pointment, his identification with the prosecution of infractions of the Prohibitory law brought him prominently before the public, and since taking his seat on the bench he has shown a commendable zeal in his efforts to restrain vice and crime, and has manifested excellent abilities as a Judge. He intends, we believe, to resume the practice of his profession.

SUPREME COURT—SPECIAL TERM—DEC. 30—Before Judge CLERKE.

BAKER TO BE DISCHARGED ON BAIL.

A writ of habeas corpus was allowed this afternoon by Judge Clerke, directing the keeper of the City Prison to have the body of Lewis Baker before him to-morrow morning, together with the time and cause of his imprisonment. Baker's petition simply sets forth the charge on which he is detained, and the fact that he has been twice tried, and that in each case the Jury have disagreed.

Judge Peabody, to whom application was twice made, declined to grant the writ, saying that it would be impossible for him to hear the matter to-morrow. Judge Clerke was quite unwilling to act in the premises, but finally consented, on the representation of the respective counsel that the case would occupy but a few minutes.

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE—DEC. 30.—Before R. E. STILWELL.

An examination took place in the case of four seamen charged with endeavoring to make a revolt and refusing to perform their proper duty, on board the brig Joseph Parks. Benjamin Ryer, Gerard Meyer and Nicholas Brown were discharged; James Robinson was committed for trial.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—SPECIAL TERM—DEC. 30—Before Judge BRADY.
Joseph W. Savage agt. Platt Lewis.

The character of the debtor's estate is such that no stay without security should be granted to the creditors. The appeal will not be dismissed on this motion, and the receiver, if he proceed on appeal pending, must take the consequences of his acts. If the General Term reversed the order made by me, he would be responsible for any appropriation under that order. In the mean time, I see no reason why the reference ordered should not proceed. If the order be reversed by the General Term, the receiver loses the benefit of that proceeding; and if it be affirmed, this matter will, if the referee have reported, be in the condition to be ultimately disposed of.

A stay, for the reasons assigned, will not be granted.
No costs to either party in this motion.

Before Judge DALY.
Columbus Hart agt. William B. Moore.
Order referred to Thomas Boose, esq.
Thomas Campbell agt. The Commissioners of Emigration.
Order directing plaintiff to amend complaint.
David S. Mills agt. The Enterprise Insurance Company.
Motion granted. Judgment to stand as security.
Joseph Thompson agt. Jacob Pecare.
Order of reference to Daniel Walden, esq.
William Tappen, &c., agt. John Barry.
Motion to dismiss proceedings against defendant granted, with $15 costs.

CALENDAR OF THE COURT OF APPEALS.—The following are the thirty-five cases on the Calendar of this Court for the January Term ensuing: 1. David Leavitt, Receiver, &c., agt. Richard M. Blatchford and others. 2. Lewis G. Curtis and others agt. David Leavitt, Receiver, &c. 3. David Leavitt, Receiver, &c., agt. John Lorimer Graham and others. 4. David Holmes and another, Overseers, &c., agt. Avery Brown, Jr., Overseer, &c. 5. Adam Z. Havner, Receiver, &c., agt. Randall James and others. 6. The Village of Corning agt. Cyrus D. Bill. 7. Louisa L. Wright, by her next friend, &c., agt. Frederick S. Talmadge and others. 8. Moses Reeves agt. John Humphrey, 2d, and others. 9 Benjamin M. Kemp agt. Harrison Groff and others. 10. DeWitt C. Stephens agt. Charles Vrooman. 11. Mather Williams agt. The New-York Central Railroad Co. 12. Theodore Sedgwick, Ex'r, &c., agt. Cornelia Ashburner. 13. The Mutual Life Insurance Co. agt. Joseph Jenkins. 14 Catharine Darby, by next friend, &c., agt. Patrick Callaghan. 15. Mutual Life Insurance Co., New York, agt. The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of New-York. 16. James J. Hoyt agt. Gerrit L. Mariense. 17. Gisade Requa and others agt. Nathaniel B. Holmes. 18. The People, ex rel. Sally Chase, agt. Joshua Rathbone. 19. Wm. Rider and another agt. John F. Pond. 20. Russell Cheney and another agt. Welcome Arnold. 21. De Forest Blance agt. The Hudson River Railroad Company. 22. Richard B. Despard agt. Welles D. Walbridge, Executor, and another. 23. David Cadit and another, Executors, &c., agt. Isaac N. Hart, Ex'r, and others. 24. Sidney Sweet and another, survivors, &c., agt. Arnold Gray. 25. Justus Nolton agt. The Western Railroad Co. 26. Nathaniel Reeve and others agt. Hiram Post and others. 27. Jonathan Stevens agt. Corydon H. Merrican. 28 William W. Ransom agt. The New-York and Erie Railroad Co. 29. Philander Bennet agt. The City of Buffalo. 30. Thomas M. Partridge and another agt. Joseph T. Gilbert and others. 31. The Fire Department of the City of New-York agt. James Wright and others. 32. Joseph Sibley agt. Garrett Waffle. 33. Jonathan Havens agt. Julia A. Sackett and another. 34. Silas C. Herring agt. Eliy Hoppock. 35. John E. Robinson agt. Julius Wiley.

MARRIED.

BADE—LAMMERT—On Sunday, Dec 28, by the Rev. John F. Busche, No. 65 Ludlow street, Mr. Claus Bade, from Twielenfleeth, Hanover, to Miss Eliza Lammert, from Lienen, Prussia, both residing in this city.

COMPTON—STIVERS—At Holly Grove Plantation, La., Wm. H. Compton to Miss Amos Stivers.

EARLE—WYVILL—In Brooklyn, on Sunday, Dec. 28, at St. Mark's Church, by the Rev. Francis Peck, John Earle of Falmouth, England, to Harriet E., daughter of the late Wm. Wyvill of Nottingham, England.

FRITH—WATSON—On Monday, Dec. 29, by the Rev. L. H. King, at the Parsonage, No. 176 Duane street, Mr. Joseph H. Frith of the West Indies, to Miss Laura C. Watson of New-York City.

GREELEY—CONN—On Wednesday, Dec. 24, at ½ o'clock p. m., by D. W. Elderkin, esq., of Columbus, N. B. Greeley to Miss Rheusemy Conn, both of Wayne, Erie County, Penn.

GRAHAM—TRAVIS—On Thursday, July, 3, by the Rev. Duncan Dunbar, Mr. John A. Graham to Angeline Travis, eldest daughter of Edward Travis, all of this city.

MERRILL—BUSH—At the residence of D. B. Lent, esq., Poughkeepsie, on Tuesday, Dec. 30, by the Rev. Stephen Bush of Cohoes, Mr. James Merrill of Rome, to Miss Mary Frances Bush.

MURPHY—HARKER—On Thursday, Dec. 18, at St. Peters and St. Paul's Church, Williamsburgh, Mr. John A. Murphy, formerly of Newark, N. J., to Miss Elizabeth C. Harker of the former place.

MATTISON—HERMANCE—On Monday, Dec. 29, by the Rev. C. Hoover, Pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church at the residence of the bride's father, James N. Mattison of Darien, N. Y., to Miss Henrietta E., youngest daughter of Capt. Wm. J. Hermance of Jersey City.

RAMSEY—HANAN—On Sunday, Dec. 28, at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. John S. Ramsey to Eliza Mary, second daughter of John Hanan, esq., all of this city.

SMITH—BRADISH—On Monday, Dec. 29, at St. Mark's Church, by the Rev. Henry Anthon, D. D., Charles Stewart Smith to Eliza, daughter of Wheaton Bradish, all of this city.

VALENTINE—SPICER—On Wednesday evening, Dec. 17, by the Rev. Edward Lathrop, David T. Valentine, esq., to Miss Caroline Matilda, youngest daughter of the late Frances Spicer, esq., all of this city.

WEBB—WENDELL—In Brooklyn, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 23, by the Rev. B. C. Cutler, D. D., Mr. Charles L. Webb to Miss M. Caroline Wendell.

DIED.

BATES—In Brooklyn, on Sunday evening, Dec. 28, Martha R., wife of Joseph T. Bates, aged 36 years and 7 months. Funeral will take place on Wednesday, at 2 p. m., from her late residence, Ryerson street, ninth house north of Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn. Her remains will be conveyed to Greenwood Cemetery.

BRANDENBURG—At Bordeaux, on Sunday, Nov. 30, George D. Brandenburg, formerly a resident of this city.

BLAIR—On Monday, Dec. 29, Margaret, daughter of David and Margaret Blair, aged 2 years and 8 months.

DENNIS—The funeral services of Mr. Stephen A. Dennis will take place at his late residence, No. 276 West Twenty-fifth street, on Wednesday, 31st inst., at 4 o'clock p. m. The friends of the family are invited to attend without further notice. The body will be taken to Troy next day.

DEIGUAN—At the City Hospital, on Monday, Dec. 29, from injuries received at the tunnel at Bergen Hill, N. J., on the 27th November last, Peter Deiguan, a native of the Townland of Killecrevagh, Parish of Killoe, County of Longford, Ireland.

DOHERTY—On Monday, Dec. 29, James Doherty, a native of Buncrana, County Donegal, Ireland, in the 33d year of his age.

EMBREE—In this city, on Tuesday morning, Dec. 30, of a short illness, Clara Embree, in the 5th year of her age. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to the funeral, from the residence of her father, William Johnston, No. 104 Forsyth street, this afternoon at 2½ o'clock, without further invitation.
Wisconsin and Haverstraw papers please copy.

ELLARD—On Monday, Dec 29, Geo. Ellard, aged 70 years.

FOSTER—On Tuesday, Dec. 30, aged 26 years, Lilly Ann, wife of Christopher Foster. The friends and acquaintances of the family and those of his brother Thomas, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, Thirty-seventh street, cor. of Second avenue, this day (Wednesday) at 1 o'clock p. m.

FERRIS—On Monday, Dec. 29, Eliza, wife of Daniel Ferris, aged 35 years.

GOLDSBURY—At Boston, on Saturday, Dec. 27, Mrs. Nancy Goldsbury, wife of the Rev. John Goldsbury, aged 54 years.

GHESTON—At Sherman, Conn., on Monday, Dec. 15, the Rev. Manly Gheston, aged 30 years.

HALLETT—On Monday, Dec. 29, of scarlet fever, Sarah M., daughter of James P. and Sarah M. Hallett, aged 5 years, 8 months and 14 days. The friends and relatives of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral this (Wednesday) afternoon at 2 o'clock, from the residence of her parents, No. 76 Madison street, Greenpoint, Long Island.

HEYER—On Tuesday morning, Dec. 30, Mrs. Jane Heyer, widow of the late Isaac Heyer, in her 81st year. The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral this (Wednesday) afternoon at 3½ o'clock, from her late residence, No. 17 Clinton place.

HUNT—At New Orleans, on Monday, Dec. 22, Col. Thomas F. Hunt, Assistant-Quartermaster-General of the U. S. Army.

HAWLEY—At the residence of the Rev. Peter Gordon, Cambridge, Washington County, N. Y., on Monday, Dec. 22, Grace Adelie, only child of David and Louisa M. Hawley of this city, aged 8 months and 4 days.

JENKINS—At the Village of Oneida Castle, near Utica, on Saturday, Dec. 20, Chas. M. Jenkins, son of the Hon. Timothy Jenkins, aged 26 years.

JAEGER—In Brooklyn, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 24, Flower B., only son of Prof. B. Jaeger, in the 17th year of his age.

JOHNSTON—On Saturday, Dec. 27, Nathaniel H., youngest child of Nathaniel H. and Elizabeth M. Johnston.

KENNEDY—On Monday morning, Dec. 29, of consumption, after a protracted and severe illness, Mrs. Margaret Kennedy of New-Orleans, in the 23d year of her age.

KILDUFF—On Monday Dec. 29, Mary Catherine, wife of Bernard Kilduff, and daughter of the late Thomas Wall of Belfast, Ireland.

KELLEY—On Sunday, Dec. 28, Kate Kelley, daughter of John and Eliza Kelley, aged 3 years, 6 months and 22 days.

KILIAN—On Sunday morning Dec. 28, Phillip Kilian.

LYNCH—On Tuesday night, Dec. 30, at No. 72 President street, Brooklyn, Mary, the beloved wife of Patrick Lynch, formerly of Limerick, Ireland.

LALLY—On Saturday, Dec. 27, Anna Lally, aged 1 year, 9 months and 7 days.

LIBBY—On Tuesday, Dec. 30, at the residence of his brother James S. Libby, in Twenty-second street, Dudly L. Libby of Wolfboro, N. H., aged 53 years.

McCLEES—On Friday, Dec. 26, at Freehold, N. J., at the residence of her nephew, Peter J. McClees, Catherine, daughter of the late Peter McClees of Middletown, N. J.

McALLISTER—On Monday, Dec. 29, at his residence, No. 292 East Nineteenth street, Anthony McAllister, late of Blanchardstown, County Dublin, Ireland.

MEYER—On Saturday, Dec. 27, after a short illness, Eliza Meyer, aged 8 years.

O'BRIEN—On Saturday, Dec. 27, Katey, daughter of Kate and John O'Brien, aged 6 years and 5 days.

O'CONOR—On Monday, Dec. 8, at Havana, of congestion of the lungs, Jane Ann O'Conor, aged 19 years, eldest daughter of Daniel and Jane T. O'Conor.

POWERS—At Boston, suddenly, on Saturday, Dec. 27, Daniel E. Powers, esq. He had retired as usual in good health, but shortly afterward complained of difficulty of breathing, and got up, stating to his wife that he could not live long in that condition. His wife administered some camphor, but he was unable to swallow anything. Alarm was instantly given, and Dr. A. P. Richardson and the Rev. Mr. Miner were immediately summoned, but before they reached the chamber life had become extinct. He had passed away without a struggle, at the advanced age of 81 years.

PLOWMAN—In this city, on Saturday, Dec. 27, William Plowman, only son of John and Ellen Plowman.

PERRY—On Monday, Dec. 29, John William, son of John H. and Amanda M. Perry, aged 4 years, 3 months and 26 days.

QUINN—On Thursday, Dec 25, Mary Quinn, wife of Francis Quinn, a native of the City of Armah, Ireland, in the 46th year of her age.

ROMAINE—On Tuesday morning, Dec. 30 Miss Hilah Romain, in the 71st year of her age. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully requested to attend her funeral from the residence of her sister, Mrs. Margaret Haight, No. 262 Allen street, on Friday, Jan. 2, 1857, at 1 o'clock p. m., without further invitation.

SMITH—In this city, on Tuesday, Dec. 30, of inflammation of the brain, Sandford S., youngest child of Charlotte E. and E. Delafield Smith, aged 2 years and 6 months. The funeral will take place at the residence of the parents, No. 55 East Twenty-fourth street, between Lexington and Fourth avenues, on Friday, Jan. 2, at 10 o'clock a. m.

SPINNING—At New-Orleans, on Monday, Dec. 15, of lockjaw, A. F. Spinning, late of Jersey City, N. J.

VANDUZER—On Monday evening, Dec. 29, of consumption, after a long and protracted illness, which she bore with Christian fortitude and with a hope of a blessed immortality, Charlotte Lavinia, wife of James Vanduzer, aged 25 years. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, without further invitation, on Wednesday, 31st inst., from the M. E. Church, Seventh street, near the Bowery.

WILLIAMS—At Chicago, on Tuesday, Dec. 23, the Hon. Ezekiel Williams. For many years he was one of the Inspectors of the Auburn State Prison. In 1850 he was a candidate of the Workingmen's party, so called, for Governor, running at the same time when Gov. Throup was elected.

WILSON—On Monday Dec. 29, Mary Wilson, aged 82 years.

WHELAN—At Tremont, Westchester County, on Monday, Dec. 29, after a short illness, William Whelan.

YATES—At Liverpool, England, on Monday, Dec. 1, Richard Vaughn Yates, esq., aged 78 years. He was the oldest Magistrate of that place.

COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange....DEC. 30.

10,000 Ohio 6s, 1860	102	10 Erie Railroad	61¼
4,000 Tenn. State 6s, '90	65	650 do	c 61¼
2,000 Virginia 6s	93¾	100 do	stwk 61¼
2,000 do	c 93¾	50 do	s10 61¼
500 Louisiana State 6s	93	100 do	s60 61¼
2,000 Missouri State 6s	b10 89	250 do	b60 62½
1,000 Cala. State 7s, '70	82½	100 do	b60 62½
1,000 Cala. State 7s, '75	79	200 do	61
5,000 do	78	100 do	s10 61¼
10,000 N. Y. Cen. R.R. 6s	85	450 Reading Railroad	86
500 N. Y. Cen. R.R. 7s	99½	650 do	c 86
2,000 Erie R.R. Bds. 1875	94	1200 do	b60 83
2,000 do	94½	100 do	b30 87½
1,000 do	94½	50 Mich. Central R. R	b60 94
1,000 Hud. R. R. 1st M.	86	50 do	b60 94½
2,000 Goshen Branch Bds.	83	300 Mich. So. & N. Ia. R.	c 87½
16,500 Ill. Cen. R.R. Bds.	97½	100 do	c 87½
9,500 do	97½	200 do	88
30,000 do	b10 97½	100 do	b30 89
2,000 Ill. Freel. Bs. wt. pr.	111	100 Panama Railroad	c 97½
5 Bk. State of N. York	105½	50 do	s30 97½
40 American Ex. Bank	114	100 Illinois Cent. R. R.	s30 124
10 Nassau Bank	100	100 do	b30 124½
40 Penn. Coal Co.	b5 400	100 do	c 124½
50 Cumberland Coal Co.	83 17	100 do	c 124½
20 Chicago & Rock Isl. R. R.	94	200 do	s30 124½
64 N. Y. Central R. R.	93¾	15 Cleve. & Toledo R.R.	74½
200 do	b4 93½	200 do	c 74½
150 do	b10 93½	500 do	c 74½
250 do	c 93½	300 do	b30 76
100 do	b30 94	100 Canton Company	22
100 do	b30 94	100 do	b60 22½
31 Clev. Col. & Cin. R.R.	101		

SECOND BOARD.

2,000 Virginia 6s	93	200 Erie Railroad	61¼
20 Park Bank	192	100 do	s10 61¼
76 Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	67	250 do	b60 61¼
300 Cumb. Coal Co.	s30 17	100 do	b3 62
100 Mich. So. & N. Ia. R.R.	b45 89½	100 Reading Railroad	b3 86½
50 Ill. Central Railroad	122½	115 do	87
100 N. Y. Central RR.	b30 94	100 do	b4 87
225 do	94	500 do	b30 88
50 do	s60 93½	100 do	b60 88½
100 do	b30 94½	200 Clev. and Tol. RR.	74½
25 La Crosse & Mil. RR.	74½	9 Chic. & Rock Isl. RR.	94

TUESDAY, Dec. 30—P. M.

The feature of the street to-day was one of the strongest Stock markets we have had in some time, in the face of one of the most stringent Money markets experienced for weeks. The business was not very large, and the demand mostly for buyers' options, but prices were exceedingly firm for nearly all descriptions, although as high as ¼ ⅌ cent is being paid for carrying Stocks over New-Year's Day. At the Second Board the bidding was spirited at advancing prices, and at the close quotations were firmly sustained. Erie was 62, an advance of ¾ ⅌ cent. The receipts up to this morning were $630,000, and the equipage of the Company is fully employed. Reading, 87, which is ¼ better. Central is very firm, closing at 93¾. Panama remains steady at 97½. In Western shares there was a fair business doing at better prices. Rock Island, with only sales of 35 shares, recovered 1 ⅌ cent of the loss of yesterday, closing at 94½. The dividend list of this Company shows about 840 shareholders. Michigan Southern sold at the second Board at 89¾, b45; Toledo improved to 74½@75, and closed firm; Illinois Central was in demand at 122½@122¾, partly in foreign orders. La Crosse sold at 74¾. The new bonds of this Company, with a stock privilege of equal amount attached, are being freely subscribed for by the stockholders, to whom they are first offered at 80. The appearances now indicate that nearly if not quite the entire two millions will be taken. The demand for Illinois Central bonds continues, and with purchases of $55,000, the market advanced to 97¾@97½. Eries are also in demand at advancing rates. Those of 1875 went to 94½. Goshens 83, New-York Central 85½, &c. In State stocks the business is moderate and prices are rather heavy.

The Exchange market closes flat with the bankers free drawers at 8¼@8½ ⅌ cent. Some large bills have been drawn at even lower rates, 8¼@8½ ⅌ cent. First class outside bills have been done at 8@8½ ⅌ cent. The business by this packet has been large, but not by regular remitters, but in settlement of large banking operations. The supply of bills was free. Francs are heavy at 5 23¾@5.20.

Freights are better and more active. To Liverpool, the engagements are: 2,500 bbls. Flour at 2s. @2s. 6d.; 60,000 bushels Grain, mostly Corn, at 6¼@7d.; 1,000 bales Cotton at 3-16d. @7-32d.; 250 bbls. Lard at 25s.; 1,200 boxes Bacon at 25s.; 300 bbls. Pork at 3s. 3d. To London: 2,000 bbls. Flour at 3s.; Grain nominal at 9@9½d.; 250 boxes Bacon at 32s. 6d.; 200 bbls. Lard at 32s. 6d. To Glasgow: The rates are nominal, and but little is offering. To Bordeaux: 8,000 bush. Corn at 22c.; 300 bbls. Flour at $1; 200 bbls. Lard at ¼c. ⅌ lb. To Cadiz: 10,000 bush. Corn at 21c.; 400 bbls. Flour at $1.

The business of the Sub-Treasury was: Receipts, $129,382 75; Payments, $127,492 39, including $51,000 Californ'a Drafts and Checks; Balance, $11,936,416 61.

The Bank of Commerce, has declared a semi-annual dividend of four per cent on the present capital, and sixty-six cents on each scrip share, payable on the 5th of January.

The Market Bank, a semi-annual dividend of four per cent payable January 10.

The Mechanics and Traders Bank Jersey city, has declared a dividend of four per cent on the original, and two per cent on the increase capital stock, payable 5th January.

The Mercantile Bank Hartford, Conn. has declared a dividend of five per cent for past six months, payable January 1st.

The following dividends and interest will be paid at the banking office of Winslow, Lanier & Co., in addition to those mentioned before:

On the Bonds of the City of Pittsburgh and the county of Alleghany issued to the Pittsburgh and Cornellsville Railroad Company, and on the first mortgage bonds of the Indianapolis and Bellefontaine Railroad. The aggregate amount of coupons, &c., paid by this house on the 1st January exceeds a million of dollars.

Messrs. Atwood & Company pay the following interest on the 1st January: Muskingum County Bonds, 7 per cent; Pickaway County Bonds, 7 per cent; Dayton City Bonds, 7 per cent; Janesville City Bonds, 7 per cent; Portsmouth City Bonds, 7 per cent.

The Coupons of the Jersey City Water Loan, due January 1, will be paid at the Continental Bank, New York, or the Mechanics' and Traders' Bank, Jersey City.

Messrs. J. A. Underwood & Son, No. 22 Exchange place, pay the Interest Coupons on the Bonds of the Boston, Concord and Montreal Railroad Company.

The Coupons due January 1, 1857, on the Bonds of the Cities of Hartford and Providence, issued to the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad, will be paid at the office of Messrs. Hoyt, Tillinghast & Co., No. 63 Broadway.

Mr. John Thompson advertises, in another column, first mortgage bonds for sale at a price that will net the investor 10 ⅌ cent ⅌ annum.

The Journal of Commerce says:

"There is a rumor in town, apparently from a respectable source, that Mr. Webster, an Englishman, formerly resident at St. Petersburg, who went out from here to Punta Arenas, via the Isthmus, a little while since was authorized by Commodore Vanderbilt to negotiate a loan in favor of Costa Rica of $500,000—the funds to be used in exterminating Walker from Nicaragua—after which the Commodore is to have the right of transit over the old Nicaragua route."

We hear of the suspension of Mr. J. D. Burgess of Providence, cotton spinner, partly the result of the failure in New-Bedford, previously reported.

Mr. John H. Gourlie was again to-day elected President of the Board of Brokers, by a vote of 85 to 19, and accepted the trust. The election of two Vice-Presidents, who are to be salaried officers, has been postponed twenty days. The election of Mr. Gourlie is a compliment well deserved by his high character and gentlemanly bearing. The Board have done themselves credit in their selection. A rule was passed today, making it obligatory upon members to put up margins on contracts when required. Heretofore, if a party declined to put up a margin when requested, the contract was canceled. Now, the contract holds, and the margin must be put up.

The business of the Clearing-House was $26,632,000

The land sales of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, we learn by telegraph to-day from Chicago, have been in December thus far $650,000.

The demand for money continues very active in stock circles, and extra interest is freely paid for accommodations. In mercantile circles, however, we hear of no stringency. Paper is in fair demand among the discount houses at 9@10 ⅌ cent if of first-class, and an occasional transaction is made at lower figures. Relief is generally looked for by the street after the 1st, prox., but we think the street will be disappointed. Precedent teaches that the money market seldom feels the influence of the large disbursements of the first week of January until about the 20th of that month.

In produce there is a fair business doing. Flour of the low grade, is 5 to 10c. ⅌ bbl. lower, in consequence of the realizing of speculators. Wheat is in moderate demand for shipment. Corn is steady with some parcels going forward from first hands. Pork and Beef are firm and in fair demand. In groceries there is but little doing, but holders are firm. A cargo of Coffee, 6,360 bags, sold on private terms. The circular of Mr. Scott says:

Under the recent advices from Rio and Europe, holders of Rio Coffee have not only refused to make any further concessions in prices, but have rather strengthened in their demands. The business for the past week comprises 7,787 bags at fair prices, including the Brazileiro's cargo, 6,360 bags, one half having been taken on speculation. Other descriptions are is limited request, but prices are steady.

Stock of Rio on the 23d Dec., 1856	75,772
Received since to date, per Emily	4,810
Total	80,582
Shipments and sales for the week estimated at	7,786
Stock of Rio on the 30th day of December, 1856	72,795
Stock of Java Coffee, mats	9,500
Stock of Java Coffee, Government bags	3,800—13,300
Stock of Ceylon Coffee	3,830
Stock of Maracaibo	1,943
Stock of Laguayra	1,050
Stock of St. Domingo	—
Stock of Bahia	5,800
Bags and Mats	98,758

In Cotton there is not much activity to-day, but the market is very firm. Middling is quoted 13@13½c. The stock is estimated at 50,000 bales by Mr. Wright, and 70,000 bales by *The Shipping List*. The sales of the week are 13,000 bales, of which 3,000 were in transitu. The Circular of Mr. Wright for the steamer says:

CROP.—There is no new feature in regard to this matter. The estimates rule below 3,000,000 bales notwithstanding the heavy receipts at the ports. Had the receipts been less excessive so far, very low estimates would have been indulged in, and a dangerous speculation created.

RECEIPTS for the week under review are to the same extent as in the corresponding week last year. The deficit in the total remains, therefore, the same as last week—48,000 bales. Next week will be a large week, as we learn by telegraph from New-Orleans that in that port 75,000 were received, and at Mobile 36,000 bales. The total, however, for all the ports will not materially exceed those of last season, since, during the corresponding week of last year, they were also very heavy. It is improbable that any very marked diminution in receipts will show itself until after the middle of February; at that time, however, a very decided falling off will take place, as compared with last year, for during the eleven weeks following the 13th February, 1856, the receipts into the ports amounted to 1,155,000 bales.

Exports are still delayed; to Great Britain, particularly, the decrease, as compared with last year, being 160,000 bales, and as compared with 1852, 225,000 bales. Next week will show a further considerable deficit, as the clearances reported by telegraph to 27th inst. from New-Orleans are 15,000 bales, and from Mobile 1,000 bales. During the corresponding week of last year, the total from the ports was 53,000 bales. France is getting her full share, the week's exports being 11,000 bales. The Continent of Europe also is securing a fair amount, being for the week 19,000 bales. The stocks on hand are increasing at the ports; as yet no inconvenience has been felt by the accumulation, money being plenty and cheap at New-Orleans, and factors having confidence in a still higher range of prices.

The following is a statement of the movement in Cotton since the 1st of September last, as compared with the previous four years:

	1856.	1855.	1854.	1853.	1852.
Rec. at the Ports	1,341,000	1,389,000	854,000	872,000	1,350,000
Exp'ts to Gt. Britain	281,000	447,000	364,000	243,000	516,000
Exports to France	128,000	168,000	92,000	57,000	81,000
Ex. to other For. P's	83,000	119,000	46,000	50,000	63,000
Total Exports	492,000	734,000	502,000	350,000	655,000
Stock on hand	630,000	564,000	364,000	460,000	562,000

Of which, during the past week, included in the above:

Rec'ts at the Ports	137,000	137,000	70,000	108,000	144,000
Ex. to Great Britain	42,000	32,000	48,000	26,000	66,000
Exports to France	11,000	12,000	7,000	5,000	15,000
Ex. to other For. P's	19,000	11,000	4,000	5,000	12,000
Total Exports	72,000	55,000	59,000	36,000	93,000

RECEIPTS—Decrease at the ports compared with last year, 48,000 bales. EXPORTS—Decrease to Great Britain, 166,000; compared with 1852 225,000; France, 40,000; increase, compared with 1852, 43,000; decrease to other foreign ports, 36,000; increase compared with 1852, 15,000 bales.

The dividends, interest, &c., payable at Boston between the 1st and 12th January amount to $2,700,000, against $2,275,000 in January, 1856. Of the above amount, notwithstanding the depreciation of railroad property in New-England, $950,000 is payable on railroad stocks.

The New-Orleans Bank statement of the latest date is as follows:

	Dec. 13.	Dec. 20.		
Specie	$6,412,471	$3,655,108	Inc.	$253,637
Circulation	8,686,318	8,987,656	Inc.	301,357
Deposits	13,598,842	13,773,991	Dec.	224,851
Short Loans	20,567,796	20,618,358	Inc.	50,562
Exchange	6,148,771	6,409,602	Inc.	360,831
Due distant banks	629,660	1,111,470	Inc.	482,410
Long and Short Loans, Dec. 13				$24,455,947
Long and Short Loans, Dec. 20				24,481,915
Actual increase for the week of loans				$25,968

The receipts of specie at New-Orleans for the week ending Dec. 20, and for the season, have been $82,793
Previously received from the 1st Sept., 1856 777,713
Total receipts since the 1st Sept., 1856 $860,211

The Buffalo Commercial gives the annexed statement of the comparative receipts of Grain, and Flour reduced to Grain, at the port of Buffalo, by lake, during the past six seasons:

	Bushels.
Amount of Grain received in 1856	20,123,667
Amount of Grain received in 1855	19,788,473
Increase	335,194
Amount of Flour in 1856, bbls	1,128,048
Amount of Flour in 1855, bbls	938,761
Increase	189,287
Total amount of Grain, including Flour reduced to Wheat, at five bushels to the barrel 1856	25,753,997
Total amount 1855	24,472,278
Increase	1,281,629
Amounts in 1854—Grain, bush	18,555,455
Flour, bbls	739,756
Total in Grain	22,252,235
Amounts in 1853—Grain, bush	11,073,711
Flour, bbls	975,557
Total in Grain	15,956,526
Amounts in 1852—Grain, bush	13,892,939
Flour, bbls	1,289,513
Total in Grain	20,390,594
Amounts in 1851—Grain, bush	11,449,661
Flour, bbls	1,251,224
Total in Grain	17,740,781
Amounts in 1850—Grain, bush	6,618,004
Flour, bbls	1,083,311
Total in Grain	12,069,559
Difference between 1850 and 1856, or aggregate increase in six years	13,684,348

Buffalo still maintains her position as a great Grain mart, and notwithstanding the diversion of trade from the Erie Canal by competing routes of water and railway transportation, the receipts here are steadily on the increase. The aggregate of Grain received annually exceeds that of any port in the world, so far as any figures yet published indicate. During the past three or four years the increase has not been as rapid as formerly, being since 1852 only about 5,000,000 bushels; whereas, from 1850 to 1852, it was 8,000,000 bushels. The excess of total imports, however, of the past season over those six years since, is 13,600,000 bushels; and this is due alone to Grain unground, the increase in Flour scarcely amounting to a material figure.

In relation to the annexed letter, addressed by the President and Directors of the Panama Railroad Company to the members of the Senate and House of Representatives in reply to the charge contained in the Report of the Postmaster-General, that this Company had endeavored to take advantage of the Government in the conveyance of the mails, *The Journal of Commerce* justly says: "It is temperate in tone, and must convince every impartial reader that the Postmaster-General has misunderstood the position of the Company and the design of its officers, and has thus done them great injustice in his Report. We have been familiar with the facts in relation to the transit of the Isthmus since the difficulty first commenced, and must say that instead of trying to corner the Department, the officers of this Company, who are among the most respectable citizens of New-York, have shown a courtesy and forbearance that should have exempted them from such a charge":

OFFICE OF THE PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1856.

To the Honorable the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned, President and Directors of the Panama Railroad Company of New-York, respectfully represent, that in the Report of the Postmaster-General, accompanying the Message of the President of the United States, submitted to Congress on the 5th inst., a statement is made in relation to the conveyance of the mails of the United States across the Isthmus of Panama calculated to prejudice your Honorable body against the Company we represent, and at a fixed rate of compensation. (Appendix A.)

Prior to December, 1851, the mails of the United States were conveyed across the Isthmus of Panama, under a contract with the Government of New-Granada, at a cost, as stated by the Postmaster-General, of a little over 17 cents per pound. This contract was made by the Government of New-Granada when boats and mules were obtained at very low rates, but the great increase of traffic on the Isthmus in 1850 and 1851 was such that the expenses of transit were enhanced at least threefold; and the Government of New-Granada cheerfully gave up a losing contract. An arrangement was then made between Postmaster-General Hall and the Panama Railroad Company, by which the latter agreed to take charge of the mails on and after December 1, 1851, at the rate of 22 cents per pound. In pursuance of this arrangement, and at the recommendation of the Postmaster-General, a law was passed by Congress authorizing a contract to be made with the Company at a rate not exceeding 22 cents per pound. By all the rules of the Post-Office Department, and by a fair construction of the law, this was intended as an offer of that rate for the service required. At the time the Panama Railroad Company first took charge of the mails, they conveyed them only a few miles by rail, and then, by contract with other parties, had them transported in canoes and on mules. In about one year thereafter the Company had two-thirds of the road in operation, and used mules for the remaining distance. At this time, for the one-third of the route where mules were employed, the Company paid by contract 17 cents per pound; and that over a road in such condition that they spent large sums of money to keep it in a passable state. This continued to January, 1855, when the road was opened from sea to sea. Thus, for more than three years the Company carried the mails, not only without profit, but, if the expenses incurred in improving the mule-road be charged, at a considerable loss.

At the time the contract was made at 22 cents, when the company were in part by canoes and mules, the mails were seldom carried over in less than four days, and sometimes they were delayed weeks. We now carry them over in four hours, and the conveyance is safe and certain. Postmaster-General Hall, in his letter to the President of the Panama Railroad Company, dated March 15, 1851, says: "From the accounts received at the Department of the very inefficient manner in which the service across the Isthmus is performed by the present contractor, under the New-Granadian Government, and of the irregularity and most vexatious delays of the mails, by which large portions of the mails are left on the Isthmus for two or three weeks, resulting in no inconsiderable losses both to individuals and to this Department, I have no doubt that it would be decidedly for the interest of the Government, as well as of all others concerned, to have the services performed regularly and promptly, notwithstanding the expense may be thereby increased." This opinion was communicated to Congress, and led to the authority to contract with the Panama Railroad Company at 22 cents.

Soon after the Railroad was opened from sea to sea, the present Postmaster-General demanded of the Company a reduction of the rate. This was promptly and respectfully declined; and the mails were continued to be sent, as usual, without presenting the accounts for the first quarter's payment thereafter due, the Postmaster-General refused to pay over 18 cents ⅌ lb. The payment was long delayed, and was fin