THE MARKETS.

TOTAL RECEIPTS OF PRODUCE.

Per North River, Vessels and Railroads.

B. E. Peas, bags	80	Crude turp., bbls	77
Beans, bbls	215	Spirits turp., bbls	518
Beeswax, pkgs	4	Rosin, bbls	1,902
Cotton, bales	14,163	Tar, bbls	79
Cottonseed oil, bbls	736	Oil cake, pkgs	2,714
Dried fruit, pkgs	2,936	Oil, lard, bbls	165
Eggs, bbls	290	Oil, lubr., bbls	295
Eggs, cases	1,176	Oleo stock, pkgs	1,370
Flour, pkgs	44,158	Peanuts, bags	210
Cornmeal, bbls	335	Pecans, pkgs	54
Cornmeal, bags	1,210	Pork, pkgs	680
Wheat, bush	4,400	Beef, pkgs	598
Corn, bush	84,000	Cut meats, pkgs	7,469
Oats, bush	44,000	Lard, pkgs	3,801
Rye, bush	1,800	Lard, kegs	2,282
Malt, bush	24,000	Butter, pkgs	8,172
Barley, bush	11,700	Cheese, pkgs	2,481
Peas, bush	2,750	Dressed hogs, No.	487
Oatmeal, bbls	320	Raisins (Cal.), bxs	935
Grease, pkgs	504	Rice, pkgs	80
Grass seed, bags	1,702	Skins, bales	148
Hides, bales	12	Sumac, bags	341
Hops, bales	518	Tallow, pkgs	49
Istle, bales	1,081	Tobacco, hhds	64
Lead, pigs	2,830	Tobacco, pkgs	79
Leather, sides	10,055	Whiskey, bbls	643
Moss, bales	623	Wool, bales	889

GENERAL MARKET REPORT.

COFFEE—Little interest was shown to-day in spot grades of Rio, and prices were somewhat nominal. Fair cargoes quoted 19¾c, and No. 7, 17c. Mild growths quiet but steady. The option market ruled weaker in the face of stronger foreign advices. Havre gained about 5 fr., and Hamburg ¾@1¼ pfg. Public cables from Rio were quoted firm. Despite this, however, prices here declined 5@10 points and closed barely steady. Speculation was of the usual Saturday character. Rio cable quotes: Regular first, 6 & 700; good second, 6 & 000; receipts, 8,000 bags; Rio clearances for United States, 12,000 bags; Rio clearances for Europe, 8,000 bags; total stock, 210,000 bags. Santos receipts, 8,000 bags. Receipts at Rio July 1 to December 27, 1889, 1,084,000 bags; same time 1888, 2,449,000 bags; same time 1887, 949,000 bags. Receipts at Santos July 1 to December 27, 1889, 1,250,000 bushels; same time 1888, 1,204,000 bags; same time 1887, 613,000 bags. Total sales here to-day, 36,250 bags, as follows:

	Closing prices.	Highest.	Lowest.	Sales.
January	15.60@15.70	15.70	15.55	2,250
February	15.70@15.75	15.80	15.70	2,500
March	15.75@15.85	15.95	15.80	2,750
April	15.85@15.85	15.90	15.90	1,750
May	15.85@15.90	16.00	15.85	10,000
June	15.85@15.95	15.95	15.95	250
July	15.95@16.00	16.00	15.95	500
August	15.95@16.00	16.10	16.00	1,000
September	16.00@16.05	16.15	16.00	4,000
October	16.00@16.05	16.10	16.00	2,250
November	16.00@16.05	16.00	16.00	1,000
December	15.65@15.75	15.80	15.75	2,000

COTTON—On the spot dull and without change of moment; sales, 23 bales for consumption. Since September 1, receipts at the ports aggregated 4,046,025 bales, to Thursday night, against 3,575,081 bales for the corresponding time last year.

Quotations are based on American Standard of Classification.

	Uplands.	Gulf.
Ordinary	7½	7¾
Strict Ordinary	7 15-16	8 3-16
Good Ordinary	8 13-16	9 1-16
Strict Good Ordinary	9¼	9½
Low Middling	10	10¼
Strict Low Middling	10 1-16	10 5-16
Middling	10½	10¾
Good Middling	10¾	10¾
Strict Good Middling	10 11-16	10 15-16
Middling Fair	11⅛	11⅜
Fair	11⅞	11⅞

STAINED.

Good Ordinary	7⅝	Low Middling	8 15-16
Strict Good Ordinary	8	Middling	9¾

The option market offered no new features, and the fluctuations in prices were unimportant. There was a decline of about 5 points early, owing to the rise in corn, and the close was barely steady. Sales, 22,000 bales.

	Closing prices.	Highest.	Lowest.	Sales.
December	10.13@10.14	10.14	10.13	6,000
January	10.05@10.06	10.06	10.05	3,200
February	10.10@10.11	10.11	10.10	700
March	10.17@10.18	10.17	10.16	2,800
April	10.23@10.24	10.24	10.23	3,200
May	10.30@10.31	10.31	10.29	4,000
June	10.37@10.38	10.38	10.36	1,000
July	10.43@10.44	10.44	10.43	700
August	10.48@10.49			
September	10.07@10.09			
October	9.84@9.86			

FLOUR AND MEAL—FLOUR—The market had the usual half-holiday appearance. Exporters bought with more or less reserve, and the local trade inquiry was limited to urgent wants. Prices showed no material change. Sales, 17,500 bbls (5,900 for export), 1,200 bbls Low Extra at $2 35@$2 85; 2200 bbls City Mill at $4 30@$4 45 for West Indies; 6,200 bbls Minnesota Extra, $2 25@$3 35; 5,400 bbls Winter Wheat Extra, $2 35@$3; 800 bbls Superfine, $2 10@$2 75; 1,200 bbls Fine, $1 75@$2 05. Quotations: City Mill Extra, West Indies, $4 30@$4 45; city, $4 05@$4 50; Western, $2 35@$5; City Mill, $4 30@$5; Wheat, low grades, $2 35@$2 85; fair to choice, $3@$4 40; fancy, $4 15@$4 60; Patents ordinary to choice, $4 10@$4 75; fancy, $4 90@$5 10; Minnesota Spring Wheat, low extra, $2 35@$2 85; clear, $3 15@$4 10; Rye Mixtures, $3 15@$3 85; Straights, poor to fancy, $3 60@$4 65; Patents, ordinary to choice, $4 25@$5 25; fancy do, $5 25@$5 35; Superfine, Spring and Winter, $2 10@$2 75; Fine, $1 75@$2 45. Market closed quiet.....SOUTHERN FLOUR—Unchanged in price and dull. Sales, 800 bbls Shipping Grades, $2 35@$2 85; Trade and Family Extras, $3@$3 40; Patents, $4 25@$5.....RYE FLOUR—Has a light demand. Sales, 225 bbls Superfine, $3 20@$3 40; Fancy, in small lots, $3 50.....BUCKWHEAT GRAIN—Nominal at 41c.....BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Quiet, but firm at $1 50@$1 65, mainly $1 60@$1 65.....CORNMEAL—In fair request. Yellow Western quoted at $2 30@$2 65, and Brandywine, $2 65. Sales, 650 bbls, including 200 bbls Brandywine.

GRAIN—WHEAT—A stronger feeling characterized the speculative market to-day, and the "bulls" found little difficulty in advancing prices. It was a small affair, however, in its entirety, and apart from the usual professional operations, and covering by a few "shorts," the trading was devoid of vigor. Final figures (at 12 m.) indicated a rise of ⅛@⅜c, yet the total aggregate of business did not reach 1,200,000 bushels. The arrivals at all points (particularly in the Northwest) were very small, and this was the chief source of strength, though the firmness in cable advices added to the buoyancy. There was talk of a possible decrease in the visible supply for the coming week, and that, too, had some influence, besides there was a slight improvement in the export inquiry, about five loads being taken. The arrivals at interior points to-day were 143,322 bushels spring, and 25,738 bushels winter. Seaboard receipts, 31067 bushels, and clearances, 55,043 bushels, against 5,373 bushels a year ago. January opened at 85⅝c and May at 88⅞c, against 85⅜c and 88⅛c respectively, the final of yesterday. Subsequently there was a further rise of about 1c, January touching 85 13-16c and May 89⅛c, but along toward close the market settled back 5@ spread, leaving off steady. On the curb May sold at 89⅛@89⅜c, closing 89⅛c bid. The cash market also made a slight advance and closed firm. In addition to the export business before mentioned, there were rumors of five loads more taken, but the particulars did not transpire. Sales, 1,184,000 bushels this forenoon, 40,000 bushels spot, including 25 uncraded Winter Red, 76½@81½c; No 2 Red, quoted 85⅛@85⅞c store, 86⅛@87c afloat; No 1 Hard Spring afloat, 96⅛@97c nominal; No 1 Northern quoted 93⅛@93⅞c afloat; No 2 December, 85 9-16@85⅝c, closing at 85⅝c; do January, 85⅛@85 13-16c, closing at 85⅝c; do February, 86⅛@86⅞c, closing at 86⅞c; do March, 87⅛@88c, closing at 88c; do April, 88⅛@88⅝c, closing at 88⅝c; do May, 88⅞@89⅛c, closing at 89c; do June, 88⅞c, closing at 88⅞c; do July, 89½@89⅞c, closing at 89⅞c.....RYE—In fair demand and firm; sales, 16,000 bush No 1 Milwaukee, c. f and l, 59½c, for export. Western in boat loads quoted 58@60c; State, 60@61c; Canada, 59@60c.....BARLEY—Slow and nominal.....BARLEY MALT—Unchanged in price and dull.....CORN—Developed further strength to-day. Offerings continued light, while the arrivals showed a further diminution at some points, particularly St. Louis. The spot market advanced about ½c and closed firm. Nearly 128,000 bushels were taken for export, mainly steamer, mixed special nearby delivery. Options were quiet and ⅛@⅜c, but the speculation was very moderate, closing firm. Sales, 712,000 bushels future, 196,000 bushels spot and special, including ungraded mixed and white, 33@42½c; No 3 mixed, 36c elevator; steamer mixed, 37⅝@38c elevator, 39@39½c delivered, including special January; No 2 mixed, 39⅛@39½c, elevator, 41@41½c delivered; No 2 December closing at 39½c; do January, 39⅝c, closing at 39⅞c; do February, 39½@39⅝c, closing at 39⅝c; do March, 39⅝@39⅞c, closing at 39⅞c; do May, 39⅞@40⅛c, closing at 40⅛c; steamer mixed, March, 38⅝@38⅞c; do February, 38⅝@38½c; do January, 38c.....OATS—Cash grades had less demand to-day and no white for export, and was rather weak. Mixed ruled steady. Options advanced about ½c, but the speculation was rather slow. Sales, 185,000 bushels future, 84,000 bushels spot, including No 3 mixed, at 28c; No 3 white, 30½c; No 2 mixed, 28⅝c elevator, 29⅝c delivered; No 2 white, 30⅝c elevator; mixed Western, 27@29c; white do, 30@34½c; No 2 December closing at 28⅜c; do January, 28⅝c; closing at 28⅝c; do February, 28⅝@28¾c, closing at 28¾c; do May, 28c, closing at 28c; No 2 white, December, 30⅝c; do January, 30½c bid.....FEED—Quoted: 60 ℔ meal 65c; 60 ℔ 55@60c; 80 ℔, 65@70c; 100 ℔, 75@80c; Rye Feed, 65@70c.

HAY AND STRAW—Dulness prevailed to-day in all departments, and for other than fine stock the market was rather weak. Price, however, quotably unchanged. Hay: No 1, choice, 80@85c; No 1, 60@70c; No 2, inferior, mixed, 45@55c; shipping, 40@45c.....STRAW—Long Rye, 75c; Short Rye, 35@40c; Oat and Wheat, 30@40c.

HOPS—Holders still retain the advantage, but to-day's market was rather quiet. Foreign accounts continue firm. State, 1889, best, 14@15c; medium, 12@13c; common, 8@11c; State, best, 1888, 10@11c; medium, 8@9c; do common, 6@7c; do 1887, 360c; Pacific Coast, 1889, best, 13c; medium, 11@12c; common, 8@9c; choice, 1888, 10c; common to prime do, 6@8c.

METALS—TIN—Quiet and firm; spot, 21c; March, 21.05c.....COPPER—Steady; Lake January, 14.25.....LEAD—Dull; January, 3.90c.....SPELTER—Neglected.....PIG IRON WARRANTS—Dull and unchanged; January, 18.25c; March, 18.62½c.

MOLASSES—Quiet, but steady. New-Orleans quoted 35@48c, ordinary to fancy; Porto Rico, 28@36c; English Island, 28@32c.

NAAL STORES—SPIRITS TURPENTINE—In light demand, but steadily held; quoted 44@44½c.....ROSIN—Unchanged in price and quiet. Strained, $1 20; Good, $1 25; E, $1 30; F, $1 45; G, $1 55; H, $1 65; I, $1 90; K, $2@$2 10; M, $2 40@$2 45; N, $2 90@$3; W. G., $3 25; W. W., $3 50@$3 60.

OILS—Steady as a general rule, with a light movement. Cottonseed, crude, 26½c; refined, summer yellow, 33c; coconut, Ceylon, 5¾c; Cochin, 6¼@6½c; red, domestic, 31@32½c; foreign, 33@34c. Linseed, raw, city, 36c; Western, 57@58c; Lard, prime, 38@39c; Tallow, 50c; Menhaden crude, Northern, 21½@23½c; light pressed, 27@29c; bleached winter, 32c; extra bleached, 36c; Sperm, crude, 70c; natural winter, 78@80c; bleached winter, 83@85c; Whale, crude, Northern, 41@42c; natural winter, 46c; bleached winter, 48c; extra bleached, 51c; Sea Elephant, bleached winter, 57@60c; Red Elain, 36@38c; Saponified 4½@4¾c; Olive, Italian, 78c; Palm, choice, Lagos, 5¾@5½c; Neatsfoot, prime, 62½@75c; Straits, 20½@27c; Bank, 25½@26c.

PROVISIONS—PORK—Ruled easier to-day and trading was very moderate. Sales, 200 bbls Mess, within the range. Mess quoted at $10@$10 25 for uninspected, and $10 25, and $10 25@$10 50 for inspected; Short Clear, $11 50@$13 50; City Family Mess, $11 25@$12; Western do, $11@$11 50; Extra Prime, $9 50@$9 75.....BEEF—In light request. City Extra India Mess, in tcs, $13@$15; Extra Mess in bbls, $7@$7 25; Plate, $5 75@$8 25; Family, $9 75@$10 25; Packet, in bbls, $7 75@$8 25.....BEEF HAMS—Unchanged and quiet. Quoted here at $12 25@$12 50; at the West, $11.....CUT MEATS—Steadily held, but trading rather slow; sales, 5,000 bbls pickled bellies, 12 ℔ average, 5¾c; 16,000 ℔ do, 10 ℔, 5½c. Pickled Bellies quoted 5¾c for 12 ℔, and 5½c for 10 ℔; Pickled Hams, 8½@8¾c; Smoked do, 9¼@10c; Pickled Shoulders, 4½@4¾c; Smoked do, 5¼@5½c.....MIDDLES—Quiet, but firm. At Chicago, short ribs, January, closed at 4.60c; February, 4.62½@4.65c; March, 4.70c; May, 4.82½c.....DRESSED HOGS—Are well maintained in price on a fair demand. City heavy to light, 4 11-16@5¼c; pigs, 5½c.....LARD—Notices of delivery on contract to the extent of 10,000 tcs were put out to-day, and the result was a decided break in prices. January suffered the most, showing a decline of 12 points; other options lost 6@7 points, closing steady. Spot closed at 6.05c, though 500 tcs sold at 6.10c. City steam declined 10 points; quoted at 5.65c; January closed at 6c; sales, 6,000 tcs at 6.03@6.05c; February closed at 6.14c; sales, 2,500 tcs 6.13@6.15c; March closed at 6.22c; sales, 520 tcs, 6.21c; May closed at 6.34c; sales, 500 tcs, 6.35. Refined quoted steady; Continent, 6.05c; South America, 7@7.05c.....BUTTER—There was little life to the market to-day, and on other than fine stock, buyers had the advantage. State Creamery, fall tubs, 20@25c; Elgin Creamery, fancy, 28@29c; Western Creamery, fancy, 29@27c; do prime to choice, 21@24c; do fair to good, 14@20c; Western Creamery, June fancy, 17@18c; do choice, 15@16c; do fair to good, 10@14c; State Dairy, half tubs, fall ends, 21@22c; State Dairy, half firkins, tubs and pails, choice, 19@20c; do prime, 15@18c; do fair, 12@14c; State Dairy, Welsh tubs, fancy, 19@21c; prime, 15@18c; fair, 12@14c; State Dairy, firkins, fancy, 18@19c; choice, 16@17c; fair, 12@14c; State entire dairies, firkins and tubs, fancy, 20c; choice, 18@19c; good, 15@17c; fair, 12@14c; State Dairy tubs, common, 10@11c; Western Imitation Creamery, choice, 18@20c; good, 14@16c; fair, 10@11c; Western Dairy, choice, 16@18c; do good, 11@13c; do fair, 9@10c; Western Factory, June firkins, 9@11c; do fair, 7@8c; Western Factory, June tubs, 9@10c; Factory, fresh, tubs, 11@13c; fair to choice; Factory seconds, 9@10c; Dairy and Factory thirds, 7@8c; Rolls, fresh, 16@18c.....CHEESE—Shippers are picking up occasional lots of fancy factory, but trading otherwise continues dull. Prices remain as quoted last week. State Factory, September, fancy, colored and white, 10½c; do September, fancy, 10@10½c; prime to choice, 9½@9¾c; common to good, 8@9½c; part skims, 5@8c; common skims, 2@4c; Ohio flat, common to fine, 7@10c; Pennsylvania skims, 2@2½c.....EGGS—Quiet, but steady on fine fresh. Fancy new laid Pennsylvania fresh, 27c; State and Pennsylvania fresh, 25½@26c; Western fresh, 25½@26c; do late packed, 20@22c; Canadian, late packed, 20@22c; Icehouse, 14@18c; common to prime, 10@13c.

SUGAR—RAW—In light demand and prices must or less nominal. Fair refining quoted 4½c; Centrifugals, 96 test, 5⅝c.....REFINED—Quiet, but steady. Crushed, 7¼c; Cut Loaf, 7⅝c; Cubes, 6⅝c; Powdered, 6⅜c; Granulated, 6⅛c; Mould A, 6⅞c; Confectioners' "A," 6⅝c; Standard "A," 6⅛c; Off "A," 5¾@5⅞c; White, Extra "C," 5¾@5⅞c; Extra "C," 5⅝@5¾c; "C," 4¾@4⅞c; Yellow, 4⅜@4½c.....STEARINE—Quiet and unchanged. City lard quoted nominally 6⅝@7c; Western do, 6⅝@6¾c; Oleomargarine, city, 5¾c.

TALLOW—Dull and without further change. Prime city quoted closing, 4 7-16; no sales reported.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

New-York, Saturday, Dec. 28.—BEEVES—Receipts, 48 carloads of 752 head—32 carloads at Jersey City for exportation by Vanderbilt, and 16 cars at 60th-st., including 24 cars for Eastmans Company, 10 cars for J. Stern and 2 for Kaufman & Strauss. Nothing for sale except one "Old Bandlox," which, after deducting freight and commission, netted the shipper $3 50.

Shipments as reported yesterday, 1,400 cattle and the week, 9,820 quarters of beef.

Private cable advices received to-day quote refrigerated beef 4d. lower at 3¾d., or scant 7½c. per ℔.

CALVES—Receipts, 5 head, and the only sale reported 9 Western Calves, averaging 222 ℔, at $2 50 per 100 ℔.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Receipts, 4 carloads of 860 head—3 carloads at Jersey City and 1 carload at 60th-st. There were also 16 carloads reported over Friday. A better tone characterized to-day's market and prices were a trifle firmer; but the pens were not cleared. Fair to good Sheep sold at $1 75@$3 10 per 100 ℔, and good to choice Lambs at $6@$7 40.

Sales—J. P. Sadler, Co.: 391 Western Sheep, 92½ lbs, at $3 05; 222 do, 105 ℔, at $3 05; 184 do, 100 ℔, at $3; 184 do, 103 ℔, at $3; 147 do, 104 ℔, at $3; 198 Western Lambs, 70 ℔, at $7; 32 Sheep and Lambs, 70 ℔, at $5.

Sherman & Culver: 109 Western Sheep, 92 ℔, at $5 10; 31 do, 78 ℔, at $5; 236 Western Lambs, 63 ℔, at $6 05; 240 Michigan do, 65 ℔, at $6 75.

Dillenback & Dewey: 189 Canadian Lambs, 82 ℔, at $7 40.

Everitt & Pidcock: 20 Jersey Ewes, 111 ℔, at $4 85.

HOGS—Receipts, 25 carloads of 3,713 head—14 carloads at 40th-st., and 11 carloads at Jersey City. Steady for live hogs, with a carload sold at $4 65.

Sales—Newton & Gillett: 134 Ohio Hogs, 175 ℔ average, at $4 65 per 100 ℔.

THE PETROLEUM MARKET.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD AND RANGE OF PRICES.

Considered from the standpoint of a speculator, the petroleum situation presents little feature of interest as the year draws to a close. Dulness so absolute has ruled as almost to earn the description of stagnation, and there appears to be no prospect that speculation will turn an early attention to the crude market. Neither here nor in Europe does any disposition exist to utilize the strong commercial position of petroleum in anticipation of a future advance in values. There is little mystery after all in this indifference of capital to the speculative possibilities of oil. The European operator has Russia at his door, and while he realizes better than the American operator the superiority of American competition, perhaps he feels more strongly the possibility of danger from that direction to any attempt to force extreme prices out of the foreign consumer. At home the power of the great refining organization stands as a menace of harm to any bull campaign to which it does not lend its sympathies or from which it at least withholds its approval. Competition in the refining business on any scale of magnitude has been shown to be practically impossible, and the terror of the Standard's strength paralyzes the ohtside capitalist who may cast furtive glances at the possibility of a bull combination under the existing favorable trade conditions. The policy of the refiner has been steadily to reduce the intermediate agencies of barter between producer and consumer, and to that end the extinguishment of speculation at the oil exchanges certainly contributes.

But "blue" though the atmosphere be in brokers' offices, the commercial aspect of petroleum is satisfactory. We have heard lately a revival of some talk concerning Russian competition and the equalization of Pennsylvania and Ohio oil. That relating to the former point is mainly based upon consular reports which a belated Government issue causes to be "back numbers" when they reach the hand of the public. Russian competition was met and mastered early in 1889 and that, too, parallel with a steadily rising crude market. The exports of American crude, refined, etc., from January 1 to within a few days are estimated at 619,427,000 gallons, an increase over the corresponding period of 1888 of 92,896,000 gallons. An increase of 15 per cent in our exports is not consistent with the theory that Russia is gaining rapidly upon our trade, unless we assume that the growth of the world's consumption is so great as to render this foreign competition of little importance to us. Foreign advices also indicate that the interior shipments from the European continental ports from July 1 to December 6 were 2,092,000 barrels, an increase of 507,000 barrels over 1888. With this large consumption morally certain to continue, and with the visible supply at the seven Continental ports down to 740,000 barrels on December 6 (a loss of 41,000 barrels from last year), the promise of the coming spring is bright for the export movement. And in considering the element of Russian rivalry it should not be overlooked that the Standard is gradually acquiring the bulk oil ocean transportation of all Europe. Weighted by Government handicaps and insufficient capital, the Russian oil industry must creep where America's can stride.

Where the fear of Lima oil exists it is hard to argue it away. But it cannot be claimed that the Standard is giving indications of any intention to introduce Ohio refined in a manner likely to crush the market. Production of the first class is too scarce for the refiner to discourage field operations and disturb the foreign situation by attempting serious depression in crude. But it is worth noting that while the Buckeye Pipe Line ran 774,072 barrels in November last, its deliveries were 759,702 barrels, leaving an accumulation of stocks of only 14,370 barrels for the month. If the charge that Ohio oil is being mixed with Pennsylvania brands by the Standard be true, then the reduction in Pennsylvania stocks assumes a greater significance. But if the claims of the inferiority of Ohio oil be maintained, would not business policy dictate to the Standard the preservation of the integrity of its brands of Pennsylvania oil against all rivals?

The prolonged quiet in crude speculation would seem to imply an abstinence of the producing element from the hazards of the Exchange trading. Hence the year 1889 must have been in the main of good cheer to the digger for oil. For three months the average price of certificate oil has ruled above $1, giving $1 25 in the field to the new output. These values, too, have gone with a production which has risen at least 15,000 barrels, or 30 per cent above the corresponding period of last year. A glance at the highest and lowest prices of certificate oil at the Consolidated Exchange for the year will be suggestive:

	High.	Low.		High.	Low.
January	88¾	83¼	July	$1 02½	90¾
February	93	85¼	August	1 01½	95½
March	92¾	88¾	September	1 01¼	95⅞
April	91¾	89	October	1 08¾	95⅞
May	88½	80¾	November	1 12½	1 03¼
June	96	82¼	December	1 09¼	1 02

It will be noticed that the greatest difference between the extreme points in any one month this year was only 13 1-4 cents—in June. For the last five months the greatest difference has been 10 cents—in October. The sluggishness of speculation may have imparted to values some of this unusual stability.

No scope is allowed by last week's certificate market for aught but a passing reference. It was extremely dull and without significance. The storm in the West interrupted telegraph communication for several days between here and the petroleum regions, and is said to have caused considerable damage to development outfits. Partly because of this, but largely from more sustained causes, the trade is inclined to look for a less bearish field report at the end of the month. The refined market is controlled by the apathy of the holiday season and the changes abroad were not sufficiently important to stimulate trading. The principal operations were by "pykers" and were directed against values, producing a recession from $1 03 7-8@$1 04 1-4 to $1 02@$1 03 3-8. The short interest is slowly creeping larger, while the only buying is of an unobtrusive, investment character. Nevertheless the market closed without giving premonitions of any decided movement.

The range of prices and the total dealings in National Transit certificates at the Stock Exchange and the Consolidated Stock and Petroleum Exchange for the last two weeks were as follows:

Week ended—	Stock Exchange. Dec. 21.	Dec. 28.	Consolidated. Dec. 21.	Dec. 28.
Opening	$1 03¾	$1 01	$1 05	$1 03⅞
Highest	1 05	1 04¼	1 06¼	1 04¼
Lowest	1 03⅝	1 02	1 03	1 02
Final	1 03⅞	1 03¼	1 03¾	1 03⅜
Sales, barrels	1,017,000	454,000	1,179,000	582,000

Refined oil was dull, but unchanged at 7.50 cents per gallon in barrels and 9.70 cents in cases. Crude in barrels ruled at 7.80 cents and naphtha at 8.10 cents per gallon.

Foreign quotations were up 1-8 franc at 17 5-8@17 3-4 francs per 100 kilos at Antwerp, but down 20 marks at 7.10 marks per 50 kilos at Bremen and 1-8 pence at 6@6 1-16 pence per Imperial gallon at London.

Oil City, Pa., Dec. 28.—National Transit certificates opened at $1 03¾; highest, $1 03¾; lowest, $1 03⅝; closed $1 03⅝. Sales, 41,000 bbls; clearances, 130,000 bbls; charters, 10,714 bbls; shipments, 84,999 bbls.

Pittsburg, Dec. 28.—Petroleum dull and strong; National Transit certificates opened at $1 03⅝; closed $1 03½; highest, $1 03¾; lowest, $1 03⅝.

Bradford, Penn., Dec. 28.—National Transit certificates opened at $1 03⅝; highest, $1 03⅝; lowest, $1 03; closed $1 03⅛. Clearances, 210,000 bbls.

Titusville, Penn., Dec. 28.—National Transit certificates opened at $1 03¾; highest, $1 03¾; lowest, $1 03⅝; closed $1 03½.

THE STATE OF TRADE.

Baltimore, Dec. 28.—Cotton quiet; middling, 10¼@10¾. Flour nearly nominal. Wheat—Southern scarce and firmer; Fultz, 75@85; Longberry, 74@81. No. 2, 80; steamer, 79¾. Western steady; No. 2 winter red, spot and December, 79⅞@79¾; January, 79⅞@80; February, 81⅛@81⅜; March, 83¼@83½; May, 86⅛@86¾. Corn—Southern dull and unchanged; Western steady; mixed spot, 36⅝@36⅞; new spot, 37; year, 37; January, 36⅝@36⅞; February, 36¼@36⅜; March, 37⅛@37½; April, 38@38⅛; steamer, 33½. Oats firm; Southern and Pennsylvania, 28@31; Western white, 30@31; do mixed, 28@29½; graded No. 2 white, 31. Rye nominally nominal; prime to choice, 57@60. Hay slow; prime to choice timothy, $13@$13 50. Provisions unchanged. Butter firm for best; Western packed, 14@19; best roll, 17@18; Creamery, 23@26. Eggs steady; Western, 22@23. Coffee dull; Rio cargoes, fair, 19½@19¾. Sugar dull. A soft, 8⅝. Copper firm; refined, 13¾@20@21