Commercial and Financial Matters.

The steamship Vanguard, which cleared yesterday for Liverpool, has 19,970 bushels of corn in bulk, in addition to other articles of cargo.

The Cotton Exchange will be closed to-day and to-morrow, and there will be no cotton reports from Liverpool until Tuesday and from New York until Monday next.

The New York Evening Post declares that in New York the general trade of the present season has been the worst known to the memory of the oldest business men.

A test suit, involving the responsibility of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for merchandise destroyed during last year's riots, is now on trial in the Federal court in Philadelphia. A large number of cases similar in principle depend upon the decision.

Specie payments were practically resumed in the pork market of Chicago on the sixteenth instant. A buyer was willing to pay a named price in gold, but refused to pay 2½c ₱ barrel more in currency, though that 2½c was less than 3-10c on each dollar of the price named.

Some of the syndicate bankers in New York are said to be arranging to a call on the Treasury for new national bank circulation, sufficient to reduce the amount of outstanding greenbacks to the legal minimum of three hundred millions. The bank paper thus obtained could be retained, circulated, or cancelled, at the pleasure of the bankers. The plan is designed to assist in removing difficulties supposed to be in the way of resumption.

Notwithstanding the stereotype declaration of Eastern papers, that money is plenty and cheap in the Eastern cities, the latest quotations at Philadelphia are "5½@6½ per cent for gilt-edged two named paper; 6½@7½ per cent for undoubted single name obligations, and higher rates on mixed securities." This does not look much like a superabundance of money for the transaction of business in a State where 6 per cent is the rate of interest fixed by law, and where, in ordinary times, 6 per cent is above the rate considered permissible in legitimate business.

There was a "bear" influence at work yesterday in the market for State consols, and they fell to 76¼@76½, from 77½@77⅝ the day previous. This decline was ascribed by some to the belief that the Supreme Court will reverse the decision of Judge Rogers in the New Orleans Pacific Railroad matter. What foundation there can possibly be for such an opinion or belief is a question that is beyond our understanding. Premium bonds suffered a very slight decline, being quoted at 34½@34¾, against 34⅝@34⅞.

The mint authorities are described by the Bulletin, of San Francisco, as securing around considerably for fine silver on which to start the mint on 412½-grain dollars. A lot of 60,000 ounces, sold by the Selby Smelting Works for export, was afterward bought by the mint at 7 per cent discount, equal to 54¾ pence per ounce, English standard. The London price on the same day was 54¼ pence, with a lower tendency. The mint also bought at the same price the Grand Prize bullion, amounting to about 120,000 ounces. When the dies for coining the new dollars arrive, the superintendent of the mint will have about 500,000 ounces on hand. The policy of the mint appears to be to get its silver anywhere except from the Nevada mines, even if it has to pay more for it. A banker in the East India trade was consulted as to the feasibility of importing Sycee silver from China for the government, but it was found that the silver would cost too much

To illustrate the extent of our steamboat trade with Red river, and the importance of improving the navigation of that stream, we will give a few additional facts in relation thereto. There are at the present time, even at this dull season of the year, three boats per week leaving New Orleans for Red river, with cargoes averaging 450 tons to each boat. During the cotton season just closing the departures hence were five to nine boats per week. For the Ouachita river there are now three departures per week, taking about 1000 tons of freight. The Opelousas and Atchafalaya lines send three boats per week, averaging 250 tons of freight each. By this showing we find that 1350 tons of freight are shipped from New Orleans to Red river every week, 1000 to the Ouachita and 750 to the Opelousas and Atchafalaya, making a total of 3150 tons per week.

All this has to pass through the mouth of Red river, which, we have good reason to believe, in a very short time will fill up to such an extent as to prevent the passage of boats, unless the general government appropriates a sufficient amount of money to keep the channel open. It should be borne in mind that this is now the only route by which our merchants can send forward their goods to those sections of the country. Should the mouth of Red river be blocked up and made impassable, the whole of this valuable trade would be lost to New Orleans.

As evidence of the difficulties and dangers experienced in navigating Red river we will mention that since the war over fifty boats, with their cargoes, besides many lives, have been lost in that river. We have been reliably informed that the wrecks of boats average one to every two miles from the mouth of "Old Red" to Shreveport. In view of these facts it will be a burning shame if Congress should refuse to make a sufficient appropriation for the improvement of navigation in this most important tributary of the Mississippi.

THE OBLIGATIONS OF FIRE POLICIES FOR "GENERAL AVERAGE" ASSESSMENT.—In a letter from Baltimore to the New York Journal of Commerce, "D. H. M." states the following case:

An ocean steamer, insured under fire policies only, takes fire in her lower hold while loading cotton at a Southern port. To extinguish the fire and prevent a total loss the steamer is flooded and sunk at her berth; is afterward raised, cargo discharged, cared for and sent to its destination in same steamer, and is sold to determine the loss on the same. An adjuster states the usual "general average" claim against the steamer, freight and cargo, which embraces such costs as the extinguishing of the fire, raising the vessel, unloading and reloading cargo, and damage thereto, etc. Please state the obligations of the fire policies to repay the steamer's owners for the contribution assessed against her in the "general average."

To which the Journal of Commerce replies as follows:

It is hardly proper for us to decide a question which is soon to come before the courts, perhaps in the very case to which our correspondent refers. We refer to the claim of the owners of the steamer George Appold against certain Baltimore fire insurance companies for a similar loss. The fire underwriters, while willing to pay the loss by fire and a reasonable proportion of the expenses of extinguishing it, have, as far as we know, declined to recognize their liability for general average, such as is acknowledged in marine insurance, and the case we have noted will probably be carried up to determine this question.

The last Birmingham and Sheffield advices of the London Times disclose great depression in those centres of English industry. The Birmingham correspondent says:

The new cloud on the political horizon, coupled with the advance in the bank rate, has given a fresh check to the revival of trade, and merchants are holding back orders until the prospect is more assured. For the principal colonial markets, however, and especially Australia and New Zealand, there is a fair amount of business in hand, though at prices far from satisfactory. The momentary firmness of the local iron market has arrested the downward movement of quotations for common hardwares, though here and there large buyers may still obtain concessions. The demand for agricultural and garden tools has been checked by the return of cold weather, and edge-tools makers report business decidedly quieter, except where government contracts are under execution. At Sheffield, the iron trade of the town and district still remains depressed, and, though one or two firms have received considerable orders, such cases are altogether exceptional. The general steel trade is exceedingly dull, and for Bessemer there is only a short demand. Some of the rail mills are fairly busy, but there is very little inquiry for other descriptions of railway material. The colliers' dispute appears to be at an end, the men having conceded 5 per cent reduction. The condition of the lighter branches is likewise unsatisfactory; the general demand for cutlery is slacker than last year; the razor and table-knife trades are very quiet, and the saw and file trades are languid.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONETARY.

OFFICE NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Thursday Evening, April 18, 1878.

NEW ORLEANS CLEARING HOUSE.

	Clearings.	Balances.
April 13	$1,356,170 59	$175 838 26
April 15	1,590,132 13	276,964 69
April 16	1,431,587 66	161,710 71
April 17	1,242,133 97	115,866 13
April 18	1,547,714 96	165,603 88
Total thus far	$7,347,714 96	$895,983 67

The demand for discounts at the banks continues light.

On the street there is but little business transacted in commercial paper, and rates for Money are easy.

We quote exceptional paper 7@8 ₱ cent; A1 do 9@10; second grade do —@—; loans on collaterals 6@8; A1 mortgage paper 8½@10; second grade do —@— ₱ cent per annum.

Gold is steady and quiet.

Foreign Exchange is dull and easy.

Sight is scarce and firm.

State Consols are irregular and easy at 76½@76⅝.

Premium bonds quiet at 34½@34¾.

Stocks quiet.

Gold opened in New York at 100⅛ and closed at 100⅜. Here it opened at 100⅛@100⅜ and closed at 100⅜@100⅝. Sales—$4000 at 100⅛, $3000 at 100⅛ and $5000 at 100⅜.

STERLING SALES—£1500 bill lading at 486 and £5500 do at 485@486. Bank Sterling —@488½; commercial bills 484½@486.

FRANC SALES—75,000 and 50,000 commercial at 5,17½. Bank francs —, commercial 5.17½.

SIGHT—Firm. Bank sight ¼ ₱ cent premium; commercial ¼ ₱ cent premium.

NEW ORLEANS STOCK EXCHANGE SALES.

SECOND CALL, 12 M.

5 shares Mechanics and Traders' Insurance Company	76½
$10,000 State Consols	76¼
2,000 State Consols	76½
11,500 Premium Bonds	34½
20,000 Premium Bonds (B, 1878)	35⅝
10,000 Premium Bonds	35¾
BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD CALLS.	
12,000 State Consols	76½
THIRD CALL, 2 P. M.	
2,000 State Consols	76¾
4,700 Premium Bonds	34⅞
10,000 Premium Bonds (B, August 15 to January 1)	35½

This Exchange will be closed Good Friday April 19 (legal holiday.)

[By Telegraph.]

NEW YORK, April 17.—Money closed at 7 ₱ cent. Exchange closed firm at 487@489½. Gold opened and closed at 100⅜, at which price all sales of the day were made. Governments closed firm; currency sixes 118⅜@118¾. Pacific Railroad bonds closed as follows: Union firsts 105⅝@105¾; land grants 103@103¼; Sinking funds 95⅞@95¾; Centrals 105⅛@105¾.

In State bonds, Louisiana consols sold at 77@77½, and District of Columbia 3-65's at 75¾.

Gold clearings at the national banks, New York—gold balances, $1,064,500; currency balances, $1,063,593; gold clearings, $12,316 000.

Clearing-House statement for to-day—Currency exchanges, $78,545,905; currency balances, $3,168,872. Gold exchanges, $13,678,066; gold balances, $2,685,878.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF NEW ORLEANS DEMOCRAT, Thursday Evening, April 18, 1878.

GENERAL REMARKS—This has been a very hot and, for the most part, clear day. There is nothing new in the condition of general trade worthy of special mention.

The advices from Liverpool in relation to cotton were unfavorable, as has been the case for several days past, but in spite of this the market here to-day ruled steady, and the sales of the fleecy staple crept up to 3900 bales.

The supplies of Flour are good and well assorted, and there being but a limited demand, the market is dull and easy. The reported sales amounted to only 545 barrels, prices ranging from $5 to $5 87½, according to quality and brand.

There has been for two days past but little attention paid to Western Corn Meal, and the market was dull and easier at $2 10@2 15 on round lots.

In Provisions there was but little movement and no improvement in prices, except in Dry Salt Shoulders.

The supply of Pork continues small, which is actively offered on the market, while the offerings to arrive are liberal at $10 per bbl. The reported sales of round lots amounted to only 100 bbls.

Boxed Dry Salt Shoulders, owing to the limited supply, advanced to-day ⅛@¼c ₱ lb. Sides are dull and nominal, with very few left on the market.

There is also a short supply of Bacon, with no change in prices, though holders are disposed to advance their quotations, being moved thereto by the fact that prices of that commodity are not relatively as high as those at the West, cost of freight, etc., considered.

There was a sale to-day of 95 tierces of refined Lard at 7½c, which is the first sale of this article reported during the present week.

The demand for Bulk Corn is moderate at 46½@47c.

COTTON—Notwithstanding the unfavorable advices from Liverpool the market here ruled steady, and the transactions up to the close amounted to 3900 bales.

The following is the official closing of the Cotton Exchange:

	To-day.	Yesterday.
Low Ordinary	7¼	7¼
Ordinary	7⅞	7⅞
Good Ordinary	8½	8⅝
Low Middling	9⅞	9⅞
Middling	10¼	10¼
Good Middling	11	11
Middling Fair	—	—

Sales to-day. 3900 bales. Market steady.

COTTON STATEMENT.

In store and on shipboard Sept. 1, 1877.		21,356
Gross receipts since yesterday	2,095	
Gross receipts previously	1,583,483—	1,585,578
Total supply		1,606,934
Exported to-day	148	
Exported previously	1,399,794—	1,399,942
Total stock this day		206,992
Total stock this day last year		192 239
Net receipts since yesterday		642
Receipts from other ports		1,453
Net receipts last Thursday		355
Net receipts this day last year		169
Net receipts since Friday		7,715
Net receipts same time last week		11,303
Net receipts same time last year		7,060
Net receipts since September 1		1,314,593
Net receipts same time last year		1,222,311

Cotton on shipboard as per account of the Cotton Exchange, as follows: Liverpool *69,589 bales, Havre 9931, Bremen 14 215, Mediterranean 2115, North Sea 1814, Baltic ports 1189, Spain 902, Mexico 9, coastwise 2440; total, 96,208 bales. This, taken from the stock at noon, as noted at the Exchange, leaves in presses 110,789 bales.

[*The figures for Liverpool include 23,989 bales for Channel ports for orders.]

The Cotton Exchange telegrams gave the receipts from noon yesterday to noon to-day 4919 bales, against 4729 last Thursday, 1419 last year and 2697 the year before.

The movement at ports for six days, up to 12 m. to-day, is given below:

	Received since Friday.	Same time last week.	Same time last year
New Orleans	7,716	11,303	7,060
Galveston	3,566	4,454	1,012
Mobile	2 496	3,081	651
Savannah	3,296	2,819	1,375
Charleston	1,718	2,452	1,198
Wilmington	299	415	97
Norfolk	4,336	8,227	1,553
Baltimore	650	1,712	—
New York	2 471	2,991	714
Boston	3,979	3,388	2,195
Philadelphia	547	733	303
Various	—	—	—
Total	31,979	41,575	16,068

Receipts at ports since September 1	4,811,217
Receipts same time last year	3,774,269
Receipts same time year before	3,873,136

The consolidated report for six days gives exports to

	G. B.	Fce.	Con.	Chan.	Stks.	
This week	35,691	4,196	7,718	920	512 631	
Last week	32,218	4 784	12,837	8,719	531 823	
This week l'ty'r	26,672	2,761	8,285	1,524	696 864	

OCEAN FREIGHTS—Are quoted as follows: By steam—Cotton to Liverpool ⅝d; to Havre —d; to Bremen —d; to Boston, Providence, Fall River, Philadelphia and Baltimore, via New York, ⅝c; to New York ½c; grain to Liverpool 10d ⅝d, and — to Bremen ₱ quarter.

By sail—Cotton to Liverpool 13-32@7-16d; to Havre 13-16c; to Bremen ⅞c; to Genoa ⅞@1c; grain to Liverpool 10⅝d.

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

SUGAR—Receipts 199 hhds; sales 87 hhds. There is no material change to note in the market.

We quote: Inferior 5@5⅛c; common to good common 6@6⅝c; fair to good fair 6⅝@6¾c; fully fair 7c; prime 7⅛@7⅛c; strictly prime 7¾@8c; gray clarified —@—c; yellow clarified, as in quality, 8@8⅝c; off whites, good to choice, 8⅝@8¾c; white clarified 8¾@9c.

MOLASSES—Receipts 173 bbls; sales 163 bbls. The demand is light and prices easy.

We quote: Common 16@20c; fair 21@25c; prime 30@32c; strictly prime 36@38c; choice 40@42c.

FLOUR—There is nothing new to be said of the flour trade. Supplies are good and well assorted, and the demand being limited the market is dull and easy, with few sales reported above $6 on transaction from first hands. In a small way, however, and of special favorite brands, we occasionally hear of movements at $6 12½@6 25. Sales: 25 and 25 bbls at $5; 25 and 40 bbls at $5 25; 70 bbls at $5 40; 125 and 150 bbls at $5 62½; 100 bbls at $5 75; 25 bbls at $5 87½.

We quote: Fancy choice $5 87½@6 25; family $5 50@5 75; trebles, low to choice, $4 75@5 50; double extras $4 25@4 50; single extras $4@4 25; superfine —@$4; fine $3 50@3 75. Dealers in their trade, obtain an advance of 50c ₱ bbl on these prices.

CORN MEAL—The past two days Western meal has not commanded much attention, and the market is dull and easier at $2 10@2 15 on round lots delivered from the landing. In the jobbing trade and on sales out of store prices are unchanged and steady at $2 30@2 40 ₱ bbl.

CREAM AND PEARL MEAL—Western is quoted at $3@3 25 ₱ bbl ex landing, and $3 25@3 50 ex store.

GRITS—The market is well supplied and the demand is fair, with choice qualities ruling steady at $3 25 on sales from the landing. Low grades are irregular and sell according to quality from $2 50@3. Jobbing rates out of store are about 25c higher.

COW PEAS—We note a large stock and moderate demand, with prices easier and lower—low grades selling at 70@80c, good mixed at $1@1 15 and clay at $1 25@1 30. Sales: 75 bags mixed at $1 07½.

PORK—The strength of the supply is centred in the small supply actively offered on the market, the feeling in other respects being easy with liberal offerings to arrive at $10. We quote mess on the spot firm at $10 25, with a good demand for small lots, but little or no inquiry for round lots. In the jobbing trade dealers are still getting $10 75@11 ₱ bbl. Sales: 25 and 25 bbls at $10 25; 50 bbls to arrive at $10.

DRY SALT MEAT—Owing to scarcity in the supply shoulders, boxed, advanced to-day ⅛@¼c, and are now quoted firm at 3¾@3⅞c loose and 4c packed on the spot, boxed shoulders to arrive ruling strong at 3⅞c. Sides are dull and nominal, with very few left on the market; they are quoted at 4⅝c for clear rib and 5c for clear sides. Dealers in a jobbing way obtain an advance of ⅛c on these prices. Sales—75 boxes shoulders at 4c ex landing; 1 car load ditto, to arrive, at 3⅞c.

BACON—Notwithstanding this article continues to rule below a parity with the markets of the West, besides being in very limited supply, there is no improvement in values, but holders are disposed, in view of the facts stated, to advance their quotations. The feeling is stronger; shoulders 4⅛c, clear rib sides 5¾c and clear sides 6c. Dealers' rates are ⅛c higher.

HAMS—The supply is small and the demand fair, and prices are steady and unchanged. Old stock is still held easy and without much demand, but fresh goods are in good request and firmer. We quote plain hams at 6¾@7¼c, and choice sugar-cured 7½@8⅛c, in the wholesale trade; dealers' rates being ¼@½c higher in job lots.

LARD—We record to-day the first reported transaction in lard during the present week, consisting of 95 tierces refined product at 7½c. The market is dull and easy, and we quote refined lard 7⅜@7½c for good to choice, and packers' prime steam 6¾@7c; kegs 7¼@8c, and pails 8¼@8½c. Dealers' rates are ⅛c higher.

BREAKFAST BACON—Plentiful and neglected at 7¼@8c; dealers charging 8@8½c for small lots.

FULTON BEEF—Half bbls $9 75; extra Western mess $9 50@10 ₱ bbl.

PACKERS' HOG PRODUCTS—Dealers are selling on orders in the job trade at $5 75 ₱ half bbl for pig pork, $9 50 ₱ bbl for prime mess pork, $8 75 for prime pork, and $9 for rump pork. Pigs' feet are selling at $1@1 25 ₱ keg. Ham sausages are dull and quoted at 6@7c ₱ lb. Pickled pigs' tongues are quoted at 6c apiece. Pickled heads are offering at $9 50@10 50 ₱ tierce, and jowls at $4 50@5 50 ₱ barrel. Bologna sausage 6½c. Spare ribs—none in market. Side ribs $5@5 55.

COFFEE—The demand continues moderate at steady prices.

QUOTATIONS FOR GOLD.

	Cargoes.	Job Lots.
Prime	17¼@17¾	17½@17¾
Good	16½@16¾	16¾@17
Fair	15¾@16	16 @16¼
Ordinary	14 @14¼	14¼@14½
Extreme range		12¼@18¼

TOBACCO—Is in moderate demand. Sales—25 hhds on private terms.

QUOTATIONS.

Inferior lugs	2 @ 2½
Low lugs	2¾@ 3
Medium	3¼@ 3½
Good to fine	4 @ 4¾
Low leaf	4¾@ 5½
Medium	6 @ 7
Good	7½@ 8½
Fine	9 @10
Selections	10 @12

CORN—Fair stock and quiet. Sales—250 sacks choice white at 51c ₱ bushel.

OATS—Demand moderate. Sales—150 bags at 37c, and 350 bags at 36½c ₱ bushel.

BRAN—Is in light request and firm. 150 bags sold at 80c ₱ cwt.

HAY—Weak and neglected. Choice $15@15 50, prime $13 ₱ ton.

BULK CORN—Demand moderate at 46½@47c ₱ bushel.

EGGS—Western 13@15c; Louisiana 16@18c ₱ dozen.

RICE—Is quiet. No. 2 3⅞@4c; common 4⅝@4¾c, ordinary 5@5⅛c, fair 5¼@5⅜c, good 5¾@5⅞c, prime 6@6⅛c, choice 6¼@6⅜c ₱ lb.

WHISKY—The demand for this article is moderate and in prices scarcely any change from day to day. We continue to note old stock neglected and dull. We quote choice Cincinnati $1 03@1 05, fair to good Western and Louisiana six per cent $1@1 03.

BAGGING—Steady at 11c in round lots; retailing at 11⅛@11¼c. Baling twine at 13¼c in round lots; retailing at 14c.

BUTTER—Moderate stock. Demand fair. Choice New York creamery 32@33c; New York dairy, fine 30@31c; New York good 26@28c; low and medium grades 16@20c. Western—choice, fresh packed 18@19c; good do 15@17c; good fruit house 14@15c; summer packed 13@14c; low grades 8@12c; roll, wet packed 16@18c; rolls, tubs, 18@20c.

CHEESE—Prime Western factory 12¼@12½c; good do 11¾@12c. New York cream 15@15½c.

STARCH—In fair demand at 3@3¼c in lots.

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.

POULTRY—Old chickens $4@4 25; young $2 50@3; ducks $3@3 50; geese $5@6; turkeys $17@18 ₱ dozen.

Domestic Markets.

NEW YORK, April 18, 11 a. m.—Coffee easy; sales—725 per Glensannock, 903 Memnon, 2713 Maracaibo, 867 Costa Rica, on private terms; 2500 Rio at Baltimore, ex Geo. Peabody, on private terms; 900 at New Orleans at 15. Raw sugar easy; sales 600 hhds, 590 bags, partly at 7¼@7½ for refining fair to good fair; 7⅝ for prime. Refined sugar moderately active and prices nominally unchanged. Linseed oil 60.

2:30 p. m.—Coffee quiet; sales from first hands 257 bags ex Glensannock, on private terms. Raw sugar without any quotable change. Refined sugar moderately active and prices nominally unchanged.

CHICAGO, April 18.—Wheat opened at $1 10⅛ May. Corn 41⅝ May. Pork $8 97½ June. Lard 6 97½ June.

Later—Wheat sold at $1 10⅛@1 10⅝ May, $1 08¾@1 08⅞ June. Corn 41½ May, 41¾ June. Pork $8 72½ May, $8 85 June, $8 97½ July. Lard 6.87½@6.90 May, 6.92½@6.95 June. Dry salt meats—Shoulders 3⅞, short rib 4.95, short clear 5.15.

Union Stock Yards — Hogs—Estimated receipts to-day 16,000; market rather quiet, 5c lower; sales so far generally of light at $3 45@3 50; heavy mixed packing nearly nominal at $3 35@3 50; heavy shipping $3 50@3 75; prospects that all will be sold before night.

1 p. m.—Morning Call.—Pork $8 70@8 72½ May; $8 82½@8 85 June. Lard 6.87½@6.90 May; 6.95@6.97½ June. Wheat—No. 1 $1 13⅝@1 13¾ cash; No. 2 $1 11½ cash; Nos. 3 and 4 $1 06 cash, according to houses; rejected 88½ cash; regular $1 10⅛@1 10½ May, $1 08⅛@1 08⅛ June. Corn nominal—41½@41⅝ May; 41⅛@41⅞ June; 42⅞@42½ July. Oats quiet—26⅛ May; 26⅝ June.

3:30 p. m.—Close.—Pork $8 72½@8 75 May, $8 85@8 87½ June. Lard 6.90 May, 6.95@6.97½ June. Wheat weak; $1 10@1 10⅛ May, $1 08½ $1 08½ June. Corn easy; 41½ May, 41⅝@41¾ June, 42⅞ July. Oats quiet; 26⅞ May, 26¾ June.

CINCINNATI, April 18.—Mess pork quiet; city packed $9 50@9 75. Bacon Shoulders 4¼; clear rib sides 5⅝; clear sides 5¾; sugar cured hams 7@8½. Bulk meats—Loose dull; shoulders 3½@3⅝; clear rib sides 4 85@4 90; clear sides 5 bid, held at 5.10. Hogs—receipts to day 2493; market dull and easy; common $3@3 25, medium $3 35@3 40, good to choice $3 50@3 65. Lard quiet and easy; prime winter steam 7; current make 6.85@6.90; city kettle 7¾; country 7⅛; jobbing lots held a shade higher. Whisky $1 03. Corn quiet and steady at 42@43 for mixed ear, 44 for shelled on arrival. Rye dull at 61@62 for No 2 in elevator, offered at 1@2 less on track. Barley inactive but steady at 43 for choice, 39@40 for prime. Oats dull at 29 for mixed, 31 for white. Wheat quiet; white $1 20; red $1 16@1 17, and amber $1 18 for choice.

ST. LOUIS, April 18.—Opening—Wheat quiet at $1 13⅛ seller May. Corn quiet at 39⅞ seller May.

12:30 p. m.—Wheat—No. 3 red easier; $1 14⅞ May, $1 12½ June, $1 14 bid cash. Corn lower; 39⅞ May, 40⅛@40⅜ June, 38 cash. Oats steady; 26⅝ bid April, 27⅛ bid May, 26⅝ bid cash. Whisky $1 04. Pork dull; $9 15 cash, $9 bid April and May. Cut meats dull; shoulders 3½, clear rib sides 4¾, clear sides 4.85@5. Bacon shoulders 3.85, clear rib sides 5½@5⅝, clear sides 5¾. Lard nominal; held at 6 80.

1 p. m.—Wheat quiet; $1 14@1 14⅛ May. Corn quiet; 39⅞ May.

Foreign Markets.

LIVERPOOL, April 18, 12:30 p. m.—Cotton very dull—Middling Uplands 5 15-16d, Middling Orleans 6 3-16d; sales—5000 bales, of which 500 are for export and speculation. Wheat—Western spring 9s 9@10s 8d; do winter 11s@11s 6d. Flour—Western canal 25s 6d@26s 3d. Corn—new 26s@26s 3d; old 27s 3d@27s 9d. Pork—Prime mess Western 48s 6d. Lard—prime Western 36s 6d. Bacon—long clear 27s; short clear 28s. Tallow—p. y. c. London 38s 6d.

1:45 p. m.—Flour—American extra State unchanged at 28s. Wheat strong; spring 10s 4d; California club 11s 6d@11s 11d; do average 11s 2d@11s 6d. Corn strong; new 26s 6d. Oats 3s 3d. Barley 3s 8d. Clover seed—American 40s@42s. Petroleum—Spirits 7d; refined 10d.

3 p. m.—Breadstuffs firm. Beef—India mess declined is and dull at 80s. Lard—Prime Western dull at 37s. All other articles unchanged, as follows: Pork dull; Eastern 59s, Western 48s. Bacon dull; Cumberland cut 28s; short rib 28s, long clear 27s, short clear 28s. Shoulders steady at 27s 6d. Beef—Extra India mess steady at 107s, prime mess dull at 80s. Tallow—Prime city dull at 39s. Turpentine spirits 24s. Rosin dull; common 5s 6d, fine 10s. Cheese—American choice dull at 66s. Lard oil dull at 42s.

LONDON, April 18, 2 p. m.—Flour—American extra State unchanged at 28s. Wheat quiet; arrived cargoes—red winter 53s@54s; cargoes to arrive—Chicago 47s 6d; California 51s 6d@54s; arrivals for orders light. Corn—arrived orders firm; new 27s 6d; do to arrive steady at 25s 6d. Rosin dull; common 5s 6d; pale 8s@10s. Linseed oil £26 15s@£27; Calcutta linseed 59s 6d@51s. Sperm oil £72@73. Whale oil £35. Tupentine—Spirits 23s@23s 3d. Petroleum—Spirits 7½@7¾d; refined 9¾@9⅞d.

ANTWERP, April 18.—Petroleum 27f for fine pale American.

Ocean Freights.

NEW YORK, April 18.—In ocean freights there was a fair business at generally steady rates. To Liverpool—By steam 8000 bushels grain at 8¼d; by sail, 2500 bales cotton at 15-64d. To London—By sail, 6000 quarters grain at 6s 6d. A Norwegian bark to Cork, for orders, with 3800 quarters at 6s. An Austrian bark, same voyage, with 5200 do at 5s 9d.

RAILROAD PERSONALS.

The following were some of the departures last evening by the Mobile fast line: Almes Opera Troupe, Boston; Capt. L. A. Drouillard, Louisville; Dr. Alexander Wilson, Charleston; C. H. Walgus, Cincinnati; J. M. Bowling, New York; U. W. Boggs, Cincinnati.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

ST. JAMES HOTEL—Max Pracht, Sam Fordham, New York; W A Schofield, Texas; Jas Van Horn, Cincinnati; J S Williams, Memphis; R M McKie, San Antonio; J Lingan, J H Ransom and lady, city; C S Jobes, Kosciusko; L L Stone, C L Stone, B J Morris, Texas; N P Watson, New York.

ST CHARLES HOTEL—Louis Le Bourgeois, Louisiana; E J Hamilton, city; H C Riley, New York; C H Sinclair, U S Coast Survey; Wm B French, Washington; W D Bangs, St Louis; A W Colwell, New York; Mrs Dr T Meux, Miss Reilly, Miss Reilly, San Francisco; W S Robinson, New York; J Bowling, city; F S Winston, Miss Peck, New York; J J Shaffer and wife, Terrebonne; A B Bonneil, F R Bonneil, Mrs J M Tappen, Jersey City; F H Hamlin and wife, Canandaigua, N Y; H J Delamer, Kingstown, Ireland; D D V Stuart, L W May, U S N; Sam F Bishop, Louisville; J T Watson, Louisiana.

CITY HOTEL—T R Stockdale, Summit; Edmund Brown, steamer Thompson Dean; John P R Stone and wife, Louisiana; B N Simrall, Woodville; H W Clarke, McComb City; Frank Guiteau, Chicago; Sam'l Baker and wife, Ohio; J C Dugan, steamer Eckert; Sam D Winter, St Louis; Frank Wilcox, Mrs Ally Wilcox, Texas; Wm McMahon, Arkansas; C S Scofield, Jamestown; C A Judson, Chas Eisenbach, St Louis; D S Hurlbut, Hazlehurst; P H Durfee, Rhode Island; Mrs H Durfee, New York; Louis Gerstley, Philadelphia; C W Hazleton, Wisconsin; E E Cropper, St. Mary; R B Stille, Louisiana; J C Wise, Alexandria; Wm M Ewell, Evergreen; D W McLeod, Mississippi; Miss Laura Murchison, Athens.

LIST OF VESSELS

Up, Cleared and Sailed for New Orleans.

APRIL 19, 1878.

Domestic.

NEW YORK.

Steamship New Orleans, Dearborn ....sld Apl 13
Steamship Algiers, Hawthorn ....sld Apl 13

BOSTON.

Bark Geo W Sweeny, Hewitt ....sld Mar 25

ROCKLAND, ME.

Schr Julia A Ward, Stevenson ....cld Mar 9

Foreign.

LIVERPOOL.

Steamship Laconia, Earl ....sld Apl 1
Steamship Texas, Laurensen ....sld Mar 23
Ship Grace Gibson, Thompson ....sld Dec 3
Ship Baden Doane ....sld Mar 16
Ship Adorna, Hawkins ....cld Feb 8
Bark Haab, Nordum ....sld Dec 21
Bark Moderato, Modaino ....cld Feb 4
Bark Bengal, Loring ....sld Feb 13
Bark Guiseppe Quinto, Cappelino ....sld Feb 28
Bark Lufra, Lorentsen ....sld Mar 28

BRISTOL

Bark Emmanuele, Cammaria ....sld Mar 21

WESTPORT.

Bark Tren Dubrovachi, Turcenovich sld Mar 16

DUBLIN

Ship Samaria, Patten ....sld Mar 20

HAVRE.

Ship John Watt, Deshon ....sld Apl 10
Ship France Villanoras ....sld Mar 3
Ship Union, Greenleaf ....sld Mar 4
Ship Scioto Mitchell ....sld Mar 28
Bark Nimrod, Gerolimich ....sld Feb 22
Bark Hanne Selmer, Nielsen ....sld Mar 10

NANTES

Bark Elios, Zar ....sld Mar 13

BORDEAUX.

Bark Alphonse et Marie, Privat ....sld Dec 3

DUNKIRK.

Bark Arno, Soppa ....sld Mar 15

BREMEN.

Ship Constantia, Keuhlken ....sld Feb 17

CADIZ.

Bark Geo Kingman, Howes ....sld Feb 20
Schr John Proctor, Doane ....sld Mar 20

MALAGA.

Bark Grant ....sld Mar 8

WELSHANS & WOODS,

GENERAL INSURANCE AGENTS,

188 GRAVIER STREET,

NEW ORLEANS.

"WE HOLD THEE SAFE."

1845 **ROYAL** 1878

INSURANCE COMPANY

—OF—

LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Statement January 1, 1878.

GROSS ASSETS.

Fire and Life $20,326,765 80

LIABILITIES, (Fire and Life.)

Unpaid losses, (Fire)	$249,294 08	
Reinsurance reserve (Fire)	2,929,181 18	
Reinsurance fund and all other liabilities (except capital), under the Life Department	10,510,400 00	
All other liabilities	697,025 11	13,485,900 37
Subscribed capital, $9,651,500, of which there is paid up in cash	$1,447,725 00	
Net fire surplus	5,392,140 43	
Surplus for fire policy holders		6,840,865 43
Gross assets, fire and life, as above		$20,326,765 80
Gross fire assets		$8,870,046 61

The Royal Insurance Company has the Largest Fire surplus of Any Insurance Company in the World.

UNITED STATES BRANCH.

Assets, fire ($2,180,338 75 United States government stocks)	$2,681,892 99
Liabilities, fire, including reinsurance	1,464,085 76
Surplus in United States	$1,217,807 23

Southern Department, Office at Louisville, Ky.—BARBEE & CASTLEMAN, Managers. New Orleans—WELSHANS & WOODS.

STATEMENT

OF THE

GERMAN AMERICAN

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

January 1, 1878.

ASSETS.

United States bonds	$1,342,350 00
Missouri State six per cent bonds	52,500 00
Rochester city water loan bonds—seven per cent	44,000 00
Buffalo city bonds—seven per cent	27,500 00
Yonkers city bonds—seven per cent	23,100 00
Central Pacific first mortgage gold bonds	52,500 00
Union Pacific first mortgage gold bonds	52,250 00
Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific six per cent bonds, first mortgage	53,000 00
New York Central Railroad six per cent bonds	52,000 00
Syracuse, Binghamton and New York Railroad bonds, first mortgage	20,000 00
Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad bonds	8,000 00
New York and Harlem Railroad stock	71,000 00
Loans on call, secured by United States and State bonds	286,200 00
Agency cash in course of transmission	53,801 66
Premiums due on policies, New York office	16,251 12
Cash in banks	187,921 81
Cash in office	2,498 64
	$2,324,942 62
Cash capital	$1,000,000 00
Losses in process of adjustment	99,228 77
Reserve for reinsurance	524,767 34
Commissions, etc	13,450 41
Net surplus	687,496 10
	$2,324,942 71

MERCANTILE

MUTUAL INSURANCE

COMPANY.

NEW YORK, January 24, 1878.

The following statement of the affairs of the Company on the thirty-first of December, 1877 is published in conformity with the provisions of its charter:

Outstanding premiums December 30, 1876		$127,119 83
Premiums received from January 1 to December 31, 1877		1,015,646 69
Total premiums		$1,142,766 52
Premiums earned from January 1 to December