JAMAICA.

Free Labor—Work and Wages—Vagrancy—The Right of Suffrage—Encouragement to the Small Landholders.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: I have a message to you from several of the honest, hard-working freedmen of Jamaica. We have differed widely in our views as to the possible and probable future of the negroes, but in one point I confess myself a convert: *There is liberal room and mutual profit for both races on this continent.* Ample room to work in harmony of interests for another century at least. But social results, as a whole, must not be judged by local accidents of riot and insubordination any more than the general operations of nature are to be distrusted because of an occasional earthquake or inundation.

No two islands in the Antilles present like social conditions, and yet, I think, a fair valuable opinion cannot well be attained concerning the proper relations of the white man and the negro, without having seen them together—in Slavery and in Freedom—under the varied conditions in force, in Cuba, in St. Domingo, in Hayti and in Jamaica.

In the more prosperous parishes of Jamaica we find almost without exception a class of resident planters—among whom there are many men of mixed blood, though, as a rule, the wealth and enterprise of Jamaica are represented by white men—and the matter to be noted is, that in these more wealthy and thriving districts the blacks are contented and industrious, because, as they say themselves, they "*get work and wages.*" I am speaking not of the larger sugar estates alone, but of the cattle farms (pens they are called here), and of the pimento estates on which a very mixed system of production is seen. The freedmen as a class have not yet acquired the means of managing their little freeholds to the best advantage. They only succeed well where they have intelligent example and employment, earning wages a part of the year; and they look for their work on the nearest large estate. But the owners of these large estates have, unhappily for the well being of Jamaica, left the island, discouraged by the extreme difficulty of securing steady, reliable labor in crop time. Since emancipation and the distribution of lands among the freedmen, none of them will work more than four days of the week for the planters, except on such terms as consume the profits. The chief mischief, however, is that the owner of an acre or two on which his wife and children could raise their food, with but an occasional day's work from himself, was too apt to depend on that alone, and so become idle and demoralized; and of this class were the ringleaders of the Morant riot. The better class of blacks are beginning to feel and complain of the evils of this horde of drones. The depredations of the men who will not work on the land of the men who do, have at last aroused even the careless blacks to ask for laws against vagrancy. Hitherto the Island Legislature has dealt too gingerly with facts that their voting black constituents chose to ignore. In this awakening is the dawn of a better day for the industrial interests of Jamaica, and the statement of this fact leads me to the first installment of my message to you.

Three-fourths of the moral population of Jamaica—and I believe I may add nine-tenths of the most respectable blacks—would prefer the certainty of regular work at fair wages to the right of voting. You may meet this stubborn fact with what "theories of *ought* and *should*" you please, but it is a fact, nevertheless, that the elective franchise represents to the ignorant black—not that ignorance is of any particular color—two shillings and as much rum as they choose to drink on election day, at the expense of the candidates. The most worthy and intelligent blacks I have met seldom or ever use their right to vote, not thinking it worth the cost of the register tax. If a candidate has so much need of their votes as to pay the expense of bringing them to the polls, the longest purse would be sure of a majority; but that sense of the parity of elections is not confined to negro constituencies. Old Rider Kinghorn says to you that 200 numbers a month of *The Freedman* (published by the Boston Tract Society) for their evening reading classes would be worth more to the decent working blacks of St. Catherines than all the voting they have done since emancipation. "Tell our kind white friends to help us get something good for our work and send us some nice Sunday School books," said another black class-leader. This one is a Wesleyan Kinghorn a Baptist, but both were born slaves, and both are above the average intelligence of their class. "We want to better ourselves and our children, and the white folks can show us how to bring it about. When the white planters raised sugar and coffee and pimento and ginger they got rich on it, but we blacks don't."

This is what the freedmen of Jamaica, Hayti and St. Domingo want to learn. This is what the steady old members of two different religious organizations in one parish appeal to you directly to say to the men of the North. "Teach us how to make our labor more available." This is the true lever for the elevation of the blacks.

Jamaica lands are cheap enough, and are known to be eminently rich and varied in their productions. Some of them—the tonic pimento cordial and pimento sirup, for example—are almost peculiar to the island. Jamaica ginger is equal to the best in the world. Oranges and lemons are in some parishes so abundant that they are left by hundreds of bushels to waste ungathered, though orange cordial and the delicate orange wine—which scores of negro families make of the pure juice of the fruit, without the addition of a single drop of alcoholic spirits—would be highly appreciated if properly known at the North. Whoever buys a jar of preserved ginger or a bottle of pimento sirup contributes not only to the present support of the freedmen of our American islands, but to the future elevation of the race. It is a passion with the negroes to imitate the manners and to educate their children in all the learning of the whites. Help them forward in their social progress with the right school books and periodicals; encourage industry by showing them the happy results of steady effort, and then a few years will decide whether they are capable of self-government.

At all events, I cannot accept the idea that the blacks should be set up—or shut up—somewhere by themselves, or that they and the whites are of necessity antagonistic in interest. The negroes are the working capital, the strongest producing element in the largest and fairest portion of the habitable earth devoted to enlightened cultivation, and they cannot be spared from it. What would become of the magnificent belt extending 32 degrees each side of the equator, if the working Indians and Africans were suddenly to disappear therefrom? Their presence, under conditions that will keep them safe, systematic and contented producers; and Christian justice demands that they shall have their fair place in the ranks of social progress. Is there not then, that kindly wisdom in the two cities of New-York and Boston to aid in the solution of this open problem in this near and favorable field of Jamaica? Are there no half-dozen of your merchant princes, knowing so well how to do the work, who would unite their efforts to bring the most precious products of freedmen's labor to the knowledge and use of the millions of willing consumers in the United States?

Until the free blacks of Jamaica and Santo Domingo far more fully have learned one way for themselves, the capital, education, and enlarged experience of the whites is as necessary to them as their labor is to the planter, and there is no reason why free labor should not be as profitable in those islands as it is in New-England. In fact, it is even now more so in Jamaica, as the statistics of a few well managed estates will prove, when the data are forwarded to you, as parties here have proposed; but it is not of, or for them, but in behalf of the ginger, pimento, and fruits of the small fields of the black landholders, that this message is specially directed to you. C. MONTGOMERY.

St. Catherine's Parish, Jamaica, Feb. 14, 1866.

FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

Planting Prospects—Things Working Smoothly in the Courts—Case of the Steamboat Butler—The Cholera Quarantine—Marine Disaster and Suicide.

NEW-ORLEANS, Thursday, March 22, 1866.

Planting is going on rapidly in Louisiana. Sugar and corn is all planted.

The Louisiana and Texas District Courts are easy upon debtors, and prosecutions are few. Important cases of prosecutions for non-inscription of mortgages during the late war are being argued. The case of Mrs. Dr. Scott of Nashville, before the Baton Rouge District Court, has been concluded, but not decided.

The steamboat Butler, which was seized at Shreveport on account of the murder on board of negro soldiers, has been released by Gen. Canby, but 30 of the crew have been detained. All feeling between the people and negro troops on the Red River is believed to have subsided.

Cholera quarantine will be removed from West India and Mexican shipping. The Florida and coastwise shipping has already been relieved. There is no cholera on the Gulf or on the Spanish main.

The brig Ocean Wave from the south coast of Cuba for New-York put in here leaking badly. The Captain had committed suicide.

The Cotton Thieves Breaking up the Cotton Business.

SHREVEPORT, La., Wednesday, March 14, 1866, via NEW-ORLEANS, March 22.

The movement of cotton is very slow. Boats are leaving without taking any cargoes. Cotton agents and thieves are prowling about the plantations, and planters are selling their cotton to them at very low rates for fear it will be seized unlawfully by them.

Several commissions have been sent to Washington to get cotton seized by the cotton agents released. Some of these commissions have been successful and others not.

This cotton thieving has broken up all business.

MARINE DISASTERS.

Loss by Fire of the General Hooker—A Bridal Party on Board—Drowning of a Young Lady.

CHARLESTON, Wednesday, March 21, 1866.

The steamer Gen. Hooker, a fine side-wheel vessel, formerly a Government transport, and lately a regular packet, running between Charleston, Georgetown, and Savannah, was burned at sea to-day—about 30 miles out. There were a number of Philadelphians on board, including Mr. David Risley and bride, who were lately married in Philadelphia and were on their bridal tour to reside at Georgetown, South Carolina. He was accompanied by his two sisters, Miss Josie Risley and Miss Belle Risley, late residents of No. 1,616 Spruce-st. The last-named young lady was lost. All the effects of Mr. Risley, including valuable bridal presents, were lost. The rest of the party are safe here.

It is not known exactly how the fire occurred, but it is believed to have broken out first in the furnace room.

A Large Vessel Ashore.

BOSTON, Friday, March 23, 1866.

The steamer Cleopatra, from New-Orleans, arrived to-day. She reports that when thirty miles north of Carysfoot Light she saw a large square-rigged vessel ashore, which, apparently, had just gone on. She was surrounded by wreckers.

TEXAS.

Proceedings of the State Convention—An Address to the President—Relief for the Widow of the Late Gov. Houston.

GALVESTON, Texas, Tuesday, March 20, 1866.

There is little of public interest to report today.

In the Texas State Convention a Committee of Nine has been appointed to prepare an address to President Johnson.

A proposition was also offered by Mr. Barnett of Union County to pay the widow of Gen. Houston the full salary he would have received as Governor, for the full term from the time he was dismissed by the Secession Convention.

Appointments by the Governor.

The following appointments of Notaries Public have been made by and with the consent of the Senate:

ALBANY.—John C. Nott, Bethlehem Center; Theodore Papen, Henry G. Radcliffe, Albany.

CATTARAUGUS.—Alexander Sterns, Hinsdale; Lemuel S. Jenks, Gowanda.

CHENANGO.—Henry A. Clark, Bainbridge; Dwight H. Clark, Oxford; John R. Juliand, Greene.

CLINTON.—Michael P. Ryers of Plattsburgh.

COLUMBIA.—Philip Rockfeller, Germantown.

ERIE.—Peter J. Donw, Philip Miller, Nicholas Ottenot, John P. Greisen, William F. Beaman, Augustus Paul, Francis A. Georger, Buffalo.

FRANKLIN.—Alonzo P. Richey, William P. Cartwell, Horace A. Taylor, Malone; William J. Conger, Moira; Eugene Wilbur, Chateaugay.

GENESSEE.—William Y. Bryan, Batavia; Edward H. Parmelee, Bergen.

GREENE.—A. C. Griswold, Augustus Sherman, Catskill.

HERKIMER.—Watts T. Loomis, Little Falls.

JEFFERSON.—Louis C. Greenleaf of Watertown.

KINGS.—Frederick W. Burke, Theodore Hinsdale, Alonzo P. McMullen, John K. Oakley, Jared Sparks, William H. Bishop, William H. Tigney, Michael J. Higgins, Pardon W. Kenyon, Peter J. Ostrander, James H. Platt, Edmund Terry, Robert P. Lee of Brooklyn; Daniel Doneran, Rabbard Hendrickson of Williamsburgh; Charles W. Cossiture of Brooklyn.

MADISON.—Charles Stebbins, Jr., Canaovia; Samuel L. Conde, Geo. Kellogg, Chittenango; Edward H. Spooner, J. Newton Messenger, Oneida; Gerrit A. Forbes, Clarksville, L. Byron Chapman, Canastota.

NEW-YORK—Emmor R. Adams, T. G. Glaubensklee, Henry Snell, Daniel W. Baldwin, Frederick Foster, Stephen H. Maitland, J. Raymond Smith, Theodore M. Tutehill, Chester A. Arthur, Edward P. Clark, Sturges M. Moorehouse, John D. Macgregor, Edward E. Cowles, Edward M. Bodine, Julius J. Lyons, Joseph T. Webster, George W. Cobes, Herbert G. Hall, W. A. Neeshke, Albert G. Thorp, jr., Alfred Wagstaff, jr., Andrew B. Chabners, Gilbert I. King, Emile B. Morel, A. V. W. Van Vechten.

NIAGARA—James W. Reed, Stephen W. Lockwood of Lockport.

ONEIDA—Henry M. Alexworth of Bridgewater; Le Roy Crawford of Rooseville; L. Parsons Bissell of Clinton; Colvin A. Bodlong, Edmund B. Graham, George R. Thomas, John A. Goodsle, Eugene Stearns of Utica; Theodore Avery of Clinton; Wm. B. Goodwin of Waterville; Everett Case of Vernon; Moulton M. Berrison of Rome; George W. Begg of Cassville; Harman G. Utley, Zaccheus Hill of Rome; Henry Farman of Knox Corners.

ONONDAGA.—Richard Raynor of Syracuse.

ONTARIO.—Andrew J. Hagner of Clifton Springs, Henry C. Schell, Thomas Raines, Willis P. Hake of Geneva.

ORANGE.—William M. Murray of Goshen, Mahlon Cooper of Warwick.

OTSEGO.—Stephen Holden of Cherry Valley, Marcus M. Wells of Hartwick.

RENSSELAER.—Aiveh Traver of Troy, Hastings Kellogg of Nassau, John A. Stover of Lansingburgh.

SARATOGA.—John Peck of Saratoga.

SCHENECTADY.—Henry A. Dorn of Schenectady.

SCHOHARIE—John Van Schaick of Cobleskill; William E. Richtmyer of Conesville; P. P. Martin of North Blenheim; James Harroway of Richmondville; John Gebhard, jr., of Schoharie; Lewis H. Jackson of Sharon Springs.

SENECA—Norman H. Becker, William Burroughs of Seneca Falls.

TOMPKINS—Edward I. Moore of Ithaca.

ULSTER—Peter M. Gillespy of Saugerties.

WESTCHESTER—Israel A. Haight of Chappaqua.

WYOMING—Abraham P. Shenk of Pike.

YATES—James V. Van Alen of Penn Yan; Oliver P. Guthrie of Potter; Aaron McLane of West Dryden; Levi E. Morey of Middlesex.

Real Estate Sales.

The following sales of Real Estate were made yesterday by Muller, Wilkins & Co.—Forty-first-st., houses and lots Nos. 86, 88 and 90, west, lots 15 by 98.9, $4,125 each.

One-hundred-and-forty-eighth-st.—One lot south side, 218 feet west of Eighth-ave., 46 by 99.11, $265; three lots adjoining above, each 25 by 98.9, $165 each.

Eighty-second-st.—Three lots south side, 100 feet east of Second-ave., each 25 by 102.2, $1,025 each; two lots north side, 150 east of Second-ave., each 25 by 102.2, $1,010 each; two lots adjoining last, same size, $960 each; one lot, south side, 375 feet east of Second-ave., 25 by 102.2, $800; six lots adjoining above, same size, $870 each.

Avenue A.—Two lots north-east corner of Eighty-second-st., each 25.6 by 98 feet, $950 each.

First-ave.—One lot south-east corner of Eighty-second-st., 25.8 by 106.6 feet, $1,305; one lot adjoining above, same size, $875.

Eighty-second-st.—Five lots, south side, 206 feet east of First-ave., each 25 by 102.2 feet, $600 each.

By A. J. Bleecker, Son & Co.—Fifty-eighth-st.—One lot, north side, 325 west of Eighth-ave., 25 by 100, $3,675.

Seventy-seventh-st.—Two lots, north side, 400 west of Third-ave., each 25x1[illegible]-block, each $2,100.

Seventy-eighth-st.—Two lots, south side, 400 west of Third-ave., each 25x1[illegible]-block, each $2,100.

One-hundred-and-twenty-second-st.—House and two lots, south side, 90 feet east of Fourth-ave., each lot 25x100, house 22x36, $4,700.

The Alleged Frauds in Distilling.

In the U. S. Commissioner's Office, before Commissioner Betts, yesterday, a motion was made in these cases by Mr. Hall, on behalf of the accused, to dismiss the complaint, on the ground that the statute did not include the case here charged—that of procuring the brand of an inspector.

Mr. Courtney opposed the motion, and, after an argument of some length, the Commissioner suspended his decision and proceeded with the examination.

Mr. Dittenhoefer, for the accused, demanded that Mr. Primrose, the person on whose affidavit the arrests had been made, be produced.

Mr. Courtney objected that it was not necessary; the prosecution had the right to call the evidence in the order they might select.

The Commissioner ruled that they might do so.

Mr. Dittenhoefer—We ask that you will direct that Mr. Primrose be produced at some time during the examination; the defense believed that he had within his knowledge facts of importance to them, at the same time that it was not right to compel them to produce him.

The Commissioner—You can make that motion at any time.

The prosecution then took up the case of The United States agt. Simon Donan first, and the following evidence was given:

Edward Piatt, sworn, testified: Am an inspector of liquors; Donan asked witness to go to No. 349 Pearl-st. to examine some whisky, and guaranteed that witness should receive $50,000 by this fraud; whisky, knows that some whisky went from a distillery in Seventeenth-st. to No. 349 Pearl-st., probably 200 barrels; saw the whisky in Pearl-st.; witness went to Pearl-st. upon a request to inspect the liquor; the whisky was taken from the distillery in Seventeenth-st. at various times; there were no brands on the barrels; Donan asked witness to examine the whisky; witness inspected from the 21st of January up to week before last about 500 barrels of whisky in Pearl-st.; Donan told witness that the tax on this whisky had not been paid; Donan said if the whisky was inspected in witness's district it would pass; this is the 3d collection district; witness examined the whisky in Pearl-st. and determined its quality; witness gauged the barrels, took the bondage, drew Donan's attention that the liquor was yet warm; Donan said it was fresh drawn; Donan paid witness some money for examining this whisky; $100 was given witness; when Donan gave witness the $100 he did so for inspecting the stuff and not reporting to the Government; witness made a city return of it, not a Government return of it; after witness had placed his inspection mark and brand upon the whisky it would pass to purchasers in the community; witness marked upon the casks the quantity and proof of the liquors; witness sent his man to get the Government brand, and the man brought up the brand of 1866, and Donan took the brand from the man; the casks were branded in witness's presence; the brand was regular in its form; Donan's man did the branding; witness made a return of inspection to Donan; the return was made and signed by R. Pratt & Co.; about 500 barrels had been inspected by witness; all of the same brand whisky; never had the brand in witness's possession after Donan had it; Donan said it was up to his factory; Donan said he would take the brand up town and brand the whisky there, which would save him the trouble of doing the branding down in Pearl-st., and that when he had got done with it he would return it to witness; Donan had paid witness three times $100 each and one time $50 for the use of the brand; this occurred since Jan. 26 inst.; Donan never returned the brand to witness, and witness does not know where it is now, and has not seen it since it was taken up to the Thirty-ninth-st. distillery; witness had seen barrels in a Fourteenth-st. rectifying establishment with witness's brand on, which witness had not put on; Donan said he had a private interest in a distillery in Thirty-ninth-st., and also in Fourteenth-st.

Mr. Courtney said he desired to show that this whisky, branded as described by witness, had passed into commercial circles as being branded bona fide.

The examination was then adjourned to Saturday morning, at 11 o'clock.

FIRE IN READE-ST.—At 9 o'clock on Friday morning a fire broke out on the 5th floor of the premises No. 143 Reade-st., occupied by David T. Dunn, paper-bag manufacturer. His loss on stock will amount to about $1,000; insured for $2,000 in the Croton and other companies. The building was damaged to the amount of $500; insured for $10,000 in the Greenwich Company. The fire is supposed to have taken from the boiler of the engine on the 5th floor.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT—MARCH 23.—Before Justice JAMES.

David Levy and Joseph Seligsberg agt. Moses Barrett.—The plaintiffs sued for a balance of $761 35, which they claimed to be due from the defendant. He set up the delivery to them of 25,000 cigars, worth $17 per M. for which they had allowed him but $8 per M. and of two kegs of tobacco, valued at $150, for which they allowed him but $64. They claimed that the tobacco was of an inferior character to that which he purported to deliver. The evidence was very conflicting.

The jury, after being out over two hours, brought in a verdict allowing the defendant the whole deduction claimed.

Rauhaus, Frank and Wilkonson for plaintiff; Coudert Brothers for Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT—SPECIAL TERM—MARCH 23.—Before Justice BARNARD.

John H. McCabe agt. William Caldwell, et. al.—Motion granted.

Henry Vose agt. H. Gibbons.—Motion for injunction decided, with costs.

William Leverhagh against Amos L. Hatfield.—Motion denied.

John S. Hanna agt. The Empire City Oil Company.—Judgment for plaintiff.

Frederick Diez agt. Chester Lamb.—Motion denied.

Before Justice MCCUNN.

Humphrey H. Swift agt. John E. Wylie.—Exceptions to referee's report sustained.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—MARCH 23.—Before Justice BARNARD.

DECISIONS.

Levi Morris agt. Moses Garfunkle, &c.—Motion denied.

Eugene S. Lynch agt. James Bryon.—Motion granted.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—SPECIAL TERM—MARCH 23. Before Judge CARDOZO.

Finch agt. Van Duser.—Motion denied, with $5 costs, to abide event, and with leave to remain, &c., &c.

A Card.

Wilson and others agt. Morgan and others.

In the report of this case it would seem that we are presented as intending to avail of the "legal tender" law to avoid the payment in gold of a contract payable in gold.

Whatever may have been the technicalities presented on the trial, it was never our intention to avail of any defense to an obligation fairly made, to discharge it otherwise than according to its letter, payable in gold—meaning to be paid in gold coin of its full value according to its face.

Of course, the controversy was on the fairness of the contract as made; if that shall appear to be established, we shall assume its full value in gold dollars, without reference to any legal decision upon any other point. E. D. MORGAN & Co.

Receipts of Produce.

MARCH 23.—13,888 bbls. Flour, 250 bbls. Whisky, 170 bbls. Corn Meal, 2,163 sacks Corn Meal, 900 bush. Wheat, 4,825 bush. Corn, 4,300 bush. Oats, 467 bush. Rye, 3,978 bush. Malt, 266 bush. Seeds, 14 pkgs. Ashes, 361 pkgs. Beef, 686 bbls. Pork, 1,847 pkgs. Cut Meats, 222 pkgs. Lard, 1,154 bbls. Petroleum.

COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—March 23.

C.S.6s 1881,coup	Ocean Bank.	Clev. & Pitts.
10,000.....104¼	20.....96	100.....81¼
U. S. 6s, 5-20c,'62	Chatham Bank.	2,700.....81¼
2,000.....103¾	40.....135	500.2d call.81¼
U.S. 6s, 1881,reg	Continental B'k.	500.....81¼
1,000.....104¾	5.....97	1,500.....81¼
U.S.5s,10-40 cou.	Amer. Ex.Bank.	1,200.....81¼
1,000.....90¾	40.....113	Chicago & N.W.
Treasury 7 3-10s,	Bank Commerce	400.....27¼
1st series.	40.....105	200.....27¼
500.....100	West.Union Tel.	Chic.& NW.pref
2d series.	200.....63	400.....56¼
5,000.....100	100.....62¾	200.....56¾
3d series.	10.....62	200.....56
75,000.....99¾	Del. & H. Canal.	600.....56¾
1,500.smll. 99¾	100.....134	100.2d call. 56¾
U.S.6s1 yr.c.new	10.2d call..133¾	100.....s10. 56¾
2,000.....99¾	Wilk'sBarre Coal	100.....56¾
N.Y.State 6s,'72	50.....52	200.....57
10,000.....93	300.2d call. 50	Cleve. & Toledo.
Virginia 6s.	Quicksilver.	200.....111¼
3,000.....66	100.....40¾	400.....111
10,000.2dc. 66	100.2d call. 40¾	Chicago & R. I.
N. Carolina 6s.	N. Y. Central.	500.....118
10,000.....84	100.....47¼	200.....117¼
9000.2d call 84	Canton.	800.....117
Missouri 6s.	50.....93	70.....116
1,000.....74	200.....93¼	200.2d call. 118
Tennessee 6s 90.	600.....93¼	200.....s15. 118
5,000.....91¼	Erie.	100.....s60. 116
N.Y. 7s, B'tyL'n	500.....81¼	100.....s30. 116¼
10,000.....99¾	200.2d call. 81¼	100.....118¾
Ohio & Miss.cer.	Hudson River.	16.....116
5,000.....26¼	100.....b10.108¾	P., Ft. W. & Chic.
10,000.b10. 26¼	Reading.	300.....93
5,000.2d c. 26¼	700.....101¼	100.....s15. 92¾
5000...b30. 26¼	500.....102	100.....92¾
Hud. R. 2d s.f.b.	200.2d call. 102	700.....92¾
2,000.....101	600.....s10. 102	300.2d call. 92¾
3,000.....101¼	200.....102¼	Morris & Essex.
Mich. So. s. f. b.	500.....s30. 101¾	100.....89
1,000.....95	Mich.So. & N.I.	Alton & T.Haute
D., L. & W. 2 m.	1,000.....82¾	100.....31¼
500.....99	1,200 2d c.. 83	Alton & T.H.pref
1,000.....100	200.....82¾	100.....s30. 46¼
Pitts.FW.& C. 1	Illinois Central.	Chicago & Alton.
1,500.....99	200.....117	5.....88
Pitts.F W.& C.3	Mil. & St. Paul.	100..2dc... 87
10,000.....80	50.....45	

1 O'CLOCK BOARD.

U.S. 5s 10-40 cou	Reading.	Cleve. & Pitts.
1,000.....90¾	1,700.....102¼	400.....81
N. Y. Central.	Mich. So. & N.I.	Chi. & N.W. prf
100.....93¼	100.....81¼	1,500.....57¼
Erie.	300.....s30. 81	300.....57¼
500.....82¾	100.....83¼	Pitts.Ft.W.& C.
Hudson River.	500.....83	100.....92¾
400.....109		200.....92¾

2 O'CLOCK BOARD.

U. S. 6s, 1881, cp.	Pacific Mail.	Mich. So. & N. I.
10,000.....104¼	50.....210	100.....82¾
U.S. 6s,5-20c, '62	5.....205	Cleve. & Pitts.
50,000.....103¾	N. Y. Central.	200.....b30. 81
U.S. 6s,5-20c.,'64	1,000.....93	100.....80¾
20,000.....103¾	Erie.	Chicago & N.W.
U.S. 5s, 10-40 cp.	200.....81¼	300.....27¼
1,000.....90¾	200.....81¼	Chic.& N.W.prf.
Treasury 7 3-10s,	100.2d call. 81¼	600.....57
1st series.	100.....81¼	200.....56¾
500.....100	Hudson River.	900.....s30. 56¾
2d series.	100.....b20. 109	500.....56¾
10,000.....99¾	200.....109	Cleve. & Toledo.
Canton.	100.....s10. 109	300.....110¾
100.....47¼	100.....b10. 109	Chicago & R. I.
Quicksilver.	100.....b15. 109	100.....117¼
300.....40¾	200.....108¾	100.....117¼
Mariposa.	200.....s15. 108¾	P. F W & Chicago
200.....12¾	Reading.	300.....92¾
Cumberland prf.	200.....101¼	100.....92¾
50.....44¼	500.....102	Alt. & T. H. pref
West. Un. Tel.	900.....s30. 101¼	100.....b15. 67
100.....62¼	200.....s10. 101¼	Chi. & Alton.
		100.....87

OPEN BOARD OF BROKERS—1 P. M.

Cumberland.	Hudson River.	Mich. So. & N.I.
100.....44¼	300.....108¾	200.....83
Spruce Hill.	200.....b10. 108¾	2,100.....83
400.....4¾	500.....b3. 108¾	2,000.....s3. 82¾
100.....b3. 4¾	Chicago & N.W.	400.....s3. 82¾
100.....4¾	100.....s3. 27¼	300.....c. 82¾
100.....b3. 4¾	100.....27¼	600.....c. 82¾
N. Y. Central.	Chicago & R.I.	600.....82¾
300.....93¾	200.....b3. 117¼	600.....82¾
100.....93¾	200.....117¼	400.....s3. 82¾
Erie.	Cleve. & Pitts	500.....82¾
800.....82¾	200.....80¾	400.....b3. 82¾
700.....s3. 82¾	400.....b3. 80¾	500.....82¾
200.....b3. 82¾	200.....s3. 80¾	200.....s3. 82¾
500.....s3. 82¾	600.....s3. 80¾	1,500.....82¾
Reading.	1,200.....80¾	2,100.....s3. 82¾
200.....109¾	1,100.....c. 80¾	200.....82¾
600.....b3. 109¾	Mich.So. & N.I.	3,100.....82¾
Chic & N.W.prf.	500.....s3. 83	500.....s3. 82¾
600.....57¼	400.....c. 83	Cleve. & Toledo.
200...b10. 57¼	200.....83	200.....110¾

OPEN BOARD OF BROKERS—3½ P.M.

Canton.	Mich.So.& N.I.	Cleve. & Pitts.
100.....s30. 47¼	1,300.....82¾	200.....80¾
Spruce Hill.	600.....82	400.....b3. 80¾
200.....s3. 4¾	400.....82¾	400.....80¾
200.....b3. 4¾	200.....82¾	400.....80¾
200.....4¾	200.....s3. 81¼	Chic.& N.W.pref.
200.....b3. 4¾	100.....s3. 81¼	100.....56¾
Erie.	1,700.....81¼	200.....b3. 56¾
100.....81¼	700.....81¼	200.....s3. 56¾
200.....81¼	400.....81¼	200.....56¾
200.....s3. 81¼	200.....b3. 81¼	800.....56¾
1,000.....81¼	200.....s3. 81¼	Pitts.Ft.W.&C.
Hudson River.	1400.....81¼	200.....92¾
200.....109¾	200.....81¼	
	Reading.	
	1,400.....100¾	

FRIDAY, March 23—P. M.

Gold closed at 126¼@126¾, after selling as high as 128¾.

Government stocks continue firm and are not in large supply upon the street. At the counters of dealers nothing in the way of 7.30s can be had under par, and for 1st series ¼ premium is asked. Border State stocks are strong, with moderate sales. Railroad bonds are firmer. The general share market is stronger and higher, and in special cases quite a large advance has been paid, Rock Island rising 4¾ per cent. Cleveland & Pittsburgh is firm under an impression that the Fort Wayne road will, at an early day, make a perpetual lease of the road at a rental of 8 per cent on the stock. Hudson River was firm under the approach of dividend day, and continued large traffic. Fort Wayne is strong and sold as high as 93. At the Second Board the extreme prices of the street were not sustained, but the market was firm. At the closing session of the Public Board and afterward upon the street prices were lower and upon the active list closed as follows: Canton, 47¼@47½; Cumberland Coal, 44@45; New-York Central, 92¾@93; Erie, 81¼@81½; Hudson River, 109¼@109¾; Reading, 101¼@101½; Michigan Central, 102@104; Michigan Southern, 81¼@81½.

Money is easy at 5@6 per cent, and at the lower rate balances cannot be readily loaned. Commercial paper sells at 6¼@7½ for best, 8@9 for good, and 10@15 for ordinary. The delay of Congress upon the Funding bill increases the supply of money on call, and gives new confidence to speculators for an advance.

Sterling Exchange is not firm, and leading names are quoted 107½ for 60 days; Francs, 5.27½@5.25 for long, and 5.22½@5.21½ for short.

The business of the Sub-Treasury was: Receipts, $1,007,912 65—for Customs, $512,000; Payments, $1,013,289 95—on account of Loan, $81,000; Balance, $86,432,449 02; Coin certificates, $39,000.

In Freights the engagements to Liverpool are 1,000 bales Cotton at 5-16@⅜d.; 14,000 bush. Corn at 4½d., and per steamer, 21,000 bush. Corn at 5@5½d., 1,000 bales Cotton at ⅜d. and 600 tcs. Beef at 4s. To London, 35,000 bush. Oats at 6½d.

The following is a statement of the foreign imports at New-York for the month of January, made up from official returns:

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Ent'd for cons'n...	$12,422,618	$5,217,495	$18,506,716
Ent'd for wareh'g.	5,571,936	4,510,225	10,241,576
Free goods.....	841,050	840,129	1,238,757
Specie and bullion	141,790	52,268	72,771
Total ent. at p't..	$18,977,394	$10,620,117	$30,109,820
Wd'n fm. wh'se..	4,950,418	5,653,554	7,424,385

The imports for the seven months ending Jan. 31, compare as follows:

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Ent'd for cons'm..	$75,422,017	$34,171,617	$108,898,483
Do. for wareh'ing.	24,297,306	48,905,228	56,171,009
Free goods.....	5,092,744	6,419,617	6,625,882
Specie and bullion	817,833	890,876	1,144,229
Tot. ent'd at port	$115,585,900	$89,387,338	$172,840,197
Withd'n fm wh's.	35,206,654	40,294,595	46,321,906

The receipts for customs during the same period compare as follows:

Six mos. en'g	1864.	1865.	1866.
January 1....	$25,042,576 45	$24,473,902 73	$65,077,328 37
In January.	6,180,336 09	4,231,737 47	12,437,474 16
Total seven months...	$31,223,512 54	$28,705,640 20	$77,514,803 03

The exports to foreign ports during January compare as follows:

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Dom. produce...	$11,413,953	$16,023,621	$19,784,997
For'n mdse. free.	42,222	165,421	38,301
For'n dutiable...	864,485	139,556	284,909
Specie and bul'n.	5,439,079	3,184,853	2,706,336
Total exports...	$17,609,749	$19,746,451	$22,814,543
Tot.exl. of sp'ce.	12,170,670	16,561,598	20,108,207

For the seven months ending Jan. 31, the export movement compares thus:

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Dom. produce..	$87,899,942	$132,492,698	$125,883,684
For. free mdse.	523,093	1,189,214	342,149
For. dutiable...	2,776,969	14,124,796	1,582,297
Spe'e and bul'n.	34,581,178	24,856,353	14,794,260
Total exports...	$125,781,182	$173,366,051	$142,602,381
Total exclusive of specie.....	91,200,004	148,507,698	127,808,121

The Chicago Tribune of Wednesday makes the following statement in relation to the Express Companies of the North:

The Trustees of the National Bankers' Express Company are to meet in New-York on the 27th inst., to determine finally upon the proposed consolidation. This is a matter of considerable interest, not only to the stockholders but to the public. If what we have heard of the terms acceded to by the Executive Committee of the National Bankers' Express Company be true, it is a matter of grave doubt in our minds whether the contract should be approved.

It is proposed, we understand, to call in fifty per cent on the stock of the Company *in cash*, thus making $5,000,000. The other express companies contribute an equal amount in property, that is, in real estate, horses, wagons, safes, furniture, carpet bags, &c., &c., now in use by them. The consolidation, if approved, is to take effect on the first of May next, and the express business is to be carried on as heretofore by the Adams, American and United States Express Companies—the *actual capital* of the three companies being $5,000,000 in cash, contributed by the stockholders of the National Bankers' Express Company, and $5,000,000 in equipments by the other three companies. The capital stock of the companies when consolidated, however, is to be called $25,000,000, for which full paid stock to the extent of $5,000,000 only is to be issued to the stockholders of the National Bankers' Express Company, who are to contribute that sum in cash, while the remaining $20,000,000 of stock go to the present stockholders of the Adams, American and United States companies. Of the stock to be issued to the stockholders of the National Bankers' Express Company, there are to be: $2,600,000 in the Adams, $1,800,000 in the American, and $1,200,000 in the United States Companies—thus giving them an interest of just *one-fifth* in each of the companies, to which they have contributed *one-half* the entire capital. In other words, $10,000,000 of actual capital is to expand into $25,000,000 of full paid stock, $15,000,000 of which go as *bonus* to the old companies for their *good will*, with no other consideration.

This is, perhaps, the most remarkable price ever before paid for *good will*. If the new stock prove to be worth double its nominal value, as the friends of the sche