life Insurance has gone to pieces. The association was organized in 1872 to "add strength and stability to the institution of life insurance administered upon sound principles, by co-operation, for mutual assistance, and for the conduct of the business with economy and in the most favorable manner for the interests of the insured." At one time its membership included twenty-nine companies. The chamber proved a disappointment in all respects. The harmony of the companies was lessened rather than increased by it, and the valuable results expected from a comparative study of the experience of the companies, as in the question of mortality, were not forthcoming owing to the reluctance of the companies to expose the gradual decline of their business.

Reserves of the National Banks.

The Controller of the Currency has prepared a statement showing in detail the particulars of the lawful money reserves of the national banks of the United States. The deposits of the 2080 national banks were on October 1, 1877, $669,128,748; the reserves required were $138,-343,154; the reserves held was $210,708,759.

	Ratio of reserve, per cent.
New England States	32.8
Middle States	30.2
Southern States	29.4
Western States	34.4
Pacific States and Territories	28.7
United States	31.5

The reserves of the banks of the New England States and of New York are down close to the legal minimum, and compare unfavorably in this respect with those of the "repudiating" States.

The Question of Supervision of Cotton.

About two years ago the shippers of cotton to this port, thinking that they were being defrauded by the extraction from their bales of an unnecessarily large amount of the staple in the matter of samples, raised their voices, loud and long, against this drainage of this source of their wealth. Our Cotton Exchange, after a thorough investigation of the subject, became convinced of the truthfulness of these charges, and wishing to preserve the fair fame of our market, instituted a system of supervision of cotton in presses and on the levee, which has been attended with the most beneficial effects. This system, now in successful operation, of a general oversight of the handling, sampling, storing and shipping of all the cotton coming to this port, is most carefully and judiciously carried out, and has, to a great degree, served to restore the ancient prestige that used to attach to New Orleans cottons.

On the institution of this system great opposition was manifested, and loud and deep were the anathemas uttered against both those who originated it and those who assumed positions looking to its practical exemplification. It was considered to be a kind of espionage, which should not be established and countenanced by such a respectable body as those gentlemen who constituted the New Orleans Cotton Exchange. But there was a difference of opinion on this subject, and a supervisory board was established under the auspices of the Exchange, which has been of vast benefit to the cotton interests of this city and the country contiguous thereto. Touching this subject, we take the following from the annual report made by Mr. W. C. Black, dated November 29, 1877, who was then the honored president of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange:

It affords us pleasure to congratulate the Exchange on the continued success of its system of supervision and levee inspection, each year of the existence of which only serves to demonstrate more fully and conclusively its great value to the commerce of New Orleans, and salutary influence upon the interests of all who trade with our city in the great staple.

Reference to the supervision committee's report shows that upwards of $67,000,000 worth of cotton has been carefully watched and guarded within this year, from the time of its receipt at New Orleans until its final deposit in the hold of seagoing vessels, and we can, with pardonable pride, point to the aggregate loss, made from unavoidable causes, during the years 1876-77, (the smallest aggregate ever known in this or any other market from which proper statements can be obtained), as conclusively showing that New Orleans tolerates neither careless handling nor petty pilfering of the cotton intrusted to the care of her merchants.

At your last annual meeting reference was made to the efforts of various cotton cities (including New York) that were endeavoring to successfully inaugurate our plan of supervision and inspection, details of which have been furnished them on application. This was mentioned at the time to show the appreciation of our efforts by other communities, some of which were our direct competitors. The influence of our example has reached the great port of Liverpool, from which we have received the unqualified indorsement of her greatest merchants and leading business men.

Steam Barges.

We think that there can be no doubt as to the inadequate supply of river tonnage for the transportation of grain to this port. The supply of ocean tonnage, both in steam and sailing vessels, has for three months been ample, and our Western friends cannot make a complaint on that score. We perceive, by the perusal of some of our Western exchanges, that parties interested in this trade contemplate establishing lines of steam barges. In reference to this design, we take the following from the St. Louis *Republican* of the 11th inst:

Steam barges will be a prominent feature in Western river navigation hereafter. No species of craft has ever been devised which are more economical or handier for the transportation of bulk grain or other freight. They can be built for very little money, with water-tight bulkheads and compartments, and operated by a very small number of men. The navigation of the rivers is very rarely interrupted by storms, so that such objections as above noted as existing on the lakes would never be heard of here. These barges can be very profitably run in our upper rivers, or larger ones from Quincy, Keokuk, Peoria and St. Louis to New Orleans. Whether they should be propelled by screws or not has yet to be demonstrated, but with side wheels, never. The stern wheel would certainly be perfectly efficient.

The Steamboat Law.

[St. Louis Republican, 11th inst.]

The complaints made by owners of steamboats against some features of the present law are well grounded. One of these harsh features makes owners of steamboats liable in a larger sum than the interest they have in the boat, in suits for damages brought against them. Another makes them liable for the loss of passengers' baggage and clothing in case of fire. If a steamboat is burned, every passenger aboard her at the time may sue the owners for the value of the baggage lost, swearing to any value he may see fit to place on it, and the owners will have to pay. Both these provisions are unjust and unreasonable, the latter particularly. There is no more propriety in making the owners of a steamboat liable for the loss of a passenger's baggage by fire than there would be in making the proprietors of a hotel responsible in a similar case. The steamboat laws of the United States have been the work, in a large degree, of Eastern legislators, who proceeded on the assumption that Western steamboatmen were addicted to the practice of sinking, exploding and burning their vessels just for the sport of the thing, or from pure recklessness, and that, therefore, they could not be too rigorously dealt with. The steamboat interest is to be found in the West chiefly, and many Eastern legislators imagine that it matters little what burdens may be imposed on these Western vocations that do not keep a deputation of lobbyists at Washington to look after their interests.

Steamboating is not a lawless business that requires to be discouraged by oppressive tributes and exactions. There has been too much of that. It affords the cheapest method of freight carriage, and extensive communities are dependent on it for facilities that the railroads cannot supply. It deserves every reasonable aid and encouragement that Congress can give it. It does not ask for special favors; it asks only to be exempt from oppressive exactions.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONETARY.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Thursday Evening, Dec. 13, 1877.

NEW ORLEANS CLEARING-HOUSE.

	Clearings.	Balances.
December 8	$2,193,274 98	$115,188 24
December 10	2,377,406 08	148,576 49
December 11	3,059,683 44	229,827 55
December 12	2,253,356 46	205,399 20
December 13	2,123,177 52	170,991 18
Total thus far	$11,008,898 48	$864,922 66

At the banks there was only a moderate inquiry for discounts, and no particular change to note in the counter business. Rates are easy for commercial paper, with light offerings.

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 moderately active and steady.

Foreign Exchange is firmer and in fair request.

Sight is freely offered and barely steady.

State Consols are weak at 85½@85¾.

Premium Bonds are dull and lower at 35⅞@36¼.

Stocks are quiet.

Gold opened in New York at 103¼, and closed at 103¼. Here it opened at 103@103¼, and closed at 103⅛@103⅜. Sales—$1000 at 103⅜, $5000 at 103½, $3000 at 103¼, $5000, $5000 and $5000 at 103⅜.

STERLING SALES—£10,000 bill of lading at 492½@493½, £17,000 do at 493@494½, £3000 do at 492, £6000 do at 493@493¾ and £2000 do at —. Bank sterling at 496@—, commercial bills at 492@493½.

FRANC SALES—125,000 commercial at 513¾, 300,000 and 300,000 do at 512½. Bank francs at —, commercial 5.13½@5.12½.

SIGHT SALES—$50,000, $65,000 and $56,000 bankers' at ¼; $120,000 bankers' and commercial at 7-16@¼, $15,000 and $10,000 commercial at 7-16 ⅌ cent discount. Bank sight ¼ ⅌ cent discount. Bankers' and commercial 7-16@¼ ⅌ cent discount.

NEW ORLEANS STOCK EXCHANGE SALES.

AT FIRST CALL, 10 A. M.

$10,000 Premium Bonds	36¼
10,000 do do (B. to drawing)	36⅜
10,000 do do do	36½

BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND CALLS.

$10,000 Premium Bonds	36⅛
14,000 City Consolidated Bonds	43¾

SECOND CALL, 12 M.

$3,000 State Consols	85½
500 do (small)	85
15,000 City Consolidated Bonds	43¾

BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD CALLS.

$20,000 Premium Bonds	36
5,000 City Consolidated Bonds	43¾

THIRD CALL, 2 P. M.

$7,000 State Consols	85½
10,000 do	85½
10,000 do	85⅝

CRESCENT CITY OPEN STOCK BOARD SALES.

FIRST CALL.

$5,000 Premium Bonds	36
5,000 do do (S. this year)	35½

BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND CALLS.

10,000 State Consols	85½
20,000 Premium Bonds	36
10,000 do do	35¾

BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD CALLS.

20,000 State Consols	85½
15,000 do	85½
20,000 Premium Bonds	36
15,000 do do	35½
15,000 do do	35⅞

THIRD CALL.

2,000 Gold	103¼

[By Telegraph.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 13—Wall street.—Money closed at 5 per cent. Exchange closed firm at 482½@486. Gold closed at 103¼. Governments ¼ to 1 per cent lower, with exception of currency sixes, which closed at 120@121. Pacific Railroad bonds closed as follows: Union firsts 107¼@107½; land grants 103@103½; sinking funds 94½@94¾; Centrals 107⅞@108¼. In State bonds Tennessees sold at 44¾ for old and 43 for new series.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Thursday Evening, Dec. 13, 1877.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The day has been somewhat warm and sultry, though not sufficiently so, we think, to have a deleterious effect upon the sugar cane.

The receipts of sugar summed up 1114 hhds; sales, 986 hhds. There was a good demand, especially for open kettle sugars. The market can be pronounced to be active, and the prices steady. Our sugar planters are somewhat in the "dumps" on account of the low prices, but we think they will feel better after awhile. In our great staple, Cotton, there was quite an active demand; and quite a large business, under the circumstances, was done, the sales footing up 11,800 bales, the market closing steady. The exports reached nearly 17,000 bales.

The flour market was, as it has been for many days past, dull, and prices have experienced no change. The demand was light, only confined to local trade.

In corn meal there was a slight decline of 5c ⅌ bbl. The market is easy at $2 40@2 45.

There was a very moderate business in pork at that old point, viz: $13; though dealers are jobbing at $13 50@14.

Dry salt meat is, as a usual thing, much sought after; the market is steady on "spot" goods, though the prices of yesterday are barely maintained.

Bacon is quiet and easy, with a limited demand for job lots.

COTTON—The market opened with a strong and active demand, and factors disposed to meet buyers freely on the basis of yesterday's prices, although they were by no means so anxious as previously to dispose of their samples. Liverpool was steady and moderately active, and New York firm on spot cotton and higher by 1@3 points on futures for the near months. A large business was done, the sales amounting to 11,800 bales, the day closing without any abatement in the demand, and steady.

The official quotations of the Cotton Exchange were as follows:

	TO-DAY.	YESTERDAY.
Low Ordinary	8¼	8¼
Ordinary	9⅛	9¼
Good Ordinary	10	10
Low Middling	10¾	10½
Middling	11	11
Good Middling	11⅝	11⅝
Middling Fair	12⅛	12⅛

Sales to-day 11,800 bales. Market steady, demand good.

COTTON STATEMENT.

In store and on shipboard Sept. 1, 1877		21,356
Gross receipts since yesterday	15,838	
Gross receipts previously	597,406—	613,244
Total supply		634,600
Exported to-day	17,126	
Exported previously	366,214—	383,340
Total stocks this day		251,260
Total stock this day last year		282,999

Exports to-day—Liverpool, 10,041 bales; Havre, 4735 bales; Dunkirk, 499 bales; Rouen, 400 bales; New York, 1451 bales.

Net receipts since yesterday	12,996
Receipts from other ports	2,842
Net receipts last Thursday	14,481
Net receipts this day last year	10,100
Net receipts since Friday	52,775
Net receipts same time last week	43,544
Net receipts same time last year	49,008
Net receipts since September 1	499,625
Net receipts same time last year	539,781

Cotton on shipboard as per account of the Cotton Exchange, as follows: Liverpool 45,012 bales, Havre 55,921, Bremen 9513, Mediterranean 4565, North Sea 5884, Spain —, Mexico —, coastwise 3494; total, 123,489 bales. This, taken from the stock at noon, as noted at the Exchange, leaves in presses 127,771 bales.

The receipts at ports from noon yesterday to noon to-day as given in telegrams to the Cotton Exchange were 39,011 bales, against 36,296 bales last Thursday, 33,253 bales last year, and 26,378 bales the year before.

The movement at ports for six days up to noon to-day is given below:

	Received Since Friday.	Same time last week.	Same time last year.
New Orleans	52,775	49,544	49,008
Galveston	22,882	19,566	23,573
Mobile	18,303	16,211	14,846
Savannah	24,731	23,204	20,936
Charleston	19,732	18,954	19,944
Wilmington	7,366	7,532	4,191
Norfolk	12,943	4,809	15,301
Baltimore	269	258	299
New York	6,051	6,642	5,011
Philadelphia	1,119	600	1,513
Boston	5,334	4,934	4,177
Total	171,505	146,254	158,589
Receipts at ports since September 1			1,853,119
Receipts same time last year			2,157,156
Receipts same time year before			1,830,729

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

	G. B.	France.	Cont.	Chan.	Stocks.
This week	63,093	20,123	21,764	....	745,967
Last week	56,669	14,210	14,122	3,994	712,849
This week last year	75,825	5,438	15,496	4,888	954,571

OCEAN FREIGHTS—Are quoted as follows: By steam — Cotton to Liverpool ⅛d; to Revel —d; to Bremen ⅝d; to Boston, Providence, Fall River, Philadelphia and Baltimore, via New York ⅞c; to New York ¾c; grain to Liverpool 10½d.

By sail—Cotton to Liverpool 7-16d; to Havre ⅞c; to Bremen 15-16c; to Genoa 1c; grain to the Continent 10@10½d.

Steam rates to Northern ports are quoted at $2 25 on molasses ⅌ bbl to New York, and $7@8 ⅌ hhd on sugar. By sail the rate on molasses to New York is $1 50 ⅌ bbl.

SUGAR—Receipts 1114 hhds. Sales 986 hhds. The demand to-day was good, market active and prices steady. We quote: Inferior 3@4c; common to good common 4¼@5¼c; fair to good fair 5⅛@6⅛c; fully fair 6⅛@6¾c; prime 7c; strictly prime 7⅛c; gray clarified 6¼@7½c; yellow clarified, as in quality, 7⅛@8c; off whites, good order, 8@8⅛c; white clarified 8⅜@8⅞c.

MOLASSES—Receipts 3946 bbls. Sales 3857. Market active and firm at the close for choice. We quote: Common 20@25c; fair 26@28c; prime 32@34c; strictly prime 37@38c; choice 40@42.

FLOUR—The market to-day was dull and dragging, although prices were steady and unchanged. The demand is small and confined to the local trade. Sales—65 bbls at $4 65; 25 at $5 80; 100 at $6 10; 100 at $6 37½; 100 at $6 45; 25 and 50 at $6 50; 25 at $6 75; 25 and 100 at $7.

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@7 ⅌ bbl.

Dealers and grocers obtain 50c above these prices.

CORN MEAL—There was a nominal decline of 5c to-day, and the market is now quoted easy at $2 40@2 45 ⅌ bbl, dealers still jobbing at $2 75 ⅌ bbl. Sales—25, 40, 50 and 50 bbls at $2 40.

CREAM AND PEARL MEAL—There is about the usual supply, and the market is quiet and steady at $3 40@3 45 ⅌ bbl. Demand light.

CORN FLOUR—Is quoted at $3 75@4, as in quality. Local demand small, and this article is chiefly sold for export.

GRITS—Demand steady and fair, prices ruling easy in lots at $3 40@3 50 ⅌ bbl; dealers jobbing at $3 65@3 75 ⅌ bbl.

RYE FLOUR—There is a moderate supply, but quite equal to the demand, at $4 25@4 50 ⅌ bbl.

PORK—A moderate business is reported in mess at $13, the sales reported including 25, 50 and 100 bbls at that price. Dealers are now jobbing at $13 50@14 ⅌ bbl.

DRY SALT MEAT—Although the market is steady on spot goods at 5@5¼c for shoulders, loose and packed, the feeling is easy and prices are barely maintained. We quote clear rib sides quiet at 6¾@6⅞c, and clear sides 6⅝@6¾c. Dealers obtain an advance of ⅛@¼c on these prices. Sales—1 car load shoulders loose at 5c; 10,000 lb do at 5⅛c; 100 boxes do, to arrive, at 5c.

BACON—Continues quiet and easy, with a limited demand for job lots. We quote shoulders at 6½@6¾c, clear rib sides at 8⅛@8⅜c, and clear sides 8¾@9c, dealers jobbing at ⅛@¼c higher.

LARD—This article was moderately inquired for to-day, the sales comprising 25 tierces refined at 8⅛c; 25 and 30 tierces kettle at 8⅜c and 36 tierces ditto at 8⅝c. We quote refined and packers' tierce at 8¼c and kettle rendered at 8¼@8⅜c, dealers selling ¼c higher.

HAMS—Are steady on spot goods at 10¼@11c for uncanvased and plain canvased, and 13½@14¼c for choice sugar cured. Dealers in their trade obtain ½@1c advance on these prices. Sales—8 tierces at 13½c; 20 do at 14c.

BREAKFAST BACON—Quiet and steady at 9½@10c in a wholesale way, dealers jobbing at 10¼@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 7½⅌8c 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 easy and unchanged, city made selling at irregular prices from $1 01@1 05, and Western rectified at $1 05@1 08 ⅌ gallon.

CORN—Demand moderate and stock fair. Sales—500 red at 55c; 300 yellow at 58c, and 500 white at 56c ⅌ bushel.

OATS—There is a weaker feeling in prices and the sales limited. 150 bags choice sold at 39c ⅌ bushel.

BRAN—There is but little demand; 200 and 100 bags sold at 80c ⅌ cwt.

HAY—Inquiry light: choice $18; prime $16@17 ⅌ ton.

COFFEE—Prices are firm and the demand moderate.

QUOTATIONS FOR GOLD.

	Cargoes.	Job Lots.
Prime	19⅝@19¾	20 @20¼
Good	19 @19¼	19⅛@19⅜
Fair	18⅛@18¾	18¾@19
Ordinary	17 @17¼	17¼@17½

TOBACCO—Is quiet and unchanged. The stock on sale is 2709 hhds.

QUOTATIONS.

Inferior lugs	3 @ 3¼
Low lugs	3½@ 3¾
Medium	4 @ 4½
Good to fine	4¾@ 5¼
Low leaf	5⅛@ 6½
Medium	7 @ 8
Good	9 @10¾
Fine	11 @11½
Selections	12 @12⅝

BUTTER—Ample stock and demand fair. We quote New York creamery, fine, 30@31c; New York dairy 18@27c, as in quality; Western repacked 8@17c, 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@4 50, young $2@3; ducks $3; geese $6; turkeys $10 ⅌ dozen.

EGGS—Western 26@28c; Louisiana 30@33c ⅌ dozen.

RICE—Is in moderate supply. No. 2 3½@3¾c, common 4@4¼c, ordinary 4⅛@4⅜c, fair 4⅞@5⅛, good 5⅛@5½c, prime 5¾@6c, choice 6¼c ⅌ 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 50@1 75; onions at $1 75@2 25; apples at $1 75@4 ⅌ 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.

[By Telegraph.]

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—The market opened with wheat steady at $1 08¾ January. Corn quiet at 42¾ bid December, 41⅞ bid January. Pork opened at $12 15 February. Lard—Nothing doing, 7.85 bid January. Afterwards lard became firmer at 7.87½@7.90 January, 7.97½@8 February. Pork steady at $12@12 02½ January, $12 15@12 17½ February. Dry Salt Meats—Shoulders 4⅝; short rib 6; short clear 6¼. Wheat quiet, $1 08 cash, $1 08⅞@1 08¾ January. Corn quiet, 43½ December, 42 January, 43¼@43⅜ May.

Union Stock Yards—Hogs—official receipts yesterday 62,426; estimated to-day 32,500; 77,500 on sale; market active and higher for packing grades at $5 90@4 10; shipping grades $4@4 20.

1:30 p. m.—Morning Call.—Wheat unsettled; $1 08½ cash; $1 08⅞@1 09 January; $1 09⅞@1 10 February. Corn quiet; 42 cash or December; 42½ January; 41⅞@42 February; 43⅜@43¾ May. Provisions steady; pork $12 January; $12 15@12 17½ February. Lard 7.85@7.87½ January; 7.95@7.97½ February.

3:30 p. m.—Close.—Pork strong; $12 05@12 07½ January; $12 20@12 22½ February. Corn firm; 43¼@43⅝ December; 42½@42⅞ January; 43¾@43⅞ May. Wheat firm; $1 09⅛@1 09⅜ January; $1 10⅞ February. Lard 7.87½@7.90 January; 7.97½@8.00 February.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 13.—Pork unchanged at $12. Bacon—Shoulders 6¾; clear rib 7¾; clear sides 8¼; hams 11@12. Green meats—Shoulders 4½@4⅝; clear rib 5⅞; clear sides 6⅛. Lard—Current make 7.85 bid; prime winter 8½@8¾. Hogs slightly better at $3 60@4 30; receipts to-day 8017. Whisky $1 05.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 13.—Wheat—No. 2 red, no sales; $1 25 bid cash; No. 3 red opened at $1 23¼ and closed at $1 23 January; $1 20@1 20¼ cash. Corn 46⅜@46⅞ cash; 45⅛@45⅝ December; 42⅞@43 January. Oats 27½ cash; 27 bid December or January. Pork $12 cash and January; $12 17½ bid February. Cut meats—Shoulders 4¼@4⅜; clear rib 5.90@6; clear sides 6⅛. Loose bacon—nothing doing. Lard 7.70 December. Whisky $1 05.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13, 10:45 a. m.—Coffee firm; sales 1924, Halley, p. t.; 600 at New Orleans, Alvington, at 18½; 1500 Cheney at 18⅝. Sugar quiet; sales 1000 hhds. Refined sugar steady.

3 p. m.—Groceries close without quotable change.

Foreign Markets.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 13, 12:15 p. m.—Cotton—Fair business at previous prices. Middling Uplands 6 9-16d; Middling Orleans 6¾d; sales 12,000 bales, of which 1000 are for export and speculation. Other quotations unchanged.

1:45 p. m.—Flour unchanged at 29@29s 6d. Wheat dull and unaltered; spring 10s 9d@11s 3d; California club 13s@13s 3d; do average 12s 9d@13s. Cargoes flour and wheat on passage 1,014,000 quarters, being 28,000 quarters less than for the previous week. Corn unchanged at 30s. Cargoes on passage 572,000 quarters, being 243,-000 quarters more than for the previous week. Canada peas unchanged at 36s 6d.

3 p. m.—Wheat dull and unchanged; red winter 11s@11s 6d; Western do 11s 5d. Cheese—American choice unchanged at 64s. Beef unchanged; India mess 93s; prime mess 86s; extra 113s. Pork unchanged; prime Eastern 67s; Western 56s. Bacon depressed; Cumberland cut unchanged at 37s; short rib 2s lower at 38s; long clear 6d off at 35s; short clear 6d down at 36s 6d. Hams is lower at 41s. Shoulders 6d off at 32s 6d. Lard—prime Western unchanged at 43s. Lard oil unchanged at 40s. Turpentine unchanged at 25s 6d. Refined petroleum steady at 11½d.

5:30 p. m.—Bacon—Long clear middles 35s; short clear 36s.

LONDON, Dec. 13, 2 p. m.—Flour unchanged at 29s 6d. Wheat, cargoes off coast, California spring firmer at 52s; others unchanged; red winter, 55s@55s 9d; California club, 62s; to arrive, Chicago unchanged, 51s@51s 6d; California club, 59s@61s; arrivals for orders light. Corn 6d lower; off coast, 30s@30s 3d; to arrive, 29s@29s 6d; arrivals for orders light.

Ocean Freights.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Ocean freights are quiet at 6s for Cork on orders for grain vessels, and 48@48 6d for the United Kingdom and the Continent for oil vessels. Berth rates are easier on grain on light offerings, at 8d for Liverpool by steam. The offerings of provisions are large for December and January.

RIVER NEWS.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Friday, Dec. 14, 1877.

Arrivals.

Isabel, Belle, Assumption, W. J. Poitevent, Frank Pargoud, Mary Ida, John Means, John H. Hanna, Gov. Allen.

Departures.

Isabel, Rice Farmer, Mary Ida, W. J. Poitevent, Frank Pargoud, James Howard, Clara S., Bertha, Era No. 10.

To Arrive.

Isabel, Alvin, lower coast; Mary Ida, Henry Tete, Blue Wing No. 3, upper coast; St. Mary, W. J. Poitevent, Lafourche; Ouachita Belle, Bayou Sara; St. John, Baton Rouge; A.C. Donnally, Cincinnati; Maria Louise, Bart Able, C. H. Durfee, Red river; Tensas, Macon and Tensas; Natchez, Vicksburg.

The weather was clear and very pleasant yesterday.

Business fair. The Golden Rule was receiving very liberally, and will leave with a fine trip to-morrow.

Capt. Sam Ayles, for Greenville, was a passenger on the Pargoud yesterday.

Mr. N. M. Jones is in the city. Consequently, Geo. Roots is happy.

The Shannon, for the Ouachita through to Camden, leaves to-day, Capt. Jack DeHart in command, Charlie Arthur in charge of the office.

The Trenton lays over until to-morrow.

The steamer John H. Hanna, from Baton Rouge, arrived last evening with a fair trip.

The Bayou Sara packet Gov. Allen arrived yesterday afternoon with a fine cargo, consisting of 715 bales cotton, 1461 sacks cotton seed, 6 sacks seed cotton, 242 hhds sugar and 815 bbls molasses.

The John Means, with 3 barges, arrived yesterday.

A flatboat from the Ohio, loaded with 2500 barrels potatoes, consigned to C. Pleasants, arrived also yesterday. The potatoes are put up in flour barrels.

The John W. Garrett and barges are loading at Cairo.

The new Mary Houston is to leave Cincinnati to-morrow. The Houston belongs to the C., L. and N. O. Packet Company—a company of eleven boats, the most of them entirely new, and all of them very fine boats. These boats are making regular and quick trips, and can always be depended upon to leave as advertised, a fact that commends them highly, both to the shipper and traveler. The "bran new" Golden Rule, of this company, is receiving to leave to-morrow. She is one of the best and certainly one of the finest boats that lands here, and in the elegance and comfort of her cabin and staterooms, offers unusual inducements to passengers. The A. C. Donnally will arrive to-day and will be the next departure after the Golden Rule.

The Bart Able leaves for Alexandria and Grand Ecore to-morrow. She will be at the landing to-day.

The Assumption leaves this morning for the Lafourche, and will go through to Thibodaux.

The famous City of Alton, will be the next arrival from St. Louis. She returns on Monday next.

The veteran pilot and captain Bird Paris, came from Memphis on the Thompson Dean. While the Dean laid at Arkansas City taking on cotton, Capt. Bird made the acquaintance of Col. Stanly Ryland and Ed. Outlaw, two youngsters (?) who are growing up with that historical city. They seem to have been delighted with meeting such a celebrity, and made it the occasion of a characteristic notice in the Arkansas City Post, over whose river column Col. Ryland presides with much satisfaction to himself, fame to the paper and profit to its patrons.

The Martha, not being ready to go yesterday, the Rice Farmer, Capt. John Taylor, left in her place for Port Eads. On her return the Farmer will again leave for the lower coast and remain there as a tender. The Martha will be ready to go to-morrow, her regular day.

~~The W. J. Behan was brought to the landing~~ yesterday.

Having some repairs to make, the Belle laid over yesterday.

The St. Francis Belle leaves daily at 7:45 a. m. from Bienville street for Westwego, running in connection with the New Orleans and Texas Railroad to Donaldsonville.

The Blue Wing line steamer Belle leaves to-day at 9 a. m. for the upper coast to Bonnet Carre. The Belle is a daylight boat both ways. H. E. Harper commands.

The coast, Donaldsonville and Lafourche packet Assumption, P. A. Charlet master, N. Z. Dupuis clerk, leaves to-day at 10 a. m. for Thibodaux.

The New Orleans and Gulf Transportation Company's steamer Alvin, W. T. Scovell master, carrying the United States mail, leaves today at 12 m. promptly for Port Eads.

The Martha, W. S. Bassett master, also of the above company, leaves to-morrow at 5 p. m.

The fine steamer John H. Hanna, Frank Bergeron in command, leaves to-day at 10 a. m. for Baton Rouge and coast landings. Capt. E. B. Trinidad has charge of the office.

The coast and Bayou Sara United States mail packet Gov. Allen, John J. Brown master, S. S. Streck clerk, leaves to-day at 5 p. m.

The New Orleans and Red River Transportation Company's steamer Bonnie Lee, Noah Scovell master, leaves to-day at 5 p. m. for Shreveport and all way landings on Red river.

The Merchants' independent packet Kate Kinney leaves to-day for Red river, through to Shreveport, at 5 p. m.

The tri-weekly coast, Donaldsonville and Lafourche packet Henry Tete will arrive this evening and return to-morrow, as usual.

The M. I. daily line steamer Mary Ida will arrive this evening and return to-morrow. The Ida has discontinued her trips to the Turcaud plantation, and now goes only to Welham's.

The Blue Wing line steamer Blue Wing No. 3, J. A. Comstock master, Messrs. Wood and Dean clerks, leaves to-morrow at 10 a. m. for the upper coast.

Capt. Joe Dalferes' elegant Bayou Lafourche packet St. Mary is receiving to leave to-morrow at 10 a. m. for Laurel Valley.

The fleet Natchez, T. P. Leathers in command, J. F. Muse in the office, leaves as usual to-morrow for Vicksburg.

The Bart Able, Richard Sinnott master, Geo. C. Hamilton clerk, leaves to-morrow at 5 p. m., without fail, for Alexandria and Grand Ecore.

The Ouachita Belle, John C. Libano in command, will arrive this evening and leave to-morrow, as usual, for Bayou Sara.

Capt. J. P. McElroy's semi-weekly coast and Baton Rouge packet St. John is receiving to leave at 5 p. m. to-morrow.

The Bayou Macon and Tensas packet