

Commercial and Financial Matters.

Five vessels cleared yesterday for European ports with 14,679 bales of cotton.

Under carpet-bag rule the expenses of the State government of South Carolina were \$1,000,000 in 1873, and \$22,839 in 1876 under Gov. Hampton—quite a difference.

This year's vintage of champagne is said to be a failure, the grapes not having been good. The fact that, owing to its inferior quality, we may possibly have to abandon champagne for bathing purposes until another vintage comes in is disagreeable in the extreme.

The amount of money realized on distilled spirits in the United States during the past year is \$7,499,429, an increase over the previous year of \$1,043,554. Tobacco produced \$11,106,546 of revenue, showing an increase of \$1,311,237. This is the largest sum ever collected from tobacco in this country.

Caleb Cushing, after some years' investigation, for which the government paid him \$500, discovered that the Bank of England contains about \$120,000,000 in cash belonging to the Confederate government. The Administration is now trying to discover some method by which the money can be transferred to the keeping of John Sherman.

The stock of flour in this market has been variously estimated, and yesterday we visited twenty-seven of the receivers and holders in order to get at, as nearly as possible, an approximation to the stock on hand. The result of our investigations is that there are 76,339 bbls of flour, which we can account for, in stores and warehouse in the city of New Orleans at the present time, which, added to stock in second hands, will probably put it up to nearly 100,000 bbls. The stock of corn meal does not foot up more than 2500 bbls.

The St. Louis Republic, of the 20th inst., says: "There was still a good demand for New Orleans exchange, of which there is apparently not a large supply in the market. One firm of coffeebrokers in this city, who bought a cargo of coffee in New Orleans last week, have been a whole week finding enough exchange to cover their purchase, the amount needed being about \$100,000. They have paid \$2 50/32 premium, and though some few sales were made yesterday at \$2 50, several of the leading banks maintained the higher figure very stiffly. In New Orleans bankers' bills on New York were quoted to be 1-16 per cent lower, having fallen from 3/4 to 1-16 per cent discount."

Short Weight Pork. Yesterday there was some excitement, accompanied with bitter comment, over a lot of short weight pork, from Louisville, which was rejected by one of our most prominent dealers. A week or two ago we had occasion to notice three lots of short weight pork received in this city—two from Louisville and one from Cincinnati. The one we allude to at present did not, we understand, come from either of the packers or shippers who sent the former lots. When will this end?

North Carolina Cotton Seed Sent to New Orleans. Raleigh (N. C.) Observer Morehead City letter: "There are now coming into our railroad warehouses large quantities of freight bearing a shipping mark calculated to strike terror to the souls of the cotton dealers of this city and in gunny bags marked with the ominous combination of letters 'U. S. A.' But let not your hearts be troubled. The bags are filled only with cotton seed, and the initials stand for Cotton Seed Association, a New Orleans company, who are buying the seed in the neighborhood of New Orleans and shipping it from this place. The H. B. Congdon, a schooner of 400 tons, will shortly remove these lots of threatening import, taking them direct to New Orleans, where the loss in weight by evaporation before the formidable than oil and oil cake."

The Coffee Troubles. (Cincinnati Enquirer, 20th inst.) Developments yesterday showed that the determined action of the coffee dealers of this city and the West generally in resist the demands of the New York jobbers were meeting with success. The general weakening of the New York market, and the programs were received from New York by the brokers here ordering them to "submit all offers, no matter what they are." This is considered a great step, and a strong indication of weakening on the part of New York dealers. The buyers here have for the past month or more been purchasing a large quantity of coffee from New Orleans, and Mobile, and this fact has recently fully come to the knowledge of the New Yorkers, and undoubtedly caused the present action. The dealers here have, however, found that they can purchase more advantageously in Mobile and New Orleans than in New York, from the fact that they have a less number of profits to pay. The sales in the Southern cities are made by the importers direct, through brokers, and the buyers here are not to get there all coffees are first bought from the importers by a second and third jobber before they reach the buyer in New Orleans. This is a great advantage to the importer, and as a result it is practically impossible to buy New York coffee as cheaply as it can be bought direct from the importer to the dealer here. This fact is causing the tide of trade to turn rapidly to the South, and with the best business conditions, every day for months after the rupture with New York, and with the results named, it may safely be estimated that nearly all coffee business will be transferred to the South during the present season, unless extraordinary measures for its prevention are inaugurated by New York.

This Year's Cotton Crop Movement. We take the following from the circular of Messrs. Staber, Hort & Co., dated New York, December 10: "Last season's receipts contained from 50,000 to 100,000 bales of cotton, while this year on the 1st of September no old stocks were left in the interior. Consequently, if we compare the crop as last year, the total receipts would be from 50,000 to 100,000 bales less. Although the crop is late, it has so far been prepared for market and forwarded rapidly, as the many rainy days that were lost for picking gave the planters time for ginning and packing. Had the weather been drier, every day's storm had been taken advantage of for picking, and stocks on plantation would have accumulated. Now the crop is smaller, and the weather is so dry that the cotton is consumed with greater than usual. This season's weekly statistics include receipts at City Point and West Point, Va. (42,247 bales), which formerly were added only at the end of the season. Stocks in eleven interior towns are 30,000 bales less than last year. This autumn all rivers have been in good navigable condition much earlier than usual, and much cotton is coming out now that last year had to wait for transport until February, and in other seasons often much later. Receipts at the ports, so far, are every week less than the interior movements. Owing to competition in rail road freights, much cotton is attracted now to railroad centers, like Atlanta, Charlotte, G. C., to get there the benefit of cheap through rates, whereas the same cotton was sent formerly from small stations direct to the ports. The overall movement is so far 300,000 bales less than last year, and for the season is estimated at 500,000 to 1,000,000 bales. Up to this time American planters have taken from the ports 20,000 bales more than last year, and 50,000 bales more than the year before. On the basis of the above statistics and fore-

going facts connected with the crop movement, 420,000 bales appears a conservative estimate. This would leave for export 2,800,000 bales, which is 200,000 bales less than in 1875-76, and 450,000 bales less than in 1876-77. According to the latest European authorities over 3,000,000 bales of American cotton at about present prices are needed, even with a continuance of bad trade in Europe.

Supposing the Eastern war were ended during this winter, French politics peacefully settled, and as a consequence trade in Europe be revived and confidence restored, would American cotton not be in a position to merit your special attention?

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

Table with columns for MONETARY, OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Saturday Evening, Dec. 22, 1877, and NEW ORLEANS CLEARING-HOUSE.

Table with columns for RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, and COMPARED WITH LAST WEEK.

There was a larger demand for discounts at the bank to-day, and the counter transactions are fair. On the street but little paper is offered and rates easy.

Table with columns for NEW ORLEANS STOCK EXCHANGE SALES, BEFORE FIRST CALL, and AFTER SECOND CALL.

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COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Saturday Evening, Dec. 22, 1877. GENERAL REMARKS—The markets to-day have been exceedingly dull, owing principally to the fact that the old year of 1877 is very nearly at an end, and that the banks, in accordance with their ancient custom, drawn in their call loans by the 1st of January, when they make up their annual statements.

Table with columns for THE OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS OF THE COTTON EXCHANGE, TO-DAY, and YESTERDAY.

COTTON STATEMENT.

Table with columns for RECEIVED, EXPORTED, and STOCKS, listing various cotton grades and their quantities.

solated as per telegrams from the Cotton Exchange, for one day being as follows: Other Changes. G. B. Franco, for 2nd Feb. Stocks.

OCEAN FREIGHTS—Are quoted as follows: By steam—Cotton to Liverpool 7-1/4; to Bremen 11-1/2; to London 12-1/2.

CREAM AND PEARL MEAL—There is about the usual supply, and the market is quiet. Demand steady, and prices unchanged. CORN FLOUR—Is quoted at \$3 75/84, as in quality. Local demand small, and this article is only sold for export.

RYE FLOUR—There is a moderate supply, but quite equal to the demand, at \$4 25/34 1/2. BREAKFAST CORN—Quiet and steady at 99 5/8 in a wholesale way, dealers jobbing at 99 1/2.

TOBACCO—No sales reported. Stock on sale 1700 lbs. Inferior grades... Medium... Good to fine... Leaf... Good... Ordinary... Extra... Retailing at 1 1/2.

WHEAT—Stock light, demand active. A cargo, all grades, is on hand at 10 1/2. Corn—Market quiet, sales 300 bushels at 25 1/2.

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Table with columns for WEEKLY QUOTATIONS OF HIDES, listing various types of hides and their prices.

RIVER NEWS.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Sunday, Dec. 23, 1877.

Martha, St. John, E. A. to Clerkenville, Alvin, Isabel, Henry Tote, Belle, Mary Ida, Ouachita Belle, St. John.

Martha, lower cargo; Mary Ida, Henry Tote, St. John, Belle, Blue Wing No. 3, upper cargo; Assumption, J. Polverini, St. Mary, Lafourche; Gov. Allen, Ouachita Belle, Bayou Sara; J. H. Hanna, St. John, Baton Rouge; Chesley, Harry Houston, Cincinnati; La Belle, Col. A. P. Kous, Alexandria, Maria Louise, Red river; Gold Dust, Susie Silver, St. Louis; Thomas, Emma; Clara S., Bartholomew, John Wilson, Shanon, Ouachita, R. Levee, Yazoo Valley, Vicksburg; Katie, Greenville; Thompson Dean, James Howard, Memphis.

The heavy fog of Friday night put all the packets behind considerably, though they all managed to get away for Tuesday day, except the St. Avery, which steamer had not arrived up to dark. She will be returned at the landing this morning, and will return to St. Louis.

The above paragraphs appear in the St. Louis Democrat on Tuesday last, and are the only ones which we answer that the sale of the Kate Kinney, as stated by us, and quoted above, is bona fide and is duly recorded in the Custom-House of this city.

The Blue Wing No. 3, J. A. Comstock master, Messrs. Wood and Dean clerks, leaves to-morrow at 10 a. m. for Donaldsonville and the Ash Grove plantations.

The regular semi-weekly Bayou Lafourche packet W. J. Polverini, U. D. Terrence in command, leaves to-morrow at 10 a. m. for the coast and Louisiana.

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port and New Orleans; three boats are now running from here and two in the New Orleans trade, and the craft was never larger or better.

ENGINEERS TAKE NOTICE. The Greatest Discovery of the Age. CASEY'S BELT AND OIL COMPOUND. No Friction. No Tearing. 25 Per Cent Gained in Power. 50 Per Cent Saved in Wear.

IS NOW BEING USED BY: E. J. GAY & CO., C. H. ALLEN, J. J. WOODRUFF, MARGARET'S Bakery, HENRY & DUNN, HENRY OTIS, E. J. FLANAGAN, LHOPE & CO., LA. RICE MILLER, W. F. GINNEY, A. A. MAGNIN'S BROS.

KEILEY'S ISLAND Wine Company. DRY CATAWA, PORT SHERRY, SWEET CATAWA, MUSCAT, ANGELICA, CLARET, CHAMPAGNES.

SHROPSHIRE & CO., 18 SOUTH PETERS ST. CHRISTMAS! NEW YEAR!

MILLER, DOLHONDE & CO., SULLIVAN & BULGER, PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS.

30,000 EXTRA LARGE GUNNY BAGS. GUNNY BAGS AND DUNDEE BAGS.

A. CARRIERE & SONS, COMMISSION MERCHANTS. Corner Royal and Customhouse.

WHITE'S GINNEY, Office 26 Union, near Carondelet street TO COTTON FACTORS AND PLANTERS. GINNING TERM—THE SEED, BAGGING, TIES, TWINE AND DRAYAGE.

CHRISTMAS!

A GRAND DISPLAY AT THE CHICAGO TRADE PALACE, 147 CANAL STREET, Between Bourbon and Dauphine sts.

Bohemian Glass and China Ware. Rich VASES, at 50c., 75c. up to \$5. Elegant TOILET SETS, at 50c. up to \$10.

Album and Leather Goods Department. A beautiful fifty-picture ALBUM, for 50c. Twenty different styles of ALBUMS, for 50c. to 95c.

MUSIC FOLIOS, with spring back, 50c. only. BACKGAMMON BOARD, complete, with Dice and Checkers, only 50c.

HUMAN HAIR AND TOILET GOODS. Real FRENCH HAIR BRAIDS, for 50c. Twenty-six inches long HAIR BRAIDS, at 50c.

Cutlery and Silverware Department. Six steel KNIVES with FORKS, for 75c. Finer goods at 50c. to \$3 per set.

A Very Large Doll and Toy Department. BUY DOLLS HERE AND SAVE MONEY. WAX DOLLS, from 10c. up to \$10, comprising a variety of over 100 styles.

THE CHICAGO TRADE PALACE, 147 Canal Street, NEW ORLEANS. LEVY BROS. Proprietors.